

June 2, 2025

The Stillwater Township Board of Education met on June 2, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the Stillwater School Library for a Committee of the Whole 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 7, 2025. 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, Mrs. Williver, Mrs. Valeich, Mrs. Frey, Mrs. Voris (arrived 7:18pm), Mrs. Kraft, Mrs. Thibault, Mr. DeGroat and Mr. Franek.

Absent: None.

Also present were Braden Hirsch, Interim 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. Superintendent Search Update- The Stillwater Board of Education has completed two rounds of interviews in our superintendent search process, beginning with seven impressive candidates. The Board is looking forward to determining a finalist and is on target for appointing a new Superintendent by July 1. The input we received from our stakeholders continues to guide our process and inform all of our decision making. We will post more updates here as they become available. As always, we thank our community and stakeholders for your support!
2. Regional Liaison Committee- Mrs. Williver provided an update on this committee. A survey was sent out to see if there was interest to continue. There were enough positive responses to continue, the next meeting will be scheduled in September.
3. Regionalization Steering Committee- Met today at 5:00 pm and reviewed the outline of what the search will consist of. We were also able to add specific items that pertained to our region.

That the following Board Business resolutions be approved:

4. Motion to approve the following Special Board of Education Meeting minutes & Executive Session meeting minutes from:
 May 9, 2025
 May 21, 2025
 May 22, 2025
5. Motion to approve the Regular Board of Education Meeting minutes & Executive Session meeting minutes #1 & #2 from May 12, 2025. (attachment)

6. Motion to approve the April 30, 2025 Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports which balanced in the amount of \$3,655,992.42 pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-16.10(c)3, we certify that as of April 30, 2025 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: Mrs. Thibault **Seconded By:** Mrs. Frey

Voice Vote: Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mrs. Williver-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mr. Franek- Aye; Mrs. Frey-Aye; Mrs. Kraft-Aye; Mrs. Thibault-Aye; Mrs. Valeich-Aye; and Mrs. Voris-Absent. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PERSONNEL

That the following Personnel resolutions be approved as recommended by Interim Superintendent:

1. Motion upon the recommendation of the Interim 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 2025-2026 school year. Stillwater & Kittatinny will be the LEAs.
2. Motion upon the recommendation of the Interim 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 2025-2026 school year. There will be no cost to any district for this service.
3. Motion, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, to offer the following contract to the new non-tenured instructional staff member for employment for the 2025-2026 school year from August 27, 2025 to June 30, 2026, pending receipt of official transcripts, and criminal history & background check: (attachment)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Gabriella Ayers	Special Education	BA, 2	\$62,612

4. Motion to approve the following staff to attend summer IEP meetings as needed at a rate of \$34.00/hour, paid through IDEA Basic Funds Account number 20-250-200-104-011-000.

Michele Bird
Erica Then
Corrine Robinson
Jessica Steffens
Danielle Hoon

5. Motion, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, to approve the following personnel for the summer program from July 7, 2025 - July 31, 2025 (16 days), funding source as listed:

IDEA B Teacher Account Number: 20-250-100-101-011-000

IDEA B Para Account Number: 20-250-100-106-011-000

IDEA B Bus Aide Account Number: 20-250-200-104-011-000

IDEA PS Teacher Account Number: 20-251-100-101-011-000

IDEA PS Para Account Number: 20-251-100-106-011-000

Sarah Pittenger: Preschool \$3,380 (IDEA-PS)

Michele Bird: \$3,380 (IDEA-B)

Briana Deflippis \$3,380 (IDEA-B)

Mary DiRienzo: \$3,380 (IDEA-B)

Jessica Garrigan: Speech \$3,380 To be paid at a daily rate as worked (IDEA-B)

Colleen Hurley: Nurse \$3,380 (IDEA-B)

Jennifer Siple: Bus Aide \$280 (IDEA-B)

Jennifer Siple: Paraprofessional- \$1,150 (IDEA-B)

Nicole Kerkhoven:- Paraprofessional- \$1,150 (IDEA-B)

Rebecca Casserta: Paraprofessional- \$1,150 (IDEA-B)

Colleen LaRocco: Paraprofessional- \$1,150 (IDEA-B)

Carissa Roycroft: Paraprofessional-\$1,150(IDEA-B)

Rebecca Pavlick: Paraprofessional-\$1,150(IDEA-PS)

Sarah Rusbach-Paraprofessional- \$1,150 (IDEA-PS)

Corrine Robinson: ESY Substitute Teacher/Paraprofessional

Nicole DiRienzo: ESY Substitute Teacher/Paraprofessional

Hellen Salitt: ESY Substitute Teacher/Paraprofessional

6. Motion, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, to approve the following personnel for the summer social work from July 1, 2025-August 31, 2025, funding source as listed:

IDEA B Account Number: 20-250-200-104-011-000

Jeanne Smetana \$3,440 (10 days)

Moved By: Mr. DeGroat **Seconded By:** Mr. Franek

Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mrs. Williver-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mr. Franek- Aye; Mrs. Frey- Aye; Mrs. Kraft-Aye; Mrs. Thibault-Aye; Mrs. Valeich-Aye; and Mrs. Voris-Absent. Motion carried.

POLICY

That the following Policy resolution be approved:

1. Motion to approve the second and final reading of the following revised policies:
 - Policy #3220/3230 State Funds; Federal Funds (attachment)
 - Policy #9200 Orientation and Training of Board Members (attachment)

Moved By: Mrs. Frey **Seconded By:** Mr. DeGroat

Voice Vote: Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mrs. Williver-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mr. Franek- Aye; Mrs. Frey- Aye; Mrs. Kraft-Aye; Mrs. Thibault-Aye; Mrs. Valeich-Aye; and Mrs. Voris-Absent. Motion carried.

