

WHITE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR SESSION MEETING

MINUTES

MONDAY

DECEMBER 18, 2017

6:30 PM

The Regular Meeting of the White Township Board of Education was held on the above date in the White Township School Library, Belvidere, NJ with the following members in attendance at roll call: Mr. Boehm, Mr. Rader, Mr. Panetta, Mrs. Nikolopoulos, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Sroka, Mr. Orchard and Ms. Lee. Michael Slattery, Superintendent and Dawn Huff, Business Administrator/Board Secretary were also in attendance as well as 2 members of the public. Mrs. Lensi was unable to attend.

Mr. Boehm opened the meeting at 6:34 p.m. and stated that the meeting had been duly advertised and the public properly notified through notification to The Express-Times, Star Ledger and the White Township Municipal Clerk in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

APPROVE MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Nikolopoulos and seconded by Mrs. Williams to approve the minutes as submitted from the November 27, 2017 Regular Session Meeting. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CORRESPONDENCE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Slattery discussed correspondence received from the New Jersey Department of Education Division of Field Services directing the district to continue to implement the current district improvement plan using the most recent statewide assessment data results. Mr. Slattery noted that the County Office of Education indicated that the district would be eligible to submit a waiver which might allow for use of more recent data.

Mr. Boehm noted a letter was received this evening from the Hope Township Board of Education's Shared Service Committee asking that the district reconsider its decision to discontinue the shared services CSA agreement effective June 30, 2018. Mr. Boehm noted he was disappointed that he just received this letter and that he will reach out to the Hope Township Shared Services Committee to set up a meeting in January.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PERSONNEL

Mr. Slattery noted that the Committee will meet to review a recent letter of resignation.

Block Motion – Personnel

A motion was made by Mrs. Nikolopoulos and seconded by Mrs. Sroka to approve the following agenda items #1 through #3. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

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Block Motion – Personnel - continued

1. Approve an Additional Substitute Teacher

To approve Jill McDonald as an additional substitute teacher for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year.

2. Approve Revised County-Wide Substitute List

To approve the revised county-wide substitute list for the 2017-2018 school year, revised 11/2/2017.

3. Accept a Resignation

To accept the resignation of Kathryn Cavitch dated December 5, 2017.

TRANSPORTATION

Mrs. Nikolopoulos discussed issues with her children's high school bus route. Mr. Boehm suggested that the Transportation Committee meet to address these and any other issues that come to the group's attention.

POLICY

Motion – Policy

A motion was made by Mrs. Sroka and seconded by Mrs. Nikolopoulos to approve the following agenda item #1. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

1. Approve Memorandum of Agreement for 2017-2018 with the NJSP

To approve the Memorandum of Agreement for 2017-2018 school year with the New Jersey State Police.

FINANCE

Block Motion – Finance

A motion was made by Mrs. Nikolopoulos and seconded by Mrs. Sroka to approve the following agenda items #1 through #6. Motion carried as follows: Ms. Lee – yes, Mr. Orchard – yes, Mrs. Sroka – yes, Mrs. Williams – yes, Mrs. Nikolopoulos – yes, Mr. Panetta – yes, Mr. Rader – yes and Mr. Boehm – yes.

1. Approve November 2017 Board Secretary's Report and Treasurer's Report

To approve the November 2017 Board Secretary's Report and Treasurer's Report in agreement. After review of the School Business Administrator's monthly financial reports and upon consultation with the Business Administrator and Superintendent, this Board of Education does hereby certify that as of November 30, 2017, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(a), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

2. Approve December 2017 Bills List

To approve the payment of the December 2017 bills in the total amount of \$833,440.47 for all funds.

3. Approve November 2017 Cafeteria Bills

To approve the payment of the November 2017 Cafeteria bills in the amount of \$4,622.

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Block Motion – Finance - continued

4. Approve Budget Transfers

To approve budget transfers for November 2017 in the amount of \$1,000.

5. Approve Staff Travel

To approve the following staff travel:

- Dorothy Buel to the 2018 Psychotherapy Networker Symposium in Washington, DC on March 22-24, 2018. The cost for the symposium is \$459.99.
- Rebecca Morrell to a workshop “What’s New in Children’s Books – Creative Powerful Strategies” in West Orange, NJ on February 26, 2018. The cost for the workshop is \$259 and mileage reimbursement not to exceed \$35.

6. Resolution Supporting Dissolution of the Skyland Education Foundation

WHEREAS, The Public Schools of Warren County, their administration, and Boards of Education recognized that support for the public schools, both financial and philosophical, was necessary to the maintenance of educational programs and,

WHEREAS, The Public Schools of Warren County, their administration and Boards of Education recognized a need to improve cooperative efforts with business industry and municipal government and,

WHEREAS, The Skyland Education Foundation, Inc. was formed in January 1992 to meet these needs of member school districts and,

WHEREAS, The Board of Education of White Township agreed to support the Skyland Education Foundation by adopting the constitution by-laws of the organization and committed a sum of \$3.00 per resident student for organizational costs and,

WHEREAS, It is now necessary to dissolve the Skyland Education Foundation in accordance with the provisions of Article VI of the Certificate of Incorporation and,

WHEREAS, The assets of the Corporation shall be distributed to the member school districts in proportion to the resident enrollment at the time the Corporation was formed and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of White Township supports the dissolution of the Skyland Education Foundation and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, That the Board of Education of White Township requests that their proportionate share of the assets of the Skyland Education Foundation be returned to the Board of Education.

CURRICULUM

Block Motion – Curriculum

A motion was made by Mrs. Nikolopoulos and seconded by Mrs. Williams to approve the following agenda items #1 through #2. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

1. Approve a Field Trip

To approve a field trip for approximately 8 grade 4 GEM students to Phabulous Physics at Mansfield Township Elementary School, Mansfield, NJ on March 2, 2018. There is no cost for this field trip.

2. Approve a Field Trip

To approve a field trip for approximately 8 grade 5 GEM students to Strategic Thinking Day at Washington Borough Memorial School, Washington, NJ on May 23, 2018. There is no cost for this field trip.

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BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Mrs. Nikolopoulos provided an update on items including a notice distributed regarding Fifth Disease, fire panel upgrade, installation of heat tape on the roof, and scheduling a solar panel presentation to the Committee.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Mr. Slattery noted that Mrs. Pearson will be recognized in the January White Spotlight.

BHS BOARD MEMBER

Mr. Rader noted that Anthony Ardito presented a glowing audit report for Belvidere School District for the 2016-2017 school year.

SHARED SERVICES LIAISON COMMITTEE

Mr. Boehm noted that the Committee met and agreed that the group should explore a single CSA administrative model for the 2018-2019 school year. Mr. Boehm further noted that he was advised by legal counsel that the district would need to seek permission from the County Office of Education to sever the shared service agreement with Hope Township. Mr. Boehm indicated that he will reach out to the Board attorney to guide our next steps in this process. Mr. Boehm noted he would like to get the Committee together to meet with representatives from Hope Township to discuss further options moving forward.

A motion was made by Mrs. Nikolopoulos and seconded by Mrs. Sroka to task the Shared Service Committee to engage the Warren County Office of Education to discuss plans for moving towards a single CSA model for the White Township Consolidated School District for the 2018-2019 school year. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Mr. Slattery noted that he will share preliminary action plan language with Mr. Boehm.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Boehm thanked Mr. Orchard for an incredible year on the Board and noted he was very impressed with how he handled himself and applauded him for being a valuable member of the Board who will be missed. Mr. Orchard thanked everyone for the opportunity and noted it's been his pleasure to serve and learn.

APPROVE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A motion was made by Mrs. Nikolopoulos and seconded by Mr. Rader to approve the Superintendent's Report for the period November 27 – December 15, 2017. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF HIB INCIDENTS

A motion was made by Mr. Rader and seconded by Mrs. Nikolopoulos to acknowledge receipt of one HIB investigation not deemed a HIB incident for the period November 27 – December 15, 2017. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

None

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ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ms. Lee and seconded by Mrs. Sroka to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m.
Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Huff
Business Administrator
Board Secretary