

September 13, 2021

The Stillwater Township Board of Education met on August 23, 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 1, 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. Galante, Mrs. Kraft 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 Regular Board of Education Meeting minutes from August 23, 2021. Motion approved by voice vote: Mrs. Svendsen-Aye; Mrs. Nothstine-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mrs. Williver-Aye; Mr. Franek-Aye; Mrs. LoCascio-Abstain.
2. Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mr. Franek to approve the Executive Session Meeting minutes from August 23, 2021. Motion approved by voice vote: Mrs. Svendsen-Aye; Mrs. Nothstine-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mrs. Williver-Aye; Mr. Franek-Aye; Mrs. LoCascio-Abstain.
3. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. LoCascio to approve the July 31, 2021 Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports which balanced in the amount of \$2,468,774.18 pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-16.10(c)3, we certify that as of July 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. Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve the following 2021-2022 District Goals:
 1. Continue to develop and implement a plan to open school to allow for all students to attend full day, in-person while abiding by the mandates and guidelines of the Department of Education and Department of Health (Strategic Plan Goal #3: Community).

2. Raise awareness with staff, students, and the community on the topic of diversity and equity in education (SP Goals #2, Global Citizenship, and # 4: The Whole Child).

3. Utilize assessment data to evaluate student literacy levels and implement interventions to those below grade level (SP Goal #1: Teaching and Learning).

A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

5. Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve the following 2021-2022 Board Goals:

1. Engage in regular Board professional development in the areas of Ethics, and Roles & Responsibilities.

2. Continue to maintain open communication with our community and to support the District's communication efforts in relation to school restart and recovery during and after the pandemic.

A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

6. Establish Board Goals Committee/Action plan process

Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mrs. Nothstine to form an ad-hoc committee to develop board goals action plans with the following members:

-Danielle LoCascio

-Cheryl Williver

A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

7. Resolution made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mr. Franek, for Group Registration to attend the Virtual NJSBA Workshop on October 26-28, 2021 for Board Members and Administration:

WHEREAS, The board of education has determined that the workshop, training and informational programs sponsored by New Jersey School Boards Association and set forth below are directly related to and within the scope of board members' and employees' duties; and

WHEREAS, The board of education has determined that the workshop, training and informational programs sponsored by New Jersey School Boards Association and set forth below are directly related to and within the scope of the current responsibilities and the board's professional development plan; and

RESOLVED, That the Stillwater Board of Education hereby approves the attendance of the school board members and district administration to the New Jersey School Boards Association workshop, training and informational programs, and the costs of attendance for a total cost of \$900 to register as a group. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PERSONNEL

1. Motion made by Mrs. Nothstine, 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. Nothstine, second by Mrs. LoCascio, to retroactively accept the resignation of Tara Gourlay, part-time preschool paraprofessional, effective August 27, 2021. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
3. Motion made by Mrs. Nothstine, second by Mrs. LoCascio, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following substitute custodian & hourly rate increase for the 2021-2022 school year beginning September 14, 2021:

Joseph Falotico- \$15.00/hour

A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.
4. Motion made by Mrs. Nothstine, second by Mrs. LoCascio, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following substitute teachers/paraprofessionals for the 2021-2022 school year:

-Maria Amella (pending criminal history & background check)
-Lisa Scott (pending criminal history & background check)
-Denise Castner (pending criminal history & background check)

A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
5. Motion made by Mrs. Nothstine, second by Mrs. LoCascio, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve Kenneth Hayes to complete 40 hours of student teaching through East Stroudsburg University with Meghan Radimer from September 24-December 10, 2021. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
6. Motion made by Mrs. Nothstine, second by Mrs. LoCascio upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve shared service contract agreement from September 1, 2021-June 30, 2022 with Hampton Township Board of Education & Fredon Township Board of Education, for a media specialist/librarian, Carol Kolenet for total amount of \$5,959.91. She will be in Stillwater 2.5 periods every other week (.056 FTE). Hampton will be LEA. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
7. Motion made by Mrs. Nothstine, second by Mrs. Svendsen, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to offer a contract to the following part-time 15 hours/week Preschool Para-Professional staff member for employment for the 2021-2022 school year from September 14, 2021-June 30, 2022 (pending criminal history & background check) to be paid at an hourly rate:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Base Hourly Rate</u>	<u>Adjustments</u>	<u>Total Hourly Rate</u>
Denise Castner	\$18.02	\$1.00/hour Teacher certification	\$19.02

A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

8. Motion made by Mrs. Nothstine, second by Mrs. LoCascio, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following stipend positions for the 2021-2022 school year:

Public Relations	Jessica Garrigan	\$850
Student Council (Co)	Christine Pagano	\$425
Student Council (Co)	Lynda Collier	\$425
Yearbook	Meghan Radimer	\$850
Yearbook	Maureen Riva	\$850
Night Foreman	Nick Carbonaro	\$850

A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

9. Motion made by Mrs. Nothstine, second by Mrs. LoCascio, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following evening family programs for the 2021-2022 school year. The stipend for each teacher is \$820 paid for by Title I:

Literacy Connections	Ramona Knapp	Beth Johnson	Grade 1
Family Math	Ramona Knapp	Beth Johnson	Grade 3

A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

10. Motion made by Mrs. Nothstine, second by Mrs. Svendsen, 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

Let's Be More Social	Maureen Riva	Meghan Radimer	Grades K-2
Lego League Jr.	Beth Johnson	Ramona Knapp	Grade 3
Fall Morning Fitness	Maureen Riva	Meghan Radimer	Grades K-3
Fall Morning Fitness	Maureen Riva	Meghan Radimer	Grades 4-6
Spring Morning Fitness	Maureen Riva	Meghan Radimer	Grades K-3
Spring Morning Fitness	Maureen Riva	Meghan Radimer	Grades 4-6
LÜ Projector Club	Steve Tiberi	Meghan Radimer	Grades 5-6

A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

11. Motion made by Mrs. Nothstine, second by Mrs. Svendsen, 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 paid through Title IV:

Chess Club	Elaine Makarevich	Janet Mahedy	Grades 4-6
Green Thumbs	Elaine Makarevich		Grade 5
Green Thumbs	Elaine Makarevich		Grade 6
Lego League Jr.	Beth Johnson	Ramona Knapp	Grade 2
Let's B-Social	Maureen Riva	Meghan Radimer	Grades K-2
B-Active Club	Maureen Riva	Meghan Radimer	Grades 3-6
ASE/SEEK	Steve Tiberi		Grade 6
ASE/SEEK	Steve Tiberi		Grade 6

A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

POLICY

1. Motion made by Mrs. Nothstine, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve the third reading of the following new policy:

Policy #3542.2 School Meal Program Arrears

A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

2. Motion made by Mrs. Nothstine, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve the first reading of the following new policies:

Policy#5141.10 Face Coverings

Policy#5141.11 Vaccination and Testing

A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

EDUCATION & CURRICULUM

1. Motion made by Mrs. Svendsen, second by Mrs. LoCascio, to retroactively approve contract agreement from September 1, 2021-June 30, 2022 with ABA Initiatives, LLC, for a BCBA Consultant, Amanda Davis, for an hourly rate of \$100/hour for direct services & \$85/hour for indirect services, not to exceed 6 hours per month. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.
2. Motion made by Mrs. Svendsen, second by Mrs. LoCascio to accept the donation of World Language teaching materials from Raphael Carchia, value TBD. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

1. Mrs. Metzgar provided an update on the following Building and Grounds items:
 - Single Stall Restroom Project
 - Masonry work
 - Front Security Gate
 - Dishwasher install
 - Preschool Shed

2. Integrated Pest Management Plan- Mrs. Metzgar
The plan calls for the use of non-toxic means of addressing pest infestations. Mr. Maggio has been trained in these procedures and is the coordinator of the program. The extermination service that we use must conform to these practices. If there is a situation that requires the use of toxic chemicals, the public must be informed and signs displayed 72 hours before and after the application. Annually we send a letter to parents about the program with a copy of the policy. A copy of the policy is also available on our website.
3. Motion made by Mrs. Williver, second by Mr. Franek to approve the revised building and use calendar for September 2021. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

TRANSPORTATION

1. Motion made by Mr. Franek, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve the Resolution for participation in Joint Transportation Agreement for special education with the Sussex County Regional Cooperative for the 2021-2022 school year as needed. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.
2. Motion made by Mr. Franek, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve the Resolution for participation in Joint Transportation Agreement for Public/Private School with the Sussex County Regional Cooperative for the 2021-2022 school year as needed. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.
3. Motion made by Mr. Franek, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve the Resolution for participation in Joint Transportation Agreement for Field Trips with the Sussex County Regional Cooperative for the 2021-2022 school year as needed. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.
4. Motion made by Mr. Franek, second by Mrs. Svendsen to approve the following new bus stops:

ST 6- 902 Mt. Benevolence Road
ST7- 1029 Old Foundry Road
A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

BUDGET & FINANCE

1. Motion made by Mrs. LoCascio, second by Mrs. Svendsen, to retroactively accept the following 2021-2022 tuition student beginning September 7, 2021:

<u>Sending District</u>	<u>Student</u>	<u>Tuition Cost</u>	<u>Program</u>
Lincoln Park	02112012	\$21,500	Grade 4

A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Mrs. Williver reported on the following items:

- 6th Grade Recognition Committee Bake Sale- September 16th
- PTA Family Fun Night- September 17th
- Kittatinny Players Pizza Fundraiser-September 23rd
- Kittatinny Players Fall Drama is Alice and Wonderland
- Stillwater Historical Society Fall Festival- October 9th
- September is Library card sign up month at the Sussex County Library
- The Annual Sussex Christian School Fall Festival and Sussex County Arts and Heritage Food Truck Festival- September 18th
- Sussex County Day sponsored by The Sussex County Chamber of Commerce at the Fairgrounds- September 19th
- Town of Newton Fall Festival and Car Show- October 10th
- Yoga with Puppies- 6th Grade Recognition Fundraiser- This Saturday

LEGISLATIVE

No report.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mike Lupo- 939 Ridge Road- Stated he had no problems with Stillwater School, the teachers, or the Board of Education. He believes everyone is doing a wonderful job. He expressed his problem is with Governor Murphy and Executive Order 251. He asked the Board of Education to defy the order, giving the parents the choice to mask their children. He believes this is abuse for the children.

Paul Barta- 902 Owassa Road- Stated Mr. Lupo made good points, and it is unfortunate the children have to suffer. Wishes we would readdress the resolution regarding the mask mandate. Also asked if Stillwater and Fredon every considered combining schools? He understands we share many services, but we should combine and have everyone fit into Stillwater.

Vera Rumsey- 956 Fairview Lake Road- Introduced herself again as the Township Liaison to the school. Announced the Community Center is open for non profit organizations to use at no cost. The center held summer camp this summer for children for two weeks and was very successful. The Township put a crosswalk in from the building to the park and they are working on getting the speed limit reduced. September 24th is a Senior Citizen activity night, and also many other activities as the boy scouts and girl scouts are also meeting there. October 15th will be a Flu Clinic at the Community Center. October 28th there will also be an educational seminar from the Hemp Farm, including a Q&A Session. This is open to the public.

Paul Barta- 902 Owassa Road- In Reference to the Hemp Farmer, there may be a possible resolution change in the ordinance to be able to grow marijuana.

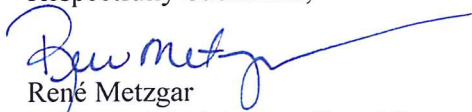
EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Mrs. Svendsen, second by Mrs. Williver to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 p.m. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,



René Metzgar
Business Administrator/Board Secretary