

**Organization Meeting
January 7, 2021
6:05 P.M.**

As required by law, the Organization Meeting of the Board of Education, of the Town of Kearny, in the County of Hudson and State of New Jersey, was called to order by the Secretary, and conducted via teleconference.

The Secretary announced that in accordance with Chapter 231, Laws of 1975, Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting was provided to the Jersey Journal and the Star Ledger. Notice of the meeting was posted on the District website and filed with the Town Clerk.

RESULTS OF ELECTION – Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Mr. Rosenberg announced the official results of the November 3, 2020 Annual School Board Election as provided by the Office of the Hudson County Clerk:

RESULTS	3-YEAR TERM
SAMANTHA PARIS.....	6,076
S. J. ZIBBIE VISCUSO.....	5,337
GEORGE ZAPATA.....	5,812

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE - Board Secretary

Mr. Rosenberg administered the Oath of Office to Samantha Paris, S. J. Zibbie Viscuso, and George Zapata.

ROLL CALL

On roll call, the following members were present: Mrs. Davidson, Mr. Granelli, Ms. Lindenfelser, Mr. McKenna, Mrs. Sherry, Mrs. Paris, Mr. Soares, Mr. Viscuso, Mr. Zapata.

MOTION RE: NOMINATION OF PRESIDENT

Mr. Zapata nominated Samantha Paris for the office of President of the Kearny Board of Education, seconded by Mrs. Sherry.

On roll call, the following vote was recorded: Mrs. Davidson, "aye", Mr. Granelli, "aye", Ms. Lindenfelser, "aye", Mr. Mc Kenna, "aye", Mrs. Paris, "aye", Mrs. Sherry, "aye", Mr. Soares, "aye", Mr. Viscuso, "aye", Mr. Zapata, "aye".

There being nine votes in the affirmative, the motion was carried.

PRESIDENT TAKES THE CHAIR

Mrs. Paris assumed the position of President of the Board of Education.

MOTION RE: NOMINATION OF VICE PRESIDENT

Mrs. Paris nominated George Zapata for the office of Vice President of the Kearny Board of Education, seconded by Mr. Viscuso.

On roll call, the following vote was recorded: Mrs. Davidson, "aye", Mr. Granelli, "aye", Ms. Lindenfelser, "aye", Mr. Mc Kenna, "aye", Mrs. Sherry, "aye", Mr. Soares, "aye", Mr. Viscuso, "aye", Mr. Zapata, "aye", President Paris, "aye".

There being nine votes in the affirmative, the motion was carried.

VICE PRESIDENT TAKES THE CHAIR

Mr. Zapata assumed the position of Vice President of the Board of Education.

The following resolutions, # 1 through #15, and #17 and #18, were moved by Mr. Mc Kenna, seconded by Mrs. Sherry and unanimously carried:

I. MEETING DATES FOR THE 2021/2022 CALENDAR YEAR

WHEREAS: Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of NJ (1975) known as, and hereinafter designated as, the "Open Public Meetings Act" requires notification of meetings of public bodies, as therein defined, in the manner therein set forth, now therefore be it

RESOLVED: that, for purposes of compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act, the Board of Education of the Town of Kearny hereby makes the following designations:

The Jersey Journal and/or The Star Ledger and/or The Observer are hereby designated as the official newspaper(s) to receive notification of meetings as required by any and all sections of the Open Public Meetings Act, it appearing that these newspapers are most likely to inform the local public of such meetings and meet the requirements of the statute.

The locations for posting of notice of meetings shall be the bulletin boards in the Township Clerks' offices located in each constituent municipality and the Board Office located at 172 Midland Avenue, Kearny, New Jersey 07032.

Announcements will be mailed to any person requesting individual notice of meetings as provided in Section 14 of the Open Public Meetings Act, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the following notice be published, posted, mailed and filed with the Township Clerk(s) pursuant to the provision of said Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of New Jersey (1975):

NOTICE OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS FOR THE YEAR 2021

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Education of the Town of Kearny, in the County of Hudson, NJ will meet to discuss or act upon public business at 7:00 p.m. on each of the dates set forth below. All Board Meetings will be held in the Board Room – 1st Floor at the Board Office which is located at 172 Midland Avenue, Kearny unless otherwise noted:

- January 19, 2021 (TUESDAY)
- February 16, 2021 (TUESDAY)
- March 15, 2021
- April 19, 2021
- May 17, 2021
- June 14, 2021
- July 19, 2021
- August 23, 2021
- September 20, 2021
- October 18, 2021
- November 15, 2021
- December 20, 2021
- January 6, 2022 (REORGANIZATION MEETING)

In addition, such other meetings as the Board of Education business may require, shall be scheduled and held, but pursuant to and with such additional notice as is required by law.

An Executive Session will precede the Regular Meeting at 6:00 P.M., and the Board will enter into Closed Session to discuss District personnel matters, negotiations, and/or ongoing litigation.

2. BOARD POLICIES

RESOLVED: That all current written policies, by-laws and rules/regulations in the official Policy Manual of the Kearny School District be readopted for the period from the date of this Organization Meeting until the Organization Meeting in the next calendar year unless modified by the Board of Education in accordance with those applicable policies, by-laws and/or rules/regulations.

3. ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER

WHEREAS: There exists a need to have a recognized authority for the conduct of all board of education meetings;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Kearny Board of Education adopts **ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER** for the authority in the conduct of all of its meetings.

4. **BOARD OF EDUCATION ACCOUNTS/BANKING**

RESOLVED: That the following Financial Institutions, Investors Bank and Kearny Bank be designated as approved depository for the Kearny School District funds and that the Financial Institution be required to be insured by either the SLIC or the FDIC and/or as required by both Federal and State statutes:

<u>Name of Account</u>	<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Authorized Signee</u>	<u>Required</u>
Adult School	1000472014	Richard Rosenberg Patrick Cassidy	2
Capital Projects Account	1000472028	Richard Rosenberg Board President Michael Lamprecht	3
Capital Reserve Account	1000472047	Richard Rosenberg Board President Michael Lamprecht	3
Cobra Account	1000472085	Richard Rosenberg Michael Lamprecht	2
Franklin School Fund	1000472127	Richard Rosenberg Yvonne Cali Wendy Kerr Jennifer Moss	2
Garfield School Fund	1000472132	Richard Rosenberg Donna Masters Donna Mastrolia	2
General Operating Account	1000472052	Richard Rosenberg Board President Michael Lamprecht	3
High School Athletic Officials	1000472146	Richard Rosenberg Jacalyn Richardson Justin Avable Richard Tietjen Vincent Almeida	2
Kearny High School Fund	1000472151	Richard Rosenberg Jacalyn Richardson Justin Avable Richard Tietjen Vincent Almeida	2
Lincoln School Fund	1000472165	Richard Rosenberg Curtis Brack James Hempel Joan Walsh	2
Lincoln School Student Council	1000472170	Richard Rosenberg Curtis Brack Kathleen Williams	2

Maintenance Reserve	1001457550	Richard Rosenberg Board President Michael Lamprecht	3
Net Payroll Account	1000472090	Richard Rosenberg Michael Lamprecht	2
Payroll Agency/Flexible Spending	1000472108	Richard Rosenberg Michael Lamprecht	2
Roosevelt School Fund	1000472189	Richard Rosenberg Antonio Moyano Kathleen Kelly	2
Schuyler School Fund	1000472194	Richard Rosenberg Valerie Iacono Renee Mullins	2
SUI Account	1000472113	Richard Rosenberg Michael Lamprecht	2
Summer Savings Account	1001008934	Richard Rosenberg Board President Michael Lamprecht	3
Unemployment Account	1000472071	Richard Rosenberg Board President Michael Lamprecht	3
Washington School Fund	1000472212	Richard Rosenberg Jon Zimmerman Sharyne Blevins	2
Flexible Spending Account	1000928288	Richard Rosenberg Michael Lamprecht	2

Scholarship Accounts (KEARNY BANK):

KHS Scholarship Fund	500000147493 - CD	Richard Rosenberg	2
KHS Scholarship Fund	500000147511 - CD	Richard Tietjen	
KHS Scholarship Fund	500000147601 - CD	Tammy Munro	
KHS Scholarship Fund	500000147628 - CD	Juan Faciolince	
General Fund	30000067268		
George Spatz	500000147619 - CD		
Louis Salzarulo	500000147691 - CD		
Sharon/Nelson Laugel	30000067276		
Michael Theobald	500000147682 - CD		
Michael Theobald	30000067284		
George Mankey	500000147484 - CD		
George Mankey	30000067264		
Trust of Dr. Robert Johnson	30000069564		
Vincent J. & Mary Inzerillo	30000067280		

5. IMPLEMENT BUDGET

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent and Interim Business Administrator to implement the 2021/2022 budget, once authorized and finalized, pursuant to local and state policies and regulations.

6. AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD CONTRACTS

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education hereby appoints Mr. Richard Rosenberg, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary, the authorization to award a contract up to the bid amount threshold of (\$32,000) and set the quote at 15% of the bid threshold amount (\$4,800) as per 18A:18A-3.

7. ADOPTION OF UNIFORM CHART OF ACCOUNTS

RESOLVED: That the Kearny Board of Education hereby adopts the State of New Jersey's published uniform minimum level chart of accounts and authorizes the Interim Business Administrator to record line item transfers in accordance with said chart.

8. APPROVAL OF FACSIMILE AND SIGNATURE STAMPS

RESOLVED: That the Kearny Board of Education hereby approves the use of facsimile and signature stamps for the President, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary and Treasurer of School Monies on all warrants (checking accounts).

9. AUTHORIZATION OF INTRA-BANK ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFERS

RESOLVED: That the Kearny Board of Education hereby authorizes the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary or Treasurer of School Monies to make intra-bank electronic fund transfers to Board of Education accounts.

10. HORIZON BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD OF NEW JERSEY

RESOLVED: That the Kearny Board of Education hereby approves the monthly wire transfer for payment of the healthcare insurance premium.

11. AUTHORIZATION OF INVESTMENTS

RESOLVED: That the Kearny Board of Education hereby authorizes the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary to make investment decisions in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:20-37-39.

12. APPROVAL OF TAX SHELTER ANNUITY AND DISABILITY INSURANCE PLANS

RESOLVED: That the Kearny Board of Education, in accordance with Board Policy, hereby approved the following companies to participate in the District's optional Tax

Shelter Annuity and Disability Insurance salary deduction plans:

Valic, AXA Equitable, Citistreet-Met Life, Fidelity Investments, Franklin Templeton Trust Company, Met Life, USAA, Security Benefit, Colonial Life, Prudential and Aflac, New York Life Insurance Company.

13. APPROVAL OF BILLS BETWEEN BOARD MEETINGS

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary and/or Superintendent of Schools to pay claims against the Board between scheduled Board meetings and have those claims subsequently ratified at the next regular Board meeting, as per 18A:19-4.1.

14. APPROVAL OF TRANSFER AUTHORITY

RESOLVED: That as provided by N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.1 amended, the Superintendent or designee, be designated to approve such line item budget transfers as are necessary between Board of Education meetings, and that such transfers shall be reported to the Board of Education, ratified and duly recorded in the minutes of the next regular meeting.

15. APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS, SOLICIT QUOTATIONS, OR PURCHASE BY STATE CONTRACT

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education approves the authorization of the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary to advertise for bids, solicit quotations, purchase by State Contract or recommend for contract renewal the following items/services:

Air Conditioners	Custodial Uniforms	Office Paper
Alarms System Service/Install	Electrical Supplies	Paint
Athletic Supplies/Equipment	Electrical Work	Periodical Subscriptions
Auditorium Seating	Floor Repair/Tile Install	Photocopiers
Boiler Repair	Grounds Supplies/Equipment	Pupil Transp. Vehicles
Boiler Water Treatment	Gym/Classroom Floor Repair	Repl. Doors/Hardware
Bread and Rolls	Hand & Power Tools	Roofing Work
Building Materials	Heating Plant Modifications	School Furniture
Calculators	Ice Cream Products	School Health Supplies
Carpeting	Ind. Art Supplies/Equipment	School Supplies
Chalkboards/Bulletin Boards	Internet Service Provider	Science Supplies/Equipment
Commercial Printing	Janitorial Supplies	Sidewalk & Paving Work
Computers and Accessories	Locker Refinishing	Solid Waste Disposal
Computer Hardware Maint.	Milk & Dairy Products	Stage Drapery
Computer Networking	Office Furniture & Equipment	Ventilating Equipment

17. SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER "CODE OF ETHICS"

RESOLVED: That the Kearny Board of Education hereby adopts the following "Code of Ethics" as established by the New Jersey School Boards Association.

CODE OF ETHICS FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS – 18A:12-24.1

A school board member shall abide by the following Code of Ethics for School Board Members:

1. I will uphold and enforce all laws, rules and regulations of the State Board of Education, and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes shall be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.
2. I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain public schools that meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex, or social standing.
3. I will confine my board action to policy making, planning, and appraisal, and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the board has consulted those who will be affected by them.
4. I will carry out my responsibility, not to administer the schools, but, together with my fellow board members, to see that they are well run.
5. I will recognize that authority rests with the board of education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action that may compromise the board.
6. I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.
7. I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals or the schools. In all other matters, I will provide accurate information and, in concert with my fellow board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its school.
8. I will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief administrative officer.
9. I will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.
10. I will refer all complaints to the chief administrative officer and will act on the complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.

18. APPOINTMENT OF PRO TEM BOARD SECRETARY

RESOLVED: That the Kearny Board of Education hereby approves the appointment of Patricia Blood, Superintendent and/or Juan Faciolince, Assistant Board Secretary as pro tem Board Secretary for emergency purposes.

The following resolution was moved by Mrs. Davidson and seconded by Mr. Granelli:

16. PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

WHEREAS, there exists a need for board counsel services, auditing services, school physician services and school dental services, and;

WHEREAS, such board counsel services, auditing services, school physician services and school dental services can be provided only by specialized firms and individuals, and the below firms are so recognized as such a firm or individual and;

WHEREAS, funds are or will be available for this purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Kearny Board of Education hereby approves the following:

- 1. The professional appointments of the below firms/individuals are retained for the term commencing January 7, 2020 to June 30, 2021:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Stipend</u>	<u>Hrly Rate</u>
Dentist..... Leonard Diamond, D.D.S..... 50 Midland Avenue Kearny, NJ 07032	\$8,000	
School Physician(s) Maryann Alessio, DO..... 349 Passaic Avenue Nutley, NJ 07110	\$2,000/ month	
Custodian of School Monies Michael J. Lamprecht 109 Melrose Avenue North Arlington, NJ 07031	\$13,000	
Union Contract Negotiator Dennis McKeever, Esq..... Sciarillo, Cornell, Merlino, McKeever & Osborne, LLC 238 St. Paul Street Westfield, NJ 07090	\$165	
Bond Counsel..... Mc Manimon Scotland & Baumann, LLC..... 75 Livingston Avenue – 2 nd Floor Roseland, NJ 07068	\$215	
Construction Attorney..... Sciarillo, Cornell, Merlino, McKeever & Osborne, LLC 238 St. Paul Street Westfield, NJ 07090		
Board Attorney..... Kenneth J. Lindenfelser, Esq 570 Kearny Avenue Kearny, NJ 07032	\$180	
Benefits Broker Brown & Brown Benefit Advisors Diane Conway, Asst. V.P. Laura Fanuele, Senior V.P. Employee Benefits Div.		
Auditing Firm Lerch, Vinci & Higgins, LLC 17-17 NJ-208 Fairlawn, NJ 07410		

- 2. The contract is awarded without competitive bidding as "Professional Services" in accordance with the Public School Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:18(A)(a)(1), because it is for services performed by persons authorized by law to practice a recognized profession.

3. A copy of this resolution, as well as any engagement letters or contracts shall be placed on file with the Interim Secretary of the Board.
4. The Kearny Board of Education has given approval for the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary to send out RFP's (Request for Proposals) for Architect of Record and Auditing Firms.

On roll call, the following vote was recorded: Mrs. Davidson, "aye", Mr. Granelli, "aye", Ms. Lindenfelser, "aye, with the exception of the appointment of the Board Attorney", Mr. Mc Kenna, "aye", Mrs. Sherry, "aye", Mr. Soares, "aye", Mr. Viscuso, "aye", Mr. Zapata, "aye", President Paris, "aye".

There being nine votes in the affirmative, the motion was carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Blood discussed the previous tentative plan for the reopening of schools, which had been scheduled for January 19th, and which was contingent upon the town experiencing a classification of "moderate" for COVID cases; however, at the present time the numbers within town are indicated as "high".

The Superintendent may reopen schools for teaching staff to return to their classrooms beginning January 19, and the current staggered schedule for non-teaching staff may return to normal on that same date. Tentatively, the mandatory return of teachers is set for February 1st, to begin hybrid teaching. There will be updated information for discussion at the Regular Meeting on January 19th.

Mrs. Blood also reported there are plans to provide free child care for teachers, and consideration is being given to allow faculty to enroll their children within Kearny schools for the remainder of the school year.

Mrs. Cifelli-Sherry expressed that she would prefer to lock down the schools for all staff members for three weeks, and then consider whether reopening the schools is a viable plan.

MOTION RE: ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Zapata, seconded by Mr. Soares and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Interim Business Administrator/
Board Secretary