Minutes September 29, 2021 Regular Board Meeting

TEWKSBURY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Board Meeting, September 29, 2021

The Regular Board Meeting of the Tewksbury Township Board of Education was called to order by Ms. Goguen at 7:00 p.m. at Old Turnpike School.

Ms. Goguen read the Sunshine Law:

Welcome to a meeting of the Tewksbury Township Board of Education. The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of the Act, the Tewksbury Township Board of Education has caused notice of the time and place of this meeting to be published in the Courier News and the Hunterdon Democrat and notice of the meeting has been posted on the Tewksbury Township School District website. www.tewksburyschools.org.

The Board pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

PRESENT: Ms. Carrino, Mr. Davidson (arrived 7:01 pm), Dr. Deeney, Mr. Deo, Ms. Jardinella, Ms. Larsen (arrived 7:07 pm), Ms.Munoz, Dr. Simon, Ms. Stein

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Jennifer Shouffler - Superintendent, Heather Goguen - Business Administrator

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: At this time, members of the public were invited to speak on agenda items only. The following community members addressed the board:

- Kristina Cagno, Pottersville, NJ - Would like to know what happened to the board sending a letter to the governor regarding the mask mandate.
- Maggie Reilly, Lebanon, NJ - Children had allergies and were sent home from school for COVID tests. They needed to quarantine for 3 days and missed school. Feels that we can do better.
- Jim Charniga, Califon, NJ - His child was quarantined last week. Staying home from school to quarantine is not conducive to learning. Mr. Charniga would like the board to take a stand about not wearing masks and offered to replace any of the board members that wish to resign from their position.
- Brandi Harkins, Califon, NJ - Her child had to quarantine last week and was grateful students are wearing masks.
- Connie Wygerce - Her son grew up here. Does not have any children in the district but would like the community to pull together to let the governor know that the district does not want the mandate.
- Cassidy Voyce, Whitehouse Station, NJ - Would like to know how many students it will take to leave the district before the district has to close its doors. Stated that preschools are also losing enrollments. Homeschools her child but is concerned for the community.
- Janice Voyce, Califon, NJ - Raised her family here. Five children went through the district. The children today are not learning. They should be learning about the flag and what it stands for. If everyone does nothing, nothing will happen.
- Maggie Reilly, Lebanon, NJ - Her daughter went to the nurse because the teacher told her to go to the nurse since she had a stuffy nose.

Motion was made by Mr. Deo and seconded by Dr. Simon to close the public comment portion of the meeting.

All in Favor: Jillian Carrino, Greg Davidson, Angela Deeney, Susanne Jardinella, Lori Larsen, Suleyka Munoz, William Simon, Andrea Stein, Michael Deo

PRESENTATION: Dr. Shouffler showed a presentation on the Remote Learning Plan.

CORRESPONDENCE: A letter was received from a parent regarding various school concerns. Parent correspondence was received regarding COVID testing for students.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Shouffler updated the board on recent health data. Since school opened, there have been 3 students and 2 staff members who have confirmed COVID cases. Currently, Hunterdon County is in the yellow zone, moderate risk level for COVID. Substitute staffing has been difficult this school year. Fortunately the district has their own buses and employs their own drivers, as many districts are having challenges finding bus drivers. The district is complying with Executive Order 253 involving staff and vaccinations. There were no HIB incidents for the month of September, 2021. Enrollment and Emergency Drill Reports were reviewed.

School	**Tewksbury Elementary School**		
Month/Year	Sept. 2021	Sept. 2021	Sept. 2021
Date	9/13/21, 1:48pm	9/21/21, 11:00am	9/24/21, 8:35am
Drill Description	Fire drill	School Security Drill- Testing of School's Communication System	School Bus Emergency Evacuation Drill
Duration of Drill	5 minutes	2 minutes	15 minutes
Weather Conditions	Sunny and warm	Nice	Sunny
Conductor of Drill	D.Grover, B. Karmondi, K. Lemerich	M.Verderamo, BOE office	K. Lemerich, M. Verderamo, B. Hoffman, Jr.
Notification Method	Pulled station, Radio	Parents were emailed 9/20	Email sent to staff

