

November 9, 2015

The Stillwater Board of Education met on November 9, 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 7:00 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. Galante, Mrs. LoCascio, Mr. Grace (arrived 7:04pm), and Mr. DeGroat.

Absent: 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. Superintendent's Ad hoc Committee Report:
-Mrs. Svendsen reported the committee discussion is winding down. Dr. Petty will provide his report to the board at the November 23rd BOE meeting, and the final vote will be at the December 14th meeting.

Mr. Grace arrived at 7:04 pm

2. Board Goals Update
-Future Training Dates to be scheduled for January 25th BOE meeting.
-School Boards Workshop Update- Mrs. Nothstine, Mr. DeGroat, and Ms. Solar provided the board with an update of the workshop. Various training workshops were attended. Great material to bring back to the school and community. Also a great opportunity to network with other board members and administration.
3. District Goals Action Plan
- Mrs. Cramer reviewed the 2015-2016 District Goals Action plan. All of our goals and objectives are in progress! There was discussion on the Reading Assistant program regarding the identification of the student usernames. They are completely confidential and not tied to any personal information. The reading assistant program tracks comprehension and progress. Overall a great program to assist in reading of all levels.
4. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve the regular board of education meeting minutes and executive session minutes from October 19, 2015. Motion approved by voice vote, Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mrs. Svendsen-Aye; Mrs. Santore-Aye; Mrs. Nothstine-Aye; Mrs. Hendershot-Aye; Mrs. LoCascio-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mr. Grace - Abstain

5. Motion made by Mr. Grace, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve the 2016 reorganization meeting to be held on Monday, January 4, 2016 with a snow date of Tuesday January 5, 2016, beginning at 7:00 pm. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
6. Reminder-- Sussex County School Boards Meeting will be held on November 10, 2015 at the Mohawk House. 6:00/6:45 pm. Topic: Declining Enrollment.

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

-Mr. Robinson reported on the 6th grade trip to Washington, DC. Some of the highlights include the White House, Pentagon, Fort McHenry, and of course the Golden Corral.

-Mr. Robinson reported on the safety and security roundtable meeting

-Mrs. Cramer reported on the upcoming Veteran's Day program. Mrs. Celentano and the staff have coordinated this event, we are all looking forward to it!

-Dr. Petty said he is looking forward to the new staff member welcome breakfast hosted by the staff.

-Mrs. Cramer reported on the upcoming trip for the NJ Symphony.

-Mrs. Cramer also reported that the KRHS students will be visiting to assist our 6th grade students with the frog dissection.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PERSONNEL

1. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. LoCascio to approve attached professional days. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
2. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mr. Grace to approve maternity leave for Keri Lynn Maeurer beginning January 15, 2016 (or earlier/later if needed) with the intent to return 12 weeks later on or about April 11, 2016. This leave includes 12 weeks covered by FMLA & NJFLA. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
3. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. LoCascio to approve Eileen Smith as the pianist for the 2015-2016 holiday concert and rehearsals for a stipend of \$250.00. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
4. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mr. Grace to approve the following substitute teachers for the 2015-2016 school year:
Lauren Stocklinski
Ashley Connor
A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

5. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mr. Grace to approve the following revised job descriptions:

Superintendent
Principal
Assistant Principal
Head Custodian
Custodian

A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

6. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mr. Grace to approve the 2015-2016 salaries, step & retro pay, reflective of the new SEA Agreement for the attached staff listing of Teachers, Paraprofessionals, Administrative Assistants, and Custodians. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.
7. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mr. Grace to approve the revised 2015-2016 salaries & retro pay (based on negotiations effective from July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016), for non-union staff as attached. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.
8. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mr. Grace to hire Patricia Pruser as a part-time paraprofessional at 27.5 hours/week for the 2015-2016 school year, at Step 0, for a salary of \$10,185 plus Associates Degree Stipend of \$500 for a total of \$10,685 (pro-rated to time worked) to begin as soon as possible, pending criminal history and background check, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

POLICY

Mrs. Galante

None

EDUCATION & CURRICULUM

Mr. Jones

1. B-Active Classroom Close Up
-Mrs. Cramer showed the NJ Classroom Close up video from the grant that was awarded to Mrs. Najemian and Mrs. Riva.
2. Motion made by Mrs. Santore, second by Mr. Grace to approve the request for student #60507 to remain at the Stillwater Township School until December 23, 2015, as per board policy 5118. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
3. Motion made by Mrs. Santore, second by Mrs. LoCascio to approve student 051896 from KRHS to fulfill her school sponsored structured learning experience in Mrs. Pierson's afternoon preschool class for the remainder of the 2015-2016 school year. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

1. Ms. Solar provided the building and grounds update regarding the camera replacements and the window project.

TRANSPORTATION

1. Motion made by Mrs. Svendsen, second by Mrs. Santore to approve a new bus stop for ST7 at Fairview Lake Road/Middleville Road due to route changes. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
2. Motion made by Mrs. Svendsen, second by Mrs. Santore to approve transportation jointure with Kittatinny Regional High School for 2015-2016 Charter School Transportation Route in the amount of \$1,768. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
3. Motion made by Mrs. Svendsen, second by Mr. Grace to approve Kittatinny Regional High School for transportation coordination services for aid in lieu students, charter school and preschool routes for an administrative fee of 4%, equal to \$596.72 for the 2015-2016 school year. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
4. Motion made by Mrs. Svendsen, second by Mrs. Santore to approve Aid in Lieu for five students at \$884.00 each for the 2015-2016 school year. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

BUDGET & FINANCE

Mr. Grace

None

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Mrs. LoCascio

Mrs. LoCascio reported on the following items:

- Thank you to Mr. Robinson for the school wide email explaining the EVVRS report that was in the newspaper.
- Brought up the idea of having a representative at some of the town hall meetings.
- Also, being the liaison with the PTA.

LEGISLATIVE

Mrs. Hendershot reported on the following:

A-4485- school aid from a school district based on the participation rate of its students on the state assessments. This bill addresses the concern that school districts could face financial sanctions if too many students do not participate in the PARCC test. This new law would essentially prevent districts from being penalized for matters beyond their

control. NJSBA supported this measure on the grounds that no local school board should be penalized because students unilaterally decided not to take the PARCC test. The new law took effect immediately upon the governor's approval.

S-2766 -provides that a school district may not administer a commercially-developed standardized assessment to students enrolled in kindergarten through the second grade. Under this law, a commercially-developed standardized assessment will not include diagnostic and formative assessments used by teaching staff members to identify particular student learning needs or the need for special services, or to modify instructional strategies for an individual student's learning. The measure also provides that its provisions would not preclude a classroom teacher or a board of education from developing, administering, and scoring an assessment for students in those grades. This new law becomes applicable at the beginning of the 2016-2017 school year.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Invitation was announced to invite the board of education to the 5th grade Multi-Cultural Club event- from Mrs. Celentano & Mrs. Maeurer.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by Mrs. Santore, second by Mr. DeGroat at 8:15 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 Personnel Matters it is expected that the minutes taken of this closed session will be made public when the reason for confidentiality no longer exists.

Motion made by Mr. Grace, second by Mr. DeGroat at 8:17 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. Grace, second by Mr. DeGroat to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 p.m. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,



René Solar
Business Administrator/Board Secretary