EDUCATION & CURRICULUM

That the following Education & Curriculum resolutions be approved:

1. Be It Hereby Resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board affirms the Superintendent's decision regarding 2024-2025 Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying Case #5-2425.
2. Motion to approve the Youth Advocate Program to provide mental health services in the school building at no cost to the district between the hours of 8 am and 4 pm daily for the 2025-2026 school year.
3. Motion to approve contract with Lakeside Counseling Associates, LLC to provide on-site counseling services at no cost to the district and school clearances at a rate of \$175.00 as needed for the 2025-2026 school year.
4. Motion to approve the 2025-2028 Comprehensive Equity Plan and submission to the Executive County Superintendent. (attachment)
5. Motion to approve the official HIB Grade for the 2023-2024 School Year. (attachment)
6. Motion to approve the Stillwater Township School to extend the Elementary Autism class to a full day Program beginning the 2025-2026 school year.

Moved By: Mrs. Williver **Seconded By:** Mr. DeGroat

Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mrs. Williver-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mr. Franek- Aye; Mrs. Frey- Aye; Mrs. Kraft-Aye; Mrs. Thibault-Abstain on #2, Aye to remainder; Mrs. Valeich-Aye; and Mrs. Voris-Absent. Motion carried.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

- 1. Mrs. Metzgar provided an update on the following item:
-1941 Classroom ceiling tile replacement project

That the following Building & Grounds resolutions be approved:

- 2. Motion to approve revised building and use calendar for June 2025. (attachment)
- 3. Motion to approve the renewal of student accident insurance with Bollinger Specialty Group for the 2025-2026 school year for a total cost of \$3,195.
- 4. Motion to approve National Flooring Removal for the removal and abatement of 3 classroom ceilings in the 1941 wing at a cost of \$16,100.

Moved By: Mr. Franek **Seconded By:** Mrs. Valeich

Voice Vote: Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mrs. Williver-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mr. Franek- Aye; Mrs. Frey- Aye; Mrs. Kraft-Aye; Mrs. Thibault-Aye; Mrs. Valeich-Aye; and Mrs. Voris-Absent. Motion carried.

Mrs. Voris entered the meeting at 7:18 pm.

TRANSPORTATION

That the following Transportation resolutions be approved:

- 1. Motion to approve the attached listing of summer school bus routes & stops for the 2025 summer school program. (attachment)
- 2. Motion to approve renewal of transportation contracts with Stocker Bus Company for the 2025-2026 school year for the following summer school routes in the following amounts as listed:

Route	Prev. Yrs Cost	Aide	# of Days	CPI 3.57%	Inc/Dec	Total renewal Cost
						Provision
(8) ST 30	\$170.90	N/A	16	\$ 6.10	2.00	\$177.00
(8) ST 31	\$200.90	N/A	16	\$ 7.17	2.00	\$208.07

TOTAL ANNUAL COST \$6,161.12

*Stillwater will only be charged for actual routes running.

Moved By: Mrs. Valeich **Seconded By:** Mrs. Kraft

Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mrs. Williver-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mr. Franek- Aye; Mrs. Frey- Aye; Mrs. Kraft-Aye; Mrs. Thibault-Aye; Mrs. Valeich-Aye; and Mrs. Voris-Aye. Motion carried.

BUDGET & FINANCE

That the following Budget & Finance resolutions be approved:

1. Motion to approve transfers from April 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025 as attached. (attachment)
2. Motion to approve the Business Administrator to withdraw \$16,100 from Capital Reserve for the 1941 classroom ceiling tile abatement project.
3. Motion to authorize the submission of the ESEA Title I & Title IV Grant amendment to the application for FY2025.
4. Motion for the Stillwater Township Board of Education to accept the award amount of \$89,000 for the FY2025 Local Recreation Improvement Grant for the walking path at Stillwater Township Elementary School. Furthermore, to authorize René Metzgar, Business Administrator, to sign the agreement as the authorized agency official to accept the obligations under the Grant agreement.
5. Motion to approve submission of the Optimal Comprehensive Screeners (FOCUS) grant for the 2025-2026 school year.
6. Motion to accept the Alliance Grant funds from the Stillwater Township in the amount of \$1,051.25 for the SEEK/ASE Program.
7. Motion to approve renewal contract with Delta Dental for July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026 at the following rates:
 - One Party- \$54.22
 - Two Party-\$104.10
 - Three Party-\$174.25

Moved By: Mrs. Thibault **Seconded By:** Mr. DeGroat

Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Galante-Aye; Mrs. Williver-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mr. Franek-Aye; Mrs. Frey-Aye; Mrs. Kraft-Aye; Mrs. Thibault-Aye; Mrs. Valeich-Aye; and Mrs. Voris-Aye. Motion carried.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Mrs. Voris reported on the following items:

- PTA Family Fun Skate Night & Ice Cream Truck- Friday, June 6th
- Stillwater Bicentennial Celebration is Saturday, June 7th!

LEGISLATIVE

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. ***

Dave Manser- Township Liaison- Welcomed the new Interim Superintendent and noted this is a great school and board. Saturday is Stillwater Day with the Bicentennial celebration! Start at 10:00 am.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by Mrs. Williver, second by Mrs. Kraft at 7:26 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 the Legal Matters & the Superintendent Search 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.

Mr. Hirsch and Mrs. Cramer were excused from the meeting at 7:26 pm.
Mrs. Thibault was excused from executive session at 7:27 pm.
Mrs. Thibault was invited back to executive session at 7:29 pm.

Motion made by Mr. DeGroat and second by Mrs. Valeich at 8:44 p.m. to come out of executive session and return to public session. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Mr. DeGroat and second by Mrs. Valeich, to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,



René Metzgar
Business Administrator/Board Secretary