

# WASHINGTON BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION

## Regular Meeting Minutes – August 23, 2021

Approved September 13, 2021

### I. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

#### CALL TO ORDER:

President, Bartley Howley called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and asked everyone to please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT:

Bartley Howley read the following statement:

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Act was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is either discussed or acted upon. The Board has fully complied with the notice requirements by advertising in the Express Times posting publicly and by notifying the Municipal Clerk of the date, time, and place of meeting.

#### ROLL CALL

##### Present

Chris Bauknight

Kristen Dufner

Lisa Eller

Carmen Freda

Bartley Howley, President

Melissa Vitalos, Vice-President

##### Absent

Holly Masenior

#### COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD - NONE

### II. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mr. Jenkins:

- Reported that due to the pandemic that classroom curriculum materials have been delayed, however teachers and students will have full online access to start the school year.
- Provided updates on district technology regarding classroom smart boards
- Provided updates to security drill procedures, continue with instructional lockdowns and classroom spaces would have designated “safe zones” in order to resume social distancing requirement.
- Start Strong Testing Assessments for grades K-6 will take place in October.

Mrs. Koeppen:

- Reported that there are no major issues with classroom supply orders
- August rain storm brought water into the classrooms at Taylor Street, however there is no anticipated need for students to be displaced.
- Taylor Street playground project and parking lot repairs anticipate completion by the end of September.

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- Warren County Special Services School District will be providing after-care in the district this year, programs will run at Memorial and Taylor Street schools.
- Lexia Training was successful in grade 1 last year and will be expanding to Kindergarten for the 21/22 school year.

Mrs. Nassry:

- Provided a status update on the summer projects, Memorial School facility improvements are complete. Taylor Street School upstairs flooring has been replaced, rear parking lot has been paved, new fencing installed as part of the new playground project and ADA compliance.
- Provided updates on the reopening plan with guidance from the Warren County Department of Health. Anticipates ongoing COVID guidance updates throughout the school year.
- Mrs. Nassry commended the custodial crew and summer custodians for their hard work and efforts this summer to get both buildings ready for the start of the school year.
- Introduction of Mrs. Tracy Rowe to the Board of Education. She is replacing Florence Dolobach in the Business Office.

*Mr. Howley inquired about Governor Murphy's Executive Order #253 regarding vaccine mandates and what will be the district's responsibility. Mrs. Nassry responded that guidance is forthcoming from the Department of Education.*

### III. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Megan Chavarria – Memorial School parent inquired about the masking mandates for students with regards to protocols for students with disabilities.
- Carianne Dicapua – Taylor Street School parent expressed concerns regarding masking mandates and inquired whether the district would support the position to oppose Executive Order# 251.
- Carianne Dicapua – Taylor Street School parent inquired about LGBTQ curriculum as mandated by the Department of Education as of June 2021.
- Ian Watts – Washington Boro resident, Memorial School Parent, thanked the Board of Education and Mrs. Nassry for their efforts and communication regarding the school district's COVID protocols and spoke in support of masking mandates.

Public Comment Session Closed – 8:19 p.m.

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### IV. ACTION ITEMS: Superintendent's Recommendations

CONSENT AGENDA: Matters listed within the consent agenda have been referred to members of the Board of Education for reading and study are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion.

#### A. Consent Agenda Motion: BOARD AFFAIRS

Motion made by Lisa Eller, seconded by Chris Bauknight, to approve the following board affairs agenda item 1.1-1.3.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

- 1.1 To approve the minutes of the June 14, 2021 regular meeting.
- 1.2 To approve the official release of the NJ Department of Education of our School-Level Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights District and School Grade Report for 2019-2020
- 1.3 To approve the District Goals for 2021-2022.

#### B. Consent Agenda Motion: BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Motion made by Ana Del Salto, seconded by Lisa Eller, to approve the following business affairs agenda item 2.1 through 2.12.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

- 2.1 To approve, on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the acceptance of the financial reports of the Board Secretary and the Treasurer for the month of June 2021 and July 2021 and further that, in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16,10(c)f, The Board of Education certifies that as of June 30, 2021 and July 31, 2021, 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 has been over expended in violation of NJAC 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.
- 2.2 To approve the 8/23/21 current expense food service and regular account bill list.
- 2.3 To approve the budget transfers as presented.
- 2.4 To approve IT Business Consulting to provide IT services for the 2021-22 school year at an hourly rate of \$105.00.
- 2.5 To approve submission of 2021-202 IDEA Grant Application with assurances: Basic-\$145,240, Preschool - \$7,999.
- 2.6 To approve submission of 2021-2022 ESEA Grant Application with assurances: Title IA: \$112,088, Title IIA-\$15,151, Title III-Mansfield Consortia, Title IV-\$10,000.
- 2.7 To approve The JDM Group to install Video Surveillance at Memorial School as a cost of \$27,209.48.

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- 2.8 To approve the Sussex County Educational Services Commission to provide ancillary services for the 2021-22 school year per the rate schedule.
- 2.9 To approve O.T. Inc. to provide occupational therapy services for the 2021-22 school year at a cost of \$80/hour not to exceed \$125,000.
- 2.10 To approve the placement of the identified student in the Northern Hills Academy for the 2021-22 school year at an annual tuition of \$59,180 plus a shared paraprofessional in the amount of \$14,280 and two additional therapies per week in the amount of \$4,150.
- 2.11 To approve the placement of the identified student in the Warren Glen Academy for the 2021-2022 school year at an annual tuition of \$49,510.80, per diem rate \$275.06 plus transportation.
- 2.12 To approve the 2021-2024 WEA Memorandum of Agreement and Salary Guides.

### C. Consent Agenda Motion: PERSONNEL AFFAIRS

Motion made by Melissa Vitalos, seconded by Lisa Eller, to approve the following personnel affairs agenda item 3.1 through 3.23.

Motion carried by affirmative roll call vote, with one abstention, on item 3.12, by Mrs. Freda.

- 3.1 To approve the comprehensive student and staff attendance data (*with all fire drill reports, if applicable*) for the Month of June and July, 2021.
- 3.2 To approve our 2021-2022 Full-time School Principal Waiver Request
- 3.3 To approve the 2021-2022 contract for Mr. Colby Deemer as Facilities Manager commencing September 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 at a prorated salary of \$60,000.
- 3.4 To approve Mr. Jason Dantzler as our new full-time custodian effective 9/1/21 at a prorated salary of \$38,559 (Step 1 on the 2018-2021 W.E.A. salary guide) plus single benefits pending receipt of credentials.
- 3.5 To approve Ms. Tracy Souders as a part-time paraprofessional for the 2021-22 school year at a rate of \$21.57 per hour not to exceed 29 hours per week pending receipt of credentials.
- 3.6 To approve Ms. Danielle Eskow as a part-time paraprofessional for the 2021-22 school year at a rate of \$21.57 per hour not to exceed 29 hours per week pending receipt of credentials.
- 3.7 To approve Ms. Melissa Sneed as a part-time paraprofessional for the 2021-22 school year at a rate of \$21.57 per hour not to exceed 29 hours per week pending receipt of credentials.
- 3.8 To approve Ms. Sophia Page as a part-time paraprofessional for the 2021-22 school year at a rate of \$21.07 per hour not to exceed 29 hours per week pending receipt of credentials

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- 3.9 To approve Ms. Deborah Thompson as long-term substitute music teacher covering Mrs. Birdsall position from September 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 at a prorated salary of \$53,145. (Step 1 BA) on the W.E.A. salary guide with single benefits.
- 3.10 To approve Ms. Alyssa Hillpot as a long-term substitute grade 3 classroom teacher from September 1, 2021 through January 31, 2022 for the 2021-22 academic year at a prorated salary of 52,045. (Step 0, BA) on the 2018-2021 W.E.A. salary guide with single benefits pending receipt of credentials.
- 3.11 To approve Mrs. Catherine Scerbo as a classroom teacher for the 2021-22 academic year at a salary of 52,045. (Step 0, BA) on the 2018-2021 W.E.A. salary guide with single benefits.
- 3.12 To approve the 2021-2022 District Professional Plan Statement of Assurance.
- 3.13 To approve the 2021-2022 Memorial School Professional Development Plan.
- 3.14 To approve the 2021-2022 Taylor Street School Professional Development Plan.
- 3.15 To approve the 2021-2022 Superintendent Professional Development Plan
- 3.16 To approve the 2021-2022 Principal Professional Development Plan.
- 3.17 To approve the 2021-2022 Supervisor Professional Development Plan.
- 3.18 To approve the 2021-2022 Washington Borough School District Mentoring Plan.
- 3.19 To approve our 2021-2022 Substitute Staff List as per the enclosure.
- 3.20 To approve with regret the resignation letter from Mrs. Julianne Wildrick Salvatore effective August 2, 2021.
- 3.21 To amend the resignation letter from Mrs. Florence Dolobach August 31, 2021 to September 30, 2021.
- 3.22 To approve Ms.. Jordan Cohen to move from Step 0 BA (\$52,045.) to Step 0 BA+15 (52,645.) on the 2018-2021 W.E.A. salary guide effective September 1, 2021.
- 3.23 To approve a FMLA leave of absence for Tammy Mornick effective August 4 through August 18, 2021.

### **D. Consent Agenda Motion: SCHOOL AFFAIRS**

Motion made by Carmen Freda, seconded by Lisa Eller, to approve the following school affairs agenda item

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

- 4.1 To approve partnership with WCSSSD to provide an aftercare program for students grades preschool through sixth grade utilizing the Memorial School and Taylor Street school facilities for the 2021-2022 academic year.

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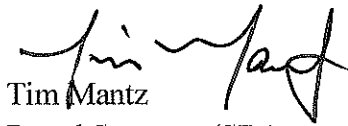
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### V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m. on a motion by Lisa Eller, seconded by Melissa Vitalos.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectively submitted,



Tim Mantz  
Board Secretary/SBA