

REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
HILLSBOROUGH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
January 25, 2010

The Board of Education of Hillsborough Township, in the county of Somerset, convened in public session on Monday, January 25, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Auten Road Intermediate School in the School District.

In accordance with the State's Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was provided in the Board's annual meeting notice. This notice was also provided to the Hillsborough Beacon and Courier News newspapers on January 21, 2010. The notice is also posted in the Board of Education office and a copy has been sent to the Township Clerk and Township Public Library

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Frank A. Blandino, John Donnadio, Gregory Gillette, Judith C. Haas, Margaret Hewitt, Neil Hudes, Steven D. Paget, Marc J. Rosenberg, and Wolfgang Schneider

MEMBERS ABSENT: Barbara Sargent

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Edward Forsthoffer, III, Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Lisa M. Antunes, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Mr. Scott Rocco, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel, Mr. Aiman Mahmoud, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, and Mr. Gerald Eckert, Assistant School Business Administrator/Assistant Board Secretary

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mrs. Haas and seconded by Mrs. Hewitt to approve the public meeting minutes from December 14, 2009.

Upon call of the question, the motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mrs. Haas and seconded by Mrs. Hewitt to approve the executive session meeting minutes from December 14, 2009.

Upon call of the question, the motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mrs. Haas and seconded by Mrs. Hewitt to approve the public session meeting minutes from December 21, 2009.

Upon call of the question, the motion carried with seven members voting in favor and Messrs. Donnadio and Hudes abstaining.

A motion was made by Mrs. Hewitt and seconded by Mrs. Haas to approve the executive session meeting minutes from December 21, 2009.

Upon call of the question, the motion carried with seven members voting in favor and Messrs. Donnadio and Hudes abstaining.

Correspondence

None

Board Recognition/Awards

Dr. Forsthoffer stated that January is School Board Recognition month. He then introduced the middle school chorus which performed two songs for the board.

Dr. Forsthoffer then read a proclamation in honor of School Board Recognition month.

Dr. Forsthoffer recognized the high school tree ring club which is promoting the sustainable Hillsborough campaign and its anti-idling initiative.

Thuy Anh Le, member of the sustainable Hillsborough steering committee, asked Dr. Forsthoffer to “re-pledge” the anti-idling pledge that was originally pledged in 2006.

Dr. Forsthoffer recognized the Hillsborough Education Foundation (HEF) for their support of the educational programs in Hillsborough. He then introduced foundation members Susan Spagnola, Chris Dombrowski, Tom Greco, and Sharon Thorpe who in turn announced the winners of the 2009-10 school year HEF grants for curriculum innovation and one general grant.

Mr. Donnadio congratulated the varsity wrestling team for their recent Skylands Conference and Somerset County championships.

Mr. Blandino recognized the basketball team for their strong start to the season.

Mr. Gillette recognized Triangle school for the goodie bags that they packed and shipped overseas.

Dr. Rosenberg recognized the marching band for their January 13th appearance on the NBC show Mercy.

New Business

Mr. Gillette asked about the student suspension analysis. He asked if it was unusual that there were five suspensions for fighting and that they all occurred in one school.

Dr. Forsthoffer stated that fighting and violence in general has not typically been an issue in Hillsborough. The only concern is that they were all in one school and we will be keeping an eye on it.

Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Forsthoffer gave a presentation on the 2010-2011 budget development focusing on four areas: economy, public perception, the unknown factors, and current legislation. This presentation is available for viewing on the district website.

Time was allowed for questions and comments on the superintendent's report

Mr. Tim Jordan stated that his first reaction to the budget is "ouch". He also stated that he will not agree with any class size increases or any cuts in programs. He stated that he thinks the board should look to cut areas outside the classroom and gave courtesy bussing as an example. He also said that he would support a second question on this year's budget as a way to increase the budget.

Ms. Meryl Bisberg asked the following questions:

1. What percentage increase would be made to the class size?
2. How do you start a budget year if the election is moved to November?
3. Can we have a budget presentation at the next board meeting so the public will have an opportunity to get involved?

Dr. Forsthoffer stated that he and his staff began the budget process early this year in anticipation of a difficult budget. He said that he intends to give a budget presentation to the public in February but not necessarily at the first February meeting. He stated that the class size model that he used in his presentation would be adding students to each class. He also said that it would be difficult to open a year without a final budget in place.

Mr. Hudes said that he was not surprised to hear that salary and benefits are the largest items in the budget. He also said that he thinks issues like courtesy bussing and even pay-to-play may need to be considered this year. He then asked if there is a better way to bring issues forward such as a formal group discussion involving community members.

Mr. Blandino stated that he agrees with Mr. Hudes comments. He also said that he urges Dr. Forsthoffer to look at cuts in administration and that he would like to see a budget as soon as possible. Mr. Blandino stated that he agrees with Mr. Jordan's stance on keeping class sizes down. He then suggested that the board reopen the teachers' contract to try to tackle the cost of health benefits.

Dr. Rosenberg stated that he liked Mr. Hudes suggestion for a group meeting to help give the administration more ideas. He then stated that he thinks the pain in this year's budget should be shared and that no group should be exempt from the pain. Dr. Rosenberg stated that the administration is already lean so we should be careful to not cut to the point where the district will not run efficiently.

Mr. Gillette stated that the finance committee has not reviewed the budget yet and would not like to see a public group meeting until after the committee has had an opportunity to go through the budget first.

Mr. Schneider noted that he read Governor Christie's recommendations and understands that Hillsborough spends more in special education than the government requires. He also questioned what the role of the Executive County Superintendent is.

Dr. Forsthoffer stated that the Executive County Superintendent's role has been greatly increased and that she does have a lot of power. He also stated that she must sign off on each district's budget prior to it going to the voters.

Public Input on the 2010- 2011 Budget

Tim Jordan was troubled by the projected 19% increase in health benefit costs asking who gets that type of raise in today’s economy.

Dr. Forsthoffer stated that the district continues to shop for lower rates but that the district’s claim experience had been high the last couple of years and that it seems to be improving this year which should reflect well on the renewal rates.

Action Agenda

Public Comments

Mr. Hudes asked if policy #'s 3281 and 4281 cover all staff.

Dr. Forsthoffer stated that all certificated staff is covered under policy #3281 for teaching staff members.

After a brief discussion, it was decided that the policies will be voted on for first reading and referred to the policy committee for potential clarification before being brought back for a second reading.

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

A motion was made by Mr. Schneider and seconded by Mrs. Haas that the board of education approve the curriculum and instruction agenda as follows:

Approve the following new text:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Authors</u>	<u>Publisher</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Grades</u>	<u>Subject</u>
<u>Algebra 1</u>	CME Project-Devel. Team: Benson, Cuoco, D’Amato, Erman, etc.	Pearson	2009	7-8	Mathematics

Acceptance of Grants

Accept the following grant:

<u>Grant</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Hillsborough Education Foundation Curriculum Innovation Grants and General Grant	\$ 6,926.55

Upon call of the roll, the motion carried with a unanimous vote recorded.

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Mr. Gillette and seconded by Mrs. Hewitt that the board of education approve the personnel agenda as follows:

Retirements and Resignations

Name	Location	Position	Reason	Effective Date	Dates of Employment
Bouman, Peter	Hillsborough Middle School	Industrial Technology Teacher	Retired	7/1/2010	12/15/1980 – 6/30/2010
Galick, Mary	Auten Road Intermediate School	ASI	Retired	7/1/2010	9/1/1985 – 6/30/2010
Handwerk, Diane	District	Life Skills Coordinator	Retired	7/1/2010	9/1/1988 - 6/30/2010
Herterich, Janice	Hillsborough Middle School	10 month Secretary	Retired	7/1/2010	9/1/1987 – 6/30/2010
Varia, Eileen	Hillsborough Middle School	Grade 8 –Science Teacher	Retired	7/1/2010	9/1/1987 – 6/30/2010
Voos, Keith	Triangle School	Academic Support Instructor	Retired	7/1/2010	9/1/2000 – 6/30/2010
Yhap-Zebro, Genevieve	Woods Road School	Nurse/personal aide	Resigned	2/23/2010	9/14/2009 – 2/22/2010

Leaves of Absence

Name	Location	Position	Type of Leave	Effective
Gorel, Kelly	Auten Road Intermediate School	Music Teacher	Disability LOA	5/24/2010 – 6/23/2010
Pociask, Marni	Auten Road Intermediate School	Grade 5	Disability/FMLA	3/1/2010 – 6/30/2010
Zygmunt, Krista	Middle School	Grade 7 – Literacy teacher	Disability/FMLA	5/26/2010 – 6/30/2010

Revised Leaves of Absence

Name	Location	Position	Type of Leave	From Effective	To Effective
DiBenedetto, Heather	Auten Road Intermediate School	Special Ed. Teacher	Disability/FMLA/CCLOA	12/7/2009 – 6/30/2010	12/1/2009 – 6/30/2010
Kurasinska, Jozefa	Woodfern School	Custodian	FMLA	12/1/2009 – 12/31/2009	12/1/2009 – 1/15/2010
Melhuish, Monica	High School	Math teacher	Disability/FMLA	1/28/2010 – 6/11/2010	12/21/2009 – 6/11/2010
Packard, Bonnie	Woodfern/Triangle Schools	Speech Teacher	FMLA	10/29/2009 – 12/23/2009	10/29/2009 – 1/29/2010
Russo, Paige	Sunnymead School	Grade 3 teacher	Disability/FMLA	2/10/2010 – 6/30/2010	1/11/2010 – 6/30/2010

Transfer/Change in Position

Name	From	To	Replacing	Effective	Salary
Wollert, Amanda	Grade 4 Teacher – Woodfern School	Grade 3 Teacher – Sunnymead School	In district transfer	1/4/2010 – 6/30/2010	\$53,970 Pro Rated BA+15 Step 6-7

Revised Long Term Substitute

Name	Location	Position	Replacing	From Effective	To Effective	Salary
DeGenaro, Karen	Woodfern School	LTS – Grade 4	Russo, Paige (LOA)	9/1/2009 – 12/23/2009	9/1/2009 – 6/30/2010	\$48,610 BA Step 1

Rescind Co Curricular Contract

Name	Location	Position	Effective	Stipend
Marchesi, Dina	High School	Italian Honor Society – Co-curricular Advisor	1/4/2010 – 6/30/2010	\$264.50

Appointments 2009-2010

Approve the appointment of the following personnel for the 2009-2010 school year. The appointment of those marked with an (*) will be contingent upon approval as per N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.2 et. Seq.

Teacher

Name	Location	Position	Replacing	Effective	Salary
Cecchetti, Nicole	Middle School	Health & PE Teacher	Peschen, Debra (retired)	1/4/2010 – 6/30/2010	\$48,610 Pro Rated BA Step 1
Impellizeri, Whitney	Triangle School	.5 Preschool Special Education Teacher	New Position	2/1/2010 – 6/30/2010	\$48,610 Pro Rated BA Step 1
Nelson, Jennifer	High School	.333 French Teacher	Beauvais, Linda (resigned)	1/25/2010 – 6/30/2010	\$52,910 Pro Rated MA Step 2

Long Term Substitute

Name	Location	Position	Replacing	Effective	Salary
Henderson, Alketa	High School	LTS – Math teacher	Melhuish, Monica (LOA)	1/5/2010 – 6/11/2010	\$48,610 Pro Rated BA Step 1
LaPolice, DeLisa	Middle School	LTS – Spanish teacher	Gallagher, Marie (LOA)	1/11/2010 – 2/26/2010	\$48,610 Pro Rated BA Step 1
Papinchak, Kelley	Auten Road Intermediate School	LTS – Grade 5 teacher	Pociask, Marni (LOA)	3/1/2010 – 6/30/2010	\$48,610 Pro Rated BA Step 1

Instructional Assistant

Name	Location	Position	Replacing	Effective	Salary
Aleo, Elizabeth	Triangle School	.5 Instructional Assistant	New Position	2/1/2010 – 6/30/2010	\$26,099 Pro Rated Step 1

Personal Aide/Nurse

Name	Location	Position	Replacing	Effective	Salary
*Puleo, Pamela	Woods Road School	.5 Personal Aide/Nurse	Yhap-Zebro, Genevieve	2/23/2010 – 6/30/2010 (or sooner)	\$34/hour

Co Curricular Advisor

Name	Location	Position	Replacing	Effective	Stipend
Staats, Jane	High School	Stop Smoking Club Advisor	N/A	1/4/2010 – 6/30/2010	N/A
Sudol, Todd	High School	Economics Club Advisor	N/A	1/4/2010-6/30/2010	N/A
Wika, Natalie	High School	Italian Honor Society Advisor	Marchesi, Dina	1/4/2010 – 6/30/2010	\$264.50

Volunteer Coach

Name	Location	Position	Replacing	Effective	Salary
*Margelis, Michael	High School	Volunteer Wrestling Coach	N/A	2009-2010 Season	N/A

Substitutes

Teachers - \$80/day					
deWolfe, Matthew	Gandolfe, Melissa		Javeline, Nancy		Krahal, Alan
Melli, Lawrence	Reidy, Patrick		Roman, Carla		Schleimer, Marissa
Voruganti, Lakshmi	Weikel, Sioban				
Instructional Assistants - \$80/day			Nurses - \$100/day		Bus Driver - \$20/hour
Roman, Carla	Voruganti, Lakshmi		N/A		N/A
Weikel, Sioban					
Library Assistants \$11.72/hour		Bus Aides \$19.90/hour	Lunch Aide \$7.90/hour	Custodians \$9.35/hour	Secretary \$10.25/hour
N/A		Weber, Angelica	*Lloyd, Charlene	N/A	N/A
			Weber, Angelica		

Student Teachers

Name	University	Grade Level/ Subject Area	School	Effective	Cooperating Teacher
Badilla, Mary	The College of New Jersey	Special Education	Sunnymead	1/19/2010 – 5/7/2010	Doyle, Kristen
Chaudhuri, Anindita	Pace University	9-12 – School Psychologist	High School	1/12/2010 – 6/2010	Colontino, Patricia
Hanson, Nicole	The College of New Jersey	Special Education	Woods Road School	1/19/2010 – 5/7/2010	Powers, Patricia
Mascia, Maria	The College of New Jersey	Special Education	Sunnymead School	1/19/2010 – 5/7/2010	Pisciotta, Kathleen
McIntee, Megan	The College of New Jersey	Special Education	Amsterdam School	1/19/2010 – 5/7/2010	Smith, Christina
Meo, Allyson	The College of New Jersey	Special Education	Hillsborough Elementary School	1/19/2010 – 5/7/2010	Stives, Megan
Moskowitz, Jacqueline	The College of New Jersey	Special Education	Hillsborough Elementary School	1/19/2010 – 5/7/2010	Simonik, Eileen
Murphy, Casey	The College of New Jersey	Special Education	Woods Road School	1/19/2010 – 5/7/2010	Cunnane, Bridget
Posner, Leah	The College of New Jersey	Special Education	Woodfern School	1/19/2010 – 5/7/2010	Puzio, Patricia
Reilly, Megan	The College of New Jersey	Special Education	Hillsborough High School	1/19/2010 – 5/7/2010	Whittle, Victoria
Seldeen, Lisa	The College of New Jersey	Special Education	Auten Road Intermediate School	1/19/2010 – 5/7/2010	Lingg, Cynthia
Slavin, Melissa	The College of New Jersey	Special Education	Auten Road Intermediate School	1/19/2010 – 5/7/2010	Mishikitis, Rita
Staroploi, Anthony	The College of New Jersey	Special Education	Woodfern	1/19/2010 – 5/7/2010	Thiero, Sharon
Vasile, Emily	The College of New Jersey	Special Education	Hillsborough High School	1/19/2010 – 5/7/2010	Wisse, Mark
Vogel, Toa	The College of New Jersey	Special Education	Hillsborough Elementary	1/19/2010 – 5/7/2010	Drill, Karen

