

EAST WINDSOR REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, HIGHTSTOWN, NJ 08520

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SEPTEMBER 24, 2012**

The Board of Education of the East Windsor Regional School District, Hightstown, NJ, held a Regular meeting on **Monday, September 24, 2012** at 7:30 p.m. in the Hightstown High School Cafeteria located at 25 Leshin Lane, Hightstown, NJ.

Members Present: Lisa Abel, Pete Bussone, Bruce Ettman (7:40 pm), Suzanne Fallon, Bonnie Fayer (7:38 pm), Christine Harrington, Robert Laverty, Kennedy Paul
Members Absent: Paul Connolly (with advance notice)
Also Present: Dr. Edward J. Forsthoffer, Chief School Administrator
Kurt Stumbaugh, SBA/Board Secretary
David Coates, Board Legal Counsel

AGENDA ITEMS

1. WELCOME/SUNSHINE NOTICE

Board President Robert Laverty called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and read the Open Public Meeting Act Statement as follows: "Written advance notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with law. Minutes of this meeting are being kept by the Board Secretary and will be made available to any member of the public requesting them from the Board Secretary at the Administration building, 25A Leshin Lane, Hightstown, NJ. Minutes will be provided at cost and in accordance with Board policy." Mr. Laverty asked "Are there any Board members present who believe this meeting to be in violation of the Open Public Meeting Act?" No one objected. "There being none, we may proceed."
Fire Code Compliance: Mr. Laverty made the following announcement: "In compliance with the fire code of the State of New Jersey, I call your attention to the emergency exits for this room, which are located...." (Mr. Laverty pointed to the emergency exits.)

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. A APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Paul moved seconded by Ms. Fallon, to approve the agenda with an addendum to staffing as submitted. On a roll call vote of the Board, motion to approve was carried unanimously.

3. B RESOLUTION FOR CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Paul moved, seconded by Ms. Fallon, to approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the East Windsor Regional School District will hold two closed sessions during its regular meeting on September 24, 2012. These closed sessions concern:

1. Contract Negotiations-Update on District Contract Negotiations
2. Student Matters - Bullying

Minutes of these closed sessions will be available in accordance with Board policy when the need for confidentiality no longer exists. On a roll call vote of the Board, motion to approve was carried unanimously.

4. RECOGNITION OF FORMER BOE MEMBER: SUSAN LLOYD

Dr. Forsthoffer and Mr. Laverty, on behalf of the Board, District and Community, expressed gratitude and appreciation to Ms. Lloyd for her service as Board member. Mr. Laverty commented that Ms. Lloyd has taken part in many incredibly difficult efforts over the years to help our District be the success it is today. Mr. Laverty presented a plaque in her honor which he read aloud as follows:

"Presented to SUSAN LLOYD in Grateful Recognition for your Outstanding Dedication and Integrity while Honorably Serving on the East Windsor Regional School District Board of Education from April 29, 2002 to June 30, 2012. Given this 24th day of September, 2012"

A lengthy and heartfelt standing ovation followed. Ms. Lloyd expressed her gratitude to all for their support and for the honor of serving the District. She expressed pride in what the District has become and the progress it has made. She also thanked the Board for their friendship and support.

Ms. Fallon spoke on the enthusiasm with which Ms. Lloyd addressed her job. Her dedication was admirable and she will be missed.

Mr. Ettman acknowledged the meaningful contributions that Ms. Lloyd has made to the District, and her dedication and willingness to take a stance.

5. RECOGNITION OF PERFECT ATTENDANCE FROM TRANSPORTATION

Ms. Ingrid Reitano, Director of Transportation recognized the following staff for excellence in attendance:

Emmanuel Babin - Bus Driver
Charles Burt - Bus Driver
Karen De Angelis - Van Attendant
Dianna Moore - Driver

William Power - Bus Driver
Jean Prophete - Bus Driver
Donna Sweeney - Bus Driver

6. 25 YEAR RECOGNITION AWARDS

The Superintendent and Board offered their annual recognition and gratitude to our 25 year staff.

Mary Christensen - GNR
Lynn Marie Churchman - PLD
Mary Ann Whereley - GNR
David Williams - HHS
Maria Rodriguez - GNR

Trudy Heisler - Administration
Ellen Gertel - MHK
Harold Cox - MHK
Iris Landau - Student Services

7. SECOND READING OF BOE POLICIES

- 7. A. 2431 ATHLETIC COMPETITION (REVISED) MANDATED
- B. 5600 PUPIL DISCIPLINE/CODE OF CONDUCT (REVISED) MANDATED (tabled)
- C. 7510 USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES (REVISED) RECOMMENDED
- D. 8613 WAIVER OF PUPIL TRANSPORTATION (NEW) RECOMMENDED
- E. 9270 HOME SCHOOLING AND EQUIVALENT EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE SCHOOLS (REVISED) MANDATED (tabled)

8. A SECOND READING OF MANDATED REGULATION:

- 5600 PUPIL DISCIPLINE/CODE OF CONDUCT (REVISED) MANDATED (tabled)

Discussion on Policy and Regulation 5600:

The Board had a discussion on the wording used within this policy and regulation. As a result, the Board agreed to postpone action on Policy 5600: Pupil Discipline/Code of Conduct (7.B), and its related regulation (8.A), and to table these two agenda items for future consideration. A committee is currently working on changes to some of the language.

Action to Table 7.B Policy #5600 & 8.A Regulation 5600:

Mr. Paul moved, seconded by Ms. Fayer, that the Board vote to Table item 7.B -Policy 5600 and its related Regulation 5600 (8.A) until the next scheduled meeting.

On a roll call vote of the Board, motion to table 7.B and 8.A was carried unanimously.

Action to Approve Policies # 2431, 7510, 8613

Mr. Paul moved, seconded by Ms. Fallon that the following Policies be approved on Second reading:

- 7A: 2431 ATHLETIC COMPETITION (REVISED) MANDATED
- 7C. 7510 USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES (REVISED) RECOMMENDED
- 7D. 8613 WAIVER OF PUPIL TRANSPORTATION (NEW) RECOMMENDED

Discusson on Policies # 2431, 7510 and 8613: None

On a roll call vote of the Board, motion to approve Policies #2431, #7510, #8613 on second reading was carried unanimously.

Action on Policy 9270

The Board chose to vote on the following policy separately on Second reading:

- 7E: 9270 Home Schooling and Equivalent Education Outside the Schools (Revised /Mandated)

Mr. Paul moved, seconded by Ms. Fayer to approve.

Discussion on Policy 9270:

Mr. Ettman commented that he is opposed to this policy. He read aloud segments of the policy he feels are inappropriate. He noted that once the parent or guardian chooses not to use our school services our Superintendent should not have the obligation or responsibility to make sure a student is being educated up to State guidelines. Mr. Ettman added that he opposes all the new language, (and some of the old language) in this policy.

Ms. Harrington requested clarification on exactly what is mandated; is it only the new language?

Dr. Forsthoffer responded that we have a policy writing organization called Strauss Esmay and any time school related legislation changes, they will write it into the existing policy a District already has. We have to implement the legislation in our policy but not the specific language that is to be used.

A lengthy discussion ensued on this policy and the role that Strauss Esmay plays in the guidance and direction of our policies.

Ms. Harrington suggested a motion to table this policy for further consideration and examination.

Mr. Laverty agreed we do need to revisit this as it is an important issue. We represent public education for all the children in our District. If there is a noncompliance issue based on parents not opting to enroll their kids in school nor provide instruction at home, the District needs something that clarifies its accountability in such a situation. We will inquire with School Boards and Strauss Esmay to see if they can provide us with any backup on what the essential language is.

Dr. Forsthoffer added that the new language comes directly from legislation. But we don't have to put it in the policy exactly as worded. He will research this further.

Action to Table Policy #9270:

Mr. Laverty moved to table action on policy #9270 till we have researched and received feedback from School Boards and Strauss Esmay. This will supersede the original motion for approving this policy on second reading. Mr. Paul seconded.

Vote: On a roll call vote of the Board, motion to Table Item 7E Policy 9270 - Home Schooling and Equivalent Education Outside the Schools was passed unanimously.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Forsthoffer updated the Board on the following:

- We had two teams from the Regional Achievement Centers visit the District. We are developing plans for addressing lower performing groups and we should have a plan in place by end of October.
- The Memorandum of Agreement with police departments of East Windsor Township and Hightstown Borough will be Board approved at the next meeting.
- Will attend training with Mercer County Prosecutor regarding identifying child abuse.
- Open Houses are going smoothly
- Regarding playground equipment, has reached out to PTO presidents to create a joint council on the interests and needs of their respective schools.
- The Lockers at Rogers school need refinishing. Will schedule this for winter or spring break.

