

READINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Holland Brook School
Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.
May 14, 2024

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

Dr. Cerciello called the meeting to order at 7:00 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. DePinto, Mrs. Fiore, Mr. Lopes, Mr. Peach, Mrs. Podgorski, Mrs. Ryan, Mrs. Wolf, Dr. Cerciello

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

Absent: Mrs. Mencer

II. FLAG SALUTE

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Dr. Hart welcomed everyone to celebrate the 2023-2024 Governor's Educator of the Year honorees and retiring staff members.
- Mr. Charleston, Readington Middle School Principal, shared kind thoughts on the following staff members:
 - Will Daly, Social Studies Teacher (Governor's Educator of the Year)
 - Ann Roarty, Learning Consultant (Governor's Educator of the Year)
 - Beth McGivney, Special Education Teacher (Retiree)
 - Spring LaFevre-Zuegner, English Language Arts Teacher (Retiree)
- Mr Nigro, Holland Brook School Principal, highlighted the following staff members:
 - Olivia Orlowski, Special Education Teacher (Governor's Educator of the Year)
 - Michael Cooney, Behaviorist (Governor's Educator of the Year)
 - Cathy Patrick, Grade 5 Teacher (Retiree)
 - Kelly Patterson, Grade 4 Teacher (Retiree)
 - Debra Vasnelis, Clerical Aide (Retiree)
- Dr. Higgins, Three Bridges School Principal, provided good-hearted words on the following staff members:
 - Jessica Hegarty, Special Education Teacher (Governor's Educator of the Year)
 - Annette Dambach, Paraprofessional (Retiree)
 - Sharon Nilsen, Intervention Teacher (Retiree)
 - Jeannie Stepner, Secretary (Retiree)
- Dr. DeRosa, Whitehouse School Principal, conveyed warmhearted reflections on the following staff members:
 - Amanda Obiedzinski, Special Education Teacher (Governor's Educator of the Year)
 - Jennifer Heppner, Paraprofessional (Governor's Educator of the Year)
- Dr. Hart, Superintendent, shared kind thoughts on the following staff member:
 - Paul Nigro, Holland Brook School Principal (Retiree)
- Ms. Cole, Supervisor of Transportation, provided kind hearted words on the following staff members:
 - Ruby DeStefano, School Bus Driver (Retiree)
 - Linda Giorgianni, School Bus Driver (Retiree)
 - Linda Rad, School Bus Driver (Retiree)

The Board of Education, Dr. Hart, Mr. Bohm and public returned to BOE conference room at 8:00 p.m.
Dr. Cerciello congratulated all the recipients

IV. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC (LIMITED TO ACTION ITEMS ON THE AGENDA)

- None

V. CORRESPONDENCE

- Email F.C. - Transfer
- Email A.S. - Recognition

VI. BOARD ACTION

A. APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. Motion to adopt 1.01 - 1.02
Motion: Mrs. Fiore **2nd: Mrs. Podgorski** **Roll Call Vote: Carried 8 Yes**
- 1.01 Motion to approve Enrollment and Drill Reports April 2024
(Attachment 1.01)
- 1.02 Motion to accept the HIB reports and affirm the Superintendent's decision:

CASE NUMBER	SCHOOL	DATE	FINDINGS OF HARASSMENT INTIMIDATION OR BULLYING
5	Holland Brook School	04/12/2024	No

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Motion to adopt 2.01 - 2.02
Motion: Mrs. Fiore **2nd : Mrs. Podgorski** **Roll Call Vote: Carried 8 Yes**
- 2.01 Motion to approve the Meeting Minutes April 30, 2024.
- 2.02 Motion to approve the Executive Session Minutes April 30, 2024.

C. FINANCE/FACILITIES

Committee Report: Mrs. DePinto provided minutes of the meeting held on May 10, 2024.

3. Motion to adopt 3.01 - 3.10
Motion: Mrs. Fiore **2nd: Mrs. Podgorski** **Roll Call Vote: Carried 8 Yes**
- 3.01 Motion to approve the **Bill List** for the period from **May 2, 2024 through May 15, 2024** for a total amount of **\$1,027,444.24**.
(Attachment 3.01)
- 3.02 Motion to ratify and approve **Payroll and Agency** for the month of **April 2024** for a total amount of **\$2,351,584.10**.
(Attachment 3.02)
- 3.03 Motion to ratify and approve the following **Account Transfers for April 1, 2024 through April 30, 2024**.
(Attachment 3.03-3.03a)
- 3.04 Motion to approve the Preschool Education Aid Account Transfers from July 1, 2023 through May 14, 2024, and authorize the Business Administrator to submit transfers to the State of New Jersey for review and approval.
(Attachment 3.04)
- 3.05 Motion to ratify and approve the **Student Activities Account for April 1, 2024 through April 30, 2024**.
(Attachment 3.05)

- 3.06 Motion to accept the FINANCIAL REPORT CERTIFICATION OF BOARD SECRETARY'S MONTHLY CERTIFICATION BUDGETARY LINE ITEM STATUS April 30, 2024 Pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11(c) 3, the Business Administrator/Board Secretary certifies that as of April 30, 2024 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.

Jason M. Bohm, Board Secretary

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3 and 4, we certify that as of April 30, 2024 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. 6A23A-16.10(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 April 30, 2024.
(Attachment 3.06-3.06a)

- 3.07 Motion to approve the attached Shared Services Agreements between Readington Board of Education and Branchburg Board of Education for the period of July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025:
- Garage Bay Rental Agreement
 - Transportation Personnel Agreement
 - Transportation Services Agreement
- (Attachment 3.07-3.07b)
- 3.08 Motion to adopt the attached resolution for participation in joint transportation services with the Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission for the 2024-2025 school year.
(Attachment 3.08)
- 3.09 Motion to approve joint transportation services between Readington Board of Education and Tewksbury Township Board of Education for transportation services for the 2024-2025 school year.
(Attachment 3.09)
- 3.10 Motion to approve joint transportation services between Readington Board of Education and Somerville Board of Education for transportation services for the 2024-2025 school year.
(Attachment 3.10)

D. EDUCATION/TECHNOLOGY

Committee Report: None

4. Motion to adopt 4.01 - 4.10
Motion: Mrs. Fiore **2nd:** Mrs. Podgorski **Roll Call Vote:** Carried 8 Yes
- 4.01 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following student placements in the Readington Township School District as follows:

STUDENT NAME	UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE PLACEMENT REQUEST	SCHOOL/COOPERATING TEACHER	EFFECTIVE DATE
Michelle Small	Rowan University/ Summer Externship	Holland Brook School/ Sheri Simonetti Three Bridges School/ Heather Gibbons	07/01/2024 - 08/15/2024
Ryan Sandor	Rutgers University/ Student Teacher	Holland Brook School/ Jessica Richter	09/01/2024 - 12/13/2024

- 4.02 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and adopt the following curricula for the 2024-2025 school year:

Encores	Physical Education/Health
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English as a Second Language	Preschool
Gifted and Talented	School Counseling
Informational Literacy	Science
Intervention Program	Social Studies
Language Arts	Technology
Life Skills	Visual and Performing Arts
Mathematics	World Languages

- 4.03 Motion to approve the attached list of textbooks, instructional resources, and publishers to be used to implement the curriculum for the 2024-2025 school year.
(Attachment 4.03)
- 4.04 Motion to accept a donation from Lowe's Home Improvement for building ten raised beds at Three Bridges School garden.
- 4.05 Motion to apply for and accept a Child Assault Prevention Grant in the amount of \$3,535.70 for programs and workshops at all Readington Township schools.
- 4.06 Motion to approve a new Special Education LLD Program at Three Bridges School for the 2024-2025 school year.
- 4.07 Motion to adopt the following fundraisers for the 2023-2024 school year:

SCHOOL	FUNDRAISER	RECIPIENT
Three Bridges School	Sorella's Family Dinners	TBS Student Activity Account
HSA Fundraiser	Kids Night Out	All Schools
Readington Middle School	Kickball Tournament	American Heart Association

- 4.08 Motion to adopt the following field trips for the Summer 2024 ESY Program:

GROUP	FIELD TRIP	LOCATION	COST TO PARENT
Life Skills	Aldi	Flemington NJ	- 0 -
Life Skills	Sorella's and Rita's	Whitehouse Station NJ	- 0 -
Life Skills	Charburger and Creamery	Branchburg NJ	- 0 -
Life Skills	Hillsborough Cinemas	Hillsborough NJ	- 0 -
Life Skills	Polar Cub	Whitehouse Station NJ	- 0 -

- 4.09 Motion to adopt the following additional field trip for the 2023-2024 school year:

GROUP/GRADE	TRIP	LOCATION	COST TO PARENT
Three Bridges School/K-3	Nex Level Gym	Flemington	- 0 -
Stanton Learning Center/PS	Berry Patch Learning Center/PS	Three Bridges	-0-
Stanton Learning Center/PS	Three Bridges School/K	Three Bridges	-0-
Berry Patch Learning Center/PS	Three Bridges School/K	Three Bridges	-0-
Whitehouse Prep/PS	Whitehouse School/K	Whitehouse Sta.	-0-

- 4.10 Motion to approve Judith Wilson for a Board Retreat during the 2024-2025 school year at a rate of \$1,500.

E. PERSONNEL**Committee Report:** None

5. Motion to adopt 5.01 - 5.11

Motion: Mrs. Wolf**2nd:** Mrs. Podgorski**Roll Call Vote:** Carried 8 Yes

5.01 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following appointments:

NAME	POSITION	SALARY/STEP	EFFECTIVE DATE
Evan Sapirman	LTS Teacher/Special Education (RMS) 20-01-D2/ahu	\$125.00/day Substitute Rate	06/01/2024 - 06/21/2024
Nicole Lepinski	Clerical Aide (RMS) 50-01-D4/amw	\$18.89/hr. Clerical Step 11	09/01/2024 - 06/30/2025
Aidan Harris	Aide/Kindergarten (TBS) 30-03-D3/azd	\$19.49/hr. Aide NC Step 1	09/01/2024 - 06/30/2025
Zoe Zimmerman	Teacher/LA (RMS) 20-01-D2/aew	\$78,205.00 MA Step 14-15 (14)	09/01/2024 - 06/30/2025

5.02 Motion to ratify and accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following appointment:

NAME	POSITION	SALARY/STEP	EFFECTIVE DATE
Michele Valian	Cafeteria Aide (RMS) 40-02-D3/bad	\$16.00/hr. Step 1	05/06/2024 - 06/30/2024

5.03 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and ratify the following Substitute Teacher/Aide/Nurse/Bus Driver paid at the applicable substitute rates, in the Readington Township District, pending satisfactory completion of employment requirements:

NAME	POSITION
Eddie Heussler	Substitute Bus Driver
Zoe Zimmerman	Substitute Teacher
John Broton	Substitute Bus Driver
Delaina Wallace	Substitute Teacher/Aide
Meredith Loew	Substitute Aide

5.04 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following resignations:

NAME	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Alyssa Totoro	Secretary/CST (BOE) 50-05-D4/amv	06/04/2024

John Hylkema	Teacher/Music (RMS) 20-01-D2/apw	06/30/2024
Patricia Coleman	Teacher/Kindergarten (TBS) 20-03-D2/axg	06/30/2024
Maria Kurowski	Teacher/Preschool (WHS) 20-04-D2/bch	06/30/2024

- 5.05 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following position control changes and designated transfers for the 2024 - 2025 school year:

NAME	CHANGE	POSITION	LOCATION	SALARY
Samantha LeStrange	Transfer From: To:	20-02-D2/axs 20-01-D2/apw	HBS Teacher/Music RMS Teacher/Music	No Change
Amy Majowka	Transfer From: To:	20-04-D2/adm	WHS Teacher/3rd Grade HBS Teacher/4th Grade	No Change
Jennifer Mooney	Transfer From: To:	20-04-D2/bci 10-01-D1/aaf	BOE Teacher/Preschool Relief RMS Assistant Principal	\$106,000.00

- 5.06 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve stipend payments for the attached list of teachers facilitating 2024 Summer Teacher Academy sessions.
(Attachment 5.06)
- 5.07 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the attached list of staff for curriculum writing/development effective July 1 - August 31, 2024, at the contractual rate.
(Attachment 5.07)
- 5.08 Motion to accept the following Resolution:
BE IT RESOLVED that the Readington Township Board of Education approves a Side Bar Agreement with the Readington Township Administrators' Association regarding the newly hired Assistant Principal position at Readington Middle School;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary are hereby authorized and directed to execute the Side Bar Agreement, and any other documents necessary to effectuate same.
 (Attachment 5.08)
- 5.09 Motion to ratify and approve Nancy Kelly to provide nursing services for student #843631 to participate in extracurricular activities during May, not to exceed 6 hours at her contractual rate.
- 5.10 Motion to ratify and approve Jill Komosinski to provide nursing services for student #843631, to participate in extracurricular activities during May, not to exceed 6 hours at her contractual rate.
- 5.11 Motion to amend the February 20, 2024 Board Motion 5.13 for the following staff members for the 2024 Summer Spark curriculum writing.

FACILITATOR	SESSION	PRIOR STIPEND	NEW STIPEND
April Berkin	Innovative Explorers	\$120	\$240.00
Leslie Martinez	Junior Innovative Explorers	\$120	\$240.00
Christine Parolise	Innovative Explorers	\$120	\$0.00

Christine Parolise	Junior Innovative Explorers	\$120	\$0.00
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Dr. Hart announced Ms. Jennifer Mooney as the new Assistant Principal at Readington Middle School. Ms. Mooney shared wonderful thoughts and excitement about the appointment, looking forward to working with administration, staff and students.

F. COMMUNICATION

Committee Report: Mr. Peach provided minutes of the meeting held May 7, 2024.

6. Motion to adopt 6.01

Motion: Mrs. Fiore

2nd: Mrs. Podgorski

Roll Call Vote: Carried 8 Yes

- 6.01 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following policies for first reading:
(Attachment 6.01)

- Policy 5570 - Sportsmanship
- Policy 5841 - Secret Societies
- Policy 5842 - Equal Access of Student Organizations
- Policy 7610 - Vandalism
- Policy 9323 - Notification of Juvenile Offender Case Disposition

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS FROM BOARD

- Mrs. Fiore provided minutes of the meeting held on May 13, 2024.
- Dr. Hart mentioned the Hunterdon County School Boards Meeting held last week where board members Mrs. Fiore and Mrs. Wolf received awards and certifications, and Mrs. Adhikari won the Hunterdon County Teacher of the Year

IX. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

- A community member, commended the board for coming to a compromise.
- Parents discussed the different gender language.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION - 9:25 p.m.

Motion: Mrs. Fiore

2nd: Mrs. Podgorski

Roll Call Vote: Carried 8 Yes

Motion to adopt the following resolution: Resolved to adjourn to Executive Session in accordance with the Sunshine Law, Chapter 321, P.L. 1975, to discuss HIB, legal matters, and Superintendent's evaluation for approximately 60 minutes at which time the Board expects to return to Public Session where action will not be taken. The matters discussed will be made public if and when the circumstances requiring confidentiality no longer exist; however, it is not presently known when such circumstances will exist.

Dr. Hart and Mr. Bohm left the board meeting at 10:14 p.m.

XI. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION – 10:45 p.m.

Motion: Mrs. Fiore

2nd: Mrs. DePinto

Roll Call Vote: Carried 8 Yes

XII. ADJOURNMENT – 10:46 p.m.

Motion: Mrs. Podgorski

2nd: Mrs. Ryan

Roll Call Vote: Carried 8 Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Jason M. Bohm
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Dr. Camille Cerciello
President, Board of Education