

# **EASTAMPTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION**

## **Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, May 18, 2021**

The Regular Meeting of the Eastampton Township Board of Education was called to order at 6:30 pm by Susan Taylor, President

### **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 11, 2021
- B. Mailed written notice to the *Burlington County Times* on January 8, 2021 and the *Courier Post* on January 13, 2021
- C. Filed written notice with the Clerk of Eastampton Township on January 8, 2021
- 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.

**The Board of Education shall conduct its meeting scheduled for May 18, 2021 in person as well as via Google Meet. Members of the public desiring to participate in the Board of Education meeting remotely will be able to access the meeting by following the directions below:**

### **DIRECTIONS:**

Meeting ID – [meet.google.com/utu-zfgw-bdm](https://meet.google.com/utu-zfgw-bdm)

Or by telephone – 1 267-416-5546 PIN: 301 975 939#

### **ROLL CALL:**

Susan Taylor, President-present  
Glenn Forney, Vice President-absent  
Kyle Aaronson-present  
Brian Curtis-absent  
Len DiGiacomo-present  
Kerry Douglas-present  
Deanna McGinnis-present

Ambrose F. Duckett, III, Superintendent of Schools  
Pat Austin, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary

### **FIRE EXITS**

### **ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

On a motion by Susan Taylor, and seconded by Len DiGiacomo, the Board entered executive session at 6:33 pm. All in favor.

**Eastampton Township School District Board of Education  
Resolution 2020-2021  
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 h 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 7:00 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;

  x   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;

  x   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);*

  x   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:**

The return to Public session was at 7 pm

## **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.

- Mr. Graham asked what the increase was for the Horizon rates. Mr. Duckett responded that for 21-22 school year it is a 3% increase and 0% increase for Dental.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (20-21-63)**

Prior to the final motion on the approval of the minutes, Susan Taylor asked for discussion. Len DiGiacomo asked for a correction to the minutes. On policy, the minutes should reflect a strike out of P 0164.6

On the motion by Susan Taylor and seconded by Kyle Aaronson, the following minutes were approved with noted correction. Roll call vote. Motion carried

Susan Taylor, yes  
Glenn Forney, absent  
Kyle Aaronson, yes  
Brian Curtis - absent  
Len DiGiacomo - yes  
Kerry Douglas - yes  
Deanna McGinnis - yes

April 27, 2021 (Executive and Regular Sessions)

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

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

- 1) New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) – interim review placement scores dated April 30, 2021. **(20-21-64)**

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

On the motion by Susan Taylor and seconded by Len DiGiacomo, the following action items were approved. Roll call vote. Motion carried

- 1) Recommend the Board approve the updated school calendar. **(20-21-65)**
- 2) Recommend the Board approve a parental request for a 6<sup>th</sup> grade student (name on file in the superintendent's office) who has moved out of district to complete 6<sup>th</sup> grade in our district.

**PERSONNEL: (Susan Taylor, Chairperson)**

On the motion by Susan Taylor and seconded by Kyle Aaronson, the following action item was approved.  
Roll call vote. Motion carried

**A. Action Item:**

- 1) Recommend the Board approve a ten-month contract of employment for SY 2021-2022 with Emma Stahl as special education teacher, MA/Step 1 of the 2020-2021 salary guide at \$56,299 (which may be adjusted after ratification of the 2021-2024 Collective Bargaining Agreement) effective September 1, 2021, pending completion of paperwork.

**FINANCE: (Kyle Aaronson, Chairperson)**

**A. Information Items:**

- 1) RFP posted online on May 11, 2021 for Paraprofessional and Support Staff Services for the 21-22 school year.
- 2) Non Public Consultation held on May 17, 2021 with Dawn Adams, Principal at TCA and Bobbie Downs, Director at ESU.

