

February 8, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting
TEWKSBURY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

Ms. Stein 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: Mr. Charniga, Ms. Fleming, Mrs. Jardinella, Mrs. Munoz, Dr. Simon, Mrs. Wygera, Ms. Stein

ABSENT: Ms. Carrino, Mrs. Niang

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

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

Motion was made by Ms. Stein and seconded by Mrs. Jardinella to close the public comment portion of the meeting.

All in Favor: Mr. Charniga, Ms. Fleming, Mrs. Jardinella, Mrs. Munoz, Dr. Simon, Mrs. Wygera, Ms. Stein
Absent: Ms. Carrino, Mrs. Niang

PRESENTATION: OTS 8th grader, Emily Scala, student council secretary, spoke about student affairs at OTS.

CORRESPONDENCE: Dr. Shouffler thanked Agency for the donation of fabric art materials to be used for student projects.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Shouffler gave an update on this year's district goals: Strategic planning-committee has been created and community meetings will be in February, March and April. Cultivating teacher excellence by engaging educators in high quality professional learning-cross district articulation, new teacher training, out of district workshops. Enhanced communications-updated website, increased social media, new outdoor sign at OTS, workshops for parents. Character education/ anti-bullying activities for students-improved code of conduct procedures, tiger pack and den meetings at TES, OTS advisory meetings, HIB assemblies.

MINUTES: The January 3rd and January 24th minutes were shared with the board for review.

CURRICULUM: Dr. Shouffler shared data that the two schools have collected on student discipline. OTS is getting ready for spring sports. There are not enough students to field a girls lacrosse team. Other teams may need to make cuts due to the large number of sign ups. Dr. Shouffler congratulated Coach Wilpizeski and the girl's basketball team on their championship win.

POLICY: Dr. Shouffler shared policy number 9130 which pertains to public complaints and grievances. This policy will be posted to the website for reference.

Motion was made by Ms. Stein and Mrs. Munoz to approve the following policy on first reading:

- 0168.01 Live Streaming of Public Board Meetings

Final Resolution: Motion carried on a roll call vote.

Yes: Mr. Charniga, Ms. Fleming, Mrs. Jardinella, Mrs. Munoz, Dr. Simon, Mrs. Wygera, Ms. Stein

Absent: Ms. Carrino, Mrs. Niang

FINANCE: Ms. Goguen spoke about the money left in the play account which has been closed out. Our auditors have suggested that the money be used for something to benefit all of the students. New lighting for the all purpose room was considered but due to future renovations in that room, upgrades to the library seating and shelving are now being considered. Members of the board suggested looking into additional items for the play, such as a portable speaker system, microphones, or other items that don't have to be hard wired. We will be receiving Emergent Capital Maintenance Needs Grant money again this year, similar to the last two years, from the state to be used for HVAC repairs and maintenance. Ms. Goguen reminded board members to complete their annual financial disclosure forms. The finance committee meeting will be on February 14th to review the budget.

The board reviewed the following:

Workshops/Travel Requests				
Staff Member	Date	Registration	Other Expenses*	Event/Destination
Michael Wilpizeski	3/15/24	\$75.00	-0-	Implementing a Gifted Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) - Strategies for Identification and Intervention - Morris-Union Jointure Commission, New Providence, NJ
Joelle Capece	3/18/24	\$160.00	Mileage = \$25.94	High Level Practices-New Jersey Council for Exceptional Children, Ramapo College, Mahwah, NJ
Maura Obercian	3/13/24	\$140.00	Mileage = \$23.50	Friends of Language Educators NJ Annual Conference- Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
Susan Moyer	5/20/24	\$90.00	Mileage = \$26.32	ADHD and the Internal Executive Function Skills - Warren County Speech, Language & Hearing Association, Lafayette, NJ
Katherine Royer	5/20/24	\$90.00	Mileage = \$26.32	ADHD and the Internal Executive Function Skills - Warren County Speech, Language & Hearing Association, Lafayette, NJ
Kara Swan	3/21/24	\$175.00	Mileage = \$18.99	NJASBO Purchasing Seminar, Whippany, NJ
Connie Wygera	4/19/24	\$99.00	Mileage = \$38.82	NJSBA Women's Leadership Conference, Princeton Junction, NJ

*Mileage will be reimbursed according to board policy.

