

January 25, 2021

The Stillwater Township Board of Education met on January 25, 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 7:00 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, 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 January 18, 2021.

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

Absent: Mrs. LoCascio.

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. Nothstine, second by Mrs. Kraft to approve the Reorganization Meeting minutes and Committee of the Whole Board of Education Meeting minutes from January 4, 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-Aye; Mr. Franek-Aye.
2. Motion made by Mrs. Nothstine, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve the December 31, 2020 Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports which balanced in the amount of \$2,351,058.63 pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-16.10(c)3, we certify that as of December 31, 2020 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.
3. Handouts: Board Member Listings & Committee Assignments
4. Motion made by Mrs. Thibault, second by Mr. Franek to approve ad hoc committees for budget, negotiations, and regional shared service as attached. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
5. January is Board Recognition Month!!- Special Presentations- Second Grade made an alphabet slide show showing the appreciation of the board members, and Mrs. Radimer put together a school wide video of our students for the board.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Kochis reported on the following items:

- Covid 19 update regarding new Department of Health procedures for contact tracing.
- Reopening plan update for bringing back more students.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Mr. DeGroat reminded board members that the yearbook picture will be rescheduled for February 8th.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

ACTION ITEMS:

PERSONNEL

1. Motion made by Mrs. Galante, second by Mrs. Svendsen, 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. Svendsen to accept with regret, the resignation of Justin Reed effective March 15, 2021. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
1. Motion made by Mrs. Galante, second by Mrs. Svendsen, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following substitute teachers/paraprofessionals for the 2020-2021 school year, to be paid at the previously approved substitute rate:

Madeline Lenze- Pending criminal history & background check
William Zschack
A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
2. Motion made by Mrs. Galante, second by Mrs. Svendsen, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve employment contract with William (Bill) Zschack as a Part-Time Teacher from February 8, 2021 to June 30, 2021 to be hired at BA, Step 1 for an annual salary of \$45,672 (.8FTE) to be prorated to time worked. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.

3. Motion made by Mrs. Galante, second by Mrs. Svendsen, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to retroactively approve leave of absence under Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) for employee #921 from January 21, 2021 with the intent to return on April 1, 2021. This leave covers the remaining 10 weeks of FMLA. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
4. Motion made by Mrs. Galante, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve the following graduate classes at Centenary University for Sam Scocozza:

Title of Course	Dates	Cost	BOE Reimbursement
Field Internship II	January 2021-May 2021	\$1,877.85	No
Students, Teachers, Social Policy & Law	January 2021-May 2021	\$1,877.85	No
The Principalship	January 2021-May 2021	\$1,877.85	No
Finance & Facilities	May 2021-June 2021	\$1,877.85	No
Curriculum Evaluation & Assessment Evaluation	May 2021-June 2021	\$1,877.85	No
Educational Research	May 2021-June 2021	\$1,877.85	No
Ethical Issues	June 2021-August 2021	\$1,877.85	Yes
Research Instructional Leadership	June 2021-August 2021	\$1,877.85	No

A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

5. Motion made by Mrs. Galante, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve the advancement on guide for the following employee for the 2021-2022 school year, pending completion of credits and verification of official transcripts:
 Sam Scocozza from BA to BA +15
 Sam Scocozza from BA to MA
 A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

POLICY

None.

EDUCATION & CURRICULUM

1. SSDS Report- Reporting Period 1 (Sept. 1, 2020 - Dec. 31, 2020)-Mrs. Roberts reported on the following:
 For the period September 1, 2020-December 31, 2020 there were 0 incidents. Trainings were provided to all staff, board of education members, and contract service providers. Many student & community-based programs were implemented during this period in regards to anti-bullying. Activities include those followed during the Week of Respect, Summit Program, Red Ribbon Week, Violence Awareness Week, buddy notes of kindness, Virtual Crossage with KRHS students, K-6 classroom virtual classroom visits to discuss the HIB & kindness and donations collected for Benny's Bodega.
2. Motion made by Mrs. Svendsen, second by Mrs. Nothstine to approve the 2020-2021 6th grade class trip to The YMCA Camp Linwood McDonald from June 1, 2021-June 2, 2021. Overnight stay pending COVID-19 restrictions. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

1. Motion made by Mrs. Williver, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve building and use calendar for February 2021. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
2. Motion made by Mrs. Williver, second by Mrs. Thibault to approve contract with Planet Networks to provide a fiber internet connection of 1 Gbps in the amount of \$1,127.85/month for a 36 month term plus \$8,755 for a one time setup cost. Service to begin July 1, 2021. RFP#ESCNJ20-21-45, Coop #65MCESCCPS.
Other Quotes: PenTeleData: \$1,370/month for a 36 month term
Century Link/Lumen: \$2,080/month for a 36 month term
Huntleigh: \$3,690/month for a 36 month term
A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

TRANSPORTATION

1. Motion made by Mr. Franek, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve the following new bus stop for the 2020-2021 school year:

ST8- 1010 Mount Benevolence Road
A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

BUDGET & FINANCE

1. Motion made by Mrs. Thibault, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve regular checks from December 15, 2020-January 25, 2021 numbered 26923-26980, N1215, N1223, N0106, N0115, for a total of \$728,236.12. Cafeteria check 2633 in the amount of \$6,762.32. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
2. Motion made by Mrs. Thibault, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve the attached list of purchase orders over \$1,000 for 2020-2021 school year. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
3. Motion made by Mrs. Thibault, second by Mrs. Nothstine to approve monthly travel as attached. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
4. Motion made by Mrs. Thibault, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve transfers from December 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 as attached. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
5. Motion made by Mrs. Thibault, second by Mrs. Williver to accept the annual audit for the Stillwater Township Board of Education for the year ended June 30, 2020. There were no audit findings or recommendations. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

LEGISLATION

Mrs. Kraft reported on the following items:

- Covid 19 Procurement Measure Advances to assist schools in cooperative purchasing.
- Bill for instruction on diversity update
- Senate Education Committee advanced eight bills aimed at increasing the diversity of the state's education workforce preventing teacher shortages.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Mrs. Williver reported on the following items:

- Preschool Parent Night January 27th
- Literacy Connections for Grade 1
- Family Math-Grade 3
- Parent workshop on Reader's Writer's Workshop
- Kittatinny Player's Clothing Drive update
- Stillwater Recreation is in need of a secretary
- Signups for recreation sports, girl scouts, and YMCA
- Sussex County Library- various virtual events
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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Board member required training- Due December 31, 2021.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Board member Ethics/Financial Disclosure Forms-released around February 8th.
2. Save the date! Sussex County School Boards Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 28, 2021 virtually via Cisco WebEx. Program is from 6:30-8:30 pm. Topic: Focus on challenges facing local school boards and school districts during the current public health emergency.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

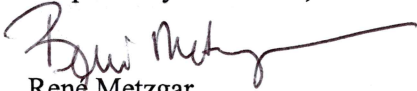
EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURN

Motion made by Mrs. Thibault, second by Mrs. Svendsen to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "René Metzgar", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

René Metzgar

Business Administrator/Board Secretary