

WHITE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

SPECIAL SESSION MEETING

MINUTES

MONDAY

FEBRUARY 5, 2018

7:30 PM

The Special Session Meeting of the White Township Board of Education was held on the above date in the White Township Municipal Building, Belvidere, NJ with the following members in attendance at roll call: Mr. Boehm, Mr. Rader, Mrs. Nikolopoulos, Mrs. Lensi, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Sroka, Ms. Howell and Ms. Lee. Michael Slattery, Superintendent and Dawn Huff, Business Administrator/Board Secretary were also in attendance as well as 24 members of the public. Mr. Panetta was unable to attend.

Mr. Boehm opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m. and stated that the meeting had been duly advertised and the public properly notified through notification to The Express-Times and the White Township Municipal Clerk in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

None

A motion was made by Mrs. Williams and seconded by Ms. Lee to accept the recommendation of the shared services committee, to provide notice to the Hope Township Board of Education to terminate the Superintendent shared service agreement between the White Township Board of Education and the Hope Township Board of Education effective June 30, 2018. Motion carried as follows: Ms. Lee – yes, Ms. Howell – no, Mrs. Sroka – yes, Mrs. Lensi – yes, Mrs. Williams – yes, Mrs. Nikolopoulos – yes, Mr. Rader – no and Mr. Boehm – yes.

A motion was made by Mrs. Nikolopoulos and seconded by Ms. Lee for reasons of economy, administrative or supervisory organization of the district and for other good cause to eliminate the position of Principal effective July 1, 2018 through reduction in force. Motion carried as follows: Ms. Lee – yes, Ms. Howell – no, Mrs. Sroka – yes, Mrs. Lensi – yes, Mrs. Williams – yes, Mrs. Nikolopoulos – yes, Mr. Rader – no and Mr. Boehm – yes.

A motion was made by Mrs. Nikolopoulos and seconded by Ms. Lee to authorize the creation of the position of full-time Superintendent/Chief School Administrator effective July 1, 2018 and post and advertise for this position. Motion carried as follows: Ms. Lee – yes, Ms. Howell – no, Mrs. Sroka – yes, Mrs. Lensi – yes, Mrs. Williams – yes, Mrs. Nikolopoulos – yes, Mr. Rader – no and Mr. Boehm – yes.

A motion was made by Mrs. Nikolopoulos and seconded by Ms. Lee to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:28-9 provides that a board of education may “reduce the number of teaching staff members employed in the district whenever, in the judgment of the board, it is advisable to abolish any such positions for reasons of economy or because of reduction in the number of pupils or of change in the administrative or supervisory organization of the district or for other good cause;”

WHEREAS, for reasons of economy and as a result of District restructuring, the Board finds it advisable to eliminate its Principal position for the 2018-2019 school year through a reduction in force;

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IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the White Township Board of Education as follows:

1. The following positions will be eliminated effective July 1, 2018 as a result of a reduction in force: Principal.
2. That the affected employee will promptly receive appropriate notification of their employment status; and
3. That the Superintendent is authorized to provide the necessary notification to the affected employees.

Motion carried as follows: Ms. Lee – yes, Ms. Howell – no, Mrs. Sroka – yes, Mrs. Lensi – yes, Mrs. Williams – yes, Mrs. Nikolopoulos – yes, Mr. Rader – no and Mr. Boehm – yes.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Rowe noted that she is disappointed with the Board's actions tonight and has serious reservations and concerns in regards to the operation of the school district. Mrs. Rowe asked if the district explored options and understands what the cost will be for a Superintendent search. Mr. Boehm noted that he's been talking about doing this with other Board Presidents, and the Committee's discussed the financial implications, and he's confident that we'll be able to make it work. Mr. Boehm noted the district wants to control its own Chief School Administrator. Mrs. Rowe asked when the cost of the Superintendent search will be made public. Mrs. Rowe further inquired what the financial impact to the classroom will be. Mr. Boehm noted he is not anticipating any change to the Administrative line items in the 2018-2019 budget.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Williams and seconded by Mrs. Sroka to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Huff
Business Administrator
Board Secretary