



# RIDGEWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION

Meeting Minutes  
January 8, 2024

Minutes of the Reorganization and Regular Public Meeting of the Ridgewood Board of Education held on January 8, 2024.

## REORGANIZATION MEETING

### I. CALL TO ORDER

At 7:01 pm Ms. Kot called the meeting to order.

### II. FLAG SALUTE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Kot led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### III. OPENING STATEMENT

Ms. Kot announced that pursuant to the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA), advance notice of this meeting had been given to The Ridgewood News, The Record, and the Clerk of the Village of Ridgewood. In addition, notices have been posted in the office of the Board Secretary and in all school buildings.

### IV. RESULTS OF SCHOOL ELECTION (November 8, 2023)

#### Candidates for Board: Two, Three Year Terms

Mary Micale	2,973
Saurabh Dani	1,792
Julie Mchedlishveli	1,749
Michael Lembo	1,305
Laura Mckenna	1,229
Malcolm Jennings	663
Claude Guinchard II	632

### V. SWEARING IN OF ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

- Mary Micale
- Saurabh Dani

- Mr. Dani and Ms. Micale were formally sworn in by Ms. Kot.

### VI. ROLL CALL

#### Present:

Ms. Sheila Brogan  
Mr. Saurabh Dani  
Ms. HyunJu Kwak

Mr. Muhammad Mahmoud  
Ms. Micale

**Also Present:**

Dr. Mark Schwarz, Superintendent of Schools,  
Ms. Julie Kot, Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
Mr. Richard Freedman, Interim Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction  
Ms. Jaime Murphy, Director of Human Resources

**Visitors:** Approximately 15 community members were present in-person and/or virtually.

**VII. NOMINATION FOR BOARD PRESIDENT**

Ms. Kot opened nominations for Board President.

- Ms. Kwak nominates Mr. Mahmoud.
  - Mr. Mahmoud declined the nomination.
- Mr. Mahmoud nominates Ms. Brogan.

**MOTION to Close Nominations for President** by: Ms. Kwak

**SECOND** by: Mr. Mahmoud

**VIII. ELECTION OF BOARD PRESIDENT**

**Vote for Ms. Sheila Brogan:**

**ROLL CALL**

AYES: Ms. Brogan, Mr. Mahmoud, Ms. Micale

NAYS: Mr. Dani, Ms. Kwak

- Ms. Brogan was elected Board President. Ms. Kot turned the meeting over to Ms. Brogan.

**IX. NOMINATIONS FOR VICE PRESIDENT**

Ms. Brogan nominated Mr. Mahmoud.

**MOTION to Close Nominations for Vice President** by: Ms. Kwak

**SECOND** by: Mr. Mahmoud

**ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT**

**Vote for Mr. Muhammad Mahmoud:**

**ROLL CALL**

AYES: Ms. Brogan, Mr. Mahmoud, Ms. Micale, Mr. Dani, Ms. Kwak

NAYS: none

- Mr. Mahmoud was elected Board Vice President.

**XI. BOARD ETHICS TRAINING**

- Matthew Giacobbe, Legal Counsel

- Mr. Giacobbe provided detailed Ethics training and answered Board Trustee questions.

(View this portion of the the [Ridgewood BOE Meeting 1/8/2024](#) starting at 00:23:29.)

## XII. REORGANIZATION RESOLUTIONS

### A. ADMINISTRATIVE

#### i. ADOPTION OF NJSBA CODE OF ETHICS

Resolved, that the Ridgewood Board of Education adopts and agrees to abide by the New Jersey School Boards Association Board Member Code of Ethics as set forth in N.J.S.A 18A:12-24.1:

- 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.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that each Board Member shall sign a document that he/she

received a copy of the Code of Ethics and has read and understood it.

**ii. Approval of the Open Public Meetings Act & Board Meeting Dates**

The Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the Open Public Meetings Act as follows:

Section 1. Except as provided in Section 7b of the Act, all meetings of the Board shall be open to the public at all times.

Section 2. At every Regular Public Meeting, the public may actively participate during the time or times designated for that purpose in Order of Business and the Board might take formal action.

Section 3. At every meeting, the public may participate or be heard subject to the rules outlined in Policy #0162 of the Board.

Section 4. All public meetings, as set forth in the Annual Meeting Schedule below, shall be held in the designated location as indicated below. All meetings will be held on Mondays at 7:00 p.m., unless noted.

Official action may be taken at any public meeting to hold an executive session to handle matters which by law may be discussed in closed session. Such matters include negotiations, personnel, security, real estate, litigation, investments, residency hearings, and Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying hearings.

