

WHITE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR SESSION MEETING

MINUTES

MONDAY

JANUARY 29, 2018

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. 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 8 members of the public.

Mr. Boehm opened the meeting at 6:36 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. Lensi and seconded by Mrs. Nikolopoulos to approve the minutes as submitted from the December 18, 2017 Regular Session Meeting and the January 11, 2018 Reorganization Meeting. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 9, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Cavitch noted that she attended this evening because last meeting the Board indicated that they didn't have time to review her exit interview and wondered if she would be available should they have questions.

CORRESPONDENCE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PERSONNEL

Mr. Panetta noted the group met and discussed several issues including bringing special needs students back in district that are currently placed out-of-district. Mr. Panetta noted that Mrs. Saraiva explained that we teach in a three-year structure and next year we will have three of our students moving to high school programs. While we have the space, it may not be feasible to meet the programming needs of the remaining students in-house at this time. The Child Study Team and Administration have to design programming to meet the needs of our special education population. Mr. Boehm noted that he will meet with Mrs. Saraiva and Mr. Slattery to get additional information for the full Board. Mr. Panetta noted that the group also discussed concerns brought to the Board by Mrs. Cavitch in her exit interview. Mr. Panetta noted that IEP information is provided by the Child Study Team to teachers. Paraprofessionals may request information and express concerns first to the teacher then through the chain of command if additional information is needed. Mr. Panetta thanked Mrs. Cavitch for bringing her concerns to the attention of the Board.

Mr. Boehm thanked Mrs. Sypniewski for her many years of service to the district and congratulated her on her retirement announcement.

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Block Motion – Personnel

A motion was made by Mrs. Lensi and seconded by Mrs. Williams to approve the following agenda items #1 through #6 and the additional motion #7. Motion carried as follows: Ms. Lee – yes, Ms. Howell – yes, Mrs. Sroka – yes, Mrs. Lensi – yes, Mrs. Williams – yes, Mrs. Nikolopoulos – yes, Mr. Panetta – yes, Mr. Rader – yes and Mr. Boehm – yes.

1. Approve an Additional Substitute Teacher

To approve Therese Steinhardt as an additional substitute teacher for the 2017-2018 school year.

2. Approve a Transfer on the Salary Guide

To approve a request from Crystal Garvey to transfer on the salary guide from Step 14, BA+30 to Step 14, MA at the new salary rate of \$66,440.

3. Designate a School Safety Specialist

To designate Dawn Werkheiser as the School Safety Specialist.

4. Accept a Retirement

To accept the retirement of Patricia Sypniewski effective June 30, 2018.

5. Approve Extra-Curricular Activity Position

To approve staff for the following Extra-Curricular Activity Position:

Lisa Rosano	Girls on the Run (Asst)	Year 1 (Spring)	\$ 984
Stewart Quinn	Archery Club (Head)	Year 1 (Spring)	\$1,078

6. Approve a Transfer on the Salary Guide

To approve a request from Stephanie Bolen to transfer on the salary guide from Step 9, BA+30 to Step 9, MA at the new salary rate of \$63,000.

7. Accept a Resignation

To accept a resignation from Patricia Good received January 26, 2018.

TRANSPORTATION

No update.

POLICY

Block Motion – Policy

A motion was made by Mrs. Nikolopoulos and seconded by Mrs. Sroka to approve the following agenda items #1 through #13. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 9, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

1. Approve a First Reading of Policy #0169.02 – Board Member Use of Social Networks

To approve a first reading of policy #0169.02 – Board Member Use of Social Networks

2. Approve a First Reading of Policy #3437 – Military Leave

To approve a first reading of policy #3437 – Military Leave

3. Approve a First Reading of Policy #4437 – Military Leave

To approve a first reading of policy #4437 – Military Leave

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Motion – Policy - continued

4. Approve a First Reading of Policy #5516.01 – Student Tracking Devices

To approve a first reading of policy #5516.01 – Student Tracking Devices

5. Approve a First Reading of Regulation #7101 – Educational Adequacy of Capital Projects

To approve a first reading of regulation #7101 – Educational Adequacy of Capital Projects

6. Approve a First Reading of Policy #7425 – Lead Testing of Water in Schools

To approve a first reading of policy #7425 – Lead Testing of Water in Schools

7. Approve a First Reading of Policy & Regulation #7440 – School District Security

To approve a first reading of policy & regulation #7440 – School District Security

8. Approve a First Reading of Policy & Regulation #7441 – Electronic Surveillance in School Buildings and on School Grounds

To approve a first reading of policy & regulation #7441 – Electronic Surveillance in School Buildings and on School Grounds

9. Approve a First Reading of Policy #8630 – Bus Driver/Bus Aide Responsibility

To approve a first reading of policy #8630 – Bus Driver/Bus Aide Responsibility

10. Approve a First Reading of Regulation #8630 – Emergency School Bus Procedures

To approve a first reading of regulation #8630 – Emergency School Bus Procedures

11. Approve a First Reading of Policy #9242 – Use of Electronic Signatures

To approve a first reading of policy #9242 – Use of Electronic Signatures

12. Approve a First Reading of Regulation #7510 – Use of School Facilities

To approve a first reading of Regulation #7510 – Use of School Facilities

13. Abolish Regulation #7300.1 – Disposition of Instructional Property

To abolish Regulation #7300.1 – Disposition of Instructional Property

FINANCE

Block Motion – Finance

A motion was made by Mrs. Lensi and seconded by Mrs. Williams to approve the following agenda items #1 through #7 and the additional motion #8. Motion carried as follows: Ms. Lee – yes, Ms. Howell – yes, Mrs. Sroka – yes, Mrs. Lensi – yes, Mrs. Williams – yes, Mrs. Nikolopoulos – yes, Mr. Panetta – yes, Mr. Rader – yes and Mr. Boehm – yes.

1. Approve December 2017 Board Secretary’s Report and Treasurer’s Report

To approve the December 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

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Block Motion – Finance - continued

hereby certify that as of December 31, 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 January 2018 Bills List

To approve the payment of the January 2018 bills in the total amount of \$1,009,270.47 for all funds.

3. Approve December 2017 Cafeteria Bills

To approve the payment of the December 2017 Cafeteria bills in the amount of \$3,132.48.

4. Approve Budget Transfers

To approve no budget transfers for December 2017.

5. Approve Resolution for Waiver of Requirements in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI)

WHEREAS, NJAC 6A:23A-5.3, provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district's participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2018-2019 school year, and

WHEREAS, the White Township Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having fewer than 40 Medicaid eligible classified students;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the White Township Board of Education hereby authorizes the Business Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Warren an appropriate waiver of the requirements of NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 for the 2018-2019 school year.

6. Approve Resolution for Participation in Coordinated Transportation with Warren County Special Services School District for 2018-2019

WHEREAS, the White Township School District Board of Education desires to transport students for the purpose of special education, non-public school education, or their own public school students to specific destinations; and

WHEREAS, the Warren County Special Services School District hereinafter referred to as WCSSSD offers coordinated transportation services; and

WHEREAS, the WCSSSD will organize and schedule routes to achieve the maximum cost effectiveness;

NOW THEREFORE, it is agreed that in consideration of pro-rated contract costs, plus a 4% administration fee as presented to the White Township School District Board of Education as calculated by the billing formula adopted by the WCSSSD's Board of Education, does approve its participation in said coordinated transportation for 2018-2019 in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract as offered by WCSSSD for 2018-2019.

7. Approve a Tuition Contract with Great Meadows Regional Board of Education

To approve a tuition contract agreement for one student (ID#4389886258) to attend Liberty School BD program for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year for an annual tuition of \$20,433 (prorated to a start date of November 28, 2017). The cost of the personal aide and other related services to be billed separately.

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Block Motion – Finance - continued

8. Approve Staff Travel

To approve the following staff travel:

- Stewart Quinn to attend NASP Basic Archery Instructor Training in Livingston, NJ. One day training in February, actual date to be determined. There is no registration fee and mileage reimbursement not to exceed \$30.

CURRICULUM

Block Motion – Curriculum

A motion was made by Mrs. Nikolopoulos and seconded by Ms. Lee to approve the following agenda items #1 through #4 and the additional motion #5. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 9, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

Block Motion – Curriculum

1. Approve a Field Trip

To approve a field trip for approximately 32 music students to Malmark Handbell Factory, Plumsteadville, PA on March 20, 2018. The cost per student is \$16.

2. Approve a Field Trip

To approve a field trip for approximately 29 grade 5 students to the World Trade Center Museum and Memorial on May 31, 2018. The cost per students is \$15.53.

3. Approve a Field Trip

To approve a field trip for approximately 3 grade 5-6 GEM students to the WCCSE Spelling Bee, Phillipsburg, NJ on February 14, 2018. There is no cost per student.

4. Approve a Field Trip

To approve a field trip for approximately 24 grade 3 students to Crayola Factory, Easton PA on March 9, 2018. The cost per student is \$9.64.

5. Approve a Field Trip

To approve a field trip for approximately 25 grade 1 students to Lehigh Valley Zoo, Schnecksville, PA on June 1, 2018. The cost per student is \$11.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Mrs. Nikolopoulos reported on several items including installation of surveillance camera signage, installation of heat tape, and the County system for state police access to floor plans.

Block Motion – Buildings & Grounds

A motion was made by Mrs. Lensi and seconded by Mrs. Sroka to approve the following agenda items #1 through #3 and the additional motion #4. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 0, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

1. Approve a Revised Request for Use of Facilities Form

To approve a revised Request for Use of Facilities form.

2. Approve a Use of Facility Request

To approve a request from 8th grade to use the Cafeteria for a fundraising dance for grade 3-6 students on February 9th or 16th, 2018, dependent on the availability of the DJ.

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Block Motion – Buildings & Grounds - continued

3. Approve a Use of Facility Request

To approve a use of facility request from the PTO for use of the gymnasium on March 20, April 11-13, 2018 for a talent show, auditions, rehearsal and performances.

4. Approve a Use of Facility Request

To approve a request from Golden Rule Karate & Fitness LLC for use of the gym to introduce Isshinryu Karate during gym classes April 9-13 and 16-20, 2018.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Ms. Lee noted that Mrs. Evans will be recognized in the February White Spotlight.

BHS BOARD MEMBER

Mr. Rader noted that Belvidere is working hard to develop a budget for the 2018-2019 year. The anticipated drop in enrollment will necessitate substantial cuts to maintain a reasonable tuition amount while still preserving sound educational programs. Mr. Rader also discussed the retirement of Belvidere's long-time agriculture teacher, Bryan Leh.

SHARED SERVICES LIAISON COMMITTEE

Mr. Boehm noted that the Committee met and the recommendation of the Committee is to call a special meeting to ask the Board for approval to move forward with a full-time Superintendent/Chief School Administrator, notify Hope Township Board of Education of the desire to terminate the shared services agreement for Superintendent services, and eliminate the position of Principal effective the end of this school year. Mr. Panetta noted that it has to be clear that this doesn't affect the services of Mrs. Huff. Mr. Rader noted he realizes there are good arguments for a single CSA but implored the group to also recognize that the current model has merit and has been successful for many years. Mr. Rader pleaded with the group to give a decision of this magnitude serious and careful consideration. Mr. Rader cautioned that disruption of the shared agreement with Hope Township for Superintendent services could adversely impact the agreement we have with Hope Township for Business Administrator services. Ms. Lee noted that she has been very vocal about potential problems with an agreement that allows us no input. Mr. Rader agreed that there are potential issues with the agreement but asked the group to carefully consider a vote to terminate a relationship that has worked well for a long time.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

No update.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Mrs. Williams and seconded by Mrs. Nikolopoulos to authorize the Board President to seek information and documentation from the New Jersey School Boards Association regarding New Jersey School Boards Association's superintendent search services. Motion carried as follows: Ms. Lee – yes, Ms. Howell – yes, Mrs. Sroka – yes, Mrs. Lensi – yes, Mrs. Williams – yes, Mrs. Nikolopoulos – yes, Mr. Panetta – yes, Mr. Rader – no and Mr. Boehm – yes.

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APPROVE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A motion was made by Mrs. Lensi and seconded by Mrs. Nikolopoulos to approve the Superintendent's Report for the period December 18, 2017 – January 26, 2018. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 9, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF HIB INCIDENTS

A motion was made by Mrs. Lensi and seconded by Mrs. Nikolopoulos to acknowledge receipt of no HIB investigations deemed HIB incidents for the period December 18, 2017 – January 26, 2018. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 9, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

APPROVE THE BI-ANNUAL REPORT ON VIOLENCE, VANDALISM, AND HIB

A motion was made by Mrs. Lensi and seconded by Ms. Lee to approve the Bi-annual Report on Violence, Vandalism and HIB. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 9, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Bellfy asked if it's true that Belvidere was considering cutting their freshman sports program. Mr. Rader noted that he had not heard that.

Mrs. Bloch asked if the district has to send their high school students to Belvidere.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Lensi and seconded by Mrs. Nikolopoulos to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 9, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Huff
Business Administrator
Board Secretary