School	**Old Turnpike School**		
Month/Year	Sept. 2021	Sept. 2021	Sept. 2021
Date	9/17/21, 11:00 AM	9/21/21, 11:00am	9/24/21, 7:30am
Drill Description	Fire drill	School Security Drill- Testing of School's Communication System	School Bus Emergency Evacuation Drill
Duration of Drill	4 minutes	2 minutes	15 minutes

Weather Conditions	Cloudy, warm	Nice	Sunny
Conductor of Drill	D. Krowl, T. Holmes	M.Verderamo, BOE office	B Hoffman, Jr., T. Lobb, M. Mitchell
Notification Method	Radios, PA System	Parents were emailed 9/20	Email sent to staff

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was made by Mr. Deo and seconded by Ms. Larsen to approve the following minutes:
Discussion: None

- August 18, 2021 Board Retreat
- August 18, 2021 Regular Board Meeting
- August 18, 2021 Executive Session

Final Resolution: Motion carried on a roll call vote.
Yes: Jillian Carrino, Greg Davidson, Angela Deeney, Susanne Jardinella, Lori Larsen, Suleyka Munoz, William Simon, Andrea Stein, Michael Deo

CURRICULUM: Schools were closed on September 2nd due to a state flood emergency. January 17th (MLK day) can be used as a makeup day. This will be voted on later this evening. Students are encouraged to join an extracurricular activity. Homework help and math enrichment clubs have also been formed. There are several clubs that are run by the schools as well as through the PTA and Whittemore. School sports at OTS are underway and we are once again thankful for our own buses and drivers so that the students can participate in away games.

Motion was made by Mr. Deo and seconded by Ms. Larsen to approve the following:
Discussion: None

Approve the revision to the 2021-2022 school calendar.

Approve the Remote Instruction Plan for the 2021-2022 School Year.

Approve the following field trip for the 2021-2022 school year:

Grade	Destination	Date	Cost per Student (cost of attendance not paid by district)
8	Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall, Califon, NJ	October, 2021	-0-

Final Resolution: Motion carried on a roll call vote.
Yes: Jillian Carrino, Greg Davidson, Angela Deeney, Susanne Jardinella, Lori Larsen, Suleyka Munoz, William Simon, Andrea Stein, Michael Deo

POLICY: The policy committee met last week to begin the review of the policy manual as the board transitions to Strauss Esmay.

Motion was made by Mr. Deo and seconded by Ms. Larsen to approve the following policies on second reading:

- 5141.10 Face Coverings
- 5141.11 Vaccination and Testing

Final Resolution: Motion carried on a roll call vote.
Yes: Jillian Carrino, Greg Davidson, Angela Deeney, Susanne Jardinella, Lori Larsen, Suleyka Munoz, William Simon, Andrea Stein
No: Michael Deo

FINANCE: Substitute pay and long term substitute pay was discussed. The auditors were in the district last week. Reestablishing the petty cash account was discussed.

Motion was made by Ms. Larsen and seconded by Dr. Deeney to postpone the following motion:
Discussion: None

Increase the substitute pay rate from $90/$95 to $_____ effective 10/1/21.

Final Resolution: Motion carried on a roll call vote.
Yes: Jillian Carrino, Greg Davidson, Angela Deeney, Susanne Jardinella, Lori Larsen, Suleyka Munoz, William Simon, Andrea Stein, Michael Deo

Motion was made by Mr. Deo and seconded by Dr. Simon to approve the following:
Discussion: None

Approval of Bills

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve the attached lists of district bills for payment as presented by the School Business Administrator for the period August 19, 2021 through September 29, 2021 for a total amount of $1,595,463.68.

Acceptance and Approval of Board Secretary's Report for the month of July, 2021 and August, 2021.

BE IT RESOLVED that upon review of the Board Secretary's Reports for the month of July, 2021, and August, 2021 in consultation with appropriate district officials, the Board of Education certifies that no fund had been over expended in violation of NJAC 6A:23A-16:10(b); and the Board of Education further certifies, based on the Board Secretary's certification, that the total of encumbrances for each line item account does not exceed the line item appropriation in violation of NJAC 6A:23A-16:10(a).

