

READINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Virtual Meeting
Regular Meeting 6:00 p.m.
February 23, 2021

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

Laura Simon 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: Dr. Cerciello, Mr. Emmons, Mrs. Fiore, Mr. Wallace, Mr. Zwerling, Mrs. Hample, Mrs. Simon

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

Absent: Mrs. Podgorski

II. FLAG SALUTE

III. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

- Marci Cole, Dispatcher, presented the proposed Transportation Department budget for the 2021-2022 school year. Donald Race, Facilities Manager, presented the proposed Facilities Department budget for the 2021-2022 school year; Jason Bohm, Business Administrator, presented the proposed Administration and Personnel/Benefits budget for the 2021-2022 school year.
- Dr. Hart provided an update on reopening of schools. He said that the shift in the NJDOH activity report for our Central West region from orange to yellow has allowed the district to expand reopening in conformity with its plan. On February 22, the district moved to in-person instruction 4 days per week for students in grades K-5. On March 1, the district shall expand 4 days per week in-person instruction to grades 6-8. Spacing to the maximum extent possible were kept at 6 feet apart; however, that was not feasible in all classrooms. Barriers have been placed on each and every student desk, and the 6 foot distance has been maintained with the teacher’s area in the front of the classroom. Dr. Hart thanked all the custodians and maintenance staff for their hard work to set up classrooms while also clearing snow due to the recent snowstorms.
- Dr. Hart presented the 2021-2022 District Calendar.
- Dr. Hart recognized Andrew Saunders for his two years service on the board of education.
- Dr. Hart discussed the Governor’s budget address which was this afternoon which appears to be positive in nature for school district finances.

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

- None

V. CORRESPONDENCE

- None

VI. BOARD ACTION

A. APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. Motion to adopt 1.01- 1.02
Motion: Mrs. Hample 2nd: Mr. Wallace Roll Call Vote: Carried 7 Yes
- 1.01 Andrew Saunders resignation effective February 11, 2021.
- 1.02 RMS Discipline Report Quarter 2/November 12, 2020 - January 27, 2021.

(Attachment 1.02)

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 2. Motion to adopt 2.01 - 2.02
Motion: Mrs. Hample 2nd : Mr. Wallace Roll Call vote: Carried 7 Yes
- 2.01 Motion to approve the Meeting Minutes February 9, 2021.
- 2.02 Motion to approve the Meeting Executive Session Minutes February 9, 2021.

C. FINANCE/FACILITIES

Committee Report - None

- 3. Motion to adopt 3.01
Motion: Mr. Wallace 2nd: Mrs. Hample Roll Call Vote: Carried 7 Yes
- 3.01 Motion to approve the **Bill List** for the period from **February 11, 2021 through February 24, 2021** for a total amount of **\$166,245.92.**
(Attachment 3.01)

D. EDUCATION/TECHNOLOGY

Committee Report - None

- 4. Motion to adopt 4.01 - 4.04
Motion: Mr. Wallace 2nd: Mrs. Hample Roll Call Vote: Carried 7 Yes
- 4.01 Motion to approve the following books for the 2020-2021 school year:

BOOK TITLE	GRADE
Becoming Muhammad Ali	Grade 6
Sally Ride: A Photobiography of America's Pioneering Woman in Space	Grade 6
Brotherhood	Grade 8
Crispus Attucks & African American Patriots of the American Revolution	Grade 8
Never Caught, The Story of Ona Judge	Grade 8
Trouble Maker for Justice	Grade 8

- 4.02 Motion to accept a donation of \$1,000.00 from the Readington HSA Fine and Performing Arts Committee to be used in all schools for the purchase of library books that showcase the fine and performing arts.
- 4.03 Motion to apply for and accept a grant in the amount of \$512.00 from the Readington Township Home and School Association, to be used for fourth and fifth grade math intervention (Maria Winter) at Holland Brook School.
(Attachment 4.03)
- 4.04 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following student placement request for school year 2020-2021 in the Readington Township School District as follows:

STUDENT	SCHOOL/PROGRAM	COOPERATING TEACHER/SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATES

Jennifer Snyder	TCNJ/Independent Study: 5 Teaching Lessons	Marybeth Schwarz RMS	Spring 2021 Lessons to occur during periods that do not conflict or overlap with scheduled responsibilities
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E. PERSONNEL

Committee Report - None

5. Motion to adopt 5.01 - 5.03
Motion: Dr. Cerciello 2nd: Mrs. Hample Roll Call Vote: Carried 7 Yes

5.01 Motion to approve the following appointment:

NAME	POSITION	SALARY/STEP	EFFECTIVE DATE
Jennifer Fischl	LTS Teacher/LA (RMS) 20-01-D2/afa	Substitute rate for first 20 days, BA, Step 1-2 (1) per diem rate thereafter (prorated)	02/24/2021 - 06/18/2021

5.02 Motion to accept the following resignation:

NAME	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Lisa Canale	Aide/Special Education (TBS) 30-03-D3/aax	February 12, 2021

5.03 Motion to approve Doug Radziewicz as Musical Director of the School Musical (virtual) at Readington Middle School for the 2020-2021 school year.

F. COMMUNICATION

Committee Report - None

6. Motion to adopt 6.01 - 6.02
Motion: Mrs. Hample 2nd: Mr. Wallace Roll Call Vote: Carried 7 Yes

6.01 Motion to approve the following policies for second reading:
(Attachment 6.01)

- Policy 2361 - Acceptable Use
- Policy 5350 - Student Suicide Prevention
- Policy 6440 - Cooperative Purchasing
- Policy 6470.01 - Electronic Funds Transfer and Claimant Certification
- Policy 7440 - School District Security
- Policy 7450 - Property Inventory
- Policy 8561 - Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs

6.02 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the District Calendar and School Hours for 2021-2022 school year.
(Attachment 6.02)

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- The board discussed the board self evaluation process and the pros and cons given new board members. The board decided to start the process this current school year. Mrs. Simon shall send out the form from NJSBA.
- Mrs. Simon provided an overview of the evaluation process of the Superintendent. On April 27, 2021 Dr. Hart will present goals in public. On May 7, 2021, all board members will have to complete his evaluation on NJSBA. On May 18, 2021 there will be an executive session without Dr. Hart to review, and on June 8, 2021, the board will conference with Dr. Hart in executive session. This timeline is to meet the statutory deadline of June 30, 2021.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS FROM BOARD

- Mrs. Simon reviewed the process to fill a vacancy on the Board of Education given the resignation of Andrew Saunders. The board plans to advertise tomorrow with applications due on February 7, 2021. Previous candidates shall be contacted to reapply. Interviews are anticipated to be on March 16 at 6:00 p.m., unless circumstances arise otherwise.
- Mr. Zwerling provided Green Committee minutes of the meeting held on February 16, 2021. Mr. Zwerling recommended the district evaluate its ability to collect food waste for composting given the changes in technologies and offerings nearby which were not available in previous years.

IX. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

- None

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION - 8:13 p.m.

Motion: Mr. Wallace 2nd: Mrs. Hample Roll Call Vote: Carried 7 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 personnel/benefits budget for 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 - 8:43 p.m

Motion: Mrs. Hample 2nd: Mr. Wallace Roll Call Vote: Carried 7 Yes

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at: 8:44p.m.

Motion: Mrs. Hample 2nd: Dr. Cerciello Roll Call Vote: Carried 7 Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Jason M. Bohm

Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Laura Simon

President, Board of Education