

READINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
Holland Brook School Board of Education Meeting Room
Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.
December 10, 2019

MINUTES

Call to Order by Board President – Open Public Meetings Act – Roll Call

Laura Simon 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: Jared Beatrice, Carol Hample, Robyn Mikaelian, Andrew Saunders, Tom Wallace, Anna Shinn, Laura Simon

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

Absent: Ray Egbert, Eric Zwerling

Eric Zwerling arrived at 7:02 p.m.

Ray Egbert arrived at 7:08 p.m.

Flag Salute

Superintendent's Report

- Dr. Hart recognized Betsy Freeman, Gifted and Talented Teacher, along with Readington Middle School students, Braden Galloway, Martael Hoffman, Tony Case, Wilda Lago, and Andrew Leibowitz, Eddie Lao, Jasmine Lowaski, Christopher Serrao, for being awarded a \$5,000 BASF STEM grant for developing sustainable food production for the future, titled "Feeding Our Future". Students made a presentation about their grant application, project goals and future steps.
- Dr. Hart recognized the contributions of Jared Beatrice, Board Member, thanking him for time spent on the board. Jared Beatrice provided thoughts on his experiences during his time on the board, encouraging persons to participate.
- Dr. Hart recognized Denise Birmingham, 6th grade Math Teacher, for being awarded the Garden Distinction Award (Pennsylvania Horticultural Society). Ms. Moffat and Dr. Hart recognized her earlier in the month in person at Readington Middle School for over 400 entries. Mr. Zwerling indicated how prestigious this award is.

- January 8 and 9, 2020 are the next meeting dates for the Strategic core planning team.
- Dr. Hart mentioned the proposed Board of Education meeting dates calendar for 2020 will appear on the January reorganization meeting for vote and adoption.

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

- None

CORRESPONDENCE

- S.M. Email - Yearbook

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Motion to adopt 1.01 - 1.03

Motion: Mrs. Shinn Second: Mr. Wallace Roll Call Vote: Carried 8 Yes
(Jared Beatrice abstained)

1.01 November 2019 Enrollment and Drill Reports

1.02 Motion to accept the HIB reports and affirm the Superintendent's decision on the following case:

CASE NUMBER	SCHOOL	DATE	FINDINGS OF HARASSMENT INTIMIDATION OR BULLYING
2	RMS	10/28/2019	No

1.03 RMS Discipline Report Qtr 1/September 5 - November 13, 2019

MINUTES

Motion to adopt 2.01 - 2.02

Motion: Mrs. Shinn Second: Mr. Wallace Roll Call Vote: Carried 7 Yes
(Ray Egbert and Jared Beatrice abstained)

2.01 Motion to approve the Meeting Minutes November 12, 2019.

2.02 Motion to approve the Executive Session Minutes November 12, 2019.

FINANCE/FACILITIES

Committee Report: Mr. Egbert provided minutes of the meetings held on Friday, November 15 and December 6, 2019.

Motion to adopt 3.01 - 3.06

Motion: Mr. Wallace Second: Mr. Egbert Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes

3.01 Motion to approve the **Bill List** for the period from **November 14, 2019** through **December 11, 2019** for a total amount of **\$512,179.12**.
(Attachment 3.01)

3.02 Motion to approve **District Travel Schedule as of December 10, 2019** for a Total amount of **\$10,871.82**.
(Attachment 3.02)

3.03 Motion to ratify and approve **Payroll** for the month of **October 2019** for a total amount of **\$2,026,341.67**.
(Attachment 3.03)

3.04 Motion to ratify and approve the following **Account Transfers** for **October 1, 2019 through October 31, 2019**.
(Attachment 3.04 - 3.04a)

3.05 Motion to accept the FINANCIAL REPORT CERTIFICATION OF BOARD SECRETARY'S MONTHLY CERTIFICATION BUDGETARY LINE ITEM STATUS: October 31, 2019 Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c) 3, the Business Administrator/Board Secretary certifies that as of October 31, 2019 no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-9 and 18A:22-8.1.

Jason M. Bohm, Board Secretary

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:23-2.11(c)4, we certify that as of October 31, 2019 after review of the Secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials that, to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A23-2.11(a)1 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year, and further, that we approve the Board Secretary and Treasurer's Reports subject to audit for the period ending October 31, 2019.

(Attachment 3.05 & 3.05a)

3.06 Motion to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, municipalities can negotiate with developers and extend the use of Payment in Lieu of Taxes (hereinafter referred to as "PILOT") for projects within their township boundaries; and

WHEREAS, developers offered a PILOT program at essence will pay less property taxes which is the funding source for local and regional school districts, therefore experiencing tax relief; and

WHEREAS, in a PILOT program the municipality shall receive approximately ninety-five (95) percent of the revenue and the county government shall receive approximately five (5) percent of the revenue; and

WHEREAS, the burden to collect taxes for local and regional school districts would remain with existing residential and corporate taxpayers due to tax break provided to the developer, as the developer only pays taxes on land and not property improvements; and

WHEREAS, the taxes collected by a township for municipalities purposes could be kept arbitrarily low given additional source of revenue directly benefiting the township, thereby skewing local tax levy increases unfavorably to school districts; and

WHEREAS, the potential influx of new residents with children shall directly affect the school district; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Readington has entered into PILOT programs with developers and may continue to enter into PILOT programs with developers;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Readington Township School District shall request to be included in dialogue relating to PILOT programs with developers to ease the burden associated with school tax levy needs and provide the necessary and mandated education to future students enrolled in the district, requesting a fair and appropriate portion of revenue proceeds to offset the district's needs; and furthermore

WHEREAS, the New Jersey School Boards Association (hereinafter referred to as "NJSBA") is a federation of boards of education whose mission, in part, is to promote the interests of such boards before legislative, administrative, and policy-making bodies;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby expresses its position that the New Jersey PILOT program as currently structured is greatly detrimental to local boards of education, reducing their revenues while often increasing their expenses. The Board urges the NJSBA to take action aimed to improve this condition for boards statewide, including advocating for legislative remedies that would reconfigure the revenue-sharing provisions of the PILOT laws and ensure school districts can participate in the economic benefits of a PILOT agreement.

EDUCATION/TECHNOLOGY

Committee Report - None

Motion to adopt 4.01 - 4.06

Motion: Mrs. Shinn Second: Mr. Wallace Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes

4.01 Motion to accept a BASF Science Education Grant in the amount of \$5,000.00 to be used for a living laboratory and environmental innovative center (hydroponic greenhouse) at Readington Middle School (B. Freeman).

4.02 Motion to accept a mini-grant in the amount of \$343.14 from the Readington Township Home & School Association to be used at Readington Middle School for the purchase of 6 bleeding control kits for the emergency go bags.

4.03 Motion to approve the attached list of HSA Fundraisers for the 2019-2020 school year.
(Attachment 4.03)

4.04 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following student placement in the Readington Township School District as follows:

STUDENT	SCHOOL/PROGRAM	COOPERATING TEACHER/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATES
Amy Klemens	Rutgers University/ Student Observation	Jillian Bobal/WHS	25 hours in January 2020

- 4.05 Motion to ratify and approve home instruction for student H-188 effective 11/8/19 through 12/8/19. Services to be provided by LearnWell at a rate of \$47.00 per hour not to exceed 5 hours per week.
- 4.06 Motion to ratify and approve home instruction for student H-189 effective 11/14/19 through 12/31/19. Services to be provided by Professional Education Services, Inc. at a rate of \$30.00 per hour not to exceed 5 hours per week.

PERSONNEL

Committee Report - Mr. Beatrice provided minutes of the meeting held on November 11, 2019.

Motion to adopt 5.01 - 5.07

Motion: Mr. Wallace Second: Mrs. Shinn Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes

- 5.01 Motion to ratify and accept the Superintendent’s recommendation and approve the following **Substitute Teachers/Aides/Nurses/Bus Drivers** paid at the applicable substitute rates, in the Readington Township District, pending satisfactory completion of employment requirements:

NAME	POSITION
Mallory Barber	Substitute Teacher/Aide
Jacob DePaolo	Substitute Teacher/Aide
Karen Hopkins	Substitute Teacher/Aide

- 5.02 Motion to accept the Superintendent’s recommendation and approve the following position control changes and designated transfers for the 2019-2020 school year:

NAME	CHANGE	POSITION NUMBER	TITLE/ LOCATION	SALARY	EFFECTIVE DATE
Karen Hopkins	Transfer From:	30-01-D3/azu	FT Aide/Special Education (RMS)	\$44,541.80 (total, prorated) MA Step 9 Aide C Step 10	12/11/2019
	To:	20-01-D2/bax	PT Teacher/ Special Education (RMS)		
		30-01-D3/azu	PT Aide/Special Education (RMS)		

Sandra Drew	Transfer From:	30-03-D3/awg	PT Aide/Special Education (TBS)	\$21,306.42 (prorated) Aide NC Step 5	12/11/2019
	To:	30-03-D3/azh	FT Aide/Special Education (TBS)		
Laura Sposato	Transfer From:	30-04-D3/atf	Aide/Autism (WHS)	\$27,345.00 Clerical Step 15	01/01/2020
	To:	50-01-D4/amw	Clerical Aide (RMS)		

5.03 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following appointments:

NAME	POSITION	SALARY/STEP	EFFECTIVE DATE
Jacob DePaolo	LTS Teacher/Language Arts (RMS) 20-01-D2/aem	Substitute rate for the first 20 consecutive days, \$55,370.00 BA, Step 1 per diem rate thereafter	01/01/2020
Kristen Doyle	Aide/Special Education (WHS) 30-04-D3/alo	\$17.29/hr. Aide NC Step 1	12/11/2019
Denise Cathro	Speech Therapist (RMS) 20-01-D2/akg	\$70,300.00 MA Step 13 (prorated)	On or before 02/11/2020
Jennifer Snyder	PT Aide/Special Ed (RMS) 30-01-D3/bbc	\$18.11 Aide NC Step 5	12/11/2019

5.04 Motion to ratify the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following appointments:

NAME	POSITION	SALARY	EFFECTIVE DATE
Robert Clymer	LTS Teacher/Behavior Special Education (HBS) 20-02-D2/azv	Substitute rate for the first 20 consecutive days, \$55,370.00 BA, Step 1 thereafter	09/5/2019 - 10/27/2019
Jennifer Taylor	Bus Driver (Transportation)	\$25.50/hr. Bus Driver Step 5	12/09/2019

	80-06-D6/anr		
	Cafe Aide (HBS)	\$15.00/hr Step 1 \$6,187.50 (prorated)	

5.05 Motion to approve the following resignation:

NAME	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Kristen Apple	Aide/Special Education (WHS) 30-04-D3/alu	December 20, 2019

5.06 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following club advisor at Three Bridges School for the 2019-2020 school year.

CLUB/PROGRAM	ADVISOR	STIPEND
Young Authors	Christine Lewis	\$711.51

5.07 Motion to approve Coleen Ogden as Summer Enrichment Coordinator for the summer of 2020 at a stipend of \$4,000.00.

COMMUNICATION

Committee Report - Mrs. Mikaelian provided minutes from the meeting held on November 11, 2019.

Motion to adopt 6.01 - 6.02

Motion: Mr. Wallace Second: Mrs. Shinn Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes

6.01 Motion to approve the following attached policies and regulations for first reading:
(Attachment 6.01)

- Policy 3218 - Use, Possession, or Distribution of Substances
- Regulation 3218 - Use, Possession, or Distribution of Substances
- Policy 4218 - Use, Possession, or Distribution of Substances
- Regulation 4218 - Use, Possession, or Distribution of Substances
- Policy 7440 - School District Security
- Regulation 7440 - School District Security

- Policy 8670 - Transportation of Special Needs Students
- Policy 9440 - Media Relations

6.02 Motion to approve the updated 2019-2020 school calendar.
(Attachment 6.02)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Dr. Hart and Mr. Egbert provided a summary of School Safety Summit at JP Case which included experiences and impacts of school trauma such as school shootings.

NEW BUSINESS FROM BOARD

- Eric Zwerling provided minutes of the Green Committee meeting held on November 19, 2019. This included student green team presentation, RMS Green Ribbon application, HBS Green Ribbon ceremony, recent grants received by staff and students, board goals, solar update, and a proposal for sustainability program to set long-term goals and achieve future green initiatives. Next meeting is January 14, 2020.
- January 13, 2020 is the Food Advisory Meeting at Readington Middle School
- Robyn Mikaelian and Anthony Tumolo attended the county mindfulness meeting sponsored by NJSBA which included school nutrition. They also attended the SEL workshop sponsored by the NJSBA discussing mental health, traumatic loss coalition, wellness room programs and division of child and family.
- Carol Hample discussed programs called “AIR” and “Wingman”
- Andrew Saunders provided report from the Delegate Semi-Annual Assembly stating that NJSBA supports full funding particularly for districts that lost funding and need to exceed the 2% cap. Other matters discussed included PILOT program, goals for NJSBA to create a new online board member portal, mental health committee, among others. Further, State Senator Sweeney took Q & A about Path to Progress, extraordinary funding, school consolidation, county-wide segregation, healthcare, and affordable housing.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

- None

EXECUTIVE SESSION - 8:08 p.m.

Motion: Mrs. Shinn Second: Mr. Wallace Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes

Motion to adopt the following Resolution:

Resolved to adjourn to Executive Session in accordance with the Sunshine Law, Chapter 321, P.L. 1975, to discuss HIB, legal matters, and negotiations for approximately 30 minutes at which time the Board expects to return to Public Session where no action will be taken. The matters discussed will be made public if and when the circumstances

requiring confidentiality, no longer exist; however, it is not presently known when such circumstances will exist.

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION 9:10 p.m.

Motion: Mr. Shinn Second: Mrs. Hample Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn at 9:11 p.m.

Motion: Mrs. Shinn Second: Mrs. Hample Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes

Respectfully submitted,

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

**Laura Simon
Board President**