

TO ALL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Township of Union will be held on Tuesday, September 18, 2007 at Union High School, North Third Street, Union, New Jersey.

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Township was held at Union High School Library, North Third Street, Union, New Jersey on Tuesday, September 18, 2007 pursuant to notice sent to each board member.

PRESENT AT ROLL CALL: Mr. Manuel Figueiredo, Mr. Steven Helmstetter, Mr. Anthony Manochio, Mrs. Versie McNeil, Mr. Francis Perkins, Mr. Steve Ruhl, Mrs. Judy Salazar and Mr. Gary Abraham, President.

ABSENT AT ROLL CALL: Mrs. Linda Gaglione

Mr. Abraham stated that Mrs. Gaglione was not present tonight because she was attending open house at Kawameeh Middle School.

Mrs. Lombardi led the board and audience members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The secretary read the statement required under the "Open Public Meetings Act", a copy of which is on file in the office of the secretary.

COMMUNICATIONS:

REQUEST FOR MATERNITY AND EXTENDED FAMILY LEAVE – ESQUIVEL

Diane Esquivel, teacher of art at Union High School, submitted a letter dated July 18, 2007, requesting maternity and extended family leave for the period October 26, 2007 through January 6, 2008.

REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF RENTAL FEES – HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL

Lori Volturo, Holy Spirit School Sports Coordinator, submitted a letter dated August 9, 2007, requesting waiver of rental fees for use of school gymnasiums for the 2007-2008 school year by Holy Spirit students.

LETTER OF RESIGNATION (RETIREMENT) – KATCHER

Gale E. Katcher, librarian at Franklin Elementary School, submitted a letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective January 1, 2008.

LETTER OF RESIGNATION – MARTINEZ

Paul Martinez, classroom assistant at Hannah Caldwell Elementary School, submitted a letter of resignation, effective immediately.

COMMUNICATIONS

LETTER OF RESIGNATION – GALLO

Nancy Gallo, special education teacher, submitted a letter of resignation, effective immediately.

REQUEST FOR UNPAID FAMILY LEAVE – SUPINO

Judith Supino, Classroom Assistant at Battle Hill School, submitted a letter August 31, 2007, requesting unpaid family leave for the period September 1, 2007 through November 30, 2007.

REQUEST FOR MATERNITY AND CHILD REARING LEAVE – RAIMO

Lisa P. Raimo, Special Education teacher at Kawameeh Middle School, submitted a letter dated September 10, 2007, requesting maternity and child rearing leave for the period October 19, 2007 through January 21, 2008.

LETTER OF RESIGNATION – SOKOL

Rose Sokol, recording secretary for Board of Education worksession meetings, submitted a letter of resignation dated September 11, 2007, effective immediately.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Manochio, seconded by Mrs. McNeil that the minutes of the Planning Session and the Executive Session of August 17, 2007 be adopted:

AYE:	Mr. Figueiredo, Mr. Helmstetter, Mr. Manochio, Mrs. McNeil, Mr. Perkins, Mrs. Salazar and Mr. Abraham	
NAY:	None	
ABSTAIN:	Mr. Ruhl	MOTION WAS CARRIED

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Jakubowski gave his Superintendent's Report a copy of which is appended to these minutes.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON RESOLUTIONS ON THE AGENDA

Mr. Azzarello said that teachers, administrators and members of the board of education are looking for results like improved test scores, improved progress reports and achievement in the classroom. He said that when he talks about school, he talks about the best and the brightest and he talks about lazy students. Mr. Azzarello said that he had a little problem with lazy students because he did not know exactly what to do with them. He said that the lazy students had to be motivated before the board decides to pour money into any particular program.

EDUCATION/STUDENT DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE:

Moved by Mrs. McNeil, seconded by Mr. Figueiredo that the resolutions E-1 through E-6 be adopted:

E-1. AMEND 2007-2008 OUT-OF-DISTRICT ATYPICAL STUDENT PLACEMENT LIST

That approval be given to amend the 2007-2008 Out-of-District Atypical Student Placement List; out-of-district tuitions and tuition-in students attending special education programs in accordance with the information appended to the non public portion of these minutes.

E-2. DESIGNATE SCHOOL VIOLENCE AWARENESS WEEK

That the board designate the week of October 15th through October 19th, 2007 as School Violence Awareness Week.

E-3. DESIGNATE SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK

That the board designate the week of October 22nd through October 26th, 2007 as School Bus Safety Week.

E-4. APPROVE 2007-2008 SCHOOL NURSING PLAN

That the Board approve 2007-2008 School Nursing Plan in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

E-5. AMEND LIST OF SHARE-TIME STUDENTS FOR 2007-2008 – UNION COUNTY VOCATIONAL SCHOOL

That the Board amend list of share-time students at Union County Vocational School for the 2007-2008 school year in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

E-6. APPROVE 2007-2008 SCHOOL LEVEL OBJECTIVES

That the Board approve 2007-2008 School Level Objectives in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Abraham stated that resolution E-7 would be pulled from the agenda for the time being and will be discussed in Executive Session later in the evening. Mrs. Lombardi said that she and Dr. Jakubowski met with Dr. Centuolo, the County Superintendent of Schools, to review the 2007-2008 School Level Objectives which are referred to in resolution E-6. She said that Dr. Centuolo did approve these objectives and she felt very positive about the board voting on them tonight. Mr. Abraham thanked Mrs. Lombardi for a "job well done." Dr. Jakubowski said that if Mr. Abraham were with him and Mr. Lombardi at the County Office today, it was a job better than well done. He said that he sat and listened to Mrs. Lombardi go back and forth with the Dr. Centuolo and he felt Mrs. Lombardi was the best curriculum and instruction specialist in the State of New Jersey. Mr. Abraham said he was sure that the board would second that.

EDUCATION/STUDENT DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE:

AYE: Mr. Figueiredo, Mr. Helmstetter, Mr. Manochio, Mrs. McNeil, Mr. Perkins,
 Mr. Ruhl, Mrs. Salazar and Mr. Abraham
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: None

MOTION WAS CARRIED

FISCAL AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Moved by Mr. Helmstetter, seconded by Mr. Perkins that the following resolutions be adopted:

F-1. ACCEPT TREASURER'S REPORT

That the Treasurer's Report dated August 31st, 2007 be accepted.

F-2. ACCEPT SECRETARY'S REPORT

That the Secretary's Report dated August 31st, 2007 be accepted.

F-3. CERTIFY TREASURER'S AND SECRETARY'S REPORTS

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(d), I certify that as of August 31st, 2007 no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district board of education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8 and 18:22-8.1.

James J. Damato, Board Secretary

Dated

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(e), we certify that as of August 31st, 2007 after review of the secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials that to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. This certification is solely based on the information provided by the School Business Administrator and Board Secretary and is assumed by the board to be correct.

F-4. APPROVE LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

That the Board approve line item transfers in accordance with the copy appended to these minutes.

FISCAL AND PLANNING COMMITTEE:

F-5. CONCUR WITH INVESTMENTS

The committee recommends and I so move that the Board concur with the investments made by the Business Administrator as follows:

Mature Date	Purchase Date	Number of Days	Amount	Invest. Held by	Home A/C Account	Interest Rate	Estimated Income
09/18/07	08/14/07	35	900,000	CHASE	UCNB Cafeteria	5.27%	4,611.25
09/18/07	08/14/07	35	1,100,000	CHASE	UNITY BANK SUI	5.30%	5,668.06
09/18/07	08/14/07	35	900,000	CHASE	UCNB CAP Res	5.27%	4,611.25
09/18/07	08/14/07	35	2,700,000	CHASE	UCNB JAN 03 BOND	5.33%	13,991.25
09/18/07	08/14/07	35	8,000,000	CHASE	UCNB OP AC	5.36%	41,688.89
09/18/07	08/15/07	34	9,000,000	CHASE	UCNB OP AC	5.36%	45,560.00

F-6. DESIGNATE DEPOSITORIES FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION FUNDS

That the Board designate Union Center National Bank, Unity Bank, J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, Investors Savings Bank, Valley National Bank, Commerce Bank, Wachovia Bank, Independence Bank, Bank of America and MBIA Class as depositories for the funds of the Union Township Board of Education as currently maintained in accordance with the list appended to these minutes.

F-7. AUTHORIZE DEPOSITORY BANKS TO HONOR BOARD OF EDUCATION ACCOUNTS

That the Board authorize the following depository banks be and are hereby authorized to honor and to charge the accounts of the Union Township Board of Education and all Board of Education checks and drafts bearing the stamp or perforation commonly known as a facsimile signature of the Treasurer of School Monies and the President of the Board of Education and that checks and drafts of the various Board of Education accounts be signed by the designated officers in accordance with the list appended to these minutes.

F-8. APPROVE CONTRACTS AND/OR PURCHASE ORDERS PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF *N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5* and *18A:18A-10(a)*

That the Board approve contracts and/or purchase orders pursuant to the requirements of *N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5* and *18A:18A-10(a)* and in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

F-9. APPROVE DISTRICTWIDE TRAVEL AND RELATED EXPENSES PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF *N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12*, *N.J.A.C. 6A:23B* and Board Policy File Codes 4133, 4440 and 925

That the Board approve district wide travel and related expenses pursuant to the requirements of *N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12*, *N.J.A.C. 6A:23B* and Board Policy File Codes 4133, 4440 and 9250 and in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

FISCAL AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

F-10. ACCEPT APPROVAL FOR TARA (TARGETED AT-RISK AID) OPERATIONAL PLANS AND RELATED BUDGETS FOR 2007-2008 SCHOOL YEAR

That the Board accept the approval for the TARA (Targeted At-Risk Aid) Operational Plans and related budgets for the 2007-2008 school year as received from the Union County Superintendent of Schools in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

F-11. ACCEPT FUNDS FOR I.D.E.I.A. (INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2004- PART B FY2008

That the Board accept the funds for (I.D.E.I.A.) Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 – Part B FY 2008 as follows: (a) Basic- \$1,739,819 and (b) Preschool - \$48,791 in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

DISCUSSION:

None

AYE: Mr. Figueiredo, Mr. Helmstetter, Mr. Manochio, Mrs. McNeil, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Ruhl, Mrs. Salazar and Mr. Abraham

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION WAS CARRIED

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Moved by Mr. Ruhl, seconded by Mr. Perkins the following resolutions be adopted:

O-1. REPORT RECEIPT OF BIDS

Report receipt of bids received on August 21, 2007 for Technical Occupations Supplies for the 2007-2008 school year; for Vocational Supplies for the 2007-2008 school year; for Family and Consumer Science Supplies for the 2007-2008 school year and bids received on September 5, 2007 for Visitor Bleacher Renovations, Cooke Memorial Field at Union High School.

O-2. APPROVE APPLICATION FOR USE OF THE SWIMMING POOL AT BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF UNION COUNTY, INC. FOR 2007-2008 SCHOOL YEAR

That the board approve application for use of the swimming pool at the Boys and Girls Club of Union County, Inc., 1050 Jeanette Avenue, Union, New Jersey for the 2007-2008 school year for the period November 15th 2007 through March 3rd, 2008 for use by the Union High School Coed Swim team in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 in accordance with the information appended to these minutes. (No increase in rental fee from 2006-2007 school year.)

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

O-3. APPROVE SUBMISSION OF ANNUAL MAINTENANCE RESERVE DEPOSIT WORKSHEET

That the board approve the submission of the Annual Maintenance Reserve Deposit Worksheet in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

O-4. APPROVE RENTAL FEE SCHEDULE FOR 2007-2008 SCHOOL YEAR

That the board approve rental fee schedule for 2007-2008 in accordance with the information appended to these minutes. (Fees have been increased 5% over 2006-2007 school year)

O-5. APPROVE SUBMISSION OF COMPREHENSIVE MAINTENANCE PLAN

That the board approve the submission of the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

O-6. APPROVE ADVERTISEMENT FOR DISPOSAL

That the board approve advertisement for disposal of the following equipment: (a) Thirty-five (35) Mobile KVC 1500 Video Cassette Recorders with thirty-five (35) Security Boxes from the Transportation Department and (b) three (3) shallow drawer file cabinets used to store microfiche file at Union High School, which is no longer functional and deemed unserviceable for school use in accordance with information appended to these minutes. If equipment is not sold, it will be disposed of as scrap.

O-7. APPROVE ADVERTISEMENT FOR SALE OF VEHICLES

That the board approve advertisement for sale of the following vehicles: (a) one (1) 1991 Dodge 250 Pickup Truck (minimum bid \$500); (b) one (1) 1989 GMC Dump Truck (minimum bid \$1,000); (c) one (1) 1993 Dodge Ram Van 350 (minimum bid \$200) and (d) one (1) 1994 Chevrolet 30 Series School Bus/Van (minimum bid \$300) which are no longer functional and deemed unserviceable for school use.

O-8. AWARD BID FOR VISITOR BLEACHER RENOVATIONS AT COOKE MEMORIAL FIELD – LANDSITE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

That the board award bid for Visitor Bleacher Renovations, Cooke Memorial Field at Union High School to Landsite Construction Company, 252 West Westfield Avenue, Roselle Park, New Jersey for the base bid of \$131,300; Alternate A-1 in the amount of \$14,100 and Alternate A-2 in the amount of \$1,200 for a total bid amount of \$146,600.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

O-9. APPROVE PROPOSAL FOR ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH IMPROVEMENTS TO FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MAIN ENTRANCE – POTTER ARCHITECTS

That the board approve proposal from Potter Architects, 410 Colonial Avenue, Union, New Jersey (Proposal #P2007146) for architectural services in connection with Improvements to Franklin Elementary School Main Entrance in an amount not to exceed \$5,600 in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

O-10. APPROVE CHANGE ORDER #1 FOR PROPOSED ROOF REPLACEMENT AT KAWAMEEH MIDDLE SCHOOL – E.R. BARRETT, INC.

That the board approve Change Order #1 from E.R. Barrett, Inc., 110 Paris Street, Newark, New Jersey for removal and replacement of existing ductwork with insulation in connection with proposed roof replacement at Kawameeh Middle School in the amount of \$10,260 in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

O-11. APPROVE WAIVER OF RENTAL FEES – HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL

That the board approve waiver of rental fees to Holy Spirit School for use of Livingston School gymnasium by students for the 2007-2008 school year.

O-12. APPROVE CONTRACTS FOR EARLYCARE AND AFTERCARE PROGRAMS FOR 2007-2008 SCHOOL YEAR – Y.M.C.A. OF EASTERN UNION COUNTY

That the board approve contracts for Earlycare and Aftercare Programs with the Y.M.C.A. of Eastern Union County for the 2007-2008 school year in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

DISCUSSION:

Dr. Jakubowski said that he spoke to Mr. Ruhl and Mr. Damato regarding resolution O-12. He said that the board had contemplated raising the rental fee to the Y.M.C.A. for the use of the district's school buildings for Earlycare and Aftercare and that is why the contracts that were attached as backup were left blank. Dr. Jakubowski said that after his conversations today, it was decided that the rate would remain the same as last year. He said that when this program started a number of years ago and the concept was to help the members of the community because people needed to work and the district went out to the Y.M.C.A. and they were willing to have facilities in our school buildings. Dr. Jakubowski said that over the past few weeks, he has received several calls from individuals who say that the cost of the services that the Y.M.C.A. provide are getting very high and it is very difficult for parents to afford these services. He said that he realized that raising the rental fee to the Y.M.C.A. might make the Y.M.C.A. raise its fees and he was sensitive to the members of the community that need a place for before and after care for their children. Dr. Jakubowski said that even though the district's utilities have increased for right now, it is appropriate

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DISCUSSION

that the district absorb the costs. He said that he would be meeting with Ms. Dunn and Ms. Decker from the Y.M.C.A. to talk about what fees they are charging parents for the child care services. Dr. Jakubowski wanted the public to know that the early and after care services are not a district program but the program is run by the Y.M.C.A. and the district only allows them to use space in our schools. He asked Mr. Damato what the rental fees were last year. Mr. Damato stated that it was \$13 per day per school for the aftercare and \$7 per day per school for earlycare. Ms. Dunn said that the hours that the Y.M.C.A. uses the district's buildings, the buildings are already in use by district staff so from a utility standpoint, there is really no additional expenditure because the buildings are in use. Mr. Ruhl said that he has had several people come to him and express that the Y.M.C.A. fees have been going up. He said that he felt the board was doing the right thing by not passing on increased utility costs, etc. and he thought that Dr. Jakubowski should sit down with representatives from the Y.M.C.A. to see if they can also help out. Mr. Manochio asked if Mr. Ruhl knew what the fees were this year. Mr. Ruhl said that one of his co-workers has two children in both early and aftercare and he pays approximately \$750 per month. Mr. Manochio asked if this was the same as last year. Mr. Ruhl believed the fee had been slightly increased. Dr. Jakubowski said he did not know what the going rate for childcare was in other places. Mr. Perkins said that his son pays approximately \$1600 per month for daycare for his grandson. He said that the Y.M.C.A. is a non-profit organization which provides services which are used and useful by the community as a whole and the Y.M.C.A.'s costs, he was sure, went up every year and he would be surprised if he Y.M.C.A.'s employees did not get a raise each year and it was unrealistic to assume that anyone can keep the costs for the provision of goods and services the same as last year; particularly when the nature of the service does not change.

- AYE: Mr. Figueiredo, Mr. Helmstetter, Mr. Manochio, Mrs. McNeil, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Ruhl, Mrs. Salazar and Mr. Abraham
 - NAY: None
 - ABSTAIN: None
- MOTION WAS CARRIED

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Moved by Mr. Manochio, seconded by Mrs. McNeil that the following resolutions be adopted:

P-1. CONCUR WITH PERSONNEL ACTIONS

That personnel actions be approved in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

P-2. APPROVE SUBSTITUTE LISTS FOR 2007-2008 SCHOOL YEAR

That the board approve substitutes and home instructors, substitute custodians, substitute cafeteria/playground aids, classroom assistants and secretaries, substitute bus drivers and bus assistants for the 2007-2008 school year in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

P-3. ACCEPT LETTERS OF RESIGNATION

That the Board accept letters of resignation from the following staff: (a) Gail E. Katcher, librarian at Franklin Elementary School, effective January 1, 2008 (retirement); (b) Paul Martinez, classroom assistant at Hannah Caldwell Elementary School, effective immediately; (c) Nancy Gallo, special education teacher, effective immediately.

P-4. APPROVE SALARY CLASS CHANGES FOR 2007-2008 SCHOOL YEAR

That the board approve salary class changes for the 2007-2008 school in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

P-5. AMEND LIST OF STAFF TO BE PAID FOR PREPARATION/FACILITATING AT SEPTEMBER 5, 2007 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY

That the board amend list of staff to be paid for preparation/facilitating at the September 5, 2007 Professional Development Day at a rate of \$40 per hour in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

P-6. APPROVE PAYMENT TO DISTRICTWIDE TRAINER FOR ADDITIONAL COVERAGE HOURS – BERRY

That the board approve payment to Margaret Berry, districtwide trainer for the 2007-2008 school year for additional coverage hours at a rate of \$30 per hour not to exceed 100 hours or \$3,000.

P-7. APPROVE MATERNITY AND EXTENDED FAMILY LEAVE – ESQUIVEL

That the board approve maternity and extended family leave for Diane Esquivel, art teacher at Union High School, for the period October 26, 2007 through January 6, 2008.

P-8. APPROVE REPLACEMENT AT SEPTEMBER 2007 1ST GRADE ORIENTATION AT HANNAH CALDWELL SCHOOL – RICCA

That the board approve Melissa Ricca to replace Kathy Arminio at 1st grade orientation in September 2007 at Hannah Caldwell Elementary School at a rate of \$100.

P-9. APPROVE PAYMENT TO EMERGENCY ATHLETIC TRAINER – PATERNO

That the board approve payment to Shawn Paterno as Emergency Athletic Trainer at a rate of \$30 per hour not to exceed 150 hours or \$4,500.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

P-10. APPROVE UNPAID FAMILY LEAVE – SUPINO

That the board approve unpaid family leave for Judith Supino, Classroom Assistant at Battle Hill School, for the period September 1, 2007 through November 30, 2007.

P-11. APPROVE STAFF PAID WITH GRANT FUNDS FOR 2007-2008 SCHOOL YEAR – I.D.E.I.A.; N.C.L.B – TITLE I, TITLE II-A CSR AND TITLE III; D.E.P.A. AND T.A.R.A.

That the board approve staff who are paid with the following Grant Funds for the 2007-2008 school year as follows: (a) I.D.E.I.A; (b) N.C.L.B. – Title I, Title II-A CSR and Title III; (c) D.E.P.A. and (d) TARA in accordance with the information appended to these minutes.

P-12. APPROVE PAYMENT TO STAFF TO CONDUCT PARENT WORKSHOP FOR LANGUAGE ARTS/READING AT CONNECTICUT FARMS SCHOOL

That the board approve payment to the following staff to conduct Parent Workshop for Language Arts/Reading at Connecticut Farms School on October 17, 2007 at a rate of \$65 per person: (a) Jaclyn Cannella, (b) Karen Votapek, (c) Karen Bralczyk, (d) Gregory Pardo, (e) Jeff Truhe and (f) Cindy Stoller.

P-13. APPROVE STUDENT GUIDANCE-TRAINING PROGRAM – WELLNESS MANAGEMENT SERVICES OF TRINITAS HOSPITAL

That the board approve Wellness Management Services of Trinitas Hospital, a student guidance-training program as part of the district’s early intervening services to improve the behavior and academic success for students at Livingston, Washington, Central-5/Jefferson and Burnet Middle Schools for the period September 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 in an amount not to exceed \$69,593.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Manochio asked if the Wellness Management Services referred to in resolution P-13 was the same program that was Mr. Tatum was involved with when he was the principal at Central-5. Dr. Jakubowski was not sure but he did not believe this was the program being run by Dr. Goddard who had spoken to the board a few years ago. Mrs. Lombardi thought that this was the same program. Dr. Jakubowski said that he had hired a new teacher to teach Kindergarten at Franklin Elementary School and her name was Courtney Kennedy. He said that her name would be added to resolution P-1.

AYE:	Mr. Figueiredo, Mr. Helmstetter, Mr. Manochio, Mrs. McNeil, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Ruhl, Mrs. Salazar and Mr. Abraham	
NAY:	None	
ABSTAIN:	None	MOTION WAS CARRIED

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Moved by Mr. Helmstetter, seconded by Mr. Ruhl that the Board concur with the bills listed in the permanent bound register appended to these minutes and be ordered for payment.

AYE: Mr. Figueiredo, Mr. Helmstetter, Mr. Manochio, Mrs. McNeil, Mr. Perkins,
Mr. Ruhl, Mrs. Salazar and Mr. Abraham
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None

MOTION WAS CARRIED

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Dr. Jakubowski said that the district had posted for a secretary for the Testing Department and Mrs. Moutis has completed her interviewing and has given him the name of an individual who she is recommending. He said that he has reached out to this individual and he hoped that by Friday he will be able to speak to the person and see if she is interested in taking this position. Dr. Jakubowski said that he would send the name home in the Friday packet. He said with regard to the technology department, the fourth member of the department left several months ago and Mr. Tatum has interviewed several candidates for the position. Dr. Jakubowski said that he met with a candidate earlier this evening that he was very much impressed with. He said that this individual grew up in Union and went through the Union Schools. Dr. Jakubowski said that he is presently working in the private sector and has a great knowledge base on telephone systems, security, etc. He said that he wanted to meet with Mr. Tatum again and he was hoping that he could submit a name to the board for this position as soon as possible. Dr. Jakubowski stated that he would like this individual to start as of October 1st. He said he would reach out to the chairperson of personnel before any action is taken. Dr. Jakubowski said that the telephone system is getting ready to be installed and right now, the district's technology department is understaffed for the size of our district. He said that if this individual can be put in place before the district moves forward with the telephone system upgrade, then responsibilities can be assigned to individuals so that Mr. Endrzejewski, in particular, will not have a plethora of responsibilities that does not give him the opportunity to work on what the district needs. Dr. Jakubowski said that he met last week with the Township Business Administrator and the Assistant Business Administrator along with the Chief of Police regarding the morning traffic patterns. He said that even with the addition of a traffic lane on Morris Avenue, between the hours of 7:05 and 7:25 a.m., Morris Avenue is still heavily congested. Dr. Jakubowski said that with the new traffic lane, it is now obvious that the right hand lane goes back to CVS because traffic is turning into Cooke Drive. He said that the first speed bump in the parking lot was eliminated to see if this would help the traffic flow. Dr. Jakubowski said that Ms. Dunn also worked with transportation to make sure that buses are dropping off students in the correct spot so they are not blocking traffic. He said that the next thing that may be tried is closing the gate at the end of Cooke Drive. Dr. Jakubowski said that there

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are many possibilities that are being looked at and he is working with Chief Kramer to try to alleviate the traffic congestion. Mr. Perkins said he did not have a problem with cooperating with the Township and the Police Department but he also would like to point out that the use of public streets is for the use of all people from the public including the parents of the children who go to Union Schools and those students who drive. He said when there are a lot of people trying to go to the same place at the same time there is congestion and roadways cannot be designed for peak demand and traffic jams are a part of life. Mr. Perkins said that one of the reasons that Cooke Drive is there is to serve the people who come to the high school and the district should not take the blame for a circumstance that has contributed to by all users. Dr. Jakubowski said he agreed with Mr. Perkins and when he said he was working cooperatively, he said that he was looking for methods to see if the congestion can be relieved but between the early morning time, that is the traffic pattern. He said that there is also an increase in traffic on Morris Avenue and Vauxhall Road because of the construction being done on Route 78. Dr. Jakubowski said that there may be no real solution to this problem because of the volume of students trying to get to school in the morning. He did feel the changes that have been made to Morris Avenue have been a positive change. Mr. Abraham said that he thought there needed to be a better job with the timing of the traffic lights because there is now a problem with the traffic light located at Morris Avenue and Spruce Street. He said that the timing has been changed and the light only allows for three cars to go through from Spruce Street and Spruce Street is now backed up to Liberty Avenue in the morning. Mr. Abraham said that the entrance ramp to Route 78 near Home Depot has been closed due to the construction and this causes congestion on Springfield Avenue. Dr. Jakubowski said that he did not know if there is any solution to the traffic problem other than to acknowledge that there a lot of cars on the road. Mr. Perkins said he thought the greater problem was the traffic around the individual schools when parents are dropping off children. He wondered what the school principals were doing and what the district is doing to get the Township to enforce traffic laws around the schools because the situation involves young children who are at physical risk that is not present in a traffic jam. Dr. Jakubowski said that Chief Kramer sends a letter to all parents in the school district talking about safety issues. He said that he also discussed this problem with the building principals in August. Dr. Jakubowski said that the principals do regularly call the police department if issues arise and the police do issue summonses. He said that he has encouraged parents to park a few blocks from the school and walk their students to the building. Dr. Jakubowski thought that Livingston School was a critical situation because Midland Boulevard was such a heavily traveled street and the children dash across the street; Franklin School is an issue because of the fact that it is a one-way around the building; and Central-5 is an issue because there are so many buses which drop off in front of the building there is no room for parents to drop off students. Mr. Perkins said that he suggested surveillance cameras. He said that the City of New York has them at intersections and if you drive past the stop line or through a traffic light, the driver is issued a summons. He said that the board has talked about surveillance cameras from a security point of view and it really would not take a lot over time to do it. Mr. Perkins said there were be license

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

numbers and so forth and the people who are in violation could be targeted. He said until the district takes this problem seriously, parents will not take the situation seriously and the only way the board can show it is taking the problem seriously is by rigorous enforcement. Mr. Perkins said the board can say it is the police department's job and it is, but the board can also do what it can do to ensure the safety of the students who go to Union Schools. Dr. Jakubowski said that he would look into where cameras would have to be installed for this purpose and what the cost would be.

NEW BUSINESS

None

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Ms. Zayas spoke about problems with her son's transportation to Lakeview School. She said that on August 29th she had received a letter from Union County Educational Services Commission telling her about her son's new bus company. Ms. Zayas said that on that same day she tried to reach Ms. French and the call was forwarded to someone else. She told that person that she needed to speak to Ms. French but was not able to speak to her that day. Ms. Zayas said that she then reached out to Dr. Jakubowski and explained to him about her problem. She said that he told her he would make sure that Ms. French returned her call. Ms. Zayas said that Ms. French did call her on August 30th and she gave her a brief explanation of her transportation problem. She said that Ms. French asked her to send an e-mail with the details of the problem. Ms. Zayas said that she sent an e-mail to Ms. French on the same day and sent copy of the e-mail to Dr. Jakubowski. She did not try to reach Ms. French until the next Wednesday at 9 a.m. and I was told that Ms. French was in a meeting. Ms. Zayas said that she called back at 12 noon and at 3 p.m. and was told that Ms. French was still in a meeting. She said that she never received a return call from Ms. French that day. Ms. Zayas said that the next day she still had not received a return call from Ms. French and about 2 p.m. she called Ms. French's office and her secretary asked if she wanted Ms. French to call her back. She said she would like a return call. Ms. Zayas said that she was finally able to speak to Ms. French the next day at 9 a.m. and she stated that Ms. Zayas' e-mail was never received so Ms. Zayas said she would try again. She said about a half hour later she called Ms. French's office again and her secretary said that she did receive the e-mail and that Ms. French has stepped away from her desk. Ms. Zayas said she did not hear from Ms. French that day. She said that she had not received a return call

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

and on Monday she did not send her son to school. Ms. Zayas said that she then called Dr. Jakubowski's office and spoke to his secretary who advised her to speak to Ms. Dunn. She said that she left a message with Ms. Dunn but did not receive a return call from Ms. Dunn. Ms. Zayas said that at 4:30 on Monday she spoke to Allison at Union County Educational Services Commission and she was told that there was no change in her son's transportation arrangement and she was "stuck" with the company that she had. She said that she never received either a return phone call, an e-mail or a letter from Ms. French in response to her e-mail. Ms. Zayas wanted to know if she deserved to be treated in this manner. She felt that she had called the district for help and she received no help from the district. Ms. Zayas said that she is stuck with a transportation company that she is not happy with to transport her son to school. She said that she has still not received a letter from the district telling her why she is stuck with this bus company and never received a phone call from Ms. French. Ms. Zayas felt that she was entitled to a phone call or a letter explaining why she was stuck with this bus company. She said that her son is 16 years old and is physically challenged. Ms. Zayas said she was a concerned parent and she felt she deserved a phone call, a letter or an e-mail telling her why she was stuck with this bus company. She said that she did get a letter from Union County Educational Services Commission on August 29th and she did give the Union County Educational Services Commission enough notice telling them that she was not happy with them changing the bus company. Ms. Zayas wanted an explanation as to why the transportation company was changed. Mr. Abraham, on behalf of the board, apologized for the lack of communication which Ms. Zayas received. He asked Mr. Damato to explain how bus transportation is arranged by the Union County Educational Services Commission because this is not something the district has control over. Ms. Zayas said that she understood the contracting of the transportation but she felt that something should have been done when she initially contacted the Union County Educational Services Commission and some arrangement made. She wanted to know who made up the rules and why was she stuck with this bus company. Mr. Manochio asked if there was a problem with the bus company. Ms. Zayas said that she explained everything in the form of a letter which she did not have a copy of with her tonight. Mr. Manochio asked if there was a "pick and choose" with the selection of bus companies. Ms. Dunn said that she was familiar with Ms. Zayas' son who was a student at Lakeview School. She said that Ms. French did e-mail her stating that Ms. Zayas preferred that her son have the same transportation service agency that she has had for a number of years. Ms. Dunn said that Ms. French asked her to respond and she did send an e-mail to Ms. French to forward to Ms. Zayas to advise that the district does go out to bid for transportation services through Union County Educational Services Commission and the bidder is awarded by them. She said that the qualifications of the students are included in the bid document and unfortunately there were some issues to disqualify a bidder this year. Ms. Dunn said that she has asked Union County Educational Services Commission to advise her exactly what happened and if there was a particular reason why Ms. Zayas felt that her son was not being appropriately transported, it would be referred to

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

the board attorney. Ms. Dunn said that Ms. French did speak to Mr. Schaarschmidt at Union County Educational Services Commission and she was in communication with Ms French who found out that the transporter of Ms. Zayas' son for a number of years was a "non bidder" for the route this year and the reason they did not bid was because they did not have vehicles to service the four students that the district needed to transport. She said that the bid was awarded to the lowest qualified bidder. Ms. Dunn said that this information was discussed with Ms. French and Ms. French said that she would forward the information to Ms. Zayas and that was the last communication that she had with Ms. French. Ms. Dunn said that the bids received are sealed bids, the qualifications of the bid and the routes are included in the bid, they are public and they are opened on a specified date at a specific time and to have a bid disqualified is a sizeable task and there are particular reasons as Mr. Damato can clarify. She said this is the point where the district is right now. Ms. Dunn said that she would speak to Ms. French tomorrow. Mr. Manochio said then there would be no "picking and choosing". Ms. Dunn said there was not. Mr. Manochio asked if it was correct that Ms. Zayas' concerns were with Union County Educational Services Commission and not with the district. Ms. Dunn said that was correct. Ms. Zayas asked Mr. Manochio if he thought that she deserved a response to her e-mail. Mr. Manochio said he did not question that. Mr. Abraham said he was sure that Dr. Jakubowski would address the issue with Ms. French tomorrow to be sure that communication to parents of the district's school children is taken care of in a timely fashion. Dr. Jakubowski said that he was under the assumption that someone had gotten back to Ms. Zayas in connection with this problem. He said that he thought that Ms. Zayas was aware that the district did not control who gets the transportation bids. Ms. Zayas said she did understand that but her problem was that there was no communication from the district in response to her problem.

MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Mrs. Salazar, seconded by Mr. Ruhl that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss student matters without the presence of the public in accordance with the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 10:4- 2b*. The Board will disclose the discussion conducted during the executive session, with notice to the public, when the disclosure will not result in unwarranted invasion of individual privacy or prejudice to the best interests of the Board of Education and provided that such disclosure does not violate federal, state or local statutes and does not fall within the attorney/client privilege.

AYE: Mr. Figueiredo, Mr. Helmstetter, Mr. Manochio, Mrs. McNeil, Mr. Perkins,
Mr. Ruhl, Mrs. Salazar and Mr. Abraham

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION WAS CARRIED

THE BOARD RETURNED TO PUBLIC SESSION AT 8:35 P.M.

EDUCATION/STUDENT DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

Moved by Mrs. McNeil, seconded by Mr. Manochio that the following resolution be adopted:

E-7. APPROVE MATTER CONCERNING M.M.

That the matter concerning *M.M.* be approved in accordance with the information appended to the non public portion of these minutes.

AYE: Mr. Figueiredo, Mr. Helmstetter, Mr. Manochio, Mrs. McNeil, Mr. Perkins,
Mr. Ruhl, Mrs. Salazar and Mr. Abraham
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None MOTION WAS CARRIED

MOTION TO ADJOURN

There being no further business before the board, it was moved by Mr. Ruhl, seconded by Mr. Manochio that the meeting be adjourned.

AYE: Mr. Figueiredo, Mr. Helmstetter, Mr. Manochio, Mrs. McNeil, Mr. Perkins,
Mr. Ruhl, Mrs. Salazar and Mr. Abraham
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None MOTION WAS CARRIED

Respectfully submitted

JAMES J. DAMATO
BOARD SECRETARY