FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION

Public Work Session

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 23, 2025 at 7:15 PM at the Fairfield Municipal Building

MR. ANTHONY DEPASCALE, BOARD PRESIDENT, CALLED THE ROLL AT 7:15 PM:

TRUSTEE	ATTENDANCE	TRUSTEE	ATTENDANCE
Ms. Andrea Bellise-Jandoli	PRESENT	Ms. Angela Altaai	PRESENT
Mr. Joseph Fede	ABSENT	Mr. Anthony DePascale	PRESENT
Ms. Melinda Street	PRESENT		

ADMINISTRATION	POSITION	ATTENDANCE
Mr. Ryan Gupta	Superintendent of Schools	PRESENT
Mr. Wally Lindsley	Business Administrator/Board Secretary	PRESENT

BE IT RESOLVED that the Fairfield Board of Education meeting finds it necessary to meet in Executive Session (Closed to the Public) to discuss attorney/client privileged information, which is exempt from the Open Public Meetings Act.

RECOMMENDATION TO MOVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Fairfield Board of Education hereby convenes to Executive Session for discussion of the following subjects: **none**.

It is anticipated that the Executive Session will take approximately <u>0 minutes</u>; the Board may take action when it reconvenes to Public Session; and the minutes of the Executive Session shall be released to the public when the reason for the Executive Session no longer exists.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters or other exceptions to the sunshine laws as follows:

- 1. Any matter considered confidential by federal law, state statute, or court rule;
- 2. Any matter in which the release of information would impair the receipt of federal funds;
- 3. Any material which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy if disclosed;
- 4. Any collective bargaining agreements;

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- 5. Any matter involving the purchase, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds;
- 6. Any tactics and techniques used in protecting the safety and property of the public;
- 7. Any pending or anticipated litigation;
- 8. Personnel matter related to the employment, appointment or termination of current or prospective employees;
- 9. Attorney/Client privilege.

Motion by:	Seconded by:	Time:
Motion to return to open	session (to be moved in Public Ses	ssion):
Motion by:	Seconded by:	Time:

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting is hereby adjourned.

Motion by: Angela Altaai Seconded by: Melinda Street Time: 7:29 PM

ROLL CALL

Ms. Bellise-Jandoli, Ms. Street, Ms. Altaai, Mr. DePascale - All Ayes

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 23, 2025
7:30 PM at the Fairfield Municipal Building
(Access livestream at www.fpsk6.org at 7:30 PM. Also available on Channel 34)

The Board will reconvene from Executive Session and Mr. Anthony DePascale, Board President, will preside and call the public meeting to order at approximately 7:30 PM.

MR. ANTHONY DEPASCALE, BOARD PRESIDENT, CALLED THE ROLL AT 7:30 PM:

TRUSTEE	ATTENDANCE	TRUSTEE	ATTENDANCE
Ms. Andrea Bellise-Jandoli	PRESENT	Ms. Angela Altaai	PRESENT
Mr. Joseph Fede	ABSENT	Mr. Anthony DePascale	PRESENT
Ms. Melinda Street	PRESENT		

ADMINISTRATION	POSITION	ATTENDANCE
Mr. Ryan Gupta	Superintendent of Schools	PRESENT
Mr. Wally Lindsley	Business Administrator/Board Secretary	PRESENT

The public has been duly informed of this meeting in accordance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975 by posting, at least 48 hours in advance, a notice on the bulletin boards in Stevenson and Churchill Schools, a notice to the Township Clerk, and a notice to The Herald News and The Progress.

Now, please join us for the Pleage of Allegiance.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

- Mr. Gupta thanked everyone who participated in the Green Out Day on January 14th. Staff and students honored the memory of Mark Ibrahim, a former 2nd-grade student, by wearing his favorite color green. Mark, who would have been a 5th grader this year, passed away in 2021. The Fairfield community raised over \$1,200 for the Mark Ibrahim Scholarship Fund, which will be awarded to a 6th grade student who best exemplifies Mark's characteristics of kindness, joyfulness, selflessness, and eagerness to learn. Thank you to everyone who supported this meaningful cause.
- Dr. Trabucco and the staff members recognized the Cardinals of the Month for Stevenson School from September to December, presenting them with certificates.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Mr. DePascale praised last week's SEPEG event as phenomenal. Tom Kersting was an
 excellent speaker, emphasizing the impact of technology on children. His book, *Digitally*Distracted: Parenting in the Age of Technology, resonated deeply, highlighting the real issue
 of digital distraction among youth. He expressed a special thanks to Tracy and Jill for
 organizing the event and to the HSA for their support and funding. He also thanked
 Meghan and her team.
- Additionally, Mr. DePascale thanked Mr. Gupta for recognizing Green Out Day and honoring Mark Ibrahim, appreciating the effort to keep this important tradition alive.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

• Mr. Lindsley advised that the NJDOE released the 2025-2026 budget software which will allow the district to begin the budget entry process. He has met with Mr. Gupta regarding the budget proposals received from administration and they plan to meet with the finance committee in the near future to discuss the budgetary plans for the district.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS/COMMENTS: (any new or old business)

• Mr. DePascale advised that committees will be approved, so there will be no committee reports. The board has decided that committee leaders will meet with the administration and superintendent bimonthly to stay informed about school matters. Committee assignments may change based on board members' availability. The goal is to ensure consistent board coverage and clear communication about each committee's work.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON: AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

None

The following finance motions are made at the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools:

CONSENT AGENDA

Anything placed on this agenda, Items 1 to 4, will be voted upon in one motion.

Motion by **Andrea Bellise-Jandoli** Seconded by **Melinda Street** to approve the following motions:

- 1F. To approve the Minutes from the Public & Executive Session of December 16, 2024 and the January 9, 2025 Reorganization meeting as amended.
- 2F. To approve the Bills and Claims List and Payroll as follows:

Ratify and Affirm Bills & Claims List - 1/14/2025	\$254,950.76
Ratify and Affirm Bills & Claims List - 1/23/2025	\$226,294.58
Ratify and Affirm December 30, 2024 Payroll	\$415,010.76
Ratify and Affirm January 15, 2025 Payroll	\$443,252.40

- 3F. To approve the transfer of funds for the month of December 2024 as certified by the Business Administrator and authorized by the Superintendent of Schools.
- 4F. To approve the report of the Board Secretary and Treasurer of School Monies for the period of December 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 and certify that as of December 2024 the Board Secretary's monthly financial reports did not reflect an over expenditure in any of the major accounts or funds, and based on the appropriation balances reflected on these reports and the advice of district officials, we have no reason to doubt that the district has sufficient funds available to meet its financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the financial reports for the months be accepted and shall become a part of the official minutes of this meeting.

ROLL CALL

Ms. Bellise-Jandoli, Ms. Street, Ms. Altaai, Mr. DePascale - All Ayes Mr. Fede - Absent

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES ADMINISTRATIVE - JANUARY 23, 2025

The following administrative motions are made at the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools:

CONSENT AGENDA

Anything placed on this agenda, Items 1 to 2, will be voted upon in one motion.

Motion by Andrea Bellise-Jandoli Seconded by Melinda Street to approve the following motions:

1A. BE IT RESOLVED that the Fairfield Board of Education confirms the existing BOE Committees, Chairpersons and Members for the 2025 organizational year as follows:

Committee	Chairperson	Member
Buildings & Grounds	Joseph Fede	Anthony DePascale
Curriculum/Technology	Angela Altaai	Anthony DePascale
Finance	Joseph Fede	Anthony DePascale
Negotiations	Andrea Bellise-Jandoli	Angela Altaai
Personnel	Angela Altaai	Anthony DePascale
Policy	Angela Altaai	Anthony DePascale
Special Education	Melinda Street	Andrea Bellise-Jandoli
Liaison: HSA/Public Relations	Melinda Street	N/A
Liaison: Fairfield Township	Anthony DePascale	Joseph Fede
NJ School Boards Delegate	Melinda Street	N/A
Essex School Boards/Legislative	Andrea Bellise-Jandoli	N/A
Municipal Alliance Delegate	Anthony DePascale	N/A

2A. BE IT RESOLVED that the Fairfield Board of Education approves the Preschool Tuition Rate for the 2025-2026 school year in the amount of \$4,400. \$4,000. (As amended)

ROLL CALL

Ms. Bellise-Jandoli, Ms. Street, Ms. Altaai, Mr. DePascale - All Ayes

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES SSDS INVESTIGATIONS/HIB REPORT PERIOD #1 - JANUARY 23, 2025

The following SSDS Investigations/HIB Report motion is made at the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools:

CONSENT AGENDA

Anything placed on this agenda, Item 1, will be voted upon in one motion.

Motion by Andrea Bellise-Jandoli Seconded by Melinda Street to approve the following motion:

1H. To accept the Student Safety Data System (SSDS) Investigations Report and the HIB Trainings and Programs Report, for Period #1, September 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024.

ROLL CALL

Ms. Bellise-Jandoli, Ms. Street, Ms. Altaai, Mr. DePascale - All Ayes

The following personnel motions are made at the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools:

CONSENT AGENDA

Anything placed on this agenda, Items 1 - 12, will be voted upon in one motion.

Motion by Andrea Bellise-Jandoli Seconded by Melinda Street to approve the following motions:

1P. To approve the appointment(s) of the following staff member(s) for the 2024/2025 school year, pending receipt of all required documentation:

Name	Location/Position	Tenure Track or	Replacing or	Step	Prorated	Effective
		Leave	New Position		Salary/Hourly	Date(s) on
		Replacement			Rate	or about:
Amy Staudinger	WSC Media/ Interventionist	Tenure Track	Nichole Usinowicz	B.A.,	\$57,000	01/31/2025

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Amy Staudinger is approved as a substitute effective immediately at \$130 per day pending required documentation.

2P. To approve the resignation of the following staff member:

Name	Location	Position	Reason	*Last Day of
				Employment
Jennifer Calello	AES	Paraprofessional	Resignation	2/5/2025

^{*} In accordance with the 30-day requirement unless mutually agreed for an earlier release date

3P. To approve the following mentoring position for the 2024/2025 school year. Fee is paid by the novice teacher.

Mentor	Novice Teacher		
Kyle Silvestri	Brianna McKernan		

4P. To approve the appointment(s) of the following substitute staff member(s) for the 2024/2025 school year, pending receipt of all required documentation:

Name	Position	Daily Rate	Effective Date(s) on or about:
Kaleigh Conroy	Substitute Teacher Substitute Aide	\$130 per day \$15.13 per hour	01/30/2025
H. Karen Telli	Substitute Teacher	\$150 per day	01/30/2025

- 5P. To approve Hana Onove as a tutor paid through the New Jersey Learning Acceleration Grant funding.
- 6P. To approve the new contract for Jacqueline Sousa, Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA), with a salary of \$96,503 for the 2024/2025 school year retroactive to July 1, 2024.
- 7P. To approve the new contracts for the following exempt non-certificated employees for the 2024/2025 school year retroactive to July 1, 2024:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Adams, Michelle, Payroll/Benefits Coordinator	\$60,219
Belcastro, Stephanie, Part-Time Registered Nurse	\$35,000
Garcia, Zayra, Accounts Payable Coordinator	\$56,829
Hamdan, Ahmmed, Technology/Network Admin. Assistant	\$57,000
Harvey, William, Technology/Network Administrator	\$85,000
Iandolo, Patricia, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent	\$63,837
Karch, AnnaMaria, Executive Secretary to the Business Administrator/Board Secretary	\$57,090
Millstein, Krystina, Part-Time Registered Nurse	\$35,000

8P. To approve the new contracts for the following non-tenured paraprofessionals and custodians retroactive to their contract start dates for the 2024/2025 school year:

<u>Paraprofessional</u>	Hourly Rate	Custodian	Salary
Blum, Sharyn	\$26.50	Colon, Gladys	\$44,781
Calello, Jennifer	\$20.00	Colon, Jenelee	\$44,781
Carroll, Lisa	\$32.50	Fedna, Carlos	\$48,225
Contaldi, Kathy	\$25.50	Grotz, William	\$48,000
Convertino, Daniela	\$26.50	Mucka, Ervis	\$46,000
DeStefano, Daniella	\$20.00	Palos, Nicholas	\$44,781
D'Urso, Roseanne	\$29.50	Woodson, Robert	\$78,174
Fiore, Melissa	\$20.00	Zuk, Robert	\$60,582
Lozito, Patricia	\$20.00		
Matos, Rose	\$27.00		
Ortizzo, Kristin	\$21.00		
Spano, Jeanney	\$20.00		
Suhey, Tracey	\$20.00		

9P. To approve the new contracts for the following secretaries for the 2024/2025 school year retroactive to July 1, 2024:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Kadushin, Laynie (non-tenured)	\$47,179
Petinakis, Maria (tenured)	\$47,582
Serpico, Jane (tenured)	\$55,805

10P. To approve the new hourly rates for the following playground/cafeteria/office aides retroactive to their contract start date for the 2024/2025 school year:

<u>Name</u>	Hourly Rate	<u>Name</u>	Hourly Rate
Barreca, Dawn	\$16.00	Oliva, Porzia	\$16.00
Cielo, Karen	\$17.00	Priore, Karen	\$16.00
Curving, Patricia	\$16.50	Raffa, Grace	\$24.50
Helm, Rose	\$16.00	Rodriguez, Milagros	\$16.00
Mustacchio, Donna	\$16.00	Schubach, Rita	\$17.50
Nunez, Efsathia	\$16.00		

11P. To approve the new contracts for the following certificated, non-tenured staff retroactive to their contract start date for the 2024/2025 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Ashinsky, Jennifer	MA+30	13	\$86,984	McKernan, Brianna	BA+30	1	\$59,500
Biondi, Anthony	BA	2	\$57,469	Montwaid, Olivia	MA	1	\$61,500
Bohr, Kaitlynn	BA+30	1	\$59,500	Onove, Hana	BA	7	\$61,484
Chomyszak, Theodor	BA	9	\$65,734	Osterman, Laurel	BA	8	\$63,234
Day, Gabriella	MA	2	S61,969	Pontone, Anthony	MA	6	\$64,734
DeMassi, Gianna	BA	1	\$57,000	Prinzo, Heather	MA	3	\$62,469
DiGeronimo, Brianna	MA	9	\$70,234	Proietto, Christina	BA	1	\$57,000
Hadi, Samira	MA	11	\$76,184	Rubino, Alexa	MA	8	\$67,734
Kelly, Andrea	BA	13	\$79,484	Shepard, Martine	MA	1	\$61,500
Lagasi, Samantha	BA	12	\$75,484	Silvestri, Kyle	MA	5	\$63,734
Lay, Emily	BA	1	\$57,000	Thompson, Tina	BA	5	\$59,234
Lazaro, Justin	BA	2	\$57,469	Tulanowski, Jonalyn	MA	1	\$61,500
Locantore, Melisa	BA	1	\$57,000	Usinowicz, Nichole	BA	6	\$60,234
Lozito, Patricia A.	MA	15	\$93,234	Van Natten, Jaclyn	BA+15	1	\$58,000
Martone, Ceyla	BA+30	13	\$81,984				

12P. To approve the new contracts for the following certificated, tenured staff for the 2024/2025 school year retroactive to August 29, 2024:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Degree</u>	Step	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Degree</u>	Step	Salary
Alonso, Daphne	BA	16	\$93,684	Lizza, Donna	MA+15	10	\$74,984
Annese, Giana	MA	3	\$62,469	Major, Marya	BA+15	18	\$100,634
Bargiel, Dina	BA	18	\$99,634	Malinowski, Danielle	BA+15	7	\$62,484
Barra, Laura	BA+15	6	\$61,234	Malinski, Cherylann	BA+15	17	\$99,734
Booth, Julia	BA	4	\$58,469	Manna, Michelle	BA	4	\$58,469
Bowers, Lisa	MA	18	\$104,134	Marchetta, Carol	BA	18	\$99,634
Breznak, Colleen	BA	15	\$88,734	Mayer, Vanessa	BA+15	9	\$66,734
Carnovale, Nicole	BA	18	\$99,634	Nazarian, Dorian	MA	18	\$104,134
Chavkin, Jaime	MA+15	16	\$100,184	Panzarino, Gabriella	BA	2	\$57,469
Colon, Daniela	BA+15	7	\$62,484	Patel, Sonal	BA	18	\$99,634
Conte, Jennifer	BA	6	\$60,234	Perrone, Jennifer	BA	18	\$99,634
Crisafi, Kristin	MA	17	\$103,134	Prall, Catherine	MA+15	16	\$100,184
Dearani, Cristina	BA	6	\$60,234	Puglisi, Gina	BA	7	\$61,484
D'Elia, Jennifer	BA	5	\$59,234	Salant, Lisa	MA	9	\$70,234
DeMarco, Matthew	MA	12	\$79,984	Salter, Laurie	MA	8	\$67,734
Dewland, Megan	BA	8	\$63,234	Salvemini, Brianna	BA+15	3	\$58,969
Diaz, Adriana	BA	3	\$57,969	Sarna, Jennifer	BA	3	\$57,969
Dickson, Joleen	BA+15	18	\$100,634	Singh, Jennifer	MA+30	16	\$101,184
Dillon, Lindsey	MA	8	\$67,734	Smith, Rebecca	MA+30	17	\$106,134
Fasulo, Adeline	MA+15	16	\$100,184	Spanarelli, Donna	MA	16	\$98,184
Goldsmith, Andrea	BA	9	\$65,734	Suppa, Maria	BA	18	\$99,634
Goodman, Sara	MA	6	\$64,734	Tabatneck, Donna	MA	14	\$88,484
Gualtieri, Donna	BA	17	\$98,634	Verrengia, James	MA+15	14	\$90,484
Healy, Susan	MA	18	\$104,134	Vince-Cruz, Caroline	BA+15	18	\$100,634
Horvath, Peter	MA	18	\$104,134	Yelovich, Karissa	MA	4	\$62,969
Iodice, Marisa	MA	2	\$61,969	Zigouras, Alexandra	MA	12	\$79,984
Kirk, Sarah	MA	16	\$98,184	Zincone, Megan	BA+15	6	\$61,234
Kohlberg, Jodie	MA	18	\$104,134				

ROLL CALL

Ms. Bellise-Jandoli, Ms. Street, Ms. Altaai, Mr. DePascale - All Ayes

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES CURRICULUM/PROGRAM - JANUARY 23, 2025

The following curriculum/program motions are made at the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools:

CONSENT AGENDA

Anything placed on this agenda, Items 1 - 3, will be voted upon in one motion.

Motion by Andrea Bellise-Jandoli Seconded by Melinda Street to approve the following motions:

- 1C. To approve the submission of the Uniform Memorandum of Agreement and signature pages to the Essex County Superintendent for the 2024-2025 school year, required by the NJ Department of Education by January 31, 2025.
- 2C. To approve the following requests for Professional Development:

Employee Name	Conference/Workshop	Location	Date(s)	Expenses*
John Porcino	2025 Expo Conference (NJ School Buildings & Grounds Association)	Atlantic City, NJ	to	Registration Fee: \$350.00 Cost of Hotel: \$300.00 Personal Expenses: Cost of Mileage: \$147.60 Cost of Incidentals: \$238.00
Rebecca Smith	School Partnership License - 1 year access (Inspiring Young Learners, LLC)	Virtual on Demand	1 year access	Membership Fee: \$277.60

^{*} Reimbursement of mileage, meals, and incidentals (according to NJ per diem rates) to be paid pending completion of the workshop and submission of the travel report.

3C. To approve the amended "Conquer Mathematics" workshop from the August 15, 2024 Board meeting from Nichole Pineault-Usinowicz to Hana Onove for 1/13/2025, Megan Zincone for 2/11/2025 and 3/17/2025.

ROLL CALL

Ms. Bellise-Jandoli, Ms. Street, Ms. Altaai, Mr. DePascale - All Ayes

The following policy motions are made at the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools:

CONSENT AGENDA

Anything placed on this agenda, Items 1 - 2, will be voted upon in one motion.

Motion by Andrea Bellise-Jandoli Seconded by Melinda Street to approve the following motions:

1PO. To accept the following Superintendent's HIB Investigation results as reported during Executive Session on December 16, 2024:

HIB incidents WSCS #5 2024-25 and WSCS #6 2024-25 were reported to the principal and reviewed by the Superintendent. After a full investigation, it was determined that the incidents were within the scope of the ABR definition of HIB.

2PO. To approve the 2025-2026 School Year Calendar for the Fairfield Public Schools. (See Attached)

ROLL CALL

Ms. Bellise-Jandoli, Ms. Street, Ms. Altaai, Mr. DePascale - All Ayes Mr. Fede - Absent

Grade	Students 6/7/2024	Students 1/17/2025
Preschool Inclusive	17	26
Preschool Disabilities	17	8
Kindergarten	92	97
First	96	92
Second	99	94
Third	84	102
Fourth	108 109	84
Fifth	108	109
Sixth	86	107
Out-of-District	2	2
Charter School	0	3
Total	710	724

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES JANUARY 23, 2025

The Board President will open the floor to the public comments on non-agenda items.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: NON-AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

NONE

NEXT MEETING

BE IT RESOLVED that the next meeting will be held, in person, on February 20, 2025, Public Work Session beginning at 6:00 PM followed by Executive Session with Public Session resuming at approximately 7:30 PM, at the Fairfield Municipal Building.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting is hereby adjourned.

Motion by: Andrea Bellise-Jandoli Seconded by: Melinda Street Time: 7:47 PM

ROLL CALL

Ms. Bellise-Jandoli, Ms. Street, Ms. Altaai, Mr. DePascale - All Ayes Mr. Fede - Absent