

September 14, 2015

The Stillwater Board of Education met on September 14, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the Stillwater School Library for a committee of the whole board of education meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Shannon Nothstine at 7:05 p.m. In accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law, the time, date and location of this meeting was provided to the New Jersey Herald and Township Journal on January 7, 2015. Notices were posted in the Stillwater School, Town Hall, Lakeland Bank, Stillwater Post Office, Middleville Post Office and Swartswood Post Office.

Mrs. Nothstine led the flag salute. The following Board members were present: Mrs. Santore, Mrs. Svendsen, Mrs. Nothstine, Mrs. Hendershot, Mrs. LoCascio and Mr. DeGroat.

Absent: Mrs. Galante, Mr. Grace, and Mr. Jones.

Also present were George Petty, Interim Superintendent, René Solar, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Marissa Cramer, Principal/Supervisor of CST and Special Education/Basic Skills, and Matthew Robinson, Assistant Principal.

BOARD BUSINESS

1. Dr. Petty reported on the following items:
 - Staff Professional Development Days
 - Opening day of school for students
 - NJSBA meeting on Common Core Standards that was attended by Mrs. Svendsen and Mr. Robinson.
 - Update on the water pump circuit breaker problems and repairs
2. Mr. Robinson presented the board HIB Training, HIB Grade, HIB-ITP Report, and EVVRS Report.
3. Dr. Petty & Mrs. Nothstine provided a Superintendent Search Update. It was agreed that an adhoc committee should be formed in assist in researching options for the makeup of our administration.

Motion was made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Hendershot to create an adhoc committee for the Superintendent search as listed:

Dennis DeGroat
Kathleen Svendsen
Christina Santore
Shannon Nothstine

A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

4. Mrs. Nothstine provided an update on the board goals. She would like to form another committee to work on the action plans.

Motion was made by Mrs. Hendershot, second by Mr. DeGroat to form an adhoc committee to develop board action plans as listed:

Trish Hendershot
Krista Galante-pending acceptance
Dennis DeGroat- Alternate
Shannon Nothstine

A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

5. Motion made by Mrs. Hendershot, second by Mr. DeGroat to approve the regular board of education meeting minutes and executive session minutes from August 17, 2015. No quorum present for approval due to abstentions. Motion to table the motion for the September 28, 2015 meeting was made by Mrs. Hendershot, second by Mr. DeGroat. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
6. Resolution was made by Mrs. Hendershot, second by Mrs. Santore for the following board members and administration to attend the NJSBA Workshop on October 27-29, 2015:

WHEREAS, The Stillwater Board of Education is required pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12* to adopt policy and approve travel expenditures by district employees and board members using local, State, or Federal funds to ensure that travel is educationally necessary and fiscally prudent; and

WHEREAS, The board of education has determined that the workshop, training and informational programs sponsored by New Jersey School Boards Association and set forth below are directly related to and within the scope of board members' and employees' duties; and

WHEREAS, The board of education has determined that the workshop, training and informational programs sponsored by New Jersey School Boards Association and set forth below are directly related to and within the scope of the traveler's current responsibilities and the board's professional development plan; and

WHEREAS, The board of education has determined that participation in the New Jersey School Boards Association workshop, training and informational programs requires school district travel expenditures and that this travel is critical to the instructional needs of the district and/or furthers the efficient operation of the district; and

WHEREAS, The board of education has determined that the school district travel expenditures to New Jersey School Boards Association programs are in compliance with State travel guidelines as established by the Department of the Treasury and within the guidelines established by the federal Office of Management and Budget; except as superseded by conflicting provisions of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes; and

WHEREAS, The board of education finds that a mileage reimbursement rate equal to that of the mileage reimbursement rate of [\$.31] per mile is a reasonable rate; and

WHEREAS, The board of education has determined that participation in the New Jersey School Boards Association workshop training and informational programs is in compliance with the district policy on travel; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Stillwater board of education hereby approves the attendance of the listed number of school board members and district employees at the listed New Jersey School Boards Association workshop, training and informational programs, and the costs of attendance including all registration fees, and statutorily authorized travel expenditures, provided that such expenditures are within the annual maximum travel expenditure amount; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Stillwater Board of Education authorizes in advance, as required by statute, attendance at the following New Jersey School Boards Association workshop, training programs and informational events:

Dennis DeGroat (October 27-29, 2015)
Shannon Nothstine (October 27-28, 2015)
Christina Santore (October 27-28, 2015)
René Solar (October 27-29, 2015)

Pursuant to OMB Circulars & A-5 travel regulations:

Max. First & last day meals & incidentals \$49.50
Max. Meals & incidentals \$ 66.00 (breakfast \$11, Lunch \$16,
Dinner \$34, incidentals \$5)
Lodging: \$92.00 +\$5.00 Occupancy fee per night per person
Registration: \$250 per person

Resolution to be split due to lack of quorum because of abstentions.

-Motion made by Mrs. Hendershot, second by Mrs. Santore to approve travel for Dennis DeGroat as listed. Motion approved by voice vote, Mrs. Hendershot-Aye; Mrs. LoCascio- Aye; Mrs. Svendsen-Aye; Mrs. Santore-Aye; Mrs. Nothstine-Aye; Mr. DeGroat- Abstain.

-Motion made by Mrs. Santore, second by Mrs. Hendershot to approve travel for Shannon Nothstine as listed. Motion approved by voice vote, Mrs. Hendershot-Aye; Mrs. LoCascio- Aye; Mrs. Svendsen-Aye; Mrs. Santore-Aye; Mrs. Nothstine-Abstain; Mr. DeGroat- Aye.

-Motion made by Mrs. Nothstine, second by Mrs. Hendershot to approve travel for Christina Santore and René Solar as listed. Motion approved by voice vote, Mrs. Hendershot-Aye; Mrs. LoCascio- Aye; Mrs. Svendsen-Aye; Mrs. Santore-Abstain; Mrs. Nothstine-Aye; Mr. DeGroat- Aye.

7. NJSBA Convention- The last day to cancel is September 25th. Please let Miss Solar know if you cannot attend so we can receive a refund.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PERSONNEL

1. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Santore to approve attached professional days. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
2. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Santore to accept, with regret, the resignation of Rachel Gentile as the Speech-Language Specialist, effective October 16, 2015 or earlier if possible. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
3. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Santore to retroactively approve Richard Popaski as a Regional Curriculum Coordinator, effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, at a per diem rate of \$530.49 not to exceed 50 days, with the understanding that the cost of said agreement is to be distributed among the Board of Education of Fredon Township, Stillwater Township, Sandyston-Walpack District, Kittatinny and Hampton Township District based upon the October 15, 2015 student count in grades K-8 and furthermore, that the Hampton Township Board of Education will serve as the LEA for the 2015-2016 school year. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
4. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Santore to retroactively approve the hourly rate of \$34.00 for Maureen Beckman to attend a 504 meeting on August 26, 2015. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
5. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Santore to approve the field supervision principal internship for Brittany Celentano for a minimum of 150 hours for the Fall 2015 semester and a minimum of 150 hours for the Spring 2016 semester, at no cost to the district. Mrs. Cramer will be the advisor for the program, but she may work with all Stillwater administrators. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
6. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. LoCascio to approve Erica Then to mentor Alicia Parsons for a pro-rated stipend of \$412.50 from September 1, 2015-April 15, 2016. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
7. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve Jessica Garrigan, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, as the Speech Language Specialist, at MA, Step 5 in the amount of \$61,020 (pending negotiations), to begin on November 10, 2015 or earlier if available. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

POLICY

1. Mrs. Cramer gave public notification as required for NCLB on Policy 6171.3 At-Risk & Title 1 students.
2. Motion made by Mrs. Santore, second by Mr. DeGroat to approve the first reading of the following policy:
Policy #4112.8/4212.8 Nepotism
A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

EDUCATION & CURRICULUM

1. Motion made by Mrs. Santore, second by Mrs. LoCascio to approve the Artsonia online art gallery fundraiser for the art department for the 2015-2016 school year. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
2. Motion made by Mrs. Santore, second by Mr. DeGroat to approve the revised student handbook, reflecting changes in guidelines/ recommendations to classroom parties, for the 2015-2016 school year. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

1. Miss Solar provided an update on the following items:
 - Window Project
 - Lock Project
 - Cameras
 - Cafeteria POS System

2. Public Notification provided by Miss Solar :

Integrated Pest Management Plan

The plan calls for the use of non-toxic means of addressing pest infestations. Mr. Radimer has been trained in these procedures and is the coordinator of the program. The extermination service that we use must conform to these practices. If there is a situation that requires the use of toxic chemicals, the public must be informed and signs displayed 72 hours before and after the application. Annually we send a letter to parents about the program with a copy of the policy.

3. Motion made by Mrs. Hendershot, second by Mr. DeGroat to approve LaDuca Technical Services, LLC to install and setup eight outdoor cameras at a cost of \$2,100. If additional time is needed we will be charged \$94.00/hour. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

TRANSPORTATION

1. Motion made by Mrs. Svendsen, second by Mrs. LoCascio to approve the 2015-2016 transportation jointure with Kittatinny Regional High School for transportation of preschool handicapped students at a cost of \$8,730. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

BUDGET & FINANCE

1. Miss Solar provide the following update: The audit was conducted last week and went very well. There were no audit findings or recommendations. We were able to deposit \$300,000 into our capital reserve account to replenish for future capital projects. They commended our business office for being so detailed and organized. Just wanted to thank Kathy Rosenkrans, Megan Reed, and Renee Woehr for a job well done! The tentative audit presentation date will be November 23rd.
2. Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mrs. Svendsen to retroactively accept tuition student #041212 from the Fredon Township Board of Education for the 2015-2016 school year at a tuition rate of \$8,000. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
3. Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mr. DeGroat to approve the submission of the First Energy STEM Grant titled, "The Power of the Sun" in the amount of \$984 for the Pinwheel Program. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

PTA Back to School BBQ will be held on Saturday from 1:00-5:00 at the Paulinskill ball field.

LEGISLATIVE

Miss Solar reported on the following bills vetoed by the Governor:
S-3100/A-4605 requires the state to pay its pension contributions on a quarterly basis by August 1, November 1, February 1, and May 1 of each year.

S-3107/A-4606 makes fiscal year 2015 supplemental state appropriations totaling \$300 million for prepayment of a portion of FY2016 employer contributions to state-administered public employee defined benefit retirement systems.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Joanne Saul- East Walnut Drive- Commented on how she is more informed now after attending the board meeting. She is very proud of the Stillwater School, and glad to be back.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Svendsen was excused from the meeting at 8:23 pm

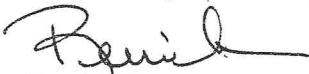
BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by Mrs. Santore, second by Mrs. LoCascio at 8:23 pm the Stillwater Township Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 and 10:4-13 that said public body hold a closed session for the purpose of discussing the SEA Contract Negotiations, it is expected that the minutes taken of this closed session will be made public when the reason for confidentiality no longer exists. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Santore at 8:32 pm to come out of executive session and return to public session. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Santore to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,



René Solar

Business Administrator/Board Secretary