

READINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Holland Brook School
Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.
April 4, 2023

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, Mrs. Mencer, Mr. Peach, Mrs. Podgorski, Mrs. Ryan, Mrs. Wolf, Dr. Cerciello, Mrs. Hample

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

Absent: None

II. FLAG SALUTE

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Dr. Hart congratulated Abigail Washuta, 8th Grade Student at Readington Middle School, as the recipient of the Unsung Heroes Award from the Hunterdon County School Boards Association.
- Dr. Hart recognized three students for the Hunterdon County Librarian's Association Enthusiastic Reader Award including: Ivy Slawecki, Three Bridges School, Ananya Barve, Whitehouse School, and Elizabeth Lydick, Readington Middle School
- Dr. Hart highlighted the following students from Holland Brook School for their success at the New Jersey Destination Imagination State Tournament where they placed 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in their Elementary Level Improvisational Challenge:
 - 1st Place: The DI Hearts - Cayden Betz, Nadel Duclair, Aaira Rana, Vidur Rangashyam, Zachary Wang.
 - 2nd Place: The DI Monds - Aubrey Brooks, Angel Casiano, Sarah Erd, Nina Hardison, Patrick Ost, Shreena Patel.
 - 3rd Place: The DI Spades - Jordan D'Antuono, Emma Dilger, Sophie Hoopes, Arav Karnani, Arhaan Rana, Alex Wang, Autumn Rivers.

Lauren Mahoney and Melissa Van Eck, HBS Teachers, said kind words about the students and competition. Carol Hample shared thoughtful words.

- Dr. Hart shared information from the Retention and Recruitment Task Force, a committee made up of various staff members from different departments and schools. Three major areas of focus emerged including: compensation, culture and climate, as well as professional development and growth opportunities. Future steps and goals were shared for both the short-term and long-term.

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

- None

V. CORRESPONDENCE

- Email L.S. – Policy

VI. BOARD ACTION

A. APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. Motion to adopt 1.01

Motion: Mrs. Fiore

2nd: Mrs. Podgorski

Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes

1.01 Motion to accept the HIB reports and affirm the Superintendent’s decision:

CASE NUMBER	SCHOOL	DATE	FINDINGS OF HARASSMENT INTIMIDATION OR BULLYING
8	RMS	02/13/2023	Yes

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Motion to adopt 2.01 - 2.02

Motion: Mrs. Fiore

2nd: Mrs. Podgorski

Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes

2.01 Motion to approve the Meeting Minutes March 14, 2023.

2.02 Motion to approve the Executive Session Minutes March 14, 2023.

C. FINANCE/FACILITIES

Committee Report: None

3. Motion to adopt 3.01 - 3.02

Motion: Mrs. Fiore

2nd: Mrs. Podgorski

Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes

3.01 Motion to approve the **Bill List** for the period from **March 16, 2023 through April 5, 2023** for a total amount of **\$2,118,897.16**.
(Attachment 3.01)

3.02 Motion to approve **District Travel Schedule April 4, 2023** for a total amount of **\$789.41**.
(Attachment 3.02)

D. EDUCATION/TECHNOLOGY

Committee Report

4. Motion to adopt 4.01

Motion: Mrs. Fiore

2nd: Dr. Cerciello

Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes

4.01 Motion to adopt the following fundraisers for the 2022-2023 school year:

SCHOOL	FUNDRAISER	RECIPIENT
Holland Brook School	Dancing For A Cause Bake Sale	The Giving Hope Network
Holland Brook School	Dancing For A Cause	The Giving Hope Network
Three Bridges School	Sorella’s Family Dinners	TBS Student Activity Account

E. PERSONNEL

Committee Report

5. Motion to adopt 5.01 - 5.08

Motion: Mrs. Fiore

2nd: Mrs. Podgorski

Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes

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

NAME	POSITION	SALARY/STEP	EFFECTIVE DATE
Samantha D’Antuono	Bus Driver (Transp) 80-06-D4/anx	\$28.25/hr. 5 hrs./day Bus Driver Step 8	03/22/2023 - 06/30/2023

	Aide/Special Education (TBS) New Position 30-03-D3/bbw	\$21.84/hr. 4 hrs./day Aide NC Step 14	
Thomas Treney	Bus Driver (Transp) New Position 80-06-D6/bbv	\$28.25/hr. Bus Driver Step 8	03/23/2023 - 06/30/2023

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

NAME	POSITION	SALARY/STEP	EFFECTIVE DATES
Janet Schierloh Howard	LTS Teacher/LA (RMS) 20-01-D2/acz	\$62,585.00 MA Step 1 (prorated)	05/15/2023 - 6/30/2023
Michele Admitis	LTS Teacher/Special Education (HBS) 20-02-D2/aiy	\$56,985.00 BA Step 1 (prorated)	04/17/2023 - 06/30/2023
Kathleen Suchorsky	LTS Teacher/Interv (TBS) 20-03-D2/afw	Substitute rate for the first 20 days, \$62,585.00 MA Step 1 per diem rate thereafter (prorated)	04/17/2023 - 06/02/2023

5.03 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve Kelsey Shebey as Boys B Lacrosse Coach for the 2022-2023 school year at her contractual rate.

5.04 Motion to approve the following retirement with appreciation for her years of service:

NAME	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Susan Johnson	Teacher/Grade 4 (HBS) 20-02-D2/abw	06/30/2023

5.05 Motion to approve the following resignations:

NAME	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Mary Padavano	Teacher/Grade 5 (HBS) 20-02-D2/abt	On or before 05/16/2023
David Ward	Teacher/Special Education (HBS) 20-02-D2/aiy	On or before 04/06/2023

5.06 **WHEREAS**, the Readington Township Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") took action to withhold the employment and adjustment increments of a teacher whose name is on file in the Superintendent's Office for the 2019-2020 school year; and

- May 9th - Board of Education is in Executive Session without Dr. Hart
- June 13th - Board of Education meets with Dr. Hart in Executive Session

VIII. NEW BUSINESS FROM BOARD

- Green Committee Minutes from meeting held on March 15, 2023 were provided by Mrs. Bettermann.

IX. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

- None

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION – 8:04 p.m.

Motion: Mrs. Fiore

2nd Mrs. Podgorski

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 RTEA negotiations approximately 30 minutes at which time the Board expects to return to Public Session where action shall not 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.

XI. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION – 8:34 p.m.

Motion: Mrs. Fiore

2nd: Mrs. Podgorski

Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes

XII. ADJOURNMENT – 8:35 p.m.

Motion: Mrs. Fiore

2nd: Mrs. Podgorski

Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes

Respectfully submitted,

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

**Carol Hample
President, Board of Education**