

February 22, 2021

The Stillwater Township Board of Education met on February 22, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. remotely via Zoom for a Regular Board of Education Meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Dennis DeGroat at 7:01 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, Township Journal & Star Ledger on January 5, 2021. Notices were posted in the Stillwater School, Town Hall, Stillwater Post Office, Middleville Post Office, Swartswood Post Office and the Stillwater School Website. Notice of remote meeting access due to current emergency regarding COVID-19 was also provided to the public on February 17, 2021.

Mr. DeGroat led the flag salute. The following Board members were present: Mr. DeGroat, Mrs. LoCascio, Mrs. Svendsen, Mrs. Galante, Mrs. Nothstine, Mrs. Williver, Mrs. Kraft, Mr. Franek, and Mrs. Thibault.

Absent: None.

Also present were William Kochis, Superintendent, René Metzgar, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Marissa Cramer, Principal/Supervisor of CST and Special Education/Basic Skills, Cali Roberts, Assistant Principal/Regional Curriculum Coordinator, and members of the public.

BOARD BUSINESS

1. Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mrs. Nothstine to approve the Committee of the Whole Board of Education Meeting minutes from February 8, 2021. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
2. Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve the Executive Session Board of Education Meeting minutes from February 8, 2021. Motion approved by voice vote: Mrs. Svendsen-Aye; Mrs. Nothstine-Aye; Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mrs. Williver- Aye; Mrs. Thibault-Abstain; Mrs. Kraft-Abstain; Mr. Franek-Aye; Mrs. LoCascio-Aye.
3. Motion made by Mrs. Nothstine, second by Mrs. Williver to approve the January 31, 2021 Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports which balanced in the amount of \$2,486,583.00 pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-16.10(c)3, we certify that as of January 31, 2021 after review of the secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)4, and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Kochis reported on the following items:

- Covid 19 update- we have worked to bring back about 60% of our students back four days per week. Continuing to work to safely bring back 100% of students. Beginning March 15th students Fridays will become a full day of in person learning.
- Snow Days update/remote learning snow days

- Thank you to the Stillwater DPW & our custodial staff for the snow removal.
- Governor announcements: Possible Standardized Testing Waiver due to Covid-19.
Additional funding allocations through ESSER II funds.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

- Thanks the administration and teaching staff to work to get our students back in school safely.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

ACTION ITEMS:

PERSONNEL

1. Motion made by Mrs. Galante, second by Mrs. Nothstine, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve attached professional days. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
2. Motion made by Mrs. Galante, second by Mrs. LoCascio, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve Lisa Hutcheson as Teacher in Charge beginning March 15, 2021 to June 30, 2021. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
3. Motion made by Mrs. Galante, second by Mrs. Svendsen, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve Meghan Radimer for Physical Education/Health classes, not to exceed 5 hours per week at a rate of \$40/hour beginning March 15, 2021 to April 9, 2021 (pending start date of new staff member). A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
4. Motion made by Mrs. Galante, second by Mrs. LoCascio, to approve Pamela Bunnell from Rutgers University to complete 4 virtual observation hours in Mrs. Robinson & Mrs. Bickhardt's classrooms. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

POLICY

None.

EDUCATION & CURRICULUM

1. Trimester Presentation - Mr. Kochis presented the recommendation to move from the traditional four marking periods per year to a trimester model beginning the 2021-2022 school year. Mr. Kochis shared the staff survey regarding this change as well as the benefits to shifting to this model.
2. Motion made by Mrs. Svendsen, second by Mrs. LoCascio, to approve the 2021-2022 school calendar for the Stillwater Township Board of Education. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.
3. Motion made by Mrs. Svendsen, second by Mrs. Nothstine to approve Brian Friedlander of AssistiveTek, LLC to provide a parent presentation for parents of Title 1/Special Education students on March 9, 2021 for a cost of \$225 to be split among the districts (KRHS, Hampton, Sandyston, Fredon). Stillwater will be the LEA. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
4. Motion made by Mrs. Svendsen, second by Mr. Franek, to approve Kelly Harmon & Associates Educational Consulting to provide additional hours of RTI Training/consulting for a cost of \$3,000 to be paid through Title 1. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

1. NJSP School Camera Aggregation Project- Mr. Kochis & Mrs. Metzgar explained the grant that NJSP received to establish live view camera access for the NJSP headquarters. This would be used in the event of an extreme emergency.
2. Mrs. Metzgar provided an update on the following Buildings and Grounds items:
 - 1966 Section Boiler Project
 - Single Stall Restroom Project
 - Soda Ash System Project
3. Motion made by Mrs. Williver, second by Mrs. Svendsen, to approve building and use calendar for March 2021. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

TRANSPORTATION

None.

BUDGET & FINANCE

1. Mrs. Thibault provided a Budget Committee Update regarding the following items:
 - Budget Committee Meeting held 2/17.
 - State Aid Reductions
 - Charter School Numbers
 - Potential building projects-gymnasium ventilation, uninvent upgrades, library upgrades.

2. Motion made by Mrs. Thibault, second by Mrs. Svendsen, to approve regular checks from January 26, 2021-February 22, 2021 numbered 26981-27021, N0129, N0204, N0212, void check#26955, for a total of \$562,631.06. Cafeteria check 2634 in the amount of \$8,523.78. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
3. Motion made by Mrs. Thibault, second by Mrs. LoCascio, to approve the attached list of purchase orders over \$1,000 for 2020-2021 school year. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
4. Motion made by Mrs. Thibault, second by Mrs. LoCascio, to approve monthly travel as attached. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
5. Motion made by Mrs. Thibault, second by Mrs. LoCascio, to purchase the Lü-Uno 2.0 Interactive Playground from Axtion Technology for a total cost \$21,000 to be paid by the Jets Eat Right Grant and the REAP Grant. Additional costs of electric, internet, and lift will be paid through general fund monies. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.
6. Motion made by Mrs. Thibault, second by Mrs. Svendsen, to approve the 2020-2021 ESEA Title 1 grant amendment for changes due to Covid-19. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
7. BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by Mrs. Thibault, second by Mrs. LoCascio, that the Stillwater Township Board of Education approves the submission of the 2021-2022 PEA (Preschool Education Aid) Grant Application to the NJ Department of Education, Division of Early Childhood Education (Grant application and execute a grant contract with the New Jersey Department of Education for four full-day Pre-K classrooms).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board formally approves the application submission for the grant listed above for a total award up to \$689,676, based on per pupil costs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the school administrators are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application to the New Jersey Department of Education on behalf of the Stillwater Township Board of Education.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Superintendent and Business Administrator are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Stillwater Township Board of Education and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.

LEGISLATION

None.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Board member required training- Due December 31, 2021.
2. Board member Ethics/Financial Disclosure Forms

NEW BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURN

Motion made by Mrs. Williver, second by Mrs. Svendsen to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m.
A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,



René Metzgar
Business Administrator/Board Secretary