

**NORTH CALDWELL BOARD OF EDUCATION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SESSION
GRANDVIEW SCHOOL CAFETERIA
VIA ZOOM MEETING**

<https://ncboe.zoom.us/j/93411431294?pwd=ZzVKY0tUbG9ueG1SYjhtazhHSmIvZz09>

MARCH 15, 2022

7:30 P.M.

AGENDA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 3. COMPLIANCE STATEMENT**

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting has been properly advertised in the designated newspaper and the agenda has been posted at the appropriate locations.
- 4. ROLL CALL**
 - Auditor Presentation – Lerch, Vinci & Higgins, LLC to present June 30, 2021 audit
- 5. BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT**
 - Motion to Approve with Regret the Resignation of Robert Projansky
As a member of the North Caldwell Board of Education
- 6. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**
 - Second Step Social Emotional Program
- 7. PUBLIC RECOGNITION**
- 8. ACTION ITEMS**
 - General Resolutions
 - G1. Approve payment for developmental pediatric assessment**
 - G2. Approve payment for developmental pediatric assessment**
 - G3. Approve policies and regulations**
 - G4. Approve payment for developmental pediatric assessment**
 - G5. Approve Data Back-up agreement contract**
 - G6. Approve Facilities Use Application for North Caldwell Recreation
Men’s 30 + Basketball**
 - G7. Approve augmentative evaluation**
 - G8. Approve neuro-developmental evaluation**
 - G9. Approve augmentative consultation**
 - Business Resolutions
 - B1. Approve Meeting Minutes of February 15th, 2022**
 - B2. Approve listed payroll(s)**
 - B3. Approve Hand Check Registers**
 - B4. Approve Bills and Claims**
 - B5. Approve Title I Tutoring**
 - B6. Approve Transfers for January 2022**

- B7. Approve Secretary Treasurer Report
- B8. Approve Monthly Financial Report
- B9. Approve submission of preliminary 2022-2023 budget
- B10. Approve district travel maximum for 2022-2023
- B11. Approve Annual Audit Report for June 30, 2021
- Personnel Resolutions
 - P1. Approve Professional Development for listed staff members
 - P2. Approve substitute teacher
 - P3. Approve FMLA for listed staff member
 - P4. Approve part-time maternity leave replacement teacher
 - P5. Approve Instructional Assistant
- 9. OLD BUSINESS
- 10. NEW BUSINESS
- 11. ADJOURN TO CONFIDENTIAL SESSION (if necessary)

The next scheduled public meeting of the Board will be held on Wednesday April 27, 2022.

Posting: Board Members, Principals, NCPE Co-Presidents, NCEA Co-Presidents, Caldwell Progress Press Member, Board Office, Schools, and Town Hall.

The Board of Education of the Borough of North Caldwell in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in executive session on March 15, 2022 in person at the Grandview School Cafeteria as well as via an online Zoom Meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Mr. Michael Halik, Business Administrator, indicated that in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting had been properly advertised and the agenda had been posted at the appropriate locations.

Roll call by the Business Administrator:

Present: Mr. Robert Projansky, President (zoom)
Mrs. Mindy Opper, Vice President
Mrs. Jordan Shumofsky
Mrs. Sapna Malige
Mrs. Johanna Stroever

Absent: None

Also Present: Dr. Linda Freda, Superintendent
Mr. Michael Halik, Business Administrator / Board Secretary
Dr. Michael Stefanelli, Principal - Grandview School
Mr. Chris Checchetto, Principal- Gould School
Mr. Ian Adlon, Computer Technician

AUDITORS REPORT

Mr. Gary Higgins, from Lerch, Vinci and Higgins LLP, that serve as the District Auditors, presented our Annual Audit. He stated the district's financials as presented are in the highest opinion possible. Mr. Higgins had zero recommendations for the District and reported our financials are in wonderful condition and the District is fiscally sound. He thanked Mr. Halik and office staff for their hard work and flexibility due to the change in deadlines from the state.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Projansky noted that sixty-two (62) people were attending the meeting through zoom.

Mr. Projansky then read the following statement.

I have been a member of the Board for 12 years. When I think back on the last 12 years there is a lot the Board and the District were able to accomplish with everyone's support.

We've talked enough about pandemic and doing what we could to keep our kids learning where they should be -- at their desks, in their classrooms. Far more than so many other districts. But I'd rather spend a few minutes on the rest of the 12 years.

Over the last 12 years the Board has worked with the administration to continue to support its efforts to foster an environment that assesses and then addresses the specific needs of individual students so that they can reach their highest potential. Whatever highest potential means for that student. It is a focus on each student as an individual and we hear that every time Dr. Freda gives a presentation.

Over the last 12 years, we have partnered with our teachers and staff to reach fair contracts that reflected our respect and appreciation for how hard they work for our children day in and day out. Year after year. They do so much for our kids.

Over the last 12 years, we worked to strengthen the bond with the Borough government. We need to ensure that we were working together on issues of critical importance to the community, including the most important issue - the safety of our students.

Over the last 12 years, we have thrown away the traditional model of government thinking, living one budget to the next. Instead, we instituted a strategic planning process that looked out 10, 15 and 20 years instead of just 1 or 2. Our financial planning allowed us to build our reserves - and has Mindy alluded to this earlier -- to ensure that the district was protected from unforeseen events. Our demographic studies and needs analyses prepared us so that we have a crystal-clear understanding of what lies ahead for this district and what steps we need to take to address the unprecedented housing development in the Borough.

Over the last 12 years, we explored and implemented new ways to reach out to the community and ensure that they had a voice and that we were listening to that voice. We blasted out newsletters to the community about our meetings, making sure everyone knew when there was a major issue up for discussion. We restructured our agendas to maximize the value of community input. We held public hearings, delayed votes, did presentations on draft architectural plans - whatever it took to make sure the community was informed. We needed to be sure that when we were doing something of importance we were speaking for the community.

I am going to pause there. I am down in Florida with clients right now and I was talking with a client who, like me, has a philosophy background. We talked about how helpful that background is for a lawyer or a board of education member. In both cases, the key to success is having not just the ability but the strong desire to see things from other people's

perspectives and understand where they are coming from. It is verboten to say this in today's society, but few people are 100% right, and few are 100% wrong. You must separate out the right part of different perspectives and weave it into logical and fair conclusions.

And that is how I have approached the last 12 years on this Board. When I tell you I welcome your perspective or I thanked you for your comments at a meeting, I am not doing it to be polite. I am not doing it to be a smooth-talking politician – we know I am definitely not that. I am thanking you for your perspective and your comments because I and my colleagues wanted to hear your perspective and your comments. I am doing it because I believe, and I know my fellow board members agree, we cannot do our jobs if we are focusing dogmatically on one particular worldview.

If you think of me at all after tonight and I am guessing, you will not. But if you do, I hope you think of me as someone who was always open to, and welcomed, conversation about the issues we were facing. Someone who, at a meeting or on the sidelines of a soccer game, wanted to hear what you had to say and to appreciate where you were coming from. Someone who took that information to work with my colleagues to try to reach creative solutions and good results for our kids. I was not perfect, but I always did the best I could for my eight kids and all of yours.

If this sounds like a goodbye speech, it is for good reason. I am going on with my self-indulgent speech, but the good news is that this is the last time.

If you talked with me when I ran for my fourth term a few years ago, you know that I was crystal clear that it was going to be my last. While I planned to go all the way through my last term, the demands of my job have multiplied exponentially over the last six months to a year. I am not going to bore you with the reasons. They are all good things, but they are also all-encompassing. Just looking at my schedule, I would have been missing a number of meetings this year due to my work travel schedule – tonight being just the first. While I have loved almost every moment of this job, there is a lot more to be done and the community deserves someone who can focus more than I will be able to. So, I am going to be leaving the Board next week. Effective on Monday.

We will talk about next steps in new business, but I wanted to take this last opportunity to say goodbye and give you my perspective for what it is worth. I also wanted to take the chance to say thank you because, while I would love to take credit for the district's accomplishments over the last 12 years, it was not my doing. I am proud to have worked with the amazing people on this Board and past Boards. When I told the current Board members about this last night, all I could think of was how much I have admired them over the years. As for Linda Freda and Mike Halik, oh my God, I only wish every single person

here could have the opportunity to work as closely with you as I have. Everyone who knows you can see it, but I had a front row seat to see how extraordinary you are at your jobs and how lucky we are to have you. And speaking of lucky, I see Dr. Stefanelli, Mr. Checchetto and so many teachers at the meeting. You and all the teachers and staff have made our schools a model for your peers to emulate.