Acceptance and Approval of Treasurer's Report for the month of July, 2021 and August, 2021.

BE IT RESOLVED that upon review of the Treasurer's Report for the month of July, 2021and August, 2021 in consultation with appropriate district officials, the Board of Education certifies that no fund had been over expended in violation of NJAC 6A:23A-16:10(b); and the Board Secretary further certifies, based on the Board Treasurer's Report, that the total of encumbrances for each line item account does not exceed the line item appropriation in violation of NJAC 6A:23A-16:10(a).

The Board Secretary certifies, pursuant to NJAC 6A:23A-16:10(c)(3), that the total of encumbrances for each line item account does not exceed the line item appropriation in violation of NJAC 6A:23A-16:10(a).

Approve the attached list of transfers.

Approve the following workshop/travel requests for the 2021-2022 school year.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator make the findings and approve attendance and travel for the following workshops/meetings:

- that travel is directly related to and within the scope of the employee or Board member's duties or responsibilities; and for employees, the school district's professional development plan;
- that travel is critical to the instructional needs of the district or furthers the efficient operation of the district;
- that the travel is in compliance with state and federal travel payment guidelines; and
- that the travel is in compliance with the District policy on travel.

Staff Member	Date	Registration	Other Expenses	Event/Destination
Heather Goguen	10/19/21	$100	-0-	NJ Association of School Business Administrators Meeting, Whippany, NJ
Heather Goguen	11/16/21	$100	-0-	
Heather Goguen	12/14/21	$100	-0-	
Heather Goguen	1/20/22	$100	-0-	
Heather Goguen	2/22/22	$100	-0-	
Heather Goguen	3/17/22	$100	-0-	
Heather Goguen	4/21/22	$100	-0-	

Mileage will be reimbursed according to board policy.

Approve the following Hunterdon County ESC bus routes for the 2021-2022 school year.

Route #	Student ID #	Annual Route Cost	Annual Aide Cost
1936	2939084202	$46,458.00	$11,331.00
2108	4162596621	$49.969.80	n/a
2129	6150315175	$46,675.80	n/a

Submission of American Rescue Plan-IDEA grant for the following amounts:

Basic: $20,444.00
Preschool: $ 1,746.00

Approve submission of 2021-2022 American Rescue Plan -ESSER grant for $67,513.00 of which $45,008.00 is currently available.

Approve the following fundraiser for the 2021-2022 school year:

Name/Description of Fundraiser	Date	Advisor
Magazine Drive and Brochure Sales to benefit 8th grade year end activities	10/1/21 - 10/15/21	Dee Krowl

Approve the long term substitute rate of $175/day for working 11-40 consecutive days in the same classroom.

Rescind Finance motion #7 from July 14, 2021 BOE Meeting to approve placement of student #6150315175 at The Calais School for the 2021-2022 School Year beginning September 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 at a tuition cost of 70,844.40 plus transportation.

Approve placement of student #6150315175 at The Calais School for the 2021-2022 School Year beginning September 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 at a cost of $90,194.40 (tuition $70,844.40; shared aide $19,350.00) plus transportation.

Approve entering into contract with Nina Finkler Autism Consulting, LLC for a Psycho-Educational Evaluation for student #6343430400 for a cost not to exceed $900.00.

Approve the re-establishment of petty cash for the 2021-2022 school year in the Business Office in the amount of $250 with a maximum single expenditure of $25 in accordance with Board Policy 3451.

Final Resolution: Motion carried on a roll call vote.
Yes: Jillian Carrino, Greg Davidson, Angela Deeney, Susanne Jardinella, Lori Larsen, Suleyka Munoz, William Simon, Andrea Stein
No: Michael Deo

Mr. Davidson exited the meeting at 8:39 p.m. and returned at 8:43. P.m.

TECHNOLOGY: Blackboard, our web service provider is having some issues with their system and some sites are not opening. They assured us that this is a top priority and should be approved shortly.

Motion was made by Mr. Deo and seconded by Ms. Munoz to approve the following:
Discussion: None

Approve the addendum to the shared services agreement with Readington.

