Minutes April 22, 2020 Regular Board Meeting (Virtual Board Meeting)

TEWKSBURY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Board Meeting
April 22, 2020

The Regular Board Meeting of the Tewksbury Township Board of Education was called to order by Mrs. Pettegrove at 7:01 p.m. This was a Virtual Board Meeting.

Due to the COVID-19 health crisis, the next scheduled meeting of the Tewksbury Board of Education will not be physically open to the public. This is to ensure we follow best practices for social distancing. The April 22nd Board of Education meeting will be live streamed to the public via Zoom. The link to the meeting is Tewksbury Township Board Meeting April 22, 2020 Any member of the public who wishes to participate may do so during the meeting via the chat option on the Zoom link. All participants must provide their name and address, and your comment and/or question will be included in the Board's public record of the meeting, just as it would for a standard Board meeting.

Mrs. Ackerman read the Sunshine Law:

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, the Hunterdon Democrat, the Hunterdon Review and notice of the meeting has been posted in the Township Municipal Building, both school buildings and the Tewksbury Township Public Library.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENT: Mrs. Ackerman, Mrs. Carrino, Dr. Deeney, Mr. Deo, Mrs. Jardinella, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Stein, Mrs. Pettegrove

ABSENT: Mrs. Larsen

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Jennifer Shouffler - Superintendent, members of the public.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

PRESENTATION: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: There were no HIB incidents for the month of April, 2020. Dr. Shouffler welcomed everyone back from Spring Break and informed the board of the improved instructional plan for home learning. Specials will now have a designated time at TES and a short end of day class meeting has also been added. Beginning this Friday, both schools will share a video with students each morning with announcements to prepare the students for the day ahead. Teachers were given five goals for virtual learning: prioritize connections, keep it simple, be flexible and creative, offer options and empower students to make a positive impact.

The district passed their state Quality Single Accountability Continuum (QSAC) review in all areas.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was made by Mrs. Pettegrove and seconded by Mrs. Ackerman to approve the following minutes:

- March 11, 2020 Committee of the Whole Meeting
- March 11, 2020 Executive Session
- Minutes March 25, 2020 Regular Board Meeting

Final Resolution: Motion carried on a roll call vote.
Yes: Leslie Ackerman, Jillian Carrino, Michael Deo, Angela Deeney, Susanne Jardinella, Erica Johnson, Andrea Stein, Cynthia Pettegrove
Absent: Lori Larsen

CURRICULUM: New guidance was disseminated from the NJ Department of Education regarding teacher evaluation for the 2019-2020 school year. Tenured teachers rated effective or highly effective last year will receive a NE (Not Evaluated) rating this year. Non-tenured and provisional teachers will be evaluated based on the two observations completed by 3/18/20. There will be no observations of remote instruction. There was a change in the Administrative Code for the NJDOE related to the temporary delivery of special education and related services to students with disabilities through the use of electronic communications and online platforms. The district has been implementing this virtual instruction and will continue with their practices. Eighth grade student placement for high school is ongoing since the 8th grade placement exams took place in December, 2019 and teachers have made their recommendations. Kindergarten registration is ongoing, with 37 students currently registered for the 2020-2021 school year. Kindergarten screening may take place virtually. Dr. Shouffler is recommending a pass/incomplete grading system for the remaining marking periods. TES report cards will include more elaborate narratives from teachers.

POLICY: Motion was made by Mrs. Pettegrove and seconded by Mrs. Ackerman to approve the following:

Motion to approve the following policy on Second reading:

- 9322 Public and Executive Sessions

Motion to approve the following policies on First reading:

- 9322 Public and Executive Sessions
- 4111.2/4211.2 Domestic Violence
- 5113 Attendance, Absences and Excuses
- 5141 Health
- 6140 Curriculum Adoption
- 6161.1 Evaluation and Selection of Instructional Materials

Final Resolution: Motion carried on a roll call vote.
Yes: Leslie Ackerman, Jillian Carrino, Michael Deo, Angela Deeney, Susanne Jardinella, Erica Johnson, Andrea Stein, Cynthia Pettegrove
Absent: Lori Larsen

FINANCE: The board office is working on refunds for class trips that have been canceled. The budget newsletter is being prepared and discussion took place on how to advertise it to the public. The Tewksbury Times, school website and Nixle alerts are being considered.

Motion was made by Mrs. Pettegrove and seconded by Mrs. Ackerman to approve the following:

Approval of Bills

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve the attached list of district bills for payment as presented by the School Business Administrator for the period March 26, 2020 through April 22, 2020 for a total amount of $1,191,895.05.

Acceptance and Approval of Board Secretary's Report for the month of February, 2020 and March, 2020.

BE IT RESOLVED that upon review of the Board Secretary's Report for the month of February, 2020 and March, 2020 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 February, 2020 and March, 2020.

BE IT RESOLVED that upon review of the Treasurer's Report for the month of February, 2020 and March, 2020 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.

Final Resolution: Motion carried on a roll call vote.
Yes: Leslie Ackerman, Jillian Carrino, Michael Deo, Angela Deeney, Susanne Jardinella, Erica Johnson, Andrea Stein, Cynthia Pettegrove
Absent: Lori Larsen

TECHNOLOGY: An e-mail was recently sent out to all students and families reminding them to reach out to our tech support department if they are experiencing any technology or Chromebook issues.

FACILITIES: Our bus drivers are delivering school lunches to district students needing nutritional support. In addition, the Tewksbury Women's Club is generously donating hot meals prepared by The Clean Plate in Clinton which will be delivered by our drivers on Fridays. Our facilities team has been working on the outside of the buildings cutting grass, trimming trees and constructing the shed at OTS.

COMMUNICATIONS: A Spring newsletter is being prepared and will be sent to families in early May. Dr. Shouffler will also be sending out a survey next week to families and to the staff to gather their perspective on the Home Instruction Plan and its implementation.

OTHER: None.

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW: None.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion was made by Mrs. Pettegrove and seconded by Mrs. Ackerman to enter Executive Session. The time was 7:36 p.m.

WHEREAS, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, also known as the Sunshine Law, authorizes a public body to meet in executive or private session under certain limited circumstances, and:
WHEREAS, said law required the Board of Education to adopt a resolution at a public meeting before it can meet in such an executive or private session;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Township of Tewksbury that it does hereby determine that it is necessary to meet in executive session at this time to discuss personnel and legal matters for approximately forty five minutes. The matters discussed will be made public if and when confidentiality is no longer required and action pursuant to said discussion shall take place only at a public meeting. Action may be taken.

Open session resumed at 8:15.p.m.

PERSONNEL: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Mrs. Pettegrove and seconded by Mrs. Ackerman to adjourn the meeting. The time was 8:15 p.m.

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Pettegrove
Board President