

**PROSPECT PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, May 4, 2021—7:00 P.M.**

The regular meeting of the Prospect Park Board of Education, Prospect Park, New Jersey, was called to convene by Board President Nadim on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 7:04 p.m.

**Virtual Zoom Meeting**--Board members, administrators and public participation will be limited via the Zoom conference platform. Details regarding the telecommunications/Zoom platform will be posted on the District’s website.

**1. Call to Order            Board President**

Reading of the Open Public Meeting Act Notice

“In accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Act, the Prospect Park Board of Education has issued notice of this meeting to be publicized by having the date, time and the place posted at the Prospect Park School, Prospect Park Municipal Building and the District’s website. This notice complies with N.J.S.A. 10:4-9.1, which is addressing the manner in which public meetings should be conducted during a State of Emergency. The meeting notice has been mailed to The Record and Herald News (Gannett News Service) for publication. Adequate notice has been provided.”

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

**3. Roll Call                    Board Secretary**

<b>BOARD MEMBERS</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Absent w/ Notification</b>
Mr. Nadim	X		
Ms. Gonzalez	X		
Mr. Colcloughly	X		
Ms. Ensour	X*		
Mr. Lopez	X		
Mr. Rodriguez	X		
Ms. Valerio	X		

*\*Ms. Ensour was in attendance, but on mute until 7:55PM*

**Also in attendance:** Mrs. Allison Angermeyer, Superintendent; Ms. Erin Delaney, Board Secretary; Mrs. Catherine D’Arrigo, Principal; Mr. Albert Buglione, Board Attorney; and members of the public.

#### **4. Mission Statement**

The mission of the Prospect Park School District is to develop healthy, alert, informed, responsible, and well-balanced human beings who believe in our America Heritage, and are imbued with a true desire and willingness to participate in and actively contribute to our democratic way of life. We also believe that the public school should be a place where principal, teacher, and parent work in unison to insure the successful progress and goal attainment of the child.

#### **5. Acknowledging and Reaffirming School Board Member Code of Ethics**

The Prospect Park Board of Education, individually and as a group, acknowledges and reaffirms that as members of the Board of Education, they recognize they hold authority not as individuals but as members of the full Board. The Board members will comply with the Code of Ethics for School Board members pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:12-24.1 as follows and re-produced below:

A school board member shall abide by the following Code of Ethics for School Board Members:

- a. I will uphold and enforce all laws, rules and regulations of the State Board of Education, and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes shall be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.
- b. I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain public schools that meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex, or social standing.
- c. I will confine my board action to policy making, planning, and appraisal, and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the board has consulted those who will be affected by them.
- d. I will carry out my responsibility, not to administer the schools, but, together with my fellow board members, to see that they are well run.
- e. I will recognize that authority rests with the board of education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action that may compromise the board.
- f. I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.
- g. I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools which, if disclosed, would

needlessly injure individuals or the schools. In all other matters, I will provide accurate information and, in concert with my fellow board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its school.

h. I will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief administrative officer.

i. I will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.

j. I will refer all complaints to the chief administrative officer and will act on the complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.

### **6. Conduct at Public Meetings**

It is the goal of the Prospect Park Board of Education that all Board of Education Members and members of the public, act in a respectful manner toward one another, and do not disparage, nor interfere with school functions, operations or Board of Education proceedings.

Any verbal, written, or physical conduct related to race, gender, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation or religion shall not be tolerated and anyone violating this prohibited conduct may subject to removal from the meeting, and may be subject in other penalties that are appropriate under the law.

All Board of Education members and members of the general public are requested to take personal responsibility for their actions, and to treat everyone that they have contact with, in a fair and respectful manner.

### **7. Public Participation: Statement to the Public—Agenda Items Only!**

At this portion of the meeting, time has been allotted for public comment by members the public. Each speaker may be allotted up to three (3) minutes and one (1) opportunity, during each public session, to address the Board when recognized by the Board President. Individuals wishing to address the Board shall be recognized by the Board President and shall give their names, addresses and the group, if any, that they represent. Students of the Prospect Park school system who choose to speak are not required to give their home address.

Although, the Board encourages public participation, it reserves the right, through its Board President, to terminate remarks to and/or by any individual not in keeping with the conduct of a proper and efficient meeting. With the exception of those individuals whose names are on the agenda, the Board will not respond to questions during the public participation portion of this meeting involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment,

negotiations, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance of, promotion or disciplining of any specific, prospective or current employee.

All comments and questions are to be directed through the Board President.

Board Member Lopez made a motion to open the public portion which was seconded by Board Member Colcloughly. All members in attendance voted in favor of doing so.

Jhoana Laboy, 181 Fairview Avenue, raised concerns regarding the lack of information regarding graduation and the delivery of graduation rings and caps & gowns.

Member Lopez made a motion to close the public portion which was seconded by Board Vice-President Gonzalez. All members in attendance voted in favor of doing so.

## **8. Budget Presentation & Public Hearing**

Mr. Turner made the budget presentation to the Board and members of the public. He advised that the preliminary budget, which is a maintenance budget with no tax increase to the taxpayers, was approved by the County Superintendent & BA and the Department of Education and is in front of the Board for approval. He thanked the Board and Administration for their assistance with the budget and stated that it will need to be maintained with scrutiny as they do not know what the future holds in regards to the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Turner went on to say that the state aid received was offset by operating expenses due to the pandemic, increased costs for health benefits and special education tuition, and monies due to charter schools. He ended by stating the user-friendly budget will be posted on the school website.

Board President Nadim made a motion to open the public hearing on the budget which was seconded by Board Vice-President Gonzalez. All members in attendance voted in favor of doing so.

Jhoana Laboy, 181 Fairview Avenue, questioned whether or not the proposed budget includes school trips.

Anmarie Kalajian, School District Teacher, inquired as to why the budget was not yet posted on the website.

Laura Colomier, School District Teacher, asked how individuals can get a more in depth copy of the budget.

Beth Solloway, School District Teacher, stated that she understands the budget was posted in the paper and all legal obligations were fulfilled but readership is low. She asked why it was not posted earlier on the website.

Board Member Rodriguez made a motion to close the public portion which was seconded by Board Member Lopez. All members in attendance voted in favor of doing so.

#### **9. Communications:**

None.

#### **10. Reports Section**

- A. **President's Report** – Board President Nadim announced that it is Teacher's Appreciation Week and thanked them for all of their hard work. He went on to say that finance committee meetings have been held in relation to contract negotiations and noted that a final offer is coming by the end of the week. Mr. Nadim stated that it was a tough year and thanked everyone for the effort they have put it to making it a successful one. He continued on by encouraging parents to attend meetings and commended his fellow Board members as a lot of time is put into their roles. Mr. Nadim ended his report by sharing questions will be answered but that the meeting format must be followed in order for there to be a smooth and efficient meeting.
- B. **Superintendent's Report** – Superintendent Angermeyer opened her report by sharing that it is National Teacher's Day and Teacher's Appreciation Week. She stated that teachers never stop and should be appreciated the entire year, not just one day. Mrs. Angermeyer went on to say that even in difficult times the ball has never dropped and the district continued to get things accomplished while keeping the children smiling and that she can't thank the teachers enough for all that they do. Mrs. Angermeyer then went on to talk about the new model for the summer program, which is focused on more engagement, and said that several teachers are interested in working the program and information went out to parents recently. She discussed that administration is in the midst of completing their end of year documents with the teachers and the teachers are doing the same with the students. Mrs. Angermeyer then spoke about graduation as they are currently in contact with Manchester Regional High School in regard to requesting the use of their field for an outdoor ceremony, which was never done before. She ended by noting that all mandated guidelines will be followed at the ceremony.
- C. **Principal's Report** – Mrs. D'Arrigo spoke about the arrival of the caps and gowns for graduating students, which went home with the students who are participating in in-person sessions and remain in the building for pick-up for those that are still learning remotely. She noted that parents were notified of the arrival but that notifications are going out in portions due to the difficulty of getting orders which resulted in late orders.

Mrs. D’Arrigo stated that she hopes that having an outdoor graduation will entice more students/parents to participate and noted that she is willing to scramble for more last-minute orders if it means increasing the number of students that will partake in the ceremony. She was excited with the new plan and advised that as soon as more concrete information is available, they will share it with the students and parents. Mrs. D’Arrigo also touched base on the new model of the summer program, which includes special education. She then went on to share that they are in the final stages of evaluations for tenure teachers and that by the next meeting there will be many yearly school-end tasks complete. She concluded her report by highlighting Teacher’s Appreciation Week. Mrs. D’Arrigo said that teachers are appreciated every day and that they really rose to the occasion this year with all of the challenges they faced due to the pandemic.

D. **Committee Reports** – No reports.

E. **Board Attorney Report** – Mr. Buglione announced that he is working on numerous legal matters and the contract negotiations. He noted that the extensive executive session held after the last meeting showed progress.

**Motion to accept & approve the reports:**

Motion by: Board Vice-President Gonzalez

Second: Board Member Lopez

	Nadim	Gonzalez	Colcloughly	Ensour	Lopez	Rodriguez	Valerio
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
No							
Abstain							
Absent							

**11. Approval of Minutes**

Be it resolved, the Board accepts and approves the following Board of Education meeting minutes: Regular Meeting—April 20, 2021 & Executive Session – April 20, 2021

**Motion to approve the meeting minutes:**

Motion by: Board Vice-President Gonzalez & Board Member Lopez

Second: Board Member Rodriguez

	Nadim	Gonzalez	Colcloughly	Ensour	Lopez	Rodriguez	Valerio
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
No							
Abstain							
Absent							

## 12. Presentations

None.

## 13. AGENDA ACTION ITEMS

### FINANCE AGENDA

#### **F1 Approval of District Claims—Bills List—April 2021**

Be it resolved, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:19-4.1, the Board of Education approves district claims and payments that were made during the month of April 2021. The total payment amount was \$1,006,207.45 including payroll.

#### **Motion to approve resolution F1:**

Motion by: Board Member Colcloughly

Second: Board Member Lopez

	Nadim	Gonzalez	Colcloughly	Ensour	Lopez	Rodriguez	Valerio
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
No							
Abstain							
Absent							

#### **F2 Secretary's Report – Acceptance—March 2021**

Be it resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board accepts the Board Secretary's financial reports for the month of March 2021, based upon the certification of the Board Secretary, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c) (3), N.J.S.A. 18A:17-10 and N.J.S.A. 18A:17-36, that no line-item account or program category account has been over expended, and that no account or fund has been over expended.

#### **F3 Report of the Treasurer of School Moneys—Acceptance—March 2021**

Be it resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board accepts the Reports of the Treasurer of School Moneys for the month of March 2021.

#### **F4 Approval of Monthly Transfer of Budget Funds Report—Month of March 2021**

Be it resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves the Monthly Budget Transfer Report for the month of March 2021.

**Motion to table resolutions F2-F4:**

Motion by: Board Member Colcloughly  
 Second: Board Vice-President Gonzalez

	Nadim	Gonzalez	Colcloughly	Ensour	Lopez	Rodriguez	Valerio
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
No							
Abstain							
Absent							

**F5 Adoption of Budget**

Be it resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Business Administrator, the Prospect Park Board of Education hereby adopts the FY 2021-2022 budget as approved by the County Office and as advertised, as follows:

	<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	<u>SPECIAL REVENUES</u>	<u>DEBT SERVICE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<b>2021-22 Total Expenditures</b>	\$14,430,497	\$1,170,877	\$315,249	\$15,916,623
<b>Less: Anticipated Revenues</b>	<u>\$11,234,673</u>	<u>\$1,170,877</u>	<u>\$195,388</u>	<u>\$12,600,938</u>
<b>Taxes to be Raised</b>	<u>\$3,195,824</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$119,861</u>	<u>\$3,315,685</u>

**F6 Approval of Contract – Preferred Home Health Care & Nursing Services**

Be it resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves the contract with Preferred Home Health Care & Nursing Services for term beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022.

**Motion to approve resolutions F5 & F6:**

Motion by: Board Vice-President Gonzalez  
 Second: Board Member Colcloughly

	Nadim	Gonzalez	Colcloughly	Ensour	Lopez	Rodriguez	Valerio
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
No							
Abstain							
Absent							

**F7 Rescind Resolution F4 of the April 20, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Prospect Park Board of Education**

Be it resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Board Secretary, the Board approves the rescinding of Resolution F4 titled “Approval of Monthly Transfer of Budget Funds Report—Month of February 2021”

**Motion to remove resolution F7 from the agenda:**

Motion by: Board Member Colcloughly

Second: Board Vice-President Gonzalez

	Nadim	Gonzalez	Colcloughly	Ensour	Lopez	Rodriguez	Valerio
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
No							
Abstain							
Absent							

**F8 Approval of ECPA/ELLI PEA Revised Budget Application Submission**

Be it resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves the submission of the ECPA/ELLI PEA Revised Application to include carryover funds, as follows:

PEA Aid	\$187,948.00
Carryover	\$30,258.00
General Funds	\$604,968.00
Other (IDEA)	\$9,635.00
Total	\$832,539.00

**Motion to approve resolution F8:**

Motion by: Board Member Colcloughly

Second: Board Vice-President Gonzalez & Board Member Lopez

	Nadim	Gonzalez	Colcloughly	Ensour	Lopez	Rodriguez	Valerio
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
No							
Abstain							
Absent							

## PERSONNEL AGENDA

### Motion to approve resolution P1:

Motion by: Board Member Colcloughly

Second: Board Member Lopez

	Nadim	Gonzalez	Colcloughly	Ensour	Lopez	Rodriguez	Valerio
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
No							
Abstain							
Absent							

### P1 Approval of Unpaid Leave of Absence

Be it resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves the following unpaid leave of absence effective April 12, 2021 through June 24, 2021:

District ID #: 1871

### EDUCATION AGENDA—None

### BUILDING AND GROUNDS AGENDA—None

### POLICY SECTION

### Motion to approve resolution BP1:

Motion by: Board Member Colcloughly

Second: Board Vice-President Gonzalez

	Nadim	Gonzalez	Colcloughly	Ensour	Lopez	Rodriguez	Valerio
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
No							
Abstain							
Absent							

### BP1 Approval of Additional Regular Meeting Date – June 2021

Be it resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Board Secretary, the Board approves an additional regular meeting date for the month of June 2021 to be held on Wednesday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 7PM.

### FOOD SERVICES AGENDA—None

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: STATEMENT TO THE PUBLIC**

At this portion of the meeting, time has been allotted for public comment by members the public. Each speaker may be allotted up to **three (3) minutes** and one (1) opportunity, during each public session, to address the Board when recognized by the Board President. Individuals wishing to address the Board shall be recognized by the Board President and shall give their names, addresses and the group, if any, that they represent. Students of the Prospect Park school system who chose to speak are not required to give their home address.

**Public Participation: Statement to the Public**

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All comments and questions are to be directed through the President.

**Motion to Open Public Hearing:**

Motion by: Board Member Colcloughly

Second: Board President Nadim

	Nadim	Gonzalez	Colcloughly	Ensour	Lopez	Rodriguez	Valerio
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
No							
Abstain							
Absent							

- Jhoana Laboy, 181 Fairview Avenue, thanked Principal D’Arrigo and Superintendent Angermeyer for answering her questions and for all that they are doing. She stated that she understands wanting all students to have the opportunity to order their caps and gowns but said that not it is ultimately the parents’ responsibility. Ms. Laboy said that she hopes the graduation is safe for all of the graduates as the focus should be all about them and does not want their moment ruined. She went on to say she appreciated the teachers as they always go above and beyond and encouraged the Board to show their appreciation by settling their contract. Ms. Laboy ended by saying parents want to see action as the teachers gave the students their all, even during COVID.
- Beth Solloway, School District Teacher, inquired as to whether or not there is a plan for

meetings to be held in person and questioned whether or not Board Members should have their cameras on at all times during meetings.

**Motion to Close Public Hearing:**

Motion by: Board Member Lopez

Second: Board Vice-President Gonzalez

	Nadim	Gonzalez	Colcloughly	Ensour	Lopez	Rodriguez	Valerio
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
No							
Abstain							
Absent							

**14. New Business Section**

-**School Financial Disclosures** – Board Secretary Delaney reminded the remaining two members who did not complete their financial disclosures that they must do so as soon as possible.

-RFPs for Board of Education Auditor & Attorney – Board Attorney Buglione stated that the Board of Education must advertise a new RFP for School Auditor & Attorney. A motion was made by Board Member Colcloughly to advertise which was seconded by Board Member Valerio. Motion carried by those present.

**15. Closing Remarks/Announcements**

Board President Nadim asked Mr. Buglione if cameras are required to be used by the Board Members, who advised that they are not. He also stated that the policy committee will discuss a plan for in-person meetings. Lastly, he shared that he is excited about the outdoor ceremony to be held at Manchester Regional, for the first time, being that the children worked hard and deserve it.

Board Vice-President Gonzalez thanked and saluted the District’s educators.

Board Member Colcloughly shared his gratitude as both a Board Member and parent to the teachers and administration. He stated that they should be acknowledged more often than just a day or week of the year.

Board Member Ensour thanked the teachers and staff for making sure the students get the best education regardless of the circumstances.

Board Member Lopez thanked everyone for their hard work and congratulated all of the

upcoming graduates.

Board Member Rodriguez stated that he hopes everyone is doing well and enjoying the change of weather. He thanked all teachers, staff, and administration for always coming together with great ideas for the students.

Board Member Valerio thanked everyone for working together towards the same goal, which is the betterment of the students.

## **16. Adjournment**

Board Vice President Gonzalez made a motion adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Board Member Valerio. All members in attendance voted in favor of doing so. The meeting adjourned at 8:20PM.