

# WHITE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

## REGULAR SESSION MEETING

### MINUTES

**MONDAY**

**AUGUST 24, 2020**

**6:30 PM**

The Regular Meeting of the White Township Board of Education was held on the above date in the White Township School Gym with the following members in attendance at roll call: Ms. Nusser-Meany, Ms. Howell, Mrs. Sroka, Mr. Murray, Mrs. Lensi, Mr. Havlusch, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Williams, and Mr. Panetta. William Thompson, CSA and Dawn Huff, Business Administrator/Board Secretary were also in attendance as well as 9 members of the public.

Mr. Panetta opened the meeting at 6:34 p.m. and stated that the meeting had been duly advertised and the public properly notified through notification to The Express-Times, Star Ledger and the White Township Municipal Clerk in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

#### **CSA REPORT**

Mr. Thompson reviewed updates to the district's Reopening Plan, summer mailing and Strategic Plan. Mr. Thompson provided an overview of upcoming events including Kindergarten orientation, PK orientation, new student orientation and Back-to-School Night.

#### **OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

#### **APPROVE MEETING MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mrs. Lensi and seconded by Mr. Murray to approve the minutes as submitted from the July 27, 2020 Regular Session Meeting. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 9, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mrs. Huff noted an addendum for one additional Curriculum motion to revise the 2020-2021 Preschool tuition rates.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **PERSONNEL**

##### **Block Motion – Personnel**

A motion was made by Mrs. Lensi and seconded by Mrs. Sroka to approve the following agenda items #1 through #14. Motion carried as follows: Ms. Nusser-Meany – yes, Ms. Howell – yes, Mrs. Sroka – yes, Mr. Murray – yes, Mrs. Lensi – yes, Mr. Havlusch – yes, Mrs. Smith – yes, Mrs. Williams – yes and Mr. Panetta – yes.

##### **1. Approve an Elementary Teacher**

To accept the recommendation of the CSA to approve Kelsey Barofski as an Elementary Teacher, BA, Step 3 at the salary rate of \$53,360 for the 2020-2021 school year.

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### Block Motion – Personnel - continued

2. Approve a Leave Replacement

To accept the recommendation of the CSA to approve Linda Blazier as an Elementary Teacher Leave Replacement, at a per diem rate of \$291.80, based on MA, Step 1, pending receipt of criminal history and Chapter 5 paperwork.

3. Approve the School Safety Specialist

To approve Gary Hutchison as the School Safety Specialist for the 2020-2021 school year.

4. Approve the School Physician

To approve Dr. John Fritz as the School Physician at the rate of \$2,750 for the 2020-2021 school year.

5. Approve the Basic Skills Coordinator Stipend

To accept the recommendation of the CSA to pay a stipend of \$9,424 to Alison Walsh as the Basic Skills Coordinator for the 2020-2021 school year.

6. Approve Paraprofessionals and Cafeteria Aides for the 2020-2021 school year

To accept the recommendation of the CSA to approve the following Paraprofessionals and Cafeteria Aides for the 2020-2021 school year:

		Step		Salary
Herb, Debra	Cafeteria Aide	Step 15ND	not to exceed 2.5 hours/day	\$16.17
Maertens, Pamela	Cafeteria Aide	off guide	not to exceed 2.5 hours/day	\$20.87
O'Brien, Colleen	Paraprofessional	Step 2D	not to exceed 4.75 hours/day	\$14.94
Smith, Kaitlyn	Paraprofessional	Step 2D	not to exceed 4.75 hours/day	\$14.94
Williams, Joan	Paraprofessional	Step 15D	not to exceed 4.75 hours/day	\$19.09
Wohlander, Jen	Paraprofessional	Step 2ND	not to exceed 4.75 hours/day	\$13.20

7. Approve a Teacher in Charge

To approve Gary Hutchison as Teacher in Charge at the stipend amount of \$6,000 for the 2020-2021 school year.

8. Approve Grade 8 Advisors

To approve Deirdre Mulligan and Tadgh LaBar as Grade 8 Advisors at the stipend amount of \$1,200 each for the 2020-2021 school year.

9. Approve an Extra-Curricular Activity Position

To accept the recommendation of the CSA and approve staff for the following Extra-Curricular Activity Position:

Deirdre Mulligan      G&T Afterschool Activities (Head)    Year 10+      \$2,965

10. Approve the White Township Substitute List

To approve the White Township Substitute List for the 2020-2021 school year.

11. Approve a Substitute Principal

To approve Ryanne Bigelli as a Substitute Principal.

12. Approve a Request for a Maternity/Disability Leave of Absence - Revised

To approve a request from Katherine Williams for a maternity/disability leave of absence to commence on or about August 31, 2020 followed by an unpaid leave of absence in accordance with the New Jersey Family Leave Act, with an anticipated return to work date of January 4, 2021. *This replaces the original motion approved April 27, 2020.*

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#### **Block Motion – Personnel - continued**

13. Approve Personnel for Home Instruction

To approve current certified staff to provide home instruction as needed at the direction of the CSA, at the rate of \$35, for the 2020-2021 school year.

14. Approve a Resolution to Allow Emergency Staff Hires

To allow the CSA to make emergency staff hires pending receipt of criminal history and Chapter 5 paperwork due to the current pandemic situation.

#### **CURRICULUM**

Ms. Nusser-Meany noted the Committee met and discussed many of the items Mr. Thompson mentioned in his CSA update, as well as a move to Trimesters, a web-based platform for World Language, implementation of new math resources, and PK expansion.

#### **Block Motion – Curriculum**

A motion was made by Mrs. Sroka and seconded by Mrs. Lensi to approve the following agenda items #1 through #2. Motion carried as follows: Ayes - 9, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

1. Adopt the 2020-2021 curriculum, including Scope and Sequence, and textbooks

To adopt the 2020-2021 curriculum, including Scope and Sequence and textbooks, for the 2020-2021 school year.

2. Approve the Tuition Rate for the Inclusive Preschool Program - Revised

To approve an inclusive preschool program, at a tuition rate of \$2,600 for the half-day program and \$3,900 for the full-day program, for the 2020-2021 school year.

#### **OPERATIONS**

Mrs. Sroka noted that everything went very well with the financial audit of the 2019-2020 year. Mrs. Sroka further noted that the group received an update from Mr. Thompson on the Reopening Plan and the agenda items.

#### **Block Motion – Operations**

A motion was made by Mrs. Lensi and seconded by Mr. Murray to approve the following agenda items #1 through #10. Motion carried as follows: Ms. Nusser-Meany – yes, Ms. Howell – yes, Mrs. Sroka – yes, Mr. Murray – yes, Mrs. Lensi – yes, Mr. Havlusch – yes, Mrs. Smith – yes, Mrs. Williams – yes and Mr. Panetta – yes.

1. Approve June 2020 Board Secretary's Report and Treasurer's Report

To approve, on the recommendation of the CSA, the acceptance of the monthly financial reports of the Board Secretary for the month of June 2020 and further that, in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16-10(c)4, the Board of Education certifies that as of June 2020, after review of the secretary's monthly financial report and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16-10(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. As required by N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16-10(c) 3, I, Dawn Huff, Board Secretary, hereby certify that no line account has been over expended as of June 30, 2020.

2. Approve July 2020 Board Secretary's Report and Treasurer's Report

To approve, on the recommendation of the CSA, the acceptance of the monthly financial reports of the Board Secretary for the month of July 2020 and further that, in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16-10(c)4, the Board of Education certifies that as of July 2020, after review of the secretary's monthly financial report and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials,

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#### **Block Motion – Operations - continued**

to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16-10(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. As required by N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16-10(c) 3, I, Dawn Huff, Board Secretary, hereby certify that no line account has been over expended as of July 31, 2020.

#### 3. Approve August 2020 Bill List

To approve the payment of the August 2020 bills in the total amount of \$326,310.30 for all funds.

#### 4. Approve Budget Transfers

To approve budget transfers for July 2020 in the amount of \$5,183.97.

#### 5. Approve the Indoor Air Quality Plan

To approve the Indoor Air Quality Plan for the 2020-2021 school year with no changes.

#### 6. Approve the Integrated Pest Management Plan

To approve the Integrated Pest Management Plan for the 2020-2021 school year with no changes.

#### 7. Approve a Tuition Contract with Mount Olive Board of Education

To approve a tuition contract for one student SID#4552810184 to attend Mt. Olive Middle School for the 2020-2021 school year, at a tuition rate of \$34,397.00.

#### 8. Approve a Contract with Warren County Technical School for Instructional and Vocational Programs

To approve a contract with Warren County Technical School for Instructional and Vocational Programs for 24 students at a tuition rate of \$5,100 per student and a transportation rate of \$750 per student for a total cost of \$140,400 for the 2020-2021 school year, less prior year adjustments of \$9,078.

#### 9. Approve a Contract with Belvidere School District for Instructional Technology Support and Services

To approve a contract with Belvidere School District for Instructional Technology Support and Services at the rate of \$15,000 for the 2020-2021 school year.

#### 10. Accept the Grant Award for Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP) Funding

To accept the REAP grant award for the 2020-2021 school year in the amount of \$20,678 and approve use of the funds for technology.

## GOVERNANCE

#### **Block Motion – Governance**

A motion was made by Mrs. Sroka and seconded by Mr. Murray to approve the following agenda items #1 through #15. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 9, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

#### 1. Approve a Nursing Services Plan

To approve a Nursing Services Plan for the 2020-2021 school year.

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### Block Motion – Governance - continued

2. Approve the White Township School District Restart and Recovery Plan to Reopen School

To approve the White Township School District Restart and Recovery Plan to Reopen School

3. Approve a Second Reading of Policy #1648 – Restart & Recovery Plan

To approve a second reading of policy #1648 – Restart & Recovery Plan

4. Approve a Second Reading of Policy #1649 – Federal Families First Coronavirus (COVID-19) Response Act

To approve a second reading of policy #1649 – Federal Families First Coronavirus (COVID-19) Response Act

5. Approve a Second Reading of Policy #2270 – Religion in Schools

To approve a second reading of policy #2270 – Religion in Schools

6. Approve a Second Reading of Policy #2622 – Student Assessment

To approve a second reading of policy #2622 – Student Assessment

7. Approve a Second Reading of Policy & Regulation #5111 – Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students

To approve a second reading of policy & regulation #5111 – Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students

8. Approve a Second Reading of Policy & Regulation #5200 - Attendance

To approve a second reading of policy & regulation #5200 – Attendance

9. Approve a Second Reading of Policy & Regulation #5320 - Immunization

To approve a second reading of policy & regulation #5320 – Immunization

10. Approve a Second Reading of Policy & Regulation #5330.04 – Administering an Opioid Antidote

To approve a second reading of policy & regulation #5330.04 – Administering an Opioid Antidote

11. Approve a Second Reading of Policy & Regulation #5610 - Suspension

To approve a second reading of policy #5610 – Suspension

12. Approve a Second Reading of Policy #5620 - Expulsion

To approve a second reading of policy #5620 – Expulsion

13. Approve a Second Reading of Policy & Regulation #8320 – Personnel Records

To approve a second reading of policy & regulation #8320 – Personnel Records

14. Approve a First Reading of Policy #1648.02 – Remote Learning Options for Families

To approve a first reading of policy #1648.02 – Remote Learning Options for Families

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### **Block Motion – Governance - continued**

#### **15. Approve a First Reading of Policy #1648.03 – Restart and Recovery Plan Full-Time Remote Instruction**

To approve a first reading of policy #1648.03 – Restart and Recovery Plan Full-Time Remote Instruction

### **BHS BOARD MEMBER**

Mrs. Williams discussed Belvidere’s plans for reopening and discussed the difficulties in getting things back and running. Mrs. Williams applauded the hard work of the Administration to have a successful start to the school year.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- Approve the 2020-2024 White Township School District Strategic Plan

A motion was made by Mrs. Williams and seconded by Mr. Murray to approve the 2020-2024 White Township School District Strategic Plan. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 9, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

None

### **ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF HIB INCIDENTS**

A motion was made by Mrs. Lensi and seconded by Mr. Murray to acknowledge receipt of no HIB investigations deemed HIB incidents since last meeting. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 0, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

### **OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mrs. Gardella asked about the policies on the agenda for approval this evening. Mr. Thompson explained that while a few of the policies are new to address the Coronavirus, many of them are current policies that are just being updated. Mr. Thompson noted that the district uses the services of Strauss Esmay for our board policy preparation, review and updates. They have a team of legal experts who are able to assure that our district policies comply with State and Federal mandates as well as other circumstances unique to our school district.

Mr. Panetta thanked everyone, faculty, parents, administration and Board members, for everything they’ve done to get a Reopening Plan in place and get students back in school.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mrs. Lensi and seconded by Mr. Murray to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 p.m. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 9, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Huff  
Business Administrator  
Board Secretary