

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

February 6, 2020

Executive Session - 6:30 p.m.

Public Meeting – 8:00 p.m.

Board of Education Office

Board Conference Room

I. CALL TO ORDER

On a motion by Mr. Horowitz, seconded by Mr. Tuma, and carried unanimously, the Board agreed to convene to public session at 6:35 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Board President, Theresa Joyce, who stated that the meeting was convened in compliance with the provisions of Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, the Sunshine Law; notices were sent to the *Courier News*, filed with the Township Clerk and posted in the Branchburg Township Schools.

The following members of the Board of Education were present: Vincent Carpentier, Cathy Curcio, Kristen Fabriczi, Noah Horowitz, Theresa Joyce, Olga Phelps, Keerti Purohit, Jonathan Sarles and Charles Tuma.

The following members were absent: None.

Also present were: Superintendent of Schools Rebecca Gensel and Business Administrator/Board Secretary Theresa Linskey.

II. The Secretary called the roll.

III. CALL TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Mr. Horowitz, seconded by Mr. Sarles, and carried unanimously, the Board agreed to convene to Executive Session at 6:35 p.m. to discuss Personnel, Student Matters, Contracts and Legal Issues.

On a motion by Mrs. Purohit, seconded by Mr. Tuma, and carried unanimously, the Board agreed to adjourn Executive Session at 8:10 p.m.

On a motion by Mrs. Fabriczi, seconded by Mr. Horowitz, and carried unanimously, the Board agreed to reconvene to public session at 8:17 p.m. with 20 members of the public present.

IV. The assembly saluted the flag.

V. Statement of Adequate Notice

VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Gensel introduced two students, who are members of Mrs. Plaza's eighth grade science class, who were recognized for the work they submitted to the "Oceans Awareness" contest. One student, Patricia Leoniuk, submitted a poem, and one student, Will Lawson, submitted a music parody.

The Board recognized Zoltan Ambrus, and thanked him for his years of service as a member of the Board of Education.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

VIII. GOVERNANCE

Motion by Mrs. Fabriczi, seconded by Mrs. Curcio that Items VIII.A. through VIII.B. be moved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.

On call of the vote, Items VIII.A. through VIII.B. were approved by Roll Call.

Mrs. Joyce spoke about the two community meetings that were held regarding the Strategic Planning process.

A. Approval of Minutes

It is recommended that the Board approve the Minutes of the Executive Session and Regular Meeting of January 16, 2020.

B. Approval of Submission of Application for Special Education Medicaid Initiative Waiver

It is recommended that the Board approve the submission of an application for a waiver to not participate in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative to the County Executive Superintendent of Schools.

IX. POLICY

There was no Policy Committee report.

X. EDUCATION

Motion by Mrs. Purohit, seconded by Mr. Tuma that Items X.A. through X.F. be moved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.

On call of the vote, Items X.A. through X.F. were unanimously approved by Roll Call.

Mrs. Phelps said the Education Committee met on February 6, 2020 and discussed the following:

- Math night at Stony Brook School for parents of 5th graders with regard to their concerns about the online assessment for the math program;
- Emergency Management procedures update;
- Building use requests;
- Proposed budget items at Branchburg Central Middle School and Whiton Elementary School; and
- Calendar changes regarding an additional Professional Development day.

A. Conferences/Travel

WHEREAS, the employees listed below are requesting Board of Education authorization to attend the conferences/workshops listed below; and

WHEREAS, the attendance at the stated function was previously approved by the Chief School Administrator as work related within the scope of the work responsibilities of the attendee and within the funds budgeted for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, the attendance at the function was approved as promoting delivery of instruction or furthering efficient operation of the school district; and fiscally prudent;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes attendance at the stated conferences/workshops and reimbursement for the related expenses in accordance with Board policy on conference and workshop attendance.

Conferences/Workshops	Employee/ Account Number	Date(s)	Registration Fee	Hotel	Meals /Exp.	Tolls/Parking /Mileage	Total
Why We Bully – Talking About Race New Brunswick, NJ	Devra Hobbs N/A	3/18/20	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Why We Bully – Talking About Race New Brunswick, NJ	Jennilyn Nelson N/A	3/18/20	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Why We Bully – Talking About Race New Brunswick, NJ	Margaret Ryan 11-000-219-580-03-001-999	3/18/20	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$8.61	\$8.61
Why We Bully – Unconscious Bias New Brunswick, NJ	Devra Hobbs N/A	3/25/20	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Why We Bully – Unconscious Bias New Brunswick, NJ	Jennilyn Nelson N/A	3/25/20	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Why We Bully – Unconscious Bias New Brunswick, NJ	Margaret Ryan 11-000-219-580-03-001-999	3/25/20	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$8.61	\$8.61
NJ Speech-Language-Hearing Association Supporting At-Risk ELL's in Literacy Garwood, NJ	Kristen Allen 11-000-219-580-03-001-999	3/6/20	\$195.00	N/A	N/A	\$13.23	\$208.23
NJ Association for Middle Level Educators Conference Union, NJ	Matthew Barbosa 11-000-240-580-02-000-020	3/13/20	\$99.00	N/A	N/A	\$25.00	\$124.00

Conferences/Workshops (continued)	Employee/ Account Number	Date(s)	Registration Fee	Hotel	Meals /Exp.	Tolls/Parking /Mileage	Total
Professional Training in Applied Behavior Analysis Teaching Strategies Hamilton, NJ	Arianna Bellafore 11-000-219-580-03-001-999	3/9/20- 3/10/20	\$250.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$250.00
Comprehensive Orton Gillingham Training Rockaway, NJ	Kelly Boyle N/A	5/11/20	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
NJ Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation & Dance Conference Long Branch, NJ	Michael Clark 11-000-223-580-05-144-060	2/25/20	\$95.00	N/A	N/A	\$36.00	\$131.00
Strengthen Your Physical Education Program with Best, Current Practices West Orange, NJ	Kelly Evans 11-000-223-580-04-144-020	3/24/20	\$279.00	N/A	N/A	\$15.82	\$294.82
NJ Association of Designated Persons Indoor Air Quality Training Bridgewater, NJ	John Hindmarch N/A	4/3/20	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Integrated Pest Management Training Bridgewater, NJ	John Hindmarch N/A	4/17/20	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Effectively Dealing with Disruptive Students Long Branch, NJ	Kristen Kries 11-000-240-580-02-000-020	2/26/20	\$279.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$279.00
Fostering Equity and Empowerment Through a Student's Reading Life Monroe Township, NJ	Kristen Kries N/A	3/27/20	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Virtual Congress Online	Joseph Larramendia N/A	2/12/20	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
USDA Foods Conference 2020 NJ Convention & Expo Center Edison, NJ	Theresa Linskey 11-000-251-580-01-585	02/06/20	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$17.43	\$17.43
Foreign Language Educators of NJ Annual Conference Iselin, NJ	Patricia Maloney 11-000-223-580-04-144-020	3/27/20	\$185.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$185.00
Social Emotional Character Development New Brunswick, NJ	Meredith Molinaro N/A	2/28/20	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Global Exploration for Educators Qatar and Oman March 2020 Tour Qatar and Oman	Danielle Puglisi N/A	3/9/20- 3/20/20	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Conference for School-Based Occupational Therapists New Brunswick, NJ	Diane Scholp 11-000-219-580-03-001-999	3/3/20	\$289.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$289.00
NJ Physical Education and Health Conference Long Branch, NJ	Erin Sheridan 11-000-223-580-05-144-060	2/24/20	\$95.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$95.00
Controversial Issues in Pediatric Audiology New York, NY	Randi-Lee Venturini 11-000-219-580-03-001-999	3/26/20- 3/27/20	\$240.00	N/A	N/A	\$67.00	\$307.00
Socratic Seminar Leadership Philadelphia, PA	Debra Volpe 11-000-219-580-03-001-999	3/17/20	\$215.00	N/A	N/A	\$44.80	\$259.80

B. Approval of Fundraisers/Service Projects

School	Group	Event Coordinators	Dates	Purpose
BCMS	Student Council	Wendy Michels	2/7/20- 2/28/20	Various fundraisers planned with all the proceeds going to the Meghan Rose Bradley Foundation.
Stony Brook	Schoolwide	Tracy Harmon, Toni Burke Alexandra Gallo, Randi Childers	4/20/20- 5/14/20	In an effort to support <i>The Team Cole Project</i> , Stony Brook students will participate in a Penny War. Money collected will assist <i>The Team Cole Project's</i> mission.
Stony Brook	Schoolwide	Rocco Fornaro	2/7/20- 2/13/20	Mr. Fornaro's class would like to collect canned goods to be donated to a local food bank. The goal would be to collect 100 cans to signify and celebrate 100 days of school.

