

**BUSINESS MEETING OF MAY 26, 2016
RIDGEFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT
555 CHESTNUT STREET, RIDGEFIELD, NJ 07657**

A Business Meeting of the Ridgefield Board of Education was called to Order by Mrs. Payerle in the High School Cafeteria.

I. CALL TO ORDER

At 7:15 p.m. the meeting was called to order.

II. FLAG SALUTE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was recited.

III. OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

“The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advanced notice of and to attend the meeting of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Ridgefield Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted at the Administration Building, and having notified The Record, The Star Ledger and the Ridgefield Borough Clerk”.

IV. ROLL CALL

Mrs. Barbosa	Present
Mr. Grippa	Present
Mr. Morilla	Present
Ms. Narvaez	Present
Mr. Salazar	Absent
Mr. Yang	Present
Mrs. Payerle	Present

There being six members present, a quorum was declared.

Also present were:

Dr. Frank Romano – Superintendent of Schools

Rich Guarini – Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Marla Taus – Board Attorney

V. Motion to Convene in EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Ridgefield Board of Education, pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, that the Board meet in closed session to discuss the following subject matter(s), which is (are) permitted to be discussed in closed session pursuant to the following designated sub-section(s) of Section 7 of the Open Public Meetings Act:

- () Sub-section 1 dealing with material rendered confidential by express provision of Federal or State law.

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- () Sub-section 2 covering a matter in which release of information would impair a right to receive federal funds.
- () Sub-section 3 involving disclosure of material that would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy, including material related to an individual's personal and family circumstances, without the express written consent of the individual involved.
- () Sub-section 4 pertaining to collective bargaining agreements and the terms, conditions and negotiations thereof.
- () Sub-section 5 dealing with the acquisition of real property, the setting of bank rates, or the investment of public funds where discussion thereof would adversely affect the public interest.
- () Sub-section 6 dealing with tactics and techniques used in protecting the safety and property of the public where disclosure could impair such protection or investigation of violation of the law.
- (X) Sub-section 7 dealing with pending or anticipated litigation, contract negotiations, or matters falling within the attorney-client privilege.
- (X) Sub-section 8 concerning student matters and/or personnel matters dealing with employment, appointment, termination, or terms and conditions of employment of any person or persons, or the evaluation, promotion or disciplining of employees unless all employees involved consent to disclosure thereof.
- () Sub-section 9 involving deliberations after public hearing on a matter, which may result in the imposition of a civil penalty or the suspension or loss of a license.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, as precisely as can be determined at this time, the discussion conducted in the said closed session can be disclosed to the public upon taking final action thereon, provided disclosure shall not violate the attorney-client privilege, impair the safety and property of the public or constitute an undue invasion of privacy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is not envisioned that the Board will return to open session after this closed session meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Grippa, seconded by Mr. Morilla.
Motion passed unanimously by Board Members present.

VI. PUBLIC BOARD MEETING reconvened at 8:00 p.m.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Dr. Romano congratulated the Girls' Softball Team. They played New Milford home today at Veteran's Field and they took the NJIC Liberty Division Championship today. Regarding the states they will be playing this coming Tuesday at Jonathan Dayton High School they will part of the third round of the NJSIAA Softball Playoffs.

He also mentioned that he attended the Bergen County Teachers/Educational Services Professionals Recognition Luncheon today.

