

**QUINTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday February 24, 2022**

The Board of Education Meeting of the Township of Quinton, County of Salem, New Jersey was held at 7:00 p.m., on February 24, 2022.

Mrs. Karen Mathews, President, led the group in the pledge to the flag.

Mrs. Karen Mathews, Business Administrator/Board Secretary called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Statement was read by Mrs. Mathews. Notice of the meeting was published in the South Jersey Times, the Elmer Times, filed with the Township Clerk, and posted on the door of the Quinton Township School

Members Present: Michael Sites, William McDonald, Joanne Nacucchio, Amy Keen (via zoom), Joseph Longo, Tracy Scull (via Zoom), Abram Norman, Thomas McKee and Jeannette Harrington.

Members Excused:

Members Absent:

Also Present: Karen Mathews, Business Administrator
Stewart Potter, Superintendent
Mindy Bacon, Principal
Members of the Public (sign-in sheet on file)

EDUCATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS/PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITION-

1. Presentation of Star Student, Austin Davis, by Aaron McAllister, PE Teacher.

MINUTES

Moved by T. McKee and seconded by M. Sites that the Board of Education approve the minutes for the January 27, 2022 Regular Monthly meeting.

Unanimously approved by voice vote.

CORRESPONDENCE - None

BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS

A. OLD BUSINESS

1. Reminder to complete Personal/Relative and Financial Disclosure Statements. They need to be completed by February 28, 2022. An email with instructions was sent to you by Mrs. Scarpa.
2. Board Member input on the Reopening Plan, specifically quarantine and masks.

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T. McKee: March 7th new guidelines decisions can be made to make masks optional, rates are down. He thinks it is time for masks to be optional.

J. Harrington: Masks optional but need some parameters on quarantine period (bumpers & safe guards)

J. Nacucchio: Read guidance quickly with masks going optional. Need to be really careful around the quarantine period. Some people are vulnerable.

M. Sites: Fine with masks optional. Fine with quarantine (sick) and optional close contact quarantine being parent choice.

W. McDonald: Grandchildren one for masks one not for masks. Him and his wife are okay without masks.

J. Longo: Numbers are great. Thinks it is a good time for masks optional. Need to be careful with quarantine policy. Thinks if a family member is positive or close contacts should quarantine.

A. Keen: Mask optional - data supports. Should consider no quarantine for close contact. Keep in mind trying to get kids back in school. Positive case should quarantine. Close contact should be parent decision to quarantine. Allow parents to make the decision.

T. Scull: Numbers are coming down. Consider numbers of high risk students and family members. Look at how to transition to optional masks. Would like more information and data before taking away everything.

A. Norman: Proposed new policies for quarantine and masks.

T. McKee: Understands concern with family members but not our job to worry about family members. Data has been collected for two years.

T. Scull: Legal procedures? We need more data.

J. Longo: Stickler for following rules. Get a policy proposed moments before meeting started. Doesn't think this is how it should be handled.

A. Norman: Had committee meeting and requested a policy but it was put on as discussion.

J. Harrington: Suggests tabling quarantine for now and moving forward with masks optional and seeing what happens.

T. McKee: Thinks school is the only place with quarantine.

A. Keen: Diverse opinions on BOE represent diverse opinions of the community.

J. Nacucchio: Thinks administrative staff are our bumpers and guardrails. Feels responsible for mass of people sitting together. Thinks administration should deal with quarantine as procedure.

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T. Scull: What do physician and nurse say about quarantine? What are we going to do for a plan B?

B. NEW BUSINESS

Moved by J. Nacucchio and seconded by W. McDonald that the Board of Education approve the following items:

1. Suggestions for 2022 Board Goals (based on Board Self-Evaluation Results):
 - Ensuring each individual board member has opportunity to share their ideas openly and honestly without interruption
 - Community Engagement
 - BOE members meeting deadlines

Unanimously approved by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Denise Dawson, staff and president of teachers union: Thanks the district administration & BOE for all that has been done to ensure safety. She is concerned about the rush to push masking and quarantine policy through urgency referenced but she doesn't see urgency since health department guidance doesn't suggest quarantine policy. Would like to see traditional policy procedures followed. Would like reopening committee and safety committee to meet.

Lawrence Winkels, residing on Jericho Road, Salem, NJ 08079: Commented on COVID. One child and one parent and then two children and two parents (referencing positive cases). Never know who will get hit with it. If following state guidelines, no reason to make up rules. We will be protected by following the rules. Time was wasted in discussion should have been looked at in advance.

Glenn Hofacker, residing on Quinton Hancocks Bridge Rd, Salem, NJ 08079: Was it emergency or not? Defense we are saying is community but we aren't talking about children. Important to do this now. Kids aren't dying. How many times have we been sued for flu?

Anthony Mott, residing at 66 Main Street, Quinton NJ 08072: Quarantine needs to end. Daughter has missed almost 30 days. Upset by not being in school. Kids are not dying. Anthony also had a comment regarding curriculum - His daughter did not know about real life items (i.e NATO, etc.) would like real life items covered in curriculum.

Megan Norman, residing on Jericho Road, Salem, NJ 08079 - Parent and BOE member's spouse: Rush with quarantine is that other schools are changing quarantine but Quinton hasn't changed it at all.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Moved by T. Mckee and seconded by M. Sites that the Board of Education approve the minutes for the January 27, 2022 Regular Monthly meeting.

**D. Policy -
Quarantine Policy:**

- All students who have been determined to be close contact and who are not exhibiting symptoms, will not have to quarantine. This will include those who are vaccinated or unvaccinated.

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- All individuals who have been determined to be a close contact will have the option to quarantine for five days which will require attending school virtually.
 - It is required that individuals who are close contact with family member in their household who tests positive still quarantine for the 5-day period.
 - All rules, guidelines, and policies pertaining to quarantine for COVID-19 and all variants are superseded by this policy.
 - This policy does not supersede any state or federal laws.
- Note: All students who were identified as a close contact and required to quarantine prior to the effective date of this charge, are permitted to return to school immediately.

Roll Call Quarantine Policy:

Ayes: (3) A. Norman, T. McKee, and A. Keen

Noes: (6) M. Sites, W. McDonald, J. Nacucchio, J. Longo, T. Scull, and J. Harrington

Abstain: (0) Motion Defeated.

Mask Policy:

- Masks will no longer be required at Quinton Township School nor any school sponsored activities or events.
- Masks are and always will be optional for all.
- All rules, guidelines, and policies pertaining to wearing masks for COVID-19 and all variants are superseded by this policy.
- This policy does not supersede any state or federal laws.

Roll Call Mask Policy:

Ayes: (7) M. Sites, W. McDonald, J. Nacucchio, J. Longo, A. Norman, J. Harrington and A. Keen

Noes: (2) T. McKee and T. Scull

Abstain: (0) Motion Carried.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY REPORT

Moved by T. McKee and seconded by J. Longo that the Board of Education approve the following item(s):

1. **Board Secretary Certification**

Board's Certification:

Pursuant to **N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c) 4**, the Quinton Township Board of Education certifies that as of **January 31, 2022** and after review of the Secretary's Monthly Financial Report and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of the Board's knowledge, no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of **N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(a) 1** and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Board Secretary's Certification:

Pursuant to **N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c) 3**, I certify that as of **January 31, 2022**, no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the Quinton Township Board of Education pursuant to **N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.1** and **N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.2** and no budgetary line item account has been over-expended in violation of **N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c) 4**. And, in accordance with **N.J.A.C.**

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6A:23A-16.10(c) 2, it is certified that there are no changes in anticipated revenue amounts and sources for the month ending **January 31, 2022**.

2. **Cash Reconciliation Report** - Approve the cash reconciliation report for the month of **January 2022**.

3. **Transfers** - Approve the transfer list for the month of **January 2022**.

4. **Bills to be Paid** - Approve payroll and agency for the month of **January 2022** and the bills list for **February 2022**.

FYI: The Budget Summary Report for the month of **January 2022** is submitted for board review.

5. **Travel Expenses** - Approve the payment of travel expenses incurred as a result of attendance by district staff and board of education members at trainings, meetings, educational/informational programs and workshops/seminars, as previously approved by the Superintendent.

6. **Workshop/Seminar Requests** - Approve the workshop/seminar requests, as previously approved by the Superintendent:

Staff	Location	Workshop/Seminar	Date	Cost
Brian DiAntonio	Atlantic City	NJSBGA Conference Expo	Mar 20-23	\$325.05
Jessika Szatny	Online	31st Annual Texas School Social Workers Conference	Feb 25	\$90.00
Sherry Biddle	Online	Lessons Learning form COVID and the Future of School Health	Mar 8	\$125.00

7. **Transportation** - Approve a Transportation Agreement with Winslow Township School District to transport Quinton student #2726627385 at a cost of \$361.80 per diem effective September 2021 and until such time as transportation is no longer needed.

8. **Educational Instruction** - Approve educational instruction for high school student (SID #2726627385) attending Inspira Hospital's Brookfield Schools program beginning February 2022.

9. **Shared CEFM Services** - Approve an agreement with Mannington Board of Education to provide Shared CEFM (Certified Educational Facilities Manager) Services effective March 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022 at an annual cost of \$15,000 (prorated for this school year). Cost covers reimbursement to Quinton BOE for a portion of the employee's salary along with a stipend for the employee.

10. **Recreation Grant** - Accept the Local Recreational Improvement Grant funds in the total amount of \$20,000. Funds will be utilized to install a hard surface path around the

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perimeter of the existing playground equipment to increase the length of the existing walking path and provide a spot for young students to ride gross motor equipment during recess.

11. **Budget Calendar** - Approve a revised Budget Calendar due to a change in the release date for State Aid numbers.

**A. Keen lost connection via Zoom. Left meeting.

Roll Call: Ayes: (8) M. Sites, W. McDonald, J. Nacucchio, J. Longo, T. Scull, A. Norman, T. McKee and J. Harrington Noes: (0) Abstain: (J. Longo #7 & #8) Motion Carried.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Moved by M. Sites and seconded by W. McDonald that the Board of Education approve the following item(s):

A. Superintendent' Monthly Report

1. Superintendent's Report
 - a. Attachments

B. Building and Grounds

1. **Emergency Drills** - Approve the following emergency school drills:
Fire Drill - 02/10/2022
Security Drill 02/24/2022
2. **Monthly Facility Self- Inspection List**- Review of the School Monthly Facility Self-Inspection List for February 2022 as completed by the Building and Grounds Manager.

Roll Call: Ayes: (8) M. Sites, W. McDonald, J. Nacucchio, J. Longo, T. Scull, A. Norman, T. McKee and J. Harrington Noes: (0) Abstain: (0) Motion Carried.

Moved by A. Norman and seconded by J. Nacucchio that the Board of Education approve the following item(s):

C. Curriculum

1. **Library Books** - Approve the list of books to be cataloged in the library.

Unanimously approved by voice vote.

D. Policy (moved to earlier part of meeting)

Moved by J. Nacucchio and seconded by M. Sites that the Board of Education approve the following item(s):

E. Administrative

1. **Paraprofessional Statement of Assurance** - Approve the submission of the Paraprofessional Statement of Assurance to the County Office of Education.
2. **Feasibility Study Resolution** - Approve, by resolution, that the Board of Education opposes the Recommendation of the Feasibility Study of the creation of one new PK-12 county-wide regional school district in Salem County.

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Roll Call: Ayes: (8) M. Sites, W. McDonald, J. Nacucchio, J. Longo, T.Scull, A. Norman, T. McKee
and J. Harrington Noes: (0) Abstain: (0) Motion Carried.

Moved by T. McKee and seconded by J. Nacucchio that the Board of Education approve the following item(s):

F. Personnel

1. **Resignation** - Approve, with regrets, the resignation of Brittany Samuels due to retirement, effective July 1, 2022. Mrs. Samuels has worked for the district for 17 years as the Board Clerk.

2. **Revised Contract** - Approve a revised contract for Brian DiAntonio to reflect the addition of a \$8,000 stipend for providing CEFM Services to Mannington Board of Education.

3. **Custodial Substitute** - Approve Mary Slaughter as a substitute for the 2021-2022 school year at the rate of \$16.00 per hour.

Roll Call: Ayes: (8) M. Sites, W. McDonald, J. Nacucchio, J. Longo, T.Scull, A. Norman, T. McKee
and J. Harrington Noes: (0) Abstain: (0) Motion Carried.

Moved by M. Sites and seconded by T. McKee that the Board of Education approve the following item(s):

G. Student Personnel

1. **HIB** - Approve, as per the NJDOE, HIB reporting requirements, the second reading for the period of December 24, 2021 to January 5, 2022, with no incidents.

2. **HIB** - Approve, as per the NJDOE, HIB reporting requirements, the first reading for the period of January 6, 2022 to February, 2022, with no incidents.

Roll Call: Ayes: (8) M. Sites, W. McDonald, J. Nacucchio, J. Longo, T.Scull, A. Norman, T. McKee
and J. Harrington Noes: (0) Abstain: (0) Motion Carried.

REPRESENTATIVE TO SALEM CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1. The minutes of January 2022 are submitted for board review.

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC COMMENT (moved to earlier part of meeting)

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by T. McKee and seconded by A. Norman that the meeting be adjourned.
(9:10 p.m.)
Unanimously approved by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

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Karen Mathews
Business Administrator/Board Secretary