Mr. Laverty informed the Board that the High School principal received a letter from Mayor Mironov, East Windsor Township. It listed many of the township committees, inviting students to join one or more of these committees. This letter has been forwarded to the "Choosing to Participate" classes. It would be interesting to know if any students volunteer to take part.

10. FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

No one spoke.

11. FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Ms. Fallon commented that the GNR lockers are still in their original condition. Noted that this and the lack of playground equipment were affected by budget constraints. Hopefully we can revisit the issue and find funding for some improvements.

Mr. Bussone restated his concern on the discrepancy of the amount of playground equipment at the different elementary schools. He thanked the Board for their considerations regarding this issue.

Dr. Forsthoffer agreed one or more schools have more equipment and others are catching up. Need to find some kind of balance.

Ms. Fayer asked if we have looked at grant money and how is this obtained, so we don't have to use District money. Need to look out for such grants and apply for them.

Dr. Forsthoffer responded that he is aware of a specific grant that is currently out there among others.

Ms. Harrington commented that it is important to acknowledge the loss of the Rogers School music teacher, Mr. Jacques Chancy. She expressed condolences to his family. Asked about the measures in place to help kids and staff cope.

Dr. Forsthoffer responded that a committee of staff, supervisors and guidance counselors came in on their day off, and worked on a plan to help deal with the loss of this beloved teacher. He detailed the procedures that were put in place for this. We were well prepared for anything that came up that day.

Ms. Harrington asked when parents will receive the NJASK scores.

Dr. Forsthoffer responded that the schools do have them and they are currently being mailed out.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION - not needed

13. MOTION TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEMS BY EXCEPTION

Mr. Paul moved, seconded by Ms. Fayer to approve the following routine agenda items.

- A. Staffing
- B. Readmission for Affidavit Students
- C. Professional Services for Students
- D. Out of District Placement
- E. Donations to:
 - 1) HHS 9th Grade Orientation and Picnic from Local Businesses
 - 2) HHS First Robotics Team
- F. Field Trip Approval
- G. Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement
- H. Travel and Related Expenses
- I. Approval to Offer New 9-12 Science Electives
- J. Approve New/Revised 9-12 Curriculum – on SharePoint
 - 1) Language Arts Core and Electives
 - 2) Social Study Electives
- K. Mileage Reimbursement
- L. Change Order #3: Technology Center Renovations
- M. Interlocal Agreement for Services with West Windsor Plainsboro School District
- N. Bill List – September 24, 2012

On a roll call vote of the Board, motion to approve was carried unanimously.

Discussion:

Ms. Harrington commented that it is very helpful to have the curriculum summarized in the agenda packet, and not just on SharePoint.

Ms. Fallon asked for clarification on the roof work in high school pool area.

Mr. Stumbaugh explained the change order Board approved this evening is to provide repair to the support beams across roof of the pool. We are using the same contractor that is doing the Tech center renovation. (Aliano Brothers). As they are competent to do the work it is cost effective to have them perform these repairs to the beams while here on site.

Ms. Fayer expressed her thanks to all involved in donations to the freshmen picnic and to the Robotics club. It is great when people in our community donate their time and money to our schools.

A. Staffing - as submitted

B. Readmission for Affidavit Students

The following non-compliant affidavit students were removed from the district attendance rolls at Board of Education. These students wish to return to the district. All required proof of residency documents, immunization forms along with complete information the district and state requires for school registration have been provided. Up-to-date, notarized affidavits, if needed, also have been provided.

The Office of Community Services staff has verified each residency through home visits.

603173	GNR
9801269	HHS
9800721	WCB

101133	GNR
9800723	HHS
9800722	MHK
101132	MHK
101687	GNR
101780	PLD
101576	GNR
101239	GNR
502484	MHK
201771	PLD
101739	HHS
101693	GNR

C. Professional Services for Students

The Office of Student Services requires services of consultants to provide students with disabilities and staff assigned to these students, services under the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA).

Name	Type of Service	Rate
Alexander Road Associates	Psychiatric Evaluations	\$495.00
Douglass Outreach Services	Evaluations	Per fee schedule
Jesse Mintz, M.D.	Neurological Evaluations	\$450.00
Roman A. Perez	Evaluations	\$450.00
Dorothy M. Pietrucha, M.D.	Neurological Evaluations	\$175.00
Gladys Portacio	Evaluations	\$450.00

D. Out of District Placement Regular and ESY School Programs/Private & Public Schools

Academy Learning Center - Tuition September 5, 2012 through June 29, 2013

1. Student:	#201947	RSY	\$ 49,680.00
		Aide	\$ 33,300.00
		Speech	\$ 1,831.50
2. Student:	#202144	RSY	\$ 40,320.00
3. Student:	#720223	RSY	\$ 49,680.00
		Speech	\$ 3,663.00

Collier High School - Tuition July 18, 2012 through June 15, 2012

1. Student:	#2000357	REG/ESY	\$ 52,570.80
2. Student:	#501163	REG/ESY	\$ 52,570.80
3. Student:	#4886	REG/ESY	\$ 52,570.80
4. Student:	#400586	REG/ESY	\$ 52,570.80

E. Donations

- **HHS 9th Grade Orientation and Picnic form Local Business**

It is recommended that the Board approve the list of the businesses and the donations they made to the 9th Grade orientation picnic as submitted.

- **HHS First Robotics Team**

Ms. Kerstin Nemec, 4654 Belclaire Ave., Dallas, TX 75209 would like to make a donation of \$200.00 to the FIRST Robotics Team of HHS. The donation will be used for expenses and competitions.

F. Field Trip Approval

Field trips planned for East Windsor Regional School District:

- St. Peter’s Adult Day Care
200 Overlook Dr. Monroe, NJ
- Whitesbog Village - PINES
120-13 Whitesbog Road Browns Mills, NJ

G. Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement

The East Windsor Regional School District has agreements with the East Windsor Township Police Department and the Hightstown Borough Police Department regarding procedures to be followed by the police departments and the school district when a police presence is required or is requested by the school district. The Uniform State MOA is provided by the NJ Office of the Attorney General, Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Criminal Justice. Each year the chief school administrator and the representatives of police departments are required to meet to discuss the agreement to determine if any changes are needed. The meeting with the Chief of Police for East Windsor took place on September 20, 2012 and the meeting with the Director of Police for Hightstown took place on September 20, 2012. The 2011 MOA is again accepted and no changes are being recommended. Approval of the Board is requested for the submission of the Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement with East Windsor Township Police Department and Hightstown Borough Police Department to the Mercer County Superintendent of Schools stating that the 2011 MOA agreement remain unchanged and procedures have been developed, with contact people identified, to implement specific provisions of the Memorandum of Agreement.

H. Travel and Related Expenses

T. Thompson	Business Office	To Be Determined	Enrollment in NJSBO Prof. Development 12-13 Subscription Program to Take Five Seminars	225.00	\$225
R. Seda-Schreiber	Kreps School	Sept 30, Oct 1&2, 2012	Registration for AENJ Art Ed.of NJ 2012 Conference	110.00	\$110
T. Diaz	Kreps School	Sept 30, Oct 1&2, 2012	Registration for AENJ Art Ed.of NJ 2012 Conference	110.00	\$110
K. Burke	HHS	Oct 5-8, 2012	Registration to Attend the Celebrating of Mythic Life Conf. Center for Symbolic Studies, New Paltz, NY	297.37	\$297
P. Nojiri T. Katz G. Bryant J.Oldak	Student Services	Oct 13, 2012	Four Registrations Kean University School of Communication Disorders & Deafness Wkshp.Union, NJ	600.00	\$600
R. Kastel J. Siegel	Student Services	Oct 19, 2012	Two Registrations to Attend 9th Annual GSAPP Cultural Conf. Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ	260.00	\$260
N. Barakat	Student Services	Oct 23, 2012	Registration to Attend Handle with Care Behavior Management System, Inc.'s Basic Physical Training Workshop, Vineland, NJ	300.00	\$300
K. Natalizio	Curriculum Office	Oct 20, 2012	Registration to Attend NJTESOL/NJBE 2012 Fall Conference "Bilingual Learners & Special Needs," Stockton College, Galloway, NJ	65.00	\$65
D. Coates	Board Attorney	Oct 23-25, 2012	Registration to Attend NJSBA Wkshp, Atlantic City, NJ	300.00	\$300
D. Feaster, P.Novak	Personnel	Oct 4, 10, and Nov 29, 2012	Two Registrations to Attend The Essential of HR Law - Freehold, NJ; Two Reg.to Attend Human Resources for Anyone with Newly Assigned HR Responsibilities - Freehold, NJ; One Reg. on How to Succeed As a One-Person HR Department - Career Track Webinar	895.00	\$895

F. Lavelle	Kreps School	Oct 15, 2012	Registration to Attend Teaching w/Primary Sources to Create Evidence-Based Learners Workshop, NJ Center for Civic Education, Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ	25.00	\$25
L. Masters	Kreps School	Oct 15, 2012	Registration to Attend Teaching w/Primary Sources to Create Evidence-Based Learners Workshop, NJ Center for Civic Education, Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ	25.00	\$25
F. Lavelle	Kreps School	Nov 28, 2012	Registration to Attend We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution Workshop, NJ Center for Civic Education, Rutgers Univ, Piscataway, NJ	50.00	\$50
L. Masters	Kreps School	Nov 28, 2012	Registration to Attend We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution Workshop, NJ Center for Civic Education, Rutgers Univ, Piscataway, NJ	50.00	\$50
T. Sherrod	Student Services	Dec 3, 2012	Registration to Attend NJAPSA Conference for Directors, Supervisors, Principals and Administrators, Ocean Place Conf. Center, Long Branch, NJ	149.00	\$149
L. Petraglia	HHS	Dec 8, 2012	Reg.to Attend AP Workshop, Verona H.S. Verona, NJ	205.00	\$205
N. Barakat	Student Services	Oct 9,10, 11, 2012	Registration to Attend Model Student Assistance Prog. Masonic Charity Foundation of NJ, Burlington, NJ	0.00	\$0
Total for Month				11,139.97	11,139.97
<u>YTD Total</u>				<u>11,139.97</u>	<u>11,139.97</u>

I. Approval to Offer New 9-12 Science Electives

Board approval is requested for the offering of Astronomy, Meteorology, and Forensics in Chemistry as 2.5 credit electives in the 2012-2013 school year.

Astronomy will emphasize the seasonal changes observed in the night sky including constellations, galaxies, stars, planets, and the sun and the moon. Instrumentations such as satellites, telescopes and spectrometers will be studied along with techniques used to measure the size and distance of astronomical objects. Historical developments in astronomy will also be explored.

Meteorology will consist of three broad concepts:

- 1) Students will investigate the atmosphere, the gases and particulates contained in the atmosphere and the impact of these gases on weather phenomena.
- 2) Students will investigate the complex systems that lead to the development of wind and forms of precipitation. The focus will be on radiant energy, the hydrologic cycle and forms of precipitation.
- 3) Student will study weather phenomena. Such as fronts and hail, interpret weather maps and symbols, and chart the course of a hurricane.

Forensics in Chemistry will be an inquiry-oriented science class that will focus on criminal forensics. Through a sequence of lab based activities, students will gain an understanding and appreciation of the role of science in solving crimes. These activities will include fingerprinting, simulated drug evidence analysis, ink chromatography, and weapon analysis. Curriculum will be written and approved upon sufficient enrollment.

J. Approve New/Revised 9-12 Curriculum – on SharePoint

1) Language Arts Core and Electives

Approval is requested for the adaptation of a revised CCELA map in High School Language Arts in order to meet the requirements and mandates of the Common Core High School Reading Standards.

Adaption Of A Revised CCELA curriculum map For LA In 9-12 Grade

The Language Arts Common Core curriculum maps would replace the NJCCCS maps from 2009. After performing a gap analysis of the current curriculum, the curriculum committee created unit maps which provide teachers and students with a comprehensive plan instruction and materials that match the rigor and expectations outlined in the CCELA. Updates include:

- Providing greater access to a wealth of nonfiction resources
- Providing multiple genre reading selections
- Providing texts that are scaffolded to meet students' widely varying reading skill levels and interests yet provide the text complexity band put forth in the CCELA.
- Including aligned reading skills as well as literary analysis workshops
- Providing comparable leveled text selections in follow up to core reading selections
- Including vocabulary workshop mini-units which complement the CCELA strands for vocabulary acquisition.
- Including performance-based assessments as well as traditional formative and summative assessment tools.

The 2009 map did not meet the requirements of the Common Core Standards as it did not support the acquisition of informational text skills, had limited non-fiction infusion, and did not support the opportunity to incorporate drama and folklore selections required by the common core. Updates in the new map provided for incorporation of these genres and a whole digital library of resources for teachers that were unavailable in their previous resources. The East Windsor School District believes that the English Language Arts goes beyond functional literacy in all content areas. To foster lifelong literacy and learning for our students, it is essential to prepare them with college and career readiness skills. Students will need to compete in our global society through collaborative and independent efforts. Our curriculum objectives reflect the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy in content areas and technical subjects. High school students will be engaged in skills and learning activities that should transfer their knowledge about reading and writing to real-world literacy. The curriculum guide is designed to help students consolidate the skills and strategies learned in the elementary grades in order to become an increasingly proficient, thoughtful independent reader and writer. Students will need to continue building upon skills in order to develop and enhance the ability to transfer knowledge and skills about reading and writing to real-world literacy and communication needs, especially for content area instruction. The high school level curriculum provides for a more rigorous, sequential series of standards needed to master both language and communication skills expected of our students as 21st century learners. Student selected and teacher selected reading in a variety of authentic texts are still a critical component of the high school language arts program and purchases to enhance our selection of non-fiction reading resources took place during the summer months. It is important to note based on student performance data and teacher articulation, sections of this document will be updated on an annual basis. These updates will reflect any information released by the state and/or PARCC regarding impending assessments and updates to the model curriculum. Any alterations will be made available to teachers in digital format so that student performance data can be used to support the instructional staff with re-mapping, and best practices instructional activities to support the staff in implementing the district vision for student achievement in Language Arts. Any changes in student outcomes or benchmarks will be made public.

2) Social Study Electives

Board approval is requested to offer AP Human Geography and History of Sports in America as 5 credit electives, and Introduction to Philosophy as a 2.5 credit elective in the 2012-2013 school year,

- **AP Human Geography**

The purpose of the AP course in Human Geography is to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. Students also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice.

- **History of Sports**

The course will focus on the history of major sports in the world and the U.S. Units of study deal with the origins and history of specific sports with an emphasis on their origins, development, and social and political contexts. Major social and historical issues such as segregation, the Great Depression, Women's Rights, The Cold War, Vietnam, and 9-11 and their impact on sports will be examined. Students will learn how and why the Super Bowl, World Series, Kentucky Derby, and other major sporting events have become significant social, cultural and economic phenomena.

- **Introduction to Philosophy**

This course is an introduction to, and an overview of, philosophy. The student will be introduced to major philosophical disciplines, key issues, and significant philosophers and philosophies of history. Major topics include "The Great Questions", logic and critical thinking, the formulation and analysis of worldviews, and examination of major metaphysical issues such as the origin and nature of the universe, the nature of man, the nature of truth, and major theories of ethics and aesthetics. The course will encourage students to critically analyze both their own views and the views of others, and to live an "examined life." Curriculum will be written and approved upon sufficient enrollment.

K. Mileage Reimbursement

State travel regulations require the Board of Education to approve in advance payment for school related travel. The District compiles a list of individual(s) who may routinely receive the standard IRS mileage reimbursement rate for district related travel in accordance with collective bargaining agreements and unaffiliated employee terms of employment. The following staff are to be added to the list of eligible employees:

- Susan Schiabile Transportation
- Nicole Barakat Student Services

L. Change Order #3 for Technology Center Renovations

A change order is requested from Aliano Brothers General Contractors, Inc. to repair and restore beams #5, 6,7,8, 9 and galvanized steel angle to support roof decking on beam #10 as per details on change order request (#3) documents attached. The total amount for Change Order #3 for the Technology Center: \$19,218.

M. Interlocal Services Agreement with West Windsor/Plainsboro School District

The West Windsor/Plainsboro Regional School District desires to enter into a joint agreement with the EWRSB to rent transportation equipment and maintenance services and/or athletic trip services on an as needed basis in accordance with prices indicated on the submitted forms for the 2012-13 school year.

N. Bill List

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education approves the payment of bills and claims as submitted in the attached reports for the grand total amount of \$531,626.57

14. SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

No one spoke.

15. SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBERS COMMENTS

Mr. Bussone commented that he was unaware of the "puddle" procedure in regard to how a class is covered when a teacher is absent and that he does not agree with it. Added that we should consider other possible means of covering these classes, and maybe we can look into it.

Ms. Fayer explained what happens with "puddle". Most of the time a teacher is out only one or two days. Most of the substitutes are not equipped to teach the different subjects so the students are given a packet to finish in a study hall setting. If it is more than 3 days of absence for the teacher, then there is a substitute that will hopefully be able to teach that subject. When we were doing the budget we looked at what can be cut and this idea saved us a lot of money.

Mr. Bussone asked how often this occurs.

Dr. Forsthoffer responded that it goes on every day. We do pay a substitute to cover the puddle (study hall). This is one of the things put in place as a result of the huge budget crisis. Many other districts follow this procedure.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board went into closed session.

17. OPEN SESSION

18. ADJOURN

Recorded by: Kurt Stumbaugh, Board Secretary