

READINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Virtual/In-Person Available at Holland Brook School
Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.
November 15, 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 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. Bettermann, Mrs. Fiore, Mr. Peach, Mrs. Podgorski, Mrs. Wolf, Mr. Zwerling, Dr. Cerciello, Mrs. Hample

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

Absent: None

II. FLAG SALUTE

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Dr. Hart provided an overview of the Sustainable Jersey for Schools program, a free program that provides tools, training and grants to public schools for sustainability initiatives. Our district and all four buildings achieved silver designation, a level only achieved by less than 2% of all schools in the State of New Jersey. Further, part of this program includes a Digital Star recognition which is a mindful implementation to support effective digital learning and communication. Whitehouse School achieved this award. Dr. Hart recognized the following persons:
 - Whitehouse School:
Dr. Ann DeRosa, Principal
Ms. Emily Bengels
Mrs. Wendy Reardon
Mr. Paul Smith
Mr. Christopher Bolotov
 - Three Bridges School:
Dr. Kristen Higgins, Principal
Mrs. Ed Dubroski
Mrs. Filomena Hengst
 - Holland Brook School:
Mr. Paul Nigro, Principal
Mrs. Gargi Adhikari
 - Readington Middle School:
Mr. Timothy Charleston, Principal
Mrs. Denise Birmingham
Mrs. Allison Lovering
Mr. Ryan Newcamp
Mr. Brian O'Neil
Mrs. Betsy Freeman
Mrs. Andrea Hruska
 - District:
Mr. Jason Bohm
Mr. Don Race
Ms. Sarah Pauch
Mrs. Sherry Krial
Mr. James Belske

- Green Committee Members:
Ms. Christina Albrecht
Mr. Steve Foster
Dr. Neil Hendrickson
Mr. David Livingston
Mrs. Marlene Orlandi
- Board Members:
Mr. Eric Zwerling
Mrs. Jodi Bettermann
Mrs. Elizabeth Fiore
- EcoAmbassadors at Readington Middle School:
Noah Bielen, Eva Bolivar, Benjamin Caballero, Bryan Caballero-Aparicio, Brooks Carlsruh, Nahide Celiksu, Austin Chendak, Luke Del Corso, Ryland DeStasio, Tanner Forman, Rhys Fort, Aidan Gutierrez, Marcos Hernandez, Chase Keebler, Tucker Lepinski, Pearce Lowdon, Michael Moran, Joseph Percario, Alyssa Popiiolek, Sara Psak, Vaibhav Ramji, Camila Reyes, Myia Sanz, Callum Suggitt, Mila Victorino, Anna Witte

Mrs. Freeman and students thanked Mr. Zwerling for his steadfast efforts over the past decade spearheading sustainability efforts as a Board Member.

- Dr. Hart shared Three Bridges School received the NJ Farm to School award from the NJ Department of Agriculture with a partnership of our food service vendor, Maschios.

Mr. Zwerling shared a letter from the Environmental and Watershed Commission of the Readington Township congratulating Readington Township Public Schools for the exemplary work in sustainability and guiding residents and students to become more environmentally friendly through green initiatives and curriculum. Mr. Zwerling thanked all the staff and students for their dedication and hard work.

- Dr. Hart highlighted four teachers Mrs. Lauren Glick, Mrs. Cathy Patrick, Ms. Jenna Nagel, and Ms. Jamie Kindervatter who published inquiry projects solving problems they identified in their real-life.
- Dr. Hart congratulated the Readington Middle School Girls Volleyball Team for winning the CJJSVL in the state tournament, the first in the history of the school district. Members include:
 - Coach Stephanie Sperone
 - Coach Paul Yunos
 - Kaylynn Rumick
 - Sophia Cross
 - Aubrey Hendrickson
 - Kayli Medeiros
 - Staine Nader
 - Brooklyn Hess
 - Anna Pagano
 - Vanessa Agostino
 - Paige Tomaino
 - Maddie Christensen
 - Alex Shedlock
 - Natalia Munoz
 - Charlotte Smekal
- Dr. Hart recognized Tom Wallace, Board Member, who has served for over 5 years and has recently resigned.

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

- A resident/parent, wanted to recognize and thank Mr. Connelly for his remarkable work over the years and is grateful Mr. Connelly is taking a position at Hunterdon Central albeit at the loss at Readington Township. District students shall still see him at the high school level.

