

**GLEN ROCK BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
Glen Rock, New Jersey 07452  
**HIGH SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA**  
September 8, 2020

**- VIRTUAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES -**

President Scarpelli called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, the Laws of 1975, notice of this meeting has been sent to all school offices, officially designated newspapers, filed with the Borough Clerk and posted in the Board of Education office, forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the meeting.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dr. Brennan, Ms. Findley, Mr. Hayward,  
Ms. McNabola, Dr. Pucci-Bender (virtually),  
Ms. Rundell (virtually), Mr. Scherer,  
Mr. Torsiello, Ms. Scarpelli

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Dr. Brett Charleston, Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. Michael Rinderknecht, Business Administrator/  
Board Secretary  
197 Members of the Public  
1 Press Representative(s)

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GLEN ROCK BOARD OF EDUCATION** that

**WHEREAS**, The Board of Education of Glen Rock must discuss personnel and legal matters;  
and

**WHEREAS**, The aforesaid subjects are not appropriate subjects to be discussed in a public meeting; and

**WHEREAS**, The aforesaid subjects to be discussed are within the exemptions which are permitted to be discussed and acted upon in private session pursuant to P.L. 1975 Chapter 231; it is therefore,

**RESOLVED**, That the aforesaid subjects shall be discussed in private session by this Board at the conclusion of the public segment of this meeting, and information pertaining thereto will be made available to the public at the next regularly scheduled meeting, or as soon thereafter as possible but no later than October 26, 2020, if reasons for non-disclosure no longer exist.

**Motion made by Mr. Hayward Seconded by Dr. Pucci-Bender to recess to closed session at 7:00 PM.**

	Dr. Brennan	Ms. Findley	Mr. Hayward	Ms. McNabola	Dr. Pucci-Bender	Ms. Rundell	Mr. Scherer	Mr. Torsiello	Ms. Scarpelli
<b>YES</b>	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
<b>NO</b>									
<b>ABSENT</b>									
<b>ABSTAIN</b>									

**CALL TO ORDER: 8:00 PM**

	Dr. Brennan	Ms. Findley	Mr. Hayward	Ms. McNabola	Dr. Pucci-Bender	Ms. Rundell	Mr. Scherer	Mr. Torsiello	Ms. Scarpelli
<b>PRESENT</b>	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
<b>ABSENT</b>									

**ADEQUATE NOTICE OF MEETING**

In accordance with P.L. 1975 Chapter 231, notice of tonight's meeting was mailed to The Record and The Ridgewood News on September 3, 2020. Notice of this meeting was also mailed to the Borough Clerk and was posted on the bulletin board of the Board of Education Office in the Administration Building on the same date. Copies of the procedures in effect for Regular Board Meetings are available for the public at tonight's meeting.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The Glen Rock School District founded on principles of education, in partnership with a supportive community, provides an exceptional education to all students to cultivate resilient, responsible and engaged global citizens.

**STATEMENT TO THE PUBLIC**

Often times it may appear to members of our audience that the Board of Education takes action with very little comment and in many cases by unanimous vote. Before a matter is placed on the agenda at a public meeting, the administration has thoroughly reviewed the matter with the Superintendent of Schools. If the Superintendent of Schools is satisfied and Board of Education President concurs that the matter is ready to be presented to the Board of Education, it is then placed on the agenda at the next Board of Education meeting. The members of the Board work with the administration and the Superintendent of Schools to assure that they fully understand the matter. After the Committee of the Whole approves the matter, it is placed on the agenda for action at a public meeting. In rare instances, matters are presented to the Board of Education for discussion at the same meeting that final action may be taken.

**PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITION**

- ❖ Referendum update - Epic Management and Parette Somjen Architects
- ❖ 2019-2020 School Year Graduation Data

	ELA	Math	Total
The total number of students graduated			162
The number of students graduated under the substitute competency test process	17	11	
The number of students graduated under the portfolio appeals process	0	0	
The number of students receiving State-endorsed high school diplomas as a result of meeting any alternate requirements for graduation as specified in their IEPs	4	5	
The number of students receiving State-endorsed high school diplomas as the result of graduation assessment requirements being waived under Executive Order #117	0	0	
The total number of students denied graduation from the 12th grade class	0	0	
The number of students denied graduation from the 12th grade class solely because of failure to pass the high school end-of-course PARCC assessments, substitute competency tests, or portfolio appeals process based on the provisions of this chapter	0	0	

Under NJAC 6A:8, Standards and Assessment, the following definition is provided:

*“Substitute competency test” means an alternative set of third-party assessments approved by the Commissioner, including, but not limited to the SAT, PSAT, ACT, ACT-Aspire, ASVABAFQT, or Accuplacer, that can be used to demonstrate competency in the NJSLS for students who have not demonstrated proficiency on PARCC assessments.*

***Important Update for Class of 2020:*** Governor Murphy signed Executive Order 117 on April 7, 2020 to address the continued threat of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) to our school communities and the resulting school closures. The Executive Order waives the graduation assessment requirement for any twelfth-grade student who is expected to graduate in the class of 2020 but, as of March 18, 2020, had not yet met the graduation assessment requirement. Students in the class of 2020 who have not yet met the assessment requirement must still meet all the other State and local graduation requirements, including but not limited to credit, curriculum, and attendance requirements.

**PERSONNEL**

➤ **Personnel**

- Discussion
  - Ms. Scarpelli reviewed the topics discussed at the meeting.
- Old Business
- New Business/Regular Public meeting items
- Actionable items

**Motion made by Mr. Torsiello Seconded by Ms. McNabola to approve Resolution P1 through P9 as listed below:**

	Dr. Brennan	Ms. Findley	Mr. Hayward	Ms. McNabola	Dr. Pucci-Bender	Ms. Rundell	Mr. Scherer	Mr. Torsiello	Ms. Scarpelli
<b>YES</b>	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
<b>NO</b>									
<b>ABSENT</b>									
<b>ABSTAIN</b>									

**P1.** Be it resolved that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, accepts with regret, the resignation of the following staff member for personal reasons, in accordance with the provisions of the GRBOE/GREA negotiated agreement:

Name	Position	Effective Date
Thomas Lyon	Social Studies/Psychology Teacher High School	10/23/2020 on or about

**P2.** Be it resolved that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approves the appointment of the following long-term replacement staff member, pending completion of all required paperwork, for the dates listed below:

Name	School	Position	Start/End Date	Step (Salary)	Account Number
Gina Bellacera	Hamilton	Guidance Counselor	09/10/2020 - 10/16/2020	MA/Step 1 \$55,982. + \$1,738. differential Prorated Not benefit eligible	11.000.218.104.20.23.213

**P3.** Be it resolved that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approves a leave of absence for High School, Employee ID #044636, as follows:

Type of Absence	From	To
EPSLA	09/08/2020	09/21/2020
EFMLEA	09/22/2020	11/27/2020

- P4.** Be it resolved that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approves a leave of absence for Hamilton School, Employee ID #007277, as follows:

Type of Absence	From	To
EPSLA	09/08/2020	09/21/2020
EFMLEA	09/22/2020	11/27/2020

- P5.** Be it resolved that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approves a leave of absence for Hamilton School, Employee ID #007528, as follows:

Type of Absence	From	To
EPSLA	09/10/2020	09/23/2020

- P6.** Be it resolved that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approves a leave of absence for Guidance Department, Employee ID #036587, as follows:

Type of Absence	From	To
EPSLA	09/14/2020	09/25/2020
EFMLEA	9/28/2020	10/16/2020

- P7.** Be it resolved that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approves a leave of absence for Coleman School, Employee ID #010952, as follows:

Type of Absence	From	To
EPSLA	09/10/2020	09/23/2020

**P8.** Be it resolved that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approves a leave of absence for Byrd School, Employee #013412, as follows:

Type of Absence	From	To
EPSLA	09/11/2020	09/24/2020
EFMLEA	09/25/2020	11/06/2020

**P9.** Be it resolved that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approves a leave of absence for Middle School, Employee ID #013501 as follows:

Type of Absence	From	To
EPSLA	09/10/2020	Not to exceed 09/23/2020

**GENERAL**

➤ **Policy**

- Discussion
  - Ms. McNabola reviewed the committee meeting with the Board.
- Old Business
- New Business/Regular Public meeting items
- Actionable items

➤ **Governance**

- Discussion
- Old Business
- New Business/Regular Public meeting items
- Actionable items

➤ **Instruction and Program**

- Discussion
  - Ms. Findley reviewed the highlights of the committee meeting.
- Old Business
- New Business/Regular Public meeting items
- Actionable items

➤ **Special Services**

- Discussion
- Old Business
- New Business/Regular Public meeting items
- Actionable items

➤ **Management/Community**

- Discussion
  - Dr. Brennan reviewed the topics discussed at the meeting.
- Old Business
- New Business/Regular Public meeting items
- Actionable items

**BUSINESS**

➤ **Fiscal Management/Operations**

- Discussion
  - Mr. Hayward discussed the status of the current budget.
  - Mr. Torsiello provided an update on the referendum.
- Old Business
- New Business/Regular Public meeting items
- Actionable items

**OTHER**

- Liaisons

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Meeting opened to public comments at 9:49 PM.**

A resident noted they are a parent of a special education student in the middle school and co-chair of its SEPAC group. Many IEPs require the District to provide daily support to children in the core academic subjects (math, ELA, etc.). The school's Yellow Phase plan does not meet this requirement because on virtual days, special education students will work independently or asynchronously with no support. This leaves them working with no support 50% of the time and does not meet the IEP daily support requirement. We are troubled that the District is expecting that some students in High Honors or AP courses will meet with their teachers on a daily basis. What about the kids with documented needs? The Board of Education must be aware of the impact that this will have on approximately 500 students. Dr. Charleston, please do not respond by simply directing my comment to Dr. MacKay. SEPAC met several times with Special Services administrators including Dr Mackay and Dr Parent over the summer to voice parents' concerns and to offer possible solutions for the issues that came up last year as well as those we anticipate

for this year. We are looking to you for leadership as the Superintendent of ALL children in this District. Please provide a substantive response on how the District is going to address the critical issue of student support for special education students.

A resident noted unfortunately, we cannot clearly hear you. How will the high school virtual students learn if they can't hear the teachers speaking? What will be different?

A resident asked if we are having such difficulty and feedback on a BOE zoom, how is it feasible that students will be able to hear teachers in masks via zoom? My special needs son is remote and we have been told that his instruction will mostly be live zoom? If we can't get it right for an adult meeting, how can we assure children will be able to understand when they are supposed to be receiving live instruction via zoom?

A resident asked to please start elementary remotely until the HVAC project is fully completed and fully tested. This isn't an issue of aesthetics. The health and safety of our children and their teachers are worth a 1-2 week delay of in-person instruction to get this right. I am horrified at what I have seen at my daughter's school and what the teachers shared about their working conditions today. Glen Rock does not have the proper ventilation for each classroom. You are not filtering the air for COVID-19. You're not using MERV13 filters. Other districts are adding portable filters or other technology to classrooms to address this issue. What is Glen Rock doing?

A staff member asked to please describe the type of H/VAC and air conditioning units in the Special Services Suites. I do not believe they are new. How does it operate in terms of air circulation as it relates to COVID and safety.

A resident wants to hear from the Board on the plan to not provide an in-person, full-time teacher for the elementary LLD class located at Central. The children will attend full-day in-person school but the teacher will be remote and teach via zoom (which we saw tonight is a challenge and won't allow for the necessary multi-sensory learning, interaction and individualization that their IEPs mandate). Why is it that mainstream classes, where the teacher has chosen to not attend during this phase, are given an in-person substitute teacher, yet this group of high need students (surely the highest need group at elementary level in the district) are expected to follow individualized programs without a full-time special ed teacher in the room? When there are other special education teachers attending in person at Central, why was this untenable plan even considered let alone adopted? I have already directed this question to Dr. MacKay and wish to hear from the Board.

A resident asked if you can clarify the reasoning and legality behind not taking attendance on the MS/HS virtual days? How are the students being held accountable by the school on those days?

A resident asked if Ms. Findley could repeat what she was saying in regards to if children are sick and switching between hybrid and virtual models. She kept freezing so she was not fully heard.

**Motion made by Dr. Brennan Seconded by Mr. Hayward to extend Public Comments for an additional 10 minutes.**





**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion made by Ms. McNabola Seconded by Mr. Hayward to adjourn the Closed Session Meeting of September 8, 2020 at 10:55 PM.**

	Dr. Brennan	Ms. Findley	Mr. Hayward	Ms. McNabola	Dr. Pucci-Bender	Ms. Rundell	Mr. Scherer	Mr. Torsiello	Ms. Scarpelli
<b>YES</b>	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
<b>NO</b>									
<b>ABSENT</b>									
<b>ABSTAIN</b>									

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Rinderknecht  
Business Administrator/ Board Secretary