

# **READINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Virtual/In-Person Available at Holland Brook School  
Board of Education Meeting Room  
Regular Meeting 6:00 p.m.  
February 22, 2022

## **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**

Mrs. Hample called the meeting to order at 6:00 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. Fiore, Mr. Peach, Mrs. Wolf, Mr. Zwerling, Dr. Cerciello, Mrs. Hample

**Absent:** Mrs. Bettermann, Mrs. Podgorski, Mr. Wallace

Mrs. Bettermann arrived at 6:06 p.m.

### **II. FLAG SALUTE**

### **III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- Marci Cole, Dispatcher, presented the Transportation Department budget for the 2022-2023 school year
- Donald Race, Facilities Manager, presented the Facilities Department budget for the 2022-2023 school year
- Jason Bohm, Business Administrator, presented the Administration and Personnel/Benefits budget for the 2022-2023 school year
  - Dr. Hart provided an overview of the tentative budget to be discussed on March 15, 2022 with the final approval on April 26, 2022. He said state aid figures are not out until March 8, 2022 when the Governor's budget is announced. The tax levy and other information shall be shared with the public at the March 15, 2022 Board of Education Meeting. The County Office shall review our budget into early April. Any adjustments shall likely be inclusive in the April 5, 2022 Board of Education Meeting.
- Dr. Hart presented updates on COVID-19. He said the goal is in-person, full-time student instruction to the extent possible. Dr. Hart provided data on the virtual and absent students currently compared to January, indicating a significant drop in students needing to quarantine or testing positive for COVID-19. Dr. Hart mentioned on March 7, 2022 masks will be optional in conformity with state recommendations. He also mentioned updated guidelines will be announce to the public as they are developed by the NJDOE.
- Dr. Hart talked about graduation for 8th grade at Hunterdon Central. Board members are invited.

### **IV. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC (LIMITED TO ACTION ITEMS ON THE AGENDA)**

- Numerous parents and community members asked questions and had comments regarding masks, vaccinated vs. nonvaccinated guidelines, NJDOH guidance, contact tracing, social distancing, among other things regarding to COVID-19.

Dr. Hart responded and shared information that was readily available; however, NJDOH guidelines are forth coming. Dr. Hart indicated the state is issuing guidelines shortly, and although not mandates, the Board is looking out for the best interest of the students and staff with the NJDOE and NJDOH. There could be financial, legal, and safety concern with not following the guidelines. Contact tracing, quarantining, and social distancing needs to be reflected in the new state guidelines.

### **V. CORRESPONDENCE**

- Email A.R. - Masks & Quarantine
- Email J.H. - District Links
- Email K.D. - Masks
- Email K.P. - Masks







