

SOUTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL SESSION AGENDA, JUNE 15, 2020

Southampton Township Board of Education
"Building a Tradition of Excellence"
Southampton, New Jersey 08088

Our Mission

The **Southampton Township School District** shall empower our students with the life skills necessary to attain academic excellence while fostering social and emotional growth.

"Statement to the Public"

Please be advised that often it may appear to members of our audience that the Board of Education takes action with very little comment and in many cases a unanimous vote. Before a matter is placed on the agenda at a public meeting, the administration has thoroughly reviewed the matter with the Superintendent of Schools. If the Superintendent of Schools is satisfied that the matter is ready to be presented to the Board of Education, it is then referred to the appropriate Board committee. The members of the Board committee work with the administration and the Superintendent to assure that the members fully understand the matter. When the committee is satisfied that the matter has been thoroughly researched, it is presented to the Board of Education for discussion prior to any final action being taken. Only then, is it placed on the agenda for action at a public meeting.

CALL TO ORDER: The special meeting of the Southampton Township Board of Education was called to order at 5:30 PM by Amy Ushkowitz, Vice-President. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic the meeting was conducted virtually via a video conference.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF MEETING: This meeting was held in compliance with N. J. S. A. 10:4-6. A schedule of meetings was posted in all schools and the township municipal building and advertised in the *Burlington County Times* on January 17, 2020. Notification of public access to the Virtual meeting was communicated via the district messaging system, posted on the district website, and posted on the Southampton Township School District Facebook page.

ROLL CALL: BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS:

President: J. Hicks recused	Vice-President: A. Ushkowitz		
D. Bozarth	R. Hann	M. Phillips	S. Phillips recused
J. Potter	L. Rickborn	B. Wright	

MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE NON-CONFLICTED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING ITEM: (Superintendent's Evaluation)

Time: 5:47 p.m. Motion: L. Rickborn Second by: B. Wright Roll Call Vote 7-0

MOTION TO CLOSE EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION: THE NON-CONFLICTED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS DISCUSSED THE FOLLOWING ITEM: (Superintendent's Evaluation)

Time: 6:07 p.m. Motion: J. Potter Second by: B. Wright Roll Call Vote 7-0

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CALL TO ORDER: The public portion of the special meeting of the Southampton Township Board of Education was called to order at 6:30 PM by Jeffrey E. Hicks, President. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic the meeting was conducted virtually via a video conference.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF MEETING: This meeting was held in compliance with N. J. S. A. 10:4-6. A schedule of meetings was posted in all schools and the township municipal building and advertised in the *Burlington County Times* on January 17, 2020. Notification of public access to the Virtual meeting was communicated via the district messaging system, posted on the district website, and posted on the Southampton Township School District Facebook page.

ROLL CALL: BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS:

President: J. Hicks - Present	Vice-President: A. Ushkowitz - Present		
D. Bozarth - Present	R. Hann - Present	M. Phillips - Present	S. Phillips - Present
J. Potter - Present	L. Rickborn - Present	B. Wright - Present	

Others present: Superintendent Harris

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA:

Members of the public are invited to submit comments during the public comment portion of this meeting. The Board, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, will not publicly discuss personnel matters and may choose not to respond to comments made by members of the public during this portion of the meeting; however, the Board will give all comments appropriate consideration and will refer all individual complaints to the Superintendent of Schools or Administration for resolution. Each citizen will be allotted up to three (3) minutes to speak, in order to allow everyone an opportunity to express their opinions or concerns.

Mrs. Caryn Hargrave asked the Board of Education who evaluated them and the Superintendent. President Hicks and NJASBA Field Representative responded.

NJSBA Training – Board of Education Self-Evaluation and Goal Setting Process

NJSBA Field Representative, Jesse Adams provided training pertaining to the Board of Education Self-Evaluation and Goal Setting process. This training is a component of the Board of Education's effort to renew its' status as an NJSBA Certified Board of Education.

Review of Board Self Evaluation as compiled by NJSBA

Using the evaluation model from New Jersey School Boards and their summary of results the Board discussed their 2019-2020 Board of Education Self-Evaluation:

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Board of Education Goals:

There was discussion on the status of the 2019-2020 Board of Education goals.

The following topics were discussed as potential Board Goals for the 2020-2021 school year:

- Increasing community engagement through focused Town Hall styles meetings and focus groups
- Continuing to develop long range plan to address reduction in state funding
- Support district effort to effectively re-open school following the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Review of all Governance Manual Policies / Regulation
- 2020-2021 Collective Bargaining with all staff

For information purpose:

2019-2020 Board of Education Goals

- **Goal #1:** The Board of Education, in consultation with the Superintendent, will develop a comprehensive plan to increase their involvement in the school district's climate/culture initiative. This effort will include addressing identified issues of racial bias, diversity, and sensitivity. During the 2019-2020 school year, the Board of Education will participate in cultural responsiveness training, provide the fiscal resources required for cultural responsiveness training of the school community, participate as stakeholders on school climate committees, and increase their attendance at school related functions to enhance their engagement with the community.
- **Goal #2** The Board of Education in collaboration with the Superintendent will develop a comprehensive action plan to further enhance school security and safety. This plan will include increasing counseling services for students, installing CCTV cameras, constructing a security office, and planning for the installation of bollards around Miss Mabel Drive and Warrior Way.
- **Goal #3** The Board of Education in consultation with the Superintendent, and Business Administrator will develop a comprehensive action plan to address the seven year phase out of state funding. This action plan will include educating the school community as to the impact on district programming and operations via a public forum and community topic presentations at Board of Education meetings, and developing a framework to address budgetary savings and cuts.

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For information purpose: Superintendent Harris and the Board discussed the proposed district goals for 2020-2021.

2020-2021 Proposed District Goals: (Will be presented for adoption at the June 22, 2020 Board of Education meeting)

Goal #1: The superintendent will lead the administrative team in developing a comprehensive action plan to enhance the school district's climate and culture and address identified issues of diversity and acceptance. During the 2020-2021 school year, the perspective of the School Climate Culture Committee will be utilized along with feedback from staff and students to create a climate and culture inclusive of all students with an emphasis on race, gender, class, and ability. The breadth of the work for this goal will center on professional development for staff and training for students in the area of restorative justice and equity. In addition, the "Wingman" program, designed to enhance student empathy, will be expanded to include lower elementary students. Training for the administrative team will pertain to cultural competence.

By June 2021, data and feedback collected will show a 10% increase in positive school climate ratings by students, staff, and parents, AND 85% of the students in the district will have participated in a restorative circle at least twice each month.

Goal #2: The superintendent will lead the administrative team and lead teachers in developing an action plan to guide the on-going, district-wide Differentiated Instruction initiative in grades K-8. During the 2020-2021 school year, through training and observation feedback, teachers will be provided with support in order to modify the content, process, and product within their instructional plans. The "Southampton DI Digital Toolkit" will also serve as a resource for professional growth.

By the end of the 2020-2021 school year, there will be a 10% increase in the number of students scoring at or above proficiency in ELA and math across all subgroups, as measured by the 2021 state assessment.

Goal #3: The superintendent will lead the administrative team in developing an action plan to provide the school community with the foundation for life-long social emotional learning. During the 2020-2021 school year, a multi-year plan will be developed and implemented to help staff and students embody the five SEL Core Competencies: self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, self-awareness, and responsible decision-making. An essential component of this goal will be the successful implementation of the shared MD program for grades 3-5. Training and professional development for students and staff will focus on building positive relationships in an inclusive environment and interacting with staff and the school community in a way that demonstrates cultural competence.

By June 2021, data will show an increase in students' ability to solve problems in peaceful ways, as evidenced by a 10% reduction in office referrals related to peer conflict AND a 10% decrease in founded HIBs based on the annual HIB report.

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The Board of Education Self-Evaluation was concluded at 8:42 p. m.

It is the intent of Vice President Ushkowitz to inform the full Board at the June 22nd meeting of any goals that should be considered as a result of the completed Superintendent's Evaluation.

Motion by D. Bozarth, Second by B. Wright, FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING ITEMS (Superintendent's Evaluation) Time: 8:45 PM.

ROLL CALL VOTE of BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS:

Motion Carried: 8-0 (Note: S. Phillips left the meeting due to connectivity issue)

Mr. Hicks and Mrs. S. Phillips were recused the remainder of the evening due to members being conflicted as determined by the New Jersey School Ethics Commission,

Superintendent's Evaluation

Using the evaluation model from New Jersey School Boards Association and the summary of results from the seven Board Members not conflicted, the members reviewed and discussed with Mr. Harris his 2019-2020 evaluation.

Motion by J. Potter, Second by B. Wright TO CLOSE EXECUTIVE SESSION. THE BOARD DISCUSSED THE FOLLOWING ITEM: (Superintendent's Evaluation)
Time: 9:46 P.M.

ROLL CALL VOTE of BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS:

President: J. Hicks recused	Vice-President: A. Ushkowitz - Yes
D. Bozarth - Yes	R. Hann - Yes
J. Potter - Yes	L. Rickborn absent
	M. Phillips - Yes
	S. Phillips recused
	B. Wright - Yes

Note: Mrs. Rickborn was unable to participate in the Executive Session due to connectivity issue.

Superintendent's Evaluation

Using the evaluation model from New Jersey School Boards Association and the summary of results from the seven Board Members not conflicted, the members reviewed and discussed with Mr. Harris his 2019-2020 evaluation.

ADJOURNMENT: Time: 9:48 p.m.
Motion by: R. Hann, Second by : J. Potter

Respectfully submitted,

Michael L. Harris

Michael L. Harris
Superintendent

Approved: _____