

WHITE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR SESSION MEETING

MINUTES

MONDAY

DECEMBER 16, 2019

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: Ms. Nusser-Meany, Ms. Howell, Mrs. Sroka, Mrs. Lensi, Mr. Havlusch, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Williams and Mr. Panetta. William Thompson, CSA and Dawn Huff, Business Administrator/Board Secretary were also in attendance. Mrs. Nikolopoulos was unable to attend.

Mr. Panetta opened the meeting at 6:30 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.

CSA REPORT

Mr. Thompson provided an overview of 2019 achievements, in the district, including work on the learning environment and communication, completion of capital projects, a new master schedule, a Student of the Month initiative, and technology upgrades. Mr. Thompson discussed initiatives for the 2020 year including expansion of our club initiatives, additional math resources, collaboration with the PTO for playground upgrades, and ongoing facility projects. Mr. Thompson reviewed some upcoming dates including holiday parties, winter break, Board reorganization, and plans for a strategic planning meeting in January.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVE MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Lensi and seconded by Mrs. Williams to approve the minutes as submitted from the November 25, 2019 Regular Session Meeting and Executive Session. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

CORRESPONDENCE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PERSONNEL

Block Motion – Personnel

A motion was made by Mrs. Lensi and seconded by Mr. Havlusch to approve the following agenda items #1 through #6. Motion carried as follows: Ms. Nusser-Meany – yes, Ms. Howell – yes, Mrs. Sroka – yes, Mrs. Lensi – yes, Mr. Havlusch – yes, Mrs. Smith – yes, Mrs. Williams – yes and Mr. Panetta – yes.

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Block Motion – Personnel - continued

1. Approve a Request for Leave

To approve a request from Richard Fischl to approve a paid medical leave from January 1-31, 2020 and an unpaid leave from February 1 – June 30, 2020.

2. Approve a Leave Replacement

To accept the recommendation of the CSA to extend the approval of Yvonne Mathez as World Language Teacher Leave Replacement, at a per diem rate of \$286.45, MA, Step 1, January 1 – June 30, 2020.

3. Approve a STEM Club Advisor

To approve Henry Skirbst as Advisor of the STEM Club, for students grade 6-8, at a stipend amount not to exceed \$900.

4. Approve a Critical Thinking Chess Club Advisor

To approve Henry Skirbst as Advisor of the Critical Thinking Chess Club, for students grade 6-8, at a stipend amount not to exceed \$450.

5. Approve a Wood Shop Club Advisor

To approve Henry Skirbst as Advisor of the Wood Shop Club, for students grade 6-8, at a stipend amount not to exceed \$450.

6. Approve an Additional Substitute Teacher

To approve Heather Madonia as an additional substitute teacher, for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

TRANSPORTATION

No update.

POLICY

No update.

FINANCE

Block Motion – Finance

A motion was made by Mrs. Lensi and seconded by Ms. Howell to approve the following agenda items #1 through #5. Ms. Nusser-Meany – yes, Ms. Howell – yes, Mrs. Sroka – yes, Mrs. Lensi – yes, Mr. Havlusch – yes, Mrs. Smith – yes, Mrs. Williams – yes and Mr. Panetta – yes.

1. Approve November 2019 Board Secretary’s Report and Treasurer’s Report

To approve, on the recommendation of the CSA, the acceptance of the monthly financial reports of the Board Secretary for the month of November 2019 and further that, in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16-10(c)4, the Board of Education certifies that as of November 30, 2019, after review of the secretary’s monthly financial report and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16-10(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. As required by N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16-10(c) 3, I, Dawn Huff, Board Secretary, hereby certify that no line account has been over expended as of November 30, 2019.

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Block Motion – Finance - continued

2. Approve December 2019 Bill List

To approve the payment of the December 2019 bills in the total amount of \$748,875.35 for all funds.

3. Approve Budget Transfers

To approve budget transfers for November 2019 in the amount of \$11,208.90.

4. Approve a Salary Reduction Only 403(b) Plan Adoption Agreement

To approve a Salary Reduction Only 403(b) Plan Adoption Agreement effective January 1, 2020.

5. Approve a Tuition Contract Agreement

To approve a tuition contract agreement with Mount Olive Board of Education for one student (SID#4552810184) to attend at a yearly tuition cost of \$33,716, prorated to \$24,912.44, for a start date of November 18, 2019.

CURRICULUM

Block Motion – Curriculum

A motion was made by Mrs. Lensi and seconded by Ms. Howell to approve the following agenda items #1 through #4. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

1. Approve a Field Trip for Grade 5 & 6

To approve a field trip for approximately 30 grade 5 & 6 music students to Warren Haven Rehabilitation Center, Oxford, NJ on May 26, 2020. The cost of the bus transportation is \$150.

2. Approve a Field Trip for Grade 3

To approve a field trip for approximately 30 grade 3 students to Warren County Library, Belvidere, NJ on January 22, 2020. The cost of the bus transportation is \$192.50.

3. Approve a Map Making Club

To approve funds, not to exceed \$450, for a Map Making Club for grades 1-3.

4. Approve Home Instruction

To approve home instruction for one student (SID#1640150472), 10 hours per week, beginning November 25th.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Mr. Panetta noted the Committee discussed prioritizing building projects in order to assure that sufficient funding is available. Mr. Panetta further reported on recent requests for use of the facility, plans to partner with the PTO for playground upgrades, and the need for a substitute custodian.

Motion – Buildings & Grounds

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

1. Approve a Use of Facility Request

To approve a request from Warren County Little League for use of the playing fields from March 15 – June 19, 2020.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS

No updates.

BHS BOARD MEMBER

Mrs. Williams reported on items from the recent meeting of the Belvidere Board of Education and noted they will be appointing one of their members as a liaison to Belvidere Town Council, discussed ongoing issues with their food service, and noted that the group is interviewing prospective firms to be the district's Board Attorney.

SHARED SERVICES LIAISON COMMITTEE

No update.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Thompson applauded the efforts of Mrs. Quinn and the generosity of the school community to collect and prepare holiday packages for families in the community.

APPOINT A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BELVIDERE BOARD OF EDUCATION

A motion was made by Mr. Panetta and seconded by Mrs. Lensi to appoint Colleen Williams to serve on the Belvidere Board of Education as the White Township Board of Education representative for the 2020 year. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF HIB INCIDENTS

A motion was made by Mrs. Lensi and seconded by Mrs. Williams to acknowledge receipt of no HIB investigations deemed HIB incidents since last meeting. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Lensi and seconded by Ms. Howell to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Huff
Business Administrator
Board Secretary