

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
CALDWELL-WEST CALDWELL**

**REGULAR PUBLIC MONTHLY MEETING
DECEMBER 13, 2021**

The President announced that the Caldwell-West Caldwell Board of Education Regular Public Monthly Meeting held on December 13, 2021 at 7:00 pm in the Harrison Conference Room, 104 Gray Street, West Caldwell and via livestream is in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act and N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, a/k/a "Sunshine Law." Notices have been sent to *The Progress*, Caldwell, NJ and *The Star Ledger*, Newark, NJ and *NJ TAPinto*, West Essex at least 48 hours in advance of this meeting. Notices have also been posted at the Board of Education Business Office, Harrison School Building, Gray Street, West Caldwell, NJ and have been delivered to the Clerk, Borough of Caldwell, and the Clerk, Township of West Caldwell for posting.

I. ROLL CALL:

Board Members Present:

Chris D'Ambola
Chris Elko
Julianne Grosso, Vice President
Dan Cipoletti, President

Administrators Present:

Christopher Conklin
Kaitlin Jones
Brian McCarthy

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

EXECUTIVE SESSION

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE, GRAY STREET, NJ

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Personnel, Negotiations, Litigation, Miscellaneous, appointment of New Board Member and Old Business matters. This meeting has been advertised and is compliant with the Open Public Meeting Act and N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, a/k/a "Sunshine Law." The matters discussed will be made public when confidentiality is no longer required and formal action pursuant to said discussion shall take place only at a meeting to which the public has been invited. Public meeting will resume at 7:00pm.

Motion to Enter Executive Session

Motion made by Mrs. Grosso; seconded by Mr. D'Ambola upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Caldwell-West Caldwell Board of Education entered Executive Session at 6:00pm.

Affirmative Vote

4 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Abstentions

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Motion to Enter Public Session

Motion made by Mrs. Grosso; seconded by Mr. D'Ambola upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Caldwell-West Caldwell Board of Education returned to Open Session at 7:04 pm.

Affirmative Vote

4 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Abstentions

Motion to Nominate New Board Member

Motion made by Mrs. Grosso; seconded by Mr. D'Ambola, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Caldwell-West Caldwell Board of Education nominated Paula Getty to serve an unexpired term on the Board of Education from December 13, 2021 to December 31, 2022.

Affirmative Vote

4 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Abstentions

III. OATHS OF NEW BOARD MEMBER

The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary administered the Qualifying Oaths of New Board Member in accordance with Title 18A:12-2.1, to the newly appointed Board Member:

I, **Paula Getty**, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New Jersey, and that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same and to the Governments established in the United States and this State, under the authority of the people. So help me God.

I, **Paula Getty**, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I possess the qualifications prescribed by law for the office of member of a board of education, and that I am not disqualified as a voter pursuant to R.S. 19:4-1 nor disqualified due to conviction of a crime or offense listed in N.J.S. 18A:12-1, and that I will faithfully, impartially, and justly perform all the duties of that office according to the best of my ability. So help me God.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Superintendent acknowledged the James Caldwell High School Boys Varsity Football Team Championship season with the following resolution:

**CALDWELL–WEST CALDWELL BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION HONORING THE JAMES CALDWELL HIGH SCHOOL
VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM**

WHEREAS, the JCHS Varsity Football Team is the Super Football Conference National White Division Champion, and;

WHEREAS, the JCHS Varsity Football Team is the Group 2 Section 1 State Champion, and;

WHEREAS, the JCHS Varsity Football Team is the first-ever Caldwell-West Caldwell North Jersey Group 2 State Champion, and;

WHEREAS, the JCHS Varsity Football Team is the first undefeated football team since 1991, and;

WHEREAS, the JCHS Varsity Football Team is the only Caldwell-West Caldwell football team to ever win 12 games, and;

WHEREAS, the JCHS Varsity Football Team currently owns the longest winning streak in the State of New Jersey at 15 games, and;

WHEREAS, five team members have earned 1st Team All-Conference honors, and;

WHEREAS, four team members have earned 2nd Team All-Conference honors, and;

WHEREAS, the JCHS Varsity Football Team ended the season ranked 17 in the Final State Top 20 Poll;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Caldwell-West Caldwell Board of Education takes great pride in recognizing and commending the 2021-2022 James Caldwell High School Varsity Football Team for its outstanding achievements this 13th day of December, 2021.

VI. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. Grosso moved; Mr. D'Ambola seconded, a motion to approve the Public Conference Meeting Minutes and Executive Session Minutes of November 1, 2021 and the Regular Public Monthly Meeting Minutes and Executive Session Minutes of November 8, 2021.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – Messrs. D'Ambola, Elko, Mmes. Getty, Grosso, Mr. Cipoletti

Nays – None

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Elko reported on the Finance/Facilities Committee meeting.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Public participation shall be governed by the following:

1. Participant must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface comments by an announcement of their name and address;
2. Statements are to be limited to three minutes' duration and may only address items on the Agenda;
3. Participant may speak no more than once on the same topic until all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard;
4. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer.

A. Curriculum and Technology

The Superintendent recommended the following items to the Board of Education:

Mrs. Grosso moved; Mr. D'Ambola seconded, a motion to approve item numbers 1. through 8. on this evening's Agenda.

1. **Enrollment Report** (Attached)
Enrollment Report of November 30, 2021.
2. **Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Incidents**
Affirm the Administration's determination concerning Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Investigation #291 for the period November 1, 2021-November 30, 2021 as outlined in the confidential report shared with Board of Education members and on file in the Superintendent's Office.
3. **Memorandum of Agreement**
Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between the Caldwell-West Caldwell Public Schools and the Caldwell and West Caldwell Police Departments, effective for the 2021-22 school year.
4. **Field Trip Destinations**
District-sponsored field trip destinations for December 2021 as follows:

<u>Group</u>	<u>Description/Destination</u>	<u>Date</u>
JCHS Self-Advocacy Club	Student to Student Mentoring	December 10, 2021
	Washington School	December 13, 2021 (Rain Date)
JCHS AP Environ. Science	Water Quality Testing	December 15, 2021
	Goffle Brook Park, Hawthorne, NJ	
	Roseland Environmental Center, Roseland, NJ Paterson Falls & Museum, Paterson, NJ	

5. **Overnight Field Trip**
Overnight field trip for the JCHS Varsity Wrestling Team to Brick Memorial High School, Brick, NJ to participate in the Brick Memorial Mustang Classic Holiday Tournament, Monday, December 27 – Tuesday, December 28, 2021.
6. **Continuing Education Adult School Course Spring 2022**
New Continuing Education Adult School courses for the 2022 Spring session as follows:

<u>Course Name</u>	<u>Instructor</u>	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Classes</u>
Paint & Sip Water-Based Painting	Steven McPeters	\$100.00	6
Two Nights of Color Using Color Pencils	Steven McPeters	\$42.00	2
Two Nights of Color – Pastel Workshop	Steven McPeters	\$42.00	2
Steps for Selling Your Home When Planning to Downsize	Celadawn Reid	\$39.00	1
How to Manage Your Endless To-Do List	Diane Thomson	\$39.00	1
Parenting Skills for Raising a Child in the 21 st Century	Dr. Danielle Gasalberti	\$39.00	1
Positive Aging	Diane Lang	\$39.00	1
The Importance of Routines	Diane Lang	\$39.00	1
Barbie: Celebrating the Pop Culture Icon	Carol Stavvaka	\$39.00	1
Ayurveda 101	Dr. Ratan Chaturvedi	\$42.00	2

7. Expense Reimbursements

Expense reimbursements for attendance at Professional Development Programs approved by the Superintendent as follows:

Christopher Marcell	NJ Green Expo-Turf & Landscape Conference Atlantic City, NJ – Borgata	\$275.00
Judy Hennig	Strategies to Address the Challenges of Today's School Nurse West Orange, NJ	\$279.00
Nicole Rubino	2022 US LAXCON Baltimore, MD	\$180.00 (+ \$213.00-mileage & tolls)

8. Special Education Service Provider

Special Education Service Provider (updated rate):

Dr. Jose Moreno, Chester, NJ	Psychiatric Evaluations	\$650.00/evaluation
Effective: 9/9/21 – 6/30/2022		

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – Messrs. D'Ambola, Elko, Mmes. Getty, Grosso, Mr. Cipoletti

Nays – None

B. Personnel

The Superintendent recommended the following personnel items to the Board of Education:

Mr. D'Ambola moved; Mrs. Grosso seconded, a motion to approve Certificated Staff item letters a. through k. and Non-Certificated Staff item letters a. through h. on this evening's agenda under Personnel.

1. Certificated Staff

a. Resignation

Accept the resignation of Elizabeth Demetrician, Teacher of STEM/GAP, Grover Cleveland Middle School, effective January 7, 2022.

b. Amended Resignation

Amend the resignation of Rosalie Dumas, Teacher of Music, District, from December 8, 2021 to November 17, 2021 (60-day notice not provided).

c. Amended Leave of Absence

Amend the Disability Leave of Absence, with pay, for Employee #1507, Washington Elementary School, from December 6, 2021 to January 6, 2022 to November 29 to December 23, 2021, followed by a Family Medical Leave of Absence, without pay, from January 3 to March 25, 2022.

Amend the Disability Leave of Absence, with pay, for Employee #146, Wilson Elementary School, from January 18 to March 18, 2022 to December 6, 2021 to March 4, 2022, followed by a Family Medical Leave of Absence, without pay, from March 7 to June 3, 2022, followed by a Maternity Leave of Absence, without pay, from June 6, 2022 to March 3, 2023.

d. Leaves of Absence

Disability Leave of Absence, with pay, for Employee #1399, Elementary Teacher, Lincoln Elementary School, from April 22 to May 27, 2022, followed by a Family Medical Leave of Absence, without pay, from May 30 to October 31, 2022.

Family Medical Leave of Absence, without pay, for Employee #156, James Caldwell High School, effective January 11 to February 17, 2022.

e. Appointments

Samantha Reindeau, Teacher of Students with Disabilities, Wilson Elementary School, BA+16 Guide, Step 7, at a salary of \$61,146 (to be pro-rated), effective November 29, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

Lauren Willenborg, Teacher of Biology/STEM, Grover Cleveland Middle School, MA Guide, Step 9, at a salary of \$68,091 (to be pro-rated), effective February 14 to June 30, 2022.

Thomas McCoy, Teacher of Music (Strings), District, BA Guide, Step 1, at a salary of \$52,500 (to be pro-rated), effective December 13, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

Ross Chu, Teacher of Music, District, MA Guide, Step 6, at a salary of \$64,011 (to be pro-rated), effective December 20, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

Pinhsuan (Coco) Sung, Elementary Teacher, Jefferson Elementary School, MA Guide, Step 2, at a salary of \$58,340 (to be pro-rated), effective January 18 to June 30, 2022.

Sonja Mendez, Temporary Leave Replacement, Elementary Teacher, Washington Elementary School, BA Guide, Step 1, at a salary of \$52,500 (to be pro-rated), effective January 4 to June 30, 2022.

Taren Siano, Temporary Leave Replacement, Teacher of Students with Disabilities, Wilson Elementary School, BA Guide, Step 1, at a salary of \$52,500 (to be pro-rated), effective December 2, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

Schedule C – Extracurricular Non-Athletic

Schedule C – Extracurricular Non-Athletic Stipends for the 2021-22 school year as follows:

First Name	Last Name	School	Position	Level	Amount
Evan	McLaughlin	JCHS	Saturday Detention Supv.	N/A	\$44/hour
Greyson	Gerdts	JCHS	Choreographer - Spring Musical	N/A	\$2,549

Extracurricular-Athletic

Volunteer

John Russoniello Bowling

f. Appointments – Additional Assignments

Following teachers to cover an additional Resource Room class:

First Name	Last Name	School	Dates	Rate
Bethany	Chauvette	GCMS	1/3/22 to 6/23/22	\$10,500 (pro-rated)
Consuelo	Cirilo	GCMS	1/3/22 to 6/23/22	\$10,500 (pro-rated)
Erica	Thacker	GCMS	1/3/22 to 6/23/22	\$10,800 (pro-rated)
Adriane	Halkias	GCMS	1/3/22 to 2/11/22	\$1,653
Lori	Chomko	GCMS	1/3/22 to 2/11/22	\$1,813

Following teachers to cover an additional STEM class:

First Name	Last Name	School	Dates	Rate
Melissa	Silverthorne	GCMS	1/10/22 to 2/11/22	\$1,368
Jeffrey	Bishop	GCMS	1/10/22 to 2/11/22	\$1,500
Nicole	Giangrasso	GCMS	1/10/22 to 2/11/22	\$1,500
Mickayla	Romero	GCMS	1/10/22 to 2/11/22	\$1,500

Following teacher to cover an additional Resource Room class:

First Name	Last Name	School	Dates	Rate
Victoria	Sainato	JCHS	1/11/22 to 2/17/22	\$1,418

g. Salary Guide Movement

Move Jacquelyn Patton, Associate Library Media Specialist, James Caldwell High School, on the salary guide for the successful completion of coursework, from MA Guide, Step 10, to MA+16 Guide, Step 10, at a salary of \$72,365, effective February 1, 2022.

h. Grant Funds and Appointments

Following teachers as instructors for the SMART Support Program, at a rate of \$44 per hour (45-minute session + 15-minute planning) to be paid from Title I and/or local funds, effective for the 2021-2022 school year:

Wilson Elementary School

Rachel Horowitz

Grover Cleveland Middle School

Paul Kotlewski

Trevor McLaughlin

Laura Newman

James Caldwell High School

Jamie Blanchard

Melissa Lanzafama

i. Job Descriptions

Accept the following new job description:

-Instructional Supervisor of Mathematics

j. Substitute Teachers

Andrea McLaughlin

Teacher of English

Joan Ganton

County Substitute

k. Home Instructor

Andrea McLaughlin

Teacher of English

2. Non-Certificated Staff

a. Retirements

Service Retirement for Joseph Romano, Maintenance, District, effective December 31, 2021.

Retirement for JoAnn Bledsoe, Special Education Aide, effective November 30, 2021.

b. Resignations

Resignation of Norma Jean Zecchino, Special Education Aide, Jefferson Elementary School, effective November 19, 2021.

Resignation of Helen McAndrew, Bus Aide, Harrison School, effective November 24, 2021.

c. Termination

Terminate Employee #1363, due to abandonment of position, effective November 2, 2021.

d. Leaves of Absence

Family Medical Leave of Absence, without pay, for Employee #212, Grover Cleveland Middle School, effective November 15 to December 10, 2021.

Family Medical Leave of Absence, without pay, for Employee #82, Wilson Elementary School, effective December 13, 2021 to March 4, 2022.

e. Rescinded Appointments

Rescind the appointment of Heba Khalifa, Library Assistant, Washington Elementary School, effective November 24, 2021.

Rescind the appointment of Wendy Hendricks-Ruddy, Special Education Aide, Washington Elementary School, effective November 24, 2021.

Rescind the appointment of Mariel Letourneau, Choreographer, effective for the 21-22 school year.

f. Appointments

Rebecca Marin, Central Office Administrative Secretary 12 Month (2), Step 5, at a salary of \$51,250 (to be pro-rated), effective January 3 to June 30, 2022.

Edward Mayorga, Custodian, Washington Elementary School, for a 90-day probationary period, at a salary of \$37,000 (to be pro-rated), effective December 6, 2021.

Kishawn Carter, Night Custodian, James Caldwell High School, for a 90-day probationary period, at a salary of \$37,000, with a Night Differential Stipend of \$3,030 (to be pro-rated), effective January 3, 2022.

Sandra Tansey, Lunch Aide, Washington Elementary School, at a rate of \$14.35 per hour, effective November 9, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

Maria Curatolo, Bus Aide, Harrison School, at a rate of \$17.50 per hour, effective November 8, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

Parvathi Cherakkara, Special Education Aide, Grover Cleveland Middle School, at a rate of \$14.35 per hour, effective December 13, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

Nicholas Russomanno, Personal Aide for wrestling student #9905517, at a rate of \$14.35 per hour, effective 2021-2022 season.

Heba Khalifa, Special Education Aide, Washington Elementary School, at a rate of \$14.35 per hour, effective November 29, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

Wendy Hendricks-Ruddy, Library Assistant, Washington Elementary School, at a rate of \$25.53 per hour, effective November 29, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

g. Voluntary Transfer

Voluntary transfer for Dexter Meeks, from Night Custodian, James Caldwell High School to Night Custodian, Grover Cleveland Middle School, effective January 3, 2022.

h. Student Field Placement

Brooke Butler, student, Fairleigh Dickinson University, to complete her field assignment at James Caldwell High School, effective for the 2021-22 school year.

Emily Brennan, student, Seton Hall University, to complete her clinical experience placement at Lincoln Elementary School, effective for the 2021-22 school year.

Madison Miranda, student, Seton Hall University, to complete her clinical experience placement at Lincoln Elementary School, effective for the 2021-22 school year.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – Messrs. D’Ambola, Elko, Mmes. Getty, Grosso, Mr. Cipoletti

Nays – None

C. Finance and Facilities

The Superintendent recommended the following items to the Board of Education:

Mr. Elko moved; Mrs. Getty seconded, a motion to approve item numbers 1. through 5. on this evening’s Agenda under Finance and item numbers 1. and 2. under Facilities.

1. Certification of Funds

Certify that, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A-23A-16.10(c)(4), after review of the secretary’s monthly financial report (appropriations section) for November 30, 2021 and upon proper consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A-23A-16.10(c)(4), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.



Brian P. McCarthy

2. Secretary’s Report and Treasurer’s Report – General Fund – November 30, 2021

Mr. Elko reviewed the total receipts, total expenditures and cash balances as of these dates, and requested that the reports be filed in the Secretary’s Office.

3. Transfers

Appropriation Transfers to the 2021-2022 Budget November 30, 2021.

4. Bills and Claims Schedules

Mr. Elko stated that Schedule #5– November 30, 2021 has been distributed to the Board.

The President and Secretary are authorized to sign individual warrants in the amount of \$4,476,443.57.

5. Donation

Donation of \$250 from Roy Malinak, JCHS class of 69' for the JCHS Athletic Program.

Facilities

1. Use of School Facilities

West Caldwell-Caldwell Recreation Department to use school district facilities, effective November 15, 2021 through March 11, 2022, as per attached schedule.

2. School Bus Emergency Evacuation Drills (Attached)

School Bus Emergency Evacuation Drills as per New Jersey Administrative Code (NJAC 6A:27-11.2).

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – Messrs. D’Ambola, Elko, Mmes. Getty, Grosso, Mr. Cipoletti

Nays – None

D. Policy

The Superintendent recommended the following Policy items to the Board of Education:

Mr. Elko moved; Mrs. Getty seconded, a motion to approve item number 1. on this evening’s Agenda under Policy.

1. Second Reading New and/or Revised Policies, Regulations, Bylaws (Attached)

Second reading of the following new or revised policies, regulations, and bylaws:

New

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| Bylaw 0164.6 | Remote Public Board Meetings During a Declared Emergency (1/21) |
| P 1581 | Domestic Violence (3/20) |
| P 1648.13 | School Employee Vaccination Requirements (8/21) |
| P 2468 | Independent Educational Evaluations (12/12) |

Revised

- | | |
|--------|--|
| P 1140 | Affirmative Action Program (12/12, 6/16) |
|--------|--|

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes – Messrs. D’Ambola, Elko, Mmes. Getty, Grosso, Mr. Cipoletti

Nays – None

2. First Reading New and/or Revised Policies, Regulations, Bylaws (Attached)
First reading of the following new or revised policies, regulations, and bylaws:

Revised

Bylaw 0167	Public Participation Board Meetings (3/16)
Bylaw 0168	Recording Board Meetings (3/16)
Policy 1620	Administrative Employment Contracts (9/20)
Policy 2464	Gifted and Talented Students (9/20)

X. PUBLIC HEARING

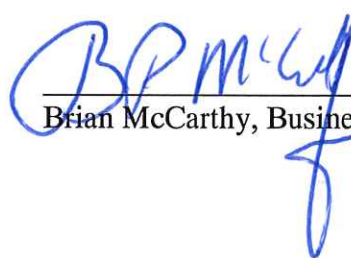
Motion to Adjourn

Motion made by Mrs. Grosso; seconded by Mr. D'Ambola upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Caldwell-West Caldwell Board of Education to adjourn the Public Meeting at 8:23 PM.

Affirmative Vote

5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Abstentions

Respectfully Submitted:

 1/5/22

Brian McCarthy, Business Administrator/Board Secretary