Donations/Grants/Activities

Requestor/Contact	School	Description	Amount of Grant/Donation
Liz Gentile	TES	PTA Grant for Portable multi-use folding seats to be used as flexible seating options in kindergarten.	\$283.56
Nicole Polinger	OTS	PTA Grant for Floor cushions for the students to sit on instead of the risers, and a small cart to house them.	\$322.94
n/a	OTS	Donation of fabric scraps by Agency to be used in the art classes for student projects.	approximately \$20.00
Karen Morrow	TES	The TEA (using an NJEA grant) would like to donate books, rocks, paint, and a sign. This coordinates with the book "Only One You" by Linda Kranz. Students will paint individual "rockfish" to display.	\$500.00
Karen Morrow	TES	The TEA would like to host an after school Seussabration activity for K-2 students. This activity will promote literacy with reading books, making crafts, and playing games.	No cost

Field Trips				
Grade	Destination	Date (month/year)	Approximate Cost per Student (cost of attendance not paid by district)	Coordinating Teacher/Staff
4	Mayo Performing Arts Center, Morristown, NJ to see the performance of Charlotte's Web.	May, 2024	\$10.50	Patsy DelGrande

Motion was made by Ms. Stein and seconded by Ms. Fleming to approve the following workshop/travel request for the 2023-2024 school year:

Staff Member	Date	Registration	Other Expenses*	Event/Destination
Annie Rose Mason	2/15/24	\$75.00	Mileage = \$20.68	Hunterdon County Librarian's Association Winter Workshop, Flemington, NJ

*Mileage will be reimbursed according to board policy.

Final Resolution: Motion carried on a roll call vote.

Yes: Mr. Charniga, Ms. Fleming, Mrs. Jardinella, Mrs. Munoz, Dr. Simon, Mrs. Wygera, Ms. Stein

Absent: Ms. Carrino, Mrs. Niang

TECHNOLOGY: In an effort to lower the incidences of dropped and damaged chromebooks, new carrying cases are being considered. A sample of the new case was shown to the board.

FACILITIES: A facilities meeting is scheduled for February 13th to review the energy presentation from the January 24th board meeting and have questions answered by the vendor.

TRANSPORTATION: No news on the arrival of the new bus.

COMMUNICATION: None.

OTHER: An OTS student has proposed the use of eco-friendly cutlery. The Finance Committee will discuss further.

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW: None.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Andrew Fingerman, Lebanon, NJ, voiced concern about a new resident in town near the park.

Motion was made by Ms. Stein and seconded by Mrs. Munoz to close the public comment portion of the meeting.

All in Favor: Mr. Charniga, Ms. Fleming, Mrs. Jardinella, Mrs. Munoz, Dr. Simon, Mrs. Wygera, Ms. Stein

Absent: Ms. Carrino, Mrs. Niang

PERSONNEL: Motion was made by Ms. Stein and seconded by Mrs. Munoz to approve the following:

1. Approve the job description for the stipend position of Technology Support for Board of Education Meetings.
2. At the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Bonnie Wade-Taffera as the new teacher mentor for Amy Schroeder - TES Maternity Leave Replacement Teacher, beginning approximately March 4, 2024. Upon completion, the mentor will be paid the annual mentor fee of \$550, prorated.
3. At the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Monica Scala as the Child Study Team Secretary, at the annual salary of \$45,292.00 (prorated), beginning March 1, 2024. (DIST-SEC-CST-01)
4. At the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following substitutes for the 2023-2024 school year, pending criminal history review:
 - Caleb Dean
 - Jessica Zanzonico (nurse)
5. Approve the following staff members as after school medical aides for the 8th grade play (after school practice and dates of play) effective February 6, 2024 through March 23, 2024 at the student supervision rate of \$40/hour. This will be a shared position and staff members will work on a rotating schedule as needed.
 - Kelly Cullen
 - Tom Lobb
 - Heather Olla
 - Scott Steinman
6. Approve payment of an extra half hour for the 8th grade play chaperones due to returning later than originally estimated. Student supervision stipend rate of \$40/hour.
 - Amy Allen
 - Kelly Cullen

- Dee Krowl
- Tom Lobb
- Bonnie Mendralla
- Heather Olla
- Scott Sipos
- Scott Steinman
- Samantha Wu

Final Resolution: Motion carried on a roll call vote.

Yes: Mr. Charniga, Ms. Fleming, Mrs. Jardinella, Mrs. Munoz, Dr. Simon, Mrs. Wygera

Absent: Ms. Carrino, Mrs. Niang

Abstain: Ms. Stein abstained from PERSONNEL #3.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Charniga agreed with Mr. Fingerman about the seriousness of the public comment made by Mr. Fingerman.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion was made by Ms. Stein and seconded by Mrs. Munoz to enter Executive Session. The time was 8:20 p.m.

Motion was made by Ms. Stein and seconded by Ms. Fleming to exit Executive Session. The time was 8:43 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Ms. Stein and seconded by Dr. Simon to adjourn the meeting. The time was 8:43 p.m.

Final Resolution: Motion carried on a roll call vote.

Yes: Mr. Charniga, Ms. Fleming, Mrs. Jardinella, Mrs. Munoz, Dr. Simon, Mrs. Wygera, Ms. Stein

Absent: Ms. Carrino, Mrs. Niang

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Goguen
Board Secretary