

**HACKETTSTOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
August 16, 2017
MINUTES**

The regular action board meeting of August 16, 2017 of the Hackettstown Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Willow Grove School library by Board Vice President, Mr. Shawn Burke. Mr. Burke read the following statement followed by the pledge of allegiance: "In accordance with the State's Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was provided by mailing a notice of the time, date, location and, to the extent known, the agenda of this meeting, to the *Warren Reporter* and the *Express Times*." Copies of the notice have also been posted in each of our schools, the Board Office located at 315 Washington Street, and filed with the Municipal Clerk of the Town of Hackettstown. And further, please be advised that, meetings of the Hackettstown Board of Education are videotaped for next day posting on the District website. The Board of Education reserves the right to edit the videotaped record of its meetings in order to protect student or staff member privacy."

ROLL CALL

Members present: Mr. Shawn Burke
Ms. Amy Cochran
Dr. Giovanni Cusmano
Ms. Mary Beth Maciag (arrived at 7:14 p.m.)
Mr. Robert Moore
Mr. Edward O'Melia
Dr. Bo Soobryan
Ms. Michele Wehmeyer

Also present: Mr. David C. Mango, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Gail Woicekowski, Board Secretary
Mr. Mark Toscano, Board Attorney
Mrs. Kathy Gesumaria, Director of Special Services
Mrs. Debra Grigoletti, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Mr. Guy Jorstad, Director of Pupil Personnel Services
Mr. Douglas DeMatteo, Director of Buildings and Grounds
Mr. John Morsillo, Technology Technician I
Mr. Kyle Sosnovik, High School Principal
Mrs. Marie Griffin, Hatchery Hill Principal
Mr. Patrick McQueeney, Willow Grove Principal

Members absent: Mr. Gus Bordi
Mr. Michael Herbst

- Tuition Reconciliation – Ms. Gail Woicekowski
Ms. Woicekowski said the balance is down to between \$925K to \$930K. She said this does not include adjustments to the General Ed tuition. The districts will not get these numbers until January 2018 which means the certified rates could make this number go up or down. Mr. Mango stated that out of the \$925K - \$930K, \$800K was found by both Business Offices and Special Services Departments. He stated that this was due to not sharing of the Student Information System prior to 7/1/16 and due to resource hour adjustments. This is now corrected. Mr. Mango just wants the public to have factual information.
- HIB Self-Assessment – Mr. Guy Jorstad (a copy of the assessment is attached to the minutes)
Mr. Jorstad stated there is a committee at each school along with a community member, teacher and a HIB Specialist who will review HIB data during the year. Mr. Jorstad stated the score is based on 26 indicators. A score of 2 - means you meet the expectations of the law; a score of 3- means you exceed expectation. Mr. Jorstad said there is a scale of 78 potential points. The High School scored 68, Middle School 73, Willow Grove 75 and Hatchery Hill 77.

PUBLIC COMMENT/QUESTIONS ON AGENDA ITEMS

- none

BOARD COMMENT ON A SECTION AGENDA ITEMS

Motions are accepted by Mr. Moore and Ms. Cochran as amended.

- none

APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER(S)

Motion: Mr. Moore Second: Ms. Cochran

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education, approve the August 16, 2017 bill list in the amount of ~~\$1,805,615.09~~ \$2,049,372.91 and further, that copies be attached to the minutes.

Carried in a roll call vote, Dr. Cusmano and Ed O'Melia, yes (as it pertains to the High School)

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

Motion: Mr. Moore Second: Ms. Cochran

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education, approve the Secretary and Treasurer Reports for the month ending June 30, 2017 for the 2016-2017 school year as attached by reference.

Carried in a roll call vote, Dr. Cusmano and Ed O'Melia, yes (as it pertains to the High School)

874
8746

ACCEPTANCE OF FINANCIAL REPORTS CERTIFICATION

Motion: Mr. Moore Second: Ms. Cochran

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education, accept the certification of the Board Secretary.


Board Secretary

8/16/17
Date

and certify: in compliance with NJAC 6A:23A-16.10(c), that to the best of our knowledge as of June 30, 2017 no major account or fund has been over-expended and that sufficient funds exist to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the 2016-2017 school years.

Carried in a roll call vote, Dr. Cusmano and Ed O'Melia, yes (as it pertains to the High School)

APPROVAL OF TRANSFERS

Motion: Mr. Moore Second: Ms. Cochran

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education, approve the transfers for June 2017 in the amount of \$ 426,371.69, as attached by reference.

Carried in a roll call vote, Dr. Cusmano and Ed O'Melia, yes (as it pertains to the High School)

AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH PETTY CASH FUNDS (REVISED)

Motion: Mr. Moore Second: Ms. Cochran

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education, authorize (revised) individuals to be designated to disburse petty cash funds, as attached by reference.

Carried in a roll call vote, Dr. Cusmano and Ed O'Melia, yes (as it pertains to the High School)

APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH BEDTIME MATH FOUNDATION

Motion: Mr. Moore Second: Ms. Cochran

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education, approve a Memorandum of Understanding between Bedtime Math Foundation and Hackettstown Public Schools to implement the Parents Count Program for the 2017-2018 school year, as attached by reference.

Carried in a roll call vote, Dr. Cusmano and Ed O'Melia, yes (as it pertains to the High School)

APPROVAL OF OUT OF DISTRICT PLACEMENTS

Motion: Mr. Moore Second: Ms. Cochran

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education, approve out of district placement(s) for the 2017-2018 school year, as attached by reference, and further, that transportation be arranged as required.

Carried in a roll call vote, Dr. Cusmano and Ed O'Melia, yes (as it pertains to the High School)

APPROVAL OF FY18 ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT (ESEA) GRANT SUBMISSION AND ACCEPTANCE

Motion: Mr. Moore Second: Ms. Cochran

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education, authorize the submission of the FY2018 ESEA (formerly NCLB) grant application in the total amount of \$245,855 accept the award of funds upon subsequent approval of the application as attached by reference.

Carried in a roll call vote, Dr. Cusmano and Ed O'Melia, yes (as it pertains to the High School)

ADJUSTMENT APPROVAL OF MONIES TRANSFERRED OUT OF CAPITAL RESERVE

Motion: Mr. Moore Second: Ms. Cochran

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education, approve the withdrawal of available dollars (\$37,855.16) out of capital reserve to capital projects fund for the architectural and engineering costs and construction costs associated with Media Center project, \$466,958.50 for the Partial Roof Replacement at the High School and Middle School and \$13,950.00 for the catch basin's at Willow Grove Elementary School.

Carried in a roll call vote, Dr. Cusmano and Ed O'Melia, yes (as it pertains to the High School)

APPROVAL OF TUITION CONTRACT

Motion: Mr. Moore Second: Ms. Cochran

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education, approve a regular education tuition contract with Warren County Technical School for the 2017-2018 school year as attached by reference. Carried in a roll call vote, Dr. Cusmano and Ed O'Melia, yes (as it pertains to the High School)

APPROVAL OF SPECIAL EDUCATION TUITION CONTRACT

Motion: Mr. Moore Second: Ms. Cochran

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education, approve a special education tuition contract with Warren County Technical School for the 2017-2018 school year as attached by reference. Carried in a roll call vote, Dr. Cusmano and Ed O'Melia, yes (as it pertains to the High School)

APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND GENERAL RELEASE

Motion: Mr. Moore Second: Ms. Cochran

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education, approves the Settlement Agreement and General Release entered into with the parents of student #6452915433 to resolve a special education related dispute for the 2017-2018 school year.

Carried in a roll call vote, Dr. Cusmano and Ed O'Melia, yes (as it pertains to the High School)

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR SUBSTITUTE ATHLETIC TRAINER SERVICES

Motion: Mr. Moore Second: Ms. Cochran

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education, approve St. Luke's University Health Network to provide substitute licensed Athletic Trainer services at the High School for the 2017-2018 school year at a rate of \$35 per hour and a daily rate of \$140/person, as attached by reference.

Carried in a roll call vote, Dr. Cusmano and Ed O'Melia, yes (as it pertains to the High School)

APPROVAL OF USE OF FACILITIES FOR EXTRA & CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Motion: Mr. Moore Second: Ms. Cochran

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education, approve use of Facilities for Extra & Co- Curricular Activities for 2017-2018 school year, as attached by reference.

Carried in a roll call vote, Dr. Cusmano and Ed O'Melia, yes (as it pertains to the High School)

ANNUAL RECOGNITION OF BOOSTER CLUBS

Motion: Mr. Moore Second: Ms. Cochran

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education, recognize district Booster Clubs as in accordance with district policy 9191 – Booster Clubs attached by reference.

Carried in a roll call vote, Dr. Cusmano and Ed O'Melia, yes (as it pertains to the High School)

APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL CO-CURRICULAR APPOINTMENTS

Motion: Mr. Moore Second: Ms. Cochran

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education, approve additional co-curricular appointments for the 2017-2018 school year, attached by reference.

Carried in a roll call vote, Dr. Cusmano and Ed O'Melia, yes (as it pertains to the High School)

APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL ATHLETIC APPOINTMENTS

Motion: Mr. Moore Second: Ms. Cochran

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education, approve additional athletic appointments for the 2017-2018 school year, attached by reference.

Carried in a roll call vote, Dr. Cusmano and Ed O'Melia, yes (as it pertains to the High School)

APPROVAL OF MENTORS / MENTEES

Motion: Mr. Moore Second: Ms. Cochran

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education, approve mentors/mentees for the 2017-2018 school year, attached by reference.

Carried in a roll call vote, Dr. Cusmano and Ed O'Melia, yes (as it pertains to the High School)

APPROVAL OF 2017-2018 TIGER CLUB APPOINTMENTS

Motion: Mr. Moore Second: Ms. Cochran

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education, approve Tiger Club appointments for the 2017-2018 school year, attached by reference.

Carried in a roll call vote, Dr. Cusmano and Ed O'Melia, yes (as it pertains to the High School)

APPROVAL OF 2017-2018 TITLE I PROGRAMS/ADVISORS

Motion: Mr. Moore Second: Ms. Cochran

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education, approve Title I programs/advisors for the

Carried in a roll call vote, Dr. Cusmano and Ed O'Melia, yes (as it pertains to the High School)

APPROVAL OF HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION PROVIDERS

Motion: Mr. Moore Second: Ms. Cochran

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education, approve all certificated staff including Lydia Ghachem, Kathie Mackie, Cheryl O'Melia and Diane VanDongen as homebound instruction providers for the 2017-2018 school year.

Carried in a roll call vote, Dr. Cusmano and Ed O'Melia, yes (as it pertains to the High School)

APPROVAL OF AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING PROVIDERS

Motion: Mr. Moore Second: Ms. Cochran

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education, approve all high school certificated staff (within their subject area) as after school tutoring providers for the 2017-2018 school year.

Carried in a roll call vote, Dr. Cusmano and Ed O'Melia, yes (as it pertains to the High School)

APPROVAL OF HIGH SCHOOL CHAPERONES

Motion: Mr. Moore Second: Ms. Cochran

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education, approve all High School members of the Collective Bargaining Agreement for potential High School chaperoning duties and eligible for payment as per the contract for the 2017-2018 school year effective September 1, 2017.

Carried in a roll call vote, Dr. Cusmano and Ed O'Melia, yes (as it pertains to the High School)

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Ms. Rachel Ward, a community member, addressed the board further on the lead testing results. She said she contacted the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE). She gave Mr. Toscano a letter from Mr. Jim Palmer from the New Jersey Department of Education stating that every parent and staff member should receive a letter stating lead levels are over the limit. The letter also stated it is not sufficient to just be on website. Ms. Ward also read from an article in the NJ Herald regarding lead testing and Vernon Township School District.
- Ms. Woicekowski replied that a letter is going home in every beginning of year packet with each student.
- Ms. Fadia Hindi, a community member questioned why the public has to wait until November for a meeting regarding feasibility study. She feels it should be done earlier.
- Mr. Mango replied that when trying to create schedules for two Board of Educations, this date was settled along with Mr. Hespe.
- Jennifer Bujno, a community member stated that the Sunday, August 13, 2017 robo call said the meeting date was not yet determined. She questioned whether another call will come out.
- Mr. Mango replied, yes that was already stated. Mr. Mango said additional calls will go out as the date approaches. Mr. Mango stated there has been a disappointing response of public reaching out to meet with him.
- Ms. Bujno said everyone needs to be a little more patient as this is the summer and people are away which could be the cause of the low number.
- Mr. Mango replied that people had enough time and ample opportunity to meet with him.
- Ms. Bujno replied she is doing what she can and will meet with Mr. Mango prior to August 31, 2017.
- M. Christopher Otto questioned whether the public will get more information than what we are hearing.
- Mr. Mango responded that he would prefer that accurate information is communicated to citizens.
- Mr. James Lambo, Town Council, spoke about a letter dated 7/20/17 to the town regarding the \$261K payment. He wondered if this a onetime thing or still ongoing.
- Mr. Mango replied that it is one time at this time per the state.
- Mr. Toscano stated these are additional funds. Legislature did not change the funding formula. Mr. Toscano said they altered the Appropriations Act and it is not guaranteed to be available after June 30, 2018. All districts across the state are being cautious. Mr. Toscano said only a handful of districts changed the A4F for the current year. If that is done, it may impact future budgets. Expenditures are being applied to future budget cycles or current year appropriations.
- Ms. K. Weissman, HHS cheerleading Booster Club stated the cheerleaders want to host a competition team on November 18, 2017.
- Ms. Woicekowski responded that the competition was approved at the August 16, 2017 meeting.
- Mr. Burke stated that he was approached over the weekend regarding the feasibility study. He said there is a lot of misinformation in the community. Mr. Burke encouraged the community to take the time to see what really comes out. He said to block social media and concentrate on the facts.

Mtg. Date: 8/16/17

The Board took a break between 8:00 p.m. to 8:07 p.m.

8754

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: Mr. Moore

Second: Dr. Cusmano

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act authorizes Boards of Education to meet in executive session under certain circumstances;

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act requires the Board to adopt a resolution at a public meeting to go into private session at 8:07 pm;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Hackettstown Board of Education that it is necessary to meet in executive session to discuss certain items involving:

Matters of personal confidentiality rights, including but not limited to, staff and/or student discipline matters, and specifically:

- HIB Reports
- Potential tuition student

Matters of concerning negotiation, and specifically:

- HCA Sidebar (Dr. Cusmano not present at this time)

Matters involving personnel issues, including but not limited to, the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of performance, promotion or discipline of any public officer or employee specifically:

- Personnel Issue

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any discussion held by the Board which need not remain confidential will be made public as soon as feasible. The minutes of the executive session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board will return to open session to conduct business at the conclusion of the executive session. Carried in a voice vote – unanimous.

RECONVENE

Motion: Mr. Moore

Second: Dr. Cusmano

Be it resolved that the Board of Education reconvene into regular session at 9:04 p.m. Carried in a voice vote – unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF HIB

Motion: Ms. Cochran

Second: Dr. Soobryan

Be it resolved, that the Board of Education adopt and approve the verbal HIB reports and finding as presented in Executive Session.

Carried in a voice vote, Dr. Cusmano – abstain; Mr. O'Melia, yes (as it pertains to the Highs School)

