

READINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Holland Brook School
Regular Meeting 5:00 p.m.
July 23, 2024

AGENDA

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.

The Board of Education will be meeting in-person on Tuesday, July 23, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. If members of the public wish to attend the meeting virtually, meetings are streamed Live over Youtube via the following link:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6Nqgwk_J-sFlxSaFkuVaA/live

The agenda and all materials for the Board meeting appear on the Board web page.

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

The meeting is being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6-21) and is 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 may be taken.

Roll Call:

Mrs. DePinto_____ Mrs. Fiore_____ Mr. Lopes_____ Mrs. Mencer_____ Mr. Peach_____
Mrs. Podgorski_____ Mrs. Ryan_____ Mrs. Wolf_____ Dr. Cerciello_____

II. FLAG SALUTE

III. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED RENEGOTIATION AND AMENDMENT TO THE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT

Statement read by the Board President: Whereas, the Readington Township School District Board of Education (hereinafter the "Board") wishes to amend the contract of the Superintendent, for the effective period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2029; and

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-11, the Board is required to provide public notice, 30 days and 10 days prior, of its intent to hold a public hearing and to take action to amend, extend, renegotiate and/or alter contract terms and conditions of the Superintendent. Notice was provided to the public via publication in the district's official newspaper on June 20, 2024 and on June 21, 2024, and publication on the district's public website every day for the period beginning June 20, 2024 through July 23, 2024. The subject contract was reviewed and subsequently approved on June 27, 2024 by the Interim Executive County Superintendent of the NJ Department of Education, Hunterdon County Office.

Now, therefore be it resolved, the Board is providing opportunity for public comment on the amended contract of the Superintendent. The Board, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 (b), the Open Public Meetings Act, shall not publicly discuss personnel matters and shall not respond to comments made by members of the public. Please be aware that the subjects of this hearing retain the right of privacy and shall retain all rights regarding defamation and slander according to the laws of New Jersey. The Board shall not be held liable for comments made by members of the public.

IV. PERSONNEL

Motion to adopt 5.01

Motion_____ 2nd:_____

5.01 Motion to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Readington Township Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") and Jonathan R. Hart, Ph.D., entered into an Employment Agreement for the term commencing July 1, 2021 and expiring June 30, 2026 (hereinafter referred to as the "Present Employment Agreement"); and

WHEREAS, the Board and the Superintendent desire to rescind the Present Employment Agreement prior to its conclusion, and enter into a new Employment Agreement for a term commencing July 1, 2024 and expiring June 30, 2029 (hereinafter referred to as the “Succeeding Employment Agreement”); and

WHEREAS, this Employment Agreement has been submitted to and approved by the Interim Executive County Superintendent, according to standards adopted by the Commissioner of Education, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7-8(j).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby rescinds the Present Employment Agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby appoints Jonathan R. Hart, Ph.D., as the Superintendent of Schools for the Readington Township School District for the period beginning on July 1, 2024 and expiring on June 30, 2029, in accordance with the terms of the Succeeding Employment Agreement annexed hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board approves the attached Succeeding Employment Agreement with Jonathan R. Hart, Ph.D., for the position of Superintendent of Schools for the foregoing period of appointment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board hereby authorizes the Board President and School Business Administrator to execute the Succeeding Employment Agreement on behalf of the Board.
(Attachment 5.01)

Roll Call:

Mrs. DePinto _____ Mrs. Fiore _____ Mr. Lopes _____ Mrs. Mencer _____ Mr. Peach _____
Mrs. Podgorski _____ Mrs. Ryan _____ Mrs. Wolf _____ Dr. Cerciello _____

V. BOARD RETREAT WITH JUDITH WILSON

VI. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

- Enrollment and Redistricting Update

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

In accordance with Local Finance Notice (LFN) 2020-21, public comments can be submitted before remote public meetings through electronic mail or by written letter. Please email the Board Secretary at jbohm@readington.k12.nj.us by 12:00 p.m. on the day of the board meeting. Comments shall be read aloud and addressed during the remote public meeting. For members of the Readington Township School District Community who may be joining a Meeting for the first time or would like to provide comments tonight, we’re sharing the Board Policy pertaining to public comments. Thank you in advance for sharing your thoughts as per the District’s Policy. The Readington Board of Education operates through a committee structure. Committees discuss and vet all topics for Board action before they appear on the Board agenda for vote. The Board committees publicly report at our meeting about what they discussed prior to the Board vote, excluding any topics that are rendered confidential by law.

0167 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on school matters of community interest. In order to permit the fair and orderly expression of such comment, the Board shall provide a period for public comment at every regularly scheduled meeting of the Board. Public participation shall be governed by the following rules:

1. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer. No participant may address or question Board members individually unless directed by the presiding officer.
2. A participant must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface comments by an announcement of his/her name, place of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate; Web participants will type the information in as a preface to their comments.
3. If the Board of Education is webcasting the public meeting, the “chat” feature will be on during the public comment sessions only.
4. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic unless all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard and time permits.
5. In order to provide sufficient opportunity for the public to be heard, a time limit of three minutes for each participant may be observed. Webcast participants making comments via chat may only enter one 256 character comment, excluding the announcement of his/her name and place of residence, unless the presiding officer asks for clarification or further information. The President may, at his/her discretion, limit discussion on any topic. The portion of the meeting during which the public is invited shall be limited to sixty minutes.
6. The presiding officer may interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant. The presiding officer may take other steps, including but not limited to adjourning the meeting or waiving any of the rules of the Residents' Forum, to respond to a lack of public decorum, or to otherwise protect privacy or the efficient completion of the Board's business.

VIII. CORRESPONDENCE

- Email J.C. - Information for BOE
- Email D.F. - District Buses

IX. BOARD ACTION

A. APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- 1. Motion to adopt 1.01 - 1.04
Motion _____ 2nd _____
- 1.01 Motion to approve Enrollment and Drill Reports June 2024
(Attachment 1.01)
- 1.02 Motion to accept the HIB reports and affirm the Superintendent’s decision:

CASE NUMBER	SCHOOL	DATE	FINDINGS OF HARASSMENT INTIMIDATION OR BULLYING
7	RMS	05/03/2024	No
8	RMS	05/15/2024	Yes

- 1.03 Motion to approve the Readington Middle School Discipline Report Quarter 4/April 15 - June 21, 2024.
(Attachment 1.03)
- 1.04 Motion to approve the Emergency Virtual or Remote Instructional Program Plan for the 2024-2025 school year.
(Attachment 1.04)

Roll Call:

Mrs. DePinto _____ Mrs. Fiore _____ Mr. Lopes _____ Mrs. Mencer _____ Mr. Peach _____
 Mrs. Podgorski _____ Mrs. Ryan _____ Mrs. Wolf _____ Dr. Cerciello _____

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 2. Motion to adopt 2.01 - 2.02
Motion _____ 2nd _____
- 2.01 Motion to approve the Meeting Minutes June 11, 2024.
- 2.02 Motion to approve the Executive Session Minutes June 11, 2024.

Roll Call:

Mrs. DePinto _____ Mrs. Fiore _____ Mr. Lopes _____ Mrs. Mencer _____ Mr. Peach _____
 Mrs. Podgorski _____ Mrs. Ryan _____ Mrs. Wolf _____ Dr. Cerciello _____

C. FINANCE/FACILITIES

Committee Report:

- 3. Motion to adopt 3.01 - 3.08
Motion _____ 2nd _____
- 3.01 Motion to approve the **Bill List** for the period from **June 13, 2024 through July 24, 2024** for a total amount of **\$5,016,160.31**.
(Attachment 3.01)
- 3.02 Motion to approve **Travel Expenditures July 23, 2024** In the amount of **\$23,741.08**.
- 3.03 Motion to ratify and approve **Payroll and Agency** for the month of **June 2024** for a total amount of **\$2,620,535.90**.
(Attachment 3.03)

- 3.04 Motion to ratify and approve the following **Account Transfers for June 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024.** (Attachment 3.04-3.04a)
- 3.05 Motion to ratify and approve the **Student Activities Account for June 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024.** (Attachment 3.05)
- 3.06 Motion to accept the FINANCIAL REPORT CERTIFICATION OF BOARD SECRETARY'S MONTHLY CERTIFICATION BUDGETARY LINE ITEM STATUS June 30, 2024 pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11(c) 3, the Business Administrator/Board Secretary certifies that as of June 30, 2024 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. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3 and 4, we certify that as of June 30, 2024 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. 6A23A-16.10(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 June 30, 2024. (Attachment 3.06-3.06a)

- 3.07 Motion to participate in the National Sourcewell Cooperative for electric school bus vehicles and related parts, supplies and accessories, contract and bid number 063020-BBB expiring August 15, 2025 adopted by the State of New Jersey Division of Purchase & Property through a New Jersey Participating Addendum under N.J.S.A. 52:34-6A. Funding for electric school bus vehicles provided for through grants awarded by federal Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Clean School Bus Rebate program and state Electric School Bus program.
- 3.08 Motion to submit the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) grant application and acceptance of funds for the 2024 - 2025 school year:

ESSA:

Title I - A: \$51,120.00
 Title II - A: \$22,394.00
 Title III Consortium: \$32,469.00 with \$5,406.00 designated for Readington funds
 Title IV Part A: \$10,000.00

IDEA:

Basic: \$386,327.00
 Preschool: \$14,507.00

Roll Call:

Mrs. DePinto_____ Mrs. Fiore_____ Mr. Lopes_____ Mrs. Mencer_____ Mr. Peach_____
 Mrs. Podgorski_____ Mrs. Ryan_____ Mrs. Wolf_____ Dr. Cerciello_____

**D. EDUCATION/TECHNOLOGY
 Committee Report:**

- 4. Motion to adopt 4.01 - 4.03
 Motion _____ 2nd _____
- 4.01 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 DATES
Julia Garrera	TCNJ/ Student Teacher	Three Bridges School/ Kristen Halozan	08/29/24-10/18/24

Chloe Gilio	TCNJ/ Student Teacher	Three Bridges School/ Kristen Halozan	10/21/24-12/06/24
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- 4.02 Motion to approve tuition contract for non-resident staff members' child to attend Readington Township Schools at the tuition rate \$4,500.00 for the 2024-2025 school year:
- Employee #6786
 - Employee #6115
 - Employee #6943
 - Employee #6338
- 4.03 Motion to accept the 2024 through 2027 Language Instructional Educational Program Three Year Plan to be submitted to the state.
(Attachment 4.03)

Roll Call:

Mrs. DePinto _____ Mrs. Fiore _____ Mr. Lopes _____ Mrs. Mencer _____ Mr. Peach _____
Mrs. Podgorski _____ Mrs. Ryan _____ Mrs. Wolf _____ Dr. Cerciello _____

**E. PERSONNEL
Committee Report:**

5. Motion to adopt 5.02 - 5.15
Motion _____ 2nd _____
- 5.02 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and ratify the following Substitute Teacher/Aide/Nurse/Bus Driver for the 2024-2025 school year, paid at the applicable substitute rates, in the Readington Township District, pending satisfactory completion of employment requirements:

NAME	POSITION
Krista Pachuta	Substitute Teacher/Aide
Bobbie Friedhoff	Substitute Teacher/Aide
John Gilliam	Substitute Bus Driver
Carolanne Sherwood	Substitute Aide

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

NAME	POSITION	SALARY/STEP	EFFECTIVE DATE
Kelly Cusik	Teacher/Grade 3 (WHS) 20-04-D2/adm	\$58,860.00 BA Step 1	09/01/2024 - 06/30/2025
Walter Burkat	Teacher/French (RMS) 20-01-D2/aff	\$67,060.00 MA Step 7	09/01/2024 - 06/30/2025
Kirsten Baron	LTS Teacher/PE & Health (RMS) 20-01-D2/agj	Sub rate for the first 20 days, \$64,960.00 MA Step 2 per diem rate thereafter (prorated)	09/01/2024 - 11/27/2024
Marjorie Milloria	Nurse (ODD) New Position	\$60,00.00 MA Step 7	On or after 07/15/2024 - 08/03/2024 (ESY summer rate) 09/01/2024 - 06/30/2025

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

NAME	POSITION	SALARY/STEP	EFFECTIVE DATE
John Gilliam	Bus Driver (Transp.) 80-06-D6/anl	\$29.75/hr. Step 9	09/01/2024 - 06/30/2025
Michael Trani	Bus Driver (Transp.) 80-06-D6/anx	\$26.75/hr. Step 1-6 (1)	09/01/2024 - 06/30/2025
Darian Hampton	Teacher/Music (HBS) 20-02-D2/axs	\$61,460.00 BA Step 7	09/01/2024 - 06/30/2025
Mackenzie Storms	Teacher/Special Education (TBS) 20-01-D2/aij	\$64,960.00 MA Step 2-3 (3)	09/01/2024 - 06/30/2025
Michele Adamitis	LTS Teacher/Special Education (RMS) 20-01-D2/ahu	\$61,460.00 BA+15 Step 4 (prorated)	09/01/2024 - 11/15/2024

5.05 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following position control changes and designated transfer for the 2024 - 2025 school year:

NAME	CHANGE	POSITION	LOCATION	SALARY
Anne Rieche	Transfer From: To:	30-02-D3/awr 30-02-D2/aid	HBS Aide/Special Education HBS Teacher/Special Education	\$66,575.00 BA Step 10
Christina Kosci	Transfer From: To:	20-01-D2/aij 20-03-D2/arz 20-03-D2/ayz	TBS Teacher/Special Education TBS .5 Teacher/Preschool TBS .5 Teacher/Special Education	No Change
Mary Shea	Transfer From: To:	20-04-D2/bcf 20-04-D2/axj	WHS Teacher/Preschool WHS Teacher/Kindergarten	No Change
Jennifer Rourke	Transfer From: To:	20-01-D2/bce2 0-01-D2/bce	RMS .82 Teacher/GenEd RMS Teacher/GenEd (full time)	\$71,754.10 \$87,505.00
Krystiana Sellers	Transfer From: To:	30-03-D3/axm 20-03-D2/azo 20-03-D2/azo 20-03-D2/azp	TBS .45 Aide/Special Education WHS .55 Teacher/PE/Health WHS .90 Teacher/PE/Health TBS .10 Teacher/PE/Health	\$11,589.00 \$32,648.00 \$53,424.00 \$5,936.00

5.06 Motion to ratify and approve Maryann Shultz as a bus aide for student S-185 during the Extended School Year Program, not to exceed 10 hours per week, at their summer rate.

5.07 Motion to ratify and approve Susan Zimmerman as a bus aide for student S-049 during the Extended School Year Program, not to exceed 10 hours per week, at their summer rate.

5.08 Motion to approve the salary adjustment for Kathryn Cecala due to clerical error as per the attachment. (Attachment 5.08)

5.09 Motion to rescind the appointment of Rylie Kukal, LTS Teacher/LA for the 2024-2025 school year.

5.10 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following resignations:

NAME	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Bobbie Friedhoff	Aide/Special Education (TBS) 30-03-D3/awg	06/30/2024
Cadence Ottenstroer	Aide/Special Education (RMS) 30-01-D3/ayq	06/30/2024

5.11 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following retirement with appreciation for her years of service:

NAME	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Arlene Schlosser	Teacher/Kindergarten (WHS) 20-04-D2/axj	06/30/2024

5.12 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the attached list of Readington Middle School coaching assignments for the 2024-2025 school year at their contractual rate.
(Attachment 5.12)

5.13 Motion to ratify and accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following attached list of substitute bus drivers for the 2024-2025 school year and the 2024 summer Extended School Year Program.
(Attachment 5.13)

5.14 Motion to amend motion 5.22 from the June 11, 2024 agenda and ratify and approve the attached list of paraprofessionals to provide support during the Extended School Year program during the district's Extended School Year program, at noted rate, not to exceed their allotted hours/days.
(Attachment 5.14)

5.15 Motion to accept the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Readington Township Board of Education approves an Agreement with the Readington Township Education Association regarding tuition reimbursement;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary are hereby authorized and directed to execute the Agreement, and any other documents necessary to effectuate same.
(Attachment 5.15)

Roll Call:

Mrs. DePinto _____ Mrs. Fiore _____ Mr. Lopes _____ Mrs. Mencer _____ Mr. Peach _____
Mrs. Podgorski _____ Mrs. Ryan _____ Mrs. Wolf _____ Dr. Cerciello _____

F. COMMUNICATION
Committee Report:

6. Motion to adopt 6.01 - 6.02
Motion _____ 2nd _____

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

- Policy 1530 - Equal Employment Opportunities
- Policy 2260 - Equity in School and Classroom Practices

6.02 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and abolish the following policy:

- Policy 5755 - Equity in Educational Services

Roll Call:

Mrs. DePinto _____ Mrs. Fiore _____ Mr. Lopes _____ Mrs. Mencer _____ Mr. Peach _____
Mrs. Podgorski _____ Mrs. Ryan _____ Mrs. Wolf _____ Dr. Cerciello _____

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- [Board Member Petitions](#) - Due July 29, 2024 by 4:00 p.m.
- October Board Meeting Rescheduled to October 15, 2024

XI. NEW BUSINESS FROM BOARD

XII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion _____ 2nd _____

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 3 HIB and to interview attorneys for approximately 60 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.

Roll Call:

Mrs. DePinto _____ Mrs. Fiore _____ Mr. Lopes _____ Mrs. Mencer _____ Mr. Peach _____
Mrs. Podgorski _____ Mrs. Ryan _____ Mrs. Wolf _____ Dr. Cerciello _____

XIV. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

Motion _____ 2nd _____

Roll Call:

Mrs. DePinto _____ Mrs. Fiore _____ Mr. Lopes _____ Mrs. Mencer _____ Mr. Peach _____
Mrs. Podgorski _____ Mrs. Ryan _____ Mrs. Wolf _____ Dr. Cerciello _____

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at:

Motion _____ 2nd _____

Roll Call:

Mrs. DePinto _____ Mrs. Fiore _____ Mr. Lopes _____ Mrs. Mencer _____ Mr. Peach _____
Mrs. Podgorski _____ Mrs. Ryan _____ Mrs. Wolf _____ Dr. Cerciello _____