I cannot begin to tell you - mostly because I will get emotional if I try. I cannot begin to tell you how grateful I am for everyone in the community who has been a part of the dialogue we have had over these years. Grateful for everyone who has supported the Board, not by agreeing with everything we said, but by sharing your views and then putting your faith in us to make the best decisions we can.

Keep doing that. There is a lot of big issues the community will face over the next several years. Engage with the District on them because we get better outcomes when you do. Be vocal. And then trust the District to do right by our children because they are trying with every fabric of their being. I am really confident that the people sitting here and whoever ends up replacing me will continue to lead our district on the right path forward.

That is, it. I hope I left this place a little better than I found it. Thanks to my wife and kids for bearing with me. Thanks so much to each and every one of you for your trust and support. I hope you know I did the very best I could to earn it.

Motion to Approve with Regret the Resignation of Robert Projansky As a member of the North Caldwell Board of Education effective March 21st, 2022

Moved:	Mrs. Shumofsky	Seconded:	Mrs. Malige
Yes:	5	No:	0

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Freda thanked Mr. Projansky for his twelve years of service and dedication to the community. She stated that he truly epitomizes all the qualities we are teaching and reinforcing with our students. Dr. Freda stated that she valued the time she was able to work with him on the Board and was thankful for all of his advice and guidance. We will all miss him and we look forward to honoring him in the future, even though she knows he won't want to be honored.

Dr. Freda discussed the Second Step Program that the District is using to address Social and Emotional Learning. This presentation can be accessed on the home page of the District's website.

PUBLIC RECOGNITION-

NONE

GENERAL RESOLUTIONS

- G1. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve payment to **Dr. Farrell** in the amount of \$675.00 for a developmental pediatric assessment for **Student #8005999**.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Stroevert

Yes: 5 No: 0

- G2. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve payment to **the Child Development Center** in the amount of \$675.00 for a developmental pediatric assessment (neuro) for **student #8005934**.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Stroevert

Yes: 5 No: 0

- G3. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following Policies and Regulations, at second reading:

Policy 1648.13 - School Employee Vaccination Requirements

Policy 2425 - Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program

Policy 2467 - Surrogate Parents and Resource Family Parents

Policy 2622 - Student Assessment

Policy 5111 - Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students

Policy 5116 - Education of Homeless Children

Policy & Regulation 5751 - Sexual Harassment of Students

Policy 6115.01 - Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls-Allowability of Costs

Policy 6115.02 - Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls Mandatory Disclosures

Policy 6115.03 - Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls-Conflict of Interest

Policy 6311 - Contracts for Goods & Services Funded by Federal Grants

Policy 7243 - Supervision of Construction

Policy & Regulation 8220 - School Day

Policy 8420 – Emergency and Crisis Situations
Regulation 8420.1 – Fire and Fire Drills
Regulation 8630 – Emergency School Bus Procedures
Policy 9713 – Recruitment by Special Interest Groups

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Stroever

Yes: 5 No: 0

- G4. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve payment to **Dr. Fadden** in the amount of \$675.00 for a developmental pediatric assessment for **student #8005838**.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Stroever

Yes: 5 No: 0

- G5. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the Netsafe II Data Backup And Disaster Recovery Agreement with **Real Time Consultants, Inc., 777 Corporate Drive, Ste 1, Mahwah, NJ 07430** for Increasing Storage Capacity for our Backup/Recovery Service as specified in the Recovery Agreement dated April 1, 2022, for the amount of \$1,349.00 per month for 36 months pending attorney review.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Stroever

Yes: 5 No: 0

- G6. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the facilities use application submitted for the North Caldwell Recreation Men's 30+ Basketball.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Stroever

Yes: 5 No: 0

- G7. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve payment to **P.G. Chambers** for an augmentative evaluation in the amount of \$1,250.00 for **student #8004428**.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Stroever

Yes: 5 No: 0

G8. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve payment to the **Child Development Center** in the amount of \$675.00 for a neuro-developmental evaluation for **student #8004428**.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Stroever
 Yes: 5 No: 0

G9. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve payment to **P.G. Chambers** for 1.5 hours of an augmentative consultation at a rate of \$94.00 per hour for **student #8005954**.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky Seconded: Mrs. Stroever
 Yes: 5 No: 0

BUSINESS RESOLUTIONS

B1. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the **Public & Confidential Minutes of February 15, 2022**.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky
 Yes: 5 No: 0

B2. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following **Payroll(s)**:

February 28th, 2022	\$362,635.22
March 15th, 2022	\$392,830.53

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky
 Yes: 5 No: 0

B3. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following **Hand Check Register(s)**:

February 16th, 2022	\$544,487.50
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Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky
 Yes: 5 No: 0

B4. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following **Bills and Claims:**

February 16th, 2022	\$14,747.19
March 3rd, 2022	\$219,135.86
March 15th, 2022	\$414,686.03

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

B5. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following **Title I Tutoring:**

February 2022	\$9,950.00
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Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

B6. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following **Transfers for January 2022:**

North Caldwell Board of Education

LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

Date: January 31, 2022

To account #	Account Name	Amount	From account #	Account Name	Amount
11-000-213-100-050-00	NURSE SALARY GOULD	9,000.00	11-000-216-101-060-00	SPEECH SALARY GRANDVIEW	(400.00)
11-000-213-100-060-00	NURSE SALARY GRANDVIEW	7,000.00	11-000-216-320-050-00	OT/PT/SPEECH/REL SER-GLD	(10,000.00)
11-000-216-101-050-00	SPEECH SALARY GOULD	4,200.00	11-000-216-320-050-00	OT/PT/SPEECH/REL SER-GLD	(5,000.00)
11-000-216-320-060-00	OT/PT/SPEECH/REL SER -GV	10,000.00	11-000-219-104-050-01	PSYCHOLOGIST: SALARY	(6,000.00)
11-000-216-610-060-00	REL. SERV SUPPLIES - GV	5,000.00	11-000-262-610-050-01	CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES GLD	(2,500.00)
11-000-219-104-050-00	LDTC: SALARY	9,200.00	11-110-100-101-060-00	TCHRS SAL: KINDERGARTEN	(80,000.00)
11-000-219-104-060-01	PSYCHOLOGIST: SALARY	3,100.00	11-120-100-101-050-00	TEACHERS SAL GR 4-5 GLD	(38,000.00)
11-000-219-104-060-02	SOCIAL WORKER GRANDVIEW	3,000.00	11-213-100-106-060-00	RESOURCE RM: AIDE SAL GV	(112,072.00)
11-000-219-105-060-00	SPEC. SERV. SEC. SALARY	500.00			
11-000-219-320-060-00	SPEC ED PROF DEVEL GV	1,400.00			
11-000-219-610-060-00	CST SUPPLIES	5,000.00			
11-000-222-101-060-00	LIBRARIAN SALARY-GDV	1,800.00			
11-000-222-177-050-00	ED MEDIA COORDINATOR	9,500.00			
11-000-222-177-060-00	ED MEDIA COORDINATOR	2,000.00			
11-000-230-100-000-00	TRS. SCH. MONIES: SALARY	100.00			
11-000-230-104-000-00	SUPERINTENDENT: SALARY	3,500.00			
11-000-230-590-000-02	ADVERTISING	2,500.00			
11-000-230-895-000-03	SUPERINTENDENT DUES	122.00			
11-000-240-103-050-00	PRIN. SALARY GOULD	2,000.00			
11-000-240-103-060-00	PRIN. SALARY GRANDVIEW	2,300.00			
11-000-251-580-000-00	CENTRAL OFFICE TRAVEL	750.00			
11-000-252-110-000-00	TECHNOLOGY ADMIN	3,000.00			
11-000-261-420-000-03	MAINT-COPIERS	4,000.00			
11-000-261-610-000-01	MAINT SUPPLIES - DIST	5,000.00			
11-000-262-104-050-00	DIR BLDG/GRND GLD	1,000.00			
11-000-262-104-060-01	DIR BLDG/GRND GDV	1,000.00			
11-000-262-110-060-01	CUSTODIAN SALARIES: GDV	2,000.00			
11-000-262-590-000-00	VEHICLE SUPPLIES/REPAIRS	2,500.00			
11-120-100-101-060-00	TEACHERS SAL GR 1-3 GV	80,500.00			
11-190-100-500-000-00	INST TECH - PURCH SRVCS	10,000.00			
11-213-100-106-050-00	RESOURCE RM: AIDE SAL GLD	63,000.00			
	Total Transfers	253,972.00		Total Transfers	(253,972.00)

0.00

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

B7. WHEREAS pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c) 3, the Board Secretary does certify that as of January 2022, no budgetary line-item account has encumbrances and expenditures which in total exceed the amount

appropriated by the district board of education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8 and 18A:22-8.1; therefore be it

RESOLVED that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c) 4, the Board of Education does certify that as of **January 2022**, the Board Secretary Monthly Financial Report, did not reflect an over expenditure in any Major Account or Fund, and based on the Appropriation Balances reflected on this report and on the advice of District Officials, that sufficient funds are available to meet the District’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

B8. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the attached Board Secretary’s and Treasurer’s **Monthly Financial Reports** for **January 2022**.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky

Yes: 5 No: 0

B9. RESOLVED that the North Caldwell Board of Education approves the submission of the preliminary 2022-2023 School budget to the County Office of the New Jersey State Department of Education as follows:

	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>LOCAL TAX LEVY</u>
General Fund	\$ 15,781,340	\$ 13,950,000
Special Revenue Fund	\$ 860,761	
Debt Service Fund	\$ 535,600	\$ 535,600
Total Budget	\$ 17,177,701	\$ 14,485,600

The above tax levy includes an allowable enrollment adjustment.

The school district has proposed programs and services in excess of the Adequacy Budget adopted by the State Board of Education. Information on this budget and the programs and services it provides is available from the district’s Board Office.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky
 Yes: 5 No: 0

B10. RESOLVED that the North Caldwell Board of Education hereby establishes the school district travel maximum for the 2022-2023 school year at the sum of \$24,700.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky
 Yes: 5 No: 0

B11. RESOLVED that the Board of Education accept the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, Auditor’s Synopsis of Audit and Management Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky
 Yes: 5 No: 0

PERSONNEL RESOLUTIONS

P1. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the Professional Development Workshops/Conferences costs for the following staff member:

Name	Date	Workshop	Cost	Travel
Husk, J.	4/8	NJALC	\$100.00	
Marlo, R.	5/17	NJASBO Admin Asst	\$100.00	
Sibilia, L.	4/28-4/29	NJSHA Convention	\$250.00	
Socci, D.	4/28-4/29	NJSHA Convention	\$250.00	

Moved: Mr. Projansky Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky
 Yes: 5 No: 0

P2. RESOLVED that the Board of Education re-approve **Victoria Socci** as a substitute teacher for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year.

Moved: Mr. Projansky Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky
 Yes: 5 No: 0

- P3. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve Family Medical Leave for **Kathleen Cifelli** effective March 28, 2022 to June 22, 2022.

Moved: Mr. Projansky Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky
 Yes: 5 No: 0

- P4. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve **Zena Lisa** as a part-time ATP maternity leave replacement teacher at a prorated salary of \$34,864.00 (\$58,106.00 MA 30 Step 1 @.6) effective April 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022.

Moved: Mr. Projansky Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky
 Yes: 5 No: 0

- P5. RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve **Molly Boag** as an Instructional Assistant at a prorated salary of \$29,818.00 (Inst Asst. Step 1) effective April 25, 2022 to June 30, 2022.

Moved: Mr. Projansky Seconded: Mrs. Shumofsky
 Yes: 5 No: 0

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Halik provided an update on Subscription Busing for the 2022-2023 School Year. He stated that the Sussex County Regional Co-op is in the process of hiring additional staff to facilitate the day-to-day management of the program. A survey will be going out to parents to help guide the Board in their decision-making process. More details will be discussed in the coming months.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Opper discussed the process of selecting a new board member for the open board seat effective Monday March 21, 2022. There will be a notice of the open board seat advertised in local newspapers for two weeks. Mrs. Opper invites anyone living in North Caldwell to apply for the position. There will be a special board meeting added to conduct all interviews in a private executive session preceding the next scheduled meeting of April 27th, 2022. There will be a public discussion about the candidates during the April 27th,

2022 board meeting, and a vote on the new board member. A new President and Vice President will also be selected.

The following resolution was called at approximately 8:36 pm.

RESOLVED that in accordance with section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Public Law 1975, the Board has the authority to adjourn to closed session to discuss matters pertaining to: Personnel/Legal. Said matters will be made public upon their disposition.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mrs. Opper

Yes: 5 No: 0

As there was no further business to discuss, the Board adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michael Halik
Business Administrator / Board Secretary