

May 22, 2023

The Stillwater Township Board of Education met on May 22, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Stillwater School Library for a Regular Board of Education Meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Krista Galante, President, 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 & Star Ledger on January 10, 2023. Notices were posted in the Stillwater School, Town Hall, Stillwater Post Office, Swartswood Post Office and the Stillwater School Website.

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

Absent: Mr. Franek and Mrs. Williver.

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 Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Frey, to approve the Committee of the Whole Board of Education meeting minutes and Executive Session Minutes from May 8, 2023. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
2. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Frey, to approve the April 30, 2023 Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports which balanced in the amount of \$2,292,248.20 pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-16.10(c)3, we certify that as of April 30, 2023 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.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Kochis reported on the following items:

- Spring Concert
- Cafeteria Connections Presentation
- NJSLA Testing
- Year End Activities

CORRESPONDENCE

- Thank you card to the BOE for providing the Teacher Appreciation Breakfast- Jess Steffens
- Thank you card to the BOE for providing the Teacher Appreciation Breakfast- SEA Members
- Thank you card to the BOE for providing the Teacher Appreciation Breakfast- Janet Mahedy
- Thank you card to the BOE for providing the bus to the Crayola Factory- Second Grade

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

*This public session is designed for members of the public to speak on items for Board consideration. By law, the Board of Education is under no obligation to respond to public comment. If the Board of Education chooses to respond, it does not waive its right thereafter not to respond. Members of the public are asked to state their name and address for the record. ***Members of the public are requested to keep their comments to a maximum of 5 minutes. ***

None.

ACTION ITEMS:

PERSONNEL

1. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Frey, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve attached professional days. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
2. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Thibault, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following substitute Teacher/Paraprofessional for the 2022-2023 school year:

Danielle LoCascio (pending criminal history & background check)
A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
3. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Kraft upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve shared service contract agreement for the 2023-2024 school year with Kittatinny Regional High School, for a Spanish Teacher for an annual cost of \$48,922.50. KRHS will be LEA. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
4. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Frey, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve Stella Goyo-Shields, as the shared Spanish Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year. KRHS will be the LEA. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
5. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Kraft, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve Cali Roberts as the 10 Month/200 day, Regional Curriculum Coordinator/Teacher at an annual salary of \$92,578.18 for the 2023-2024 school year. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.
6. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Valeich, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve shared service contract for the 2023-2024 school year for the part-time Regional Curriculum Coordinator, Cali Roberts, at annual cost of

\$67,624.93, split equally between Sandyston-Walpack, Fredon, Hampton, Stillwater, and Kittatinny Regional High School. The Stillwater Township Board of Education will serve as the LEA. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

7. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Thibault, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve contract with René Metzgar as School Business Administrator/Board Secretary/Director of Technology, from July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024, for an annual salary of \$128,018.41. Contract was approved by the county office on May 22, 2023. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.
8. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Kraft, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve contract with Marissa Cramer as Principal/Supervisor of Child Study Team, Special Education, BSI from July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024, for an annual salary of \$111,031.88. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.
9. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Thiabult to accept with regret, the resignation of Elaine Makarevich, effective June 30, 2023, for the purpose of retirement. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
10. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Frey to retroactively approve the following employee to be charged to the IDEA Basic Grant beginning May 1, 2023-June 30, 2023:

Name	Position	Estimated Salary to be charged to grant	% Charged to grant	Expense Account number
Sherri Callaghan (Replaces Maria Amella being charged to grant)	Paraprofessional	\$1,577.84	50%	20-250-100-106

A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

11. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Valeich upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve shared service contract agreement with the Stillwater Township Board of Education, Fredon Township Board of Education, Hampton Township Board of Education, Sandyston-Walpack Board of Education, and Kittatinny Regional Board of Education for school security officers as needed for the 2023-2024 school year. Stillwater & Kittatinny will be the LEAs. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
12. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Kraft, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve shared service contract agreement between the Stillwater Township Board of Education, Fredon Township Board of Education, Hampton Township Board of Education, Sandyston-Walpack Board of Education, and Kittatinny Regional Board of Education, for nursing services for the purpose to administer medication when no nurse is available for the 2023-2024 school year. There will be no cost to any district for this service. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

13. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Frey, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to retroactively approve an extended leave absence for employee #291 from May 15, 2023 and return on or about June 5, 2023. This leave is covered by FMLA and sick time may be used during this leave. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
14. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Valeich, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to retroactively approve a leave absence for employee #876 from May 8, 2023 and return on or about May 19, 2023. This leave is covered by FMLA and sick time may be used during this leave. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
15. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Thibault, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to retroactively approve an extended leave absence for employee #925 from May 8, 2023 and return on or about May 22, 2023. This leave is covered by FMLA and sick time may be used during this leave. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
16. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Frey, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following personnel for the summer program from July 5, 2023-July 28, 2023 (16 days), funding source as listed:

Alyssa Fedorczyk: Preschool \$3,380 (IDEA-PS)
 Michele Bird: \$3,380 (ESSER III-Summer Learning)
 Beth Johnson: \$3,380 (ESSER III-Summer Learning)
 Erica Then: \$3,380 (ESSER III-Summer Learning)
 Briana Deflippis \$3,380 (IDEA-B)
 Janet Mahedy: \$3,380 (ESSER III-Summer Learning)
 Mary DiRienzo: \$3,380 (IDEA-B)
 Kerri LoCicero: \$3,380 (ESSER III-Summer Learning)
 Danielle Hoon: \$3,380 (Title 1)
 Maureen Riva: \$3,380 (IDEA-B)
 Jessica Garrigan: Speech \$3,380 (IDEA-B)
 Colleen Hurley: Nurse \$3,380 (ESSER III-Summer Learning /IDEA-B)
 Jeanne Smetana: Social Worker-10 days- \$3,440 (IDEA-B)
 Jennifer Siple: Bus Aide \$280 (IDEA-B)
 Nicole DiRienzo: Bus Aide \$280 (IDEA-PS)
 Jennifer Siple: Paraprofessional- \$1,150 (IDEA-B)
 Hellen Salitt: Paraprofessional-\$1,150(IDEA-B)
 Maria Lewis: Paraprofessional-\$1,150(ESSER III-Summer Learning)
 Kamryn Polowy: Paraprofessional- \$1,150 (ESSER III-Summer Learning)
 Nicole DiRienzo- Paraprofessional- \$1,150 (ESSER III-Summer Learning)
 Stephanie Block: Paraprofessional- \$1,150 (ESSER III-Summer Learning)
 Killian Leahy: Paraprofessional- \$1,150 (IDEA-PS)

A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.

POLICY

1. Motion made by Mrs. Frey, second by Mrs. Thibault to approve the first reading of the following revised policy:

Policy#5111 Admission

A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

EDUCATION & CURRICULUM

1. Motion made by Mrs. Kraft, second by Mrs. Thibault, to approve contract with 4M Consulting, LLC to provide Library-Media Specialist services at a rate of \$100/hour, not to exceed \$5,000 for the 2023-2024 school year. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
2. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Valeich to approve the establishment of a half-day Preschoolers with Disabilities Program beginning the 2023-2024 school year. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.
3. Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mr. DeGroat to approve the 2021-2022 HIB grades. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

1. Mrs. Metzgar reported on the following Building & Grounds items:
 - 1941 Drainage Project
 - Exhaust Fan Project
2. Motion made by Mrs. Valeich, second by Mrs. Kraft, to approve building and use calendar for June 2023. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
3. Motion made by Mrs. Valeich, second by Mrs. Thibault, to approve the maintenance contract with Morris County Elevator from July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024, at a yearly cost of \$2,868. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
4. Motion made by Mrs. Valeich, second by Mrs. Kraft, to approve the renewal of student accident insurance with Bollinger Specialty Group for the 2023-2024 school year for a total cost of \$5,166. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
5. Motion made by Mrs. Valeich, second by Mr. DeGroat, to reject all bids for the 1941 Drainage Improvements Project at the Stillwater Township School:
Bids :

Bidders	Base Bid	Alt. #1	Total
Ferraro Construction Corp.	\$356,850	\$237,985	\$594,835
A-Tech Concrete	No bid received		
Berto Construction	No bid received		
Brent Material Company	No bid received		

Drill Construction	No bid received
Grade Construction	No bid received
Hear Construction	No bid received
Nordoc Contracting, Inc.	No bid received
North Jersey Excavation	No bid received
Tomco, Inc.	No bid received

A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.

- Motion made by Mrs. Valeich, second by Mrs. Kraft, to award the bid for the Exhaust Fan Replacement Project at the Stillwater Township School to Iron Mountain Mechanical, LLC for a total bid price of \$152,995.

Bids :

Bidders	Base Bid
Iron Mountain Mechanical, LLC	\$152,995
C. Dougherty & Co., Inc.	\$183,000
Envirocon	No bid received
Honeywell	No bid received
Mechanical Technologies	No bid received
Teo Technologies, Inc.	No bid received
Thassian Mechanical Contracting	No bid received

A roll call vote was taken and unanimously approved.

TRANSPORTATION

None.

BUDGET & FINANCE

- Motion made by Mrs. Thibault, second by Mr. DeGroat, to approve regular checks from April 25, 2023-May 22, 2023 numbered 28733-28783, N0426, N0428, N0502, N0515, for a total of \$650,354.84. Cafeteria check number 2690-2692, in the amount of \$21,004.17, Student activity checks numbered 6652-6655 in the amount of \$1,531.50. For a grand total of \$672,890.51. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
- Motion made by Mrs. Thibault, second by Mr. DeGroat, to approve the attached list of purchase orders over \$1,000 for 2022-2023 school year. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
- Motion made by Mrs. Thibault, second by Mr. DeGroat, to approve monthly travel as attached. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.
- Motion made by Mrs. Thibault, second by Mrs. Frey, to approve transfers from April 1, 2023 to April 30, 2023 as attached. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

5. Motion made by Mrs. Thibault, second by Mr. DeGroat, to approve the 2022-2023 membership participation fee for Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council (“Township of Randolph”) in the amount of \$1,100. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

LEGISLATION

Mrs. Kraft reported on the following items:

On May 15, Governor Murphy signed the following bills into law:

Tuition for Nonresident Students: requires boards of education to charge all nonresident students admitted to the district a uniform tuition amount, with exceptions for county vocational technical schools, children of teaching staff members, certain children of members of the New Jersey National Guard or reserve component of the armed forces (as allowed under current law), or pursuant to any federal law, state law, regulation, or court order governing tuition charges. The bill requires executive county superintendents to approve the uniform tuition amount. The law goes into effect in the 2023-2024 school year.

Lyme Disease Prevention Instruction: requires school districts to incorporate guidelines developed by the NJDOE regarding instruction in prevention of Lyme Disease and other tick-borne diseases into their Comprehensive Health and Physical Education curricula in grades K-12. The law also updates the topics that must be included in the NJDOE’s guidelines to include “the biology of various tick species, tick habitats, a list of diseases transmitted by ticks, recommended attire and repellants to help protect an individual from ticks, how to perform tick checks, and symptoms an individual may experience after receiving a tick bite.” As part of their incorporation of NJDOE’s guidelines, districts will be required to “consult resources from multiple nationally-recognized organizations with expertise in Lyme Disease or other tick-borne diseases.” The law goes into effect in the 2023-2024 school year.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Mrs. Voris reported on the following items:

- PTA Fundraiser- C&C Growers ends Saturday!
- Memorial Day celebration at Veterans Park at 10:00 am
- PTA June Event- Ice cream truck, roller skating, and playground activities- June 2nd

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Board member required training- Due December 31, 2023.
2. NJSBA Conference Registration

NEW BUSINESS

-Mr. DeGroat saw the homeschool Facebook comment and he was happy to see all the great things said about Stillwater School!

-School Board Petitions for 2024

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

*This public session is designed for members of the public to speak on items for Board consideration. By law, the Board of Education is under no obligation to respond to public comment. If the Board of Education chooses to respond, it does not waive its right thereafter not to respond. Members of the public are asked to state their name and address for the record. ***Members of the public are requested to keep their comments to a maximum of 5 minutes. ***

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by Mrs. Thibault, second by Mrs. Frey at 7:37 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 Superintendent Evaluation it is expected that the minutes taken of this closed session will be made public when the reason for confidentiality no longer exists.


Dr. Kochis, Mrs. Metzgar, and Mrs. Cramer were excused from the meeting at 7:37 pm.

Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Frey at 7:57 p.m. to come out of executive session and return to public session. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

ADJOURN

Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Frey to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,



René Metzgar
Business Administrator/Board Secretary