

SOUTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

August 22, 2022



MEETINGS:

6:45 p.m. – Personnel & Student Services, School #1 Faculty Room

6:45 p.m. – Budget, Finance & Facilities Meeting, School #1, Curriculum Office

7:00 p.m. – Executive Session, School #1 Faculty Room

8:00 p.m. – Public Meeting, School #1 APR

SOUTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION, SOUTHAMPTON, NJ 08088

“Building a Tradition of Excellence”

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: 7:01 P.M. by Board President Amy Ushkowitz

ROLL CALL: BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS:

Board of Education Member	Present	Absent
Sean Cassel	X	
Russell Hann	X	
Jeffrey Hicks	X	
John McMichael		Excused
Suzanne Phillips	X	
Katie Topf	X	
Melissa Walker	X	
Betty Wright, <i>Vice President</i>	X	
Amy Ushkowitz, <i>President</i>	X	

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PUBLIC NOTICE OF MEETING: This meeting is 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 9, 2022, posted on the district website and the Southampton Township School District Facebook page.

RESOLUTION TO ENTER CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Board of Education is exercising their right to an exemption pursuant to N. J. S. A. 10:4-6 et seq. which provides that a public body may hold a closed session under certain statutory exceptions to the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act with a general description of exceptions being matters:

1. rendered confidential by expressed provision of law or court order
2. right to receive federal funds
3. unwarranted invasion of individual privacy
4. collective bargaining negotiations
5. purchase/lease/acquisition of real property with public funds
6. items where immediate disclosure would impair public safety
7. investigation of violations of or possible violations of law
8. falling within attorney-client privilege
9. personnel matters
10. penalty or loss of license to an individual
11. pending or anticipated litigation
12. contract negotiation

The Board of Education has determined that such a circumstance exists which warrants a closed executive session under **items # 8, 9, & 11 (OAL DKT NO. EDU 03889-22)** as above indicated and the subject to be discussed is as follows:

Falling Within Attorney-Client Privilege/Personnel Matters/

Pending or Anticipated Litigation

The Southampton Township Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq, will meet in executive session closed to the public for the discussion of a matter which falls under a statutory exception to the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act and that said closed session will be held on **Monday, August 22, 2022**; and the closed executive session discussions will pertain to the above mentioned items and that the minutes of the closed executive session will be disclosed after the Board of Education takes formal action or after the reason for the discussions in closed session no longer exists.

MOTION BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

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TIME: 7:02 p.m. MOTION: B. Wright SECOND: J. Hicks VOICE VOTE
MOTION CARRIED, ALL IN FAVOR 8-0

MOTION BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO CLOSE EXECUTIVE SESSION

TIME: 7:45 p.m. MOTION: B. Wright SECOND: S. Phillips VOICE VOTE
MOTION CARRIED, ALL IN FAVOR 8-0

CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING: 7:57 p.m. by Board President Amy Ushkowitz

ROLL CALL:

Board of Education Member	Present	Absent
Sean Cassel	X	
Russel Hann	X	
Jeffrey Hicks	X	
John McMichael		Excused
Suzanne Phillips	X	
Katie Topf	X	
Melissa Walker	X	
Betty Wright, Vice President	X	
Amy Ushkowitz, President	X	

SALUTE TO THE FLAG Board President Amy Ushkowitz led the flag salute.

MOTION BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA AS PUBLISHED

MOTION: S. Phillips SECOND: J. Hicks VOICE VOTE
MOTION CARRIED, ALL IN FAVOR 8-0

COMMUNITY TOPIC:

- Summer in Southampton – Presentation by District Administration

Administrators introduced new staff members in the audience; President Amy Ushkowitz acknowledged two Board of Education candidates in the audience.

STATEMENT TO THE PUBLIC

Board Members are legally and ethically required to uphold and enforce the laws and rules of the State Board of Education. This obligation applies to mandated curricula. Administrators are under a similar obligation. Therefore, the District is not in a position to countermand the law and rules. Failure to abide by this obligation may result in the District losing State Aid which can have

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significant economic impact on the community. The District is also required to abide by State and Federal laws prohibiting discrimination. The consequence of failing to do so can expose the District to significant liability. The curricula of the District does not include the teaching of Critical Race Theory.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ACTION ITEMS

Members of the public are invited to submit comments pertaining only to the Board agenda action items during this public comment portion of the meeting. General comments, not necessarily pertaining to the agenda, are invited to be submitted during the public comment portion at the end 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. Please state your name, address, and the action item you're commenting on.

Jamie Bodine, Southampton, Health & PE Curriculum, told her story of being molested as a child and being groomed by an adult male relative, uses her experience to help protect her own children, referenced conversations regarding calling administrators and teachers groomers and pedophiles; shared information about the steps of grooming and expressed disgust that the schools are teaching "red flags" of grooming.

Greg Sobasinski, Landing Street, Health & PE Curriculum, stated the curriculum is wrong; all children develop at different levels; teaching Health & PE is the responsibility of parents; children do not belong to the government; the state has no right to tell you what to do; sexual exploitation is wrong; don't worry about what the state says.

Georgia Kebler, Southampton, Health & PE Curriculum, stated she's a lesbian and sixteen years old; Health & PE shouldn't be taught in school, the school shouldn't be teaching about molestation.

Irving Bodine, 15 Pleasant Street, Health & PE Curriculum, Religion should be taught at home; this is why we requested opt in versus opt out; you should watch the "What is a Woman" documentary, children are ostracized because of their belief system; spoke about biblical content; didn't see a curriculum survey go out; hasn't seen documentation about what funding we could lose or where it says so.

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Tammy, Southampton, Health & PE Curriculum, has grandchildren in district; stated her daughter shared her deepest, darkest memory, asked how dare you make her stand up here and make her expose her secrets.

Jackie Markorst, Newbolds Corner Road, Thanked the administration for holding the ESY program; commented that she is being asked questions about gender terms from her five and ten year old children; asked why we are teaching 5th graders about pleasuring themselves and why topics are left out of 6th and 7th grade and then taught again in 8th grade; stated she hopes the district does the right thing for the kids.

Mrs. Michael responded; we are not teaching masturbation. Masturbation is not in the curriculum. She explained the grade bands and answered the question as to why things are taught at grade five and eight.

CORRESPONDENCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

REGULAR & EXECUTIVE MEETINGS: June 27, 2022

MOTION: J. Hicks SECOND: S. Phillips ROLL CALL VOTE

MOTION CARRIED, ALL IN FAVOR 8-0

S. Cassel - YES

J. McMichael – Absent

M. Walker - YES

R. Hann - YES

S. Phillips - YES

B. Wright, Vice President - YES

J. Hicks - YES

K. Topf - YES

A. Ushkowitz, President - YES

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

SPECIAL MEETING: July 19, 2022

MOTION: S. Phillips SECOND: B. Wright ROLL CALL VOTE

MOTION CARRIED, 6-0

S. Cassel - Abstain

J. McMichael – Absent

M. Walker - Abstain

R. Hann - YES

S. Phillips - YES

B. Wright, Vice President - YES

J. Hicks - YES

K. Topf - YES

A. Ushkowitz, President - YES

REPORT OF THE BOARD SECRETARY:

INFORMATION ITEMS:

- **Board of Education Member Election – November 8, 2022 Candidates:**

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Suzanne Phillips
Jeffrey E. Hicks
Irving Bodine III
Stephen Chadwick
Amy Ushkowitz
Kit Applegate

ACTION ITEMS:

- 1.1** It is recommended that the Board Approve transfers *Line items for the months of **June – August 2022**, as approved by the Superintendent.
- 1.2** Authorize the following payments *Payment of the **June, July & August 2022** bill list in the amount of \$651,393.71
- 1.3** Accept the ***Board Secretary's Report** for the month of **June & July 2022**.
- 1.4** Accept the **Treasurer's Reports** for the month of **June & July 2022**.
- 1.5** Approve the *Board Secretary's Monthly Certification Budgetary Line Item Status, Pursuant to NJAC 6:A:23-2.1(c)3, I certify that as of **June & July 2022**, no budgetary line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed line item appropriation in violation of NJAC 6A:23-2.11(a).
- 1.6** And certify the Board of Education's Monthly Certification Budgetary Major Account/Fund Status Pursuant to NJAC 6:A23-2.11(c)4, we certify that as of **June & July 2022** after review of the secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials and the treasurer's monthly financial reports, that to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of the NJAC6:A23-2.11(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.
- 1.7** Accept *Revenue Account Status Report for **June & July 2022**.
- 1.8** Nutri-Serve Cafeteria Report and authorize **June** foodservice Check Register in the amount of \$13,647.59

MOTION: B. Wright SECOND: J. Hicks to approve Board Secretary Report (items # 1.1 – 1.8 as listed) ROLL CALL VOTE

MOTION CARRIED, 8-0

S. Cassel - YES	J. McMichael – Absent	M. Walker – YES (<i>recuse 1.2 check #2811</i>)
R. Hann - YES	S. Phillips - YES	B. Wright, Vice President - YES
J. Hicks - YES (*)	K. Topf - YES	A. Ushkowitz, President - YES

*(*J. Hicks recused June ck# 2733; July ck#2774, 2775; August ck#2815)*

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M. Walker asked if Care Solace was owned by Addiction Treatment; Mrs. DeJoseph responded she believed so, although she didn't have the invoice in front of her to confirm.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

INFORMATION ITEMS:

- Comprehensive Health & PE Curriculum Update

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Re-Adoption of curricula aligned with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards;

1.1 Comprehensive Health & PE – K-8

J. Hicks stated that developing the curriculum has been a tedious and difficult process, the State sets the standards and we have watered them down, as suggested by Mr. Hicks, "Do Not Teach" language was added; J. Hicks Thanked Mrs. Michael; Mrs. Michael thanked Mrs. Horner.

M. Walker stated that the report stated there were 70 respondents to the survey, roughly 10% of families and disputed the math regarding the accuracy of respondents; commented on CRT and the term diversity in curriculum; defined the term diversity; asked why climate change is across every content area and part of the Health & PE curriculum. Stated she did not have enough time to go through the entire packet.

Mrs. Michael responded regarding the standards and how those terms are used as it pertains to the district's curriculum; thanked Mrs. Walker for defining diversity; reminded Mrs. Walker of her response to her questions regarding climate change and provided a link from NJSBA; stated that the documents were provided to her as well as all other Board Members on August 10th or 11th.

M. Walker stated she felt like pieces were rushed and hopes the Board takes into consideration community input; and the State tries to bully us.

S. Phillips agreed that things felt rushed, but stated as you can see from the presentation all the things that we have been doing; curriculum is always written in July; I've read the curriculum multiple times and Mrs. Michael has been so wonderful to answer all of my questions. Stated she doesn't see how the curriculum can be interpreted that we are "grooming" kids; feels feedback from parents is so important; Mrs. Horner has done a fantastic job of pulling things out that don't apply to Southampton; doesn't see where "grooming" is anywhere weaved in. Shared Ms. Potts' concern that not all community members are getting the same information; stated children are our number one concern.

J. Hicks asked why standards are being brought to lower grades. Mrs. Horner responded stating the overall favorability of the curriculum, we've indicated things we won't be teaching in red and moved controversial topics to the end of the required grade band. People will know several weeks in

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advance when lessons will be taught and can still choose to opt out of whatever topics they chose in Health & PE.

A. Ushkowitz called order to the meeting.

J. Hicks commented that children knowing what the proper terms are is important when prosecution is involved. The invitation was open to all Board Members to meet with Asia and Mrs. Horner to discuss the Health & PE, there were ample opportunities to attend information sessions, however, only 6 Board Members chose to do so.

K. Topf asked how we are explaining intercourse without explaining reproduction.

Mrs. Horner responded this topic has been in the curriculum forever, it is not new. Basically, the sperm and the egg meet to reproduce; we do not teach physical sexual intercourse.

M. Walker read an excerpt from questions and answers regarding climate change and asked about abortion.

Mrs. Michael responded stating we are not teaching abortion, that topic is on hold because of recent State legislation; it is not finalized, it's on hold; the standard includes other parts in that section so we are not removing the section. Regarding sexual intercourse; we are not sexualizing the health curriculum, we refer to this portion with terms such as sperm and egg.

J. Hicks asked the solicitor to provide legal input regarding what options we have from a legal standpoint.

Mr. Muccilli, the Board Solicitor, responded stating that if the Board chose not to adopt the curriculum the Department of Education could withhold state funding, file litigation to mandate enforcement and implementation of the curriculum, and/or potential QSAC ramifications.

MOTION: B. Wright SECOND: R. Hann to approve (item #1.1) ROLL CALL VOTE

MOTION CARRIED, 6-2

S. Cassel - YES

J. McMichael – Absent

M. Walker – NO

R. Hann - YES

S. Phillips - YES

B. Wright, Vice President - YES

J. Hicks – YES

K. Topf - NO

A. Ushkowitz, President - YES

2. Acceptance of Grant Funds

2.1 Approval to accept the FY23 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) consolidated grant in the allocated amount of \$201,986 for Part A (Basic), and \$13,603 for Part B (Pre-School).

2.2 Approval to accept the FY23 Elementary and Secondary Education Act, formally known as Every Student Succeeds Act (ESEA) grant in the following amounts:

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Title I	\$69,789
Title II	\$15,330
Title III	\$0
Title IV	\$9,000
Total	\$94,119

2.3 Approval to accept the FY22-23 American Rescue Plan grant funds in the **revised** total amount of \$819,605 as listed below:

ARP ESSER	\$631,077
ARP ESSER Accelerated Learning	\$63,528
ARP ESSER Summer Learning & Enrichment	\$40,000
ARP ESSER Beyond School Day	\$40,000
ARP ESSER Mental Health	\$45,000
Total	\$819,605

MOTION: S. Phillips **SECOND:** S. Cassel **to approve (item #2.1-2.3) ROLL CALL VOTE**

S. Cassel - YES

J. McMichael – Absent

M. Walker – YES (abstain #2.3)

R. Hann - YES

S. Phillips - YES

B. Wright, Vice President - YES

J. Hicks – YES

K. Topf - YES

A. Ushkowitz, President - YES

J. Hicks thanked Mrs. Michael for explanations.

MOTION CARRIED, 8-0

3. Refusal of Funds

3.1 Refusal of ARP Homeless II in the amount of \$2754.00

3.2 Refusal of ESEA Title III in the amount of \$1567.00

MOTION: J. Hicks **SECOND:** S. Phillips **to approve (item #3.1-3.2) ROLL CALL VOTE**

S. Cassel - YES

J. McMichael – Absent

M. Walker – YES

R. Hann - YES

S. Phillips - YES

B. Wright, Vice President - YES

J. Hicks – YES

K. Topf - YES

A. Ushkowitz, President - YES

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M. Walker asked is this based on statistics; Mrs. Michael responded it is based on the percentage of low income students reporting from last year, ESEA looks at demographics.

MOTION CARRIED, 8-0

4. Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) Report

4.1 Incident Number: SS 03-06-15-22 School 3 Unfounded

MOTION: A. Ushkowitz SECOND: B. Wright to affirm the Superintendent's decision regarding HIB Incidents (item # 4.1) ROLL CALL VOTE

S. Cassel - YES

J. McMichael – Absent

M. Walker – YES

R. Hann - YES

S. Phillips - YES

B. Wright, Vice President - YES

J. Hicks – YES

K. Topf - YES

A. Ushkowitz, President – YES

MOTION CARRIED, 8-0

5. *Special Services Enrollment Report

6. *Curriculum Director's Report

7. Nurse's Report-None

8. *Fire & Security Drill Reports

9. Suspension Reports-None

10. *Principals' Report

11. *Class Trip (not including transportation)

YMCA of the Pines, 10-11-2022, 6th Grade, \$5492.00 (\$1100.00 deposit due 08/26/2022)

MOTION: S. Cassel SECOND: R. Hann to approve (items #5 – 11) VOICE VOTE

MOTION CARRIED, ALL IN FAVOR 8-0

12. *2022-2023 District Goals & Action Plans

MOTION: S. Phillips SECOND: J. Hicks to approve the 2022-2023 District Goals & Action Plans (item #12) ROLL CALL VOTE

S. Cassel - YES

J. McMichael – Absent

M. Walker – YES

R. Hann - YES

S. Phillips - YES

B. Wright, Vice President - YES

J. Hicks – YES

K. Topf - YES

A. Ushkowitz, President – YES

MOTION CARRIED, 8-0

13. * Enrollment – August 17, 2022

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- Total school enrollment = 671 (PSD – Grade 8, including in-district special education)
- Special Education = 176
- Resident students in-district = 139
- Resident students sent out of district = 11
- Speech and Language only = 26
- Kindergarten Enrollment = 73

14. * Resolution to submit an application for approval to use an alternate bathroom plan

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ALTERNATE BATHROOM PLAN FOR SCHOOL #1 PURSUANT TO N.J.A.C. 6A:26-6.3 (h)4ii

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:26-6.3(h)4ii, a district board of education may elect to use the alternate method of compliance in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:26-6.3(h)4ii, by providing toilet rooms adjacent to or outside the classroom in lieu of individual toilet rooms in each classroom. And; WHEREAS, the Board of Education wished to approve the submission of an application for approval by the Burlington County Department of Education to use an alternate bathroom plan for School #1 Rooms 26 and 27.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Southampton Board of Education, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, that the District has elected to use an alternate bathroom plan for School #1 Rooms 26 and 27 as allowed per N.J.A.C. 6A:26-6.3(h)4ii.

MOTION: B. Wright SECOND: A. Ushkowitz to submit an application for approval by the County Office to use an alternate bathroom plan for School #1 Rooms 26 and 27; in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:26-6.3(h)4ii. ROLL CALL VOTE

S. Cassel - YES

J. McMichael – Absent

M. Walker – YES

R. Hann - YES

S. Phillips - YES

B. Wright, Vice President - YES

J. Hicks – YES

K. Topf - YES

A. Ushkowitz, President – YES

MOTION CARRIED, 8-0

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. PERSONNEL/STUDENT SERVICES (Chairperson: B. Wright, S. Cassel & A. Ushkowitz)

Administrative Facilitator: Superintendent, A. Michael

* Personnel/Student Services Committee Meeting - August 22, 2022

1.1 Superintendent's Recommendation for Employment

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- Samantha Fenton, School #1 School Counselor, at Step 3, MA Column on the Schedule A-1 Salary Guide, Salary \$58,397, effective TBD
- Elizabeth Hagmayer, Fifth Grade Science and Mathematics Teacher Step 1, BA Column on the Schedule A-1 Salary Guide, Salary \$55,522, effective 09-01-2022
- Margo Dippner, Pre-School Teacher Step 1, BA Column on the Schedule A-1 Salary Guide, Salary \$55,522, effective 09-01-2022
- Stanley Tarasewicz, Part-Time Custodian Hourly Rate of \$18.50 as of 07-18-2022

1.2 Accept Resignation with Regret

- Employee #15361, effective 08-19-2022

1.3 Fieldwork/Student Teaching/Mentoring

- Requesting approval from Rowan University for Margo Dippner to complete a 40-hour field experience for (2) Special Education courses with Carol Pero. Placement period is FALL 2022: 09-01-2022 to 12-09-2022.
- Elizabeth Hagmayer to be mentored in accordance with state regulations under the provisional license program for a minimum of 30 weeks by Nichol Czarasty.
- Margo Dippner to be mentored in accordance with state regulations under the provisional license program for a minimum of 30 weeks by Carol Pero.
- Stephanie Valentine to be mentored in accordance with state regulations under the provisional license program for a minimum of 30 weeks by Stephanie Wilhelm.

1.4 *2022-2023 Fall, Winter, and Full Year Schedule B Appointments

- Approval for the attached staff members to fill Fall and full-year Schedule B positions for the 2022-2023 School year [subject to the activities not being terminated due to any reason (i.e., the COVID-19 Pandemic)].

1.5 Lunch/Bus Duty

- Approval for any certified staff to serve as lunch duty monitors as per signed agreement at the non-instructional rate.
- Approval for any certified staff to serve as early/late bus monitors as per the signed agreement at the non-instructional rate.
- Approval for all ESS/Mission One employees to be compensated at the agreed upon rate when serving as early/late bus monitors.

1.6 Leave of Absence

- Employee #15346, unpaid leave of absence effective 10-20-2022 to 03-20-2023.
- Employee #15357, unpaid leave of absence from 08-31-2022 to 10-17-2022.
- Employee #15174, FMLA/NJFLA effective 10-1-2022 to 04-03-2023.

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1.7 Extended Leave of Absence

- Permission to grant 10 days extended sick leave to Employee #15357 in accordance with Title 18A:30-6 for potential use during medical leave of absence.

1.8 Workshops

- Employee #15117, NJECC 2022 Intermediate Google Workshop for School Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, 06-27-2022, 06-28-2022 and 06-29-2022, cost \$195.00.
- Employee #15389, Employee #15210, Employee #1197, Employee #2026, NJECC 2022 Intermediate Workshop for School Secretaries and Administrative Assistants, 08-15-2022 and 08-16-2022, cost \$165.00 per employee for a total of \$660.00.

MOTION: B. Wright SECOND: S. Cassel to accept and approve items (1.1-1.8)

ROLL CALL VOTE

S. Cassel - YES

J. McMichael – Absent

M. Walker – YES

R. Hann - YES

S. Phillips - YES

B. Wright, Vice President - YES

J. Hicks – YES*

K. Topf - YES

A. Ushkowitz, President – YES

(J. Hicks recused # 1.8, second bullet)

MOTION CARRIED, 8-0

2. CURRICULUM/POLICY COMMITTEE (Chairperson: S. Phillips, K. Topf & J. Hicks)

Administrative Facilitator: Superintendent, A. Michael

Curriculum/Policy Committee Meeting – August 4, 2022

INFORMATION ITEMS: None

ACTION ITEMS:

2.1 *2022-2023 School Level Objectives (School #1, School #2 and School #3)

MOTION: S. Phillips SECOND: J. Hicks to adopt the 2022 – 2023 School Level Objectives (item# 2.1) VOICE VOTE; MOTION CARRIED, ALL IN FAVOR 8-0

2.2 *Second Reading and Adoption of Policy & Regulations – Policy Audit

P 0146 Board Member Authority

P 0157 Board of Education Website

R 4432 Sick Leave for Support Staff

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MOTION: S. Phillips SECOND: R. Hann to approve upon second reading and adoption of Policy Audit (Item # 2.2) ROLL CALL VOTE

S. Cassel - YES

J. McMichael – Absent

M. Walker – YES

R. Hann - YES

S. Phillips - YES

B. Wright, Vice President - YES

J. Hicks – YES

K. Topf - YES

A. Ushkowitz, President – YES

MOTION CARRIED, 8-0

3. BUDGET/FINANCE/FACILITIES COMMITTEE (Chairperson: R. Hann, J. McMichael & M. Walker)

Administrative Facilitator – Business Administrator, C. DeJoseph

*Budget/Finance/Facilities Meeting – August 22, 2022

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- Transportation Cost Increase
- Fire Panel School #2/3
- Annual Audit Scheduled to begin in December

R. Hann would like to ask the state for guidance regarding transportation costs.

ACTION ITEMS: None

4. PRESIDENT’S COUNCIL (A. Ushkowitz, B. Wright, A. Michael)

4.1 *2022-2023 Board of Education Goal and Action Plan

Based on past self-evaluations and community feedback, the Board of Education will adopt and implement a public relations program to enhance communications with our fellow residents. To achieve this goal, the Board of Education will foster a collaborative relationship with the greater Southampton community by building public awareness, increasing engagement, and boosting its visibility. The effectiveness of this program will be measured by community feedback and future Board self-evaluations facilitated by the New Jersey School Boards Association.

MOTION: A. Ushkowitz SECOND: J. Hicks to accept the 2022-2023 Board of Education Goal and Action Plan (item #4.1) VOICE VOTE

MOTION CARRIED, ALL IN FAVOR 8-0

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE: *None.*

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Board Retreat, Tuesday, July 19, 2022, 9:30 am – 1:30 pm, Board Office

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- BCSBA Meeting, Tuesday, June 28, 2022, 6pm-9pm, Medford Village Country Club

NEW BUSINESS:

- Southampton Township Committee Liaison Report
- Public Relations Committee
- Southampton Township Resolution for Southampton Township Safe Routes to School Project

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTHAMPTON SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPPORTING THE SOUTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROJECT AND THE APPLICATION FOR SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL FUNDING TO MAKE INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS THAT WILL IMPROVE THE WALKING ENVIRONMENT FOR STUDENTS

WHEREAS, it is our understanding that the Township of Southampton proposes the installation of pedestrian facilities along Race Street, Red Lion Road (CR-641), Main Street, NJ Route 206, Buddtown Road, and along the Good Farm Recreation Complex Driveway; and WHEREAS, the proposed improvements are intended to improve safety and connect students in the area to Township school and recreation facilities; and WHEREAS, this project serves school walkers on the route to the school; and WHEREAS, this Safe Routes to School Project will provide a much-needed safety improvement in the area and will clearly provide a much safer transportation experience for student walkers as well as students with disabilities and the general population of pedestrians in Southampton Township; and WHEREAS, the project will make the pedestrian route to three (3) of the District's schools, recreation facilities, and other Township assets much safer; and WHEREAS, it is our belief that the proposed activities are consistent with the goals of the Safe Routes to Schools program and the policies of the Southampton Township School District, and that funding this project would provide a significant opportunity for the Township of Southampton to improve student safety in the Township of Southampton.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE SOUTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS: The Southampton Township School District fully supports the efforts of the Township of Southampton in seeking New Jersey Department of Transportation Safe Routes to Schools funds and will collaborate to support the goals of the project, namely, to improve safety, encourage walking to school, and to improve the walking environment for students of the district and other users of the routes.

MOTION: B. Wright SECOND: S. Phillips to adopt the resolution of the Board of Education of the Township of the Southampton School District supporting the Southampton Safe Routes to School Project ROLL CALL VOTE

S. Cassel - YES

J. McMichael – Absent

M. Walker – YES

R. Hann - YES

S. Phillips - YES

B. Wright, Vice President - YES

J. Hicks – YES

K. Topf - YES

A. Ushkowitz, President – YES

SOUTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

August 22, 2022



MOTION CARRIED, 8-0

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Members of the public are invited to submit any general comments during this public comment portion of the 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.

Jamie Bodine, 15 Pleasant Street, stated parents need to wise up and start teaching health and PE stuff, the government shouldn't be involved. Directed a comment towards Board Member Suzanne Phillips, referencing how their relationship has been affected by this; the government is forcing the schools to sexualize our students; commented about grooming our children and supporting minorities and LGBTQ community, but what about me?; stated in the NJ constitution abortion is legal; asked where will this be woven in and why can't every parent be given a permission slip.

Andrea Price, Southampton, apologized for her outburst; stated her child was physically abused by his father and step-mother; commented that certain topics are sensitive to each individual; said it looks like you're coming off as grooming, but I'm not saying you are groomers; wanted to know where we draw the line; would like to see curriculum in layman's terms.

Greg Sobasinski, Landing Street, stated there are big issues here, not worth \$1.5 million dollars to become a slave to the State; there are other schools that have much higher scores than here with less money; we need to teach kids the basics; suggested the budget should be looked into.

Bea James, Southampton, stated she is a taxpayer in the highest state in the nation because of education; said maybe teach kids to write instead of how to screw and masturbate; shame on you all; we are throwing this world down the tubes because we care about people's feelings.

Irving Bodine, 15 Pleasant Street, stated two of you are up for re-election; continued with profanity-laced rant, mentioned lies on social media and cannot wait until you are off the school board.

J. Hicks stated that it is important to note that public comment should be directed to the Board President, three times members of the public pointed fingers at individual Board Members.

Jackie Markourse asked about the budget details.

SOUTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

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Mrs. DeJoseph responded that the budget information is available on the District's website.

Gewn Schwartzwaler, commented that she has a lot of respect for you, she is glad that some of you question things, but claimed it is sad that we are tied to the money as there are other school districts that are not following; stated you aren't tied to Governor Murphy and who he has appointed and to be sold out for a dollar amount is pathetic, you don't have to follow him like sheep, we are here because we love kids.

President Amy Ushkowitz stated she would like to publicly apologize to Mrs. Phillips, stating she was sorry if you feel that I could have handled the outburst from the public differently.

MOTION: J. Hicks SECOND: B. Wright TO ADJOURN TIME: 10:33 p.m.

DATES TO REMEMBER

August 23	New Student Orientation School #2/3 @ 10:00 a.m.
August 23	New Student Orientation School #1 @ 11:00 a.m.
August 29	Kindergarten Orientation Two Sessions @ 10-12 a.m. and 1-3 p.m.
August 31	First Day Back for Faculty and Staff
September 1	Teacher In-Service
September 2	School Closed
September 5	Labor Day-School Closed
September 6	First day of School for Students
September 12	PTA Room Parent Tea/General Membership Meeting School #3 Warrior Dome @ 6:00 p.m.
September 16	STAR Foundation Golf Tournament Golden Pheasant Golf Club @ 1:00 p.m.
September 19	Board of Education Meeting 8:00 p.m.
September 20	Back to School Night School #1 and School #2 6:00-7:30 p.m.
September 21	Back to School Night School #3 6:00-8:00 p.m.
September 26	Rosh Hashanah –School Closed
September 29	School Picture Day