

The business meeting of the Board of Education of the Borough of New Providence was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on March 23, 2023, at the New Providence High School/Middle School Media Center, 35 Pioneer Drive, by Mrs. Misiukiewicz, Board President.

Present on roll call were Rebecca Coniglio, Bernadette Cuccaro, Stacey Gunderman, Jennifer Killea, and Amanda Marano. Also present were Dr. David Miceli, Superintendent of Schools, James Testa, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Jon Keaney, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Supervision, and eighty-five members of the public.

Mrs. Misiukiewicz led in the salute to the flag.

Mrs. Misiukiewicz read the following statement:

This is a public meeting of the Board of Education of the Borough of New Providence. Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with PL 1975, Chapter 231, in that a notice was made in conformance with Section 13 of the Act.

Whenever the business of the Board requires it to convene to Closed session, the session will begin no later than 9:30 p.m. At the conclusion of the need for Closed Session, the Board will reconvene to the public portion of the meeting. At that time the Board will complete any other business that may be before it and the public will then be given an opportunity to be heard before the meeting is adjourned.

BOARD PRESIDENT COMMENTS

Mrs. Misiukiewicz began her opening comments by greeting everyone.

What a fantastic turnout! It's awesome to have a meeting with a room full of student athletes, coaches, parents, family, friends, and our teacher of the year recipients for their excellence in the classroom. We are glad to have this opportunity to celebrate all of you and a special thank you to our teachers Ms. Berrios, Ms. DeCelestino, Mrs. Kautzmann, and Mrs. Natale for being here tonight.

To our student athletes that are with us tonight, on behalf of the New Providence Board of Education and the entire New Providence Community, we want you to know, that it has been exciting and thrilling to witness two State Championships in the same season along with a Group One State Champion in the eight-hundred-meter run, a Group One State title in the 4x400 meter relay and to celebrate our Union County Champion in the high jump.

We hope you all felt the support and encouragement from your extended New Providence family and your fellow peers. The student section deserves a shout out for their unwavering support; there was absolutely no student section that I witnessed, across our county, our section and state that could compete and measure up to the Pioneer spirit. The entire New Providence community fed off of their enthusiasm and excitement and we certainly hope as athletes, you felt that support whether you were on the court, on the ice or on the track.

As high school athletes, you reached the highest level and competed in venues against teams that you probably never thought would be possible. Last year, we mentioned to the hockey team that it had to be a dream come true to play on the ice at The Rock. Now a year later and you repeated that same dream. The life lesson here is that anything is possible, it just takes hard work, grit, and determination. Your determination was on full display while competing for three hours (quadruple OT) which gained a lot of news coverage as the longest game in State Final history. Congratulations!

To our girls' basketball team, congratulations on a clean sweep of your conference, your county, your section, and Group Two State championship title. Winning these titles that you all achieved, is the

ultimate culmination of your hard work during the regular season but no doubt all the time and effort you put in your off season.

We want to thank all of the student athletes tonight for your sportsmanship; for representing your high school and for representing New Providence. If this is your senior year, thank you for your leadership and mentoring your fellow teammates. We wish you the very best in your future pursuits. Congratulations!

Similarly, our school community and New Providence community, who not only enjoy supporting our student athletes but also love to attend our musicals and performances. The high school play "Nice work if you can it" was performed over the past two weekends. The performances were outstanding and the talent was amazing. I personally know some residents and parents that attended every show. Thank you to Mr. Duke, Ms. Ditta, Ms. Alongi and Mr. Ho for their extraordinary work creating the quintessential performance for this hilarious musical. Thank you to the many parent volunteers for adding all the special touches to make this performance a memorable one; not only for our student performers, cast, and crew but to the community. The New Providence Community forum on social media is still raving about this show. Congratulations and well done to everyone involved.

Before I turn the meeting over to Dr. Miceli and in advance of our presentations, on behalf of Board of Education, I would like to thank our Teachers' of the Year, for your dedication to our students. You are what makes New Providence Education what it is. You have been chosen for this honor because of your commitment to educational excellence. Thank you for sharing your passion, your enthusiasm, and your inspiration in our classrooms. Congratulations on this very special honor.

Mrs. Misiukiewicz then turned the meeting over to Dr. Miceli.

Dr. Miceli thanked Mrs. Misiukiewicz and asked for Ms. Marzynski for her report.

STUDENT REPORT

Ms. Marzynski began her report by wishing everyone well and has hoped that everyone has had a great month. This past month has been very busy with all the success from our sports teams and with our musical. Students were given a brief preview of the musical, this encouraged students to go out and buy tickets for the musical. Students found the musical hilarious and entertaining. Ms. Marzynski encouraged anyone that has not seen any of the high school plays or musicals to go see one.

When speaking to the girls' basketball team, Ms. Marzynski recalled the team saying that they wanted to win all four conference, county, section, and state championships and they were able to achieve this. The student section was also a great support, driving an hour and half to the game and having a packed student section at the game. The game was quite a nail biter, at half time the girls really powered through and dominated the rest of the game, 55-32 victory over at Secaucus, winning the State Championship. Megan Lamano was awarded 3rd team all-state and Megan Lamno and Grace Kinum were awarded 1st team all-state Group Two.

As mentioned in our last meeting our track team had a lot of success at their meets, a lot of the students made the meet of champions. The boys four by four relay that went to the meet of champions beat the school record.

