

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BOROUGH OF NORTH HALEDON**

**Agenda**

**Public Meeting**

**March 17, 2016**

**Minutes**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**TIME: 7:34 pm**

**Location: High Mountain School**

Michelle Melone lead the flag salute.

Roll Call was done. Dr. Badami, Mrs. Contegiacomo, Mrs. DeNova, Mrs. Lampe, Mrs. LaCognata, Mr. Ten Kate, Mr. Valenti, and Mrs. Melone were all present.

Others Present were Mr. Coffaro, Superintendent of Schools/Acting Board Secretary; Ms. Lordi, Board of Education Attorney

*Michelle Melone read the OPEN PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE.*

In accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, the North Haledon Board of Education has issued notice of this meeting to be publicized by having the date, time and location of the meeting posted at the North Haledon Municipal Building and Memorial and High Mountain Schools and mailed to The Hawthorne Press, on **March 10, 2016**, which has been designated as the Board's official newspaper and to The Star Ledger, alternate newspapers . Notice was also filed with the Borough Clerk and will be sent to those persons requesting that such notice be mailed to them.

Mr. Coffaro thanked Lisa Antropow for her time on the North Haledon Board of Education and the Board accepted her resignation. Mr. Coffaro confirmed that Lisa's spot will be filled. Those interested in filling the position were asked to submit a letter to the Board of Education. A public interview will then take place and a new candidate will be sworn in.

THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS/ACTING BOARD SECRETARY, AS TEMPORARY CHAIR, CONDUCTED THE ELECTION OF A NEW PRESIDENT.

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**

The following persons were hereby nominated for Office of President of the North Haledon Board of Education:

NAME: Michelle Melone  
NOMINATED BY: Chirag Badami  
SECONDED BY: Peter Ten Kate

**MOTION TO CLOSE NOMINATIONS FOR PRESIDENT**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** The North Haledon Board of Education hereby closed the nominations for the Office of President.

MOTION: Renate Lampe  
SECOND: Chirag Badami  
VOTE: 9-0

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**OFFICIAL VOTING FOR PRESIDENT**

**BE IT RESOLVED:** The Board hereby directs the Acting Board Secretary to cast one (1) ballot on behalf of Michelle Melone for President of the North Haledon Board of Education.

MOTION: Renate Lampe  
SECOND: Lucy DeNova  
VOTE: 9-0

**THE NEWLY ELECTED PRESIDENT, MICHELLE MELONE , OCCUPIED THE CHAIR.**

**OFFICIAL VOTING FOR VICE PRESIDENT**

The following persons were hereby nominated for Office of The following persons were hereby nominated for Office of Vice President of the North Haledon Board of Education:

NAME: Lucy DeNova  
Nominated by: Renate Lampe  
Seconded by: Heather LaCognata

NAME: Peter Ten Kate  
Nominated by: Heather LaCognata  
Seconded by: Chirag Bidami

NAME: Dorothy Contgiacomo  
Nominated by: Chirag Bidami  
Seconded by: Peter Ten Kate

Vote was held.

Lucy DeNova- 7 votes  
Peter Ten Kate- 2 votes  
Dorothy Contegiaco- 0 votes

**THE NEWLY ELECTED VICE PRESIDENT, Lucy DeNova, OCCUPIED THE CHAIR.**

**Superintendent's Report (to include):**

Mr. Coffaro thanked Lisa Antropow for her time on the North Haledon Board of Education and the Board accepted her resignation. Mr. Coffaro confirmed that Lisa's spot will be filled. Those interested in filling the position were asked to submit a letter to the Board of Education. A public interview will then take place and a new candidate will be sworn in.

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The March 22nd budget will be submitted to the county. Mr. Coffaro thanked Ginny Merlino publicly for all her help and time. The budget will be presented on April 22nd once approval is received from Mr. Davis. Mr. Coffaro acknowledged that the climate has not been good but he believes there is a light at the end of the tunnel. He thanked the new board for their time and said that the new board has been working very hard. Mr. Coffaro stated that he is looking forward to a working relationship with the community and the Mayor and Council. Mr. Coffaro stated that he wants to move forward. He revealed that next year's tentative budget did maintain two building principals and a school counselor.

The sale to lease program was explained to the public. Mr. Salomini addressed the public and was available for questions.

Joe Mannino, 8 Cranberry Court, questioned if the sale to lease was tax exempt. Mr. Salomini stated that it was not.

There were no other questions. The Board thanked Mr. Salomini for his time and he was dismissed.

Mr. Coffaro reported on enrollment. There are currently 68 students in Kindergarten, 75 in 1st, 66 in 2nd, 82 in 3rd and 76 in 4th along with 7 in Mew Beginnings with a total of 386 students in Memorial. There are 73 students in 5th, 69 in 6th, 63 in 7th and 84 in 8th with a total of 289 students. The total students in district is 682. There are 47 students enrolled for the 2016/2017 Kindergarten class.

NO HIB cases to report in either building. Thank you to the Girl Scouts Troop 646 for their Earth Day display.

Mrs. Talerico gave a presentation using the Geometer Sketch Pad, which she thanked the NHEF for.

Mrs. Mazzola gave the professional development report. She thanked Christina Rough. Staff participated in PARCC training, reviewed accommodations and policies for proctoring. Staff viewed the Pearson website for April 11th start.

Principals gave their school level reports. Mr. Giancaspro stated all safety drills were completed. Parent University meeting was held on March 9th from 7-9 pm regarding upcoming PARCC testing. He thanked Mrs. Feather and 8th grade team for helping with the 8th grade pictures. 5th grade LEAD graduation was a success. There is a meeting for scheduling with MRHS. The PTO Spring Musical is scheduled for March 22 and 23. Spring break will be held March 25th- April 3rd. Mr. Giancaspro stated he had mixed emotions submitting his resignation but moving on to be a Superintendent in East Rutherford. He is proud of staff in both Memorial and High Mountain Schools.

Mrs. Melone thanked Mr. Giancaspro for his time and stated that he will be missed but the board wishes him nothing but success.

Memorial's report was given. March 22 is the next date for Kindergarten registration. Absolutely Incredible Kid Day was held March 15 which was a great success. An amazing day was had by all. Jump Roe for Heart was held and was successful. Students are preparing for Talent Show for May 13th. The Science Fair is

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scheduled for MArch 21st. The art Show is scheduled for May 16th. The Celebration Assembly next month will showcase 2nd grade. Dress up day is scheduled for May 24th.

Special Education Report – Supervisor of Child Study – Mrs. Cubicciotti: NO REPORT

**Business Administrator’s Report – Presented by Superintendent of Schools**

**Finance-** met four times this month. The committee went through each line item line by line. The committee thanked Mrs. Merlino for her hardwork.

**Communications-**

Letter of Resignation: Board President (Mrs. Antropow)  
Letter of Resignation: School Principal (Mr. Giancaspro)  
Letter of Resignation: School Nurse (Mrs. Linde)  
Letter of Intent: New Beginnings Program

**Committee Reports:**

**Facilities:** Mr. Valenti -:NO REPORT

**Curriculum:** Mrs. Melone : NO REPORT

**Personnel:** Mrs. Lampe NO REPORT

**Policy:** Mr. Valenti :NO REPORT

**Public Relations:** Mrs. Melone :NO REPORT

**Technology:** Mrs. DeNova NO REPORT

**Negotiations:** Mrs. Contegiacomo stated that negotiations are continuing and the next meeting is April 6th.

**Representative’s Reports:**

**Board of Recreation:** Mrs. LaCognata: Sponsorships are available if a local business is interested in helping to raise money and support the North Haled Recreation.

**Borough Council:** Mrs. LaCognata

**Planning Board:** Mrs. LaCognata

**PCSBA/NJSBA:** Mrs. DeNova stated that there is a Special Education meeting on March 21st at 7pm at The Brownstone in Paterson.

**P.C. Educational Service Commission:** Mr. Coffaro : NO REPORT

**Accept Reports:**

Motion: Renata Lampe  
Second: Heather LaCognata

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**BE IT RESOLVED**, that Superintendent's, Business Administrator's, Committee and Representatives reports be accepted.

Vote: 9-0

**Petition of Citizens –**

Motion to Open the floor: Renate Lampe

Second: Chirag Badami

Vote: 9-0

Janelle Feather, Brookside Terrace, stated that technology is the future. She thanked Mrs. Talerico for her presentation and the importance of the Geometer Sketch Pad and how it applies to differentiated instruction. In regards to Sale to Lease, she asked if it's possible to upgrade to online textbooks. She wished Mr. Giancaspro much success and happy to see that there is a light and hoping it only gets brighter.

Maureen Kurynski questioned snow day. The board stated that there were no snow days built into the calendar. She questioned the current calendar online. She also asked when the Board has to begin to repay the sale to lease.

Lauren Primavera questioned the curriculum. She wanted to know who was responsible for writing the curriculum and upset that her 6th grader doesn't write how 2nd graders are learning to write. She was upset with 6th grade curriculum and feels that 6th-8th grades should have mandatory summer reading assignment.

Evelyn Mannino, 8 Cranberry Court, asked if the music teacher, counselor and maintenance positions will be filled. M. Coffaro replied that the music position has been filled and that the Child Study Team is currently handling counselor issues. Evelyn Mannino continued to express the importance of a counselor. Mr. Coffaro replied that the board will try to bring back the counselor position for the 2016/2017 school year but it has to be approved at the county level. He continued to say that the board is posting for the director of facilities position but the job title will change to Head Custodian. Evelyn Mannino stated that she was unclear about 2016/2017 principals. Mr. Coffaro clarified that we will maintain two principals as long as county approves. Evelyn Mannino thanked the teachers for their hard work and continuing to be positive through all this.

Mrs. Tanis wanted to know the date for the preliminary budget. She expressed concern that we are losing good staff and the need to settle the contract.

Emily Primavera, former North Haledon student, said that the district should focus more on writing strategies and less on PARCC. Mr. Giancaspro gave clarification that the district doesn't teach to the test but to the standards

Joe Mannino, 8 Cranberry Court questioned \$42,000 of interest and why the public can't see the budget that was sent to the county. Viola, the board attorney, replied that the Superintendent will reach out to him tomorrow. If preliminary budget is released, then it will be released to the entire public. Mrs. Melone continued that that budget will be discussed in April at the next Board of Education meeting. Joe Mannino continued that he wants transparency and the numbers. Viola replied that she would reach out to him tomorrow.

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Roseanne Morganiti, North Haledon teacher, stated that it has been an unsettling time and teachers have been outstanding. She feels students are well prepared whether attending private or public high school.

Jen Percelli made the recommendation to check for consistency when making changes because change has a negative effect on our children and wants attention to detail regarding school closings and calendar decisions.

Anthony Griffo, 10 Onyx Court, wants to know if the full board met about the budget. Mrs. Melone replied that it was discussed at committee level.

Motion to Close the Floor: Renate Lampe

Second: Paul Valenti

Vote: 9-0

**New Business**

No new business

**Finance:**

**The Finance Committee recommends the following motions for approval by the Board:**

Motion: Peter Ten Kate

Second: Chirag Badami

Vote: 9-0

**BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves motion: (1) District Claims; (2) Accept Board Secretary and Treasurer of Monies Report 3) Approval of the North Haledon School District Tentative Budget for the submission to the Executive County Superintendent of School (4) Approval of Non-Renewal or Renewal of Current Agreement for Lease of Classroom and Provision of Ancillary Services for New Beginnings at Memorial Elementary School in North Haledon (to be addressed following closed/private session) and (5) Approval of textbook equipment lease purchase financing.**

**Michelle Melone motioned to table #4. Seconded by Renate Lampe.**

**1) Approval of District Claims**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the attached list of claims in the amount of \$541,185.44 be approved for payment immediately or as funds of this Board become available. This list includes the following payments per General Fund 10: \$15,894.93; Fund 11: \$507,471.14 ; Special Revenue Fund 20: \$17,819.37

**2) Acceptance of Acting Board Secretary and Treasure of School Monies Report**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the February 2016 Acting Board Secretary and Treasurer of School Monies Report

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**3) Approval of the North Haledon School District Tentative Budget for the 2016-2017 School Year for Submission to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the North Haledon School District 2016 tentative budget for the 2016-2017 school year for submission to the Executive Superintendent of Schools as follows, which includes a Health Care Cost Adjustment in the amount of \$49,321:

|                         |                |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| GENERAL EXPENSE BUDGET: | \$9,494,447.00 |
| SPECIAL REVENUE BUDGET: | \$185,000.00   |
| DEBT SERVICE BUDGET:    | \$1,445,950.00 |

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the revenue required for this budget includes

|                        |                |
|------------------------|----------------|
| GENERAL FUND TAX LEVY: | \$9,058,058.00 |
| DEBT TAX SURVEY:       | \$1,377,527.00 |

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board hereby approves the travel and related expense for the 2017-2017 school year not to exceed \$5000.

- 4) Approval of Non-Renewal or Renewal of Current Agreement for Lease of Classroom and Provision of Ancillary Services for New Beginnings at Memorial Elementary School in North Haledon (to be addressed following closed/private session)**
- 5) Approval of. textbook equipment lease purchase financing**

**Technology:**

**There were no Technology Motions for the Board's consideration.**

**Personnel:**

**The Personnel Committee recommends the following motions for approval by the Board.**

Motion: Renate Lampe  
Second: Chirag Badami  
Vote: 9-0

**BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves motions: 1) Accept resignation of Building Principal, Mr. Giovanni Giancaspro; 2) Accept Resignation of Memorial School Nurse, Ms. Jane Ann Linde; 3) Approval of K-8 Music Teacher, Mr. Ron Pokryska; 4) Approval of March Substitute List.

**1) Accept Resignation of Building Principal, Mr. Giovanni Giancaspro.**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the resignation of Mr. Giancaspro, Building Principal, and effective June 30, 2016.

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**2) Accept Resignation of Memorial School Nurse, Ms. Jane Ann Linde.**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the resignation of Ms. Linde, effective May 9, 2015.

**3) Approval of K-8 Music Teacher, Mr. Ron Pokryska.**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby retroactively approves Mr. Ron Pokryska to the position of K-8 Music Teacher for the 2015-2016 school year at Step 5 MA30 at a salary of \$59,314, effective March 14, 2016.

**4) Approval of March Substitute Teacher list.**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the March Substitute Teacher List.

**Policy:**

The Policy Committee recommends the following motions for approval by the Board

Motion: Paul Valenti

Second: Chirag Badami

Vote: 9-0

Be it Resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves motions: 1.) Approval of Board Minutes.

**1) Approval of Board Minutes**

Be it Resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the minutes listed below as per copies distributed to each board member.

-Regular Meeting: December 14, 2015

-Re-Organization Meeting: January 6, 2016

-Regular Meeting: January 27, 2016

-Regular Meeting: February 24, 2016

**Curriculum:**

**The Curriculum Committee recommends the following motions for approval by the Board**

Motion: Paul Valenti

Second: Renate Lampe

Vote: 9-0

**BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves motions:

**1) Travel and Related Expenses; (2) Grade 2 Field Trip- World of Wings; (3) Grade 3 Field Trip- Turtle Back Zoo.**

**1) Travel and Related Expenses**

**Approve reimbursement and expenses, previously approved by the Superintendent for the following staff training, workshops, conventions, conferences and/or seminars as they are directly related to and within**



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the scope of participant’s duties and are critical to the instructional needs of the district and/or further the efficient operation of the district. The travel and expenses are within state travel guidelines established by the Department of Treasury and are justified.

| Date | Participant | Workshop | Location | Fee* | Estimated Lodging & M&IE |
|------|-------------|----------|----------|------|--------------------------|
|      |             |          |          |      |                          |

**2) Approval of Grade 2 Field Trip- World of Wings**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the Grade 2 Field Trip- World of Wings

**3) Approval of Grade 3 Field Trip- Turtle Back Zoo**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the Grade 3 Field Trip- Turtle Back Zoo

**Facilities & Services:**

The Facilities & Services Committee recommends the following motions for approval by the Board.

