

BUSINESS MEETING

September 23, 2024

The Business Meeting of the Stafford Township Board of Education was held on September 23, 2024 at 7:03pm at the Stafford Township Arts Center (STAC) and was live streamed over the web.

CALL TO ORDER

The Stafford Township Board of Education is called to order in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act Law - 1975 Chapter 231 (P.L. 1975-231C). This meeting was advertised in the Atlantic City Press. Notice has been posted in the office of the Stafford Township Clerk, all school buildings and on the district website. A mechanical device is being used to video record this meeting.

ROLL CALL

Brian Fenlon	Member
Gregory Gioe	Member (Absent)
Robert Morello	Member
Matthew Regulski	Member (Absent)
Christopher Smith	Member
Bonnie Strouse	Member
Joseph Washco	Member
Kevin Cooney	Vice President
Tammy Wagner	President

ALSO PRESENT

George J. Chidiac	Superintendent
Lourdes LaGuardia	Business Administrator/Board of Education Secretary
Martin J. Buckley, Esq.	Board of Education Attorney

FLAG SALUTE

A. RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS

~New Staff Member Welcome/Recognition

- Each principal and/or department head recognized the new staff members in their school and/or department. There were 65 new staff members 22 were in attendance for their recognition.

~McKinley Staff Recognition

- Mrs. Eberle recognized Suzanne Willadsen for her innovation and creativity in teaching her students about the history of art and creating their own interpretation of art. Mrs. Willadsen has been selected as the recipient of the Art Educators of NJ 2024 Elementary Divisional Award.

~SSDS Presentation (January 1, 2024 – June 30, 2024) – Rich Meyer & Kristin Ducker

- Mrs. Ducker and Mr. Meyer reported on the Harassment Intimidation and Bullying Investigations (HIB) investigations:
 - There were zero investigations at Oxycocus and the PLC
 - Intermediate had six investigations leading to three unconfirmed HIBs and three confirmed HIB.
 - McKinley Avenue had six investigations leading to five confirmed HIB and one unconfirmed HIB
 - Ocean Acres had one investigation leading to one confirmed HIB

The district also has to report trainings and programs that have been implemented during reporting Period 2. An example of training would be a review of HIB policies, conflict resolution procedures and school climate improvement plans. An example of programs would be events and activities during the Week of Respect, Second Step classes, and Project Team activities. There were zero District Wide Trainings.

Building based trainings are as follows:

- PLC 7
- Ocean Acres 5
- McKinley 18
- Intermediate 15

Building based programs are as follows:

- PLC 28
- Ocean Acres 31
- McKinley 50
- Intermediate 59

This concludes the SSDS Reporting for Period 2 of the 2023-24 School Year.

~NJDOE HIB Report Card Grades Presentation (September 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024) – Kristin Ducker

- Mrs. Ducker, the Anti Bullying Specialist conducted the HIB self-assessment with the School Climate Team. The assessment looks at eight core elements with a max score of 78. The following scores will be submitted to the NJDOE for review for the 2023-2024 school year:

Intermediate 77
McKinley 78
Ocean Acres 77
PLC 76
Oxycocus 76

We publicly report the scores being submitted to the NJDOE at a BOE meeting prior to submitting scores in October, we report out again the scores received back from the state in May after the NJDOE has officially assigned scores.

B. SUPERINTENDENT’S EDUCATIONAL REPORT - Attachment

- Mr. Chidiac conveyed first and most importantly, a thank you to the board of education, administrators, teachers, staff, parents and all community members for supporting the \$75.7 million referendum that was approved by a large majority of votes on September 17, 2024. The students of Stafford and the community will benefit for many years as a result of everyone’s efforts. This is the true meaning of a supportive community and Stafford is the best of the best. I am so proud of this district.

Mr. Chidiac extended a thank you to all of the administrators, teachers and staff for an outstanding start of the school year as we had a successful open house, back to school night and our preschool grandparent’s day to kick things off. Mr. Chidiac gave a special thank you to the facilities, custodians, and maintenance and grounds staff for preparing our schools over the summer months.

STAC Events

- Hotel California 9/26 @ 7:30pm
 - Fall Oldies Spectacular 10/6 @ 3:00pm
 - Fleetwood Macked 10/26 @ 7:30pm
- Please go to our website www.stacnj.com for tickets.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

*NOTE: If a board member was absent (listed below), they are to abstain from the vote on that item/meeting.

To approve the minutes of the following meeting(s):

1. August 12, 2024 Board Retreat – No Absences
2. August 12, 2024 Business Meeting – No Absences
3. August 12, 2024 Closed Session – No Absences

A motion was made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Fenlon to approve Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s) #1-3. Roll call vote: seven (7) members present voted yes; motion passed.

D. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

None

E. CORRESPONDENCE TO AND FROM THE BOARD

None

F. BOARD BUSINESS

1. There were no incidents of harassment, intimidation, and bullying.
2. To approve the attached District Nursing Plan for the 2024-2025 school year with standing orders by Dr. Schmoll.

A motion was made by Mr. Morello and seconded by Mr. Smith to approve Board Business item(s) #1-2. Roll call vote: seven (7) members present voted yes; motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

G. FINANCE/INSURANCE/TRANSPORTATION

The Committee of the Whole has reviewed the following action items, has consulted with the superintendent, school business administrator/board secretary and other appropriate district officials, and hereby certifies that the actions being approved are consistent with the 2024-2025 board/district goals. In addition, we further certify that we have reviewed the attached bill list and are satisfied that curriculum related expenditures are directly related to the results of assessment data and that professional development expenditures are directly related to professional development plans.

1. To approve for payment of September 2024 bills list totaling \$1,417,017.69 as attached. (G-1)

Fund 10 - \$1,160,184.18
Fund 20 - \$236,910.64
Fund 30 - \$0
Fund 40 - \$0
Fund 60 - \$2,412.60
Fund 61 - \$12,194.07
Fund 62 - \$5,316.20

*Note - \$589,369.83 of the amounts listed were made as EFT payments. (G-1a)

*To approve for payment of August 2024 additional bills list totaling \$1,298,829.15 as attached. (G-1b)

Fund 10 - \$1,099,147.17
Fund 20 - \$197,630.10

- Fund 30 - \$0
- Fund 40 - \$0
- Fund 60 - \$-136.10
- Fund 61 - \$897.09
- Fund 62 - \$1,154.79

*Note - \$22,661.19 of the amounts listed were made as EFT payments. (G-1c)

2. To approve for payment of payroll
 - a. dated August 15, 2024 totaling \$475,242.67
 - b. dated August 29, 2024 totaling \$354,515.27
3. To accept the Treasurer’s Report for the month of July 2024.
4. To accept the Secretary’s Report for the month of July 2024.
5. Certification of Overexpenditures:

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c)3, I, Lourdes LaGuardia, Board of Education Secretary, certify that as of July 2024 no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(a).

Board of Education Secretary

Date

Board Resolution:

Through the adoption of this resolution, we, the Stafford Township Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c)4, certify that as of July 2024 after review of the secretary’s monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the business administrator and other appropriate district officials, that no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(b)4 I-VI and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

6. To approve the attached line item transfers for July 2024.
7. To authorize the Business Administrator to make payment of post-Board meeting bills for the month of September 2024 and to execute mid-cycle contracts such as utilities and out-of-district contracts. Specifics of these transactions, if any, will be provided for ratification at the next regular scheduled board meeting.

8. To approve the attached list of donations.
9. To approve the in-district tuition contract with Barnegat Township Board of Education for student #25621 in the amount of \$32,519 for the MD program for the 2024-2025 school year, commencing September 5, 2024.
10. To approve Dr. Ashley Amico with Snyder Eye Group as a vision consultant to the Child Study Team for the 2024-2025 school year, commencing September 6, 2024 for a fee of \$184 for the service and report.
11. To approve the attached contract with Preferred Home Health Care & Nursing Services in the amount of RN \$67/hr and LPN \$62/hr and Substitute District RN \$67/hr as needed for the 2024-2025 school year, commencing September 6, 2024.
12. To approve the attached agreement between Stafford Township Board of Education and Monmouth-Ocean Educational Services Commission for the 2024-2025 school year, commencing September 23, 2024 to assist with CST services.
13. To approve the income of \$65,000 received from the Shared Service Agreement between Eagleswood Township Board of Education and Stafford Township Board of Education to be allocated to offset salaries of the Stafford Township School District. **AMENDED \$39,745**
14. To approve the attached Shared Service Jointure Transportation Contract with Eagleswood Board of Education for a homeless student residing in Galloway Township for the 2024-2025 school year at a cost of \$231 per diem.
15. To approve the attached Agreement from Propio for Language Translating Services at rates as per the attached Rate Sheet for the 2024-2025 school year. (Year 2 of 3)
16. To approve to write off \$1,856.71 of unpaid accounts receivable funds from the Food Service Program for the 2023-2024 school year.
17. To approve the attached contract with Brett DiNovi & Associates as a consultant to the Child Study Team for the 2024-2025 school year for Clinical Associates at a rate of \$57.50/hr, Behavior Support at a rate of \$75.00/hr, and Behavior Consultants at a rate of \$135.00/hr.
18. To approve the attached proposal from Spiezle Architectural Group of Trenton, NJ to provide architectural services for the HVAC System Upgrade Project and Roof Replacement at Ocean Acres Elementary School at a cost of \$52,000 Lump Sum Fee for Design, Documentation and Bidding Support Fees and \$13,000 Lump Sum Fee for Construction Administration and Close Out Fees; additional daily site visits would be charged at a rate of \$1075 and/or \$2,150 if Spiezle and a consulting engineer were on site on the same day. A lump sum reimbursable cost

of \$150 would be charged for digital bidding. This proposal is with relation to the recently approved ROD grant applications,

School:	Ocean Acres Elementary School
Project Description:	HVAC System Upgrade
DOE Project Number:	5020-065-23-R502
SDA Project Number:	5020-065-23-G5SZ
Grant Number:	G5-6897
Total Project Cost:	\$836,550
Grant Amount:	\$334,620

School:	Ocean Acres Elementary School
Project Description:	Roof Replacement
DOE Project Number:	5020-065-23-R501
SDA Project Number:	5020-065-23-G5SY
Grant Number:	G5-6896
Total Project Cost:	\$474,760
Grant Amount:	\$189,904

A motion was made by Mrs. Wagner to amend item #G-13 to \$39,745. A motion was made by Mr. Washco and seconded by Mr. Fenlon to amend item #G-13. Roll call vote: seven (7) members present voted yes; motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Washco and seconded by Mr. Smith to approve Finance/Insurance/Transportation item(s) #1-18. Roll call vote: seven (7) members present voted yes; motion passed.

H. BUILDINGS/GROUNDS/CAFETERIA

The Buildings/Grounds/Cafeteria Committee has reviewed the following action items, has consulted with the school business administrator/board secretary and other appropriate district officials, and hereby certifies that the actions being approved are consistent with the 2024-2025 board/district goals.

NO ACTION ITEMS

I. CURRICULUM/INSTRUCTION/TECHNOLOGY

The Committee of the Whole has reviewed the following action items, has consulted with the superintendent and other appropriate district officials, and hereby certifies that the actions being approved are consistent with the 2024-2025 board/district goals. In addition, we further certify that we have reviewed the attached professional development request list and are satisfied that each professional development event is directly related to the employee’s duties, each event is fiscally prudent (consistent with N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12), that teaching staff requests are aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards, and that administrator requests are aligned to the Professional Standards for School Leaders.

1. To approve the professional development requests shown on the attached listing.

2. To approve the attached REVISED list of police presence for the 2024-2025 school year.
3. To approve the attached list of technology equipment for removal from the Stafford Township School District's inventory and properly disposed of, recycled or sold on GoveDeals.org.
4. To approve and adopt the new 2023 NJSLS Mathematics standards for the Stafford Township School District curriculum for Grades K-6 in Mathematics, beginning September 2024.
5. To approve and adopt the new 2023 NJSLS English Language Arts (ELA) standards for the Stafford Township School District curriculum for Grades K-6 in English Language Arts (Reading and Writing), beginning September 2024.

A motion was made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Morello to approve Curriculum/Instruction/Technology item(s) #1-5. Roll call vote: seven (7) members present voted yes; motion passed.

J. PERSONNEL

The following Personnel items were discussed:

Chairperson of the Personnel Committee – Tammy Wagner

Report: The superintendent recommends the board approve/ratify the appointment of the following named individuals who constitute a careful selection and screening of applicants, in accordance with the board/district hiring policies/procedures, and are hereby recommended for an employment contract contingent upon the successful completion of their accredited degree program, New Jersey Department of Education certification requirements, Federal NCLB Highly qualified Teacher requirements, a criminal history clearance and the successful completion of a medical examination as required by the board of education. These initial assignments/appointments may be changed as district needs develop unless otherwise stipulated. The Personnel/Policy Committee has reviewed the following action items, has consulted with the superintendent and other appropriate district officials, and hereby certifies that the actions being approved are consistent with the 2024-2025 board/district goals.

1. To approve the attached list of substitutes for the 2024-2025 school year.
2. To approve the change of assignment for the attached list of personnel for the 2024-2025 school year.
3. To approve the transfers for the attached list of personnel for the 2024-2025 school year.

4. To approve the following retirement:
 - a. Giacinto D'Agostino, Teacher, effective November 1, 2024 – REVISED
5. To approve the following resignations:
 - a. Jeannine Rowley, Cafeteria Playground Aide, effective August 15, 2024
 - b. Maureen DiGiacomo, Teacher Aide, effective August 19, 2024
 - c. Lisa Maguire, Cafeteria Playground Aide, effective August 14, 2024
 - d. Maria Ybarra, Behavior Technician, effective August 13, 2024
 - e. Stacy Simpson, Teacher Aide, effective August 22, 2024
 - f. Michelle Banyasz, Teacher, effective September 30, 2024
 - g. Debra Klunk, Teacher Aide, effective September 23, 2024
6. To approve the following leaves:
 - a. Employee ID #6335, unpaid leave of absence, beginning June 7, 2024 and returning June 10, 2024 AND beginning June 27, 2024 and returning June 28, 2024
 - b. Employee ID #6624, unpaid leave of absence, beginning October 21, 2024 and returning October 28, 2024
 - c. Employee ID #4428, unpaid family leave FMLA, beginning September 17, 2024 and returning November 4, 2024
 - d. Employee ID #6236, unpaid family leave FMLA, beginning September 30, 2024 and returning December 16, 2024
 - e. Employee ID #6063, unpaid family leave FMLA, beginning September 3, 2024 and returning October 10, 2024
 - f. Employee ID #6441, unpaid family leave FMLA, beginning November 22, 2024 and returning March 3, 2025
 - g. Employee ID #6334, unpaid family leave FMLA, REVISED, beginning September 17, 2024 and returning December 16, 2024
 - h. Employee ID #6334, contractual child rearing leave, REVISED, beginning December 16, 2024 and returning January 15, 2025
 - i. Employee ID #6566, unpaid family leave FMLA, beginning October 14, 2024 and returning January 27, 2025
 - j. Employee ID #6547, unpaid family leave FMLA, beginning February 3, 2025 and returning May 5, 2025
 - k. Employee ID #6547, unpaid contractual child rearing leave, beginning May 5, 2025 and returning May 19, 2025
7. To approve the attached list of staff for the Extended Day Program for the 2024-2025 school year.
8. To approve to move Frederick Soper to Step 2 on the Bus Driver Guide, beginning September 1, 2024.
9. To approve to move Lauren Verrier to Step 3 on the Bus Driver Guide, beginning September 1, 2024.

10. To approve the attached list of additional personnel for Extra-Curricular and Enrichment Programs for the 2024-2025 school year.
11. To approve the attached list of student fieldwork placements for the 2024-2025 school year.
12. To approve the attached teachers to provide evening child care during Special Education meetings for the 2024-2025 school year.
13. To approve the attached affiliation agreement between Keuka College and Stafford Township School District, beginning September 2024
14. To approve Erika Pasqualicchio as Cafeteria Playground Aide, Intermediate School, beginning September 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 1, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.
15. To approve Debralynn Navantieri as Cafeteria Playground Aide, Intermediate School, beginning September 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 2, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.
16. To approve Eva Haines-Mueller as Cafeteria Playground Aide, Ocean Acres Elementary School, beginning September 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 1, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
17. To approve Maria Guertin as Cafeteria Playground Aide, Ocean Acres Elementary School, beginning September 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 1, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.
18. To approve Mary Ann Doorly as Cafeteria Playground Aide, Ocean Acres Elementary School, beginning September 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 2, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.
19. To approve Anne Keymer as Bus Attendant, beginning September 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 2, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
20. To approve Timothy Guertin as Bus Driver, beginning September 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 1, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.
21. To approve Kristy Bryant as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, MD Class, Ronald L. Meinders Primary Learning Center, beginning September 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 1, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.

22. To approve Claire Fitzsimmons as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, Resource, Ocean Acres Elementary School, beginning September 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 3, +BA, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.
23. To approve Kimberly Fiore as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, Preschool, Oxyccocus Elementary School, beginning September 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 1, +30 College Credits, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
24. To approve Hannah Olsen as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, MD Class, Ocean Acres Elementary School, beginning September 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 2, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.
25. To approve Yvette Blanchard as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, Resource, Intermediate School, beginning September 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 1, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a new position due to an IEP.
26. To approve Heather Bernstein as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, MD Class, Ocean Acres Elementary School, beginning September 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 4, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.
27. To approve Nina DeFilippo as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, MD Class, McKinley Avenue Elementary School, beginning September 16, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 1, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a new position due to an IEP.
28. To approve Allison Zuhl as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, MD Class, Ocean Acres Elementary School, beginning October 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 2, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
29. To approve Dawn Kopcho as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, MD Class, Intermediate School, beginning September 16, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 1, +BA, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a new position due to an IEP.
30. To approve Kelley Flynn as Elementary School Teacher, LLD Class, Intermediate School, beginning September 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 8, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a non-tenured track leave replacement position.
31. To approve Rachel Goodman as Elementary School Teacher, Resource, Intermediate School, beginning September 1, 2024 and ending March 31, 2025.

Step 6, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a non-tenured track leave replacement position.

32. To approve Austin Pounds as Part Time Health and Physical Education Teacher, PENDING CERTIFICATION, Grades 5&6, Intermediate School, beginning September 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 4, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.
33. To approve Catherine Canaley as Elementary School Teacher, Preschool, Ocean Acres Elementary School, beginning April 16, 2025 and ending May 30, 20285, Step 4, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a non-tenured track leave replacement position.
34. To approve Candace Connolly as Elementary School Teacher, PSD and Preschool, Oxycocus and Ronald L. Meinders Primary Learning Center, beginning September 16, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, Step 8, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a non-tenured track leave replacement position.
35. To approve Jacqueline Geardino as Speech Language Specialist, Intermediate School, beginning September 16, 2024 and ending April 15, 2025, Step 4, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a non-tenured track leave replacement position.
36. To approve the Superintendent shared service agreement between the Stafford Township Board of Education and the Eagleswood Township Board of Education, effective October 1, 2024. This shared service was approved by the Executive County Superintendent and the New Jersey Department of Education Acting Commissioner.

Employee appointments are provisional pending satisfactory completion of the Criminal History Background Check, Pre-employment P.L. 2018,C.5 Disclosure and Physical Exam Requirements required by the State of New Jersey.

A motion was made by Mr. Washco and seconded by Mr. Smith to approve Personnel item(s) #1-36. Roll call vote: seven (7) members present voted yes; motion passed.

K. POLICY/LEGISLATIVE

The Committee of the Whole has reviewed the following policies and regulations, has consulted with the board attorney and other appropriate district officials, and hereby certify, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1, that the attached policies and regulations are in compliance with all applicable statutes and administrative code provisions and are consistent with the 2024-2025 board/district goals.

1. To approve the **second reading** of following **revised** policies and regulations:

BUSINESS MEETING

September 23, 2024

- 0141 Board Member Number and Term
- 2200 Curriculum Content (M)
- 3160 Physical Examination (M)
- 4160 Physical Examination (M)
- 5337 Service Animals
- 5350 Student Suicide Prevention (M)
- 8420 Emergency and Crisis Situations (M)
- 8467 Firearms and Weapons (M)
- R3160 Physical Examination (M)
- R4160 Physical Examination (M)
- R5200 Attendance (M)
- R8467 Firearms and Weapons (M)

A motion was made by Mr. Morello and seconded by Mr. Smith to approve Policy/Legislative item(s) #1. Roll call vote: seven (7) members present voted yes; motion passed.

L. ADVANCED PLANNING

None

M. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

N. BOARD INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

O. CLOSED SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Washco and seconded by Mrs. Strouse to adjourn the meeting at 7:29pm. Voice vote: All members present voted yes (7-0); motion passed.

Lourdes LaGuardia
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

LL/km/9-25-2024