

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
LITTLE FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT  
LITTLE FALLS, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 Minutes**

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. FLAG SALUTE
- III. PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

In accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Public Meetings Act, the Little Falls Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting by notifying the Board's official newspaper, the local parent-teacher associations, and posting same on the Community Bulletin Board and the District's Website.

IV. ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: Mr. Breitwieser, Dr. Capizzi, Mr. DeMarco, Mr. Jandoli, Mr. Miraglia, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Russo, and Mrs. Verdi

Board Members absent: Mrs. Kribs

Also Present- Mrs. Tracey Marinelli, Superintendent and Mr. Christopher Jones  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

V. CORRESPONDENCE - None

VI. MINUTES

On motion of Mr. Breitwieser and seconded by Mr. Murphy the following minutes were offered for approval.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVE that the Little Falls Board of Education approve the Minutes of the following meetings.

- 1. Regular Meeting – January 19, 2021

VII. OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC – **(Limited to Agenda Items Only)**

On motion of Mr. Breitwieser and seconded by Mr. Jandoli, the meeting was opened for public comment.

Since no, one wished to be heard,

On motion of Mr. DeMarco and seconded by Mr. Breitwieser moved that the Little Falls Board of Education close the meeting to the public.

AYES: 8  
ABSENT: 1  
NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VIII. PRESENTATION

Dorothy Cataldo, The Little Falls Education Foundation, presented the Fall Grants awarded to the staff for a total of \$7,703.59.

Mrs. Marineli expressed the Districts thanks and gratitude for generosity of the Little Falls Education Foundation!

Mrs. Castaldo, Mrs. Dilkes, and Mrs. Sprague, also thanked the Education Foundation for their generosity and continuous support.

IX. REPORTS

A. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Russo thanked the administration, teachers, and staff. All of your hard work is much appreciated. Mr. Russo also thanked the Little Falls Education Foundation, for all the work that they are doing! Lastly, he reported that information on the referendum has begun to be sent out to the public.

B. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (Mrs. Tracey L. Marinelli)

1. Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Marinelli advised the Board of the following:

- There are zero HIBs and zero suspensions in all three schools
- Enrollment School #1- 384, School #2- 303, and School #3- 197
- All Safety Security drills have been performed
- Huge thank you to the Little Falls Education Foundation the Valentine's Day gifts of \$25.00 Amazon gift cards and chocolate sent to each teacher.
- Surveys continue to go out
- We are unveiling the new website this evening. This site represents where we are today!
- Mrs. Marinelli thanked Mrs. Andrea Marchasani for all of her hard work on this website. She has worked tirelessly on this site!
- Thank you to Mr. Christopher Jones for his help and support to make this site happen.
- Referendum meetings have been taking place. The PTA, PTSA, faculty, Little Falls Education Foundation, Police and Fire departments, ABC, and Library committee have all seen our presentation. We will be presenting to the Mayor and council on February 22, 2021.
- Mrs. Marinelli thanked everyone involved in this referendum!

(Exhibit A)

C. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY REPORT- (Christopher Jones)

Mr. Jones advised the Board that the tentative budget would be on the March agenda for approval.

D. FINANCE & INSURANCE COMMITTEE (Mrs. Kribs)

On motion of Mr. Jandoli and seconded by Mr. Miraglia the following minutes were offered for approval.

1. PRESENTATION OF BILLS:

RECOMMENDED ACTION by the Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, move that the Little Falls Board of Education approve the list of bills dated February 16, 2021, Warrant No.'s #27174 thru #27255(Current Account) totaling \$;2,066,033.41 Warrant No. # 1210 (Cafeteria Account) totaling \$28,965.11 be paid if, properly sworn to and funds are available in accordance with Board of Education Policy and to be appended to the minutes of this meeting. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11I3, certifies that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(a) and the Board of Education, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c)4, certifies that after review of the Board Secretary's & Treasurer's --monthly financial reports that no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(b). Further, the Board of Education and the Business Administrator/Board Secretary certify that major accounts/fund balances have not been over-expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

(Exhibit B)

2. TRANSFERS – JANUARY 31, 2021

RECOMMENDED ACTION by the Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, move that the Little Falls Board of Education authorize the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary's action of making transfers prior to the Board Meeting as per the attached January 31, 2021 Transfer Report.

(Exhibit B-1)

3. TREASURER AND SECRETARY'S REPORTS – JANUARY

RECOMMEDED ACTION by the Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, moved that the Little Falls Board of Education accept the Treasurer and Secretary's Reports for the month ending January 31, 2020.

(Exhibit C)

4. APPROVAL OF PURCHASE – TELEPHONE AND WIFI INFRASTRUCTURE

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-10 {a);) and N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.29(c), and based upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator /Board Secretary, The Little Falls Board of Education, by this resolution and without advertising for bids, authorizes the purchase of Data Communications Equipment from the following listed State Contract vendor who participates with the New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program. The State Contract vendor agrees to sell Data Communications Equipment to the Little Falls Board of Education in accordance and subject to all conditions applicable to the individual state contract at a cost of \$17,848 plus shipping.

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>NOA#</u>	<u>State Contract #</u>	<u>Description</u>
Eastern Data Comm,	M7000	88132	Data Communications Equip.

5. APPROVAL OF THE ADDENDUM TO THE LITTLE FALLS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION CONTRACT

**WHEREAS**, the Little Falls Board of Education (“Board”) and the Little Falls Education Association (“Association”) have negotiated an addendum to the Little Falls Education Association Contract (“Addendum”), which is attached to this Resolution and made a part hereof; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board hereby ratifies and approves the Addendum immediately; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board hereby authorizes the Board President and the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to execute on behalf of the Board, the Addendum by and between the Board and the Association.

(Exhibit D)

6. ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS

As per the recommendation of the Superintendent moved that the Little Falls Board of Education accept, pursuant to Board of Education Policy #7230, “Gifts, Grants and Donations,” the following donations for:

A. Acceptance of 111 \$25.00 Amazon Gift cards donated by the Little Falls Education Foundation

AYES: 8  
 NAYES: 0  
 ABSENT: 1

E. EDUCATION COMMITTEE (Dr. Rachel Capizzi)

On motion of Dr. Capizzi and seconded by Mr. Breitwieser the following minutes were offered for approval.

1. APPROVAL OF LDTC INTERNSHIP 20/21 SY

As per the recommendation of the Superintendent moved that the Little Falls Board of Education approve the following William Patterson University student, for an internship with Dawn Daura/Jessica Purn, LDTC, January 25, 2021 through May 3, 2021.

Lorin Muir

2. APPROVE/RATIFY HOME INSTRUCTION

RECOMMENDED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, move that the Little Falls Board of Education approve home instruction services to district student #2002689. Home instruction not to exceed 5 hours per week retroactive to February 8, 2021 through March 22, 2021.

3. APPROVAL OF CALDWELL UNIVERSITY STUDENT TEACHER INTERNSHIP FALL 2021/2022 SEMESTER

As per the recommendation of the Superintendent moved that the Little Falls Board of Education approve student teacher internship for the following Caldwell University student effective September 1, 2021 through December 22, 2021.

Gabrielle Santana

AYES: 8

NAYES: 0

ABSENT: 1

F. REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE/BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE - None  
(Mr. Thomas Breitwieser)

G. PERSONNEL/NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE (Mrs. Lauren Verdi)

On motion of Mrs. Kribs and seconded by Mr. Breitwieser the following minutes were offered for approval.

1. SALARY GUIDE ADVANCEMENT

RECOMMENDED ACTION by the Superintendent move that the Little Falls Board of Education approve, pursuant to Article XVII of the contract between the Little Falls Board of Education and the Little Falls Education Association, the following salary guide advancement effective February 1, 2021.

Maribel Bayo

MA                   STEP 10

MA 15               STEP 10

Christine Fiorendino  
 BA               STEP 14  
 BA 15           STEP 14

Vincent Plateroti  
 MA 15          STEP 9  
 MA 30          STEP 9

Lynn Donovan  
 MA 15          STEP 14  
 MA 30          STEP 14

2. APPROVAL OF MATERNITY LEAVE OF ABSENCE 20/21- 21/22 SCHOOL YEAR  
 RECOMMENDED ACTION by the Superintendent move that the Little Falls Board of Education, approve the following maternity leave of absence:

20/21 School Year \*pending the birth of the child

Name	Position/ Location	Leave Start Date	Accumulated Sick days Applied	FMLA Start date	NJFLA Date	EXTENDEND LEAVE (Unpaid without benefits)	Date of Return (Anticipated)
4211	Sch 2	03/15/21	30 sick days 3 Personal days 3/15/2021-5/7/2021				5/10/2021

21/22 School Year

Name	Position/ Location	Leave Start Date	Accumulated Sick days Applied	FMLA Start date	NJFLA Date	EXTENDEND LEAVE (Unpaid without benefits)	Date of Return (Anticipated)
4211	Sch 2				09/01/2021- 11/24/2021 (12 weeks)		11/29/22

3. APPROVAL OF TRAVEL/CONFERENCE EXPENSES  
 RECOMMENDED ACTION by the Superintendent move that the Little Falls Board of Education approve travel/conference expenses as noted for the following district employees/board members:  
 (Exhibit E)

4. AMMEND APPROVAL OF MATERNITY LEAVE OF ABSENCE 20/21-21/22 SY  
 RECOMMENDED ACTION by the Superintendent move that the Little Falls Board of Education, approve the following maternity leave of absence:

20/21 School Year

Name	Position/ Location	Leave Start Date	Accumulated Sick days Applied	FMLA Start date	NJFLA Date	EXTENDEND LEAVE (Unpaid without benefits)	Date of Return (Anticipated)
4800	Sch 3	06/01/20	0 sick days			09/01/20- 06/30/21	

21/22 School Year

Name	Position/ Location	Leave Start Date	Accumulated Sick days Applied	FMLA Start date	NJFLA Date	EXTENDEND LEAVE (Unpaid without benefits)	Date of Return (Anticipated)
4800	Sch 3	1	0 sick days			09/01/21- 06/30/22	09/01/22

5. APPROVE/RATIFY HOME INSTRUCTION  
 RECOMMENDED ACTION BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, move that the Little Falls Board of Education approve Briana Cruz to provide home instruction services to district student 2002689 at a rate of \$30.00 per hour. Home instruction not to exceed 2.5 hours per week, effective February 8, 2021 through March 22, 2021.
6. APPROVE/RATIFY HOME INSTRUCTION  
 RECOMMENDED ACTION BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, move that the Little Falls Board of Education approve Tiffany Studzinski to provide home instruction services to district student 2002689 at a rate of \$30.00 per hour. Home instruction not to exceed 2.5 hours per week, effective February 8, 2021 through March 22, 2021.

AYES: 8  
 NAYES: 0  
 ABSENT: 1

H. HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE (Mr. Doug Jandoli) - None

H. POLICY COMMITTEE (Mr. Michael Murphy) –None

J. REFERENDUM COMMITTEE (Mr. Fred DeMarco)

Mr. DeMarco stated that they will not be holding any Referendum meeting until after the Planning Board meeting in March.

K. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Verdi advised the Board that a Finance meeting was held this evening, prior to the Board meeting. An email has been sent out with the details.

Mrs. Marinelli stated that a Policy meeting must be scheduled, as well as an Education and Curriculum and Personnel.

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS- None

XI. OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

On motion of Mr. Murphy and seconded by Mr. Jandoli, the meeting was opened for public comment.

Since no one wished to be heard,

On motion of Mr. Breitwieser and seconded by Mr. Murphy moved that the Little Falls Board of Education, close the meeting to the public.

AYES: 8

ABSENT: 1

NAYES: 0

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

XII. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Russo inquired about Board Training and Ethics.

Mr. Jones replied that the site has not been updated as of yet. Once they are updated, an Email will be sent out.

Mrs. Marinelli thanked the teachers, administration, and staff for all of their hard work and support.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION- None

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mr. Miraglia and seconded by Mr. Breitwieser the meeting was adjourned 7:43pm.

AYES: 8

ABSENT: 1

NAYES: 0

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher Jones  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary



