

# **BLAIRSTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Blairstown, New Jersey 07825**

**[www.blairstownelem.net](http://www.blairstownelem.net)**

## **MINUTES**

**Thursday, June 22, 2023 Meeting**

**7:00PM**



### **A. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Cook, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

### **B. FLAG SALUTE**

Mr. Cook, Board Present, led the flag salute.

### **C. ROLL CALL** by René Metzgar, Part-Time Business Administrator

Present: Mr. Cook, Mrs. Sikkes (arrived 7:30 pm), Mrs. Allison, Mr. Doell, Mrs. Hawkswell, Ms. Klein, and Mrs. McElroy (arrived 7:16 pm).

Absent: Mr. Van Valkenburg and Mrs. Hambos.

Also Present: Dr. Ketch-Superintendent, Mrs. Metzgar-Part-Time Business Administrator/ Board Secretary, Mrs. Silvestri-Principal, Mr. Andrew Brown-Board Attorney, and members of the public.

### **D. NOTICE OF MEETING**

This is a regular meeting of the Blairstown Township Board of Education. Notice of the time and place of this meeting was provided and copies of that resolution were forwarded to the official newspapers as designated by the Board of Education and to the Township Clerk. A copy of the notice was posted on the bulletin board of the Board of Education offices as well as on the front door of the Blairstown Elementary School in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

## **E. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

Dr. Ketch provided the following update:

- School Security Resource Officer- in process of finalizing agreement and posting positions
- Elevator- work to begin in August
- New Business Administrator- Welcome Donna Williams, on for approval tonight
- Report Cards- Working with Realtime for online access for 23-24.
- Part-Time Business Administrator- Thank you René for assisting us over the last 3 months.
- Head Custodian Retirement- Congratulations and we wish you the best!

Detailed report is attached to the minutes.

## **F. PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE**

Mrs. Silvestri provided the following update:

- Concerts- Two fantastic musical performances- thanked the staff and students.
- Art Show- Thanked Mrs. Truelove for showcasing all the students' artwork.
- Field Day- Thanked Mr. Palanca and Mrs. Sullivan for organizing the events.
- Talent Show- Great display of the students' talents. Thanked staff for organizing.
- Climate and Culture Team- Dedicated bench for K-9 Castner, thanked Mrs. Messina and students for all their hard work.
- GATE Open House-students displayed their work for families to see. Projects were outstanding!
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion Ceremony- Thanked the sixth grade teachers and the office staff for assisting in this event. It was a great ceremony to celebrate our students.

Detailed report is attached to the minutes.

## **G. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Planning- Will meet over the summer to begin to develop short and long term district goals.

Negotiations – The committee met and was very productive. Reached alignment and more information will come for the board. This was a very positive meeting.

Policy- Met yesterday and began to review the attendance policy for teachers and support staff.

**H. PRESENTATIONS**

None.

**I. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

The Blairstown Township Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on school matters of community interest.

None.

**J. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

May 25, 2023 – Regular and Executive Session Meeting Minutes

**Voice Vote:**

Motion by Mr. Doell, second by Ms. Klein

Against: None    Abstained: None    Absent: Mrs. Hambos, Mrs. Sikkes, Mrs. McElroy, and Mr. Van Valkenburg.

Motion passes.

**K. FINANCE**

*Finance Resolutions 1 through 13 will be moved in one roll call vote*

**1. Authorization for Payment of Bills (Attached)**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Part-Time School Business Administrator, to approve the bills list as submitted for the dates between May 26, 2023-June 22, 2023:

<b>Fund 10 – Current Expense</b>	<b>\$977,963.22</b>
<b>Fund 20 – Special Revenue</b>	<b>\$16,560.00</b>
<b>Fund 60 – Food Service</b>	<b>\$14,708.74</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,009,231.90</b>

2. **Approve Line Item Transfers (Attached)**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Part-Time School Business Administrator, to approve the budget line item transfers for May 2023.

3. **Reports of the Treasurer and Board Secretary (Attached)**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Treasurer and Board Secretary's Financial Reports are in agreement for the month of May 2023, approved by the Board as recommended by the Part-Time School Business Administrator.

4. **Certification of Fund Balances**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-2.11(c) 3, the Board of Education certify that as of May 31, 2023, after review of the Secretary's monthly financial reports for May (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, Blairstown Township Board of Education is in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c) 4 and shall certify in the minutes of the Board each month that no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A23A-16:10(b), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year, and we request the Board Secretary to addend a copy of the Secretary's Report to the minutes.

5. **Approval of 2023-2024 Revised Tax Requisition Hardwick (Attached)**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, approve the revised requisition for taxes for Hardwick Township for the 2023-2024 school year.

6. **Accept 2023-2024 Climate Grant Funds**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent retroactively accept the Climate Grant Funds in the amount of \$6,660.

7. **Approve 2023-2024 ESEA Grant Application**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent to approve the submission of the ESEA Grant Applications for the 2023-2024 School Year.

8. **Approve 2023-2024 IDEA Grant Application**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent to approve the submission of the IDEA Grant for the 2023-2024 School Year.

**9. Approve Deposit to Maintenance Reserve Account**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent to approve the deposit of anticipated current year revenue and unexpended appropriations into the Maintenance reserve account.

**WHEREAS**, NJSA 18A:21-2, NJSA 18A:7G-31, and NJSA 18A:7F-41 permit a Board of Education to deposit into certain reserve accounts at year end, and

**WHEREAS**, the aforementioned statutes authorize procedures, under the authority of the Commissioner of Education, which permit a board of education to transfer unanticipated excess current revenue or unexpended appropriations into reserve accounts during the month of June by board resolution, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education wishes to transfer unanticipated excess current year revenue or unexpended appropriations from the general fund into a Maintenance Reserve account at year end, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education has determined that (an amount not to exceed) \$56,450 is available for such purpose of transfer;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Education that it hereby authorizes the district's School Business Administrator to make this transfer consistent with all applicable laws and regulations.

**10. Approve Deposit to Capital Reserve Account**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent to approve the deposit of anticipated current year revenue and unexpended appropriations into the Capital Reserve Account.

**WHEREAS**, NJSA 18A:21-2, NJSA 18A:7G-31, and NJSA 18A:7F-41 permit a Board of Education to deposit into certain reserve accounts at year end, and

**WHEREAS**, the aforementioned statutes authorize procedures, under the authority of the Commissioner of Education, which permit a board of education to transfer unanticipated excess current revenue or unexpended appropriations into reserve accounts during the month of June by board resolution, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education wishes to transfer unanticipated excess current year revenue or unexpended appropriations from the general fund into a Capital Reserve account at year end, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education has determined that (an amount not to exceed) \$2,000,000 is available for such purpose of transfer;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Education that it hereby authorizes the district's School Business Administrator to make this transfer consistent with all applicable laws and regulations.

**11. Approve Year-End Close-Out**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent to approve payment of late June as well as July invoices, with the Board President's review and signature before release of checks, and any as needed year-end line item transfers to close out the 2022-2023 School Year.

12. **Approve Chapter 47 Report of Awarded Contracts-Informational (attachment)**  
**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent to approve Chapter 47 Report. Pursuant to PL 2015, Chapter 47 the Blairstown Township Board of Education intends to renew, award, or permit to expire the following contracts previously awarded by the board of education. These contracts are, have been, and will continue to be in full compliance with all state and federal statutes and regulations; in particular, New Jersey Title 18A:18. et.seq, NJAC Chapter 23, and Federal Uniform Administrative Requirements 2CFR, Part200 as per attached list.
13. **Approve Student Accident Renewal Policy**  
**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent to approve student accident renewal policy with Monarch Management Corp. in the amount of \$4,116.00 for the 2023-2024 school year.

Mrs. McElroy arrived at 7:16 pm.

Motion by Mr. Doell, second by Mrs. Allison

Against: None Abstained: None Absent: Mrs. Hambos, Mrs. Sikkes, and Mr. Van Valkenburg  
Motion passes.

## L. PERSONNEL

*Personnel Resolutions 1 through 14 will be moved in one roll call vote.*

1. **Approve Maternity and FMLA/NJFLA Leave**  
**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent to approve the maternity leave of absence for Juliana Goncalves, commencing on October 16, 2023 to March 15, 2024, utilizing 20 sick days followed by 12 weeks of FMLA/NJFLA.
2. **Accept Resignation**  
**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education upon recommendation by the Superintendent, accept the resignation for Richard Greenemeir, Bus Driver, effective June 30, 2023. (He will remain as a substitute bus driver).
3. **Accept Resignation**  
**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education upon recommendation by the Superintendent, accept the resignation for Ann Greenemeir, Bus Aide, effective June 30, 2023.

**4. Approve Business Administrator/Board Secretary**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education upon recommendation by the Superintendent to approve Donna Williams as Business Administrator/Board Secretary from July 1, 2023-June 20, 2024 at an annual salary of \$95,000, pending the results of a criminal background check.

**5. Approve July Board Office Services**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent to approve René Metzgar to provide Business Office Services at a rate of \$65.00/hour total not to exceed 25 hours in July.

**6. Approve Sick Day Payout**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent to approve the sick day payout for Debra Kittle for 5.5 days at \$50.00 per day in the amount of \$275.00.

**7. Approve Revised Summer 2023 Custodial Staff Rate**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent approve hourly rate change to \$15.00/hour for Brian Collins for summer custodial work.

**8. Approve Hiring of Paraprofessional**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent approve Victoria Matter as a paraprofessional for the 2023-2024 school year at an hourly rate of \$14.13 for 5.92 hours per day, pending criminal history and background check.

**9. Approve ESY Substitutes**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent to approve the following substitutes for the summer 2023 ESY program:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Rate</b>
Victoria Matter	Paraprofessional	\$14.13/hour
Ashley Larena	Teacher	\$42/hour (pending negotiations)
Taylor Quimby	Paraprofessional	\$14.13/hour
Anna VanWettering	Paraprofessional	\$15.54 (pending negotiations)
Barbara Warnkin	Teacher	\$42/hour (pending negotiations)

**10. Approve Shared CST Services Contract**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent to approve the shared CST Services Contract with the Frelinghuysen Township Board of Education to provide Child Study Team Services one day per week in the amount of \$70,593.59 (pending negotiations) for the 2023-2024 School Year.

**11. Approve Shared ESY Aide and Speech Services Contract**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent to approve the shared ESY Aide & Speech Services Contract with the Frelinghuysen Township Board of Education at a total cost of \$638.11 for student #2390989841. Blairstown will be the LEA.

**12. Resolution Appointing Fund Commissioner to the School Health Insurance Fund**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Blairstown Board of Education that Donna Williams, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, is hereby appointed as Fund Commissioner to the School Health Insurance Fund, effective July 1, 2023 to represent the Blairstown Board of Education.

**13. Designation of the Following Appointments**

Motion to appoint Donna Williams, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, as the Board Secretary, Public Agency Compliance Officer, Custodian of School Records, and Right-to-Know Compliance Officer for the 2023-2024 school year.

**14. Designate Bank Signatory**

Motion to approve Donna Williams, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, as bank signer on the following Blairstown Board of Education Bank Accounts with First Hope Bank to replace prior Business Administrator: Current Expense Fund, Cafeteria Account, Payroll Account, Payroll Agency Account, Flexible Spending Account, Summer Pay Account, ECA Account, SUI Trust Account.

Motion by Mrs. McElroy, second by Mr. Cook

Against: None Abstained: None Absent: Mrs. Hambos, Mrs. Sikkes, and Mr. Van Valkenburg

Motion passes.



**M. EDUCATION**

*Education Resolutions 1 through 7 will be moved in one roll call vote*

1. **Approve Out of District Contract with P.G. Chambers**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent to approve the tuition contract with P.G. Chambers for student #9137293213 in the amount of \$98,828.10 from July 10, 2023-June 30, 2024 (210 days).

2. **Approve Affiliation Agreement Renewal with East Stroudsburg University**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent to approve the Affiliation Agreement with East Stroudsburg University for 5 years to serve as an internship facility.

3. **Approve the Renewal of Transportation Routes and Contract**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent to approve the following transportation routes and contract with Stocker Bus Company, in the amount of \$338,977.72 for the 2023-2024 School Year:

Route	Cost
1 (Mouse)	\$40,025.94
3 (Apple)	\$32,444.40
4 (Duck)	\$34,765.54
5 (Tree)	\$26,936.15
7 (Book)	\$31,271.32
8 (Bluebird)	\$27,929.74
ST123 (Bee, Kite, Ice cream)	\$130,357.11
RVCS	\$15,247.52

4. **Accept Tuition Student for ESY Program**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent to accept the following students from the Frelinghuysen Township School for the Summer 2023 ESY program for \$500.00 per student:

6965080227	8779794365
7758586989	2390989841
1229467432	

5. **Approve the District Return to Virtual Learning Plan (attachment)**  
**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education upon recommendation by the Superintendent approve the district return to virtual learning plan for the 2023-2024 School Year.
  
6. **Approve Agreement with Sussex County Educational Services Commission**  
**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent to approve agreement with Sussex County Educational Services Commission for ancillary educational services as needed for the 2023-2024 school year.
  
7. **Accept Donation to Library**  
**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent to accept the donation of \$100 from the Petti Family for the library.

Motion by Mrs. McElroy, second by Mrs. Allison

Against: None Abstained: None Absent: Mrs. Hambos, Mrs. Sikkes, and Mr. Van Valkenburg  
 Motion passes.

**N. FACILITIES**

*Facilities Resolution 1 will be moved in one roll call vote.*

1. **Approve Facility Use Requests**  
**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent to approve the facility use requests for the following groups:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Room</b>	<b>Requested Date</b>
Anjanette May	Bomberz Basketball Club	Gymnasium	June 19, 2023-August 18, 2023 Monday-Friday 9am-11am
Kristy Caraballo	North Warren Bomberz	Gymnasium	June 19, 2023-August 31, 2023 Monday-Friday 12:00 pm-2:30 pm
Allison Swift	Blairstown Youth Basketball	Gymnasium & Gym Lobby	September 5, 2023-October 19, 2023 Tuesdays & Saturdays 8:30am-5:00 pm

Allison Swift	Blairstown Youth Basketball-Draft Team Formation	Cafeteria	October 24 & 26, 2023 5:00 pm-9:30 pm
Taylor Casey	Wrestling-Parent Meeting	Cafeteria	October 25, 2023 6:00 pm-8:00 pm
Allison Swift	Blairstown Youth Basketball Practices	Gymnasium	Saturdays: November 4, 11, 18, 25, 2023 December 2, 9, 16, 23, 2023 January 6, 13, 20, 27, 2024 February 3, 10, 17, 24, 2024 March 2, 9, 16, 23, 2024 8:30 am- 5:00 pm
Taylor Casey	Wrestling Matches & Practices	Gymnasium	November 27, 2023- March 24, 2024 Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays 6:00pm -8:00 pm
Taylor Casey	Wrestling Matches	Gymnasium	Sundays 8am-3pm December 3, 10, 17, 2023 January 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024 February 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024 March 3, 10, 17, 24, 2024
Allison Swift	Blairstown Youth Basketball	Gymnasium	November 1, 2023- March 31, 2024 Monday-Friday 3:15pm-4:30 pm Mondays 5pm-10 pm Tuesdays 5pm-6pm Wednesdays 5pm-6pm Thursday 5pm-10 pm November &

			December Fridays 5:00-6:00pm & 8:00 pm-10:00pm. January-March Fridays 8:00 pm-10:00 pm
Allison Swift	Blairstown Youth Basketball-Picture Day	Music Room & Gym Lobby	January 6, 2024 8:30 am-5:00 pm

Motion by Ms. Klein, second by Mr. Doell

Against: None Abstained: None Absent: Mrs. Hambos, Mrs. Sikkes, and Mr. Van Valkenburg

Motion passes.

**O. POLICY**

*Policy Resolution 1 will be moved in one roll call vote.*

**1. Approve First Reading of Policies**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent to approve the first reading of the following policies:

P 3212- ATTENDANCE (Teacher)

P 4212- ATTENDANCE (Support Staff)

Motion by Mrs. McElroy, second by Mrs. Allison

Against: None Abstained: None Absent: Mrs. Hambos, Mrs. Sikkes, and Mr. Van Valkenburg

Motion passes.

**P. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**Q. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Additional Security Measures
2. School Board Petitions Due Monday, July 31, 2023 by 4:00 PM
3. NJSBA Convention- October 23-26, 2023

## **R. PUBLIC HEARING & PETITION**

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, the Board has set aside two portions of this meeting for public comment. Specifically, during both the “Public Comment on Agenda Items” and the “Other Public Comments” sections noted on the agenda, this meeting will be open to members of the public who wish to speak or make comment on agenda items or a school district issue that may be of concern to the residents of the Township of Blirstown. In that respect, please limit your comments or questions during the “Public Comment on Agenda Items” to agenda items only, and save any other questions or comments that you may have for the “Other Public Comments” portion of the meeting. During both portions of the meeting, the Board requests that the following procedures be observed:

1. Any person who wishes to speak must wait until they have been recognized by the presiding Board Officer;
2. Before beginning, each speaker must state their name and address, and, if speaking on behalf of an organization, state the name of that organization;
3. Each speaker is limited to one (1) opportunity to speak during each of the two (2) portions that have been set aside;
4. Each speaker is limited to five (5) minutes in length so that other members of the public who wish to speak may have an opportunity to do so.
5. The presiding Board Officer will advise each speaker when the five (5) minute period has expired;
6. Out of respect for other members of the public that may wish to speak, the Board requests that each speaker cede the floor to the next member of the public as soon as they finish making their respective comment(s) and/or when their allotted time has expired; and
7. If your questions or comments pertain to litigation, student, or personnel matters, the Board asks that you see the Superintendent after the meeting since the Board does not, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, discuss or respond to these items in public.

Tammy Messina- On behalf of the teaching staff, thanked René Metzgar for helping out our district. She also asked what the estimated cost was for the NJSBA Convention.

## **S. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Ms. Klein provided the following update:

- A-5416 Expedited Certification Route for Paraprofessionals-This formula would provide direct classroom service and could involve consulting with the educational community and NJSBA.
- A-5418 Teacher Certification Reimbursement Fund-Includes fingerprinting testing requirements, etc.
- A-5419 Eliminating the “Basic Skills” Requirement-Eliminates testing requirements for teaching basic skills.
- A-5420 Student Teacher Stipend Program-Stipends provided up to \$7,200. May be increased to include cost of living expenses.
- A-5421 Special Ed and Bilingual and K-8 Endorsements- Would establish endorsements to the instructional certification in these areas.
- A-2227 Tax Deduction for Classroom Supplies-Educators can deduct up to \$250 in these expenditures.
- A-5422/S-3798 Extending Flexibility to hire Retirees-Those who have retired from TPAF without re-enrollment.

- A-5060 Expanding Scope of School District Employee Sick Leave-Expands to areas such as caring for sick family members, etc. Many organizations oppose as they feel should be left to negotiations in school districts.
- A-5175 April Election Second Question Certification Deadline-Changes to various deadlines many opposed as state aid notices are not out, does not affect us now.
- A-5329. Extend Life of School Buses 15 to 20 years.
- A-3089/S-4722 Military Impact Aid Reserve Account- Lets schools in military areas set up reserve accounts to use for general fluid expenses.
- S-2416 Expanding Medicaid-Funded Health Services- Provides reimbursements for covered behavioral health services.
- A-6439 Eliminate High School Exit Exam. Advanced by assembly. On way to Senate.
- A-1516 School Counselor Requirements- Defines role of school counselor heads to assembly.
- A-4167/S-2857 Sustainable New Jersey Fund-Grants money to schools that pursue environmental groups for sustainability.
- S-2902/A-5568 Ticket Prices at Post season Athletic Events-Revises previous legislation related to ticket pricing make sure ticket prices are not increased.
- A-5577 Stabilizing SFRA Property Wealth Calculations-Would modify formula for district's shares to replace current prebudget year. This could help wealthier districts and hurt poorer Districts.
- A-1181 FAFSA Graduation Requirement (free application for federal student aid)- Requires students graduating in 2024, 2025, 2026 to complete and submit financial aid application as a graduation requirement.
- A-5575 Exempting Certain Regional School Districts from State Aid Cuts. Senate counterpart S-3950 heads for vote in Senate Would help certain S-2 districts.
- A-1349/S-1221 Access to Menstrual Products- Finally heads to Assembly Appropriations Committee has full senate approval.
- A-4727 State Board Approval of Standardized Assessments- Would require commissioner to receive state board standardized approval for any assessment not required by state or federal law.
- A-5164/S-530 Providing School Meal Info to Parents- Revises info sent to parents at beginning of school year. Has parents either apply or sign waiver to program.
- A-5412 Nonpublic School Transportation Consortium Program -Now public schools could form their own consortiums to assume responsibility to provide their own transportation. School districts would provide aid this would not alter the reimbursements they receive for nonpublic students.
- A-5576 NJDOE Office of Community Schools-Provides training, grants, lists of existing community schools for interested schools Senate budget and appropriations committee.
- S-2416 Expanding Medicaid funded health services Covers behavioral health services making them reimbursable.
- S-3814 Emergency Teacher Certification Establishes emergency instructional certificate in special education , bilingual/cultural education and other "high need fields."

- S-3890 Ensuring Transfer of County College credits to meet EPP requirements. Does not restrict county college credits earned to meet requirements as long as credits are accepted by an EPP (Education Preparation Provider).
- A-5573 Universal Free Lunch Five year phase in period for ramping up to this program Free lunch to all students regardless of financial circumstances.
- A-5459 “Farm to School” Grant Program Competitive program. Grants to low income districts to utilize local food resources small to mid-sized family farms.
- A-5430 Anti Privatization Initiative Established various procedures regarding privatization proposals prior to solicitation of bids
- A-4835 Non-CDL Drivers for Small Buses Alleviates school bus driver shortage creates new type “S” School Bus Certificate. Makes process easier.
- S-3044/A-4716 Electric School Bus Funding Appropriates 1.5 million to NJDEP to support this program which has already been signed into law
- S-904 Residency Requirement Repeal Would eliminate state requirement for residency for three years for school employees. Would evaluate program in three years
- S-1553/A-4525 Alternate Teaching Pathway Would establish alternate certification of eligibility if candidates meet CE requirements heads to governor’s desk
- A-3682/S-2661 Educator Scholarship Program 200 scholarships to college students with five years of graduating accepting teaching position in NJ schools and teach for three years
- S-528/A-2815 Suicide Prevention Training This is a one time training program. Has been passed in both houses. Heads to governor’s desk
- S-715/A-1992 Social Media Impact Study Has been amended by both houses regarding smartphones. Headed to governor’s desk now
- S-3079 School Safety and Security Task Force Would study and develop recommendations for school safety

## **T. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**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; now therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Blairstown Township Board of Education, that it is necessary to meet in executive session to discuss certain items involving:

Legal Matters

Superintendent Evaluation

**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 of Education will return to an open session to conduct business at the conclusion of the executive session.

**Voice Vote:**

Motion by Mrs. Sikkes, second by Ms. Klein to go into executive session at 7:38 PM

Against: None Abstained: None Absent: Mrs. Hambos and Mr. Van Valkenburg

Motion passes.

Mrs. Metzgar and Mrs. Silvestri were excused from the meeting at 8:09 PM.

Mrs. Metzgar and Mrs. Silvestri were invited back to the meeting at 9:35 pm PM.

**U. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION**

**Voice Vote:**

Motion by Mrs. McElroy, second by Mrs. Sikkes to leave executive session at 9:35 PM

Against: None Abstained: None Absent: Mrs. Hambos and Mr. Van Valkenburg

Motion passes.

**V. MOTION AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**1. Approval of Settlement Agreement**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, approve settlement agreement between T.M. and D.M and Blairstown School District.

**2. Approve Contract with Search Learning Group**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent to approve contract with Search Learning Group at a rate of \$680 per day for student #84128552490.



3. **Approve Memorandum of Agreement-Hiring & Placement of Special Law Enforcement Officers**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve the memorandum of Agreement concerning the Hiring and Placement of Special Law Enforcement Officers between it and the Township of Blirstown, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board President is authorized to execute the agreement once placed in a form acceptable to Board Counsel.

Motion by Mrs. McElroy, second by Ms. Klein

Against: None Abstained: None Absent: Mrs. Hambos, Mrs. Sikkes, and Mr. Van Valkenburg

Motion passes.

**W. ADJOURNMENT**

**Voice Vote:**

Motion by Ms. Klein, second by Mrs. McElroy to leave the meeting at 9:37 PM.

Against: None Abstained: None Absent: Mrs. Hambos and Mr. Van Valkenburg

Motion passes.

Respectfully submitted,

René Metzgar

Part-Time School Business Administrator/Board Secretary