

**CLIFTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
CLIFTON, NJ 07013
MINUTES**

REGULAR MEETING: Wednesday, May 10, 2017 at 5:30 PM

LOCATION: 745 CLIFTON AVENUE, CLIFTON NJ 07013

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MEET IN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL, NEGOTIATIONS AND/OR LITIGATIONS.

The meeting was opened by the Board President.

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS:

Mr. Fahim K. Abedrabbo – left 6:30 p.m.
Ms. Arlene Agresti – VICE PRESIDENT - absent
Mr. Tafari Anderson – arrived 5:45 p.m.
Ms. Judith A. Bassford
Mr. James Daley – arrived 5:37 p.m.
Ms. Lucy Danny – left 6:30 p.m.
Mr. Lawrence Grasso
Mr. Gary Passenti – PRESIDENT
Ms. Rosemary L. Pino – arrived 5:42 p.m.

ALSO PRESENT:

Richard Tardalo, Superintendent of Schools
Edward Appleton, Interim Business Administrator/Interim Board Secretary
Michael Ucci, Assistant Business Administrator/Assistant Board Secretary
Yaacov Brisman, Board Attorney

Mr. Passenti wished Ms. Agresti best wishes and a speedy recovery.

READING OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT:

“THE NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW WAS ENACTED TO INSURE THE RIGHT TO THE PUBLIC TO HAVE ADVANCE NOTICE OF AND TO ATTEND THE MEETINGS OF PUBLIC BODIES AT WHICH ANY BUSINESS AFFECTING THEIR INTEREST IS DISCUSSED OR ACTED UPON.”

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT, THE CLIFTON BOARD OF EDUCATION HAS CAUSED NOTICE OF THIS MEETING TO BE PUBLICIZED BY HAVING THE DATE, TIME AND PLACE THEREOF POSTED AT THE CITY CLERK’S OFFICE, CLIFTON PUBLIC LIBRARY, ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, SENIOR CITIZEN NUTRITION CENTER, ON CABLE TV, IN THE LOCAL PRESS, ON THE DISTRICT’S WEB SITE, AND MAILED TO PRESIDENTS OF PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATIONS.

THIS MEETING WILL BE TAPE RECORDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH POLICY – 0168...

Mr. Passenti commented about the reason for the meeting this evening relative to the vote on the budget.

PUBLIC RECOGNITION: Agenda Items only

Kushi Patel asked about the status of the vote on the budget.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 5:38 PM

MOTION FOR RESOLUTION to convene in Executive Session to discuss attorney/client privilege regarding the budget. IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President will announce that following Executive Session, the public will be advised of the nature of the discussion and/or notified when formal action may be taken.

MOTION BY Lawrence Grasso SECOND BY Fahim Abedrabbo VOTE 6-0

YES: Abedrabbo, Bassford, Daley, Danny, Grasso, Passenti

ABSENT: Agresti, Anderson, Pino

RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION: 6:26 PM

Roll call upon return from executive session showed all present except Ms. Agresti.

C. FINANCE/FACILITIES:

Item F-5/10/17-01

MOTION BY Tafari Anderson SECOND BY Rosemary Pino VOTE _____

A motion was made to table Resolution F-5/10/17-01.

MOTION BY James Daley SECOND BY Judy Bassford VOTE: 8-0

YES: Abedrabbo, Anderson, Bassford, Daley, Danny, Grasso, Pino, Passenti

ABSENT: Agresti

F-5/10/17-01 - Adoption of 2017-2018 Final Budget - TABLED

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the City of Clifton, County of Passaic, accepts and approves the Final School District Budget for the school year beginning July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018 as follows:

General Fund	\$ 161,848,546.00
Repayment of Debt	\$ 1,650,265.00
Grants & Entitlements	\$ 9,925,132.00
Total Budget	\$ 173,423,943.00

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following General Fund and Debt Service tax levies be approved to support the 2017-2018 budget.

General Fund	\$131,825,895.00
Debt Service	\$ 1,596,058.00

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clifton Board of Education approves the use of Banked Cap in the amount of \$811,249.00.

FURTHER RESOLVED, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3, the Clifton Board of Education establishes a maximum travel expenditure amount of \$87,000.00 for the 2017-2018 school

year exclusive of Federal Grants. The 2016-2017 maximum travel expenditure is \$81,100.00 of which \$10,166.00 has been expended to date.

The budget includes the following modifications to the budget approved by the Board of Education at its Regular Public Meeting of April 26, 2017:

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>April 26, 2017 Budget</u>	<u>Revised Budget</u>	<u>Change</u>
11-190-100-610	General Supplies	\$4,052,745	\$2,052,745	(\$2,000,000)
10-000-100-56X	Transfer Funds to Charter Schools	\$2,680,205	\$4,680,205	\$2,000,000

A motion was made to direct counsel to pursue concerns with respect to the application process regarding the iLearn school and if necessary commence legal proceedings.

MOTION BY James Daley SECOND BY Tafari Anderson VOTE 8-0
YES: Abedrabbo, Anderson, Bassford, Daley, Danny, Grasso, Pino, Passenti
ABSENT: Agresti

Board Member Comments:

Mr. Daley – commented regarding the Board’s action tonight on the school district budget.

Mr. Anderson – commented that the Board has taken a stand on what needs to be done for students and the city. Everyone needs to bond together.

Mr. Grasso – spoke about the town hall meeting at the high school this evening. The taxpayers are being pitted against the students; the district is against a wall.

Mr. Passenti – commented that Clifton is the unfunded district. The fight is for the students, taxpayers and district.

The Board attorney commented about changes made to the public meeting order of items.

PUBLIC RECOGNITION – Any Items

Joe Canova asked about the implication of the vote and commented about the County Superintendent of Schools’ position.

ADJOURNED: 6:35 PM

[NOTE: This document is subject to additions, withdrawals, and modifications without notice.]

Respectfully submitted,

Edward J. Appleton
Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary

EJA/ld