The ice hockey team are the Public C State Champions and even though the game was on a Monday, the student section was pretty packed and very thrilled. The game was such a nail biter, it was three hours long, but we were able to win 5-4 over Woodbridge Township, making this game the longest game in New Jersey history. Brandon Cuccaro was 1st team all Public C and Scott Capan was awarded 2nd team all Public C, congratulations to them for their efforts.

With all the success that our teams have had this winter we hope that our spring sports can have some similar results, we know all of teams have scrimmages in this upcoming week hopefully they can have some success as well.

The National Arts Society is having a pet portrait fundraiser, if you donate and send them a photograph of your pet our very talented students will make a portrait of them. Next weekend is our Tricky Tray Prom Fashion Show, there will be amazing prizes and good raffles. This month, due to all of the standardized testing and SAT testing, we had a lot of assemblies that were very impactful and the students really took a lot away from them. We had motivational speakers that touched on how to get through tough parts of our lives and how to stay safe online.

Congratulations again to everyone and I hope you all have a great rest of the month.

Dr. Miceli thanked Ms. Marzynski and asked Mrs. Zirpoli for the enrollment numbers.

ENROLLMENT

Mrs. Zirpoli gave the enrollment report for the following schools; Allen W. Roberts currently has 680 students, Salt Brook currently has 609 students, Middle School has 398 students, High School has 665 students, 37 out of district students, giving a grand total of 2,389 students. Currently, for kindergarten registration we have 77 students for 1st grade we have an additional 16 students for Allen W. Roberts. Salt Brook School has 61 students registered for kindergarten and we have an additional 11 1st grade students.

Dr. Miceli thanked Mrs. Zirpoli and asked Mr. Keaney if he had any good news from the Department of Education regarding State Assessments.

Mr. Keaney commented that there will no longer be a Start Strong Assessments, this eliminates another state test and is delighted that the State moved in that direction.

NPEF PRESENTATION- 2022/2023 GRANTS

Mrs. Misiukiewicz invited the New Providence Education Foundation to speak to the Board.

Suzanne Botvinis, Amy Lepre, and Kelly Szeto went up to present. Mrs. Botvinis stated that every year the NPEF has a grant cycle and they ask teachers to submit applications for all different sorts of items throughout the year, preamble education related, so that they can enhance the experience of students. In past years, the NPEF has awarded well over \$1.2 million dollars since our inception. With this being said, this year, we are awarding \$80,307.05. I would also like to mention that this is the second largest amount that we have awarded since our inception. We would like to thank you to the community, staff, teachers, and administration; thank you for all of your support.

CERTIFICATES OF ACHIEVEMENT

Mrs. Cuccaro presented the GL/NP Varsity Ice Hockey Team with their certificates and commented the following statement:

The 2022-2023 season marked the seventh official year of New Providence High School Ice Hockey, participating alongside our peers on the Governor Livingston ice hockey team. In a short amount of time, the program has seen itself win two conference championships, in 2017 and 2021. This season marked the teams second consecutive in the McGuinnis Division, perhaps the most competitive ice hockey conference in the state. The team rose to meet all challenges this season in route to an impressive 16-5-4 record. Good enough to qualify for the Group C NJSIAA state tournament as the #1 overall seed. The GL/NP Ice Hockey team demonstrated this deserving seed throughout the playoffs, winning the first three rounds by a combined score of 14-2. This led to the team reaching the Group C state championship game at the Prudential Center for a second consecutive season. Despite receiving the 11a.m. Monday time slot from the state, the team was fortunate to play in front of an absolutely massive crowd from both

New Providence and Governor Livingston. When all was said and done, the GL/NP ice hockey team came out victorious in a four-overtime thriller, 5-4 over Colonia, with the game being the longest state tournament ice hockey game in NJ history! This marked the teams second consecutive state championship! The team also concluded its season by ranking #16 in the entire state by NJ.com! Congratulations players and coaches!

Mrs. Misiukiewicz presented the Girls Varsity Basketball Team and their coaches with their certificates and commented the following statement:

The New Providence Girls Basketball team topped rival Westfield High School at Kean University on February 19th in front of a massive crowd of New Providence supporters. With the 46-34 win, the team was crowned Union County Champions for the 2022-2023 season. This was the team's second consecutive county championship! To highlight how incredibly rare this accomplishment is, in the entire history of New Providence High School athletics, this is the school's fourteenth EVER county championship in all sports. Furthermore, it is only the 6th ever county championship in traditional head-to-head team sport competition (joining 2 baseball county championships, a girls' soccer championship, and 2 prior girls basketball county championships)! The team then continued their incredible run in the NJSIAA state tournament, being crowned Group 2 Central State Sectional Champions after dominating state powerhouse Manasquan High School (winners of 8 sectional championships in a row prior to this season) 52-30 in front of a sold-out Pioneer gymnasium. The girls basketball team concluded this season for the ages by winning the overall Group 2 state championship against Secaucus 55-32 in front of a huge New Providence contingency! The girls finished the season with a record of 28-3, finishing with 20 straight victories, and were ranked 9th in the entire state by NJ.com after their incredible season! Congratulations players and coaches!

Mrs. Misiukiewicz presented the Girls and Boys Indoor Track Team and their coaches; Eric Dowden, David Gaeta, Owen Silver, and Hayden Singer, with their certificates of achievement and commented the following statement:

The New Providence Board of Education recognizes student athletes and teams who have achieved excellence in their sport on a county, state sectional, or state level. This year's individual recipients are as follows:

Girls Indoor Track:

- Natasha Grandov – Union County Champion – High Jump

Boys Indoor Track:

- Eric Dowden – Group 1 State Champion – 4x400 Meter Relay
- David Gaeta – Group 1 State Champion – 4x400 Meter Relay
- Owen Silver – Group 1 State Champion – 4x400 Meter Relay
- Hayden Singer – Group 1 State Champion – 4x400 Meter Relay AND Individual Group 1 State Champion – 800 Meter Run

TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Dr. Miceli commented that this year we had four distinguished teachers of the year. One of my favorite opportunities every year is to walk into the classroom and announce our teachers of the year. There is always tremendous emotion and this year did not disappoint. We will begin with our High School teacher of the year.

Mr. Henry presented Ms. Berrios with her Teacher of the Year award for the New Providence High School and said the following:

It is my distinct pleasure to speak this evening about Kristina, or as everyone refers to her, "Krissy" Berrios, Language Arts teacher at New Providence High School. Ms. Berrios excels in all aspects of her teaching and has an innate ability to connect with all students. This year, Ms. Berrios teaches American

Literature, Honors American Literature, and Survey of Humanities, but has taught other courses in her time at NPHS including Humanities and Survey of American Literature. Her wide array of courses taught speaks to her ability to reach all students to help them have a wonderful educational experience and grow as students and young adults.

In five short years at NPHS, Ms. Berrios has made a lasting impression on all of her students, colleagues, and administration. One colleague indicated, "Not only does Krissy love her job but she loves her students even more. She goes above and beyond to make class engaging, fun, and easy to understand for all levels. Her compassion for her students is always evident and she makes time for every student even when they are no longer on her roster - New Providence is lucky to have her!"

When you think about Ms. Berrios there are so many adjectives to describe her as a teacher and a person- compassionate, kind, caring, enthusiastic, selfless, the list goes on and on. Everyone who encounters Ms. Berrios instantly is able to recognize her passion for teaching and compassion and care for others. She always is looking to help out in any way to make her students feel comfortable and confident with the content. Her teaching can be described as creative, fun, and exciting. She always engages her students in collaborative activities to help encourage student dialogue and discussion on the content and allow for meaningful learning experiences. Her passion always shines through with her instructional delivery and the students can always count on Ms. Berrios to be in their corner. Ms. Berrios's rapport with her students is outstanding and these positive relationships go such a long way in creating a safe and welcoming classroom environment.

In addition to Ms. Berrios's work in the classroom, her work outside of the classroom is just as impressive. She is the JV Girls Volleyball Coach. Ms. Berrios is the advisor for our new club- Neer Nation, where she has raised school spirit through many new and exciting activities including a Winter Semi Formal and Pep Rally (and soon to be Class Clash!). Ms. Berrios is the co-advisor for the Class of 2026 and she is a building rep for the teacher's union. Ms. Berrios is also a key member of the School Climate Team and ScIP Committee. Ms. Berrios is a go-to person who always volunteers her time to help with student activities such as crowd control at athletic events, attending many school events just to support her students, and even is brave enough to be one of the first teachers to always volunteer to be on the fan buses for sporting events.

It is hard to put into words Ms. Berrios's efforts in all aspects of NPHS and the value she brings to our school and district. Her commitment in and of the classroom in every aspect of our school shows her love for the students, amazing Pioneer spirit, and why she is the Teacher of the Year!

Simply put, one parent/community member wrote, "Ms Berrios has inspired my son to work hard to become a better writer! Her personal connection with her students is what they need after years of isolation. She is an amazing teacher and we are lucky to have her!"

Krissy, your positivity and commitment to your students and school is something that deserves all the recognition you receive and more. We couldn't be happier for you Krissy on this well-deserved honor. Congratulations on being the New Providence High School 2022-2023 Teacher of the Year!

Mr. Henry presented Mrs. DeCelestino with her Teacher of the Year award for the New Providence Middle School and said the following:

It is my distinct privilege to speak this evening about Mrs. Rebecca DeCelestino, Mathematics teacher at New Providence Middle School. Mrs. DeCelestino teaches our most challenging Mathematics courses at

the Middle School including Algebra T/A and Geometry T/A. In addition she has two sections of Math 8 with both classes being supported sections. She is able to teach to all levels of students and help them improve and grow with their understanding of the content and success in the classroom.

Mrs. DeCelestino has had experience providing tremendous instruction formerly at NPHS before landing permanently at the Middle School. For the last seven years, Mrs. DeCelestino has gone above and beyond for her students to put them in the best possible position to be successful. The impact Mrs. DeCelestino has had on her students is evident each and every day, but further showcased through the nominations received for Teacher of the Year as all of Mrs. DeCelestino's nominations were from her students.

One student wrote, "Mrs. DeCelestino is an amazing teacher. Every day, she has colorful slides and countless resources we can use for the day's lesson. She links videos almost every day for extra help, and always offers her time early in the mornings or during homeroom if you have any questions. Her teaching methods are super innovative. She lets us be responsible for what we choose to do, offering to help us understand what we got wrong. Her class is always very fun and she makes difficult topics understandable, allowing us enough time to practice them and, again, always offering her help. She deserves a lot of recognition!"

This nomination emulates many of the nominations received supporting Mrs. DeCelestino for Teacher of the Year. One common theme in almost every nomination is that Mrs. DeCelestino always makes herself available to her students. Whether before school, during homeroom, study hall, or after school, Mrs. DeCelestino can be counted on to provide assistance and support for her students. During class Mrs. DeCelestino always circulates throughout the classroom to check in on all of her students to monitor their progress and offer guidance and support. Additionally, Mrs. DeCelestino's accessibility and willingness to help her students outside their normal class period, shows her genuine care for their overall success and growth. Mrs. DeCelestino provides a wide variety of resources for her students through choice boards and other key components of personalized learning making the learning meaningful and providing her students with ownership and autonomy in their learning.

In addition to Mrs. DeCelestino's many successes in the classroom, she is also the Advisor for the Yearbook Club. She works with a number of students providing support as part of our ESSER program. Mrs. DeCelestino is one of our I&RS Committee members where she collaborates with colleagues to ensure appropriate academic and behavioral plans are created for identified students.

I want to share one more nomination with everyone that speaks to the impact Mrs. DeCelestino has on all of her students. A second student wrote, "I have had Mrs. DeCelestino for two years now, and she has been my favorite teacher by far. She always makes sure that everyone understands everything, even when we ask very confusing questions. She gives us plenty of resources to study from, and makes sure to give us enough class time to utilize them. Overall, she is the most helpful teacher I have ever had!"

Rebecca, we are so happy for you on this distinct honor. Congratulations on being the New Providence Middle School 2022-2023 Teacher of the Year!

Mr. Richter presented Mrs. Natale with her Teacher of the Year award for Allen W. Roberts and said the following:

Good evening. It is my honor to introduce the Allen W. Roberts Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Sandra Natale. The AWR community is extremely proud of you, Mrs. Natale, such an amazing educator who has set such a high standard for all of us to strive for when working with our students and their families.

Mrs. Natale joined the New Providence School District in 2013 and served in a few different substitutes and leave replacement positions at AWR and Salt Brook before finding her permanent home as a Kindergarten teacher. Throughout the last nine years, she has shown that it is certainly a role made for her.

Mrs. Natale serves on the AWR Leadership team where each grade level and special area teachers are represented. She also serves on the School Improvement Panel and collaborates on school needs related to goals, initiatives, and professional development. Her input is always respected because of her knowledge, experience, and genuine interest in the success of all students.

Mrs. Natale is most certainly a child advocate and has demonstrated her passion for students' needs and their learning throughout the development of the full day Kindergarten program. She has a strong knowledge of the developmental level of Kindergarten students thus making her a leader within the team that researched Kindergarten programs, visited schools, and collaborated to propose what would work for New Providence.

Mrs. Natale is continually focused on individual students every day and works hard to make them feel safe and comfortable. A parent of one of her students stated, "Mrs. Natale has a great personality, and always wears a smile. She also ensures a positive environment in her classroom." Mrs. Natale is adept at taking shy kids and helping them break out of their shell. Her patience is unparalleled as she assesses the student's needs and continues searching for ways to help him or her feel safe. She speaks Portuguese and has used her language skills to help many students feel connected to school. I've also heard that she has a great southern accent and has used it to make a crying child laugh so hard, he forgot why he was upset. Mrs. Natale spends so much 1-on-1 time with parents. Through consistent emails, phone calls, meetings, and regular discussions during dismissal, she is able to collaborate on ideas and strategies to help students be comfortable and more successful, emotionally, academically, and socially.

One parent noted, "Mrs. Natale's approach to teaching is creative and makes my child want to learn more and go back to school every day. She cares not only for the educational success of the students but also for their emotional and social development." For example, Mrs. Natale loves her bug units and is often seen outside looking for bugs with the students. She's not afraid to get her hands dirty!

I recently learned that Mrs. Natale loves her shoes and boots and helped use her love of footwear to teach students about various learning needs and reading levels. She brought in numerous pairs of boots from home and had the students try them on to see which ones fit and which ones did not. She discussed with students how through trying them on, they learned which ones fit and were comfortable for them. This helped her teach the concept of trying out different books and being ok with ones that were not right for them and finding ones that were better and at their level.

Engaging students and making sure they enjoy school comes from the energy, enthusiasm, and school spirit that Mrs. Natale brings to school every day. Her students described her as funny, silly, and goofy. They won't forget the time she glued her lips together thinking it was chapstick or the way she tricks them by saying it is the wrong month or day of the week. The joking and laughter are hallmarks of her classroom.

A colleague said “she’s a performer, an actor, and could have easily gone into theater”. One parent called her a “rockstar”. Now, while I haven’t seen her dress up as a rock star, I have seen her amazing outfits for the 100th day of school where she dresses up as a 100-year-old woman. Is it Gladys? Not only does she dress the part, she walks with a walker and talks like an older, or should we say experienced person! The gray hair, the groggy voice...she plays the part all day and the kids love it!

Mrs. Natale is known for her Wacky Wednesday and school Spirit days attire. She’s always doing something that makes the kids laugh and helps them enjoy the day. Some students laughed when reflecting on her outstanding cheerleader outfit with her hair done up like she was cheering for the Super Bowl. One of our colleagues told me a story about how one of her outfits included a soda bottle on her head. Apparently, she had put herself together inside her house, but when she went to drive her car to school, she couldn’t fit due to the bottle. It seems that many people on the road that day had a good laugh at the crazy lady driving with her sunroof open and a soda bottle sticking out! Another Wacky Wednesday costume included a giant sombrero. Unfortunately, her car broke down and she hitched a ride with an Uber driver - the driver is still telling stories about the teacher who looked more ready for a Cinco De Mayo party rather than a Kindergarten classroom! When holidays arrive, Mrs. Natale always has the staff guessing at what she will do next with her clothing and celebration. Allegedly during a St. Patrick’s Day celebration, a leprechaun broke into her classroom, made a mess, and left the toilet water in a bright green color. I’m not sure that it was in the curriculum, but I am sure many little kids will be talking about that one for a while!

Each year Mrs. Natale puts together a class book filled with pictures and memories from that particular school year. While these books provide a physical reminder of the kids’ wonderful Kindergarten experience, it is the imprints on the children’s minds and hearts that will live on forever. A quote that comes to mind is, “A life lived in love, will never be dull.” Love is what you bring everyday Mrs. Natale, and dull will never be a word uttered around you.

Congratulations, on behalf of the staff, parents, and students of our AWR and NP family!

Mrs. Drexinger presented Mrs. Kautzmann with her Teacher of the Year award for Salt Brook and said the following alongside a video that students made for Mrs. Kautzmann:

It is with distinct honor, pleasure, and pride that Mrs. Kautzmann’s current and former students and I celebrate Mrs. Kautzmann as the Salt Brook Teacher of the Year. Since we could not bring all of Mrs. Kautzmann’s former and current students with us tonight, they prepared a short video on why they thought Mrs. Kautzmann was the best choice for Teacher of the Year!

Video was then played.

The common theme that is heard throughout the video is the strength of Mrs. Kautzmann with students in the area of social and emotional learning. Consistent messages such as kind, helpful, caring, positivity, calming, inspirational were echoed throughout by both her current and former students. This shows the consistency of Mrs. Kautzmann’s approach to her teaching over the years and her emphasis and focus on reaching the whole child. Mrs. Kautzmann has high expectations for her 2nd graders and gives each and every one of them the confidence needed to succeed.

Amy, each year your students look forward to walking into your classroom filled with “fairy lights”, kindness, and fun. You are truly an inspirational teacher who strives to “be the best” and always “brings

out the best in your students”. Thank you for being a true role model for your students and a wonderful teacher. We are thrilled with your selection and thank you for sharing your enthusiasm, excitement, and inspiration with us all.

Congratulations on this very special honor!

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mrs. Misiukiewicz opened the meeting to the public at 7:58 p.m.

There being no public comments, Mrs. Misiukiewicz declared the public portion of the meeting closed at 7:58 p.m.

BOARD MINUTES APPROVED

Mrs. Gunderman moved to approve the minutes for:

Business Meeting: February 23, 2023
Closed Meeting: February 23, 2023

Mrs. Marano seconded the motion and it was carried on the following vote:

Roll call vote:

<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Coniglio
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Cuccaro
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Gunderman
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Killea
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Marano
<u>Abstain</u>	Mrs. Misiukiewicz
<u>Absent</u>	Mr. Walsh

ACTION ITEMS
FINANCE ACTIONS

Mrs. Marano, in place of the Finance Chairperson, moved to approve Items 1 through 10.

BOARD SECRETARY REPORT APPROVED

1. After review, we hereby accept the Board Secretary and Treasurer reports for February 2023. No major account or fund has been over expended in violation of financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

BILL LIST APPROVED

2. Approve the payment of bills for March 2023, in the amount of \$ 5,555,081.64.

NICKERSON AWARDED CONTRACT APPROVED

3. Award the following under NJ State approved cooperative purchasing contracts ESCNJ 21/22-59 (Purchasing & Installation of Interior Bleacher Systems) and ESCNJ 21/22-10 (Athletic Equipment & Supplies), through the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey:

Middle/High School Bleacher Replacement Project

Vendor: Nickerson

Price not to exceed: \$198,788.40

Salt Brook Bleacher Replacement Project

Vendor: Nickerson

Price not to exceed: \$59,844.00

NJ ARM RESOLUTION APPROVED

- 4. AUTHORIZING THE NEW PROVIDENCE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO INVEST FUNDS IN THE NEW JERSEY ASSET & REBATE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM.

BE IT RESOLVED by the New Providence Board of Education as follows:

- 1. The New Providence Board of Education hereby finds and determines that the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary has received and reviewed (i) the Information Statement dated as of January 3, 2005 describing the New Jersey Asset & Rebate Management Program ("NJ/ARM") and (ii) the Amended and Restated Interlocal Services Investment Agreement governing the NJ/ARM Program ("Program Agreement") and (b) the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary has been afforded the opportunity to discuss NJ/ARM with the Investment Administrator and Special Counsel to NJ/ARM and the New Providence Board of Education has determined that it is in the best interests to authorize and participate in NJ/ARM.
- 2. The Program Agreement is hereby approved and the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary is authorized to execute the Program Agreement on behalf of the New Providence Board of Education.
- 3. U.S. Bank, N.A., as Custodian for the NJ/ARM Program, is hereby approved to act as a depository of Public Funds.
- 4. The New Providence Board of Education acknowledges that its decision to authorize the participation in NJ/ARM is based solely on the information set forth in the Information Statement and in the Program Agreement.

REVISED RESOLUTION APPROVED

- 5. Approve a revised resolution under NJ State approved cooperative purchasing contract ESCNJ #65MCECCPS Bid # 22/23-08, through the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey that was approved on February 23, 2023 as follows:

Salt Brook School

Original Purchase Order Total: \$480,108.38

New Purchase Order Total: \$481,566.38

Difference: \$1,458.00

Allen W. Roberts School

Original Purchase Order Total: \$436,432.50

New Purchase Order Total: \$437,890.50

Difference: \$1,458.00

BADGLEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS APPROVED

6. Approve the generous donations to the Badgley Memorial Scholarship in the memory of Gloria Badgley, in the amount of \$1,225.00.

NEW PROVIDENCE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1962 DONATIONS APPROVED

7. Approve the generous donations to the New Providence High School Class of 1962 Scholarship Fund in the amount of \$690.50.

NEW PROVIDENCE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1960 DONATION APPROVED

8. Approve the generous donation to the New Providence High School Class of 1960 Scholarship Fund in the amount of \$25.00.

ALLEN W. ROBERTS PTA DONATION APPROVED

9. Accept the generous donation to Allen W. Roberts from the AWR PTA, in the amount of \$500.00.

2022/2023 NPEF GRANT AWARDS APPROVED

10. Approve the 2022/2023 Grant Awards from the New Providence Education Foundation, in the amount of \$80,395.56.

Mrs. Cuccaro seconded the motion and it was carried on the following vote:

Roll call vote:

<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Coniglio
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Cuccaro
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Gunderman
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Killea
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Marano
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Misiukiewicz
<u>Absent</u>	Mr. Walsh

FACILITIES ACTIONS

Mrs. Marano, in place of the Facilities Chairperson, moved to approve Items 1 through 3.

DISPOSAL APPROVED

1. Approve the disposal of the following items, as they are outdated and no longer deemed necessary for school use:

Quantity	Item Description	Model/ISBN #	BOE#/Ser.#	Reason for Disposal
20	Student Desks	N/A	N/A	Furniture is being replaced with the new classroom design furniture (Pilot Classroom)
20	Student Chairs	N/A	N/A	Furniture is being replaced with the new classroom design furniture (Pilot Classroom)

DISPOSAL APPROVED

2. Approve the disposal of the following textbooks, as they are outdated and no longer deemed necessary for school use:

Quantity	Item Description	Reason for Disposal
24	The Practice of Statistics 3 rd Edition Yates, Moore and Starnes Copyright 2008 Freeman Publishing	This textbook was replaced by an updated version 5 years ago. These physical textbooks are no longer used in any capacity with the curriculum and are over ten years old.
60	Biology Laboratory Manual Sweeny and Williamson Copyright 2006 Pearson Prentice Hall	These workbooks were used with an old edition textbook that has since been replaced. These physical textbooks are no longer used in any capacity with the curriculum and are over ten years old.

DISPOSAL APPROVED

3. Approve the disposal of the following textbooks, as they are outdated and no longer deemed necessary for school use:

Quantity	Item Description	Reason for Disposal
18	Webster's Thesaurus for students (paperbacks)	Outdated. No longer used for classroom instruction.
9	Intermediate Dictionary, Scott Foresman, Copyright 1993	Outdated. No longer used for classroom instruction.

Mr. Killea seconded the motion and it was carried on the following vote:

Roll call vote:

<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Coniglio
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Cuccaro
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Gunderman
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Killea
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Marano
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Misiukiewicz
<u>Absent</u>	Mr. Walsh

EDUCATION ACTIONS

Mrs. Coniglio, Education Chairperson, moved to approve Items 1 through 5.

2022/2023 HIB RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOL

1. Per the 2011 Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act, approve the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools regarding the following 2022/2023 Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying investigations:

<u>School</u>	<u>Incident Report Number(s)</u>
High School:	6, 7, 8, 9
Middle School:	10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15
Salt Brook:	3

COMPREHENSIVE EQUITY PLAN STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE APPROVED

- 2. Approve, facilitate, support, and authorize submission to the NJDOE the Comprehensive Equity Plan Statement of Assurance—School year 2023/2024, for the New Providence School District. This is an extension of the New Providence School District’s 2019 through 2022 CEP by one additional year.

ENROLLMENT OF STUDENT #11133 AT NEWMARK HIGH SCHOOL, INC.

- 3. Approve the enrollment of Student #11133 at Newmark High School, Inc., for the 2022/2023 school year, at a tuition cost of \$23,505.56, effective 3/6/23.

ENROLLMENT OF STUDENT #41163 AT MORRIS-UNION JOINTURE COMMISSION - DEVELOPMENTAL LEARNING CENTER

- 4. Approve the enrollment of Student #41163 at Morris-Union Jointure Commission- Developmental Learning Center, New Providence, for the 2022/2023 school year, at a tuition cost of \$39,929.60, effective 3/1/23.

AMENDMENT TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2022/2023 EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT CONSOLIDATED GRANT APPLICATION

- 5. Approve the amendment to the Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Every Student Succeeds Act Consolidated Grant Application for Title III Consortium funds to transfer \$2,000.00 from account 20-241-100-100 to account 20-241-200-590.

Mrs. Marano seconded the motion and it was carried on the following vote:
Roll call vote:

<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Coniglio
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Cuccaro
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Gunderman
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Killea
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Marano
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Misiukiewicz
<u>Absent</u>	Mr. Walsh

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Mrs. Cuccaro, Personnel Chairperson, moved to approve Items 1 through 4:

2022/2023 APPOINTMENTS APPROVED

- 1. Approve the appointment of the following people with the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools subject to the requirements of Chapter 116 of P.L. 1986 for the 2022/2023 school year:
 - a. Dena DiRocco, gameworker
 - b. Laura Freeman, long term substitute teacher aide, \$9,495.00 (base \$23,164.00), effective 3/6/23 through 6/30/23
 - c. Kelly Acque, substitute teacher, teacher aide, and secretary
 - d. Elizabeth Blank, substitute teacher, teacher aide, and secretary (subject to issuance of certification)
 - e. Heather Huber, substitute teacher, teacher aide, and secretary (subject to criminal history review procedures)
 - f. Heather Huber, home instructor (subject to criminal history review procedures)
 - g. Bethany McKnight, substitute teacher, teacher aide, and secretary
 - h. Karen Rooney, substitute teacher, teacher aide, and secretary

- i. Rose Flanagan, substitute nurse

2022/2023 SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER APPROVED

- 2. Approve the following 2022/2023 School Resource Officer who is employed by the Borough of New Providence and who will be partially funded by the Board of Education:

- a. Janos Bojtos Salt Brook School

2022/2023 RESIGNATIONS APPROVED

- 3. Accept the resignations of the following employees:

- a. Philip Cook, teacher, effective 6/30/23, due to retirement
- b. Karen Grogan, secretary, effective 4/14/23

2023/2024 EXTENDED FAMILY MATERNITY LEAVE APPROVED

- 4. Approve the request of Jaclyn Hamilton, teacher, currently on maternity leave, for an extended unpaid child-rearing leave for the 2023/2024 school year, effective 9/1/23 through 6/30/24, as per Article X of the Agreement between the NPBOE and NPEA.

Mrs. Coniglio seconded the motion and it was carried on the following vote:
Roll call vote:

<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Coniglio
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Cuccaro
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Gunderman
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Killea
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Marano
<u>Yea</u>	Mrs. Misiukiewicz
<u>Absent</u>	Mr. Walsh

BOARD POLICY

No Board Policy or Regulations for approval.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1. Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology: No comments
- 2. Finance, Facilities, and Safety/Security: Mrs. Marano stated that the committee will be reconvening after the bond sale is finalized and Mr. Testa will be walking us through the timeline. Will have more to follow from there.
- 3. Personnel, Management, and Communication: No comments.

OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Miceli wanted to update the Board regarding the new school furniture. In working with the architect and furniture consultants, specifically VS, in terms of the timeframe and the delivery of the furniture. At this time, we will have sixteen containers of furniture coming over from Germany to North Carolina and

then making their way to New Jersey. Aly and Bridget are planning to come to District on July 6th and July 7th and begin to tag all the rooms and identify all the specific pieces of furniture and theoretical arrangement for each of the rooms, this will facilitate the delivery of furniture at each school. The week of July 10th, eight containers will arrive, four at each elementary school. The week of July 17th two things will happen, another eight containers will be delivering chairs and desks at the High/Middle School and the installation crew will begin their process at Allen W. Roberts and Salt Brook School. They will begin to unwrap the furniture and set it in place, this is when Aly, Bridget, and Ingrid will start to go piece by piece to make sure there is no damage and everything is as is, this will also happen at the High/Middle School and this will go through the week of July 24th. They are adding the week of July 31st through August 4th as a buffer week in case there are any delays. So from July 6th to August 4th we can anticipate the delivery and installation of the furniture.

Now because of this now we have to dispose of the old furniture within two weeks, this will be the challenge. I have spoken with some colleagues as well as Ingrid, Bridget, Aly, and Kevin. I was able to connect with a colleague of mine who went through a similar circumstance. It is kind of unique the situation we are in because it's the entire District. We discussed some opportunities that they came up with regarding disposal as well as some of the road blocks they ran into. From an insurance perspective, Paul Joyce said that from his interpretation of our policy as well as the underwriters there is no concern in terms of there being a liability if we donate the furniture to a school, family, or to anybody essentially, in fact we have coverage in our policy that allows us to do this. From a legal perspective, Athina also felt comfortable with the District making donations as well and she would take it one step further and write a legal agreement if we were to donate particularly to a school or class or even families to provide a release essentially. Once we get past those two matters, I feel really comfortable about us pursuing whatever we want to do with this. My initial instinct is to donate to a private school, charter school, public schools, or schools in need. Similarly, I think it would be a nice opportunity for our own community members, parents, students etc. who wanted to take some of the desks or chairs home to be utilized for homework or projects of the like we could consider that. Selling the furniture is not a path worth taking after discussing with my colleagues although we can pursue that. Also, reaching out to scrap metal companies to see if they would come to pick up the materials. As of this afternoon, Bridget also found a waste management company that also does recycling. She was going to reach out to them to see if they would be interested.

Dr. Miceli gave the Board sometime to think on this and then asked Mr. Keaney in the meantime to give an update on the pilot rooms and professional development.

Mr. Keaney emphasized the importance of professional development for the teachers so they can get used to the new furniture. There have been three pilot classrooms set up, one in 1st grade at Allen W. Roberts, one 5th grade at Salt Brook, and one at the High School (Ms. Berrios classroom). They have had the furniture for the past three weeks and we decided to circulate the furniture to as many teachers as possible so every three to four weeks the furniture is being moved to a different room. This allows teachers to figure out how to use the furniture and dive deeper into the set up and by doing this they will become a resource for other teachers. We have had two external consultants come in on Tuesday to spend some time with thirty of our teachers, talking about conceptual ideas, getting some grounding ideas, and giving ideas. We have another consultant coming in May to really ground that professional development. Another day of professional development will happen before school starts as well to make sure our teachers feel comfortable.

Dr. Miceli thanked Mr. Keaney then asked the Board if they had any comments about the furniture disposal.

Mrs. Cuccaro asked how the delivery of the furniture would affect the summer ESSER program.

Dr. Miceli stated that all students attending the extended school program will be at Allen W. Roberts and the summer ESSER program will be at Salt Brook since there will be very little opportunity at the High/Middle school because of all the projects. We don't know at the moment how many students will require ESSER this summer so we are waiting to sort all that information after the spring program and then come to a decision.

Mrs. Conligio then asked how it would be determined what schools need the furniture in the span of those two weeks. She really liked the idea of opening it up to the families and community and schools.

Dr. Miceli answered saying that he had already reached out to OLP to see whether or not Dr. Hart was interested, she will speak to her staff and get back to me. They would come and look at the furniture and see what pieces they could use. Dr. Miceli thinks it's a good idea to start with Union County schools, if he does not get much of an interest from OLP or Union County schools then he will move to the State Association and ask them to reach out to other schools across the state. However, Dr. Miceli wanted the Board opinion and thoughts on giving the staff, community, and parents "first-dibs" on the furniture we are disposing of.

Mrs. Cuccaro commented that she feels comfortable giving our community, staff, and parents the opportunity to look at the furniture first, she also mentioned that the recycling option is very limited. She asked if the recycling company takes the metal only, does that mean that we would have to disassemble all the furniture first, and does not think it's a good option. The donating aspect is very appealing.

Mrs. Misiukiewicz also agreed that the community should have the opportunity to pick out furniture first.

Dr. Miceli commented that he will begin to take those steps of reaching out to school districts next week.

Mr. Keaney commented that the ESSER program feedback from the spring session has been positive and since this session was based off of working in smaller groups of students, there is a possibility that this summer session will be less structured around an 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. schedule and a little more fluid scheduling.

Mrs. Gunderman asked if the schools will still have their manipulatives in class and they have storage for them, wanting to make sure that we aren't going completely digital.

Mr. Keaney confirmed that the teacher will still have storage in the classroom for their supplies.

Dr. Miceli asked Mrs. Zirpoli and Mr. Keaney to give an update on the DEI Landscape.

Mr. Keaney commented that surveys have been distributed to all of the students, with high completion rates, the survey will be closing on Friday due to the high completion rates. Surveys have also been sent out to staff members and the community.

Mrs. Zirpoli added that the adult survey link was sent out again today due to only a 20% completion rate, we would like to get that number above 50% if possible, if not up to 80%. Mrs. Mangle and I have discussed the possibility of extending the survey into next week depending on parent participation. Mrs. Zirpoli emphasized the importance of the parents' participation.

Mr. Miceli asked Mrs. Zirpoli to touch on how the on-site visit will look like.

Mrs. Zirpoli explained that US2 will be in District the Tuesday after spring break, April 18th, and will conclude April 21st, the school buildings will be setting up their own schedules and US2 will be going around to observe. Mrs. Zirpoli will send out an email to the Board to invite them on Tuesday April 18th to come meet with US2 at central office.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Conligio wanted to comment how appreciative she is that the musical was mentioned tonight and the great success it had. Mr. Duke, Ms. Ditta, and Mrs. Mangle worked so hard for this musical. She also mentioned that the Ice Cream Social was last night and it was also a great time. On behalf of music parents, we are so appreciative.

Dr. Miceli asked if there was good feedback on having a week to reflect on initial performances and then have a secondary performance.

Mrs. Coniglio completely agreed, she said that with each performance they got better and better.

Dr. Miceli also wanted to comment that Mr. Cook is retiring. He had been with the District for the past twenty-five years. Mr. Cook has been in charge of the TV studio, he tapes multiple events for us, he has been there for us in many ways and will be very hard to replace. Congratulations Mr. Cook!

Mrs. Gunderman commented that last week both elementary schools had their STEM fairs, it was an amazing night and wanted to thank staff and faculty and students for all their hard work.

Dr. Miceli commented that it was something that came up in a public forum. The science fair of before was the volcano with baking soda but now the projects are more complex.

Mr. Keaney commented that this is something that grows and grows since the students start STEM in kindergarten. Their skill sets grow through their educational careers.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mrs. Misiukiewicz opened the meeting to the public at 8:30 p.m.

There being no public comments, Mrs. Misiukiewicz declared the public portion of the meeting closed at 8:30 p.m. and asked for a motion to move to closed session to discuss student matters related to HIB.

CLOSED SESSION

Mrs. Cuccaro moved to adopt the following resolution:

This body shall on March 23, 2023, in the New Providence High/Middle School Media Center, 35 Pioneer Drive, discuss in closed session, pursuant to Section 7 of the Open Public Meetings Act, specific matters which may generally be described as follows:

- Student matters related to HIB

The minutes of the discussion in closed session of the aforementioned matters may be disclosed to the public after final determination of action has been reached.

Mrs. Coniglio seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

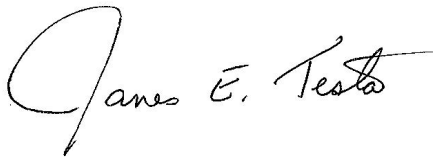
The Board reconvened to public session at 8:41 p.m.

Mrs. Misiukiewicz called the Board to order.

Board members present were Rebecca Coniglio, Bernadette Cuccaro, Stacey Gunderman, Jennifer Killea, Amanda Marano and Mary Misiukiewicz.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business before the Board, on a motion by Mrs. Cuccaro, seconded by Mrs. Marano, and carried unanimously, Mrs. Misiukiewicz declared the meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James E. Testa". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

James Testa, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary