

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC HEARING
April 24, 2024
7:00 p.m. Library**

***I. CALL TO ORDER – OPENING STATEMENT**

This meeting is called to order at 7:01 p.m. with the following opening statement read by Mr. Reaves:

“I would like to announce and have placed in the minutes that adequate notice of this meeting of the Califon Board of Education has been provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Proper notice of this Public Hearing and Regular Meeting was provided to Hunterdon County Democrat and Hunterdon Review. A copy of this notice has also been posted on the public bulletin board in the Municipal Building and filed with the Borough Clerk. The agenda of this meeting has been posted at the Califon School and on the district’s website.

***II. THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

***III. ROLL CALL**

Mr. Christopher Keiser - President	Present
Mr. Michael Reaves - Vice President	Present
Dr. Rebecca Kipp-Newbold	Present
Ms. Rita Lemley	Present
Mr. Netz Sacro	Present

Also present:

Dr. Michele Cone, Superintendent	Present
Mr. Matthew Herzer, Board Secretary	Present

***IV. PUBLIC COMMENT (resolutions only; time limits: 3 min. /person)**

AT THIS TIME, COMMENT IS INVITED ON RESOLUTIONS ON TONIGHT’S AGENDA ONLY. PLEASE STATE ALL OF YOUR COMMENTS IN SUCCESSION TO THE BOARD DURING YOUR SPEAKING TURN. BE AWARE THAT YOU MAY NOT RECEIVE AN IMMEDIATE RESPONSE TO YOUR COMMENT. ALL COMMENTS WILL BE ACKNOWLEDGED BY THE BOARD AND IF APPLICABLE, WILL BE ANSWERED DURING THE BOARD COMMENT SECTION OF THE MEETING. PLEASE RESPECT THE 3 MINUTE SPEAKING RULE AS PER BOARD OF EDUCATION BYLAW #0167 AND BOARD MEETING PUBLIC COMMENT GUIDELINES POSTED ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE SO THAT BUSINESS OF THE BOARD MAY PROCEED IN A TIMELY MANNER.

None.

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC HEARING
April 24, 2024
7:00 p.m. Library**

***V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Dr. Kipp-Newbold and seconded by Mr. Reaves to approve the March 20, 2024 regular session minutes.

Motion approved on all call vote

***VI. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

***VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- **Enrollment 83**
- **HIB-0**
- **Suspension-0**
- **Scout Presentation for proposed Eagle Project-Fiona Cusack, Troop 192**
- **Budget Presentation**
- **Thank you to the PTA for SOS bags**
- **Change of graduation dates**

Motion to approve the proposed Eagle Scout Project by Fiona Cusack from Troop 192 for a free library to be placed on site during the summer of 2024 at Califon School.

Motion made by Mr. Keiser and seconded by Mr. Reaves to approve the proposed Eagle Scout project by Fiona Cusack.

Motion approved on unanimous roll call vote.

***VIII. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Curriculum & Instruction Committee: The committee discussed field trips, textbooks and the unused snow day.

Policy & Legislation Committee: Changes to policy are clarification of protected classes and refer to statute.

Finance, Facilities, & Transportation Committee: The committee met on paper to discuss the final budget approval.

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC HEARING
April 24, 2024
7:00 p.m. Library**

Personnel Committee: Resignations and retirements were discussed and recognition for the retirement of Mrs. Patterson and the hiring of Mr. Belenguer as head custodian.

Negotiations Committee: None.

***IX. BUDGET HEARING AND ADOPTION**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Califon Board of Education budget be approved for the 2024-2025 School Year as follows:

	GENERAL FUND	SPECIAL REVENUES	DEBT SERVICE	TOTAL
2024-2025 Total Expenditures	\$3,103,541	\$45,852	\$0	\$3,149,393
Less: Anticipated Revenues	\$509,511	\$45,852	\$0	\$555,363
Taxes to be raised	\$2,594,030	\$0	\$0	\$2,594,030

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Califon Board of Education will withdraw \$45,000 from Maintenance Reserve in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-14.2 for the purpose of required maintenance to the school district’s facilities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Califon Board of Education includes in the tentative budget a maximum travel expenditure in the amount of \$10,000 for the 2024-2025 school year for all staff and BOE members in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7 and the maximum regular business travel amount shall not exceed \$1,500 per employee. The tentative budget has been approved by the Hunterdon County Executive Superintendent and advertised in the Hunterdon Democrat on April 20, 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Califon Board of Education approves the Health Benefit Adjustment of \$15,966 to be banked for utilization in future budgets.

Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement
2024-2025

WHEREAS, the Califon Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7 requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC HEARING
April 24, 2024
7:00 p.m. Library**

WHEREAS, a board of education may establish, for regular district business travel only, an annual school year threshold of \$150 per staff member where prior Board approval shall not be required unless this annual threshold for a staff member is exceeded in a given school year (July 1 through June 30); and

WHEREAS, travel and related expenses not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7, but deemed by the Board of Education to be necessary and unavoidable as noted on the Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7 as being necessary and unavoidable as noted on the Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education includes in the tentative budget travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7, to a maximum expenditure of \$15,000 for all staff and board members for the 2024-2025 school year.

The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall track and record these costs to ensure that the maximum amount is not exceeded.

Motion made by Ms. Lemley and seconded by Mr. Sacro to approve the adoption of the 2024-2025 budget.

Motion approved on unanimous roll call vote.

Motion made by Mr. Reaves and seconded by Mr. Keiserto discuss the Consent Agenda.

Motion approved on unanimous roll call vote.

Motion made by Mr. Keiser and seconded by Mr. Reaves to approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion approved on unanimous roll call vote.

***X. CONSENT AGENDA**

Matters listed within the consent agenda have been referred to members of the Board of Education and/or its standing committees, for reading and study and will be enacted with one motion. The Personnel items on the consent agenda are recommended by the Superintendent. If separate discussion is desired, the item may be removed from the consent agenda by Board action.

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC HEARING
April 24, 2024
7:00 p.m. Library**

Finance/Facilities/Transportation/Personnel/Curriculum and Instruction/Policy

Finance:

1. Motion to approve the bills list dated March 21, 2024 through April 24, 2024 in the amount of \$271,489.11
2. Motion to approve the municipal tax payment schedule for the 2024-2025 school year as follows:

Date Due	General Fund Levy	Debt Service Levy	Total Payment Due
	\$432,338.34		\$432,338.34
September 1, 2024	\$432,338.33		\$432,338.33
November 1, 2024	\$432,338.33		\$432,338.33
February 1, 2025	\$432,338.34		\$432,338.34
March 1, 2025	\$432,338.33		\$432,338.33
May 1, 2025	\$432,338.33		\$432,338.33
Total	\$2,594,030.00	\$0.00	\$2,594,030.00

Transportation:

Facilities:

1. Motion to approve documentation of mandated Security/Fire/Emergency and Evacuation Drills

Date of Drill	Type of Drill
March 27, 2024	Security
April 15, 2024	Fire

Personnel:

1. Motion to accept, with regret, the resignation for the purpose of retirement of Linda Patterson, school nurse, effective June 30, 2024.
2. Motion to accept, with regret, the resignation for the purposes of retirement of

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC HEARING
April 24, 2024
7:00 p.m. Library**

Edward Newhauser, full time Custodian, effective June 30, 2024.

3. Motion to accept, with regret, the resignation of Daria Bracutti, Instructional Aide effective April 12, 2024.
4. Motion to approve Ed Belinger as the full time Custodian effective May 7, 2024, salary \$57, 400.00 prorated through June 30, 2024.

Curriculum and Instruction:

1. Motion to accept the Health Report for March 2024.
2. Motion to approve the following field trip:

Destination	Cost	Class
River Trip -Raritan Headwaters -Water Study	\$300 funded by Califon Borough	Grades 6-8

3. Motion to approve the 5-year purchase agreement with Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company for GoMath textbooks, materials and digital access at a cost of \$17,194.00.
4. Motion to approve the 5-year purchase agreement with Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company for Intro Math 7 & 8 and Algebra textbooks, materials and digital access at a cost of \$7358.00.
5. Motion to adjust the 23-24 Califon School calendar for 1 unused emergency closing day to amend May 24, 2024 from an early closing to a full day closed for both students and staff.

Policy:

1. Motion to approve Califon Public School District first reading for the following policies and regulations:

- P 5750 Equitable Educational Opportunity (M) *Revised*
- P 5841 Secret Societies *Revised*
- P 5842 Equal Access of Student Organizations *Revised*
- P&R 7610 Vandalism *Revised*
- P 9323 Notification of Juvenile Offender Case Disposition *Revised*
- P&R 2423 Bilingual Education (M) *Revised*
- P&R 2431.4 Prevention & Treatment of SPorts-Related Concussions and Head Injury (M) *Revised*

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC HEARING
April 24, 2024
7:00 p.m. Library**

2. Motion to approve Califon Public School District second reading for the following policies and regulations:

P 1140	Educational Equity Policies/Affirmative Action (M) <i>Revised</i>
P 1523	Comprehensive Equity Plan (M) <i>Revised</i>
P 1530	Equal Employment Opportunities (M) <i>Revised</i>
R 1530	Equal Employment Opportunity Complaint Procedure (M) <i>Revised</i>
P 1550	Equal Employment/Anti-Discrimination Practices (M) <i>Revised</i>
R 2200	Curriculum Content (M) <i>Revised</i>
P 2260	Equity in School and Classroom Practices (M) <i>Revised</i>
R 2260	Equity in School and Classroom Practices Complaint Procedures (M) <i>Revised</i>
P 2411	Guidance Counseling (M) <i>Revised</i>
P 3211	Code of Ethics (M) <i>Revised</i>

3. Motion to abolish the following policies and regulations:

P 5755	Equity in Educational Programs and Services
--------	---

***XI. OLD BUSINESS**

None.

***XII. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

***XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT (all school-related topics; 3 min. /person)**

AT THIS TIME, COMMENT IS INVITED ON ALL SCHOOL-RELATED TOPICS. PLEASE STATE ALL OF YOUR COMMENTS IN SUCCESSION TO THE BOARD DURING YOUR SPEAKING TURN. BE AWARE THAT YOU MAY NOT RECEIVE AN IMMEDIATE RESPONSE TO YOUR COMMENT. ALL COMMENTS WILL BE ACKNOWLEDGED BY THE BOARD AND IF APPLICABLE, WILL BE ANSWERED DURING THE BOARD COMMENT SECTION OF THE MEETING. PLEASE RESPECT THE 3 MINUTE SPEAKING RULE AS PER BOARD OF EDUCATION BYLAW #0167 AND BOARD MEETING PUBLIC COMMENT GUIDELINES POSTED ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE SO THAT BUSINESS OF THE BOARD MAY PROCEED IN A TIMELY MANNER.

None.

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC HEARING
April 24, 2024
7:00 p.m. Library**

***XIV. BOARD COMMENT**

None.

***XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

WHEREAS, Section 6 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 (R. S.10:4-13), permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting or portion of a meeting of this public body in certain circumstances, and

WHEREAS, the Board must consider (see check below), which is/are exempt from public discussion pursuant to the Act;

- 1. Matter which by express provision of law is rendered confidential
- 2. Release of information which would impair receipt of federal funds
- 3. Individual Privacy/Student Matters
- 4. Collective Bargaining/Negotiations
- 5. Real estate matters
- 6. Disclosure could impair public safety
- 7. Pending/Anticipated litigation/Contract negotiation
- 8. Terms and conditions of employment
- 9. Deliberations involving imposition of specific civil penalty

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education adjourn to executive session at 7:57 p.m. to discuss the above-mentioned matters to the exclusion of all others. Matters discussed may or may not be made public this evening. Resulting action may or may not be taken following re-entry into regular session.

Motion made by Mr. Keiser and seconded by Mr. Reaves to enter Executive Session.

Motion approved with full board consent via all call vote.

***XVI. RECONVENE**

Motion made by Mr. Keiser and seconded by Mr. Reaves to end the executive session at 8:20 pm and reconvene the public session with full board consent via all call vote.

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC HEARING
April 24, 2024
7:00 p.m. Library**

***XVII. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Mr. Keiser and seconded by Rr. Reaves to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 pm.

Motion approved on a unanimous all call vote.

Respectfully submitted

Matthew Herzer
Board Secretary