V. RESIGNATION OF BOARD MEMBER

- Resignation of Thomas Wallace, effective October 28, 2022.

Motion: Mrs. Fiore

2nd: Mrs. Podgorski

Roll Call Vote: Carried 8 Yes

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

- Email M.M. - Health Curriculum
- Email E.D. - Health Curriculum
- Email J.F. - Health Curriculum
- Email J.D - Request

VII. BOARD ACTION

A. APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. Motion to adopt 1.01 - 1.03
Motion: Mrs. Fiore 2nd: Mrs. Podgorski Roll Call Vote: Carried 8 Yes
- 1.01 Enrollment and Drill Reports October 2022
(Attachment 1.01)
- 1.02 Motion to approve Board Goals for the 2022-2023 school year.
(Attachment 1.02)
- 1.03 Motion to approve the Bus Drill Evacuation Reports for Readington Township School District for the 2022-2023 school year.
(Attachment 1.03)

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Motion to adopt 2.01 - 2.02
Motion: Mrs. Fiore 2nd: Mrs. Podgorski Roll Call Vote: Carried 8 Yes
- 2.01 Motion to approve the Meeting Minutes October 11, 2022.
- 2.02 Motion to approve the Executive Session Meeting Minutes October 11, 2022.

A. FINANCE/FACILITIES

Committee Report: Dr. Cerceillo provided minutes of the meeting held on October 19, 2022.

3. Motion to adopt 3.01 - 3.10
Motion: Mrs. Fiore 2nd: Mrs. Podgorski Roll Call Vote: Carried 8 Yes
Motion to adopt 3.11
Motion: Mrs. Fiore 2nd: Mrs. Wolf Roll Call Vote: Carried 8 Yes
- 3.01 Motion to approve the **Bill List** for the period from **October 13, 2022 through November 16, 2022** for a total amount of **\$3,433,435.21**.
(Attachment 3.01)
- 3.02 Motion to approve **District Travel Schedule November 15, 2022** for a total amount of **\$10,012.64**.
(Attachment 3.02)
- 3.03 Motion to ratify and approve **Payroll and Agency** for the month of **September 2022** for a total amount of **\$2,607,907.70**.
(Attachment 3.03)
- 3.04 Motion to ratify and approve the following **Account Transfers for September 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022**.
(Attachment 3.04-3.04a)
- 3.05 Motion to ratify and approve the **Student Activities Account for September 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022**.
(Attachment 3.05)
- 3.06 Motion to accept the FINANCIAL REPORT CERTIFICATION OF BOARD SECRETARY'S MONTHLY CERTIFICATION BUDGETARY LINE ITEM STATUS: September 30, 2022 Pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:23-

WHS/Grade 3	Green Initiatives/Trout Observation	RMS	- 0 -
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4.02 Motion to adopt the following fundraisers for the 2022-2023 school year:

SCHOOL	FUNDRAISER	RECIPIENT
Readington Middle School	Empty Bowls	Food Pantry, RT Sustainability
Readington Middle School	Toys for Tots	Individualized students grades K-8

4.03 Motion to approve the 2022-2023 Nursing Service Plan. (Attachment 4.03)

4.04 Motion to approve Aequor to provide nursing services to student #S-035 for up to 30 hours per week, at a rate of \$85/hour.

4.05 Motion to approve Soliant Health to provide nursing service, RN/LPN up to \$85.00/hour for the 2022-2023 school year. (Attachment 4.05)

4.06 Motion to accept a \$2,500.00 donation from Investors Bank Foundation to enhance Three Bridges School detention basin to transform to rain garden bioswale.

4.07 Motion to apply for and accept a NJDA Farm to School grant in the amount of \$4,733.00 for Readington Township Schools to be used to implement the Farm To School Program or related projects in the district.

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

STUDENT NAME	UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE PLACEMENT REQUEST	SCHOOL/COOPERATING TEACHER	EFFECTIVE DATE
Hannah Cohen	Rider University Observation	Whitehouse School Kelly Petersen	Nov 16, 2022

4.09 Motion to approve student, S-299, to attend Montgomery Academy at a rate of \$85,932.00 with the extended school year tuition of \$9,548.00 for a total of \$95,480.00 per year. Requested start date of November 14, 2022.

C. PERSONNEL

Committee Report: Mrs. Podgorski provided minutes of the meeting held on October 27, 2022.

5. Motion to adopt 5.01 - 5.14

Motion: Mrs. Fiore 2nd: Dr. Cerceillo Roll Call Vote: Carried 8 Yes

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

NAME	POSITION
Anna Prosch	Substitute Aide
Danielle Sullivan	Substitute Teacher/Aide
Dawn Solari	Substitute Teacher/Aide

Jennifer Ulloa	Substitute Teacher/Aide
Amanda Mancusi	Substitute Teacher/Aide
Maureen Garafola	Substitute Teacher/Aide
Eden Risat	Substitute Teacher/Aide
John Langer	Substitute Bus Driver
Michael Dimsey	Substitute Bus Driver

5.02 Motion to approve the following resignations:

NAME	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Eric Petrushun	Teacher/LA (RMS) 20-01-D2/aey	December 11, 2022
Tyler Tregoning	Nurse (BOE) 20-05-D2/bbm	December 2, 2022
Anavi Sharma	Social Worker (RMS) 20-01-D2/akc	December 22, 2022
Adam Connelly	School Counselor (RMS) 20-01-D2/ajf	December 23, 2022

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

NAME	POSITION	SALARY/STEP	EFFECTIVE DATE
Angela Hendricks	Teacher/LA (RMS) 20-01-D2/aey	\$57,485.00 BA Step 2 (prorated)	On or before 12/12/2022 - 06/30/2023
Michele Adamitis	LTS Teacher/Science (RMS) 20-01-D2/aek	\$164.56/day for the first 20 consecutive days, \$56,985.00 BA Step 1 per diem rate thereafter (prorated)	11/14/2022 - 01/30/2023
John Langer	Bus Driver (Transp.) 80-06-D6/bap	\$27.25/hr. Bus Driver Step 7	On or about 11/21/2022 - 06/30/2023
Eve Campeau	LTS Teacher/LA (RMS) 20-01-D2/aey	Substitute rate for the first 20 consecutive days, \$56,985.00 BA Step 1 per diem rate thereafter (prorated)	On or about 02/01/2023 - 06/30/2023
Robert Pycior	Social Worker	\$68,353.88 MA CST	On or before

	(RMS) 20-01-D2/akc	Step 3-4 (4) (prorated)	01/16/2023 - 06/30/2023
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5.04 Motion to ratify and accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following appointments:

NAME	POSITION	SALARY/STEP	EFFECTIVE DATE
Katie DaQuisto	LTS .5 Teacher/Special Education PSD (TBS) 20-02-D2/azc LTS .5 Teacher/Special Education (TBS) 20-03-D2/ayz	Substitute rate for the first 20 consecutive days, \$62,585.00 MA Step 1 per diem rate thereafter (prorated)	11/03/2022 - 06/30/2023
Sheryl Ottenstroer	Aide/Special Education (TBS) 03-03-d3/alp	\$19.65/hr. Aide NC Step 7	11/03/2022 - 06/30/2023
Raymond Hatton	Bus Driver (Transportation) 80-06-D6/anz	\$28.25/hr. Bus Driver Step 8	11/03/2022 - 06/30/2023

5.05 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following position control changes and designated transfers for the following school year:

NAME	CHANGE	POSITION	LOCATION	SALARY
Leandro Jimenez-Rojas	Transfer From: To:	70-05/D5/apl 70-01-D5/aot	BOE Custodian RMS Custodian	No Change
Roman Khrunyk	Transfer From: To:	70-04-D5/aot 70-05-D5/apl	RMS Custodian BOE Custodian	No Change

5.06 Motion to amend motion 5.02 from August 23, 2022 agenda and ratify and accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following appointment:

NAME	POSITION	SALARY/STEP	EFFECTIVE DATE
Angela Hendricks	LTS Teacher/LA (RMS) 20-01-D2/afb	\$56,985.00 BA Step 1	09/01/2022 - 12/11/2022

5.07 Motion to approve all staff as virtual homework help, for accelerated learning tutoring funded by ARP ESSER for the 2022-2023 school year.

5.08 Motion to approve the officials rate for the 2022-2023 school year for Readington Middle School athletics (Attachment 5.08)

5.09 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following additional club advisors at their contractual rate for the 2022-2023 school year:

SCHOOL	ADVISOR	CLUB
RMS	Yolanda Lima	Cooking Club

HBS	Melissa VanEck	Improvisation Nation
HBS	Colleen Ogden	Bits & Pieces

5.10 Motion to accept the Superintendent’s recommendation to approve the following coaching assignment for the 2022-2023 school year, replacing Adam Connelly:

STIPEND POSITION	STAFF MEMBER
Track Head Coach - Spring	Coron Short

5.11 Motion to approve the cancellation of the Holland Brook School’s Samba Club and the club advisors, Jessica Ritcher and Samantha Lestrangle, for the 2022-2023 school year.

5.12 Motion to approve Elizabeth Eckel to ride the bus with student S-020 for an additional 60 hours, at the rate of \$25.00 per hour.

5.13 Motion to approve Winter Chaperones, Nancy Hill, Denise Hawkins and Dan Kimple to attend Wrestling for student S-326, not to exceed 120 hours collectively at their contractual rate.

5.14 Motion to amend motion 5.02 from August 23, 2022 agenda on the following appointment:

NAME	POSITION	SALARY/STEP	EFFECTIVE DATE
Jolene Mizensak	LTS Speech Language Specialist (TBS) 20-03-D2/aki	Sub rate for the first 20 consecutive days, \$62,585.00 MA Step 1 per diem rate thereafter	8/15/2022 - on or about 10/26/2022

D. COMMUNICATION

Committee Report: Mrs. Bettermann provided minutes of the meeting held on October 27, 2022.

6. Motion to adopt 6.01 - 6.03

Motion: Mrs. Fiore 2nd: Dr. Cerciello Roll Call Vote: Carried 8 Yes

6.01 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following policies for second reading:
(Attachment 6.01)

- Policy 1511 - Board of Education Website Accessibility
- Policy 3270 - Professional Responsibilities
- Policy 5513 - Care of School Property
- Policy 5517 - School District Issued Student Identification Cards

6.02 Motion to accept the Superintendent’s recommendation and approve the following policies for first reading:
(Attachment 6.02)

- Policy 2425 - Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program
- Policy 5722 - Student Journalism

6.03 Motion to accept the Superintendent’s recommendation and approve to abolish the following policy:

- Policy 2432 - School Sponsored Publications

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Mrs. Hample highlighted and shared thoughts on the NJSBA Annual Convention workshops attended ranging

from October 24-26, 2022. Mrs. Fiore liked the virtual session format of last year vs. the overlap/running from session to session. Some sessions were packed or you could not gain entrance. Good sessions included topics such as: referendum, governance, and so forth. Timely meeting minutes were suggested by Mrs. Hample to try your best to have in before posting. Suggestion was made for Committee Chair to share agenda in advance of committee meetings with the full board for thoughts. Board was in support.

IX. NEW BUSINESS FROM BOARD

- Mrs. Hample shared a mental health plan from Governor Murphy that impacts area schools, but not directly Readington Township Public Schools. Dr. Hart mentioned that there is an article on the board bugle written by Dr. Moore, Superintendent of Hunterdon Central, regarding funding from the Department of Children and Family. As funding would be removed from the schools directly, students would need to be sent out rather than in-school. Readington Township has such mental health services through ESSER ARP funding until June 2024 at this moment. Funding ends this June 2024..
- Mrs. Hample shared that tentative board meeting dates were shared with the board members for consideration and adoption at the reorganization meeting the first week of January, 2023.
- Mr. Zwerling provided minutes from the Green Committee meeting held on November 2, 2022.
- An upcoming County School Boards Association meeting and workshop will be at JP Case and it is hybrid if you want to attend. The topic is reducing academic gaps from the pandemic.

X. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

- A parent expressed his disappointment on a bulletin board at RMS, regarding gender identities shown publicly without opt out. Concerns included, but were not limited to, the age of our adolescence students, advocacy, among others. It was asked that the Board be mindful of the age and specific resources being taught in schools. Dr. Hart asked to obtain the picture of the bulletin board for his investigation into the matter.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION - 8:42 pm.

Motion: Mrs. Fiore 2nd: Mrs. Wolf Roll Call Vote: Carried 8 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 and security for approximately 30 minutes at which time the Board expects to return to Public Session where action may 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.

XII. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION - 9:32 p.m.

Motion: Mrs. Fiore 2nd: Mrs. Podgorski Roll Call Vote: Carried 8 Yes

Action on 3.11 occurred in the Finance/Facilities section of this agenda.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT – 9:33 p.m.

Motion: Mrs. Fiore 2nd: Mrs. Podgorski Roll Call Vote: Carried 8 Yes

Respectfully submitted,

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

**Carol Hample
President, Board of Education**