

Minutes of the Adoption of Budget/Work Session Meeting  
of the Tenafly Board of Education  
Monday, May 8, 2023  
Board of Education Hegelein Building

*Motion to go into Closed Session at 7:18 p.m.  
Moved: Ms. Meytes Second: Ms. Israeli Miller  
All in Favor*

**Call to Order/Adequate Notice Statement/Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance**

Board President Jocelyn Schwarz read the following statement:

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et. seq., adequate notification of this meeting has been provided by having the date, time and place thereof posted in the Board of Education Hegelein Building, the Borough office, Tenafly Public Library, the local press and on the district's web site.

The following Board members were present:

<i>Board Member</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Igor Frid		X
Michelle Harris	X	
Inbal Israeli Miller	X	
Michelle Merchant	X	
Yelena Meytes	X	
Edward J. Salaski	X	
Michael Wilderman	X	
Paula Newman, Vice President	X	
Jocelyn Schwarz, President	X	

Also present:

Bruce Watson, Interim Superintendent  
Jeff Gorman, Interim Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction  
Danielle Diaz, Human Resources Manager  
Victor J. Anaya, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

**Closed Session**

**Be it Resolved**, that the Tenafly Board of Education determines it is necessary to meet in Closed Session on May 8, 2023 to discuss Legal, Personnel and Student matters; and  
**Be it Further Resolved**, that these matters will be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

*Motion to end Closed Session and enter Open Session at 8:05 p.m.  
Moved: Mr. Salaski Second: Ms. Newman  
All in Favor*

**Open to the Public – 1<sup>st</sup> Session 8:05 pm**

Total Attendees Including Board Personnel –

In-Person: 5

Virtual: 50

Board/Administrators: 11 (Igor Frid absent and Michael Wilderman late)

Comments (In-Person and Virtual)

- Jocelyn Schwarz commented on protocol of public comment and the adoption of the 2023-2024 budget.
- Jocelyn Schwarz commented on the petition of section eliminations next school year, and shared the district practice on section adjustments following policy and the budget support.
- Regina Roper asked what happens if all schools have classes at 21/22? Where do they add a new section? Or do they just add an aide?
- Hyejee Joo spoke about the classroom structure being maintained between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders in the school. Shared the board policy on classroom structure for support of 3 classes in 1<sup>st</sup> grade. What happens when maximum is reached within the middle of the school year and other enrollment impact questions.
- Dania Broukman inquired if experts are scheduled to check the elementary and middle school, and when. Also, if any grants were available for security and if applied for. If not, then the reasons for not.
- Jennifer Woo expanded on the classroom size, teacher elimination at the schools from what Hyejee Joo couldn't finish earlier by the other parent. Shared reasons for Mackay's numbers being different than the other schools. Wants a 3 class structure as had before, and shared the enrollment size of the classes. Also, shared some comments from the petition on class size. Feels families will move out of Tenafly.
- Alan Konevsky grateful to speak, and felt parents shared their comments about the class size. Appreciate the board's comment and wanted to share the concerns comes from the heart from the parents who shared their comments in the petition. Concerned about choices being made about class size for most vulnerable situation of students and not the budget. Shared his perspective and opinion on impact of the class size adjustment and policies effecting the children in the district. Would like the conversation to continue. The petition with 230 signatures is important.
- Adi Sodri shared two things common about in each school shooting. 1<sup>st</sup> is the phone call to the police using 911 and request the police to come. 2<sup>nd</sup> is the common factor that children were murdered the first five minutes. The police officer is the only person to stop the shooting. Many towns have Class3 officers in each school, and would like the officers to be in the schools. Asked Jim Morrison his opinion and shared the email from Jim Morrison to Adi.
- Ashley Kindergan has kindergartner at Maugham elementary school. Felt conflicting conversations about class size adjustments. Would like to know plan going forward and when the class size would go back to 3 instead of 2. Many conversations shared in the community about the class size. Also, comments about security going on and feels police should not be called into place for truancy and not for criminal behavior.
- Adi Sodri continued reading Jim Morrison's email to Adi. If all the experts are recommending Class3 officers, what is the board awaiting for implementing?
- Alan Todd discussed the safety of the schools and students. Seeing more HIBs and bullying cases regarding social and mental issues. Since these issues may effect safety issues like the schools and areas have shootings? So many guns in Tenafly. What are the reasons for safety drills if there wasn't a concern so would like the security measures be implemented.
- Jolie Lau asked In the midst of all of this heated debate about class sizes and bolstering security staff -- the BOE announces it has hired a new football coach at THS. How does the BOE decide what expenses are prioritized and does the voting public have any say in this?

- Katherine Carlburg asked and commented that there are over 1,000 students at THS, and just because no student has expressed feeling uncomfortable about the SRO being in the school to the school principal is not evidence that there are no students who feel uncomfortable with police presence. The whole allegation that SROs do not engage in school discipline at the direction or request of the school administrators is a disingenuous talking point.
- Alan Konevsky shared that the school has to get ahead of the mental health issues rather than class size in dealing with security concerns. Policy choices and how spending money are important discussions to have.
- Hyejee Joo shared more comments from the petition about the class size. 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade are critical years for students.
- Bruce Watson provided a general response on sections and security. A superintendent is supposed to review all class size, resources, finances, etc. and then make the recommendation. Also, the district is looking at mental health, anti-bullying act, and the impact to the district. Safety concerns with the prosecutor reviewing and making recommendations that the district is implementing over time. Also, shared information about the grants inquired about.
- Jeff Gorman commented from a curriculum standpoint will be looked at in relation to class size and instructors.
- Jocelyn Schwarz commented about the new football coach hired, which isn't a new position.
- Jocelyn Schwarz commented about the section adjustments from 3 to 2. Enrollment doesn't support having 3 sections. Enrollment will be reviewed by administration. Also, shared the practice is about enrollment with sections within the district as students may have to go to other schools if the maximum is met. If the board would entertain the sections going back, then the other grades will be impacted. Fiscally, the district can't support that type of change.

#### **Presentation/Reports-**

- None

#### **Committee Reports –**

Communications and Policy – Ms. Yelena Meytes (no update).

Curriculum and Technology – Ms. Paula Newman (no update).

Facility – Ms. Jocelyn Schwarz (no update).

Finance – Mr. Edward Salaski (no update).

Joint Use – Ms. Jocelyn Schwarz (no update).

Diversity - Ms. Inbal Israeli Miller & Mr. Edward Salaski (no update).

Security Roundtable – Ms. Jocelyn Schwarz (no update).

Liaison Reports – Ms. Inbal Israeli Miller (no update).

- HSA by Ms. Yelena Meytes (no update).
- CAP by Ms. Michelle Merchant (no update).
- TEF by Mr. Igor Frid (no update).
- Legislative by Mr. Ed Salaski (no update).

- SEPAC by Ms. Inbal Israeli Miller (no update).

**New Business –**

- None

**Student Representatives** – Ms. Ayla Uram and Ms. Alexandria Yang provided updates on.

- Ms. Alexandria Yang shared started AP testing at the High School. Class size will be full soon. Have breakfast with the Beatles soon. Student musicians will also be performing.
- Ms. Ayla Uram shared NJLS test next week.

**Administration**

- None

**Proposed Resolutions**

- Administrative-Bruce Watson presented the administrative resolutions.
- Curriculum – Jeff Gorman presented the curriculum resolutions
- Reorg and Finance – Victor Anaya presented the resolutions
  - **F1- Adoption of Budget**
  - **F2-4 Resolution Action Items**

**Finance**

	<b><u>Finance Resolutions</u></b>
<b>Resolution F-1*</b>	<b>Approval to Adopt the Budget for the 2023-2024 School Year</b>
<b>Resolution F-2*</b>	<b>Approval to Award Athletic Bid for Transportation</b>
<b>Resolution F-3*</b>	<b>Approval to Awarding a Power Purchase Agreement and Authorizing Various Actions in Connection Therewith</b>
<b>Resolution F-4*</b>	<b>Approve the Allied States Cooperative Agreement</b>

\*Resolutions denoted with an asterisk were voted on at the May 8, 2023 Work Session Meeting

**Resolution F-1\* Approval to Adopt the Budget for the 2023-2024 School Year**

Be It Resolved that the Tenafly Board of Education adopt the 2023-2024 budget as follows:

<b>Account</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Local Tax Levy</b>
General Fund	\$80,978,984	\$72,362,863
Special Revenue Fund	1,471,531	
Debt Service Fund	2,729,471	2,358,154
Transfer from Capital Reserve	-0-	-0-
<b>Total Base Budget</b>	<b>\$85,179,986</b>	<b>\$74,721,017</b>

*Motion to approve resolution F-1  
 Moved: Ms. Harris Second: Dr. Wilderman*

<i>Board Member</i>	<i>Ayes</i>	<i>Nays</i>	<i>Abstain</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Igor Frid				X
Michelle Harris	X			
Inbal Israeli Miller	X			
Michelle Merchant	X			
Yelena Meytes	X			
Edward J. Salaski	X			
Michael Wilderman	X			
Paula Newman, Vice President	X			
Jocelyn Schwarz, President	X			

**Resolution F-2\* Approval to Award Athletic Bid for Transportation**

Be It Resolved that the Tenafly Board of Education advertised for bids for student transportation services for related athletic events for the 2023-2024 school year. The lowest responsible bid for this project was submitted by First Student, Inc. The Board hereby accepts First Student’s bid and awards the contract for Transportation Services to First Student.

**Resolution F-3\* Approval to Award a Power Purchase Agreement and Authorizing Various Actions in Connection Therewith**

Whereas, The Board of Education of the Borough of Tenafly in the County of Bergen, New Jersey (the “Board”) wishes to contract with a qualified vendor for a power purchase agreement (the "Solar PPA") for a term of fifteen (15) years for the installation and maintenance of photovoltaic panels for the purpose of generating electricity at all or some of the following schools and/or school facilities: Tenafly Middle School, Maugham Elementary School, Smith Elementary School, Mackay Elementary School and Central District Offices (collectively, the "Solar Project"); and

Whereas, the Board issued a request for proposals (“RFP”) for the Solar PPA; and

Whereas, the Board received and opened one (1) response, from HESP Solar, LLC (“HESP”), to the RFP on April 11, 2023, and

Whereas, an Evaluation Committee ("Evaluation Committee") evaluated said response, interviewed HESP on April 17, 2023, and issued a report to the Board on May 3, 2023; and

Whereas, the Evaluation Committee’s report, which is on file with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary and is incorporated by reference into this Resolution, was made available to the public in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4.5(d) not less than 48 hours prior to the date of this Resolution or at the same time that it was made available to the Board, whichever occurred first; and

Whereas, in its report, the Evaluation Committee determined that the proposal of HESP the most advantageous to the Board and recommended that the Solar PPA be awarded to HESP at its proposed price of \$0.022 per kilowatt hour (kWh) as Base Bid and/or at a proposed price of \$0.021, if net metering is available and utilized, with 2% annual escalation, and as further subject to adjustment as set forth in its proposal; and

Whereas, the Board wishes to accept the aforesaid recommendation of its Evaluation Committee;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The Board of Education of the Borough of Tenafly as follows:

1. The Solar PPA is hereby awarded to HESP at its proposed price of \$0.022 per kilowatt hour (kWh) as Base Bid, and/or at a proposed price of \$0.021, if net metering is available and utilized, with 2% annual escalation, and subject to adjustment as set forth in its proposal in accordance with the terms stated in the RFP and its addenda, as applicable.
2. The Board authorizes the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to execute the Solar PPA substantially in the form included in the RFP subject to review and recommendation of Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, PA., the Board’s special counsel, and additionally authorizes its staff and counsel to take such actions and prepare and execute such other and further documents as shall be necessary to implement this Resolution.
3. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4.5(g), the Board Secretary shall publish a notice in an official newspaper of the Board summarizing the award of the Solar PPA including its amount and duration and the name of the selected vendor, and advising that a copy of this resolution and of the Solar PPA (following execution), are on file and available for public inspection at the office of the Board Secretary.
4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

**Resolution F-4\* Approve the Allied State Cooperative Agreement**

Be It Resolved that the Tenafly Board of Education approve the Allied State Cooperative Agreement. Joining this cooperative agreement is related to the vendors selected thru the ESIP and other facility matters.

*Motion to approve resolutions F-2 – F-4  
Moved: Ms. Merchant Second: Ms. Newman*

<i>Board Member</i>	<i>Ayes</i>	<i>Nays</i>	<i>Abstain</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Igor Frid				X
Michelle Harris	X			
Inbal Israeli Miller	X			
Michelle Merchant	X			
Yelena Meytes	X			
Edward J. Salaski	X			
Michael Wilderman	X			
Paula Newman, Vice President	X			
Jocelyn Schwarz, President	X			

The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following resolutions for approval at the BOE Regular Session Meeting scheduled for May 15, 2023:

**Organization**

	<b><u>Organization Resolutions</u></b>
Resolution O-1	Designation of Depository
Resolution O-2	Investment of Funds
Resolution O-3	Payroll Authorization

	<b><u>Organization Resolutions</u></b>
Resolution O-4	Designation of Official Newspapers
Resolution O-5	Approve Membership in New Jersey School Boards Association and Bergen County School Boards Association
Resolution O-6	Approve Membership in New Jersey Association of School Business Officials and the Bergen County Association of School Business Officials
Resolution O-7	Renewal of Bond for School Business Administrator and Assistant School Business Administrator
Resolution O-8	Designation of Service Professionals
Resolution O-9	Approval of Chapter 47 Awarded Contracts
Resolution O-10	Approval to Appoint the Following Positions for the 2023-24 SY
Resolution O-11	Approve Renewal of Cooperative Bidding and Right-To-Know Service Agreement with Educational Data Services Inc. for the 2023-2024 SY
Resolution O-12	Approval to Adopt Existing, Revised and New District Policies & Regulations
Resolution O-13	Approval of the Purchasing Agent for the District from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024
Resolution O-14	Approval of Custodian of Government Records from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024
Resolution O-15	Approval of Petty Cash Payments and Maximum Single Expenditure
Resolution O-16	Approval of Mileage Reimbursement Rates
Resolution O-17	Approval of Budget Line Transfers

## **Personnel**

	<b><u>Personnel Resolutions</u></b>
Resolution P-1	Approval of Retirement and Resignations
Resolution P-2	Approval of Substitutes
Resolution P-3	Approval of Hires
Resolution P-4	Approval of Staff/Position Reclassifications
Resolution P-5	Approval of Extra Compensation Appointments
Resolution P-6	Approval of 2023-2024 Employee Contracts for Non-Bargaining Unit Staff
Resolution P-7	Approval of 2023-2024 Employee Contract for the Director of Special Education
Resolution P-8	Approval of 2023-2024 Employee Contract for the Human Resources Manager
Resolution P-9	Approval of 2023-2024 Employee Contract for the Interim Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction
Resolution P-10	Approval of 2023-2024 Employee Contract for the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

	<b><u>Personnel Resolutions</u></b>
Resolution P-11	Approval of Job Description

### **Administration**

	<b><u>Administration Resolutions</u></b>
Resolution A-1	Approval to Affirm the Superintendent's Decision in HIB Investigations
Resolution A-2	Second Reading of Bylaw 0144, Regulation 2417, Policy 2520, Regulation 2520, Policy 3217, Policy 4217, Policy 5305, Policy 5308, Regulation 5308, Policy 5310, Regulation 5310, Policy 6112, Regulation 6115.01, Policy 6115.04, Policy 6311, Policy 7440, Policy 9140
Resolution A-3	Approval of the 2021-2022 District and School Grade Report

### **Curriculum**

	<b><u>Curriculum Resolutions</u></b>
Resolution C-1	Approval of Professional Development Requests
Resolution C-2	Approval of Textbook Adoption Requests

### **Special Services**

	<b><u>Special Services Resolutions</u></b>
Resolution S-1	Approval of Ten Month Programs 2022-2023
Resolution S-2	Approval of Settlement Agreement and Release

### **Finance**

	<b><u>Finance Resolutions</u></b>
<b>Resolution F-1*</b>	<b>Approval to Adopt the Budget for the 2023-2024 School Year</b>
<b>Resolution F-2*</b>	<b>Approval to Award Athletic Bid for Transportation</b>
<b>Resolution F-3*</b>	<b>Approval to Awarding a Power Purchase Agreement and Authorizing Various Actions in Connection Therewith</b>
<b>Resolution F-4*</b>	<b>Approve the Allied States Cooperative Agreement</b>
Resolution F-5	Approval of Board Secretary's Report for April 2023
Resolution F-6	Approval of Treasurer's Report for April 2023
Resolution F-7	Approval of Transfers for April 2023
Resolution F-8	Approval of Bills for April 21, 2023 through May 11, 2023
Resolution F-9	Approval of Payroll for April 2023
Resolution F-10	Approve Tax Collector Payment Schedule



	<b><u>Finance Resolutions</u></b>
Resolution F-11	Approval the Renewal of Food Service Management Company Addendum to the Agreement Between Tenafly Board of Education and The Pomptonian, Inc.
Resolution F-12	Approval of Agreement Between Valley Medical Group and The Tenafly Board of Education for Workplace Alcohol and Drug Testing Services
Resolution F-13	Approval to Renew File Bank Enterprise Document Management for the 2023-2024 School Year
Resolution F-14	Approval of The Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) Guide
Resolution F-15	Approval of The District Purchasing Manual
Resolution F-16	Approval of The Lease of Chromebooks Through State Contract
Resolution F-17	Approval of Continuation of Addendum to Shared Services Agreement Between The Tenafly Board of Education And The Borough of Tenafly For Fiber Optic Cable Infrastructure
Resolution F-18	Approval of VMware Licenses From Dell Marketing Through State Contract
Resolution F-19	Approval of Contract Award To Atlantic Tomorrows office For Ricoh Copiers Through State Contract
Resolution F-20	Approval of Delta Dental Contract Renewal
Resolution F-21	Renewal of Computer Solutions, Inc. Software Support Contract For The 2023-2024 School Year
Resolution F-22	Approval for Renewal of Transportation Contract with First Student Inc. for the 2023-2024 School Year
Resolution F-23	Approval for Renewal of Transportation Contract with Valley Transportation, Inc. for the 2023-2024 School Year
Resolution F-24	Approval for Renewal of Transportation Contract with J&W Financial LLC, Dba J&W Transportation for the 2023-2024 School Year
Resolution F-25	Approval of Agreement for Athletic Transportation
Resolution F-26	Approve Shared Services Agreement With Alpine Board of Education For Maintenance Support Services For 2023-2024
Resolution F-27	Approval to Renew CJ Vanderbeck & Sons
Resolution F-28	Approval to Approve Millennium Communications Group, Inc.
Resolution F-29	Approval of Incident IQ Software for the 2023-2024 School Year
Resolution F-30	Approval To Renew Strauss Esmay Associates, LLP
Resolution F-31	Approval of the Submission of the School District Consultations with Nonpublic Schools Regarding State-Funded Programs
Resolution F-32	Approval To Continue the Shared Service Agreement With The County of Bergen For Vehicle Maintenance And Repair Services
Resolution F-33	Approval of the District Continuing the TIPS Co-Op for Facility Projects
Resolution F-34	Approve the Shared Service Agreement with the Borough of Old Tappan

	<b><u>Finance Resolutions</u></b>
Resolution F-35	Approval of Contract with Ultra Pro Pest Protection for 2023-2024
Resolution F-36	Approval to Renew Contract with Butler Water Corrections for 2023-2024
Resolution F-37	Approval to Renew Contract with C-K Control Temp, Inc. for 2023-2024
Resolution F-38	Approval to Renew Contract with Jersey Elevator Company for 2023-2024
Resolution F-39	Approval to Renew Contract with USA Security for 2023-2024
Resolution F-40	Approval of BoardDocs Pro
Resolution F-41	Approval Appointing a Third Party Verifier in Connection with Its Proposed Energy Savings Plan (ESIP)
Resolution F-42	Approval to Purchase Desktop Computers, Monitors and Speakers

**\*Resolutions denoted with an asterisk will be voted on at the May 8, 2023 Work Session Meeting**

**Open to the Public – 2<sup>nd</sup> Session 9:22 pm**

- Comments
- Jocelyn Schwarz share the public comment protocol
- Kay Rhee asked a few questions. How much budget you can save to reduce classrooms and where that saved budget will go for? It is so ambiguous! I think BOE looks like to save budget from the Primary part in Education for the Secondary stuffs. What is the more important thing to use the saved budget than the quality environment of education?
- Bruce Watson responded as each teacher costs about \$ 100 K, which can be used for supporting other personnel or services within the district. Extra-curricular activities also get supported. All the curricular and facilities items are reviewed also.
- Katherine Carlburg what grant money for police are you talking about? How much? How will it be used? When will it be appropriated? Who decides?
- Vanessa Konstant inquired which policy memorializes the class size. Questioned the components of class size.
- Jolie Lau said I didn't get the second part of my question. Does the voting public get any transparency or say in how expenses are prioritized? If hiring a football coach is going to demand a premium, should the public not have a say in whether we want to spend that? Thank you. I didn't get an answer to second part of my question.
- Bruce Watson commented about board policy # 2312 regarding class size, and the information about the grant for the police. Also, Bruce Watson also shared the district does listen to the public.

(In-Person and Virtual)

*Motion to go into 2<sup>nd</sup> Closed Session at 9:34 p.m.  
 Moved: Mr. Salaski Second: Ms. Israeli Miller  
 All in Favor*

*Motion to adjourn meeting at 10:23 p.m.  
Moved: Dr. Wilderman Second: Ms. Merchant  
All in Favor*

Respectfully submitted,

*Victor Anaya*

Victor J. Anaya  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary