

WASHINGTON BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING – December 11, 2023
Approved 1/8/24

I. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

CALL TO ORDER

President, Bartley Howley, called the meeting to order at 7:02 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

Angela Bridygham
Lisa Eller
Carmine Freda
Dawn Higgins
Joseph Kresefsky
Ya’el Kresefsky
Melissa Vitalos

Not Present

Bartley Howley
Holly Masenior

II. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD – None

III. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mr. Jenkins: Supervisor of Instruction

- Reported on activities taking place at Memorial, including Knitting club, Choir/Band concerts and PTO Holiday Shop
- Security Drill updates

Mrs. Koeppen: Principal/CST

- Reported on professional development presentation to staff by the district’s LDT/C on Dyslexia
- School activities including Balloon Parade for Kindergarten, and Winter Concert. Preschool family activity, Parent Education on limiting screen time.

Mr. Esposito: Superintendent

- Provided updates on agenda items, including RFP for HIT Grant
- Inquired for interest in monthly student recognition program at each board meeting.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT session opened at 7:17p.m

- Karen Castanhas – inquired about whether the district would consider bringing back Healthy Snack Club. Mr. Esposito responded that there is a PTO sponsored initiative currently taking place with Healthy Cart Initiative.

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Public Comment session closed at 7:21 p.m.

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.

A. Consent Agenda Motion: BOARD AFFAIRS: SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATION

Motion made by Lisa Eller, seconded by Joseph Kresefsky to approve the following board affairs agenda item **1.1**.

Motion carried by roll call vote, with abstentions by Mrs. Bridygham and Mrs. Higgins.

1.1 To approve the minutes of the November 13, 2023 regular meeting session.

B. Consent Agenda Motion: BUSINESS AFFAIRS: SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATION

Motion made by Lisa Eller, seconded by Carmen Freda to approve the following business affairs agenda item **2.1** through **2.6**.

Motion carried by roll call vote.

2.1 To approve the acceptance of the monthly financial reports of the Board Secretary and the Treasurer for the month of November 2023 and further that, in compliance with NJAC 6A:23A-16.10c and NJAC 6A:23A-16.10c (3) the Board of Education and School Business Administrator certify that as of November 30, 2023, after review of the secretary’s monthly financial report and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials no major account has been over expended in violation of NJAC 6A:23A-16.10a and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

2.2 To approve 12/11/23 current expense regular account and food service bill list.

2.3 To approve the Request for Proposal of the NJDOE High Impact Tutoring Grant.

2.4 To accept the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) and Auditor’s Management Report on Administrative Findings for the Year Ending June 30, 2023 and order that a copy be filed in the business office and with the New Jersey Department of Education.

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- 2.5 To acknowledge that there were no audit recommendations under the following headings and to approve the corrective action plan.

Audit for Year Ending June 30, 2023

Schedule of findings of Non-Compliance None

Summary of Recommendations

- | | |
|--|------|
| 1. Administrative Practices and Procedures | None |
| 2. Financial Accounting and Reporting | None |
| 3. School Purchasing Programs | None |
| 4. School Food Service | None |
| 5. Student Body Activities | None |
| 6. Applications for State School Aid | None |
| 7. Pupil Transportation | None |
| 8. Facilities and Capital Assets | None |
| 9. Miscellaneous | None |
| 10. Follow-up on prior year findings | None |

- 2.6 To approve contract with Curriculum Associates for iReady Assessment and Personalized Instruction Math Site License 201-350 Students in the amount of \$15,020 and term of 1 year.

C. Consent Agenda Motion: PERSONNEL AFFAIRS: SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATION

Motion made by Lisa Eller, seconded by Joseph Kresefsky to approve the following personnel affairs agenda item **3.1 through 3.6**, with friendly amendment to item 3.5.

Mrs. Bridygham questioned why there were no details for items 3.2 and 3.3 included in the packet for review. Mr. Esposito responded that due to urgent need for substitutes we don’t always receive resumes, but that individuals meet the requirements for County Credentials.

- 3.1 To approve the comprehensive student and staff attendance data *(with all fire drill reports, if applicable)* for the Month of November, 2023.
- 3.2 To approve Mrs. Kate Bitondo as a substitute paraprofessional for the 2023-2024 school year.
- 3.3 To approve Ms. Emily Gilligan as a substitute teacher for the 2023-2024 school year.
- 3.4 To approve the hiring of Ms. Susan Michlik as a full time teacher for the 2023-2024 school year on or about January 2, 2024 at an annual salary of \$64,810 (Step 6, MA), prorated to start date on the 2021-2024 W.E.A. salary guide with single benefits, pending receipt of credentials.
- 3.5 To appoint Mrs. Lynn Hackett as substitute caller for the 2023-2024 school year with an annual stipend amount of \$5,000 and retroactively for the 2022-2023 school year.

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- 3.6 To approve Ms. Emilee Segreaves to move from Step 4 BA+15 (\$58,130) to Step 4 BA+30 (\$58,680) on the 2023-2024 W.E.A. salary guide effective January 1, 2024.

D. Consent Agenda Motion: SCHOOL AFFAIRS: SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATION

Motion made by Joseph Kresefsky, seconded by Lisa Eller to approve the following school affairs agenda item **4.1 to 4.4**.

Motion carried by roll call vote.

Mrs. Bridygham questioned item 4.4, why there wasn’t an incident report included in the packet. Mr. Esposito responded that in this case, after thorough investigation, these cases were determined not to be designated as HIB.

- 4.1 To approve the following field trip for the Fine Arts Showcase, Grade 6, on January 17, 2024 (snow date January 18, 2024) to Warren Hills Regional High School, Washington, NJ.
- 4.2 To approve the following Student Enrichment field trip: Legos on the Loose, Grade 3, on January 31, 2024 to Willow Grove Elementary School, Hackettstown, NJ.
- 4.3 To approve the following field trip for Grade 1, on May 9, 2024 to The Growing Stage Theatre, Netcong, NJ.
- 4.4 To affirm the administrative decision regarding the following HIB cases: System assigned incident #05-23 and #06-23.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Carmine Freda seconded by Dawn Higgins, to adjourn at 7:34 p.m.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Mantz
Board Secretary