

# WHITE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

## REGULAR SESSION MEETING

### MINUTES

**MONDAY**

**JANUARY 23, 2023**

**6:30 PM**

The Regular Meeting of the White Township Board of Education was held on the above date in the White Township Consolidated School Media Center, Belvidere, NJ. The following members of the Board were in attendance at roll call: Mr. Havlusch, Ms. Nusser-Meany, Mrs. Lensi, Mr. Panetta, Mrs. Pinkerton, Mr. Jonkoski, Mrs. Gardella and Mrs. Vesper. Mr. Thompson, CSA and Mr. Italiano, Business Administrator were also in attendance as well as five members of the public. Mr. Murray was unable to attend.

Mr. Panetta opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and stated that in accordance with the State's Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was provided and that copies of this notice, along with a meeting agenda, have been placed in the Board Office, posted on the District website, and sent to the Township Clerk, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

#### **SWEARING IN OF THE APPOINTED BOARD MEMBER**

- Swear in appointed member(s) by the Board Secretary not present at the reorganization meeting. (Catherine Lensi)

#### **REVIEW OF BOARD OF EDUCATION CODE OF ETHICS**

- Review the Board of Education Code of Ethics with the appointed board member(s) not at the reorganization meeting. (Catherine Lensi)

#### **CSA REPORT**

Mr. Thompson presented the New Jersey Start Strong Assessment results for the Fall of 2022. Mr. Thompson also presented the student of the month award. Mr. Thompson mentioned how its an exciting time with many clubs and activities up and running before and after school.

#### **OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

#### **APPROVE MEETING MINUTES**

A motion was made by Ms. Nusser-Meany and seconded by Mrs. Lensi to approve the minutes as submitted from the December 19, 2022 Regular Meeting and the January 2, 2023 Reorganization Meeting. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Mr. Italiano provided the Board with a budget calendar based on the NJDOE Budget Procedure Guidelines for a Type II District with a November election.
- January 2023 is the annual School Board Recognition Month in New Jersey, and the Administration would like to say thank you to the Board for your service to the school and the community. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**PERSONNEL**

Mr. Panetta provided an update on negotiations and said the process should be completed soon.

**Block Motion – Personnel**

A motion was made by Mr. Havlusch and seconded by Mrs. Vesper to approve the following agenda items #1 through #6. Motion carried as follows: Mr. Havlusch – yes, Ms. Nusser-Meany – yes, Mr. Jonkoski – yes, Mrs. Pinkerton – yes, Mrs. Lensi – yes, Mr. Panetta – yes, Mrs. Gardella – yes, and Mrs. Vesper yes.

1. Approve an Additional Substitute Teacher

To approve Lia Conte as an additional substitute teacher for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year pending receipt of criminal history and Chapter 5 paperwork.

2. Accept a Resignation

To accept the resignation of Keri Morabito, para professional, effective January 6, 2023.

3. Approve Club Advisor Positions

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

Henry Skirbst	Dissection Club Advisor	\$45/per hour (Not to exceed \$450)
---------------	-------------------------	-------------------------------------

4. Approve a Board Club Advisor

To approve Maryellen Nyce as Advisor of the Board Game Club, at an hourly rate of \$45 per hour not to exceed \$450.

5. Approve a Paraprofessional for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year

To approve the following paraprofessional for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year, as recommended by the CSA:

Jaime Ferrara	Paraprofessional	Step 7 ND	not to exceed 5.75 hrs/day	\$15.11*
---------------	------------------	-----------	----------------------------	----------

\*Salary remains at the 2021-2022 rate until settlement of the WTEA contract agreement.

6. Approve a Transfer on the Salary Guide

To approve a request from Tadgh LaBar for a transfer on the salary guide from Step 20\*, MA+15 to Step 20\*, MA+30 at the new salary rate of \$81,335.\*

\* Salary and Step remains at the 2021-2022 rate until settlement of the WTEA contract agreement.

## WHITE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

### Regular Session Minutes

January 23, 2023

Page 3

### CURRICULUM

Ms. Nusser-Meany mentioned how the Curriculum Committee discussed the NJ Start Strong testing, the LinkIt Assessment and the Junior Honor Society Inductions.

#### Block Motion – Curriculum

A motion was made by Mr. Havlusch and seconded by Mrs. Vesper to approve the following agenda items #1 through #5. Motion carried as follows: Mr. Havlusch – yes, Ms. Nusser-Meany – yes, Mr. Jonkoski – yes, Mrs. Pinkerton – yes, Mrs. Lensi – yes, Mr. Panetta – yes, Mrs. Gardella – yes, and Mrs. Vesper yes.

1. Approve a Field Trip for Grades 6 Instrumental Music

To approve a field trip for approximately 6 grade 6 students to Phillipsburg High School on February 28, 2023 (Snow Date March 2, 2023) to perform in an ensemble with other local schools. There is no cost to for this trip.

2. Approve a Field Trip for Grade 3

To approve a field trip for approximately 23 grade 3 students to The Turtle Back Zoo on May 23, 2023. The cost per student is \$13.

3. Approve a Field Trip for Grades 7&8 GEM

To approve a field trip for approximately 10 grades 7&8 GEM students to Lopatcong Township Middle School on March 7, 2023 for a battle of the minds event. There is no cost for this trip.

4. Approve a Field Trip for Grade 5

To approve a field trip for approximately 22 grade 5 students to The Lake Hopatcong State Park on May 18, 2023. The cost per student is \$18.

5. Approve a Fundraiser

To approve a request from the Drama Club to have a clothing fundraiser.

### OPERATIONS

Mrs. Vesper noted the Committee discussed the upcoming roof project the budget and tuition costs for next school year.

#### Block Motion – Operations

A motion was made by Mrs. Lensi and seconded by Mr. Havlusch to approve the following agenda items #1 through #8. Motion carried as follows: Mr. Havlusch – yes, Ms. Nusser-Meany – yes, Mr. Jonkoski – yes, Mrs. Pinkerton – yes, Mrs. Lensi – yes, Mr. Panetta – yes, Mrs. Gardella – yes, and Mrs. Vesper yes.

**WHITE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Regular Session Minutes**  
**January 23, 2023**  
**Page 4**

**Block Motion – Operations - Continued**

1. 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 December 2022 and further that, in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16-10(c)4, the Board of Education certifies that as of December 2022, 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, Andrew Italiano, Board Secretary, hereby certify that no line account has been over expended as of December 31, 2022.

2. Approve January 2023 Bill List

To approve the payment of the January 2023 bills in the total amount of \$597,651.27 for all funds.

3. Approve Budget Transfers

To approve the attached budget transfers for December 2022.

4. Approve Resolution for Waiver of Requirements in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI)

**WHEREAS**, NJAC 6A:23A-5.3, provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district’s participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2023-2024 school year, and

**WHEREAS**, the White Township Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having fewer than 40 Medicaid eligible classified students;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the White Township Board of Education hereby authorizes the Business Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Warren an appropriate waiver of the requirements of NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 for the 2023-2024 school year.

5. Approve a Use of Facility Request

To approve a request from Warren County Little League to use the playing field from April 23 – June 30, 2023.

6. Approve a Use of Facility Request

To approve a request from White Township PTO to use the cafeteria on February 17, 2023 to host a Someone Special dance.

7. Approve a Use of Facility Request

To approve a request from White Township PTO to use the cafeteria on February 10, 2023 to host a middle school Valentine’s Day dance.

**WHITE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Regular Session Minutes**  
**January 23, 2023**  
**Page 5**

**Block Motion – Operations - Continued**

8. Approve Resolution for Participation in Coordinated Transportation with Warren County Special Services School District for 2023-2024

WHEREAS, the White Township School District Board of Education desires to transport students for the purpose of special education, non-public school education, or their own public school students to specific destinations; and

WHEREAS, the Warren County Special Services School District hereinafter referred to as WCSSSD offers coordinated transportation services; and

WHEREAS, the WCSSSD will organize and schedule routes to achieve the maximum cost effectiveness; NOW THEREFORE, it is agreed that in consideration of pro-rated contract costs, plus a 4.5% administration fee as presented to the White Township School District Board of Education as calculated by the billing formula adopted by the WCSSSD's Board of Education, does approve its participation in said coordinated transportation for 2023-2024 in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract as offered by WCSSSD for 2023-2024.

**GOVERNANCE**

**Block Motion – Governance**

A motion was made by Mrs. Lensi and seconded by Mrs. Vesper to approve the following agenda items #1 through #16. Motion carried as follows: Mr. Havlusch – yes, Ms. Nusser-Meany – yes, Mr. Jonkoski – yes, Mrs. Pinkerton – yes, Mrs. Lensi – yes, Mr. Panetta – yes, Mrs. Gardella – yes, and Mrs. Vesper yes.

1. Policy #1648.11 – The Road forward COVID-19 (Abolished)

Acknowledgement that Policy #1648.11 has been abolished

2. Policy #1648.13 – School Employee Vaccination Requirements (Abolished)

Acknowledgement that Policy #1648.13 has been abolished

3. Approve a First Reading of Policy #0152 –Board Officers (Revised)

To approve a first reading of Policy #0152 – Board Officers (Revised)

4. Approve a First Reading of Policy #0161 –Call, Adjournment and Cancellation (Revised)

To approve a first reading of Policy #0161 – Call, Adjournment and Cancellation (Revised)

5. Approve a First Reading of Policy #0162 –Notice of Board Meetings (Revised)

To approve a first reading of Policy #0162 – Notice of Board Meetings (Revised)

6. Approve a First Reading of Policy & Regulation #2423 – Bilingual and ESL Education (M) (Revised)

To approve a first reading of Policy & Regulation #2423 – Bilingual and ESL Education (M) (Revised)

**WHITE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Regular Session Minutes**  
**January 23, 2023**  
**Page 6**

**Block Motion – Governance - Continued**

7. Approve a First Reading of Policy #2425 –Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program (M) (Revised)

To approve a first reading of Policy #2425 – Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program (M) (Revised)

8. Approve a First Reading of Regulation #2425 –Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program (M) (New)

To approve a first reading of Regulation #2425 – Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program (M) (New)

9. Approve a First Reading of Policy & Regulation #5200 – Attendance (M) (Revised)

To approve a first reading of Policy & Regulation #5200 – Attendance (M) (Revised)

10. Approve a First Reading of Policy #5512 –Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying (M) (Revised)

To approve a first reading of Policy #5512 – Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying (M) (Revised)

11. Approve a First Reading of Policy #8140 –Student Enrollment (M) (Revised)

To approve a first reading of Policy #8140 – Student Enrollment (M) (Revised)

12. Approve a First Reading of Regulation #8140 –Enrollment Accounting (M) (Revised)

To approve a first reading of Regulation #8140 – Enrollment Accounting (M) (Revised)

13. Approve a First Reading of Policy & Regulation #8330 – Student Records (M) (Revised)

To approve a first reading of Policy & Regulation #8330 – Student Records (M) (Revised)

14. Approve a First Reading of Regulation #8420.2 –Bomb Threats (M) (Revised)

To approve a first reading of Regulation #8420.2 – Bomb Threats (M) (Revised)

15. Approve a First Reading of Regulation #8420.7 –Lockdown Procedures (M) (Revised)

To approve a first reading of Regulation #8420.7 – Lockdown Procedures (M) (Revised)

16. Approve a First Reading of Regulation #8420.10 –Active Shooter (M) (Revised)

To approve a first reading of Regulation #8420.10 – Active Shooter (M) (Revised)

**BHS BOARD MEMBER UPDATE**

Mrs. Gardella provided a BHS update that involved the current state of the BHS Athletic Fields and how BHS is looking for new ways to draw community interest and local partners to help improve the fields. Mrs. Gardella also mentioned how the process of what to do with the Third Street School is still ongoing.

**WHITE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Regular Session Minutes**  
**January 23, 2023**  
**Page 7**

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Panetta mentioned there needs to be a discussion about the pavers project for our past graduates.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Panetta mentioned there is progress with the digital sign project and that Mayor Herb is working hard to help the school with this project.

**APPROVE SUBMISSION OF THE STUDENT SAFETY DATA SYSTEM (SSDS) REPORT**

A motion was made by Mrs. Lensi and seconded by Mrs. Vesper to approve submission of the SSDS Report for the reporting period September 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022.

Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

**ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF HIB INCIDENTS**

A motion was made by Mrs. Lensi and seconded by Mr. Havlusch to acknowledge receipt of no HIB investigation since last meeting deemed to be HIB incidents. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, and Abstentions – 0.

**OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mrs. Lensi and seconded by Mrs. Vesper to adjourn the meeting at 7:22p.m. Motion carried as follows: Ayes – 8, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Andrew Italiano  
Business Administrator  
Board Secretary