VIII. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS -

- A. Finance Committee – Rafael Morilla (Chairperson), Ingrid Barbosa
Mrs. Payerle thanked Dr. Romano and Mr. Villanueva for presenting information to the Mayor and Council on May 18, 2016. She thanked Board Members Mrs. Barbosa, Mrs. Narvaez and Mr. Yang for their support during this meeting. She also thanked the Mayor and Council for taking the time out to listen to our presentation and find out some of the facts of what we are doing in the schools.
- B. Curriculum Committee - Claudia Narvaez (Chairperson), Ingrid Barbosa –
Mrs. Payerle spoke about the Mondo Bookshop reading Program that is on tonight’s agenda.
- C. Operations Committee – Andrew Grippa (Chairperson), Ray Salazar – **N/R**
- D. Personnel Committee – Ray Salazar (Chairperson), Ralph Morilla, Ingrid Barbosa
- E. Policy Committee – Andrew Grippa (Chairperson), Steven Yang – Mr. Grippa said the Policy Committee met tonight reviewing the policies from Strauss Esmay The board will receive these policies by email for their review and they will appear on the next agenda.
- F. Student Liaison – Sean Kim
Mr. Kim reported on the following school activities:
- Shaler Academy
- Bowcraft Amusement park on 6/2
 - Field Day on 6/3
 - Pool Days 6/6-6/9
 - Van Saun Park trip on 6/8
- Bergen Boulevard
- 2nd grade show on 6/1
 - Field Day on 6/3
 - Pool Days 6/9-6/10
- Slocum Skewes School
- Pool Days 6/1-6/2 and 6/6-6/9
 - Field Days 6/1-6/2
 - 3rd grade show on 6/7
 - 8th grade dinner dance on 6/8
 - Frost Valley from 5/23-5/25
- Ridgefield Memorial High School
- Band Trip to Florida Results
 - Student Council elections on 6/1
 - Senior Prom on 6/2
 - Scholarship Dinner on 6/1, interviews on 5/23-5/24.
 - 9th grade concert 5/25
 - Senior gifts (prank) on 5/26
- He told the board this was his last report for the year and thanked the board and presented them with a Korean Good Luck Charm.

G. NJSBA/Legislative Delegate – Steven Yang – Alternate: Claudia Narvaez – N/R

IX. Motion to move into PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS Session of the Meeting (Resolutions and Discussion Items Only).

Statements made by individual participants are limited to a duration of five (5) minutes unless otherwise announced at the beginning of the discussion. The Board urges large groups to select one person to represent them. The Board reminds those individuals who take the opportunity to speak to please step up to the microphone, identify themselves by name and address, and to limit their comments to items listed on the agenda. The Board may or may not respond to issues raised by members of the public. All comments will be considered and a response will be forthcoming if and when appropriate. The Board asks all members of the public to be courteous and mindful of the rights of other individuals when speaking. Specifically, the Board discourages comments regarding students and employees and will not respond to such comments. Please note that after the public discussion is closed by the President, no other questions or comments from the audience will be permitted until the “Questions and Comments from the Audience on Any Topic of Concern” at the end of the agenda. At that time, questions do not have to be confined to agenda items.

Motion made by Mrs. Narvaez, seconded by Mr. Morilla.
Motion passed unanimously by Board Members present.

X. Motion to close PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS Session of the Meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Grippa, seconded by Mrs. Narvaez.
Motion passed unanimously by Board Members present.

XI. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS ON RESOLUTIONS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS ONLY

XII. NEW BUSINESS –

XIII. RESOLUTIONS FOR ACTION

1. CONSENT RESOLUTION – Roll Call

Motion to approve the following consent items
2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30 and
31 and 32:

Motion made by Mr. Grippa, seconded by Mrs. Narvaez.

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ROLL CALL

Mrs. Barbosa	Aye
Mr. Grippa	Aye
Mr. Morilla	Aye
Mrs. Narvaez	Aye
Mr. Yang	Aye
Mrs. Payerle	Aye

2. **MINUTES** – Consent

Motion to approve the minutes from the May 12, 2016 Work Session/Business Meeting and Executive Session (**REF#0526-01**):

FINANCE – (Items 3-13)

3. **BILL LIST** – Consent

BE IT RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education approves the bill list from the month of May 2016 (**REF#0526-02**):

Batch 33 \$475,037.29

4. **BOARD SECRETARY REPORT** – Consent

BE IT RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education approves the Board Secretary Report for the period ending April 30, 2016 (**REF#0526-03**):

5. **CASH REPORT** – Consent

BE IT RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education approves the Cash Report for the month ending April 30, 2016 (**REF#0526-04**):

6. **BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR’S CERTIFICATION** – Consent

Pursuant to N.J.A.C.6:23-2.11(d), I, Richard Guarini, School Business Administrator, certify that as of April 30, 2016 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:22-8.1 and 18A:22-8.2.

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Pursuant to N.J.A.C.6:23-2.11(d), I, Richard Guarini, School Business Administrator, certify that as of April 30, 2016 no budgetary line item account has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C.6:23-2.11(b).