**B. Action Items:**

Prior to the final motion on the approval of action items under Finance, Kyle Aaronson asked for discussion. Len DiGiacomo wanted to make sure that our residents are considered first for the new Preschool Program before non-resident children. Ambrose Duckett assured him that would be the case.

On the motion by Kyle Aaronson and seconded by Susan Taylor, the following action items were approved. Roll call vote. Motion carried

- 1) Recommend the Board approve the following payrolls:
  - a. May 15, 2021 \$251,295.96
- 2) Recommend the Board approve the following invoices for payment: **(20-21-66)**

Regular Bills: \$374,034.53
- 3) Recommend the Board approve Line Item Transfers dated April 30, 2021. **(20-21-67)**
- 4) Recommend the Board approve the Treasurer's Report dated April 30, 2021. **(20-21-68)**
- 5) Recommend the Board approve the Board Secretary's Report dated April 30, 2021. **(20-21-69)**
- 6) Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.12(c)4\*, we certify that as of April 30, 2021 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 April 30, 2020 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 21-22 renewal rates for Horizon BCBS NJ and Delta Dental. **(20-21-70)**
- 8) Recommend the Board approve an amendment to the 20-21 Title I A funding to reallocate costs to the extended school year program and the summer enrichment program.
- 9) Recommend the Board rescind the approval of the addendum to extend the contract with ESS Support Services LLC to June 20, 2022 to provide staffing to fill positions at the request of the district. School year 20-21 was the last year of their five year contract and we are required to go out to Bid.
- 10) Recommend the Board approve the Preschool Contract for 2021-2022. **(20-21-71)**

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

On the motion by Len DiGiacomo and seconded by Susan Taylor, the following action item was approved. Roll call vote. Motion carried

**A. Action Item:**

- 1) Recommend the Board approve the second reading and adoption of the following policies from Alert 222 (**sent in separate email**):

**General Policy and Regulation Guides**

P 0145	Board Member Resignation and Removal (M) (Revised)
R 1642	Earned Sick Leave Law (M) (Revised)
P 1643	Family Leave (M) (New)
P 3431.1	Family Leave (M) (Abolished)
P 4431.1	Family Leave (M) (Abolished)
P 3431.3	New Jersey Family Leave Insurance Program (Abolished)
P 4431.3	New Jersey Family Leave Insurance Program (Abolished)
P & R 5330.01	Administration of Medical Cannabis (M) (Revised)
P 7425	Lead Testing of Water in Schools (M) (Revised)
R 7425	Lead Testing of Water in Schools (M) (New)
P & R 7430	School Safety (M) (Abolished)

**No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) to Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Policy and Regulation Guides**

P 2415	Every Student Succeeds Act (M) (Revised)
P 2415.01	Academic Standards, Academic Assessments, and Accountability (M) (Abolished)
P 2415.02	Title I – Fiscal Responsibilities (M) (Revised)
P 2415.03	Highly Qualified Teachers (M) (Abolished)
P 2415.05	Student Surveys, Analysis, and/or Evaluations (M) (Revised)
P & R 2415.20	Every Student Succeeds Act Complaints (M) (Revised)
P 4125	Employment of Support Staff Members (M) (Revised)
P 6360	Political Contributions (M) (Revised)
P 8330	Student Records (M) (Revised)
P 9713	Recruitment by Special Interest Groups (M) (Revised)

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

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- Mr. Graham asked what is the enrollment of the new Preschool Program. Mr. Duckett replied that it is anticipated to be 10 students in the am program and 10 students in the pm program.
- Susan Taylor reminded the Board that the Superintendents' evaluation is due now. Also, that the Board meeting next month will start at 5:30 pm.
- Kerry Douglas gave an update of the Township meetings from last month. There were several road improvements and that the Township was applying for a grant for the improvement of the park.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

With no further business to discuss, the Board meeting was adjourned at 7:18 pm on the motion by Susan Taylor, seconded by Kyle Aaronson. All in favor

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Austin  
Interim Business Administrator