

January 5, 2026

The Stillwater Township Board of Education met on January 5, 2026 at 7:16 p.m. in the Stillwater School Library for a Committee of the Whole Board of Education Meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Cheryl Williver, Vice President, at 7:16 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 December 16, 2025. Notices were posted in the Stillwater School, Town Hall, Stillwater Post Office, Swartwood Post Office and the Stillwater School Website.

Mrs. Williver led the flag salute. The following Board members were present: Mrs. Williver, Mrs. Frey, Mrs. Voris, Mrs. Kraft, Mr. DeGroat, Mrs. Valeich, and Mr. Franek.

Absent: Mrs. Galante and Mrs. Thibault.

Also present were Dr. Danny Papa, 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**

**That the following Board Business resolutions be approved:**

1. Motion to approve the Regular Board of Education Meeting minutes and Executive Session Meeting minutes from December 15, 2025. (attachment)
2. Motion to approve the November 30, 2025 Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports which balanced in the amount of \$3,986,600.39 pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-16.10(c)3, we certify that as of November 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:** Mr. DeGroat    **Seconded By:** Mrs. Frey

**Voice Vote:** Mrs. Galante-Absent; Mrs. Williver-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mr. Franek- Aye; Mrs. Frey-Aye; Mrs. Kraft-Aye; Mrs. Thibault-Absent; Mrs. Valeich-Abstain #1 and Aye #2; and Mrs. Voris-Aye. Motions carried.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **PERSONNEL**

**That the following Personnel resolutions 1-3 be approved as recommended by Superintendent:**

1. Motion to accept with regret the resignation of Albina Voris, substitute teacher/paraprofessional, effective November 3, 2025.
2. Motion to rescind the following two motions that were approved at the December 15, 2025 Regular Board of Education meeting:

*8. Motion, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the contract for the following full-time Para-Professional staff member for employment for the 2025-2026 school year from December 16, 2025-June 30, 2026:*

| <u>Name</u>      | <u>Area</u> | <u>Base Hourly Rate</u> | <u>Annual Base Salary</u> | <u>Adjustments</u>         | <u>Total Salary- To be prorated</u> |
|------------------|-------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| DeStefano, Holly | Preschool   | \$16.93                 | \$ 20,028.19              | \$500<br>Associates Degree | \$20,528.19                         |

*9. Motion, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve Holly DeStefano as a bus aide on ST7 from December 16, 2025 to June 30, 2026 for an annual stipend of \$3,240, to be prorated to start date, to be paid as worked.*

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

**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-Absent; and Mrs. Voris-Abstain #6, Aye to remaining. Motions carried.

3. Motion, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following staff member to sub as a bus aide from January 6, 2026 to June 30, 2026 to be paid a daily rate of \$18.00 (\$9.00/run), not to exceed a total of \$3,240 to be paid as per timesheets submitted:

-Nicole Kerkhoven

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

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

**That the following Personnel resolution be approved as recommended by Superintendent:**

4. Motion to approve leave of absence for employee #971 from January 5, 2026 until on or about March 30, 2026. This leave is covered under NJFLA (12 Weeks) and FMLA (8 weeks remaining).

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

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

**POLICY**

None.

**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 2025-2026 Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying Case #1-2526.
2. Be It Hereby Resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board affirms the Superintendent's decision regarding 2025-2026 Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying Case #2-2526.
3. Be It Hereby Resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board affirms the Superintendent's decision regarding 2025-2026 Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying Case #3-2526.
4. Motion to retroactively award the following revised professional services contract beginning November 1, 2025 and concluding June 30, 2026; and, in accordance with 18A:18A-2 governing Professional Services, these services are authorized by law, regulated by law requires knowledge of an advanced type in a field of learning acquired by a prolonged formal course of specialized instruction and study:

| <b>Service</b>                    | <b>Vendor</b>                  | <b>Cost</b>  |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Behavioral/Educational Consultant | Brett DiNovi & Associates, LLC | Behaviorist: \$140/hour, up to 6 hours per week<br>Clinical Associates: \$60/hr, 2.5 hours per week<br>Functional Behavior Assessments: 15 hours @ \$140/hour.<br>Total cost of contract not to exceed \$30,000. |

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

**Roll Call Vote:** Mrs. Galante-Absent; Mrs. Williver-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mr. Franek- Aye; Mrs. Frey-Aye; Mrs. Kraft-Aye; Mrs. Thibault-Absent; Mrs. Valeich- Abstain #1-3, Aye #4; and Mrs. Voris-Aye. Motions carried.

## **BUILDING & GROUNDS**

1. Building and Grounds Update- Mrs. Metzgar provided an update on the following building and grounds items:
  - 1941/1956 boiler project update
  - 1988 Building Project Architect Proposals

### **That the following Building & Grounds resolutions be approved:**

2. Motion to approve contract with EI Associates to begin professional services for the 1941/1956 Boiler Replacement Project at a cost of \$49,500 plus up to \$2,000 for reimbursable expenditures.
  - Other quotes:
    - Parette Somjen Associates: \$65,000 (includes reimbursable expenditures)
    - Environetics Group Architects: \$49,700 plus up to \$4,000 for reimbursable expenditures.
3. Motion, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve that the Stillwater Township Board of Education, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, authorizes EI Associates to submit all necessary plans and paperwork to the Department of Education concerning the “1941/1956 Boiler Replacement Project at Stillwater Township School” to serve as an application to the Office of School Facilities and an amendment to the District’s Long Range Facilities Plan; and
  - BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this project shall be an “Other Capital” project and the Board of Education is NOT seeking state funding, but will fund the project through a withdrawal from Capital Reserve.

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

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

## **TRANSPORTATION**

None.

## **BUDGET & FINANCE**

### **That the following Budget & Finance resolutions be approved:**

1. Motion to approve transfers from November 1, 2025 to November 30, 2025 as attached.  
(attachment)

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

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

## **COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

Mrs. Voris reported on the following items:

- PTA Movie night with Santa recap
- PTA Skate Nights January 8<sup>th</sup> & January 22<sup>nd</sup>
- PTA Boot Scootin Tricky Tray- March 28<sup>th</sup>
- Stillwater Rec center- senior citizen game night on January 30<sup>th</sup>-all are welcome to attend.
- New group-"Stillwater Town Hall"- first meeting at the Stillwater Collective on January 15<sup>th</sup>
- Spring rec softball registration is now open!

## **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. \*\**

None.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by Mrs. Kraft, second by Mrs. Valeich at 7:32 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 Student Privacy 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.

Motion made by Mrs. Frey, second by Mr. Franek at 7:35 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 7:35 p.m. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,



René Metzgar  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary