

# EASTAMPTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

## Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

### REGULAR MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY BOARD PRESIDENT (7:00 P.M.)

#### FLAG SALUTE

#### PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT:

In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law, adequate public notice of this meeting has been given by the Business Administrator in the following manner:

- A. Posted written notice on the official bulletin board at the Eastampton Community School on January 4, 2023
- B. Mailed written notice to the *Burlington County Times* and the *Courier Post* on January 9, 2023.
- C. Filed written notice with the Clerk of Eastampton Township on January 5, 2023
- D. Posted official notice on the district's website.
- E. Mailed written notice to each person who has requested copies of the regular meeting schedule and who has prepaid any charges fixed for such service.

#### ROLL CALL:

Board Member	Present	Absent	Late Arrival Time
Kerry Douglas, President	X		
Florencia Norton, Vice President	X		
Edward Besko	X		
Len DiGiacomo	X		
Edward Hill	X		
Walter Maluchnik	X		

Ambrose F. Duckett, III, Superintendent of Schools

Ashlee Caldwell, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

#### FIRE EXITS

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

All meetings must be open to the public at all times except for those meetings at which certain excepted matters are discussed. However, the right of the public to be present at the meeting should not be confused with public participation. The public body retains the right to permit, regulate or prohibit active participation of the public at any meeting. (N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (a)).

This meeting will now be open to the public; however, if your questions or comments pertain to litigation, students, personnel or negotiations, we ask that you see the Superintendent after the meeting since we do not discuss these items in public.

- None.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (23-24-34)**

October 17, 2023 (Regular Session)

### **Roll Call**

Board Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Kerry Douglas, President	X		X			
Florencia Norton, Vice President			X			
Edward Besko			X			
Len DiGiacomo		X	X			
Edward Hill					X	
Walter Maluchnik			X			

☒ Motion Carries

☐ Motion Fails

### **PRESENTATIONS:**

#### **A. Student Recognitions – Mr. Duckett, Superintendent/Principal**

-The following students were recognized as Student of the Month:

September

6th - Taivon Isom

7th - Jordynn Jones (present)

8th - Arianna Mazzarelli

October

6th - Nikola Bartlett (present)

7th - Isabella Brown (present)

8th - Isabella Caesar (present)

### **ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION (7:09 P.M.):**

Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed
Kerry Douglas	Edward Besko	Yes	

☒ Motion Carries

☐ Motion Fails

### **Eastampton Township Board of Education**

#### **Resolution 2023-2024**

#### **Authorizing Executive Session**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a Public Body to go into closed session during a public meeting, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education of the Eastampton Township School District has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the public; and

**WHEREAS**, the regular meeting of this Board of Education will reconvene at the conclusion of closed session, at approximately 8:02 p.m. this evening.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education of the Eastampton Township School District will go into closed session for the following reason(s) as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12:

X Any matter which, by express provision of Federal Law, State Statute or Rule of Court shall be rendered confidential or excluded from discussion in public;

Any matter in which the release of information would impair a right to receive funds from the federal government;

Any matter the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy;

Any collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions of which are proposed for inclusion in any collective bargaining agreement, including the negotiation of terms and conditions with employees or representatives of employees of the public body (specify contract: )

Any matter involving the purpose, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of bank rates or investment of public funds where it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of such matters were disclosed;

Any tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public provided that their disclosure could impair such protection;

Any investigations of violations or possible violations of the law;

Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is or may become a party. Any matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his ethical duties as a lawyer (if pending or anticipated litigation, the matter is:

) (if contract negotiation, the nature of the contract and interested party is the Collective Bargaining Agreement)

*Under certain circumstances, if public disclosure of the matter would have a potentially negative impact on the District's position in the litigation or negotiation, this information may be withheld until such time that the matter is concluded or the circumstances no longer present a potential impact);*

Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body, unless all individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting (subject to the balancing of the public's interest and the employee's privacy rights under *South Jersey Publishing*, 124 N.J. 478, the employee(s) and nature of discussion is 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 staff;

Any deliberation of a public body occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty upon the responding party or the suspension or loss of a license or permit belonging to the responding party as a result of an act of omission for which the responding party bears responsibility;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Education hereby declares that its discussion of the aforementioned subject(s) may be made public at a time when the Board Attorney advises the Board of Education that the disclosure of the discussion will not detrimentally affect any right, interest or duty of the School District or any other entity with respect to said discussion.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, for the aforementioned reasons, hereby declares that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the above discussion shall take place and hereby directs the Board Secretary to take the appropriate action to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION (8:02 P.M.):**

Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed
Kerry Douglas	Walter Maluchnik	Yes	

☒ Motion Carries

☐ Motion Fails

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: (Ambrose F. Duckett, III, Superintendent/Principal)**

### **A. Information Item(s):**

- 1) Liaison Reports.
- 2) HIB Report dated November 8, 2023. (23-24-35)

-Kerry Douglas reported the Liaison Report; the township meeting was last night; the township authorized the execution of a shared services agreement for the next four years. The next meeting is 12/18/23.  
-The tree lighting is on 12/1/23; the select chorus will be singing.  
-Edward Besko reported that an ordinance was passed at the last township meeting.  
-Mr. Duckett reported the HIB reports and noted that discipline and remediation are being applied.

### **B. Action Item(s):**

- 1) Recommend the Board approve the School Safety and Security Plan Annual Review Statement of Assurance. (23-24-36)
- 2) Recommend the Board approve the HIB Report dated November 8, 2023 as presented at the October 17, 2023 meeting. (23-24-35)
- 3) Recommend the Board approve the submission of projected preschool enrollment for fiscal year 2024. (23-24-43)

### **Roll Call on Action Items**

Board Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Kerry Douglas, President	X		X			
Florencia Norton, Vice President			X			
Edward Besko		X	X			
Len DiGiacomo			X			
Edward Hill			X			
Walter Maluchnik			X			

☒ Motion Carries

☐ Motion Fails

## **PERSONNEL: (Edward Hill, Chairperson)**

### **A. Action Item(s):**

- 1) Recommend the Board approve the employment of the following candidates as district substitute teachers effective November 15, 2023, pending completion of paperwork:

Mackenzie Otis  
Julianna Roland  
Mason Klaus

- 2) Recommend the Board ratify a ten-month prorated contract of employment for SY 2023-2024 for Samantha Gladis as Special Education Teacher, BA/Step 7 – \$62,064.00, effective

December 4, 2023, pending completion of paperwork.

- 3) Recommend the Board approve the following staff member for 2023-2024 extra-curricular appointment as indicated, with a stipend as per negotiated agreement:

John Schuyler

Chaperone

- 4) Recommend the Board approve Candace Leusner as a homebound instructor for a student whose name is on file in the superintendent's office for ten hours per week at the negotiated rate of \$31.99 per hour.

**Roll Call on Action Items**

Board Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Kerry Douglas, President			X			
Florencia Norton, Vice President			X			
Edward Besko			X			
Len DiGiacomo		X	X			
Edward Hill	X		X			
Walter Maluchnik			X			

☒ Motion Carries

☐ Motion Fails

-Walter Maluchnik asked how the district was doing with subs.

-Mr. Duckett said the district is in a much better place due to the bulletin and hiring former students.

**FINANCE: (Walter Maluchnik, Chairperson)**

**A. Information Item(s):**

- 1) Unofficial & Preliminary Election Results
- a. Jamie Smith - 1023
  - b. Personal Choice – 51
  - c. Nicholas Stewart – 37
  - d. Stephanie McHugh – 49

-Ms. Caldwell read the updated, unofficial, and preliminary results received today from the Burlington County Clerk.

**B. Action Item(s):**

- 1) Recommend the Board approve the following payrolls:
- a. October 30, 2023- \$289,927.64
- 2) Recommend the Board approve the following invoices for payment: (23-24-37)
- a. Regular Bills- \$315,271.75

- 3) Recommend the Board approve Line Item Transfers dated September 30, 2023. **(23-24-38)**
- 4) Recommend the Board approve the Treasurer's Report dated September 30, 2023. **(23-24-39)**
- 5) Recommend the Board approve the Board Secretary's Report dated September 30, 2023. **(23-24-40)**
- 6) Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.12(c)4\*, we certify that as of September 30, 2023 after review of the Secretary's monthly financial reports (appropriations section) and upon consultation with appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.12(c)3\* and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. It is also certified that the Board Secretary's report matches the Treasurer's Report. \*Citations are subject to change due to periodic amendments, new rules, repeals. Figures subject to final audit.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.12(c)8\*, I certify that as of September 30, 2023 no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the District Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8 and 18A:22-8-1. \*Citations are subject to change due to periodic amendments, new rules, and repeals. Figures subject to final audit.

- 7) Recommend the Board approve the attached Student Activity expenses. **(23-24-41)**
- 8) Recommend the Board approve the attached request for professional development. **(23-24-42)**
- 9) Recommend the Board approve the following 2023-2024 Revised Out-of-District placements:

Placement	Student(s)	Tuition per Student	1:1 Aide	1:1 Nurse (est)
BCSSSD	MA	\$47,740		
BCSSSD	CR	\$52,143		\$58-68/Hr
BCSSSD	CA	\$52,143		\$55-65/Hr
BCSSSD	NC	\$57,010	\$46,675	
BCSSSD	EO	\$43,746		

- 10) Recommend the Board approve the following 2023-2024 McKinney Vento Eligible Tuition – Receiving:

Placement	Student (s)	Tuition per Student	1:1 Aide	District of Responsibility
BCSSSD / Grade: 6	EN	\$46,558 (147 days at \$316.72 per day)	-	South Holland School District in South Holland, IL- 10/26/2023 - 06/30/2024
Eastampton Community School / Grade: 6	EM	\$16,323.33 (177 days at \$92.22 per day)	-	Mount Holly- 09/14/2023 - 06/30/2024

- 11) Recommend the Board approve the online submission of the FY 2025 Impact Aid application due January 31, 2024.

- 12) Recommend the Board approve the Frontline Master Services-Agreement with Frontline Education for Employee Evaluation Management with Danielson 2022 Rubric effective January 1, 2024.

**Roll Call on Action Items**

Board Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Kerry Douglas, President			X			
Florencia Norton, Vice President			X			
Edward Besko			X			
Len DiGiacomo			X			
Edward Hill		X	X			
Walter Maluchnik	X		X			

☒ Motion Carries

☐ Motion Fails

**CURRICULUM: (Florence Norton, Chairperson)**

**A. Action Item(s):**

- 1) Recommend the Board approve the following field trip(s):

Date	Students	Destination	Time	Chaperones
3/21/24	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Select Chorale	"Dream Girls" at McCarter Theatre, Princeton	9:15 am – 2:00 pm	5 staff
12/13/23	Special Education	Regal Burlington – Community Based Instruction	10:45 am – 2:15 pm	7 staff

- 2) Recommend the Board approve the Annual Preschool Operational Plan Update A to the New Jersey Department of Education on November 15, 2023. This plan describes any changes to the submitted operational plan and is based on the results of data derived from program assessments. In that plan, the district anticipates opening up a fifth classroom starting in September 2024.
- 3) Recommend the Board approve Rowan University student, Amanda Brennan, to complete sixteen clinical hours shadowing the school nurses in Eastampton School District. There will be no cost to the district.

**Roll Call on Action Items**

Board Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Kerry Douglas, President			X			
Florencia Norton, Vice President	X		X			
Edward Besko			X			
Len DiGiacomo			X			
Edward Hill			X			
Walter Maluchnik		X	X			

☒ Motion Carries

☐ Motion Fails

**POLICY: (Len DiGiacomo, Chairperson)**

**A. Action Item(s):**

**1a) Recommend the first reading of the following policies and regulations from Alert 231  
(sent via email):**

P 2270	Religion in the Schools (Revised)
P & R 3212	Attendance (M) (Revised)
P & R 4212	Attendance (M) (Revised)
P 3324	Right of Privacy (Revised)
P 4324	Right of Privacy (Revised)
P & R 5111	Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students (M) (Revised)
P & R 5116	Education of Homeless Children and Youths (Revised)
P 8500	Food Services (M) (Revised)
P 8540	School Nutrition Programs (M) (Abolished)
P 8550	Meal Charges/Outstanding Food Service Bill (M) (Abolished)

**Roll Call on Action Item #1a (none taken in view of motion to amend in Action Item #2**

Board Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Kerry Douglas, President						
Florencia Norton, Vice President						
Edward Besko						
Len DiGiacomo						
Edward Hill						
Walter Maluchnik						

☐ Motion Carries

☐ Motion Fails

**2) Recommend that the first reading as specified in Action Item #1a be amended to delete from consideration as part of Action Item #1a the following policies from Alert 231:**

P 3324	Right of Privacy (Revised)
P 4324	Right of Privacy (Revised)

**Roll Call on Action Item #2**

Board Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Kerry Douglas, President		X	X			
Florencia Norton, Vice President			X			
Edward Besko			X			
Len DiGiacomo	X		X			
Edward Hill			X			
Walter Maluchnik			X			



☒ Motion Carries

☐ Motion Fails

-Re: Policy 3324 & 4324, Len DiGiacomo suggests taking them & putting them into P 5516.

-Mr. Duckett agrees that P 5516 is thorough and covers what we need.

**1b) Recommend the first reading, as amended, of the following policies and regulations from Alert 231 (send via email):**

P 2270	Religion in the Schools (Revised)
P & R 3212	Attendance (M) (Revised)
P & R 4212	Attendance (M) (Revised)
P & R 5111	Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students (M) (Revised)
P & R 5116	Education of Homeless Children and Youths (Revised)
P 8500	Food Services (M) (Revised)
P 8540	School Nutrition Programs (M) (Abolished)
P 8550	Meal Charges/Outstanding Food Service Bill (M) (Abolished)

**Roll Call on Action Item #1b, as constituting the duly amended version of Action Item #1a**

Board Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Kerry Douglas, President		X	X			
Florencia Norton, Vice President			X			
Edward Besko			X			
Len DiGiacomo	X		X			
Edward Hill			X			
Walter Maluchnik			X			

☒ Motion Carries

☐ Motion Fails

- Mr. DiGiacomo went through the Alert and advised the board of the noteworthy changes and comments that were presented in the draft document, which the board considered and discussed during the meeting.
- Re: P 8500, Mr. Duckett stated we use writing as our method and confirmed that we feed our students
- Kerry Douglas stated phones are not used anymore.

**BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: (Edward Besko, Chairperson)**

**A. Action Item:**

**1) Recommend the Board approve the following request(s) for use of facilities:**

	Group	Purpose	Date	Time	Room
1	Eastampton PTA	<i>HousePaws</i> Vets in Training After-School Program for 1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Graders	Dec 5, 12, 19 Jan 9, 16, 23	3:00 – 4:00 pm	Art Room
2	Eastampton PTA	<i>HousePaws</i> Vets in Training After-School Program for 1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	Dec 7, 14 Jan 4, 11, 18, 25	3:00 – 4:00 pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> Art Room

		Graders			
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### **Roll Call on Action Items**

Board Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Kerry Douglas, President			X			
Florencia Norton, Vice President			X			
Edward Besko	X		X			
Len DiGiacomo			X			
Edward Hill		X	X			
Walter Maluchnik			X			

☒ Motion Carries

☐ Motion Fails

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

All meetings must be open to the public at all times except for those meetings at which certain excepted matters are discussed. However, the right of the public to be present at the meeting should not be confused with public participation. The public body retains the right to permit, regulate or prohibit active participation of the public at any meeting. (N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (a)).

-Dominic Santillo reminded all to attend the unveiling of the Master Plan next Monday at 7pm.

-Walter Malcuhnik reminded all that parent/teacher conferences are next week.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

With no further business to discuss, the Board meeting was adjourned at 8:44 pm.

Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed
Kerry Douglas	Walter Maluchnik	Yes	

☒ Motion Carries

☐ Motion Fails

Respectfully submitted,

Ashlee Caldwell  
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary