

STILLWATER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
 Committee of the Whole Meeting- 7:00 P.M.-Library
 Agenda-September 9, 2024

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Galante

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 3, 2024. Notices were posted in the Stillwater School, Town Hall, Stillwater Post Office, Swartswood Post Office and the Stillwater School Website.

B. FLAG SALUTE

Mrs. Galante

C. ROLL CALL

Mrs. Metzgar

| BOARD MEMBERS | PRESENT | ABSENT |
|-----------------|---------|--------|
| Dennis DeGroat | | |
| Darrick Franek | | |
| Margaret Frey | | |
| Krista Galante | | |
| Jennifer Kraft | | |
| Karen Thibault | | |
| Amy Valeich | | |
| Christine Voris | | |
| Cheryl Williver | | |

D. BOARD BUSINESS

Mrs. Galante

That the following Board Business resolutions be approved:

1. Motion to approve the Regular Board of Education Meeting minutes from August 19, 2024. (attachment)

2. Motion to approve the July 31, 2024 Board Secretary’s and Treasurer’s Reports which balanced in the amount of \$3,487,674.75 pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-16.10(c)3, we certify that as of July 31, 2024 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. (attachment)

Moved By: _____ **Seconded By:** _____

Vote:

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS

PERSONNEL

Mr. DeGroat

That the following Personnel resolutions 1-6 be approved as recommended by Superintendent:

- 1. Motion, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve attached professional days. (attachment)
- 2. Motion, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to retroactively approve unpaid leave of absence for employee #933 from September 3, 2024 to on or about September 30, 2024.
- 3. Motion, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to retroactively approve Tracey Coombs (ST25-IDEA B Grant) and Killian Leahy as a bus aides from September 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 for a stipend in the amount of \$3,240 each, to be paid as worked.
- 4. Motion, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following staff member to sub as a bus aide from September 10, 2024 to June 30, 2025 to be paid a daily rate of \$18.00 (\$9.00/run), not to exceed a total of \$3,240 to be paid as per timesheets submitted:

-Emily Perez

- 5. Motion, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following substitute paraprofessionals/main office secretaries for the 2024-2025 school year:

-Jessica Martinez (pending criminal history & background check)

- 6. Motion to accept with regret, the resignation of Robert Schalk, Part-Time Custodian, effective September 3, 2024.

Moved By: _____ Seconded By: _____

Roll Call Vote:

That the following Personnel resolutions 7-9 be approved as recommended by Superintendent:

- 7. Motion, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following before & after school programs for the 2024-2025 school year. The stipend for each teacher is \$410:

| Club Name | Staff Member #1 | Staff member #2 | Grade Level | Grant/Account |
|-------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------|----------------------------|
| Garden Club | Corrine Robinson | Erica Then | Multi | Title IV 20-280-100-100 |
| Let's Be Social (Fall) | Maureen Riva | Meghan Earley | K-2 | Title IV 20-280-100-100 |
| Let's Be More Social (Spring) | Maureen Riva | Meghan Earley | K-2 | Title IV 20-280-100-100 |
| Lego Club | Beth Johnson | Ramona Knapp | Grade 3 | Title IV 20-280-100-100 |
| Fall Morning Fitness Club | Meghan Earley | Janessa Green | 3-6 | Title IV 20-280-100-100 |
| Spring Morning Fitness Club | Meghan Earley | Janessa Green | K-2 | Title IV 20-280-100-100 |

8. Motion, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following after school program for the 2024-2025 school year. The stipend for each teacher is \$597.

| Club Name | Staff Member #1 | Staff Member #2 | Grade Level | Grant/Account |
|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-------------|----------------------------|
| TREP\$ | Corrine Robinson | Janet Mahedy | Grade 6 | Title IV 20-280-100-100 |

9. Motion, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following evening family programs for the 2024-2025 school year. The stipend for each teacher is \$820:

| Club | Staff Member #1 | Staff Member #2 | Grade Level | Grant |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| Literacy Connections | Ramona Knapp | Beth Johnson | Grade 1 | Title I 20-231-100-101 |
| Family Math | Ramona Knapp | Beth Johnson | Grade 3 | Title I 20-231-100-101 |

Moved By: _____ Seconded By: _____

Roll Call Vote:

POLICY

Mrs. Frey

EDUCATION & CURRICULUM

Mrs. Kraft

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Mrs. Williver

1. Building and Grounds Update- Mrs. Metzgar
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.

That the following Building & Grounds resolution be approved:

3. Motion to approve Article 12 maintenance agreement annual addendum of the uniform state memorandum of agreement between education and law enforcement officials and to re-adopt the Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement between Education and Law Enforcement Officials and authorize the submission of same to the County Superintendent, County Prosecutor and Law Enforcement Officials. (Copy is available in the Superintendent’s Office for review).

Moved By: _____ Seconded By: _____

Roll Call Vote:

TRANSPORTATION

Mrs. Valeich

That the following Transportation resolutions be approved:

1. Motion to approve the following field trips for the 2024-2025 school year:

| Location | Grade |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Turtleback Zoo | Grade 1 |
| Crayola Factory, Easton, PA | Grade 2 |

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Stillwater Historical Society (Walking Trip) | Grade 2 |
| Kittatinny Regional High School | Aquatic Safety Program-Grade 4 |
| Paulinskill Watershed Project, Stillwater, NJ Stokes State Forest-Sunrise Mountain Swartswood State Park | Grade 5 |
| Sussex County Technical School (stop at Fredon School) | Grade 6-Summit Students |
| Fairview Lake YMCA | 6 |
| Camp Neveda | 6 |

2. Motion to approve transportation with Stocker Bus for the following field trip for the 2024-2025 school year:

| Date | Location | Grade | Cost |
|--|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| September 30, 2024- October 4, 2024 | Kittatinny Regional High School | Aquatic Safety Program-Grade 4 | \$206.56/trip=\$1,032.80 total |

Moved By: _____ Seconded By: _____

Vote:

BUDGET & FINANCE

Mrs. Thibault

1. Finance Update- Mrs. Metzgar

That the following Budget & Finance resolutions be approved:

2. Motion to approve transfers from July 1, 2024 to July 31, 2024 as attached. (attachment)
3. **WHEREAS**, the School Funding Reform Act of 2008 (“SFRA”), *N.J.S.A.* 18A:7F-43, *et seq.*, was intended by the New Jersey Legislature (“Legislature”) “to develop an equitable and predictable way to distribute State aid that addresses deficiencies found in past formulas as identified by the Supreme Court,” *N.J.S.A.* 18A:7F-44h; and

WHEREAS, in enacting the SFRA, the Legislature declared that “[t]he development and implementation of an equitable and adequate school funding formula will not only ensure that the State’s students have access to a constitutional education as defined by the core curriculum content standards, but also may help to reduce property taxes and assist communities in planning to meet their education expenses” and that “[t]he development of a predictable, transparent school funding formula is essential for school districts to plan effectively and deliver the quality education that our citizens expect and our Constitution requires,” *N.J.S.A.* 18A:7F-44q; and

WHEREAS, on April 24, 2024, *nj.com* reported that during the period from 2007-08 (*i.e.*, the last year before New Jersey overhauled its school funding formula) and 2024-25 (*i.e.*, the first year the formula will be fully implemented), widespread disparities that have developed between school funding changes and enrollment changes among various school districts, including the Stillwater Township School District; and

WHEREAS, among Sussex County school districts, the following illustrative disparities have developed between school funding changes and enrollment changes:

| <u>District</u> | <u>Funding Change %</u> | <u>Enrollment Change %</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Frankford Township | -60.3% | -26.6% |
| Hamburg Borough | -35.2% | -15.8% |
| Hampton Township | -51.0% | -23.8% |
| Hardyston Township | -42.4% | -21.5% |
| Hopatcong Township | -77.4% | -41.4% |
| Kittatinny Regional | -70.4% | -34.6% |
| Stillwater Township | -73.0% | -30.7% |

WHEREAS, among Passaic County school districts, the following illustrative disparities have developed between school funding changes and enrollment changes:

| <u>District</u> | <u>Funding Change %</u> | <u>Enrollment Change %</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Bloomingtondale Borough | -43.0% | - 2.4% |
| Lakeland Regional | -66.8% | -26.5% |
| Ringwood Borough | -47.7% | -24.7% |
| Wanaque Borough | -45.4% | - 9.0% |
| West Milford Township | -63.2% | -30.5% |

WHEREAS, among Morris County school districts, the following illustrative disparities have developed between school funding changes and enrollment changes:

| <u>District</u> | <u>Funding Change %</u> | <u>Enrollment Change %</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Jefferson Township | -65.3% | -31.7% |
| Randolph Township | -34.2% | -24.4% |
| Roxbury Township | -49.2% | -23.2% |
| Washington Township | -53.7% | -31.1% |

WHEREAS, the direct and immediate effect of these disparities between school funding changes and enrollment changes has been to defeat the legislative

intent behind the SFRA by exacerbating the local property tax burden in these communities and by depriving these school districts of an equitable, predictable, and transparent school funding formula that will enable them to plan effectively and deliver the quality education that our students deserve; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Schools recommends the adoption of this Resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Stillwater Township School District (“Board”) hereby endorses legislative reform of the school funding formula enacted under the SFRA that will remediate the disparities have developed between school funding changes and enrollment changes during its implementation and commends that such reform include, but not be limited to, the avoidance of catastrophic aid losses between school years and the limitation of state aid reductions for relatively small fluctuations in enrollment between school years; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board requests that the Board Secretary transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to Governor Philip Murphy; State Senate President Nicholas Scutari; Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin; State Senator Parker Space; Assembly Persons Michael Inganamort and Dawn Fantasia; and the Boards of Education of the aforementioned school districts.

Moved By: _____ **Seconded By:** _____

Roll call Vote:

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Mrs. Voris

LEGISLATIVE

Mrs. Kraft

F. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mrs. Galante

*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. ***

G. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Galante

H. ADJOURNMENT