

WASHINGTON BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – September 12, 2022

Approved 10/10/22

I. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

CALL TO ORDER

President, Bartley Howley, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked everyone to please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT

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

Lisa Eller

Carmine Freda

Bartley Howley

Joseph Kresefsky

Ya'el Kresefsky

Holly Masenior

Kevin Noone

Melissa Vitalos

II. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

Introduction of Chief Jones and Det. Lt. Koch, WTPD

Chief Jones gave a brief introduction to the Board for himself and introduced Det.Lt. Koch who coordinates the SRO program for WTPD.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mr. Jenkins: Supervisor of Instruction

- Countywide Safety/Security Meetings resumed since COVID hiatus. One of the noteworthy mentions is that Warren County has a First Responder tactical team comprised of EMTs, Firefighters, Sheriff Officers, State Police and local Police Officers. This team has undergone specific training in the event reporting to active shooter or other emergency situations. This is the first such team in the state of NJ.
- The district will be conducting a security drill in the next week, as mandated by law to conduct such drill within the first 15 days of school.
- Grade 2 transition to Memorial School has gone quite well.
- Assessment Updates: Statewide Start Strong testing deadline has been extended to 10/21/22. NJSLA Reporting, individual student reports will be distributed to parents by the end of the month. NJSLA will be utilized as a benchmark tool for districts to gauge

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how district students compare statewide, not necessarily improvement from year to year. A more comprehensive report to the Board will be forthcoming in October.

Mrs. Koeppen: Principal/CST

- The opening of school has been challenging at Taylor with the number of staff absences. We are actively recruiting substitutes.
- Thanked the custodial staff, there were a tremendous amount of deliveries to Taylor this summer, which required unpacking and in many cases assembly. The custodians were able to get everything done in time for the school year.
- Taylor St. Window project updates: A recent project meeting conveyed that the materials previously delayed are anticipated to be delivered 9/22/22 with an expected start date of 9/26/22.

Mrs. Nassry: Superintendent

- Taylor St. Window Project, Mrs. Nassry added that the timeframe for completion is expected to be 2 weeks after the start date. Crews will be working nights and weekends around school hours to finish.
- The district will be moving forward with plans to bring back club activities, utilizing Title IV funds. Drama Club, 4th Grade Choir, Intermural Sports and Crafts Club to mention a few. These clubs are an important part of a well rounded student and integrate social and fine motor skills.
- QSAC, this will be a monitoring year for the district. District stakeholders as well as Department of Education officials from the Warren County Office of Education will review district standards to ensure compliance. The process is lengthy, and the Board can anticipate to begin seeing action items in the upcoming months.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT - Open at 7:14 p.m.

- Rita LeRose, PTO Representative. Ms. LeRose announced that the PTO will actively engage in monthly meetings and that they are looking forward to a successful school year. She also mentioned that the PTO has fielded a number of inquiries about Before Care and inquired whether the Board would consider accommodating a program.

Mrs. Koeppen responded that Warren County Special Services currently is servicing the district's After Care needs, and that we would approach them with the request.

V. 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.

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A. Consent Agenda Motion: BOARD AFFAIRS

Motion made by Lisa Eller, seconded by Chris Bauknight to approve the following board affairs agenda item **1.1-1.9**.

Motion carried by affirmative roll call vote, with abstentions by Mr. and Mrs. Kresefsky.

- 1.1 To approve the minutes of the August 15, 2022 regular meeting.
- 1.2 To approve the Memorial School and Taylor Street School 2021-2022 School Level Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act.
- 1.3 To entertain the second reading of Policy Bylaw 0163, Quorum, (R) (Revised)
- 1.4 To entertain the second reading of Policy 1511, Board of Education Website Accessibility (M) (Revised)
- 1.5 To entertain the second reading of Policy 2415, Every Student Succeeds Act (M) (Revised)
- 1.6 To entertain the second reading of Policy 3216, Dress and Grooming (R) (Revised)
- 1.7 To entertain the second reading of Policy 3270, Professional Responsibilities (R) (Revised)
- 1.8 To entertain the second reading of Policy 5513, Care of School Property (M) (Revised)
- 1.9 To entertain the second reading of Policy 5722, Student Journalism (M) (New)

B. Consent Agenda Motion: BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Motion made by Carmen Freda, seconded by Holly Masenior, to approve the following business affairs agenda item **2.1** through **2.4**.

Motion carried by affirmative roll call vote, with dissensions by Mr. and Mrs. Kresefsky on item 2.4

- 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 August 2022 and further that, in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16,10(c)f, The Board of Education certifies that as of August 31, 2022, 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 9/12/22 current expense regular account bill list.
- 2.3 To approve a contract with Strober-Wright Roofing Inc to perform emergency roof repairs to the Memorial Gym in the amount of \$63,859.00.
- 2.4 To approve a Shared Service Agreement with Mansfield Township Board of Education for per diem certified school nurse for the 2022/23 school year at a cost of

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\$545.39 per day or \$68.17 per hour.

C. Consent Agenda Motion: PERSONNEL AFFAIRS

Motion made by Lisa Eller, seconded by Melissa Vitalos, to approve the following personnel affairs agenda item **3.1** through **3.15**.

Motion carried by affirmative roll call vote.

- 3.1 To approve the comprehensive student and staff attendance data (*with all fire drill reports, if applicable*) for the Month of August, 2022.
- 3.2 To revise Ms. Deana Valle (Aponte) as a part-time paraprofessional for the 2022-23 school year at a rate of \$22.68 (Step 1B) per hour not to exceed 29 hours per week effective September 1, 2022.
- 3.3 To approve Ms. Erin Costa as a part-time paraprofessional for the 2022-23 school year at a rate of \$22.18 (Step 1A) per hour not to exceed 29 hours per week.
- 3.4 To approve Mr. Brian McLaughlin as a part-time paraprofessional for the 2022-2023 school year at a rate of \$22.68 (Step 1B) per hour not to exceed 29 hours per week.
- 3.5 To approve Mr. Christopher Cannavo as a long-term substitute grade 1 classroom teacher beginning September 1, 2022 through November 24, 2022, at a prorated salary of 53,006. (Step 1, BA) on the 2021-2024 W.E.A. salary guide with single benefits.
- 3.6 To approve Pamela Brady as a substitute teacher for the 2022-2023 school year.
- 3.7 To approve a maternity leave of absence request for Mrs. Erica Chesniak from October 31, 2022 to December 23, 2022 utilizing 36 sick days followed by NJFLA leave for 12 weeks beginning January 2, 2023 through March 24, 2023.
- 3.8 To approve a maternity leave of absence request for Ms. Kaitlyn Haskoor beginning January 9, 2023 to April 21, 2023 utilizing 14 sick days followed by NJFLA leave for 12 weeks with a return date of April 24, 2023.
- 3.9 To approve Mrs. Christina Henderson to move from Step 2 BA (\$54,106) to Step 2 BA+15 (\$54,706) on the 2022-2023 W.E.A. salary guide effective October 1, 2022.
- 3.10 To rescind the motion to approve Ms. Jillian Adie as a part-time paraprofessional for the 2022-23 school year at a rate of \$22.68 per hour not to exceed 29 hours per week.
- 3.11 To approve Ms. Jennifer Staples as the district's 2022-2023 Safety Patrol Advisor with a stipend amount of \$1,023.47.
- 3.12 To approve Ms. Grace Cunningham as a substitute custodian for the district for the 2022-2023 school year.
- 3.13 To approve Mr. David Gross as a substitute teacher for the district for the 2022-23 school year at a rate of \$100.00 per diem, pending receipt of credentials.
- 3.14 To approve Ms. Lisa Buhl to move from Step 6 MA (\$64,186) to Step 6 MA+15 (\$64,746) on the 2022-2023 W.E.A. salary guide effective October 1, 2022.

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- 3.15 To approve Ms. Joanne Mikalauskas as a substitute teacher for the district for the 2022-2023 school year at a rate of \$100.00 per diem, pending receipt of credentials.

D. Consent Agenda Motion: SCHOOL AFFAIRS

Motion made by Lisa Eller, seconded by Chris Bauknight, to approve the following school affairs agenda item **4.1**.

Motion carried by affirmative roll call vote.

- 4.1 To approve the District's 2022-2023 Virtual/Remote Instruction Plan.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Lisa Eller, seconded by Joseph Kresefsky, to adjourn at 7:20 p.m.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectively submitted,

Tim Mantz
Board Secretary