Motion: Paul Valenti

Second: Dorothy C.

Vote: 9-0

**BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves motions:

**1) Approval of District Facilities Use.**

- 1. BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby retroactively approves the following use of district facilities subject to non-conflicting events:

| Organization                     | Date                                       | Times     | Location      | Purpose                                       |
|----------------------------------|--|-----------|---------------|---|
| Boys and Girls Club of Hawthorne | April- 6, 13, 20, 27<br>May- 4, 11, 18, 25 | 6:30-8:45 | HM- Gymnasium | Buddie Soccer for Memorial students (K-Gr.2). |

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|                                  |  |           |                       |   |
|----------------------------------|--|-----------|-----------------------|---|
| Boys and Girls Club of Hawthorne | April- 20, 27<br>May- 4, 11, 18, 25<br>June 1, 8 | 7:00-8:30 | HM- Woodshop          | Wood Crafting Club for Memorial students (Gr. 3 & 4). |
| Boys and Girls Club of Hawthorne | April- 4, 11, 18, 25<br>May- 2, 9, 23<br>June- 6 | 6:30-8:45 | Memorial- Aud./Gym    | Flag Football League for HM students.                 |
| Boys and Girls Club of Hawthorne | April- 8, 29<br>May- 6, 20                       | 6:30-8:30 | Memorial- Aud./Gym    | Friday Night Fun for Memorial students.               |
| Boys and Girls Club of Hawthorne | April- 15, 22<br>May- 13, 27                     | 6:00-8:00 | HM- Gym               | Friday Night Fun for HM students.                     |
| NH PTO (Grade 8)                 | March- 14  | 3:00-5:30 | HM- Multi-Purpose Rm. | Distribute Gertrude Hawk Chocolate.                   |

|                    |  |           |                     |   |
|--------------------|--|-----------|---------------------|---|
| Little Ivy Academy | April 18, 25<br>May 2, 9, 16<br>23, 30<br>June 6, 13 | 2:50-4:20 | Memorial Classrooms | Theme-based hands on learning (enrichment labs-STEAM) |
|--------------------|--|-----------|---------------------|---|

**Old/New Business:**

Peter Ten Kate asked about the interest rate pertaining to the Sale to Lease. The attorney was going to get further clarification.

**ADJORN TO CLOSED SESSION:**

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, also known as the Open Public Meetings Act, authorizes a public body to meet in executive or private session under certain limited circumstances, and

**WHEREAS**, said law requires the board to adopt a resolution at a public meeting before it can meet in such an executive or private session.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE NORTH HALEDON BOARD OF EDUCATION THAT:**

1. It does hereby determine that it is necessary to meet in Executive Session prior to adjournment of this meeting to:
  - Receive attorney advice regarding the Agreement for Lease of Classroom and Provision of Ancillary Services for New Beginnings at Memorial Elementary School in North Haledon.

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2. The matters discussed will be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.
3. Action may be taken.

**PRIVATE SESSION**

Motion: Dorothy Contegiacomo  
Time: 9:30

Second: Renate Lampe  
Vote: 9-0

**Re-open Public Meeting**

Motion: Lucy DeNova  
Time: 10:54

Second: Heather LaCognata  
Vote: 9-0

**Unfinished Business-** Lucy DeNova motioned to accept #4. Heather LaCognata seconded it.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: Renate Lampe  
Time: 10:56

Second: Chirag Badami  
Vote: 9-0