Motion to certify, pursuant to N.J.A.C.6:23-2.11(e), that as of April 30, 2016, after review of the Board Secretary's monthly report (appropriations sections) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C.6:23-2.11(e), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year:

7. APPROVAL OF BUDGET TRANSFER – Consent

Motion to approve a budget transfer for April 2016 in the amount of \$176,547.10 as attached (**REF#0526-05**):

8. APPROVAL OF FUNDRAISERS - Consent

Motion to approve the following fundraisers for the 2015-2016 school year (**REF#0526-06**):

- A.) **RMHS Student Council** to hold a **Jeans for Troops** on May 25, 2016 to raise monies for veterans of NJ via GI GO Fund.
- B.) **World Language Honor Society** to hold a **American Red Cross** on June 10, 2016 with proceeds going towards earthquake relief in Ecuador.
- C.) **Junior Class** to hold a **Car Wash/Coin Toss** on June 11, 2016 with proceeds going towards the offset costs of senior prom.

9. APPROVAL TO AMEND IDEA GRANT FOR THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR – Consent

Motion to amend the 2015-2016 IDEA grant to include carryover from the 2014-2015 school year as follows:

Basic	\$398,017	(carryover \$21,772)
Preschool	\$ 30,787	(carryover \$11,194)

10. ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION FROM TARGET - Consent

Motion to accept a donation from Target to Shaler Academy in the amount of \$50 to be deposited in the student activity account:

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11. APPROVAL OF DISTRICT BUS USE FOR RECREATION - Consent

Motion to approve the recreation programs use of one district school bus and one bus driver for following dates for trips during the summer 2016 for an hourly fee of \$19.25 paid by the Ridgefield Recreation Department (**REF#0526-07**):

- July 6, 2016 – Bounce U, Paramus, NJ (10:15 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.)
- July 7, 2016 – Movie Theater, Edgewater, NJ (9:00 a.m. – 12:30)
- July 12, 2016 – Turtle Back Zoo, West Orange, NJ (9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.)
- July 20, 2016 – Bounce U, Paramus, NJ (9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.)
- July 21, 2016 – Build-A-Bear, Paramus Park Mall, NJ – (9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.)
- July 26, 2016 – Movie Theater, Edgewater, NJ (9:00 a.m. – 12:30)
- July 28, 2016 – Sky Zone, Allendale, NJ (9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.)
- August 3, 2016 – Medieval Times, NJ (10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.)

12. APPROVAL OF USE OF FACILITIES – Consent

Motion to approve the following Use of Facilities Requests (**REF#0526-08**):

- A.** Borough of Ridgefield use of Ridgefield Memorial High School Gym (**only if it rains**) for Memorial Day Parade on May 30, 2016 (9:00 a.m. – 12noon.)
- B.** PTA Meeting at Slocum Skewes School Multi-Purpose-Room on June 15, 2016 (7:00 – 8:00 p.m.)

13. SUBMISSION OF TAX SCHEDULE – Consent

Motion to approve the submission of the 2016-2017 Tax Schedule to the Borough of Ridgefield in accordance with the monthly schedule, as prepared by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

<u>Month of Request</u>	<u>Month of Receipt</u>	<u>Operating Budget Amount</u>	<u>Debt Service Amount</u>	<u>Tax Payment Amount</u>
June, 2016	July	\$ 1,662,528.25	-	\$ 1,662,528.25
July, 2016	August	\$ 1,662,528.25	\$ 97,982.00	\$ 1,760,510.25
August, 2016	September	\$ 1,662,528.25	-	\$ 1,662,528.25
September, 2016	October	\$ 1,662,528.25	-	\$ 1,662,528.25
October, 2016	November	\$ 1,662,528.25	-	\$ 1,662,528.25

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November, 2015	December	\$ 1,662,528.25	\$ 4,019.00	\$ 1,666,547.25
December, 2016	January	\$ 1,662,258.25	\$ 56,250.00	\$ 1,718,778.25
January, 2017	February	\$ 1,662,528.25	\$ 455,684.00	\$ 2,118,212.25
February, 2017	March	\$ 1,662,528.25	\$ -	\$ 1,662,528.25
March, 2017	April	\$ 1,662,528.25	\$ -	\$ 1,662,528.25
April, 2017	May	\$ 1,662,528.25	\$ -	\$ 1,662,528.25
May, 2017	June	\$ 1,662,528.25	\$ 204,966.00	\$ 1,867,494.25
Total July 2016- June 2017		\$ 19,950,339.00	\$ 818,901.00	\$ 20,769,240.00

STUDENT SERVICES – (Item 14)

14. APPROVAL OF CLASS TRIPS - Consent

Motion to approve the following class trips for the 2015-2016 school year:

<u>Teacher Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date of Trip</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Learning Center</u>	<u>General Ed.</u>	<u>Number of Students Attending</u>
Gavin Cooper	Heroes and Cool Kids - Slocum	5/19/16	RMHS		X	25
Olga Escobar	World Language Honor Society - Shaler	5/26/16	RMHS		X	15
Donna Wietecha	Montclair University	5/26/16	RMHS	X		15
Russ Thompson	Hoboken Shelter	5/27/16	RMHS		X	12
Olga Escobar Rosalia Amodeo	Wolf Creek/Veterans Field	6/6/16	RMHS		X	30
Thomas Voorhis	Marquis Theatre	6/16/16	RMHS		X	30

CURRICULUM – (Items 15-17)

15. APPROVAL OF WORKSHOP EXPENDITURES - Consent

Motion to approve the following workshop participation and expenditures:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Workshop</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Gavin Cooper	Heroes and Cool Kids End of Year Event	Maggianos	5/18/16	NO FEE
Russ Thompson	Guidance Counselor Conference	Parsippany	5/25/16	NO FEE
Mike Zunick Benjamin Aufiero	NGSS Summer Institute	Montclair	7/11-7/14/16	\$450 pp

16. **APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF ACHIEVE 3000 ONLINE READING PROGRAM FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR** - Consent

Motion to approve the purchase of the Achieve 3000 online reading program for students in grades 2 through 12 in the amount of \$39,210 for the 2016-2017 school year:

17. **APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF MONDO BOOKSHOP READING PROGRAM FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR** – Consent

Motion to approve the purchase of the Mondo Bookshop reading program for students in grades K through 5 in the amount of \$100,000 for the 2016-2017 school year:

OPERATIONS – (Items 18-20)

18. **APPROVAL OF THE RIDGEFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT MENTORING PLAN FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR**– Consent

Motion to approve the Ridgefield School District Mentoring Plan for the 2016-2017 school year (REF#0526-09):

19. **APPROVAL TO DISPOSE OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT AT BERGEN BLVD. SCHOOL**– Consent

Motion to approve the disposal of playground climbing equipment at Bergen Blvd. School:

20. **SCHOOL BUS EVACUATION DRILL REPORT** – Consent

Approve the State Mandated School Bus Emergency Evacuation Drill Report as per the attached (REF#0526-10)

PERSONNEL – (Items 21-30)

21. **APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO THE PERSONNEL REPORT FOR ADMINISTRATORS, TEACHERS, SECRETARIES, CLERICAL AIDES, CUSTODIANS AND BUS DRIVERS**- Consent

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BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education approves the following revisions to the personnel report for Administrators, Teachers, Secretaries, Clerical Aides, Custodians and Bus Drivers for 2016-2017 as per the attached list submitted by the Supervisor of Special Projects and recommended by the Superintendent as per salaries set forth in the Board/REA contract:

<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Debra Carlson –Longevity \$1,600	Longevity \$2,050
Christian Miller – No Longevity	Longevity \$1,300
Nancy Arcuri-Longevity \$1,600	Longevity \$2,050
Sue Golden-Longevity \$1,600	Longevity \$2,050
Jamie Johnson-MA Step 9-\$57,059	MA Step 10-\$58,130
Ylenia Fucilli – MA Step 12-\$62,089	MA Step 13-\$64,333

22. APPOINTMENT OF APRIL LEWIS AS DISTRICT SUBSTITUTE TEACHER- Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education appoints April Lewis as a district substitute teacher to be used on an as needed basis, effective May 30, 2016 through June 22, 2016 and July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017:

23. APPROVAL OF OVERNIGHT STIPEND FOR VALERIE ECHAVARRIA – Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education approves an overnight stipend for Valerie Echavarria, school nurse, for the RMHS prom on June 2, 2016 in the amount of \$95.87:

24. APPROVAL OF MEDICAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR LINDA MUCCIA - Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Ridgefield Board of Education approves Linda Muccia’s request for an unpaid leave of absence beginning May 17, 2016 with the use of twenty-nine (29) sick days in accordance with the Federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) with an anticipated return date of July 12, 2016:

25. APPOINTMENT OF HOMEWORK CLINIC STAFF FOR THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR – Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education appoints the following teaching staff members as Homework Clinic staff to work on an as needed basis at a rate of \$27.50 per hour:

Teresa Becker	Andrew Brusgard
Pandora Antzoulatos	Jeanette Fogarty
Michelle Mariani	Christina Fabiano
Courtney Goch	Jamie Rifkowitz

26. APPOINTMENT OF JOSEPH PRENENSKI AS IN CLASS SUPPORT TEACHER AT RMHS – Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education appoints Joseph Prenenski as an In Class Support teacher at RMHS, at a salary of BA step 5 \$50,222, beginning September 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017:

27. APPROVAL OF FROST VALLEY TRIP CHAPERONE – Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Ridgefield Board of Education approves Christopher Colasurdo as a chaperone for the 7th grade annual trip to Frost Valley, N.Y. retroactive from May 23, 24 and 25, 2016 and will be paid upon receipt of time sheet an overnight rate of \$95.87 for (two) nights:

28. APPROVAL OF FIFTH & SIXTH GRADE BAND TRIP AND CHAPERONES – Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education approves the following list of chaperones for the 5th and 6th grade band trip to Great Adventure on May 6, 2016. Teaching staff chaperones will be paid \$29.46 hourly for any hours worked beyond their regularly scheduled work day upon receipt of time sheets:

Employee Name
Jessica Abrams
David Crum
Laura D'Amico

Matthew Mullholland
Jennifer Stoecklin
Richard Wroblewski

29. **APPROVAL OF SEVENTH & EIGHTH GRADE BAND TRIP AND CHAPERONES-** Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education approves the following list of chaperones for the 7th and 8th grade band trip to Dorney Park on May 13, 2016. Teaching staff chaperones will be paid \$29.46 hourly for any hours worked beyond their regularly scheduled work day upon receipt of time sheets:

Employee Name

Angelo Bellizzi
Belinda Campos
David Crum
Charles Trentacosti
Charlotte Weeks

30. **APPROVAL OF MEDICAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR JOSEPH WEBB -** Consent

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Ridgefield Board of Education approves Joseph Webb's request for an unpaid leave of absence beginning retroactive from April 22, 2016 with the use of twenty-one (21) sick days in accordance with the Federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) with an anticipated return date of May 23, 2016:

POLICY – (Item)

LEGAL – (Item 31)

31. **APPOINTMENT OF GENOVA BURNS, ESQ.-** Consent

BE IT RESOLVED by the Ridgefield Board of Education that the law firm of Genova Burns is hereby authorized to be retained at a rate of \$150.00 per hour, not to exceed a total of \$7,500.00, without prior Board approval, to conduct an independent investigation concerning certain allegations made in an anonymous letter against the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools concerning the alleged misconduct of two employees. This firm has particular expertise in claims of this nature:

**32. ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION OF MARIA KIM ESL TEACHER –
Consent**

BE IT RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Ridgefield Board of Education accepts the resignation of Maria Kim, ESL teacher, effective July 1, 2016.

XIV. Motion to move into **PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS Session of the meeting (any items).**

Please follow the guidelines as stated under “Questions and Comments from the audience on Agenda items”.

Motion made by Mrs. Narvaez, seconded by Mr. Grippa.
Motion passed unanimously by Board Members present.

Mr. Warren Vincentz - Prospect Avenue. He said he had two suggestions regarding when he served on the Curriculum Committee way back when. One was bring back graduated students and let them tell us how well they were prepared to go out. The second point was teaching students how to study starting with Kindergarten all the way through twelfth grade.

XV. Motion to close **PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS Session of the meeting.**

Motion made by Mrs. Narvaez, seconded by Mr. Yang.
Motion passed unanimously by Board Members present.

XVI. OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Barbosa thanked the staff for taking the students on class trips and overnight trips and how much the students look forward to them and I want to commend the staff for this. Mr. Grippa also commended all teachers for supporting the students while they are in the district and even after they graduate.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the business meeting of the Board of Education at 8: 20 p.m.

Motion made by Mr. Grippa, seconded by Mr. Yang.
Motion passed unanimously by Board Members present.

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Respectfully submitted by,

Richard A, Guarini
Business Administrator/Board Secretary