

*CLOSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION*

*Closter, New Jersey*

*MINUTES*

*SPECIAL MEETING*

*Tenakill Middle School*

*October 22, 2020 - 7:30 PM*

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The Board meeting was called to order by Mr. Lambert at 7:30 PM

The following Board members were present:

Ms. Bhagat, Ms. Cross, Ms. Kothari, Ms. Kwon, Ms. Lee, Mr. Linn, Ms. Micera,  
Ms. Finkelstein, Mr. Lambert

The following Board members were absent:

None

Also present:

Mr. McHale and Mr. Villanueva

**NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT - Read by the President:**

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meeting of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Secretary to the Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting by having the date, time, and place thereof, posted at each school building within the district, the Board of Education office, the Office of the Borough Clerk, and transmitted to *The Record* and *Northern Valley Suburbanite* newspapers.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**SCHOOL YEAR 2020-2021 DISTRICT GOALS ANDS BOARD GOALS**

Mr. McHale led the discussion on the SY 2020-2021 board and district goals based on BOE Trustees' responses.

**Board Goals:**

- Provide orientation support for the new Board trustee.
- Complete all required training, as mandated by New Jersey School Boards.
- Complete the Personal/Relative and Financial Disclosure before the statutory deadline.

**District Goals:**

- By May 2021, advance the work of inclusivity and equity in Closter Public Schools by establishing a District Diversity Council to meet at least three times to identify important

issues related to diversity and equity within the district and to identify an action plan for addressing issues.

- During the COVID-19 pandemic, ensure the continuity of health, safety and instruction by:
  - maintaining ongoing communication with the district physician and Mid-Bergen Regional Health Consortium whenever students or staff test positive for COVID-19;
  - gathering feedback of the hybrid/fully virtual model from teachers, staff, students (grade 3 - 8) and parents through at least two surveys;
  - maintaining readiness to pivot with the current conditions and to revise learning models for increased instructional and learning time, whenever possible.
- By May 2021, complete the process of drafting, editing and finalizing an update for all district policies and regulations.

The trustees discussed that it would be a good goal for the district to plan and budget for technology replacement and to explore the process of becoming a Sustainable Jersey Digital School District.

The final goals will be approved on the October 29th meeting.

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS**

***No Public Comments***

**PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

*Chairperson Ms. Lee, Mr. Lambert*

Moved by Mr. Linn, seconded by Ms. Lee to approve Motion A.

Motion was approved by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Bhagat, Ms. Cross, Ms. Kothari, Ms. Kwon, Ms. Lee, Mr. Linn, Ms. Micera,  
Ms. Finkelstein, Mr. Lambert

NAYS: None

**A. APPROVAL - Art Teacher Tenure-Track Position**

Motion to approve Sarah Menchise as art teacher for the 2020-2021 school year, pending a criminal history background check with an anticipated start date of January 4, 2021 or earlier if available. Salary is \$62,869.00, plus benefits (BA+15, Step 5).

**BOARD COMMITTEES**

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

*No Public Comments*

CLOSED SESSION MOTION

*No Closed Session*

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Ms. Kwon, seconded by Ms. Micera to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Floro M. Villanueva, Jr.', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Floro M. Villanueva, Jr.  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary