SOUTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
February 1, 2024

MEETINGS:
5:00 p.m. - Special Meeting / Closed Executive Session- School #3 Media Center

SOUTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION, SOUTHAMPTON, NJ 08088
"Building a Tradition of Excellence"

Our Mission

The mission of the **Southampton Township School District**, in partnership with the community, is to educate, empower and inspire students to be successful global citizens. Driven by a passion for education and rooted in a tradition of excellence, we are committed to providing an inclusive and engaging environment that fosters a future forward mindset.

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. Please be aware this meeting may be recorded in accordance with District Policy #0168.

CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING: 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Board of Education Member	Present	Absent
Katie Topf, *Vice President*	**X**	
Jeffrey Hicks		**Excused**
Janine Hoey	**X**	
Irving Bodine III	**X**	
Betty Wright	**X**	
Leon Carelli	**X**	
Russell Hann	**X**	
Melissa Walker		**Excused**
Kit Applegate, *President*	**X**	

Others present: M. Harris

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SALUTE TO THE FLAG

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, on the district website and the township municipal building. Advertisement of the meetings was transmitted to the *Burlington County Times*, the *Courier Post*, and the Southampton Township Clerk on January 5, 2024. Notice of this meeting was transmitted to the Township Clerk, Burlington County Times, and the Courier Post on January 22, 2024.

Notice that public session may be audio recorded.
Please note that the **public session** of tonight's meeting may be audio recorded.

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

MOTION: J. Hoey SECOND: K. Topf VOICE VOTE; MOTION CARRIED, 7-0

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.

None.

CLOSE PUBLIC COMMENT

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 and #9** as above indicated and the subject to be discussed is as follows:

Falling Within Attorney-Client Privilege/Personnel Matters

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 **Thursday, February 1, 2024** 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 TO CONDUCT SUPERINTENDENT INTERVIEWS
TIME: 5:08 p.m. MOTION: J. Hoey SECOND: L. Carelli VOICE VOTE; MOTION CARRIED, 7-0

The Board conducted Superintendent interviews

MOTION BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO CLOSE EXECUTIVE SESSION
TIME: 10:05 p.m. MOTION: B. Wright SECOND: R. Hann VOICE VOTE; MOTION CARRIED, 7-0

ACTION ITEMS:

1. **Approve CME Associates to Prepare and Submit Local Recreation Improvement Grant Application**

MOTION: R. Hann SECOND: B. Wright to approve CME Associates to prepare and submit a $100,000 Local Recreation Improvement Grant Application for the School #2 Playground. Professional fees for their services will be $2,500.00 (item#1)

ROLL CALL VOTE

K. Topf, *Vice President- Yes*	**B. Wright - Yes**	**R. Hann - Yes**
I. Bodine III - Yes	**L. Carelli - Yes**	**M. Walker - Excused**
J. Hoey - Yes	**J. Hicks - Excused**	**K. Applegate, *President - Yes***

MOTION CARRIED, 7-0

2. **Approve Contract Extensions with Elevate K-12 to provide Spanish Instruction**

MOTION: __B. Wright____ SECOND: __L. Carelli____ to approve extension of contract with Elevate K-12 to provide Spanish instruction to Grades 6-8 and Advanced Spanish for the balance of the 2023-2024 school year at a cost of $16,064. (item #2) ROLL CALL VOTE

K. Topf, *Vice President- Yes*	**B. Wright - Yes**	**R. Hann - Yes**
I. Bodine III - Yes	**L. Carelli - Yes**	**M. Walker - Excused**
J. Hoey - Yes	**J. Hicks - Excused**	**K. Applegate, *President - Yes***

MOTION CARRIED, 7-0

3. **"Securing Our Children's Future Bond Act School Security Grant" submission approval**

MOTION: __B. Wright____ SECOND: __K. Topf____ to approve submission of Securing Our Children's Future Bond Act School Security Grant application to the New Jersey Department of Education for review and resolve that project expenditures in excess of the grant will be locally funded. (item #3) ROLL CALL VOTE

K. Topf, *Vice President- Yes*	**B. Wright - Yes**	**R. Hann - Yes**
I. Bodine III - Yes	**L. Carelli - Yes**	**M. Walker - Excused**
J. Hoey - Yes	**J. Hicks - Excused**	**K. Applegate, *President - Yes***

MOTION CARRIED, 7-0

4. **Long Range Facilities Plan Minor Amendment Resolution**

Resolution to authorize a Long Range Facilities Plan Minor Amendment

Other Capital Project (No State Funding)

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The Southampton Township Board of Education authorizes the architectural firm of REGAN YOUNG ENGLAND BUTERA, PC. (RYEBREAD) to amend the District's Long-Range Facilities Plan to include projects at the following schools:

School #1, School #2 & School #3

All proposed projects will be entered in the LRFP reporting system.

Adopted this 1st day of February 2024 by the Southampton Township Board of Education

MOTION: __J. Hoey___ SECOND: _K. Topf____ to approve the architectural firm of REGAN YOUNG ENGLAND BUTERA, PC (RYEBREAD) to amend the District's Long Range Facilities Plan to include projects in all three schools. (item #4) ROLL CALL VOTE

K. Topf, *Vice President- Yes*	**B. Wright - Yes**	**R. Hann - Yes**
I. Bodine III - Yes	**L. Carelli - Yes**	**M. Walker - Excused**
J. Hoey - Yes	**J. Hicks - Excused**	**K. Applegate, *President - Yes***

MOTION CARRIED, 7-0

MOTION TO ADJOURN

MOTION: __J. Hoey___ SECOND: __B. Wright____ TO ADJOURN TIME: __10:18 p.m.___
VOICE VOTE; MOTION CARRIED, 7-0