

November 1, 2021

The Stillwater Township Board of Education met on November 1, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Stillwater School All Purpose Room for a Committee of the Whole 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, Swartwood Post Office and the Stillwater School Website.

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

Absent: Mrs. Nothstine, Mrs. Svendsen, and Mr. Franek.

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.

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## **BOARD BUSINESS**

1. Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mrs. Thibault, to approve the Regular Board of Education Meeting minutes from October 12, 2021. Motion approved by voice vote: Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mrs. Thibault-Aye; Mrs. Kraft-Aye; Mrs. Williver-Aye; Mrs. LoCascio-Aye; Mrs. Galante-Abstain.
2. Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mrs. Kraft, to approve the September 30, 2021 Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports which balanced in the amount of \$2,300,111.37 pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-16.10(c)3, we certify that as of September 30, 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.
3. Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mrs. Galante, to approve the 2022 Board Reorganization Meeting & Committee of the Whole Meeting to be held on Monday, January 3, 2022 with a snow date of Tuesday, January 4, 2022, beginning at 7:00 pm. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
4. Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mrs. Thibault, to approve the submission of the Statement of Assurance and QSAC DPR's to the county office and Department of Education. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.

5. Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mrs. Kraft, to approve the 2021-2022 Board Goals action plans. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
6. NJSBA Virtual Convention Update-Dr. Kochis and Mrs. Metzgar along with other board members provided an update on the various workshops they attended for the conference. All of the conference videos will be available until November 27<sup>th</sup>.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### PERSONNEL

1. Motion made by Mrs. Galante, second by Mrs. Williver, 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 Joann Graupe as the Part-time (.8FTE) Special Education leave replacement Teacher to begin on or about November 8, 2021-February 28, 2022 at a rate of \$268.96 per day to be paid on the same schedule as all other substitute teachers. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.
3. Motion made by Mrs. Galante, second by Mrs. LoCascio to accept with regret the resignation of Kathleen Kane, Treasurer of School Monies, for the purpose of retirement, effective November 1, 2021. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
4. Motion made by Mrs. Galante, second by Mrs. LoCascio, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve Emily Perez to complete 10 observation hours for Centenary University coursework with Lorraine Bickhardt. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
5. Motion made by Mrs. Galante, second by Mrs. Kraft, to accept with regret, the resignation of Lisa Hutcheson, effective December 22, 2021 or earlier if a replacement is found. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
6. Motion made by Mrs. Galante, second by Mrs. LoCascio, to approve Kay Hatch as the pianist for the 2021-2022 holiday & spring concerts and rehearsals for a total of \$300.00. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.
7. The following motion was tabled to a future meeting:

*Motion, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following after school programs for the 2021-2022 school year. The stipend for each teacher is \$410, to be paid from ESSER II Mental Health Funds:*

<i>Worry Warriors</i>	<i>Jeanne Smetana</i>	<i>Grades 4-6</i>
<i>Healthy Friendships Group</i>	<i>Jeanne Smetana</i>	<i>Grades 4-6</i>

8. Motion made by Mrs. Galante, second by Mrs. LoCascio, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following substitute teacher/paraprofessional for the 2021-2022 school year:  
-Gianna Grace (pending criminal history & background check)  
A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.

### **POLICY**

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

### **EDUCATION & CURRICULUM**

1. Dynamic Learning Maps score reporting- Mrs. Cramer reported that four students were eligible to take this assessment, two waived to opt out. She also reviewed the results of those that took the assessment.
2. Ms. Roberts reported our 2020-2021 HIB Self-Assessment. Mrs. Roberts and Mrs. Smetana completed the assessment. We scored 74 out of 78 points.
3. Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mrs. Kraft to approve the School Nursing Services Plan for Stillwater Township School for the 2021-2022 school year. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.

### **BUILDING & GROUNDS**

1. Mrs. Metzgar provided an update on the following Building & Grounds items:  
-Preschool Shed  
-Restroom Project  
-Future projects  
  
Dr. Kochis spoke about a part-time custodian due to the increased cleaning and maintenance for four preschool classrooms. This custodian would be funded through PEA funding.
2. Clothes Donation Bin Discussion- Dr. Kochis discussed with the board the option of having a clothes donation bin to continue with our efforts of recycling. The board spoke about the pros and cons of the bin.

### **TRANSPORTATION**

1. Mrs. Roberts provided a report on the Bus Evacuation Drill that was conducted on October 7, 2021. The drill occurred at 3:00pm in the main driveway prior to dismissal. ST5, ST6, ST7, ST8, ST9, ST25 and the van participated in the drill. Ms. Roberts and Mrs. Cramer supervised the drills along with several staff members.

2. Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mrs. Kraft to approve the return bus fee of \$75.00 for the 2021-2022 school year, for any student returned to the school if no one is at the bus stop. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
3. Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mrs. Thibault to approve the following field trip for the 2021-2022 school year:

Date	Location	Grade
November 2, 2021 Rain Date: Nov. 3, 2021	Stillwater Historical Society	Grade 2- Walking Trip

A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

**BUDGET & FINANCE**

1. Motion made by Mrs. Thibault, second by Mrs. Kraft to approve transfers from September 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021 as attached. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
2. Motion made by Mrs. Thibault, second by Mrs. LoCascio to approve tuition contract with Newton Board of Education from September 1, 2021-June 30, 2022 for total amount of \$15,658 for student 02042015. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
3. Motion made by Mrs. Thibault, second by Mrs. LoCascio to accept the safety grant award from New Jersey School’s Insurance Group in the amount of \$2,300. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
4. Motion made by Mrs. Thibault, second by Mrs. LoCascio to accept the donation from Heather Vivian on behalf of her father in the amount of \$500 for the School Garden. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

Mrs. Williver reported on the following items:

- Thanked everyone who came out for the PTA Halloween Activities
- The KRHS Players did a fantastic job on their performance this weekend of Alice and Wonderland
- KRHS Players are holding a poinsettia fundraiser
- Stillwater Rec basketball is starting up! PK-2 clinics and teams for 3-6.

**LEGISLATIVE**

No report.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mrs. Williver at 7:42 pm, 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 SEA Contract Negotiations 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.

Mrs. Thibault, Mrs. Cramer and Ms. Roberts were excused from the meeting at 7:42 pm.

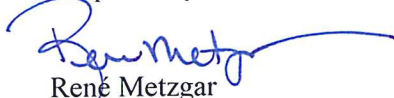
Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio and seconded by Mrs. Kraft at 7:51 p.m. to come out of executive session and return to public session. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

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## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mrs. Kraft to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 p.m. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,



René Metzgar  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary