

**NORTH CALDWELL BOARD OF EDUCATION  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SESSION  
GRANDVIEW SCHOOL CAFATERIA  
VIA ZOOM WEBINAR MEEETING**

<https://ncboe.zoom.us/j/92988509982?pwd=N0YrZkZoQ08ybXdSbIVtNURWcVdNZz09>

**November 29, 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**

**5. DISCUSSION ITEM**

- **Presentation by Allen Barnett, Principal with Di Cara Rubino Architects**
  
- **No action will be taken**

**6. ADJOURN TO CONFIDENTIAL SESSION (if necessary)**

**The next scheduled public meeting of the Board will be held on December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022 , at 7:30 PM Grandview School Cafeteria.**

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 public session on November 29, 2022 in person at the Grandview School Cafeteria as well as via an online Zoom Webinar at 7:33 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: Mrs. Mindy Opper, President  
Mrs. Jordan Shumofsky, Vice President  
Mrs. Sapna Malige  
Mrs. Johanna Stroever  
Mr. Eric Finkelstein

Also Present: Dr. Linda Freda, Superintendent  
Mr. Michael Halik, Business Administrator / Board Secretary  
Mr. Ian Adlon, Computer Technician  
Mr. Robert Brenneck, Computer Technician  
Mr. Allen Barnett, Architect  
Mr. Charles A. Solomine, Esquire

**BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Mrs. Opper reported that 59 people were in attendance. She stated that the purpose of the meeting is to offer an opportunity to engage the community while providing detailed information about the referendum process. Mrs. Opper discussed the increase in student population relating to new development and migration of young families moving into existing dwellings, as North Caldwell has outstanding schools with so much to be proud of. It’s a primary reason the community attracts property developers and new homeowners. However, the school buildings were designed for less than 600 students, yet each day the schools welcome more than 700 children through their doors.

In addition education has evolved in ways that require more specialty instruction. That means rooms for small-group instruction, world language learning, STEM exploration and other collaboration that crosses subjects.

To maintain the attentive class sizes the community treasures and the academic edge necessary for the present and near future, North Caldwell schools need new and renovated spaces.

Mrs. Opper then explained the difference in the cost of the project verses the tax impact to the homeowners. The Tax impact to the community will be determined after the state reviews the plans and determines the amount of aid the District will receive. That amount is then utilized to adjust the tax impact of the project when the project is bonded. At this point, since the Board is engaging the public much earlier in the process then other districts typically do, the Board does not know the tax impact but reassured the community that information will be shared to provide people with knowledge necessary so they can vote.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following Board members made comments relating to the architect's presentation about the proposed school facilities expansion:

Sapna Malige, Board Member,- Mrs. Malige asked about alternative plans if the referendum does not pass.

Jordan Shumofsky, Board Member,- Mrs. Shumofsky expressed her gratitude to the buildings and grounds committee as well as the architect for their efforts in bringing this project to fruition.

The following people made comments in person pertaining to the Architects presentation about the proposed school facilities expansion and answers were discussed.

Jacek Trzepla, 15 Robin Hill Road

Wendy Brosse, 58 Beachmont Terrace

Matthew Whitford, 65 Evergreen Drive

Michael Marvin, 221 Smull Avenue

Joey Klein, 62 Beachmont Terrace

Jocelyn Kramer, 46 Hamilton Drive East

The following people submitted comments via the online Question and Answer function in zoom pertaining to the Architects presentation about the proposed school facilities expansion:

Karen Fuhrman Kerner, 67 Beachmont Terrace

Alan Gever, 63 Beachmont Terrace

Jennifer Tierney, 27 Hilltop Drive

Dennis Klein, 62 Beachmont Terrace

Aimee Luers-Franco, 3 Timber Drive

Kaitlyn Marvin, 221 Smull Avenue

Alex Albu, 40 Ferndale Road

Ivan Schlacter, 8 Squire Hill Road

After all the comments Mrs. Opper thanked everyone for their input and looks forward to engaging the community in the coming months. She then noted that the recording of tonight's meeting would be posted along with the presentation on the district website [www.ncboe.org](http://www.ncboe.org)

The following resolution was called at approximately 9:17 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.

Moved: Mrs. Shumofsky      Seconded: Mrs. Malige

Yes: 5                                      No: 0

As there was no further business to discuss, the Board adjourned at 9:17 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Michael Halik*

Michael Halik  
Business Administrator / Board Secretary