

January 4, 2021

The Stillwater Township Board of Education met on January 4, 2021, at 7:24 p.m. remotely via Zoom for a Committee of the Whole Board of Education Meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Dennis DeGroat at 7:24 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 & Star Ledger on November 4, 2020. 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 December 16, 2020.

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

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**

Mr. DeGroat called for a moment of silence to honor of our Spanish Teacher, Mr. Frank Carchia. Anyone who has met Mr. Carchia knew that teaching was not just a career but a passion. His genuine love of teaching would energize a room and engage any student. Mr. Carchia made a significant impact on many students, families, and faculty members during his time working in our district. He will be greatly missed and we will continue to keep his family in our thoughts.

1. Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mrs. Thibault to approve the Regular Board of Education Meeting minutes and Executive Session minutes from December 14, 2020. Motion approved by voice vote: Mrs. Svendsen-Aye; Mrs. Nothstine-Aye; Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mrs. LoCascio-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mrs. Williver- Aye; Mrs. Thibault-Aye; Mrs. Kraft-Aye; Mr. Franek-Abstain.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **PERSONNEL**

1. Motion made by Mrs. Nothstine, second by Mrs. Thibault, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve attached professional days. Motion approved by voice vote: Mrs. Svendsen-Aye; Mrs. Nothstine-Aye; Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mrs. LoCascio-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mrs. Williver- Aye; Mrs. Thibault-Aye; Mrs. Kraft-Aye; Mr. Franek-Abstain.
2. Motion made by Mrs. Nothstine, second by Mrs. LoCascio to fund 100% of the salary of Paraprofessional, Morgan Philhower, from January 1, 2021- June 30, 2021 through IDEA Basic Funds. Motion approved by voice vote: Mrs. Svendsen-Aye; Mrs. Nothstine-Aye; Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mrs. LoCascio-Aye; Mr.

DeGroat-Aye; Mrs. Williver- Aye; Mrs. Thibault-Aye; Mrs. Kraft-Aye; Mr. Franek-Abstain.

3. Motion made by Mrs. Nothstine, second by Mrs. Thibault, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve Colleen Hurley to be paid at a rate of \$56.71/hour for additional hours worked as needed due to COVID-19 emergencies. Motion approved by voice vote: Mrs. Svendsen-Aye; Mrs. Nothstine-Aye; Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mrs. LoCascio-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mrs. Williver- Aye; Mrs. Thibault-Aye; Mrs. Kraft-Aye; Mr. Franek-Abstain.
4. Motion made by Mrs. Nothstine, second by Mrs. Svendsen, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following substitute teacher/paraprofessional for the 2020-2021 school year, to be paid at the previously approved substitute rate:

Ashley Rossi- Pending criminal history & background check.  
Motion approved by voice vote: Mrs. Svendsen-Aye; Mrs. Nothstine-Aye; Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mrs. LoCascio-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mrs. Williver- Aye; Mrs. Thibault-Aye; Mrs. Kraft-Aye; Mr. Franek-Abstain.
5. Motion made by Mrs. Nothstine, second by Mrs. LoCascio, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve Elaine Makarevich for Spanish classes, not to exceed 8 hours per week at a rate of \$40/hour beginning January 5, 2021 until position is filled. Motion approved by voice vote: Mrs. Svendsen-Aye; Mrs. Nothstine-Aye; Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mrs. LoCascio-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mrs. Williver- Aye; Mrs. Thibault-Aye; Mrs. Kraft-Aye; Mr. Franek-Abstain.
6. Motion made by Mrs. Nothstine, second by Mrs. Svendsen, to retroactively accept with regret, the resignation of Paraprofessional, Claire Demetroules, effective December 31, 2020. Motion approved by voice vote: Mrs. Svendsen-Aye; Mrs. Nothstine-Aye; Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mrs. LoCascio-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mrs. Williver- Aye; Mrs. Thibault-Aye; Mrs. Kraft-Aye; Mr. Franek-Abstain.
7. Motion made by Mrs. Nothstine, second by Mrs. Svendsen, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve return from leave of absence for employee #657 as of January 1, 2021 due to The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA Leaves) expiring as of December 31, 2020. Motion approved by voice vote: Mrs. Svendsen-Aye; Mrs. Nothstine-Aye; Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mrs. LoCascio-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mrs. Williver- Aye; Mrs. Thibault-Aye; Mrs. Kraft-Aye; Mr. Franek-Abstain.

## **POLICY**

None.



## **EDUCATION & CURRICULUM**

1. Motion made by Mrs. Williver, second by Mrs. LoCascio, to approve date change of the virtual preschool parent night titled, "Supporting Learning from Home," from December 16, 2020 to January 27, 2021. Motion approved by voice vote: Mrs. Svendsen-Aye; Mrs. Nothstine-Aye; Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mrs. LoCascio-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mrs. Williver- Aye; Mrs. Thibault-Aye; Mrs. Kraft-Aye; Mr. Franek-Abstain.

## **BUILDING & GROUNDS**

1. Mrs. Metzgar provided and update on the following Building & Grounds items:
  - 1966 Wing Boiler Project
  - Soda Ash System
  - Single Stall Restroom Project
  - Preschool Playground Update
  - Damaged Fence line update
  - Light pole damage

## **TRANSPORTATION**

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

ST8- 923 Old Foundry Road  
ST6- E Shore Dr @ Rock Lane

Motion approved by voice vote: Mrs. Svendsen-Aye; Mrs. Nothstine-Aye; Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mrs. LoCascio-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mrs. Williver- Aye; Mrs. Thibault-Aye; Mrs. Kraft-Aye; Mr. Franek-Abstain.

## **BUDGET & FINANCE**

1. Mrs. Metzgar distributed a tentative budget calendar. This calendar will be updated as more information is received. The budget process has begun. Once the board budget committee is formed, we will begin to meet.
2. Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mrs. Svendsen to accept the School Health Insurance Fund dividend in the amount of \$33,351. Motion approved by voice vote: Mrs. Svendsen-Aye; Mrs. Nothstine-Aye; Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mrs. LoCascio-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mrs. Williver- Aye; Mrs. Thibault-Aye; Mrs. Kraft-Aye; Mr. Franek-Abstain.

## **COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

Mrs. Williver reported on the following items:

- Sussex County Library System-Virtual Events
- Kittatinny Players- Hosting Annual Clothing Drive

**LEGISLATIVE**

None.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

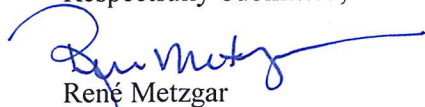
**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Mrs. Nothstine, second by Mrs. Thibault to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,



René Metzgar  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary