

November 15, 2021

The Stillwater Township Board of Education met on November 15, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Stillwater School All Purpose Room 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. Change of location was provided to the New Jersey Herald on September 30, 2021. Notices were posted in the Stillwater School, Town Hall, Stillwater Post Office, Middleville Post Office, Swartswood Post Office and the Stillwater School Website.

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

Absent: Mrs. Kraft, Mrs. Galante, and Mrs. Thibault.

Also present were William Kochis, Superintendent, René Metzgar, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Marissa Cramer, Principal/Supervisor of CST and Special Education/Basic Skills, 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 November 1, 2021. Motion approved by voice vote: Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mrs. Williver-Aye; Mrs. LoCascio-Aye; Mrs. Svendsen-Abstain; Mr. Franek-Abstain; Mrs. Nothstine-Aye.
2. Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mrs. Williver to approve the Executive Session Meeting minutes from November 1, 2021. Motion approved by voice vote: Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mrs. Williver-Aye; Mrs. LoCascio-Aye; Mrs. Svendsen-Abstain; Mr. Franek-Abstain; Mrs. Nothstine-Aye.
3. Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve the October 31, 2021 Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports which balanced in the amount of \$2,497,698.50 pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-16.10(c)3, we certify that as of October 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.
4. Unofficial Election Results- Mrs. Metzgar congratulated Mrs. Williver, Mr. Franek, Mrs. Frey and Ms. Voris for being the successful candidates for the 3 year and 1 year seats. Pending official results, the newly elected board members will be sworn in at our January 3rd Reorganization meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Kochis reported on the following items:

- Sustainable NJ Bronze Certification
- Thank you to the Green Team
- Stillwater received 100 red tulip bulbs for Red Ribbon Week.
- Recycling Program Update
- Thank you to the DPW and the recycling coordinator for assisting us in our new recycle program!
- Jets Game update-congratulations to the 6th graders selected to attend to represent Stillwater School.
- December 9th will be our Winter Concert.
- Regionalization Bill status update

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

-George Romeo- 959 Cedar Drive, Newton, NJ 07860-Asked what the school's stance is on vaccinations for children. He is concerned for his family and it should be his choice if he wants his children vaccinated. He hopes the school will not have the vaccinations offered on site.

-Kate Teresi- 1001 Fairview Lake Road, Newton, NJ 07860-Asked the board if they will push back on the vaccine mandate if there is one. She feels the same as Mr. Romeo in regards to required vaccinations for children. She noted Stillwater School has been great and her children love it, but she will pull her children if the State requires children to be vaccinated.

ACTION ITEMS:

PERSONNEL

1. Motion made by Mrs. Williver, 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. Williver, second by Mrs. Svendsen, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to retroactively approve Kelly Harmon & Associates Educational Consulting to provide 25 hours of RTI Training/consulting for a total cost of \$5,000 from October 2021-June 2022, to be paid through ESSER II Learning Loss funds. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

3. Motion made by Mrs. Williver, second by Mrs. LoCascio, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following stipends to be paid as per the SJS \$10,000 Recycle Grant:

<u>Employee Name</u>	<u>Stipend</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Janet Mahedy	Cafeteria Connection Advisor	\$1,000
Elaine Makarevich	Cafeteria Connection Advisor	\$1,000
Elaine Makarevich	Project Team/Green Team Coordinator	\$500 (second half)

A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.

4. Motion made by Mrs. Williver, second by Mrs. LoCascio, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following substitute teacher/paraprofessional for the 2021-2022 school year:

-Ingrid Pilkington (pending criminal history & background check)
 -Leah Slobodzian (pending criminal history & background check)
 -Emily Perez (pending criminal history & background check & certification)
 A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.

5. Motion made by Mrs. Williver, second by Mr. Franek, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following substitute paraprofessional for the 2021-2022 school year:

-Nicole DiRienzo (pending criminal history & background check)
 A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.

6. Motion made by Mrs. Williver, second by Mrs. LoCascio, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following graduate class at Fairleigh Dickinson University for Janet Mahedy, reimbursement as per SEA contract:

<u>Title of Course</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Curriculum Program Evaluation and Student Assessment	January 26, 2022- May 11, 2022	\$2,463.00

A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

7. Motion made by Mrs. Williver, second by Mrs. Svendsen, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve Jeanne Smetana to hold after school small group counseling for 12 sessions at \$75/session. Counseling to include parent component. Stipend to be paid through ESSER II mental health funds. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.
8. Motion made by Mrs. Williver, second by Mrs. LoCascio, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve Robin Van Dyk as the substitute pianist for the winter concert and rehearsals to be paid \$150 for the 2021-2022 school year (replacement for Kay Hatch). A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.

POLICY

1. Motion made by Mrs. Nothstine, second by Mrs. LoCascio, to approve the second and final reading of the following revised policy:
 Policy#5118 Non Residents
 A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

EDUCATION & CURRICULUM

1. Motion made by Mrs. Svendsen, second by Mr. Franek, to approve the revised Safe Return Plan for the Stillwater Township Elementary School as required by ARP ESSER III Funding. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.
2. Motion made by Mrs. Svendsen, second by Mrs. LoCascio, to approve the Youth Advocate Program to provide mental health services in the school building at no cost to the district between the hours of 8 am and 4 pm daily for the 2021-2022 school year. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
3. Motion made by Mrs. Svendsen, second by Mrs. LoCascio to approve Tri County Behavioral Care to provide on-site counseling services at no cost to the district for the 2021-2022 school year. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
4. BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by Mrs. Svendsen, second by Mr. Franek, that the Stillwater Township Board of Education approves the submission of the 2022-2023 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 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.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

1. Mrs. Metzgar provided an update on the following Building & Grounds items:
 - Restroom Project
 - Future projects- classroom ventilation upgrades, gymnasium ventilation and ceiling upgrade status, library project upgrade status, and building electrical upgrade. ESSER funds will be used to upgrade classroom unit ventilators. We do not have enough funds to do the gymnasium or library at this time. Mrs. Metzgar filled out an application for NJ Clean Energy for funding towards HVAC upgrades. This would allow us to complete additional ventilation upgrades in the building if awarded.
2. Motion made by Mrs. Williver, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve the revised building and use calendar for November 2021. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

3. Motion made by Mrs. Williver, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve building and use calendar for December 2021. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
4. Motion made by Mrs. Williver, second by Mrs. LoCascio to approve the Annual Safety and Security Plan and submit the SOA to the county office (Copy is available in the Superintendent's Office for review). A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.

TRANSPORTATION

1. Motion made by Mr. Franek, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve the following field trips for the 2021-2022 school year:

Location	Grade
Sussex County Fairgrounds/Swartwood State Park	Grade 2

A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

2. Motion made by Mr. Franek, second by Mrs. Svendsen, to approve transportation with Stocker Bus for the following field trip for the 2021-2022 school year:

Date	Location	Grade	Cost
April 27, 2022	Sussex County Fairgrounds & Swartwood State Park	Grade 2	\$330

A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

BUDGET & FINANCE

1. Mrs. Metzgar provided a Finance Update/Cafeteria Update/SOARS on the following items:
 - FEMA reimbursement update for application #2
 - SOARS-Food service review update
2. Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mr. Franek to approve regular checks from October 13, 2021-November 15, 2021 numbered 27549-27606, N1015, N1012, N1013, N1014, N1028, N1029, N1115, void check#27563 for a total of \$933,974.37. Cafeteria checks 2648-2650 in the amount of \$16,692.63. Student Activity checks 6602-6604 in the amount of \$1,374.00. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
3. Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve the attached list of purchase orders over \$1,000 for 2021-2022 school year. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
4. Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve monthly travel as attached. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
5. Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve transfers from October 1, 2021 to October 31, 2021 as attached. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

6. Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mrs. Svendsen to authorize the submission of the American Rescue Plan-ESSER Grant applications and accept the grant award of these funds upon subsequent approval of the application as listed:

Category	Allocation
ESSER	\$197,502
Accelerated Learning Coaching and Educator Support Grant	\$50,000
Evidence-Based Summer Learning and Enrichment Activities Grant	\$40,000
Evidence-Based Comprehensive Beyond the School Day Activities Grant	\$40,000
NJTSS Mental Health Support Staffing Grant	\$45,000

A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

LEGISLATION

No Report.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Mrs. Williver reported on the following items:

- Winter Concert- December 9th
- Stuff the Stocking Toy Drive Student Council 11/1-11/19
- PTA Holiday Vendor Fair-December 4th
- Sixth Grade Class Fundraiser-Fresh Coffee & Gourmet Snacks
- Stillwater School Spirit Wear on sale now.
- Stillwater Fire Department-Thanksgiving meals
- Camp Auxilium Dinner with Santa & Drive thru Christmas lights-December 9th
- Stillwater Fire Department-Breakfast with Santa-December 12th
- Kittatinny Players Poinsettia Sale orders due by November 24th.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

NEW BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

-Kate Teresi- 1001 Fairview Lake Road, Newton, NJ 07860- She looked up the ESSER funds and it looks like they want schools to be vaccinations sites. She wanted to make sure this does not obligate Stillwater School to become a vaccination site.

Dr. Kochis responded that accepting the ESSER funds does not obligate the school to be a vaccination site.

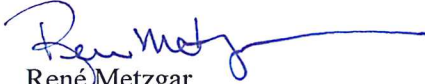
EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURN

Motion made by Mrs. Williver, second by Mrs. Svendsen to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 p.m.
A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,



René Metzgar
Business Administrator/Board Secretary