

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 22, 2025
7:00 p.m. Library**

I. CALL TO ORDER – OPENING STATEMENT

This meeting is called to order at 7:03 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 AND OATH OF OFFICE

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

Also present:

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

The Board Secretary administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Keiser.

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

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THAT BUSINESS OF THE BOARD MAY PROCEED IN A TIMELY MANNER.

None.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Reaves and seconded by Mr. Keiser to approve the December 20, 2024 regular session minutes and the January 8, 2025 Reorganization minutes.

Motion approved on all call vote

VI. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

None.

VII. CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- Enrollment - 94
- HIB - 0
- Suspension - 0
- Updates:
 - PK & K Registration
 - Spring Musical-*Wizard of Oz, Jr.* on June 3 & 4, 2025
 - 8th Grade Began High School Course Registrations
 - Basketball is winding down, the playoffs will happen soon
 - The Enrichment club helped with pet adoption
 - Stuffed animals collected to donate to children affected by the California wildfires

VIII. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Curriculum & Instruction Committee: The committee discussed changes in the curriculum, field trips and staff development.

Policy & Legislation Committee: The policies on the agenda were discussed along with some tweaks to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).

Finance, Facilities, & Transportation Committee: The committee discussed tuition rates for the upcoming year and the regular business.

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Personnel Committee: The committee went over new substitute hires.

Negotiations Committee: The committee had a meet and greet with the bargaining unit.

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. Keiser and seconded by Dr. Kipp-Newbold to discuss the Consent Agenda.

Motion approved on unanimous roll call vote.

Motion made by Mr. Reaves and seconded by Mr. Keiser 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 January 22, 2025 in the amount of \$314,518.17.
2. Motion to approve and file the Treasurer's and Board Secretary report December 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 December 2024.
4. Motion to approve the filing of a waiver request to exempt the Califon Borough Board of Education's 2025-26 participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) based on the fact that the DOE projects an enrollment of less than 40 students for the district.
5. Motion to approve the following tuition rates for the 2025-2026 school year:

Preschool/PreK 5 Full Days	\$5,700
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Grades K-5	\$7,000
Grades 6-8	\$7,500

6. Motion to accept a donation of \$1,000 for the Drama Club from the Weeks family.

Facilities:

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

Date of Drill	Type of Drill
12/18/2024	Fire
1/13/25	Fire

Transportation:

Personnel:

1. Motion to approve Alana Corradi as a substitute teacher for the 2024-2025 school year pending criminal history background check.
2. Motion to approve Anthony Xiros as a substitute custodian at \$17.00 per hour for the 24-2025 school year pending criminal history background check.

Curriculum and Instruction:

1. Motion to accept the Health Report for December 2024.
2. Motion to approve Califon School Calendar for the 2025-2026 school year.
3. Motion to approve the following staff attendance at workshops:

Staff	Cost	Workshop
MaryJane Medea	\$0	Non-Fiction Comprehension Strategies Across the Curriculum Paramus, NJ

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4. Motion to approve the following field trips:

Destination	Cost	Class/Club/Activity
VHS	TBD	Band
Columbia Trail/Califon Island Park	\$0	K-3

5. Motion to approve a Califon School Team and Mr. Downey to participate in Relay for Life at Voorhees High School in the spring.

6. Motion to approved graduate course tuition request:

Name	Institution	Dates	Compensation
Alison DeMarco	Felician University-LDTC-504 LDTC Clinical Internship	Spring 2025	\$1050.00

7. Motion to approve Lauren Welch to administer English Language Learning services as needed at \$150.00 per hour during the 2024-2025 school year.

Policy:

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

- P 5512 Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying **(M)** *Revised*
- P 5533 Student Smoking **(M)** *Revised*
- R 5533 Student Smoking *Revised*
- P & R 7441 Electronic Surveillance In School Buildings and On School Grounds **(M)** *Revised*
- P & R 9320 Cooperation with Law ENforcement Agencies **(M)** *Revised*

2. Motion to approve Califon Public School District abolishment for the following Policies:

X. OLD BUSINESS

None.

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XI. NEW BUSINESS

None.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT (all school-related topics; time limits: 3 min. /person)

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Kathy Smith asked if enrollment is up.

Dr. Cone Responded that two new students have joined the district.

XIII. BOARD COMMENT

None.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Mr. Reaves and seconded by Dr. Kipp-Newbold to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 pm.

Motion approved on a unanimous all call vote.

Respectfully submitted

Matthew Herzer
Board Secretary