

MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes

August 17, 2023

7:00 p.m. - Executive Session

7:30 p.m. - Regular Meeting

Call to Order - Constance Quinn, President

Roll Call - Paul DeAngelo, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

First Executive Session - On a motion by Mrs. Watters and seconded by Mrs. Quinn, the BOE went into executive session at 7:03 p.m. for legal attorney client privilege.

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A.10:4-11, permits the board of education to meet in closed session to discuss certain matters.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Mansfield Township Board of Education adjourns to closed session to discuss:

- 1) Matters rendered confidential by Federal Law, State Law, or Court Rule
- 2) Pending Litigation
- 3) Personnel Matters
- 4) Matters of Attorney/Client Privilege
- 5) Confidential Student Matters

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mansfield Township Board of Education reserves the right to discuss such other matters rendered confidential by law should the need arise; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the minutes of this closed session be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists. Action may be taken.

Reconvene: 7:34 p.m.

Board reconvenes into Public Session at 7:34 p.m.

President's Announcement: Adequate notice of this meeting in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act has been given by posting one copy of a Notice of Meeting in the Mansfield Township Board of Education Office, by mailing copies to The Express-Times, Star-Ledger and to the Township clerk in Mansfield Township.

Welcome to the Mansfield Township BOE Meeting

Pledge of Allegiance - Mrs. Quinn conducted the Pledge of Allegiance.

Communication - None

President's Report

The President once again welcomed Dr. Gary McCartney as Interim Superintendent for Mansfield Township School District and that his years of experience and guidance will help Mansfield.

Interim Superintendent's Report

Dr. McCartney thanked the BOE President for her kind words. Dr. McCartney stated the crash course exercise in learning about the Mansfield students and activities. Dr. McCartney mentioned that he is spending time getting up to speed on the operations of the district. The building is in incredible shape and thank you to Joe Kady and his staff. The secretary and support staff have everything in place for the new school year. Dr. McCartney thanked the administration for explaining the culture and where to step and what is to come. Staff member meetings have been endless and meeting a lot of staff members (i.e. Like a wedding reception line). Dr. McCartney was appreciative of the feeling of being welcomed by everyone.

Dr. McCartney addressed the attendance issue raised at the prior BOE meeting. Dr. McCartney explained the two different ways the state looks at attendance.

Mrs. Quinn thanked Dr. McCartney for his detailed explanation.

Business Administrator's Report - Mr. DeAngelo provided an update on the 2022/2023 & 2023/2024 Grants.

Township Committee Update - Mrs. Watters is going to schedule a meeting regarding the Natural Gas Project.

Public Comment- None

Mrs. Quinn made a motion to close the public comment number one.

Action Items - Consent Agenda

Approval of Board Minutes and Reports

Motion by Mrs. Lalevee and second by Mrs. Mastrolacasa to approve and adopt motions 1. through 3., separately as amended and described below:

1. Motion by Ms. Lalevee and second by Ms. Mastrolacasa to approve the minutes of the July 26, 2023 Regular and Executive Session Meeting.

MOTION:	Annamaria Lalevee	SECOND:	Joseph Rodriguez	
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Name	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Annamaria Lalevee				X
Alison Lorentson	X			
Diane Margolin	X			
Krysti Mastrolacasa				X
Constance Quinn	X			
Joseph Rodriguez	X			
Jonathan Rood				X
Linda Watters	X			
James J. Winand	X			

2. Motion by Ms. Lalevee and second by Mr. Rodriguez to approve the minutes of the August 8, 2023 Regular and Executive Session Meeting.

MOTION:	Annamaria Lalevee	SECOND:	Linda Watters	
Name	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Annamaria Lalevee				X
Alison Lorentson	X			
Diane Margolin	X			
Krysti Mastrolacasa	X			
Constance Quinn	X			
Joseph Rodriguez	X			
Jonathan Rood				X
Linda Watters	X			
James J. Winand	X			

3. Motion to approve the New Jersey Department of Education School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Right Act for 2022-2023 School Year. July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. Dr. McCartney explained the NJDOE requirement for sending the School Self-Assessment to the state and posting it on the district website.

MOTION:	Annamaria Lalevee	SECOND:	Linda Watters	
Name	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Annamaria Lalevee	X			

Alison Lorentson	X			
Diane Margolin	X			
Krysti Mastrolacasa	X			
Constance Quinn	X			
Joseph Rodriguez	X			
Jonathan Rood				X
Linda Watters	X			
James J. Winand	X			

I. Education and Policy - Diane Margolin

Mrs. Margolin mentioned the request to suspend Bylaw 0131 was for the School Threat Assessment Team and the Earned Sick Leave Law policies so the policies are in place for the start of the school year. Mrs. Quinn later mentioned the suspension of Bylaw 0131 is only for the two policies this evening.

Motion by Mrs. Margolin and second by Mrs. Quinn to approve and adopt motions 1. through 3., as amended and described below:

1. Motion to approve the suspension of Bylaw 0131 - Bylaws, Policies, and Regulations that requires two meetings to adopt a new policy and/or regulations.
2. Motion to approve Policy 2419 - School Threat Assessment Teams.
3. Motion to approve Policy 1642.01 and Regulation 1642.01- Earned Sick Leave Law.

MOTION:	Diane Margolin	SECOND:	Linda Watters	
Name	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Annamaria Lalevee	X			
Alison Lorentson	X			
Diane Margolin	X			
Krysti Mastrolacasa	X			
Constance Quinn	X			
Joseph Rodriguez	X			
Jonathan Rood				X
Linda Watters	X			

James J. Winand	X			
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II. Personnel - Krysti Mastrolacasa

Mrs. Mastrolacasa wished Mrs. Corcoran good luck on her retirement and mentioned that she will be totally missed. Mrs. Mastrolacasa also wished Mr. Marmorato well in the future. Lastly, Mrs. Mastrolacasa welcomed the new hires to Mansfield.

Mrs. Watters inquired about the hiring of the Special Education teacher. Dr. McCartney stated we have no name and we are approving the position tonight. We are just now completing the interview process with the hopes to have a name at the next BOE meeting. Mrs. Quinn also wished Mrs. Corcoran well in her future endeavors and endless help with the PTA and library.

Motion by Mrs. Mastrolacasa and second by Mrs. Watters to approve and adopt motions 1. through 10., as amended and described below:

1. Motion to approve Melissa Tirone as a FMLA substitute teacher effective August 23, 2023 through December 31, 2023 returning January 2, 2024. FMLA return date is subject to change, as recommended by the Superintendent.
2. Motion to approve Sarah Caudill as a substitute teacher (Criminal History check completed, pending Chapter 5), as recommended by the Superintendent.
3. Motion to approve, with regret, the retirement of Elizabeth M. Corcoran, Librarian/Media Center, last work day is December 31, 2023, as recommended by the Superintendent. (11-000-222-100).
4. Motion to approve the hiring of a Special Education Teacher for the 2023/2024 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent.
5. Motion to approve the hiring of a Paraprofessional for the 2023/2024 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent. (Replacement/Sliker)
6. Motion to approve the contractual change for Aliana Dombroski to a % COTA, as recommended by the Superintendent.
7. Motion to approve the hiring of a Part Time Speech/Language Specialist, as recommended by the Superintendent.
8. Motion to approve the 2023/2024 workshop and travel expenses, as recommended by the Superintendent.
9. Motion to approve the 2023/2024 coursework, as recommended by the Superintendent.
10. Approve the resignation of Nicholas Marmorato as part-time custodian effective

August 18, 2023, as recommended by the Superintendent.

MOTION:	Krysti Mastrolacasa	SECOND:	Linda Watters	
Name	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Annamaria Lalevee	X			
Alison Lorentson	X			
Diane Margolin	X			
Krysti Mastrolacasa	X			
Constance Quinn	X			
Joseph Rodriguez	X			
Jonathan Rood				X
Linda Watters	X			
James J. Winand	X			

III. Facilities/Finance - James Winand

Motion by Mr. Winand and second by Mrs. Quinn to approve and adopt motions 1. through 11., as amended and described below:

1. Motion to approve Payment Application #1 for Venus Construction in the amount of \$26,867.45 - Toilet Room Project. Total Project amount \$143,700.00.
2. Motion to approve the "free" 2023/2024 Energy Audit from TRC LGEA, New Jersey's Clean Energy Program.
3. Motion to approve the Monthly Payroll:
 July 28, 2023 regular payroll in the amount of \$112,573.24
 August 15, 2023 regular payroll in the amount of \$61,853.13
4. Motion to approve the July 27, 2023 to July 31, 2023 Bill Lists in the amount of \$381,223.04. August 1, 2023 to August 17, 2023 in the amount of \$173,606.78. Cafeteria check July 27, 2023 to July 31, 2023 in the amount of \$0.00 and August 1, 2023 to August 17, 2023 in the amount of \$1,317.69.
5. Motion to ratify the revisions to financial signatory cards, effective August 9, 2023.
6. Motion to ratify the Eastern Datacomm, Inc. invoice number 178006 dated 7/31/2023 for the phone system in the amount of \$3,500.00 and invoice 178007 dated 7/31/2023 for the

Lens System in the amount of \$2,860.00. Both services have a 10% increase in service and support.

7. Motion to rescind and approve the Shared Services Transportation Agreement with Warren Hill Regional Board of Education for the 2023-2024 school year, commencing July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, in the amount of \$243,716.13.

WH8
WH29
WH10
SH1
WH-13

WH-9
WH-26
WH-7
WH-20
WH-6

8. Motion to approve the June 2023 Treasurer's Report and Board Secretary's Report in the amount of \$775,637.50.
9. Motion to approve the Monthly Certification of Funds Roll Call Motion to certify that no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(b) for the month of July 31, 2023 that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.
10. Motion to ratify the Great Meadows Regional School District Special Education Tuition Agreement in the amount of \$2,800.00 for SID#9174383129. Tuition Rate 2023/2024 For Extended School Year; prorated. Educational services commenced on July 5, 2023 and ended on August 31, 2023.
11. Motion to approve the necessary amendments to the LRFP, Long Range Facilities Plan.

MOTION:	James Winand	SECOND:	Constance Quinn	
Name	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Annamaria Lalevee	X			
Alison Lorentson	X			
Diane Margolin	X			
Krysti Mastrolacasa	X			
Constance Quinn	X			
Joseph Rodriguez	X			
Jonathan Rood				X
Linda Watters	X			
James J. Winand	X			

Public Comment- Mr. John Melitsky, Principal, stated there may be a bit of redundancy with his comments. Mr. Melitsky thanked the BOE for their swift action and that he was already benefiting from the experience, great in depth discussion, invigorating insight, and appreciates the BOE's efforts in making this possible. Mr. Meltisky further thanked Dr. Giordano for MTSD's accomplishments over the past five years. Mr. Melitsky mentioned the work of Mr. Joe Kady and his staff members were nothing short of amazing. They were ahead of schedule and hats off to Joe and the facilities team.

Mr. Melitsky discussed the loneliness of the first couple days of summer and the beginning of the school year. The floors are shiny, but the students and staff make it a school. Mr. Melitisky mentioned that we are in for another great school year.

Mrs. Kate Mattison introduced herself as an interventionist here at Mansfield, but was here tonight as MEA President and on behalf of MEA. Mrs. Mattison welcomed Dr. McCartney. We are very much like a family and we have great care for the students and staff. Thank you to the BOE for starting the school year on a solid footing.

Mrs. Quinn made a motion to close the public comment number two.

New Business

Mrs. Quinn made a motion and was seconded by Mr. Winand to approve the proposal from Comgeno Education Institute for the future Superintendent Search. Mrs. Quinn mentioned the BOE will move as soon as possible and will fulfill their due diligence with this process. These efforts will include all stakeholders with surveys, meetings, etc. with everyone being a part of the process. Including everyone here and everyone out there.

MOTION:	James Winand	SECOND:	Constance Quinn	
Name	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Annamaria Lalevee	X			
Alison Lorentson	X			
Diane Margolin	X			
Krysti Mastrolacasa	X			
Constance Quinn	X			
Joseph Rodriguez	X			
Jonathan Rood				X
Linda Watters	X			
James J. Winand	X			

Old Business - Mrs. Linda Watters inquired about the Reading and Math programs for Mansfield Township School District.

Mrs. Caryn Coscia, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, addressed Mrs. Watters request. The curriculum team is currently looking at six reading programs and will be narrowing it down to two prior to making a decision. Mrs. Coscia further explained Mansfield will continue with Go Math, the updated version and thank you to the BOE for approving the updated program, because it is the latest version.

Mr. DeAngelo thanked Ms. Faye Collins and wished very well in her retirement.

Mrs. Quinn mentioned the Kindergarten Orientation on August 23, 2023 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. which began two years ago which helps alleviate first day nerves. The PTA will be serving dinner at the kindergarten orientation which is being held in the Multi Purpose Room/Cafeteria at school and the Kindergarten playground.

Mrs. Quinn went over the future meeting dates.

Future Board Meeting Dates:

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

Thursday, October 12, 2023

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Wednesday, December 20, 2023

Wednesday, January 3, 2024 - Reorganization

Mrs. Quinn mentioned the prior teacher meeting expressed by Mrs. Lorenston. Mrs. Quinn mentioned it was best to start the new year with some changes and allow some time with the arrival of our new Superintendent and the climate of the school.

Second Executive Session

No Second Executive Session.

Approval to Adjourn

Motion by Mr. Rodriguez and second by Mrs. Quinn to adjourn at 8:06 p.m. with full board consent.

MOTION:	Joseph Rodriguez	SECOND:	Constance Quinn	
Name	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Annamaria Lalevee	X			
Alison Lorentson	X			

Diane Margolin	X			
Krysti Mastrolacasa	X			
Constance Quinn	X			
Joseph Rodriguez	X			
Jonathan Rood				X
Linda Watters	X			
James J. Winand	X			

Respectfully Submitted,

Mr. Paul DeAngelo
SBA/Board Secretary

Ms. Linda Watters
Vice-President