

EAST WINDSOR REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES of the REGULAR MEETING on SEPTEMBER 26, 2016

The Board of Education of the East Windsor Regional School District, Hightstown, NJ, held a regular meeting and on Monday, September 26, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. in the Hightstown High School Cafeteria located at 25 Leshin Lane, Hightstown, NJ.

Members Present: Pete Bussone, Paul Connolly, Erica DiRaimondo, Bertrand Fougnyes, Kennedy Paul, Alice Weisman

Member(s) Absent: Christine Harrington, Tracy Healy, Robert Laverty

Also Present: Dr. Richard Katz, Chief School Administrator
Paul M. Todd, SBA/Board Secretary
David Coates, Board Legal Counsel

1. WELCOME/SUNSHINE NOTICE: Board President Alice Weisman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Ms. Weisman read the Open Public Meeting Act Statement: "Written advance notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with law. Minutes of this meeting are kept by the Board Secretary and are available to any member of the public requesting them at the Administration building, 25A Leshin Lane, Hightstown, NJ. Minutes will be provided at cost and in accordance with Board policy." Ms. Weisman 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."

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. A. MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA

Action: Mr. Connolly moved, seconded by Mr. Paul to approve the agenda as submitted.

Vote: By a roll call poll of the Board, with all Board members present voting yes, Motion to approve carried unanimously.

3. B RESOLUTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Action: Mr. Connolly moved, seconded by Mr. Paul to approve the following resolution:

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the East Windsor Regional School District will hold one executive session during its Meeting on Monday, September 26, 2016.

This closed session concerns:

1. Negotiations
2. Legal Settlement/Ohio Casualty

Minutes of this closed session will be available in accordance with board policy when the need for confidentiality no longer exists."

Vote: By a roll call poll of the Board, with all Board members present voting yes, Motion to approve carried unanimously.

4. RECOGNITION OF 25 YEAR EMPLOYEES

The Board congratulated and thanked the following staff for their 25 years of dedicated service:

- Linda Behrens-PLD
- Doris Grelis-HHS
- Linda Scheman-Community Services
- Paul Hewins-Building & Grounds
- Jack Wilson-Building & Grounds
- Elmer Reed-Building & Grounds

5. FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBER'S COMMENTS

Topics discussed:

Board Goals – one goal was to develop a 5 year Capital Plan / Technology Replenishment Plan. Will be discussed at finance committee meeting.

Full day Kindergarten – going very well; students have adapted well.

6. FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT – no one spoke

7. FIRST READING OF BOE POLICIES

Mr. Connolly moved, seconded by Mr. Paul to approve the following policies on **FIRST Reading**:

- **P1140 – Affirmative Action Program (Revised)**

The only revision required in this Policy Guide is the inclusion of “gender identity or expression” in the protected class of individuals. The administrative code was revised to be consistent with New Jersey’s Law Against Discrimination (LAD). Policy Guide 1140 is **MANDATED**

- **P1523 – Comprehensive Equity Plan (Revised)**

The only revision required in this Policy Guide is an additional paragraph on page 1 and a few word changes on page 2. Policy Guide 1523 is **MANDATED**

- **P1530 - Equal Employment Opportunities (Revised)**

The only revision required in this Policy Guide is the inclusion of “gender identity or expression” in the protected class of individuals. The administrative code was revised to be consistent with New Jersey’s Law Against Discrimination (LAD). The only revision required in this Regulation Guide is the inclusion of “gender identity or expression” in the protected class of individuals. Policy Guide 1530 is **MANDATED**

- **P1550 – Affirmative Action Program for Employment and Contract Practices (Revised)**

The only revision required in this Policy Guide is the inclusion of “gender identity or expression” in the protected class of individuals. The administrative code was revised to be consistent with New Jersey’s Law Against Discrimination (LAD). Policy Guide 1550 is **MANDATED**

- **P2200 – Curriculum Content (Revised)**

No revisions are required in this Policy Guide due to the updated administrative code Chapter, but references to other policies have been updated within the Policy Guide. Several outdated legal cites were removed from the Regulation Guide and the protected classes of individuals has been revised to be consistent with NJ Law Against Discrimination (LAD) in paragraph one. Policy Guide 2200 is **MANDATED**

- **P2260 – Affirmative Action Program for School and Classroom Practices (Revised)**

One of the revisions required in this Policy Guide is the inclusion of “gender identity or expression” in the protected class of individuals. The administrative code was revised to be consistent with New Jersey’s Law Against Discrimination (LAD). The other revision is regarding English language learners (ELLs), which is a new term recently approved in N.J.A.C. 6A:15 – Bilingual Education. Policy Guide 2260 is **MANDATED**

- **P2411 – Guidance Counseling (Revised)**

One of the revisions required in this Policy Guide is the inclusion of “gender, gender identity or expression” in the protected class of individuals. The other revision is changing “social or economic” status to “socioeconomic” status. The administrative code was revised to be consistent with New Jersey’s Law Against Discrimination (LAD). The other revision is the removal of the reference to “legal guardians.” In addition, the title of the Regulation Guide has been revised to be consistent with the Policy Guide title. Policy Guide 2411 is **MANDATED**

- **P2622 – Student Assessment**

The only revision required in this Policy Guide due to updated Chapter is a revised citation on pg.2. Policy Guide 2622 is **MANDATED**

- **P3124 – Employment Contract (Revised)**

In addition to the updated cite changes at the bottom of the Policy Guide, a few additional revisions are proposed. The updated Policy Guide provides additional guidance regarding termination of a contract by the Board or a teaching staff member. The updated Guide indicates the employment contract will include a termination provision unless the staff member is represented by a collective bargaining agreement that has termination provisions. Also, there has been an option added to the Policy Guide that enables the Board to include a specific termination provision that will be included in a nontenured employment contract if the teaching staff member is not represented in a collective bargaining agreement or if there are no termination provisions in the collective bargaining agreement. It is highly recommended a collective bargaining agreement or a nontenured employment contract include a termination provision for nontenured teaching staff members. Termination of employment for tenured staff members is governed by statute. Policy Guide 3124 is **RECOMMENDED**

- **P3125.2 – Employment of Substitute Teachers (Revised)**

A new administrative code section, N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-7.4, provides detailed regulations to N.J.S.A. 18A:16-1.1a., 18A:16-1.1b., 18A:16-1.1c., and 18A:16-1.1d. regarding time-period limitations for people serving as a substitute teacher with certain certificates in certain positions. This new 6A:9B-7.4 section only provides additional clarification to the N.J.S.A. 18A statutes. Policy Guide 3125.2 is **RECOMMENDED**

- **P5750 – Equal Educational Opportunity (Revised)**

One of the revisions required in this Policy Guide is the inclusion of “gender, gender identity or expression” in the protected class of individuals. The other revision is changing “social or economic” status to “socioeconomic” status. The administrative code was revised to be consistent with New Jersey’s Law Against Discrimination (LAD). Policy Guide 5750 is **MANDATED**

- **P5755 – Equity in Educational Programs and Services (Revised)**

One of the revisions required in this Policy Guide is the inclusion of “gender, gender identity or expression” in the protected class of individuals. The other revision is changing “social or economic” status to “socioeconomic” status. The administrative code was revised to be consistent with New Jersey’s Law Against Discrimination (LAD). Several additional minor revisions are also included in this revised Policy Guide. Policy Guide 5755 is **MANDATED**

- **P9541 – Student Teachers/Interns (Revised)**

In addition to the updated cite changes at the bottom of the Policy Guide, there is an additional cite revision within the content of the Policy Guide under the option. Strauss Esmay recommends school districts consider the option of requiring every student teacher and intern permitted into the district be required to have a substitute certificate, which requires the student teacher and/or intern to complete a criminal history record check at their expense. A criminal history record check is not required for student teachers or interns. Policy Guide 9541 is **RECOMMENDED**

Action: On a roll call poll of the Board with all members present voting yes, motion to approve the above policies on First Reading carried unanimously.

8. SECOND READING OF BOE POLICIES

Mr. Connolly moved, seconded by Mr. Paul to approve the following policies on **SECOND Reading**:

- **P 2430 Co-Curricular Activities – Mandated - Revised**

This change to our policy is in accordance to NJSIAA state-required change. As the governing body of athletics, the NJSIAA has raised the bar from 27.5 credits to be academically eligible to 30, as follows:

1. To be eligible for athletic competition during the first semester (September 1 to January 31), a pupil must have passed 25% of the credits (30) required by the State of New Jersey for graduation (120), during the immediately preceding academic year.
2. To be eligible for athletic competition during the second semester (February 1 to June 30), a pupil must have passed the equivalent of 12- 1/2% of the credits (15) required by New Jersey for graduation (120) at the close of the preceding semester (January 31). Full-year courses shall be equated as one-half of the total credits to be gained for the full year to determine credits passed during the immediately preceding semester.

- **P4216 Dress and Grooming – Recommended – New**

Policy 3216, Dress and Grooming, is an existing policy we have for teaching staff members and we would like to add Policy 4216, Dress and Grooming, for support staff members.

Action: On a roll call poll of the Board with all members present voting yes, motion to approve the above policies on Second Reading carried unanimously.

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Katz spoke on the following topics:

- **District Goals** – updated the Board on the three goals approved at last meeting.
- **Board Goals:** Also approved at last meeting noted the goal to participate in a training program for the Board on recent developments/rulings of the NJ State Ethics Commission. It was discussed that David Rubin, Board Labor attorney would be the best choice to provide this. Dr. Katz will schedule.
- **Roosevelt District:** their Strategic Planning Committee has requested someone from our Board to sit in on one or more of their meetings for input and opinion.

Mr. Todd, BA/Board Secretary, commented on the McKnight School canopy and skylight replacement. Noted it will require about one week of good weather to fix. Will be done in summer.

10. SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBERS COMMENTS

- The Board thanked the District 25 year employees for their service and dedication
- Congratulated the marching band on winning first place in their first competition this past weekend.

11. **SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT** – no one spoke.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Return to Open Session

13. MOTION TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEMS BY EXCEPTION

Mr. Connolly moved, seconded by Mr. Paul as follows:

“Having read and reviewed the materials received, I move that the Board approve the following routine agenda items by exception”

- **Staffing** – posted on Board Goggle Drive
- **Field Trip Locations**
 11/14/2016 NJ Assoc. of Student Councils - D. Young
 To: Pemberton Township High School 148 Arneys Mount Road, Pemberton, NJ 08068
- **PARCC Schedule 2016-17** for grades 3-11 as follows:
High School – April 24 -28, 2017
Elementary Schools – May 1-5, 2017
Middle School – April 24 – 28, 2017
- **Adoption of New / Revised Curriculum**
 1. Revised Curriculum for HHS Elective: African American Studies
 2. New Curriculum for HHS Elective: Big History
 3. New Curriculum for HHS Elective: Genocide II
 4. Revised Curriculum for HHS Humanities 12 History Course
 5. New Curriculum for HHS Elective: The Presidential Election
 6. Revised Curriculum for HHS Mercer County Community College World History 112-01
 7. Revisions to Kindergarten Grade Language Arts and Social Studies
 (as submitted; and posted for Board review on Google drive)

- **FY 2017 IDEA Application**

Approval is requested to submit an application to the New Jersey Department of Education for the following grant funding for the 2016-2017 school year. Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA- Part B) Grant Number: 21-1245-17 Program Duration: September 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017

Grant Amount: Basic: \$ 1,272,198

Preschool: \$ 52,489

- **Professional Services for Students**

The special education department requires services of consultants to provide children with disabilities a free appropriate public education as defined by The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Name	Type of Service	Rate	Not to Exceed	P.O. #
Catapult Learning, LLC	Compensatory Education, Exams, Supplementary Instruction, Corrective Speech Chapter 192/193	Per Fee Schedule	\$122,272.00	17-01561
Catapult Learning, LLC	Nonpublic Nursing Services Chapter 226	Per Contract	\$3,208.00	17-01560

- **Removal of District Surplus Property**

The Business Administrator has requested buildings to provide a list of items that they would like to be declared as surplus property. These items are in disrepair, outdated or of no longer use to the district. It is recommended that the Board approve the attached list of items as surplus property to be offered for sale on NJASBO website, and / or disposed of, recycled or donated at the discretion of the building principal and /or Business Administrator. Copy of items on file in Business office.

- **Approval of Bid Bond Release and Assignment Form**

The company Gowers Inc. of Southampton NJ, had retracted its award of bid to do the MHK Athletic Field Rehabilitation and Irrigation Project. The Board exercised its right to seek remuneration per the bid specifications. Board attorney David Coates, has negotiated a settlement through the Ohio Casualty Insurance Company for the amount of \$18,000. The bond release and assignment form is submitted for Board approval.

• **Travel and Related Expenses**

16-17 Balance Forward \$23,430.17

S. Tazelaar	EMK	Oct. 9-11, 2016	Registration to attend AENJ Annual Conf. Long Branch, NJ	230.00	230.00
L. Rogers	PLD	Oct. 14, 2016	Registration to attend 2016 Annual School Counselor Conference, Lawrence, NJ	99.00	99.00
A. Kijowski H. Lisk B. Russo	HHS	Oct. 9-11, 2016	Three registrations to attend AENJ Story and Art Annual Conference, Long Branch, NJ	235.00	705.00
T. Healy E. DiRaimondo C. Harrington K. Paul R. Lavery P. Todd R. Katz M. Dzwonar M. Beckman	BOE Members/ Admin	Oct. 25-27, 2016	Hotel Charges at the Tropicana (group rate) to attend NJSBA Workshop 2016, Atlantic City, NJ		1,428.00
T. Healy R. Lavery E. DiRaimondo B. Fognies P. Connolly C. Harrington K. Paul P. Todd M. Beckman	BOE Members/ Admin	Oct. 25-27, 2016	Anticipated expenses to attend NJSBA Workshop, Atlantic City, NJ	300.00	2,700.00
M. Welsh	GNR	Oct.10-11, 2016	Registration to attend AENJ Annual Conf. Long Branch, NJ	185.00	185.00
C. Bland	HHS	Nov. 4, 2016	Registration to attend AP Workshop, Trenton, NJ	225.00	225.00
P. Pisano	Admin.	Oct. 4, Nov. 29, 2016; Jan. 25, May 16, 2017	Registration to attend 4 NJASBO Academy I Trainings for SBA'S, Robbinsville, NJ	150.00	150.00
J. Such P. Blazakis A. Castaldo J. Basmagy	WCB	Oct. 19, 20, 21, 2016	Anticipated expenses to attend Masonic Training, Burlington, NJ	100.00	400.00
J. Basmagy	WCB	Oct 7, Dec 9, 2016; March 10, 2017	Registration to attend Affirmative Action Officer Cert. Program, Monroe, NJ	450.00	450.00
C. O'Connor E. Larkin	HHS	Oct. 25, 2016	Two registrations to attend Adapted Health & PE Conference, Lawrenceville, NJ	50.00	100.00
C. O'Connor	HHS	Oct. 25, 2016	Anticipated expenses to attend Adapted Health & PE Conference, Lawrenceville, NJ	9.05	9.05
L. Emmerson	MHK	Sept. 27, 2016	Registration for Leadership Summit, Monroe, NJ	149.00	149.00

S. Stevenson	Stu. Svs.	Oct. 15, 2016	Reg. : Intro to Psychopharmacology in Autism, Clark, NJ	35.00	35.00
S. Stevenson	Stu. Svs.	Oct. 13, 2016	Reg.: for Mental Health Supports, Clark, NJ	75.00	75.00
S. Stevenson	Stu.Svs.	Nov. 4, 2016	Reg. Intro to Positive Behavior Supports, N.Brunswick, NJ	75.00	75.00
M. Beckman	Admin.	Oct. 25-27, 2016	Reg. for NJSBA Workshop, Atlantic City, NJ(under group rate)	N/A	N/A

D. Roe, D.Vinson K. Cruz-Garcia	Student Svs. HHS/ MHK	Oct.4, 2016	Registration to attend Identifying and Managing At-Risk Youth in Schools and Communities, Robbinsville, NJ	40.00	120.00
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Sept 26 Total \$8,386.05
 Sub Total
 \$31,816.25
 Adjustments 0
 YTD Total \$31,816.25
 Maximum expenditure for 2016-17 \$109,965.00

- **NJDOE School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act**

The Commissioner of Education is required to develop a program to grade each public school and school district's efforts to implement the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act (ABR) (N.J.S.A. 18A:17:46). This guidance document has been developed to help school district staff fulfill their responsibilities under the Commissioner's program. The School Safety Team (SST) should begin the process by reviewing the School Self-Assessment for Determining School Grades under the ABR. The Self-Assessment tool includes eight core elements which address all of the ABR requirements for schools. School district officials are required to review the school and school district grades with the BOE at a public meeting. The will provide the BOE and the public with the opportunity to learn about the district's implementation of the ABR and address any concerns. This information can assist in the annual review of HIB prevention programs, approaches and other initiatives, as required in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-17a and the annual review of the BOE's HIB policy, as required in N.J.S.A.18A:37-15c. It is recommended that the Board accepts the documentation as submitted so that the Chief School Administrator can file the assurances and accuracy of the School Self-Assessment of Elements for Determining HIB Grades with the Dept. of Education.

- **Minutes of July 11, 2016 Regular Meeting and July 21, 2016 Special Meeting**

As submitted. Posted on District website.

- **Bill List for September 26, 2016** in the amount of **\$3,296,378.39**

Vote to Approve Exception Items: On a roll call poll of the Board with all members present voting yes, with Mr. Connolly, Ms. DiRaimondo, Mr. Fougnyes, and Mr. Paul abstaining from travel and expense item entry which lists their name for approval, the motion to approve routine agenda items carried unanimously.

- **Adjourn**

Respectfully submitted by _____

Paul M. Todd
BA/Board Secretary