

December 14, 2015

The Stillwater Township Board of Education met on December 14, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the Stillwater School Library for a regular 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. Galante, Mrs. Nothstine, Mrs. LoCascio, Mr. DeGroat, Mr. Grace and Mr. Jones.

Absent: Mrs. Hendershot.

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 Recommendation- Dr. Petty
2. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Santore to accept the committee report to advertise and hire a full time Superintendent. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.
3. Motion made by Mr. Jones, second by Mr. Grace to approve the Regular Board of Education Meeting minutes and executive session minutes from November 23, 2015. Motion approved by voice vote, Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mrs. Svendsen-Aye; Mr. Jones-Aye; Mrs. Santore-Aye; Mrs. Nothstine-Aye; Mr. Grace-Aye; Mrs. LoCascio-Abstain; Mr. DeGroat-Aye.
4. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Santore to approve the following resolution:
WHEREAS, your personal commitment to quality education, your valued participation in establishing effective policies and your readiness to render services in seeking educational excellence have contributed immeasurable to the progress of our school system;

BE IT RESOLVED, that on behalf of your colleagues, teachers and students, we thank you for your dedicated services and wish you good health and happiness in your years to come.

Michael Grace
Alan Jones

Motion approved by voice vote, Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mrs. Svendsen-Aye; Mr. Jones-Abstain; Mrs. Santore-Aye; Mrs. Nothstine-Aye; Mr. Grace-Abstain; Mrs. LoCascio-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye.
5. Motion made by Mr. Jones, second by Mr. DeGroat to accept with regret, the resignation of board member, Patricia Hendershot, effective immediately. A voice

vote was taken and unanimously approved.

6. Miss Solar reviewed the board member vacancy procedures/timelines with the board. Will have interviews at the January 4, 2016 board meeting.
7. Motion made by Mr. Jones, second by Mr. Grace to authorize the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to advertise for the board member vacancy. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Petty reported on the following items:

- Science Curriculum Update
- PARCC Test
- Teacher of the Year & Support Staff of the Year- Congratulations to Corinne Swakopf and Renee Woehr!
- Holiday Concert
- Trep\$ Marketplace
- Senior Luncheon

Mr. Grace asked how the transition will be with a new superintendent coming in with the new science curriculum. Dr. Petty let the board know that Mrs. Cramer will be assisting in the transition.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Mrs. Nothstine commented that it is hard to believe the year is almost over! Wanted to thank all the board members for volunteering their time. A lot of hard work goes into everything we do for our students!

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Leslie Pinto- Maple Ave.- My children went to Stillwater, the band and concert was great. Wanted to know the previous administrative makeup; are we reducing too much?

Mrs. Nothstine responded there has been some changes throughout the years; FT Superintendent, FT Principal, FT BA, CST Supervisor/Psychologist. Then it was FT Superintendent/Principal, FT Assistant Principal, FT BA, FT Supervisor of CST. Then FT Superintendent, FT Principal/CST Supervisor, FT Assistant Principal, FT BA. The committee with the support of administration is now proposing a FT Superintendent, FT Principal/CST Supervisor, FT BA, and PT Assistant Principal.

Mr. Theys- Mt. Benevolence Road- Wanted to confirm what the PT Assistant Principal actually is.

Mrs. Nothstine said it would be a half time position, with the other half possibly filled as a teacher. Administration is still looking into that.

Mr. Grace- With all this discussion, many times the BA is forgotten as an administrator. Miss Solar is doing a fantastic job behind the scenes. Our current administration will continue to maintain the integrity of the school going forward that took a long time to build up.

Mr. DeGroat commented the reason of this administrative structure in previous years was due to the new evaluation process.

Ms. Pinto- Believes there are not enough administrators with the current proposal.

The board is pleased to hear this from various members of the community, but feels they must be fiscally responsible and try to reduce administrative costs. It's important to be able to balance the needs of the students, staff and community. This new proposal will be a trial with next year. Nothing is set in stone and may change if we feel it isn't working.

Conversation was also had to get our township liaison back to attend our meetings to help with the relationship with the township.

ACTION ITEMS:

PERSONNEL

1. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mr. Jones 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 the revised job description for the Child Study Team Administrative Assistant. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
3. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mr. Jones to approve the following substitute teacher for the 2015-2016 school year:

-Harley Rolph

A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
4. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mr. Jones to approve graduate class at Centenary College titled, "Field Supervision II," at a cost of \$1,275 for Brittany Celentano. No reimbursement paid as per SEA Agreement. This course runs from January 2016-May 2016. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
5. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mr. Grace to approve Georgeanne Vellella as maternity leave replacement substitute for Grade 1, to begin on or about January 15, 2016 to on or about April 11, 2016 (12 weeks from start date) at BA, Step 0 for a daily rate of \$263.89, no benefits, pending valid NJ K-6 Certificate of Eligibility, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent. Motion approved by a roll call vote, Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mrs. Svendsen-Abstain; Mr. Jones-Aye; Mrs. Santore-Aye; Mrs. Nothstine-Aye; Mr. Grace-Aye; Mrs. LoCascio-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye.

6. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mr. Jones to approve the following substitute teachers for the 2015-2016 school year:

Kiersten Bradley
Georgeanne Vellella

A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

POLICY

1. Motion made by Mrs. Galante, second by Mr. Jones, to approve the second and final reading of the following policy regulation:
Regulation#3541.1 Transportation Routes & Services
Motion approved by voice vote, Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mrs. Svendsen-Aye; Mr. Jones-Aye; Mrs. Santore-Aye; Mrs. Nothstine-Aye; Mr. Grace-Abstain; Mrs. LoCascio-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye.
2. Motion made by Mrs. Galante, second by Mr. Jones to suspend policy #3542.1 from December 14th -December 23rd for the limited purpose of the 6th Grade Recognition Committee Candygram sale. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

EDUCATION & CURRICULUM

1. Mr. Robinson presented the PARCC Score Report.
2. Motion made by Mr. Jones, second by Mr. Grace to approve the 2015-2016 English Language Services Plan. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

1. Motion made by Mrs. Santore, second by Mr. Grace to approve building and use calendar for January 2016. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

TRANSPORTATION

1. Motion made by Mrs. Svendsen, second by Mr. Jones to approve transportation with Kittatinny Regional High School for 2015-2016 Non-Public Transportation Route in the amount of \$520 plus a 4% administrative fee of \$20.80 for a total cost of \$540.08. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
2. Motion made by Mrs. Svendsen, second by Mr. Jones, to approve transportation with Kittatinny Regional High School for an additional charter school student in the amount of \$638.30 plus a 4% administrative fee of \$25.53 for a total cost of \$663.83. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

3. Motion made by Mrs. Svendsen, second by Mr. DeGroat to approve a new bus stop for ST7 at 1047 Mt. Benevolence Road. Motion approved by voice vote, Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mrs. Svendsen-Aye; Mr. Jones-Aye; Mrs. Santore-Aye; Mrs. Nothstine-Aye; Mr. Grace-Abstain; Mrs. LoCascio-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye.
4. Motion made by Mrs. Svendsen, second by Mrs. Santore to approve transportation to Sandyston-Walpack Elementary School for grades 3-6 pinwheel students on January 26, 2016 with a snow date of February 2, 2016 with Stocker Bus, at a cost of \$157.09. Motion approved by voice vote, Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mrs. Svendsen-Aye; Mr. Jones-Aye; Mrs. Santore-Aye; Mrs. Nothstine-Aye; Mr. Grace-Abstain; Mrs. LoCascio-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye.

BUDGET & FINANCE

1. Motion made by Mr. Grace, second by Mr. Jones to approve December regular checks numbered 22988 through 23032, N1125, N1126, N1127, N1210, N1211, N1212 for a total of \$548,292.70, and cafeteria check numbered 2543 in the amount of \$9,790.23. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
2. Motion made by Mr. Grace, second by Mrs. Santore, to approve November student activity checks numbered 6147-6148 in the amount of \$229.30. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
3. Motion made by Mr. Grace, second by Mr. Jones to approve the attached list of purchase orders over \$1,000 for 2015-2016 school year. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
4. Motion made by Mr. Grace, second by Mrs. LoCascio to approve monthly travel as attached. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
5. Motion made by Mr. Grace, second by Mr. Jones to approve transfers from November 1, 2015-November 30, 2015 as attached. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
6. Motion made by Mr. Grace, second by Mrs. Santore to retroactively accept tuition student #01252011 from the Hampton Township Board of Education to begin December 10, 2015 for the 2015-2016 school year at a tuition rate of \$8,000 (prorated). A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

LEGISLATION

Mr. Grace reported on the following items:

1. Local BOE misappropriation of funds, the motion to the board was tabled and they bought the item anyway. In Stillwater the finance chairperson reviews items with a fine tooth comb.
2. NCLB is gone, replaced with the Every Student Succeeds Act. State level will have more say on testing, and will have more opportunities for grants.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Board member online required training- Completed!!!
2. Audit was delivered and handed out tonight. The presentation and acceptance will be at the January 4th Board of Education Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Joanne Saul- What was the PARCC opt out rate in Stillwater?

Mr. Robinson responded, a total of 25 students.

EXECUTIVE SESSION


BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by Mr. Grace, second by Mrs. Santore 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 Student Privacy 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 Mr. Grace at 8:14 pm to come out of executive session and return to public session. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

ADJOURN

Motion made by Mr. Jones, second by Mr. Grace to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,



René Solar
Business Administrator/Board Secretary