The Board may take action in public session at any meeting scheduled as a public meeting for executive session.

Public comments are permitted at the beginning of the meeting and just prior to adjournment. At the discretion of the presiding officer, public comments may be permitted at other times.

All Regular Public Meetings will be aired live on television, Optimum Channel 77 and FIOS Channel 33, and streamed via the “Link in Live” tab on the district website at [www.ridgewood.k12.nj.us](http://www.ridgewood.k12.nj.us).

Executive Sessions will be held before the scheduled Regular Public Meetings at 5:00 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 6:00 p.m., or 6:30 p.m. if necessary. In such instances, the Board will open in public and adjourn immediately in Executive Session.

January 22, 2024	Regular Public Meeting	Ed Center
February 12, 2024	Regular Public Meeting	Ed Center
March 4, 2024	Regular Public Meeting	Ed Center
March 18, 2024	Regular Public Meeting/Tentative Budget Adoption	Ed Center
April 8, 2024	Regular Public Meeting	Ed Center

April 29, 2024	Regular Public Meeting/Final Budget Adoption	Ed Center
May 20, 2024	Regular Public Meeting	Ed Center
June 10, 2024	Regular Public Meeting	Ed Center
June 24, 2024 *5:00 pm start time	Regular Public Meeting	Ed Center
July 22, 2024 *5:00 pm start time	Regular Public Meeting	Ed Center
August 26, 2024 *5:00 pm start time	Regular Public Meeting	Ed Center
September 16, 2024	Regular Public Meeting	Ed Center
September 30, 2024	Regular Public Meeting	Ed Center
October 14, 2024	Regular Public Meeting	Ed Center
November 18, 2024	Regular Public Meeting	Ed Center
December 16, 2024	Regular Public Meeting	Ed Center
January 6, 2025	Reorganization Meeting	Ed Center

Section 5. Within 7 days following the adoption of this resolution and any revising or modifying resolution,

- a. A copy shall be filed with the Ridgewood Public Library.
- b. A copy shall be mailed to The Record and The Star Ledger.
- c. A copy shall be filed with the Village Clerk of the Village of Ridgewood.

**iii. Adoption of Robert’s Rule of Order**

Resolved, that the Ridgewood Board of Education, in accordance with Bylaw 0164, hereby adopts and will operate in accordance with Robert’s Rules of Order, which shall govern all official deliberation of the Board to the extent not inconsistent with the statutes of the State of New Jersey, rules of the State Board of Education, or the Board’s bylaws.

**iv. Adoption of Board Policies, Regulations and Bylaws**

Resolved, that the Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves and readopts all existing Board Policies, Regulations, and By-laws of the Ridgewood Board of Education.

**v. Designation of Official Newspapers**

The Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves The Record and Star Ledger as official newspapers for all legal advertisements and notices for the 2024 year.

- The Board discussed the anticipated budget presentations for the public.
  - Dr. Schwarz reviewed that robust Board Committee meetings will occur in February prior to the March 4 Board meeting to ensure the Board is comfortable with the budget.
  - Ms. Kot clarified that once the tentative budget is approved, it must be given to the county office by March 20, 2024. When the County has reviewed the tentative budget it is then advertised. The budget is advertised once to the public and then the district will hold the final budget hearing, any changes to the advertised budget are identified at the final budget hearing. A revised budget is not advertised.
- The Board discussed resolution **ii. Board Meeting Dates** and conflicts with the February and September Board meeting dates and the summer meeting start times.

View this portion of the [Ridgewood BOE Meeting 1/8/2024 starting at 01:32:16](#).

⇒ **MOTION to Amend A.ii. Board Meeting Dates:** Ms. Kwak made a motion to amend the start times for the June 24, July 22 and August 26 meetings from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

**Motion by:** Ms. Kwak

**SECOND** by: Mr. Dani

**ROLL CALL**

AYES: Mr. Dani, Ms. Kwak, Ms. Micale, Mr. Mahmoud, Ms. Brogan

NAYS: none

- The Board voted on the published meeting dates and will revisit the February and September meetings for possible edits.

**Approval of A. Administrative as Amended**

**MOTION** by: Ms. Kwak

**SECOND** by: Ms. Micale

**ROLL CALL**

AYES: Mr. Dani, Ms. Kwak, Ms. Micale, Mr. Mahmoud, Ms. Brogan

NAYS: none

**B. Annual Appointments**

**i. Appointment: Affirmative Action Officer**

The Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the appointment of the Director of Human Resources as the Affirmative Action Officer for the Ridgewood Public Schools for the 2024 year.

**ii. Appointment: Title II ADA/Section 504 Coordinator**

The Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the appointment of the Director of Special Programs as the Title II ADA/Section 504 Coordinator for the Ridgewood Public Schools for the 2024 year.

**iii. Appointment: Homeless Children Liaison**

The Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the appointment of the Director of Special Programs as the Homeless

Children Liaison for the Ridgewood Public Schools for the 2024 year.

**iv Appointments: Civil Rights Coordinators**

The Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the Coordinators for the 2024 year, as listed below:

- Title IX: Director of Human Resources
- Title IX: Student Athletic Issues: Athletic Director
- Title IX: Student Curricular Issues: Director of Special Programs
- Employee Disabilities Issues (Americans with Disabilities Act): Director of Human Resources

**v. Appointment: Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) Coordinator**

The Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the appointment of the Manager of Maintenance & Custodial Services as the AHERA Coordinator for the 2024 year.

**vi. Appointment: Chemical Hygiene Officer**

The Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the appointment of the Supervisor of Science as the Chemical Hygiene Officer for the 2024 year.

**vii. Appointment: Custodian of Records**

The Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the appointment of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary and the Director of Human Resources as Custodians of Records for the Ridgewood Public Schools for the 2024 year.

**viii. Appointment: Data Coordinator**

The Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the appointment of Georgia Abrunzo as the Data Coordinator for the 2024 year.

**ix. Appointment: Indoor Air Quality Designee**

The Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the appointment of the Manager of Maintenance & Custodial Services as the Indoor Air Quality Designee for the 2024 year.

**x. Appointment: Integrated Pest Management Coordinator**

The Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the appointment of the Manager of Maintenance & Custodial Services as the Integrated Pest Management Coordinator for the 2024 year.

**xi. Appointment: Right to Know Officer**

The Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the appointment of the Manager of Maintenance & Custodial Services as the Right to Know Officer for the 2024 year.

**xii. Appointment: School Safety Specialist**

The Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the appointment of the School Safety Security Officer as the School Safety

Specialist for the 2024 year.

**xiii. Appointment: Substance Awareness Coordinator**

The Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the appointment of the Supervisor of Wellness as the Substance Awareness Coordinator for the 2024 year.

**xiv. Appointment: Toxic Hazard Preparedness Officer**

The Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the appointment of the Manager of Maintenance & Custodial Services as the Toxic Hazard Preparedness Officer for the 2024 year.

**xv. Appointment: Public Agency Compliance Officer (P.A.C.O)**

The Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the appointment of the Business Administrator as the Public Agency Compliance Officer.

**xvi. Appointment: Representatives Requesting Federal and State Funds**

The Ridgewood Board of Education designates the Superintendent of Schools and the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, or their designees, as the Board's agents to request state and federal funds under the existing State and Federal Laws for the 2024 year.

**xvii. Appointment: Qualified Purchasing Agent**

The Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, appoints the School Business Administrator as the Board's Qualified Purchasing Agent to exercise the duties of a qualified purchasing agent pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A, et seq. and grants authority, responsibility, and accountability of the purchasing activity of the Ridgewood Public Schools.

**xviii. Appointment: Board Secretary Pro Tem**

The Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, appoints Jaime Cangialosi-Murphy as Board Secretary Pro Tem for emergency purposes or in the absence of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

**xix. Appointment: Investment Officer**

The Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, appoints the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, as Investment Officer.

**MOTION** by: Ms. Kwak

**SECOND** by: Ms. Brogan

**ROLL CALL**

AYES: Mr. Dani, Ms. Kwak, Ms. Micale, Mr. Mahmoud, Ms. Brogan

NAYS: none



**C. ANNUAL AUTHORIZATIONS****i. Authorization for Payment of Bills Between Board Meetings**

The Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, authorizes the School Business Administrator to audit, approve and direct pre-payment of claims prior to presentation to the Board for Debt Service, Payroll, fixed charges and any other claim or demand which would be in the best interest of the Board to pay promptly. Any such approval shall be presented to the Board for ratification at their next regular meeting as per N.J.S.A.18A:19-4.1. Such authority is granted for the 2024 year.

**ii. Designation of Business Administrator Transfer Authority**

The Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves as provided for in N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.1, that the School Business Administrator be designated to approve such line item budget transfers as are necessary between Board of Education meetings, and that such transfers shall be reported to the Board of Education, ratified, and duly recorded in the minutes of such meeting not less than monthly.

**MOTION** by: Mr. Mahmoud

**SECOND** by: Ms. Micale

**ROLL CALL**

AYES: Mr. Dani, Ms. Kwak, Ms. Micale, Mr. Mahmoud, Ms. Brogan

NAYS: none

**REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING****I. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

- Jacqueline Hone, followed up on an email she sent to Dr. Schwarz and the full Board on October 5, requesting an update to the 2006 Comprehensive Village Park and Recreation Plan. She would like answers to questions about the safety of chemicals in turf and rubber fill. The flooding of the fields has raised concerns about PFAS in water and emphasized the need for the examination of exposures that may occur from turf components. She referenced a meeting the District had with the Army Corp of Engineers about long and short term solutions. She asked that medical professionals be included in these meetings.
- Ann Loving, congratulated Ms. Micale on her election and Mr. Dani on his re-election. She questioned how a Trustee with an ethics violation was elected to serve as President.
- Anand Hegde, questioned how many times in the last ten years the grounds have been flooded? He asked how much money has been spent on repairing the turf. He asked who is responsible for maintaining the stream and wondered if the BOE has talked to the Village to see if they can fix the problem, and have engineers been consulted to prevent the flooding.
- Christina Millian, discussed high levels of PFAS in Ridgewood drinking water and asked that the BOE explore water filtration systems in the schools. She quoted a September 12 correspondence from the Superintendent of schools "we will explore water filtration options so that schools may have at least one thoroughly filtered water source. We will consider options as part of the 2024-2025 budget process." She is following up to see if this is being explored this year. She commented and hopes that data and science will be used to make water and turf decisions. The fields/facilities committee takes place on 7:00 am and would like to have the minutes posted or have the time of the meetings changed to be inclusive of all residents.
- Rurik Halaby, is delighted that Sheila Brogan is President and Mohammad Mahmoud is

Vice President and Mary Micale is elected as a Board member. He hopes that the Board will concentrate on the interests of the students and not grandstanding. He believes an investment in the school system is an investment in our future and attracts people to the town.

- Peter Maltin, congratulated the new board member and re-elected member. He discussed the Ridgewood water and commented that money in the budgets can be used towards filtration units.

(View the full public comments of the [Ridgewood BOE Meeting 1/8/2024](#) starting at 02:00:53.)

## II. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- Dr. Schwarz reported on the following topics:
  - The district is evaluating the field flooding issue and working together with the Village on the situation. The district is reviewing all options including alternative fill options for artificial surfaces.
  - Water filtration systems are being considered in the 2024-2025 budget.
  - Governor Murphy has issued a State of Emergency for the January 9 storm. Tuesday evening events may be canceled depending on the timing of the storm, and a delayed opening on Wednesday is a possibility.
  - Upcoming BOE meeting presentations will include an Audit presentation on February 12 and a status update on the District Goals.
  - As of January 15, there is a freeze on discretionary purchases, allowing the district to evaluate current account status.

(View this portion of the [Ridgewood BOE Meeting 1/8/2024](#) starting at 02:19:30.)

## III. CONSENT ITEMS: REGULAR AND ROUTINE ISSUES

### A. ADMINISTRATION

#### i. Approval: Receipt of Suspensions and Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) Reports

The Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools approves the recommendation of the findings of the suspensions and confidential HIB reports received since the last Board meeting

**MOTION** by: Mr. Mahmoud

**SECOND** by: Mr. Dani

#### **ROLL CALL**

AYES: Mr. Dani, Ms. Kwak, Mr. Mahmoud, Ms. Brogan

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: Ms. Micale

### B. HUMAN RESOURCES

#### i. Appointments

The Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the appointments listed below, subject to receipt of appropriate documentation and the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) certificate, if required.

\_\_\_\_\_ Interim Middle School Principal, George Washington Middle School, effective January 9, 2024 through June 30, 2024, pending verification of employment as outlined by Chapter 5. Candidate possesses a NJDOE Standard Certificate as School Administrator, Principal and Supervisor.

Salary: TBD

Account # 11-000-240-103-00-09-019-000

⇒ **MOTION to Amend B.i. Appointments:** Mr. Dani made a motion to amend the Resolution for Appointments as follows:+

Dr. C. Lauren Schoen, Interim Middle School Principal, George Washington Middle School, effective January 9, 2024 through June 30, 2024, pending verification of employment as outlined by Chapter 5. Candidate possesses a NJDOE Standard Certificate as School Administrator, Principal and Supervisor.

Salary: \$700 per diem.

**MOTION to Amend B.i.** by: Mr. Dani

**SECOND** by: Ms. Micale

**ROLL CALL**

AYES: Mr. Dani, Ms. Kwak, Ms. Micale, Mr. Mahmoud, Ms. Brogan

NAYS: none

**Approval of B. Human Resources as Amended**

**MOTION** by: Mr. Dani

**SECOND** by: Ms. Kwak

**ROLL CALL**

AYES: Mr. Dani, Ms. Kwak, Ms. Micale, Mr. Mahmoud, Ms. Brogan

NAYS: none

**IV. APPROVAL OF BILLS**

The Ridgewood Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the payment of bills as listed below and reviewed by Ms. Brogan.

Dates	Description	Check Number	Amounts
Dec 21	Columbia Bank On-Line	112405	100,000.00
Jan 8	Columbia Bank On-Line	112406-112596	1,989,268.43
Nov 30	Payroll Transfers	P47015-P47016	7,297,468.93
Nov 15	Electronic Transfer	B47004	285,550.00
Nov 8	Electronic Transfers	C47018-C47019	10,723.92
Oct 31	Electronic Transfer	F47002	8,524.57
Dec 12	Electronic Transfer	R47003	36,114.00
Nov 13	Electronic Transfers	R47005-R47007	1,810.06
Jan 8	Electronic Transfer	821131	15,609.24
Jan 8	Food Service	620451-620452	279,305.74
TOTAL			10,024,374.89

**MOTION** by: Ms. Brogan                      **SECOND** by: Ms. Kwak

**ROLL CALL**

AYES: Mr. Dani, Ms. Kwak, Ms. Micale, Ms. Brogan, Mr. Mahmoud

NAYS: none

**V. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Ms. Brogan announced that the Martin Luther King Celebrations will begin on Friday with a movie at the Ridgewood Public Library. On Saturday, student volunteer ambassadors will be collecting for the food pantry at Ridgecrest. On Sunday, Expression of Inspiration will take place from 5:30-8:00. On Monday, there is a service and speaker at the United Methodist Church.

(View this portion of the [Ridgewood BOE Meeting 1/8/2024](#) starting at 02:51:02.)

**VI. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

N/A

**VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- Ms. Brogan began the discussion on Board Goals as a followup to the November 6, 2023 meeting, which included the following:
  - The Board of Education will strive to meet the following goals during the 2023-2024 school year:
    - Complete a reorganization of the committee structure
    - Obtain a flood mitigation assessment
    - Schedule and attend Board training to understand the roles and responsibilities of Board Trustees
    - Review the feasibility of intramural sports districtwide
    - Ensure annual school board elections are reestablished starting with the November 2024 election.
- A discussion regarding the draft of the Board goals ensued. The Board Goals will be discussed further at the next BOE Meeting.

(View this portion of the [Ridgewood BOE Meeting 1/8/2024](#) starting at 02:53:5 )

**VIII. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

- December 4, 2023 Regular Public Meeting Minutes  
(as revised at the December 18, 2023 Regular Meeting)

**MOTION** by: Ms. Kwak                      **SECOND** by: Mr. Dani

**ROLL CALL**

AYES: Mr. Dani, Ms. Kwak, Mr. Mahmoud, Ms. Brogan

NAYS: none

ABSTAIN: Ms. Micale

**IX. OTHER BUSINESS**

N/A

**X. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

- Jacqueline Hone, asked if the district physician weighed in on the turf? Asked how she can obtain a copy of the information being reviewed for alternative solutions? The Village had been working with some vendors who would not put in the contract that their material was safe because they could not make that claim. There is no data that the alternative is safe. Requested that before new materials are laid down to have someone come to provide data. She pleaded that the district incorporate natural grass on the fields.
- Anand Hegde, is hoping that the Superintendent and Board look into the matter and prevent future spending and wasting on the fields. He would like an answer within a week's time, and offered his help to find a solution.
  - Dr. Schwarz responded to the comments and stated that there is no new information to report at this time because the district is in the process of analyzing. He will consistently provide updates on this topic through the Superintendent coffees and Board meetings.

(View the full public comments of the [Ridgewood BOE Meeting 1/8/2024](#) starting at 03:07:04.)

**XI. MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

N/A

**XII. RECONVENED PUBLIC MEETING**

N/A

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by: Ms. Brogan

**SECOND** by: Mr. Mahmoud

**VOICE VOTE:**

Ms. Brogan, Mr. Dani, Mr. Mahmoud, Ms. Kwak, Ms. Micale - *ALL AYES*

- **The Meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,



Julie Kot  
Business Administrator