

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
September 18, 2024  
7:00 p.m. Library**

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

This meeting is called to order at 7:05 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 Regular Meeting was provided to Hunterdon County Democrat and the 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	Absent
Mr. Michael Reaves - Vice President	Present
Dr. Rebecca Kipp-Newbold	Absent
Ms. Rita Lemley	Present
Mr. Netz Sacro	Present

Also present:

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

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

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.

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**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Ms. Lemley and seconded by Mr. Sacro to approve the August 21, 2024 regular and executive session minutes.

Motion approved on all call vote

**VI. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

**VII. CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

- **Enrollment 92**
- **HIB Report-0**
- **Suspension Report-0**
- **NJSLA Spring Testing Dates:**
  - **Grades 3-8 ELA & Math & Grade 5 & 8 Science: May 5-23, 2025**
- **Week of Respect October 7-11, 2024**
- **Updates from Dr. Cone**
  - **Pennant project is underway**
  - **District reached gold level for Go Hunterdon**
  - **October fire safety**
  - **Staff recognitions for time of service and obtaining tenure**

**VIII. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Curriculum & Instruction Committee: The committee discussed student field trips and the security plan.

Policy & Legislation Committee: Updates to policy revisions were discussed.

Finance, Facilities, & Transportation Committee: A meeting on paper was held to discuss out of district tuition contracts.

Personnel Committee: The committee discussed health office hours, staff training and substitutes.

Negotiations Committee: None.

Long Range Planning, Shared Services: None.

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**IX. 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.

Motion made by Mr. Reaves and seconded by Ms. Lemley to discuss the Consent Agenda.

Motion approved on unanimous roll call vote.

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

Motion approved on unanimous roll call vote.

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

**Finance:**

1. Motion to approve the bill list dated 8/22/2024 through 9/18/2024 in the amount of \$195,939.53
2. Motion to approve and file the Treasurer's and Board Secretary report for July 2024 and note that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligation and that no major account has been over-expended in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A:16.20.
3. Motion to approve the transfers for July 2024.
4. Motion to approve tuition contract with SEARCH Learning Group for Student # 1323479469 from September 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 for a per diem of \$706.00.
5. Motion to approve tuition contract with SEARCH Learning Group for Student # 8893256520 from September 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 for a per diem of \$706.00.

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**Facilities:**

1. Motion to approve the use of Califon School Facilities:

Sponsor of Event	Dates	Event*-

\*adhering to COVID related restrictions. \*\*Based on Custodial availability

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

Date of Drill	Type of Drill
September 6, 2024	Security

**Transportation:**

1. Motion to approve entering into a contract with the Tewksbury Township School Board of Education - 2024-25 Joint Transportation Agreement, to transport school choice students residing in Califon for an annual fee of \$1,177 per student and to transport various field and athletic trips for \$95 per hour.

**Personnel:**

1. Motion to amend previous motion to approve Jennifer Sedlacek for summer work of an additional 15 hours at \$40.00/hour for the purpose of school health record updates and health office transitioning.
2. Motion to approve Ed Belenguer to attend Integrated Pest Management training on October 11, 2024 at a cost of \$25.00.
3. Motion to approve the following individuals as a substitute teachers for the 2024-2025 school year pending criminal history background check.

Autumn Walter	Dina Bolan
Maria Buniva	Joseph Kooger

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**Curriculum and Instruction:**

1. Motion to approve the following field trips:

<b>Destination</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Class</b>
Tranquillity Farm - Andover	Student paid w/ district paid transportation	Grades K-2
Columbia Trail / Park Walk	No Cost	Grades 3-5

2. Motion to approve the Califon School Safety and Security Plan for the 2024-25 school year.

**Policy:**

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

P 5337          Service Animals (*Revised*)  
P 5350          Student Suicide Prevention (M) (*Revised*)  
P 8420          Emergency and Crisis Situations (M) (*Revised*)  
P&R 8467      Firearms And Weapons (M) (*Revised*)

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

P 0141          Board Member Number and Term (*Revised*)  
P 2200          Curriculum Content (M) (*Revised*)  
P & R 3160      Physical Examination (M) (*Revised*)  
P & R 4160      Physical Examination (M) (*Revised*)

**X. OLD BUSINESS**

None.

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**XI. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**XII. PUBLIC COMMENT** (all school-related topics; time limits: 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.

**XIII. BOARD COMMENT**

None.

**XIV. 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 - Superintendent Evaluation
- 9. Deliberations involving imposition of specific civil penalty

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education adjourns to executive session at 7:21 p.m. to discuss the above-mentioned matters to the exclusion of all others.

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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. Reaves and seconded by Ms. Lemley to enter Executive Session.

Motion approved with full board consent via all call vote.

**XV. RECONVENE**

Motion made by Mr. Reaves and seconded by Ms. Lemley to end the executive session at 8:23 pm and reconvene the public session with full board consent via all call vote.

**XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Mr. Reaves and seconded by Ms. Lemley to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 pm.

Motion approved on a unanimous all call vote.

Respectfully submitted

Matthew Herzer  
Board Secretary