Final Resolution: Motion carried on a roll call vote.
Yes: Jillian Carrino, Angela Deeney, Susanne Jardinella, Lori Larsen, Suleyka Munoz, William Simon, Andrea Stein, Michael Deo
Absent: Greg Davidson

FACILITIES: Ms. Goguen gave an update on the locker room renovations. There will be a Facilities Committee Meeting on October 6, 2021.

TRANSPORTATION: None.

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

OTHER: Starting with the October 13th Committee of the Whole Meeting, Executive Session will be held at 7:00 p.m., if needed. Public session will follow at 7:30 p.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Deo and seconded by Ms. Jardinella to postpone the following motion:

Approve submission of the Law Enforcement Memorandum of Agreement to the County Executive Office.

Final Resolution: Motion carried on a roll call vote.

Yes: Jillian Carrino, Greg Davidson, Angela Deeney, Susanne Jardinella, Lori Larsen, Suleyka Munoz, William Simon, Andrea Stein
No: Michael Deo

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW: None.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: At this time, members of the public were invited to speak on items not listed on the agenda. The following community members addressed the board:

- Hope Kaufmann, Lebanon, NJ - The Green Team is working with the school district. They would like a designated person on the topic of sustainability.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

PERSONNEL: Motion was made by Mr. Deo and seconded by Ms. Stein to approve the following:
Discussion: None

Rescind the following honoraria positions for the 2021-2022 school year:

Name	Honoraria Position	Compensation
Heather Olla	Girls Soccer Head Coach	$4,401.00
Patty Jennings	Field Hockey Coach (Shared)	$4,061.00
Darcy Harp	Field Hockey Coach (Shared)	$4,061.00

Approve the following honoraria positions for the 2021-2022 school year:

Name	Honoraria Position	Compensation
Nicole Polinger	Vocal Ensemble Director	$1,197.00
Brittany Spina	Jazz Band Director	$1,197.00
Dee Krowl	8th Grade Trip Advisor	$ 725.00
Heather Jean Olla	Assistant Cross Country Coach	$3,721.00
Darcy Harp	Field Hockey Head Coach	$4,401.00

Approve Cassidy Cain as a teacher for TES after school math enrichment for one hour after school 1 day per week (not to exceed 10 sessions) at the hourly rate of Step 2 MA $41.86/hour for the 2021-2022 school year.

At the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following substitute teachers for the 2021-2022 school year, pending criminal history review.

- Alexandra Collado
- Andrea DeCampos
- Amanda Delisky-Medina
- Melissa Lewis
- Caitlin Morris

At the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Heather Valenta as Payroll and Human Resource Specialist/Assistant to the Business Administrator, at $62,000.00 (prorated) beginning December 1, 2021 or sooner, through June 30, 2022, pending criminal history review.

Approve the following club for the 2021-2022 school year:

Last Name	First Name	Name of Club	Compensation
Searle	Emily	Gaming Club	$2,000.00

Final Resolution: Motion carried on a roll call vote.
Yes: Jillian Carrino, Greg Davidson, Angela Deeney, Susanne Jardinella, Lori Larsen, Suleyka Munoz, William Simon, Andrea Stein, Michael Deo

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Motion was made by Ms. Jardinella and seconded by Mr. Deo to send the same letter to the Governor that was sent by Voorhees High School. A discussion took place to write a letter to the Governor about home rule instead and the motion was changed.

Write a letter to the Governor about how the board wants to have home rule.

Final Resolution: Motion failed on a roll call vote.
Yes: Susanne Jardinella, Michael Deo
No: Jillian Carrino, Greg Davidson, Lori Larsen, Suleyka Munoz, William Simon, Andrea Stein
Abstain: Angela Deeney

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Mr. Deo and seconded by Ms. Munoz to adjourn the meeting. The time was 9:03 p.m.

All in Favor: Jillian Carrino, Greg Davidson, Angela Deeney, Susanne Jardinella, Lori Larsen, Suleyka Munoz, William Simon, Andrea Stein, Michael Deo
Opposed: None

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Goguen
Board Secretary