

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
CITY OF LONG BRANCH
NEW JERSEY**

MINUTES

AUGUST 17, 2020

The Emergency Meeting of the Long Branch Board of Education was held in the Historic High School, 391 Westwood Avenue, Long Branch, New Jersey.

Mr. Covin called the meeting to order at 11:00 A.M.

A. ROLL CALL

Mr. Covin - President	Dr. Critelli	Ms. McCaskill
Mrs. Youngblood Brown – VP – call in	Mr. Zambrano – call in	Mrs. Peters
Mr. Grant	Rev. Bennett	Mrs. Perez

B. FLAG SALUTE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Donald C. Covin, Board President, will salute the flag and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion was made by Mrs. Perez, seconded by Mrs. Peter and carried by roll call vote that the Board approve the following item (C).

Ayes (9), Nays (0), Absent (0)

C. APPROVAL OF EMERGENCY MEETING

That the Board recognize the necessity for the emergency meeting and adopt the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act (“OPMA”), *N.J.S.A. 10:4-9*, the Long Branch Board of Education (“Board”) is seeking to hold an emergency meeting on August 17, 2020, at 11:00 A.M.; and

WHEREAS, throughout the State, questions have arisen with respect to school re-opening plans amid the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 10:4-9*, the Board may hold an emergency meeting if the meeting is required to deal with matters of such urgency and importance that a delay for the purpose of providing adequate notice would likely result in substantial harm to the public interest; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 10:4-9*, the Board seeks to hold an emergency meeting regarding school reopening due to urgent concerns regarding COVID-19,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby authorizes the aforementioned meeting to take place on August 17, 2020 at 11:00 A.M.

Peter E. Genovese III, RSBO, QPA
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Ayes: 9
Nays: 0
Absent: 0
Date: August 17, 2020

D-1. **STATEMENT OF THE MANNER OF NOTIFICATION OF THE MEETING**

Peter E. Genovese III, RSBO, QPA, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary stated that notice of this Emergency Meeting of the Long Branch Board of Education will be given in the appropriate newspapers in accordance with law regarding emergency meetings. Notice of this meeting will also be forwarded to the City Clerk, Long Branch, New Jersey.

Mr. Genovese made the following announcement: Fire exits are located in the direction indicated. In case of fire, you will be signaled by bell and/or public address system. If so alerted to fire, please move in a calm and orderly fashion to the nearest smoke-free exit.

D-2. **OBJECTIONS, IF ANY, TO THE VALIDITY OF THE MEETING**

The objecting member must give supporting reasons.

E-1. **STATEMENT TO THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Covin made the following announcement; 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 that the matter is ready to be presented to the Board of Education, it is then referred to the appropriate Board committee. The members of the Board committee work with the administration and Superintendent to assure that the members fully understand the matter. When the committee is satisfied with the matter, it is presented to the Board of Education for discussion before any final action is taken. Only then is it placed on the agenda for action at a public meeting. All agenda attachments are available for public review. In rare instances, matters are presented to the Board of Education for discussion at the same meeting that final action may be taken.

Time may be allocated for public comment at this meeting. Each speaker may be allotted up to three (3) minutes and one (1) opportunity to address the Board when recognized by the presiding officer. Individuals wishing to address the Board shall be recognized by the presiding officer and shall give their names, addresses and the group, if any, that they represent. Although the Board encourages public participation, it reserves the right, through its presiding officer, 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 this evening, 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.

E-2. **OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE BOARD RELATING TO AGENDA ITEMS**

No one addressed the Board.

Motion was made by Mrs. Perez, seconded by Dr. Critelli and carried by roll call vote that the Board approve the following item (F).
Ayes (9), Nays (0), Absent (0)

F. **RESOLUTION FOR CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION – 11:05 A.M.**

That the Board approve the following Resolution -

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975) allows for the exclusion from discussion at the public portion of a meeting of certain matters which might endanger the public interest or risk the deprivation of individual rights, and

WHEREAS, the Long Branch Board of Education wishes to discuss **modification of the districts re-opening plan as it pertains to public health related issues** with the resulting action being made public when a proper conclusion has been reached and there is no longer a need for confidentiality;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Long Branch Board of Education will hold a closed Executive Session immediately in the Historic High School, 391 Westwood Avenue, Long Branch, New Jersey. It is anticipated that the closed session will not last longer than 30 minutes. Action may be taken in the public portion of the meeting upon recessing of this Executive Session back into the open public meeting.

Peter E. Genovese III, RSBO, QPA
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Ayes: 9
Nays: 0
Absent: 0
Date: August 17, 2020

The Board returned to open session at 11:57 A.M.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Covin - President	Dr. Critelli	Ms. McCaskill
Mrs. Youngblood Brown – VP – call in	Mr. Zambrano – call in	Mrs. Peters
Mr. Grant	Rev. Bennett	Mrs. Perez

G. **ACTION ITEMS**

Motion was made by Dr. Critelli, seconded by Mrs. Youngblood Brown and carried by roll call vote that the Board approve the following item (G1)
Ayes (9), Nays (0), Absent (0)

1. **APPROVAL TO MODIFY THE RE-OPENING PLAN**

That the Board approve the modification to the re-opening plan by going full remote commencing September 8, 2020 with a rolling 30 days review by the Board to see if additional modifications will be required.

H. **OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

No one addressed the Board.

I. **ADJOURNMENT – 11:58 A.M.**

There being no further discussion, motion was made by Mrs. Peters, seconded by Dr. Critelli and carried by roll call vote that the Board adjourn the meeting at 11:58 A.M.
Ayes (9), Nays (0), Absent (0)

Peter E. Genovese III, RSBO, QPA
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary