READINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Holland Brook School Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m. April 16, 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. 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. OATH OF OFFICE

• Mr. Bohm, Board Secretary, administered the Oath of Office to new Board Member, Paulo Lopes

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Dr. Hart and the district Art Teachers, Ms. Dana Pierro, Readington Middle School, Ms. Lenora Iglesias, White House School, and Ms. Kristen Halozan, Three Brides School, recognized the Young Artist Honorees for having their artwork selected to be displayed at the Hunterdon Art Museum.
 - Dr. Hart and district teachers, Ms. Betsy Freeman, Ms. Carey-Anne Hendershot, and Ms. Lindsay Solano recognized Pearce Lowdon for being named the New Jersey Association of Gifted Children Distinguished Middle School Student of the Year.
 - Dr. Cerciello shared kind thoughts on behalf of the entire board.
- Dr. Hart shared New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC), an every three-year monitoring system on mandatory state statute and regulations in the following five key areas: fiscal, governance, instruction and program, operations, and personnel. Results were 100% scoring in all areas, excluding instruction and program which had a score of 81% in instruction and program. As the district is above an 80% threshold, the district is considered a high-performing district. For instruction and program, achievement is the subcategory where the district lost points resulting in the 81%. Indicator 12 comprehensive record of immunization, required physical exams and health screening. We did not have up-to-date health screening records that were not on file in the district, only available in out-of-district schools. The recommendation is to have the health screening on-site in the district readily available, which the district has already remedied. Mrs. Fiore highlighted an informal recommendation from the state on lighting levels at Readington Middle School classrooms, which the district is remediating and installing LED lighting in the summer of 2024 before the start of the 2024-2025 school year for students. Board members asked questions, with Dr. Hart providing answers.

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

None

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

- Email B.C. New Board Member
- Email S.H. BOE Vacancy
- Email D.R. Board Vacancy Vote
- Email M.W. Vacancy Vote

VII. BOARD ACTION

A. APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. Motion to adopt 1.01

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

1.01 Motion to approve Enrollment and Drill Reports March 2024. (Attachment 1.01)

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 March 12, 2024.
- 2.02 Motion to approve the Executive Session Meeting Minutes March 12, 2024.

C. FINANCE/FACILITIES

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

3. Motion to adopt 3.01 - 3.13

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

- 3.01 Motion to approve the **Bill List** for the period from **March 14, 2024 through April 17, 2024** for a total amount of **\$5,442,614.53**. (Attachment 3.01)
- 3.02 Motion to approve **District Travel Schedule April 16**, **2024** for a total amount of **\$1,476.02**. (Attachment 3.02)
- 3.03 Motion to ratify and approve **Payroll and Agency** for the month of **March 2024** for a total amount of \$3,062,370.05.

 (Attachment 3.03)
- 3.04 Motion to ratify and approve the following **Account Transfers for March 1, 2024 through March 31, 2024.** (Attachment 3.04-3.04a)
- 3.05 Motion to ratify and approve the **Student Activities Account for March 1, 2024 through March 31, 2024.** (Attachment 3.05)
- 3.06 Motion to accept the FINANCIAL REPORT CERTIFICATION OF BOARD SECRETARY'S MONTHLY CERTIFICATION BUDGETARY LINE ITEM STATUS March 31, 2024 Pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11(c) 3, the Business Administrator/Board Secretary certifies that as of March 31, 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 March 31, 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 March 31, 2024.

3.07 Motion to accept the Cooperative Pricing System Agreement for participation in the Educational Cooperative Pricing System between Readington Township Board of Education and the Educational Services Commission of Morris County at an annual rate of \$250.00.

(Attachment 3.07)

- 3.08 Motion to approve the YMCA School Age Child Care Program for the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years. (Attachment 3.08)
- 3.09 Motion to accept and award the ePlus Technology Inc.under state contract #NJ-Cisco NVP AR3227, as the winning bid in the amount of \$200,025.02 for hardware, engineering and installation of 30 CISCO MERAKI C9300 48-PORT POE network switches, to replace 30 existing end-of-life network switches in conformity with the federal e-rate protocols per 40% of funds shall be reimbursed through e-rate category 2 federal funding to the district. (Attachment 3.09)
- 3.10 Motion to award Pravco, Inc., under Bergen County Co-Op Bid#BC-BBID-22-40 Master Service Contract #11-BeCCP for Readington Middle School Roof Replacement Project at a cost of \$694,500.00 for the 2024-2025 school year
- 3.11 Motion to award Murray Construction/Paving and Concrete LLC, under state contract #EXCNJ 20/21-03, for the Readington Middle School Main Office Renovation Project at a cost of \$1,799,264.55 for the 2024-2025 school year.
- 3.12 Motion to approve Wireless Communications and Electronics, state contract #20-TELE-00910, NIGP Code 920-37, to install security enhancements district wide at a cost of \$403,056.00 for the 2024-2025 school year.
- 3.13 Motion to approve contracts with the following private providers for preschool expansion for the 2024-2025 school year:
 - Berry Patch Learning Center
 - Global Pioneer Academy
 - Stanton Learning Center
 - Whitehouse Prep

D. EDUCATION/TECHNOLOGY

Committee Report: None

4. Motion to adopt 4.01 - 4.02

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

- 4.01 Motion to approve the Teacher's College, Columbia University/Advancing Literacy Consultants in the amount of \$4,000.00 for Grades K-2 Foundational Reading Training on September 3, 2024.
- 4.02 Motion to adopt the following fundraisers for the 2023-2024 school year:

SCHOOL	FUNDRAISER	RECIPIENT
Readington Middle School	FPAC T-shirt Sale	FPAC
Readington Middle School	Spring Concert Snacks and Flower Sale	FPAC

Mrs. Wolf asked about curriculum revisions, particularly the reading program and ELA mastery. There is a resolution to approve a consultant for September although no curriculum revisions shall be finalized at the time of the vote. Dr. Hart shared timelines of the curriculum revisions. Dr. Brown launched a pilot for a new reading program fitting into our ELA student contact time, and that have a science of reading background. About 8 teachers piloted the units of study for 5-6 months, and the results of the pilot were positive and student achievement data showed great growth in Grades K-2. Dr. Brown looked at other programs as well, but she thought this was the best fit for our district. Dr. Brown wants to secure the trainer for September 3 so teachers have strong background before rollout in the 2023-2024 school year. Program details were shared. Mrs. Ryan asked if replacing units of study existing, and answer was yes, same vendor updated program. Ed/Tech will review and approve curriculum in August for implementation in September onwards.

E. PERSONNEL

Committee Report: None

5. Motion to adopt 5.01 - 5.16

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 appointment:

NAME	POSITION	SALARY/STEP	EFFECTIVE DATE	
Alexander Bors	Teacher/PE/Health (TBS) 20-03-D2/agn	\$58,080.00 BA Step 1-2 (1) (prorated)	04/18/2024 - 06/30/2024	
Janet Schierloh Howard	LTS Teacher/PE/Health (RMS) 20-01-D2/agj	\$77,155.00 MA Step 15 per diem rate (prorated)	05/20/2024 - 06/30/2024	
April Ambio	LTS Teacher/Special Education (TBS) 20-03-D2/asm	Sub rate for the first 20 days, \$77,490.00 MA+30 Step 13-14 per diem rate thereafter (prorated)	04/22/2024 - 06/30/2024	
Michele Valian	Bus Driver (Transportation) 80-06-D6/ann	\$29.75/hr. Step 9	04/17/2024 - 06/30/2024	

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

NAME	POSITION	SALARY/STEP	EFFECTIVE DATE
Paula Obenauer	PT Aide/Special Education (RMS) 30-01-D3/awv	\$25.16/hr. 4.66 hrs./day Aide C Step 17	03/18/2024 - 06/30/2024
Anne Rieche	LTS Teacher/Autism (HBS) 20-02-D2/aye	\$60,685 BA Step 7 (prorated)	03/15/2024 - 06/30/2024

5.03 Motion to amend motion 5.03 from the February 20, 2024 agenda and ratify and accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following appointments:

NAME	POSITION	SALARY/STEP	EFFECTIVE DATE
Lily Santo	LTS Teacher/Art (HBS) 20-02-D2/axv	Sub rate for the first 20 days, \$58,080.00 BA Step 1 per diem rate thereafter	02/12/2024 - 06/30/2024

5.04 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
Karen Richards	Substitute Nurse

- 5.05 Motion to ratify and accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve extended other leave for staff member #6851 for the period 12/05/2023 04/20/2024.
- 5.06 Motion to ratify and accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve extended other leave for staff member #5042 for the period 04/15/2024 06/21/2024.
- 5.07 Motion to ratify and accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve special skills stipend of \$1,000.00 (prorated) for Alexandra Magliaro who will be assigned to provide extraordinary services as defined by the RTEA agreement set forth in an IEP for the 2023-2024 school year, effective April 8, 2024.
- 5.08 Motion to accept the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Readington Township Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") and the Readington Township Administrators' Association (hereinafter referred to as "RTAA") have negotiated a successor collective negotiations agreement (hereinafter referred to as the "CNA") effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby approves of the terms of the CNA effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027, which is attached to this Resolution and made a part hereof, including the 2024-2025 school year revised salaries; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby authorizes Board President and the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to execute, on behalf of the Board, the CNA by and between the Board and the RTAA.

(Attachment 5.08)

5.09 Motion to amend the March 12, 2024, board motion 5.11 for the following staff members and accept their stipend payment for the preparation of the Sheltered English Instruction (SEI) training on the March 15, 2024 In-Service Day:

NAME	SESSION	PREP STIPEND
Lora Petersen	Sheltered English Instruction Training	\$360.00
Allison Lovering	llison Lovering Sheltered English Instruction Training	

- 5.10 Motion to ratify and approve Jennifer Rourke's increase in hours from 25 hours per week to 29.75 hours per week, due to a new student with Wilson Language Reading in their IEP, effective March 25, 2024 at the contractual rate.
- 5.11 Motion to ratify and approve Nancy Kelly to provide nursing services for student #843631 to participate in extracurricular activities during the months of March and April, not to exceed 21 hours, at her hourly rate.
- 5.12 Motion to ratify and approve Jill Komosinski to provide nursing services for student #843631, to participate in extracurricular activities during the month of April, not to exceed 6 hours, at her hourly rate.
- 5.13 Motion to ratify and accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the additional staff members that participated in the Readington Township School District Parent Academy Night on March 20, 2024 at the contractual rate:

NAME	SESSION
Leslie Martinez	Seeds-To-Salad Program
Betsy Freeman	Hands-On-Inquiry: The Global Goals Game - Climate Change Edition
Betsy Freeman	Hands-On-Inquiry: Relax and Grow Your Own Fresh Food Indoors Too!

5.14 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following retirements with appreciation for their years of service:

NAME	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE	
Elise Spring Zuegner-LaFevre	Teacher/Language Arts (RMS) 20-01-D2/aet	June 30, 2024	
Mary McGivney	Teacher/Special Education (RMS) 20-01-D2/aid	June 30, 2024	
Annette Dambach	Aide/Kindergarten (TBS) 30-03-D3/azd	April 24, 2024	

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

NAME	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE	
Maureen Woerner	LTS Teacher/Special Education (RMS) 20-01-D2/ahu	May 31, 2024	
Melissa Nehlsen	Teacher/Autism (HBS) 20-02-D2/aye	June 10, 2024	
Courtney D'Onofrio	Teacher/Speech (RMS) 20-01-D2/akg	June 30, 2024	

5.16 Motion to approve the following mentor for the 2023-2024 school year:

NEW STAFF MEMBER	SCHOOL	POSITION	MENTOR
Michele Adamitis	RMS	LTS-Science Teacher	Kevin Sanders
Lily Santo	HBS	LTS-Art Teacher	Linda Kovacs
Andrea Decampos	TBS	LTS-Kindergarten Teacher	Kaitlyn Jones
Alexander Bors	TBS	PE/Health Teacher	Tiffany Barca

F. COMMUNICATION

Committee Report: Mr. Peach provided minutes of the meeting held on March 26, 2024.

6. Motion to adopt 6.01 - 6.02

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 second reading:
 (Attachment 6.01)
 - Policy 2423 Bilingual Education
 - Policy 2431.4 Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Concussions and Head Injuries
- 6.02 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following policies for first reading: (Attachment 6.02)
 - Policy 1140 Educational Equity Policies/Affirmative Action

- Policy 1523 Comprehensive Equity Plan
- Policy 1550 Equal Employment/Anti-Discrimination Practices
- Policy 2411 Guidance Counseling
- Policy 3211 Code of Ethics
- Policy 5750 Equitable Educational Opportunity

Mr. Peach ask Strauss Esmay on code of ethics, if commissioner or not, changing pronouns if that is a Strauss Esmay or Commissioner as the code has pronouns, but changes proposed remove such.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Dr. Hart shared the board self evaluation tool through NJSBA to the entire board for completion. NJSBA will compile the information and shall share with Dr. Cerciello for training this summer and next school year.
- Mrs. Fiore highlighted board tours, and students in grades 7 and 8 commissioned pieces of music by composers
 Nadine Silverman and Franklin Hansen will be premiered shortly. May concert will premiere and will be credited in
 future world-wide when utilized in other capacity.
- New Boardmanship certificate will be presented to Mrs. Fiore and Mrs. Wolf at the May 9, 2024 Hunterdon County meeting, and teacher of the year, Ms. Gargi Adhikari, will be presented as well. Virtual and in-person availability for anyone interested from the board or administration.

IX. NEW BUSINESS FROM BOARD

 Board member asked several question regarding our board attorney and moving forward. Dr. Hart responded to questions.

Mr. Peach left the meeting at 8:36 p.m.

X. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

 Parents and community members asked about ELA curriculum, screening, intervention, resources and programming. Recommendations for the district to consider were conveyed. Dr. Hart provided response and thoughts. Dialogue occurred with board members on the topic.

XI. ADJOURNMENT - 8:55 p.m.

Motion: Mrs. Fiore 2nd: Mrs. Podgorski Roll Call Vote: Carried 7 Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Jason M. Bohm Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Dr. Camille Cerciello President, Board of Education