

# **READINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Virtual/In-Person Available at Holland Brook School  
Board of Education Meeting Room  
Regular Meeting 6:00 p.m.  
February 8, 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 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:** Mrs. Fiore, Mr. Peach, Mrs. Podgorski, Mrs. Wolf, Dr. Cerciello, Mrs. Hample

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

**Absent:** Mrs. Bettermann, Mr. Wallace

Mrs. Bettermann arrived at 6:02 p.m.

Mr. Wallace arrived at 6:20 p.m.

### **II. FLAG SALUTE**

### **III. OATH OF OFFICE**

- Mr. Bohm administered the Oath of Office to new board member, Mr. Zwerling.

### **IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- Dr. Brown, Ms. Pauch, Mr. Tumolo, Supervisors, presented the Curriculum Budget.
  - Mr. Zwerling requested the Education/Technology Committee and Green Committee review sustainability curriculum and initiatives in the upcoming school year and include in the budget as necessary.
  - Various questions on the budget occurred from Board Members, with Administrators answering. DEI, SEL, and intervention programs supported by federal funding are continuing next school year.
- Mrs. Beagle, Director of Pupil Services, presented the Pupil Services Budget.
  - Questions and answers occurred from the Board.
- Mr. Belske, IT Coordinator, presented the IT Budget.
  - Questions and answers occurred from the Board, with a suggestion to expand IT bandwidth and access points in the school buildings.
- Dr. Brown and Ms. Pauch presented the Start Strong Assessment results from the fall of 2021, developed and required to receive federal funding.
  - Suggestions from the Board to continue assisting struggling student populations were made, due to learning loss from the pandemic.
- Dr. Hart shared the draft of the 2022-2023 school calendar with the board.

### **V. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC (LIMITED TO ACTION ITEMS ON THE AGENDA)**

- Parents and community members asked questions and provided thoughts on masks and the pandemic, intervention, ESSER funding, budget, school counseling, mental health, Start Strong Assessments and running records, and students placed in OOD schools due to IEPs.

### **VI. CORRESPONDENCE**

- Email J.R. - Quarantine
- Email J.H. - District Links
- Email J.M. - Special Education

## VII. BOARD ACTION

### A. APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. Motion to adopt 1.01 - 1.02  
**Motion: Dr. Cerciello**                      **2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Peach**                      **Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes**
- 1.01 Motion to approve Enrollment and Drill Reports January 2022.  
(Attachment 1.01)
- 1.02 RMS Quarterly Discipline Report Quarter 2/November 17, 2021 - January 28, 2022  
(Attachment 1.02)

### B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Motion to adopt 2.01 - 2.02  
**Motion: Mr. Peach**                      **2<sup>nd</sup>: Mrs. Podgorski**                      **Roll Call Vote: Carried 8 Yes**  
(Mr. Zwerling abstained from 2.01 - 2.02)
- 2.01 Motion to approve the Meeting Minutes January 18, 2022.
- 2.02 Motion to approve the two Executive Session Meeting Minutes January 18, 2022.

### C. FINANCE/FACILITIES

**Committee Report** - Dr. Cerciello provided minutes of the meeting held on January 28, 2022.

3. Motion to adopt 3.01 - 3.07  
**Motion: Mrs. Podgorski**                      **2<sup>nd</sup>: Mr. Peach**                      **Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes**
- 3.01 Motion to approve the **Bill List** for the period from **January 20, 2022 through February 9, 2022** for a total amount of **\$2,157,882.43**.  
(Attachment 3.01)
- 3.02 Motion to approve **District Travel Schedule February 2022** for a total amount of **\$2,746.70**.  
(Attachment 3.02)
- 3.03 Motion to ratify and approve **Payroll and Agency** for the month of **December 2021** for a total amount of **\$2,581,168.77**.  
(Attachment 3.03)
- 3.04 Motion to ratify and approve the following **Account Transfers for December 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021**.  
(Attachment 3.04-3.04a)
- 3.05 Motion to ratify and approve the **Student Activities Account for December 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021**.  
(Attachment 3.05)
- 3.06 Motion to accept the FINANCIAL REPORT CERTIFICATION OF BOARD SECRETARY'S MONTHLY CERTIFICATION BUDGETARY LINE ITEM STATUS: December 31, 2021 Pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11(c) 3, the Business Administrator/Board Secretary certifies that as of December 31, 2021 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.

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Jason M. Bohm, Board Secretary

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:23-2.11(c)4, we certify that as of December 31, 2021 and 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 December 31, 2021.  
(Attachment 3.06-3.06a)

- 3.07 Motion to approve the corrective action plan for the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) for the district's 2021 program performance.  
(Attachment 3.07)

**D. EDUCATION/TECHNOLOGY**

**Committee Report** - Ms. Fiore provided minutes of the meeting held on February 3, 2022.

- 4. Motion to adopt 4.01 - 4.07  
**Motion: Dr. Cerciello                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Mrs. Podgorski      Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes**  
(Mrs. Bettermann abstained 4.01 – 4.02)

- 4.01 Motion to approve the following HSA mini-grants for Holland Brook School:

TEACHER	GRANT FOR	AMOUNT
Maria Winter	Whiteboards for Language Arts Poetry	\$963.50
Meryl Vance	QBall, to learn 21st Century Skills in Math/Science	\$272.99

- 4.02 Motion to approve Luray Gross, Poet in Residence, for 4th grade students at Holland Brook School, May 2022 for \$2,275.00, funded by the HSA.
- 4.03 Motion to approve a Neuro-Psychological Evaluation for student: 9358439847. Services to be provided by Dr. Ghilain, Brain Health Neuropsychology, not to exceed \$900.00 to be paid by the district.
- 4.04 Motion to approve the Integrated Preschool Program tuition rate of \$400.00 per child, per month with transportation option for an additional amount of \$100.00 per month/per family or \$50.00 one way per month/per family. These rates reflect no increase for the 2022-2023 school year.
- 4.05 Motion to ratify and approve home instruction for student: H202108 from January 27, 2022 through February 16, 2022. Services provided through LearnWell for 5 hours per week, at a rate of \$48.00 per hour.
- 4.06 Motion to adopt the following fundraiser for the 2021-2022 school year:

SCHOOL	FUNDRAISER	RECIPIENT
Whitehouse School	Pennies for Pups/Dollars for Dogs	The Seeing Eye

- 4.07 Motion to adopt the following curriculum for the 2021-2022 school year:

CURRICULUM
Grade 6 Honors Math
7th Grade & Advanced Grade 6 Math
Pre-Algebra (8th Grade & Advanced Grade 7 Math)

(Attachment 4.07-4.07b)

Mrs. Fiore thanked HSA for their support!

**E. PERSONNEL**

**Committee Report - None**

5. Motion to adopt 5.01 - 5.08  
**Motion: Mrs. Podgorski 2<sup>nd</sup>: Dr. Cerciello Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes**

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

NAME	POSITION
Christopher Curran	Substitute Teacher/Aide
Abigail Eyler	Substitute Teacher/Aide
Alice Figueiredo Lobo	Substitute Teacher/Aide
Maria Kurowski	Substitute Teacher/Aide
Carli Stokes	Substitute Teacher/Aide
Connor Dacierno	Substitute Teacher/Aide

5.02 Motion to approve the following salary increases in recognition of the following employees’ attainment of additional credits for lateral movement per RTEA Guide effective February 1, 2022:

NAME	SCHOOL	FROM STEP	SALARY	TO STEP	REVISED SALARY	INCREASE
Paul Yunos	RMS	BA Step 9/10	\$62,485.00	BA+15 Step 9/10	\$64,085.00 (prorated)	\$1,600.00
Nicole Maraventano	District	MA Step 17	\$79,780.00	MA+30 Step 17	\$82,180.00 (prorated)	\$2,400.00

5.03 Motion to approve the following teacher to facilitate a Virtual Science Fair at Three Bridges School at the contracted rate:

TEACHER	SCHOOL	HOURS	# DAYS
Lynda Breckinridge	TBS	2 hours	2 days

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

NAME	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Linda Rakowitz	Teacher/Special Education (HBS) 20-02-D2/aly	07/01/2022

5.05 Motion to approve the following resignations:

NAME	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Katherine DeRiso	Assistant to the Business Administrator (BOE) 10-06-D1/aad	03/20/2022

5.06 Motion to approve the following staff members at the contractual rate to monitor transportation routes and coordinate student safety beyond contractual hours due to unusual, extended route times as a result of a bus driver shortage caused by the pandemic and need to consolidate bus routes:

NAME	SCHOOL	POSITION	AMOUNT
Deborah Sevell	Three Bridges School	Secretary	Not to exceed \$500.00
Natasha Rankin	Three Bridges School	Clerical Aide	Not to exceed \$500.00
Christine Hometchko	Whitehouse School	Secretary	Not to exceed \$500.00
Kathleen McBride	Whitehouse School	Clerical Aide	Not to exceed \$500.00

5.07 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve stipend payments for the attached list of teachers facilitating 2022 Spring Teacher Academy Sessions.  
(Attachment 5.07)

5.08 Motion to approve the following mentors for the 2021-2022 school year:

NEW STAFF MEMBER	SCHOOL	POSITION	MENTOR
Caroline Ratanski	RMS	LA Teacher (LTS)	Mindy Bennington
Allison Steitz	HBS	SE Teacher (LTS)	Colleen DiGregorio

**F. COMMUNICATION**

**Committee Report** - Ms. Bettermann provided minutes of the meeting held on January 31, 2022.

**VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- None

**IX. NEW BUSINESS FROM BOARD**

- Ms. Hample highlighted dates for board members to tour the four schools March 7-11, 2022.

**X. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

- Parents and staff members asked about the mask mandate and quarantining, as well as thanking Dr. Hart for all his hard work during the pandemic.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT – 8:42 p.m.**

**Motion: Mr. Peach**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Dr. Cerciello**

**Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes**

**Respectfully submitted,**

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

**Carol Hample  
President, Board of Education**