Mentor

Mentor	Mentee
Bozzone, Rosanne	Impellizeri, Whitney
Jefferson, Susan	Toke, Kay
Kay, Regina	Cecchetti, Nicole
Klobusicky, Mary	Henderson, Alketa

Summer Enrichment Program – 2010

Name	Position	Building	Effective	Salary
Corr, Debbie	Secretary	Middle School	7/12/2010 – 7/23/2010	\$1,050
Heffernan, Linda	Nurse	Middle School	7/12/2010 – 7/23/2010	\$1,250

Group Changes

Approve the group changes of certificated staff effective February 1, 2010 as listed on Schedule II-A.

Approve Curriculum Writing for the following content areas:

Subject	Grade Level	Name	Hours Per Person
Mathematics	Grade 8 Mathematics	Dubyna, Paula Torre, Angelic	Not to exceed 40 hours each
	Algebra I	Porowski, Debra Guzy, Christopher King, David	Not to exceed 40 hours each
Financial, Economic, Business & Entrepreneurial Literacy	Grades 9-12	Sudol, Todd Guglielmo, Christopher Puzio, Jackie Kirshe, Christine	Not to exceed 10 hours each
World Language/ESL	Grades K-12	Sobreyra, Cynthia Maucere, Elena Donoghue, Marion Weller, Ellen Robson, Rob Davies, Mary Ellen Lewis, Loydes Miller, Deborah	Not to exceed 20 hours each

Upon call of the roll, the motion carried with a unanimous vote recorded.

FINANCE

A motion was made by Mr. Gillette and seconded by Mrs. Haas that the board of education approve the finance agenda as follows:

Acceptance of Monthly Financial Reports

Accept the monthly financial reports of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Moneys for the month of December 31, 2009 and in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13 (e) that the Board of Education certify that no major account or fund has been overexpended and that as of this report sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligation for the remainder of this fiscal year.

Approval of Monthly Bills

Approve the monthly bills as reviewed by the finance committee as follows:

General Operating: \$10,169,984.92

Approval of Line Item Transfers

Approve the line item transfers in the 2009-10 general fund as listed on Schedule III-A

Upon call of the roll, the motion carried with a unanimous vote recorded.

ADMINISTRATIVE

A motion was made by Mrs. Haas and seconded by Mr. Gillette that the board of education approve the administrative agenda as follows:

Approve the Professional Travel Related Expenses as Listed:

Approve the Professional Travel Related Expenses as listed on *Schedule IV-A*.

Policies

The policy committee has recommended the following policies be included for consideration for first reading as follows:

<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Policy #</u>	<u>Policy Name</u>
<i>IV-B</i>	2415.03	Highly Qualified Teachers
<i>IV-C</i>	2423	Bilingual/ESL Education
<i>IV-E</i>	3126	Induction Program for Provisional Teachers
<i>IV-F</i>	3240	Professional Development
<i>IV-G</i>	3281	Inappropriate Staff Conduct – Teaching Staff Members
<i>IV-H</i>	4281	Inappropriate Staff Conduct – Support Staff Members

Schedule	School	Group/Team	Destination	Dates
IV-I	HHS	Environmental Science students	Annual New Jersey Envirothon Camp Sacajawea, Newfield, NJ	5/7/2010 – 5/8/2010

Approve Field Trip Destinations as Listed:

Destination
• George Street Playhouse, New Brunswick, NJ
• Roxbury High School, Succasunna, NJ
• Smoothie King, Hillsborough, NJ
• Walgreens, Hillsborough, NJ
• Frank's Pizza, Manville, NJ

Approve Resolution to Recognize January 2010 to be School Board Recognition Month

Approve the following resolution recognizing January 2010 to be School Board Recognition Month:

WHEREAS, The New Jersey School Boards Association and the National School Boards Association have declared January 2010 to be School Board Recognition Month, a time that all residents might acknowledge the contributions made by our local school board members; and

WHEREAS, The Hillsborough Township Board of Education is one of more than 600 local school boards in New Jersey that sets policies and oversees operations for public school districts; and

WHEREAS, The Hillsborough Township Board of Education embraces the goal of high-quality education for all New Jersey public school students; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's local school boards help determine community goals for the education of 1.4 million children in Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's 4,800 local school board members, who receive no remuneration for their services, act as advocates for public school students as they work with administrators, teachers and parents for the betterment of public education; and

WHEREAS, School boards strive to provide the resources necessary to meet the needs of all students, including those with special needs; and

WHEREAS, Boards of education provide accountability to the public; they communicate the needs of the school district to the public; and they convey to school administrators the public's expectations for the schools; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey can take pride in its schools, which rank among the nation’s best in indicators such as high school graduation rates, class size, college entrance exam participation, and Advanced Placement offerings and test scores. Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Hillsborough Township Board of Education, does hereby recognize the services of local school board members throughout New Jersey as we join communities statewide in observing January 2010 as SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Hillsborough Township Board of Education urges all New Jersey citizens to work with their local boards of education and public school staffs toward the improvement of our children’s education.

Donations

Accept the following donations:

<u>DONOR</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
• Subramanian Nagnapha	Flat screen monitor for use at Hillsborough Middle School
• Staples School	Misc. office supplies for use at Amsterdam Elementary
• Shelley Rubin	Desktop computer

Upon call of the roll, the motion carried with a unanimous vote recorded.

Policy

A motion was made by Mr. Hudes and seconded by Dr. Rosenberg that the board of education approve the policy committee’s recommendation that the following policy be included for consideration for first reading as follows:

<i>IV-D</i>	2560	Live Animals in School
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Upon call of the roll, the motion carried with seven members voting in favor and Messrs. Donnadio and Gillette voting against.

INFORMATIONAL

- Enrollment – December 2009 – Attachment 1
- Suspensions – December 2009 – Attachment 2
- 2010 Fine Arts Calendar – Attachment 3
- Life Skills Activities – October – December 2009 – Attachment 4
- Letter from Peggy Cioce, District Supervisor, Visual & Performing Arts dated January 7, 2010 – Attachment 5
- Current newspaper articles – Attachment

Emergency drills were held during the month of December as follows:

School	Dates	Times
Amsterdam School	December 3, 2009	2 minutes
	December 15, 2009	2 minutes 20 seconds
Auten Road Intermediate	December 2, 2009	2 minutes 32 seconds
	December 15, 2009	3 minutes 17 seconds
Hillsborough Elementary	December 22, 2009	1 minute 2 seconds
	December 23, 2009	1 minute 15 seconds
Sunnymead School	December 15, 2009	1 minute 45 seconds
	December 16, 2009	1 minute 47 seconds
Triangle Elementary	December 14, 2009	1 minute 54 seconds
	December 15, 2009	1 minute 51 seconds
Woodfern Elementary	December 14, 2009	1 minute 20 seconds
	December 15, 2009	1 minute
Woods Road Elementary	December 1, 2009	2 minutes
	December 8, 2009	2 minutes 15 seconds
Hillsborough Middle School	December 8, 2009	2 minutes 22 seconds
	December 14, 2009	2 minutes 19 seconds
Hillsborough High School	December 2, 2009	3 minutes 45 seconds
	December 18, 2009	4 minute 24 seconds

Old Business

Barbara Parker stated that the HEA will no longer be communicating to its members by using the districts email system. They will now be communicating through a Google site.

Mr. Blandino asked for statistics on the random drug testing policy now that it has been in effect for two years.

Dr. Forsthoffer stated that in the first year there were five confirmed positives' and that there have not been any confirmed positives so far this year. He further stated that last year, through the under suspicion policy, there were eight positive tests and that there are only two so far this year.

Mr. Hudes asked how many students have been tested.

Dr. Forsthoffer stated that there were 200 students tested last year and less than half of that so far this year.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Dr. Rosenberg and seconded by Mrs. Hewitt to adjourn the meeting at 9:42 p.m.

Regular Meeting

January 25, 2010

Upon call of the question, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Aiman Mahmoud
School Business Administrator/
Board Secretary