

Sussex-Wantage Regional School District  
December 21, 2023  
Regular Session Meeting

The Regular Session Meeting of the Sussex-Wantage Regional School District Board of Education was called to order by Mr. Nick D'Agostino, Board President, on November 30, 2023 at 7:01 p.m. in the Sussex Middle Media Center.

**Roll Call**

Roll Call

Members Present: Mrs. Alissa Cecchini, Mrs. Taylor Dely, Mrs. Brittney Simmons, Mrs. Stephanie Tortorella, Mrs. Dorothy Witte, Mrs. Danielle Zill-Barry and Mr. Nicholas D'Agostino

Members Absent: Mrs. Kristen Cooper-Trinidad, Ms. Courtney deWaal Malefyt

Also in attendance were: Mr. Michael Gall, Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Christina M. Riker, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, and Ms. Frances Febres, Board Attorney

**The following statement was read by Mr. D'Agostino**

Open Public Meetings Act

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of 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 Sussex Wantage Regional School District Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted in the school buildings and notice of said meeting sent to the New Jersey Herald and The Star Ledger.

Mrs. Witte read the Sussex Wantage School Mission Statement: The Sussex Wantage Regional School District is a responsive, caring, child-centered community. Our mission is to educate each individual to become a confident, competent, lifelong learner and productive, responsible citizen, by providing challenging opportunities in a safe environment through a partnership of families, schools and communities.

Mission Statement

**Superintendent's Report:**

Superintendent Report

**Sussex Middle School Students of the Month:**

- 6<sup>th</sup> grade – Anthony Vacante
- 7<sup>th</sup> grade – Lucy Osborne
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade – Oliver Sybesma

Mr. Schwarz was joined by Mr. Gall. He reported that besides Students of the Month, Sussex Middle School would be looking to also have Students of the Week this school year. Mr. Schwarz gave brief introductions of each of the students, including staff reasons for selection. All students were in attendance and came forward to receive a certificate of recognition.

Mr. Gall reported on the following to the Board and Public:

- Congratulations to all the recipients.
- District hosted Annual Holiday Tree Lighting and Book Fair. Mr. Gall thanked Mrs. Stevenson and Mrs. Barbieri for their efforts with the Book Fair and said it was successful because of them.
- Mr. Gall reported that the Policy Committee met and there are policies on the agenda for the Board’s consideration.
- Mr. Gall shared the proposed “arm” for busses. He said it would be enhance safety for when children need to cross over the yellow line. The company sent one out for us to pilot and DMV will be coming out in mid-January to hopefully approve. If they do not approve it, we will return the “arm” for no cost. If approved, it is approximately \$500-\$600 with another \$100 for installation. If the pilot works, the District will consider adding more as money permits.
- Mr. Gall wished everyone a happy and healthy holiday season.

**Audience Remarks:**

- Lisa Fahrenfeld, SWEA President, said that she spoke about item #5 with Mr. Gall and removal of the FTE.

Audience  
Remarks

**Board Secretary Certification** – read by Mrs. Riker

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(a), I certify that as of November 30, 2023 no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(a).

Board  
Secretary  
Certification

**Approval of Board Minutes:**

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve following minutes:

November 16, 2023 Special & Executive Session  
November 30, 2023 Regular & Executive Session

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Approval of  
Board  
Minutes

**Personnel:**

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the following substitute teachers, nurses, teacher assistants, secretaries, bus drivers, and custodians as listed for the 2023-2024 school year.\*

Teacher

Sarah Haudek  
Margaret Saalfield

Teacher Assistant

Mariana Granoble  
Sarah Haudek  
Shirley Hickey  
Brittney Rosenkrans

Personnel

Substitute  
Approval

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(\*All new substitutes and appointments are required to comply with State Statute regarding fingerprinting, security checks and appropriate legal agency clearance, and also Federal Employment)

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board accept the retirement of Eleanor Wagner, Kindergarten Teacher Assistant, C.E. Lawrence School, effective January 01, 2024, with thanks for over 15 years of service to the District.

Retirement –  
CEL K TA

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board accept the resignation of Cassidy Wagner, Kindergarten Teacher Assistant, C.E. Lawrence School, effective January 01, 2024.

Resignation –  
CEL K TA

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board accept the resignation of Heidi Watson, Administrative Secretary, Sussex Middle School, effective January 16, 2024.

Resignation –  
SMS Admin  
Secretary

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve Alayna Mason, 5.5 hour Special Education Teacher Assistant, Wantage Elementary School, Step 1, \$18.90 per hour, effective January 02, 2024 pending fingerprint clearance for the 2023-2024 school year. Shift is TBD.

New Hire –  
WES TA

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve Mariana Granoble, Special Education Teacher Assistant, C.E. Lawrence School, Step 1, \$18.90 per hour, effective January 02, 2024 pending fingerprint clearance for the 2023-2024 school year. Hours and shifts are TBD.

New Hire –  
CEL TA

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve Margaret Saalfield, Special Education Teacher, C.E. Lawrence School, BA, Step 1, \$57,546.00 (prorated), effective January 02, 2024 for the 2023-2024 school year, provided appropriate certification has been obtained.

New Hire –  
CEL Spec Ed  
Teacher

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve Ellen Kirchner, 5.08 hour Kindergarten Teacher Assistant, C.E. Lawrence School, effective January 02, 2024, for the 2023-2024 school year with no change in rate of current pay. Shift is 8:10am - 1:15pm.

Increase  
Hours – CEL  
K TA

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve Brittney Rosenkrans, 3.25 hour Kindergarten Teacher Assistant, C.E. Lawrence School, Step 1, \$18.90 per hour, effective January 02, 2024 for the 2023-2024

New Hire –  
CEL K TA

school year. Shift is 10:00am - 1:15pm.  
Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve Francesca Amati for no more than five (5) additional days to transition into the Special Education Teacher position and classroom at C.E. Lawrence School at the substitute Teacher rate.  
Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Approve  
Transition  
Hours – CEL  
Spec Ed Tchr

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board rescind the following resolution that was approved at the November 30, 2023 Board of Education meeting:

Change  
Resolution  
from  
11/30/2023

*It is recommended that the Board approve the following personnel to fulfill IEP requirements for students participating in after school activities as follows below. Stipend rate is \$16.00 per hour. No stipend is paid if activity does not occur or if the student is not present.*

Date(s)	Name	Additional Hours	After School Activity
12/08/23	Sarah Bakonyi	7:00am - 9:15am 2 hours, 15 minutes	Chorus trip to WSUS

To read as follows:

It is recommended that the Board approve the following personnel to fulfill IEP requirements for students participating in after school activities as follows below. Stipend rate is \$16.00 per hour. No stipend is paid if activity does not occur or if the student is not present.

Date(s)	Name	Additional Hours	After School Activity
12/08/23	Sarah Bakonyi	7:00am - 9:30am 2.5 hours	Chorus trip to WSUS

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the following student teacher assignment as follows:

2023-2024  
Student  
Teaching  
Assignments

Student/College	Purpose	Co-op Teacher	Date(s)
Megan Talmadge Centenary University	Field Experience/ Observation	Alyse Vanden Heuvel	Spring 2024 Jan 8 - April 26, 2024

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Fall 2024  
Sept 3 - Dec 13, 2024

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the following personnel to fulfill IEP requirements for students participating in field trips as follows below. To be paid at regular hourly rate of pay; additional hours are not paid if activity does not occur or if the student is not present.

Additional  
Hours – TAs

Date	Name	Additional Hours	Field Trip
12/06/23	Amy Hickey	12:00pm - 2:00pm 2.0 hours	Sparta Lanes
12/08/23	Dehlila Savo	7:00am - 8:30am 1 hour 30 minutes	Chorus trip to WSUS

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the following personnel to fulfill IEP requirements for students participating in after school activities as follows below. Stipend rate is \$16.00 per hour. No stipend is paid if activity does not occur or if the student is not present.

Afterschool  
Hours – TAs

Date(s)	Name	Additional Hours	After School Activity
12/07, 12/15/23	Jennifer Beco	3:45pm - 5:00pm 1 hour, 15 minutes	Basketball Practice @ SMS
12/08/23	Jennifer Beco	7:00pm - 9:00pm	SMS Activity Night
12/08/23	Giovanna Falica	7:00pm - 9:00pm 2.0 hours	SMS Activity Night
12/12/23	Michelle Jennings	6:30pm - 8:30pm 2.0 hours	Grade 5 Winter Concert
12/12/23	Laura Deutsch	2:10pm - 2:30pm 20 minutes	Grade 5 Winter Concert

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		6:30pm - 8:30pm 2.0 hours	
12/14/23	Giovanna Falica	6:30pm - 8:30pm 2.0 hours	SMS Winter Concert
12/19, 12/20/23	Jennifer Beco	3:30pm - 5:30pm 2.0 hours	SMS Basketball

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the following personnel for additional hour(s) of attendance to fulfill IEP requirements as follows at their regular hourly rate of pay unless otherwise noted:

Additional  
Hours – TAs

Name	Date	Add'l Hours Worked	Add'l Time
Melissa Stoll	11/30/23	8:30am - 9:30am	1.0 hour
Melissa Stoll	12/11/23	8:30am - 9:30am	1.0 hour
Courtney Decker	12/14/23	8:30am - 9:30am	1.0 hour
Elizabeth VanHorn	12/14/23	9:00am - 9:30am	30 minutes
Courtney Decker	12/15/23	8:30am - 9:30am	1.0 hour

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve Stephanie Shuart, full-time Special Education Teacher Assistant, C.E. Lawrence School, for a change in hours from 7:40am - 2:40pm, which included the AM van run, to 8:15am - 3:30pm with no van run, effective December 12, 2023.

Change in  
Hours CEL  
TA

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve Linda Kuperus, 5.5 hour Special Education Teacher Assistant, Sussex Middle School, for a change in hours from 8:30am - 2:30pm to 7:45am - 1:45pm which includes the AM and Mid-day van runs, effective December 12, 2023. Effective January 02, 2024, hours will be 7:45am - 1:45pm with AM van run only (Mid-day van run will be eliminated).

Change in  
Hours SMS  
TA

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the Sidebar Agreement with the Sussex-Wantage Education Association (SWEA) and Sussex-Wantage Regional Board of Education, effective December 14, 2023.

SWEA  
Sidebar  
Agreement

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve Employee # [REDACTED] for a continuous, unpaid, non-FMLA/NJFLA designated leave of absence from on or about February 12, 2024 to on or about May 03, 2024. Anticipated return to work date is May 06, 2024.

Unpaid Non-  
FMLA/NJFLA  
LOA

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the following substitute teachers, nurses, teacher assistants, secretaries, bus drivers, and custodians as listed for the 2023-2024 school year.\*

Substitute Approval

Teacher Assistant  
 Randi Ferenczi  
 Max Miller  
 Ava Veldran

Nurse  
 Katrine Lally

(\*All new substitutes and appointments are subject to compliance with all State Statute regarding fingerprinting, background checks and P.L. 2018, c.5)  
 Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board accept the retirement of Sharon Ross, District Bus Driver, effective July 1, 2024, with thanks for over 29 years of service to the District.  
 Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Retirement – Bus Driver

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve Katrine Lally, Substitute School Nurse, for two (2) hours of orientation with the school nurse at each of the schools, not to exceed six (6) hours total at the substitute nurse rate of pay (prorated).  
 Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Sub Nurse Training Hours

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the following personnel to fulfill IEP requirements for students participating in after school activities as follows below. Stipend rate is \$16.00 per hour. No stipend is paid if activity does not occur or if the student is not present.

Afterschool TAs

Date(s)	Name	Additional Hours	After School Activity
12/19, 12/20/23	Lisa VanInderstine	3:30pm - 5:30pm 2.0 hours	SMS Basketball

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the following transfers for the 2023-2024 school year effective January 02, 2024:

2023-2024 Staff Transfers

Name	From	at School	To	at School
Christine Kymer	5.5 hour Special Ed Teacher Asst	WES	Full-time PreSchool Teacher Assistant (6.75 hours net)	CEL

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Jane Wilczynski	3.5 hour Special Ed Teacher Asst	SMS	Full-time PreSchool Teacher Assistant (6.75 hours net)	CEL
Laura Deutsch	5.5 hour Special Ed Teacher Asst	WES	Full-time PreSchool Teacher Assistant (6.75 hours net)	CEL
Susan Rome	5.5 hour Special Ed Teacher Asst	WES	Full-time PreSchool Teacher Assistant (6.75 hours net)	CEL
Donna McGlone	5.5 hour Special Ed Teacher Asst	SMS	Full-time PreSchool Teacher Assistant (6.75 hours net)	CEL

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the following personnel for additional hour(s) of attendance to fulfill IEP requirements as follows at their regular hourly rate of pay unless otherwise noted:

Additional Hours TAs

Name	Date	Add'l Hours Worked	Add'l Time
Amanda Keith	12/19/23	7:30am - 9:00am	1.5 hour
Amanda Keith	12/20/23	2:30pm - 3:30pm	1.0 hour
McKenzie Crowell	12/21/23	8:30am - 9:30pm	1.0 hour

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve Susan Vecharello, Assistant to the BA, for a \$100.00 salary increase for 6 college credits earned, effective January 01, 2024.

Salary Increase – College Credits

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the addition of the following instructional 7th class for the ERI self-contained setting at Sussex Middle School, to be paid at the rate of \$25 per class:

7<sup>th</sup> Period ERI SMS

Class	Teacher
Adaptive PE	Marina Adamo-Morris
Adaptive Art	Cindy Treiber
Adaptive Music	Teresa Westling

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the following teachers for the K-5 Accelerated Learning Program at the rate of \$40.00/hour. The program tentatively begins January 23, 2024, through March 15, 2024. Maximum hours and compensation listed below. This is to be funded by ARP ESSER. **\*Final approval is subject to student enrollment.**

K-5 Accelerated Learning Program

Name	Max # of Hours	Rate per Hour	Max Compensation
Amanda Iannuzzi	24	\$40	\$960



Sara Maas	24	\$40	\$960
Michele Brijbag	24	\$40	\$960
Kelly Flynn	24	\$40	\$960
Carla Kubrin	24	\$40	\$960
Natalie Lewis	24	\$40	\$960
Lindsay VanTassel	24	\$40	\$960
Lori Suyker	24	\$40	\$960
Jennifer Farah	24	\$40	\$960
Brianna Florio	24	\$40	\$960
Danielle Cignarella	24	\$40	\$960
Kelly Fryer	24	\$40	\$960

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Sussex-Wantage Board of Education and the Sussex-Wantage Education Association effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026. (Attachment AP1)

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

SWEA/BOE  
MOA 7/23-  
6/26

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve non-unit salary increases for the 2023-2024 school year, effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. (Attachment AP2)

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

2023-2024  
Non-Unit  
Salary  
Increases

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the following personnel for an additional 7th class, to be paid at the rate of \$25.00 per class, effective January 02, 2024 for the 2023-2024 school year:

SMS 7<sup>th</sup>  
Period Staff  
List effective  
1/2/24

Name  
Jennifer Apolito

Rachel Sutton  
Kristy Hums  
Danielle Cignarella  
Susan Winfield  
Stephanie Birnbaum  
Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve Dehlila Savo for a transfer from a 3.5 hour Special Education Teacher Assistant, Sussex Middle School, to a 5.5 hour Special Education Teacher Assistant, Sussex Middle School, effective January 02, 2024 at no change in rate of pay. Shift is TBD with a ½ hour unpaid lunch.  
Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Increase  
Hours – SMS  
TA

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve Norma Lopez-DiPalma for a transfer from a 3.5 hour Special Education Teacher Assistant, Wantage School, to a 5.5 hour Special Education Teacher Assistant, Wantage School, effective January 02, 2024 at no change in rate of pay. Shift is TBD with a ½ hour unpaid lunch.  
Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Increase  
Hours – WES  
TA

**Policy:**

Policy

Moved by Mrs. Dely, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the following resolution:

HIB Approval

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education has received the Superintendent’s report of incident(s) of Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying (“HIB”) within the District; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has had the opportunity to review the Superintendent’s recommendations with respect to the incident(s) of HIB on this report;  
**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board accepts the Superintendent’s recommendations as presented on the report.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15(d), the Superintendent of Schools, and/or his designee, has informed the applicable parents/guardians of the students involved in these incidents with the following information within five (5) days of this Board meeting:

- The nature of the investigation;
- Whether the District found evidence of HIB;
- Whether discipline was imposed;
- Whether services were provided to address the incident of HIB.

Presented to the Board for first review:

WES #14  
WES #15  
WES #16

WES #17  
WES #18  
WES #19  
WES #20

Presented to the Board for second review/approval:

CEL #3 2023-2024  
CEL #4 2023-2024  
CEL #5 2023-2024  
CEL #6 2023-2024  
CEL #7 2023-2024  
CEL #8 2023-2024  
WES #5 2023-2024  
WES #6 2023-2024  
WES #7 2023-2024  
WES #8 2023-2024  
WES #9 2023-2024  
WES #10 2023-2024  
WES #11 2023-2024  
WES #12 2023-2024  
WES #13 2023-2024  
SMS #6 2023-2024  
SMS #7 2023-2024  
SMS #8 2023-2024  
SMS #9 2023-2024  
SMS #10 2023-2024  
SMS #11 2023-2024

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Dely, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approves on First Reading the following Policies and Regulations:

Policy – First Reading

a	Policy 5512	Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (M) (Revised)
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Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Simmons, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the following resolution:

HIB Approval

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education has received the Superintendent’s report of incident(s) of Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying (“HIB”) within the District; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has had the opportunity to review the Superintendent’s recommendations with respect to the incident(s) of HIB on this report;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board accepts the Superintendent’s recommendations as presented on the report.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15(d), the

Superintendent of Schools, and/or his designee, has informed the applicable parents/guardians of the students involved in these incidents with the following information within five (5) days of this Board meeting:

- The nature of the investigation;
- Whether the District found evidence of HIB;
- Whether discipline was imposed;
- Whether services were provided to address the incident of HIB.

Presented to the Board for first review:

WES #21  
SMS #12

Carried; Yes 6, No 0, Absent 2, Abstain 1 (Witte)

Moved by Mrs. Simmons, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approves on First Reading the following Policies and Regulations:

Policy – First Reading

a	Policy 6311	Contracts for Goods or Services Funded by Federal Grants (M) (Revised)
b	Policy 8454	Management of Pediculosis

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Simmons, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the submission to the State Board for waiver of room sizes for the preschool rooms in Clifton E. Lawrence School, Second Home Child Care Center and NORWESCAP Head Start.

PEA Room Waiver Application Approval

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Simmons, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the job description for FT Preschool Teacher Assistant

Job Description – FT PS TA

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Finance:

Finance

Moved by Mrs. Simmons, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the final payment of salaries for the month of November 2023 in the amount of \$802,744.33 as reviewed and as per the attached check register.

Bills List – End of November 2023

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Simmons, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the payment of bills for December 1 to December 21, 2023 in the amount of \$1,687,172.73 as reviewed and as per the attached check register. Be it further noted that the breakdown by category is as follows: (F2)

Bills List – December 2023

Fixed                                  \$ 524,720.83

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Operating	\$ 292,256.62
Salaries	\$ 812,039.42
Special	\$ <u>58,155.86</u>
Total	\$ 1,687,172.73

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3, we the Trustees of the Sussex-Wantage Regional Board of Education, having reviewed the reports of the Board Secretary and the Treasurer of Monies, certify that no major account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3, for the period ending November 30, 2023.

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Board Secretary/ Treasurer Report November 2023

Moved by Mrs. Simmons, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board accept the Treasurer's Report and Board Secretary's Report for the month of November 2023.

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Simmons, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the attached Transfers for the month of November 2023. (F5)

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Transfers – November 2023

Moved by Mrs. Simmons, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve professional day travel, pursuant to policies 0147, 0147A, 3440, and 4440 as per the attached. (F6)

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

PD - Travel

Moved by Mrs. Simmons, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the submission of the 2023-2024 NJ High Impact Tutoring Grant to the NJ Department of Education.

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

2023-2024 Submission NJ High Impact Tutoring

Moved by Mrs. Simmons, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve Quote 39668 from Lakeshore Learning Materials, NJ STATE BPO T0114-17-FOOD-00250 BID # 7DPP00111 for the purchase of furniture and supplies for the new Preschool Program, Mrs. Blazier's classroom, in the amount of \$13,822.82. ***This is to be funded by the Preschool Education Aid (PEA) - Account # 20-218-100-800-000.***

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Lakeshore Learning Materials – PS Blazier

Moved by Mrs. Simmons, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve Quote 37687 from Lakeshore Learning Materials, NJ STATE BPO T0114-17-FOOD-00250 BID # 7DPP00111 for the purchase of furniture and supplies for the new Preschool Program, Mrs. deWaal's classroom, in the amount of \$14,906.35. ***This is to be funded by the Preschool Education Aid (PEA) - Account # 20-218-100-800-000.***

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Lakeshore Learning Materials – PS deWaal

Moved by Mrs. Simmons, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve

Lakeshore

Quote 38547 from Lakeshore Learning Materials, NJ STATE BPO T0114-17-FOOD-00250 BID # 7DPP00111 for the purchase of furniture and supplies for the new Preschool Program, Mrs. Tooker's classroom, in the amount of \$15,932.81.

Learning Materials – PS Tooker

***This is to be funded by the Preschool Education Aid (PEA) - Account # 20-218-100-800-000.***

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Simmons, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve Quote # NQZX339 from CDW.G, Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ/AEPA-22G), for the purchase of a yearly subscription license for Barracuda Energize Updates in the amount of \$8,280.00. ***This is a budgeted 2023-2024 item - Account # 11-000-252-330-000-000.***

CDW.G – Barracuda Energize Updates

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Simmons, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve COR # 004 for T.M. Brennan Services, Inc. for the Sussex Middle School Auditorium HVAC Upgrades as follows:

COR #004 – TM Brennan SMS Auditorium HVAC Upgrades

COR-04:  
 Original Allowance: \$40,000.00  
 Amount of Allowance Used: \$ 8,374.50  
 Remaining Allowance: \$31,625.50

Deduct Remaining Allowance: \$(31,625.50)  
 Final Allowance: \$ 0.00

The original Contract Sum was	\$219,000.00
The net change by previously authorized Change Orders	\$ 0.00
The Contract Sum prior to this Change Order was	\$219,000.00
The Contract Sum will be decreased by this Change Order	<u>\$ 31,625.50</u>
The new Contract Sum including this Change Order will be	\$187,374.50

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Simmons, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve COR # 002 for Pennetta Industrial Automation for the Sussex Middle School Boiler Replacement Project as follows:

COR #002 Pennetta Industrial Automation SMS Boiler Replacement

COR-02: BacNet for Existing Boiler	\$ 9,526.00
Sub-Total	\$ 9,526.00

Original Allowance: \$75,000.00  
 Amount of Allowance Used: \$ 4,565.00  
 Current Allowance: \$70,435.00  
 Amount of this Change Order: \$ 9,526.00  
 Remaining Allowance: \$60,909.00

The original Contract Sum was \$247,000.00

The net change by previously authorized Change Orders \$ 0.00  
 The Contract Sum prior to this Change Order was \$247,000.00  
 The Contract Sum will be decreased by this Change Order \$ 0.00  
 The new Contract Sum including this Change Order will be \$247,000.00  
 Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

COR # 002  
Iron Mountain  
Mechanical  
CEL Filtration  
System

Moved by Mrs. Simmons, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve COR # 002 for Iron Mountain Mechanical, LLC for the C.E. Lawrence Elementary School Filtration System Project as follows:

COR-02:  
 Original Allowance: \$10,000.00  
 Amount of Allowance Used: \$ 3,123.87  
 Remaining Allowance: \$ 6,876.13

Deduct Remaining Allowance: \$( 6,876.13)  
 Final Allowance: \$ 0.00

The original Contract Sum was \$196,265.00  
 The net change by previously authorized Change Orders \$ 0.00  
 The Contract Sum prior to this Change Order was \$196,265.00  
 The Contract Sum will be decreased by this Change Order \$ (6,876.13)  
 The new Contract Sum including this Change Order will be \$189,388.87  
 Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Simmons, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the carryover amount of \$40,368.00 from the Final Report FY23 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) B grant.  
 Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

FR FY 23  
IDEA  
Carryover

Moved by Mrs. Simmons, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the submission of the FY24 Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) B Amendment to include the carryover as follows:

FY 24 IDEA  
Amendment  
Submission

Basic		Preschool	
Original Grant	\$424,918.00	Original Grant	\$21,506.00
Carryover	<u>\$ 40,368.00</u>	Carryover	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Amendment Total	\$465,286.00	Amendment Total	\$21,506.00

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Simmons, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the carryover amounts from the Final Report FY23 Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) as follows:

FR FY 23  
ESEA  
Carryover

Title IA \$26,037.00  
 Title IIA \$28,203.00  
 Title IVA \$23,528.00  
 Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Regular Session Meeting – December 21, 2023

Moved by Mrs. Simmons, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the submission of the FY24 Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Amendment to include the carryovers as follows:

FY24 ESEA  
Amendment  
Submission

Title IA		Title IIA	
Original Grant	\$189,723.00	Original Grant	\$32,053.00
Carryover	<u>\$ 26,037.00</u>	Carryover	<u>\$28,203.00</u>
Amendment Total	\$215,760.00	Amendment Total	\$60,256.00

Title IVA

Original Grant	\$12,112.00
Carryover	<u>\$11,416.00</u>
Amendment Total	\$23,528.00

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Simmons, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the salary allocations for grants as follows for the 2022-2023 school year:

2022-2023  
Grant Salary  
Allocations

**Sussex Middle School:**

<u>Employee Name</u>	<u>Grant</u>	<u>Full Salary</u>	<u>Grant Salary</u>	<u>Grant Percent</u>
Kelsey O'Connell	ARP-ESSER	\$57,866	\$57,866	100%

\*Started 10/3/2022

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Simmons, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the salary allocations for grants as follows for the 2023-2024 school year:

2023-2024  
Grant Salary  
Allocations

**Sussex Middle School:**

<u>Employee Name</u>	<u>Grant</u>	<u>Full Salary</u>	<u>Grant Salary</u>	<u>Grant Percent</u>
Kelsey O'Connell	ARP-ESSER	\$64,296	\$64,296	100%

\*Left district 11/8/2023

Vanessa Garcia

ARP-ESSER

\$47,228

\$47,228

100%

\*Started 11/2/2023

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Simmons, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve the following security guards for the 2023 Summer ESY Program funded by the **FY24 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) B grant:**

Summer 2023  
ESY IDEA  
Hours

<u>Security Guard Name</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
William Gebhard	\$29.59 per hour
Leo Kinney	\$29.59 per hour
Charles Rokosny	\$29.59 per hour

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

**Special Services:**

Special  
Services

Moved by Mrs. Dely, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve home instruction for student # [REDACTED] for a maximum of ten (10) hours per week, effective

Home  
Instruction



immediately, duration TBD.  
Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Dely, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve an Occupational Therapy Evaluation for student # [REDACTED] to be performed by Performance Pediatrics for an amount not to exceed \$479.75.  
Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

OT Eval

Moved by Mrs. Dely, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve a Risk Assessment for student # [REDACTED] to be performed by The Center for Evaluation and Counseling for an amount not to exceed \$750.00.  
Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Risk Assessment

It is recommended that the Board approve an Occupational Therapy Evaluation for student # [REDACTED] to be performed by Performance Pediatrics for an amount not to exceed \$479.75.  
Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

OT Eval

Moved by Mrs. Dely, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve a Risk Assessment for student # [REDACTED] to be performed by The Center for Evaluation and Counseling for an amount not to exceed \$750.00.  
Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Risk Assessment

Moved by Mrs. Dely, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve a Risk Assessment for student # [REDACTED] to be performed by The Center for Evaluation and Counseling for an amount not to exceed \$750.00.  
Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Risk Assessment

Moved by Mrs. Dely, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve home instruction for student # [REDACTED] for a maximum of ten (10) hours per week, effective immediately, duration TBD.  
Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Home Instruction

Moved by Mrs. Dely, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve home instruction for student # [REDACTED] for a maximum of ten (10) hours per week, effective immediately, duration TBD.  
Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Home Instruction

Moved by Mrs. Dely, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella that the Board approve a Psychiatric Assessment for student # [REDACTED] to be performed by Dr. Bryan Fennelly for an amount not to exceed \$765.00.  
Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Psychiatric Assessment

**Curriculum:**

Curriculum

Moved by Mrs. Tortorella, seconded by Mrs. Simmons that the Board approve the following field trips:

Field Trips

Date	Grade Level/Teacher	Destination, Purpose, Cost
12/15/23	K-2	VA Clinic Port Jervis, NY SEL Climate and Culture Project No cost to students
12/21/23	Kdg/All Teachers	Wantage Elementary Holiday Presentation No cost to students
01/03, 01/10/24	6-8/Kallimanis	High Point High School District Band Rehearsals 6:00 - 8:00pm No cost to students
01/17/24	6-8/Kallimanis	High Point High School District Band Day 8:45am - 2:00pm No cost to students

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Dely that the Board approve the following field trips:

Field Trips

Date	Grade Level/Teacher	Destination, Purpose, Cost
01/18/24	5/Doherty	High Point High School High Point District Music Celebration No cost to students
05/16/24	2/All Teachers	Skylands Stadium Sussex County Miners Game Cost to students \$6.00 Cost to BOE \$5.00 Total cost \$11.00 each

Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

**Unfinished Business**

Unfinished Business

- Mr. D’Agostino said that he was happy to approve the new contract with SWEA. He thanked SWEA for ratifying. He said he would like to put this behind us and have a great three (3) years going forward working together.

**New Business:**

New Business

- Mrs. Witte asked if we could possibly move the time of the Reorganization Meeting as it conflicts with other meetings.

Moved by Mrs. Witte, seconded by Mr. D’Agostino to move the start time of the Annual Reorganization meeting on Thursday, January 4, 2024 to 6:00 pm from 7:00 pm.  
Carried; Yes 7, No 0, Absent 2

Change Start  
Time of  
Annual Reorg  
Meeting

- Mrs. Witte would also like to have less addendums if possible. Mr. Gall said that we always try to limit addendums, but we have had an unusual amount of hiring due to the PreK start date.

**Audience Remarks:**

Audience  
Remarks

- Lisa Fahrenfeld, SWEA President, thanked that Board for approving the contract tonight. She wished everyone a Happy Holiday and said that she is looking forward to the New Year.
- Mr. D’Agostino wished everyone a Happy, Healthy New Year.

Moved by Mrs. Zill-Barry, seconded by Mrs. Tortorella to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 pm.

Adjourn-  
Ment

Respectfully submitted,



Christina M. Riker  
Board Secretary