

READINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Holland Brook School
Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.
April 16, 2024

MINUTES

Mission Statement: We empower members of our community to lead purposeful lives with integrity, to cultivate a spirit of discovery, and to embrace connections in our diverse, global society.

I. CALL TO ORDER BY BOARD PRESIDENT – OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Dr. Cerciello called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and announced that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6-21) and was open to the media and public. Notices were duly posted, and the meeting was advertised in the Hunterdon County Democrat and Courier News. Formal action was taken.

Present: Mrs. DePinto, Mrs. Fiore, Mr. Peach, Mrs. Podgorski, Mrs. Ryan, Mrs. Wolf, Dr. Cerciello

Also Present: Dr. Jonathan Hart, Superintendent, Mr. Jason M. Bohm, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Absent: Mrs. Mencer

II. FLAG SALUTE

III. OATH OF OFFICE

- Mr. Bohm, Board Secretary, administered the Oath of Office to new Board Member, Paulo Lopes

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Dr. Hart and the district Art Teachers, Ms. Dana Pierro, Readington Middle School, Ms. Lenora Iglesias, White House School, and Ms. Kristen Halozan, Three Brides School, recognized the Young Artist Honorees for having their artwork selected to be displayed at the Hunterdon Art Museum.

Dr. Hart and district teachers, Ms. Betsy Freeman, Ms. Carey-Anne Hendershot, and Ms. Lindsay Solano recognized Pearce Lowdon for being named the New Jersey Association of Gifted Children Distinguished Middle School Student of the Year.

Dr. Cerciello shared kind thoughts on behalf of the entire board.

- Dr. Hart shared New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC), an every three-year monitoring system on mandatory state statute and regulations in the following five key areas: fiscal, governance, instruction and program, operations, and personnel. Results were 100% scoring in all areas, excluding instruction and program which had a score of 81% in instruction and program. As the district is above an 80% threshold, the district is considered a high-performing district. For instruction and program, achievement is the subcategory where the district lost points resulting in the 81%. Indicator 12 comprehensive record of immunization, required physical exams and health screening. We did not have up-to-date health screening records that were not on file in the district, only available in out-of-district schools. The recommendation is to have the health screening on-site in the district readily available, which the district has already remedied. Mrs. Fiore highlighted an informal recommendation from the state on lighting levels at Readington Middle School classrooms, which the district is remediating and installing LED lighting in the summer of 2024 before the start of the 2024-2025 school year for students. Board members asked questions, with Dr. Hart providing answers.

V. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC (LIMITED TO ACTION ITEMS ON THE AGENDA)

- None

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

- Email B.C. - New Board Member
- Email S.H. - BOE Vacancy
- Email D.R. Board Vacancy Vote
- Email M.W. - Vacancy Vote

E. PERSONNEL

Committee Report: None

5. Motion to adopt 5.01 - 5.16

Motion: Mrs. Wolf

2nd: Mrs. Podgorski

Roll Call Vote: Carried 8 Yes

5.01 Motion to accept the Superintendent’s recommendation and approve the following appointment:

NAME	POSITION	SALARY/STEP	EFFECTIVE DATE
Alexander Bors	Teacher/PE/Health (TBS) 20-03-D2/agn	\$58,080.00 BA Step 1-2 (1) (prorated)	04/18/2024 - 06/30/2024
Janet Schierloh Howard	LTS Teacher/PE/Health (RMS) 20-01-D2/agj	\$77,155.00 MA Step 15 per diem rate (prorated)	05/20/2024 - 06/30/2024
April Ambio	LTS Teacher/Special Education (TBS) 20-03-D2/asm	Sub rate for the first 20 days, \$77,490.00 MA+30 Step 13-14 per diem rate thereafter (prorated)	04/22/2024 - 06/30/2024
Michele Valian	Bus Driver (Transportation) 80-06-D6/ann	\$29.75/hr. Step 9	04/17/2024 - 06/30/2024

5.02 Motion to ratify and accept the Superintendent’s recommendation and approve the following appointment:

NAME	POSITION	SALARY/STEP	EFFECTIVE DATE
Paula Obenauer	PT Aide/Special Education (RMS) 30-01-D3/awv	\$25.16/hr. 4.66 hrs./day Aide C Step 17	03/18/2024 - 06/30/2024
Anne Rieche	LTS Teacher/Autism (HBS) 20-02-D2/aye	\$60,685 BA Step 7 (prorated)	03/15/2024 - 06/30/2024

5.03 Motion to amend motion 5.03 from the February 20, 2024 agenda and ratify and accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following appointments:

NAME	POSITION	SALARY/STEP	EFFECTIVE DATE
Lily Santo	LTS Teacher/Art (HBS) 20-02-D2/axv	Sub rate for the first 20 days, \$58,080.00 BA Step 1 per diem rate thereafter	02/12/2024 - 06/30/2024

5.04 Motion to accept the Superintendent’s recommendation and ratify the following Substitute Teacher/Aide/Nurse/Bus Driver paid at the applicable substitute rates, in the Readington Township District, pending satisfactory completion of employment requirements:

NAME	POSITION
Karen Richards	Substitute Nurse

- 5.05 Motion to ratify and accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve extended other leave for staff member #6851 for the period 12/05/2023 - 04/20/2024.
- 5.06 Motion to ratify and accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve extended other leave for staff member #5042 for the period 04/15/2024 - 06/21/2024.
- 5.07 Motion to ratify and accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve special skills stipend of \$1,000.00 (prorated) for Alexandra Magliaro who will be assigned to provide extraordinary services as defined by the RTEA agreement set forth in an IEP for the 2023-2024 school year, effective April 8, 2024.
- 5.08 Motion to accept the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Readington Township Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") and the Readington Township Administrators' Association (hereinafter referred to as "RTAA") have negotiated a successor collective negotiations agreement (hereinafter referred to as the "CNA") effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby approves of the terms of the CNA effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027, which is attached to this Resolution and made a part hereof, including the 2024-2025 school year revised salaries; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby authorizes Board President and the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to execute, on behalf of the Board, the CNA by and between the Board and the RTAA.
(Attachment 5.08)

- 5.09 Motion to amend the March 12, 2024, board motion 5.11 for the following staff members and accept their stipend payment for the preparation of the Sheltered English Instruction (SEI) training on the March 15, 2024 In-Service Day:

NAME	SESSION	PREP STIPEND
Lora Petersen	Sheltered English Instruction Training	\$360.00
Allison Lovering	Sheltered English Instruction Training	\$360.00

- 5.10 Motion to ratify and approve Jennifer Rourke's increase in hours from 25 hours per week to 29.75 hours per week, due to a new student with Wilson Language Reading in their IEP, effective March 25, 2024 at the contractual rate.
- 5.11 Motion to ratify and approve Nancy Kelly to provide nursing services for student #843631 to participate in extracurricular activities during the months of March and April, not to exceed 21 hours, at her hourly rate.
- 5.12 Motion to ratify and approve Jill Komosinski to provide nursing services for student #843631, to participate in extracurricular activities during the month of April, not to exceed 6 hours, at her hourly rate.
- 5.13 Motion to ratify and accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the additional staff members that participated in the Readington Township School District Parent Academy Night on March 20, 2024 at the contractual rate:

NAME	SESSION
Leslie Martinez	Seeds-To-Salad Program
Betsy Freeman	Hands-On-Inquiry: The Global Goals Game - Climate Change Edition
Betsy Freeman	Hands-On-Inquiry: Relax and Grow Your Own Fresh Food Indoors Too!

- Policy 1523 - Comprehensive Equity Plan
- Policy 1550 - Equal Employment/Anti-Discrimination Practices
- Policy 2411 - Guidance Counseling
- Policy 3211 - Code of Ethics
- Policy 5750 - Equitable Educational Opportunity

Mr. Peach ask Strauss Esmay on code of ethics, if commissioner or not, changing pronouns if that is a Strauss Esmay or Commissioner as the code has pronouns, but changes proposed remove such.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Dr. Hart shared the board self evaluation tool through NJSBA to the entire board for completion. NJSBA will compile the information and shall share with Dr. Cerciello for training this summer and next school year.
- Mrs. Fiore highlighted board tours, and students in grades 7 and 8 commissioned pieces of music by composers Nadine Silverman and Franklin Hansen will be premiered shortly. May concert will premiere and will be credited in future world-wide when utilized in other capacity.
- New Boardmanship certificate will be presented to Mrs. Fiore and Mrs. Wolf at the May 9, 2024 Hunterdon County meeting, and teacher of the year, Ms. Gargi Adhikari, will be presented as well. Virtual and in-person availability for anyone interested from the board or administration.

IX. NEW BUSINESS FROM BOARD

- Board member asked several question regarding our board attorney and moving forward. Dr. Hart responded to questions.

Mr. Peach left the meeting at 8:36 p.m.

X. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

- Parents and community members asked about ELA curriculum, screening, intervention, resources and programming. Recommendations for the district to consider were conveyed. Dr. Hart provided response and thoughts. Dialogue occurred with board members on the topic.

XI. ADJOURNMENT - 8:55 p.m.

Motion: Mrs. Fiore

2nd: Mrs. Podgorski

Roll Call Vote: Carried 7 Yes

Respectfully submitted,

**Mr. Jason M. Bohm
Business Administrator/Board Secretary**

**Dr. Camille Cerciello
President, Board of Education**