C. Approval of Revision of Title IV Club

Club Name	Sponsor	Account Number	From			To			School
			Minutes (per week)	Duration (# of meetings)	Total Cost	Minutes (per week)	Duration (# of meetings)	Total Cost	
Fun Fit Club	Rachael Johnston	20-280-100-101-02-659	60	10	\$410	60	12	\$492	Stony Brook

D. Approval of Field Trips			
Trip	Teachers	Grade	Purpose
Bank of America Branchburg, NJ	Erica Viel	K-3 LLD	Opportunity for students to apply taught life skills, social skills and math related skills to real world applications.
Immigrant Hospital Ellis Island	Suzanne Updegrave Wendy Michels	GATE 7	Private Hard Hat Tour will enhance the curriculum focusing on identity and individuality as well as research skills with primary sources.

E. Approval of Revision of Contract for Physical Therapist									
Vendor	Account Number	Dates	From			To			Discussion
			Evaluations	Sessions	Total	Evaluations	Sessions	Total	
Kari Woodell	11-000-216-320-03-456-800	9/1/19- 6/30/20	10	350	\$17,750	18	650	\$32,850	Evaluations at \$200 Sessions at \$45

F. Approval of Contracted Physical Therapist							
Vendor	Account Number	Student ID#	Rate	# of Sessions	Total (not to exceed)	Effective Dates	Discussion
Kari Woodell	11-000-216-320-03-078-800	7930912675	\$90 per hour	12 (45 minutes each)	\$810	12/1/19- 2/28/20	Bedside physical therapy services

XI. HUMAN RESOURCES

Motion by Mrs. Fabriczi, seconded by Mrs. Purohit that Items XI.A. through XI.M., be moved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.

On call of the vote, Items XI.A. through XI.M., were unanimously approved by Roll Call.

Mrs. Fabriczi said the Human Resources Committee met to discuss confidential items which cannot be disclosed at this time.

A. Approval of Resignation				
Name	Account #	Position	Location	Effective Date
Randy Kupcha	11-402-100-101-01-093-060	Girls Lacrosse Coach	BCMS	2/6/20

B. Approval of Athletic Stipend				
Name	Position	Location	Stipend	Discussion
Kelly Evans	Girls Lacrosse Coach	BCMS	\$3,474	Replacing Randy Kupcha

C. Approval of Substitutes			
Name	Position	Rate	Dates
Mayan Barkel	Substitute Teacher & Substitute Instructional Aide	\$95.00/\$83.33 per diem (subject to delivery of documents)	2/7/20-6/30/20
Tara Hendricks	Substitute Teacher & Substitute Instructional Aide	\$95.00/\$83.33 per diem (subject to delivery of documents)	2/7/20-6/30/20
Lezet Shabani	Substitute Teacher & Substitute Instructional Aide	\$95.00/\$83.33 per diem (subject to delivery of documents)	2/7/20-6/30/20
Kaitlyn Wagner	Substitute Teacher & Substitute Instructional Aide	\$95.00/\$83.33 per diem (subject to delivery of documents)	2/7/20-6/30/20

D. Approval of Non-Athletic Stipends				
Name	Position	Stipend	Dates	Discussion
Nathan Bishop	Strings Concert Prep-BCMS Chamber Orchestra-BCMS	\$827 (prorated) \$2,825 (prorated)	2/27/20-5/21/20	MLR for Regina Santangelo

E. Approval of Retirement				
Name	Account #	Position	Location	Effective Date
Anthony Tomaro	11-000-270-160-01-462	Bus Driver	Transportation	2/26/2020

2/6/2020

F. Approval of Revision of Stipend					
Name	Account #	Position	Location	From	To
Kristen Kries	11-000-240-103-01-330-060	Acting Principal	SBS	\$1,500 per month 10/30/19-2/6/20	\$1,500 per month 10/30/19-3/6/20

G. Approval of Revision of Personnel						
Name	Account #	Position	Location	Rate	From	To
Richard Chromey	11-230-100-101-01-072-090	Acting Assistant Principal	WES	\$550 per day	12/9/19-2/6/20	12/9/19-3/6/20

H. Approval of Additional Title One Tutor					
Name	Account	Location	Position	Rate	Dates
Jodi Harwood	20-231-100-101-02-648	WES	Substitute Teacher	\$41 per hour (as needed)	2/7/20-4/30/20

I. Approval of Revision of Medical Leave						
Name	Account #	Location	Type of Leave	From	To	Discussion
Justin Rogoff	11-130-100-101-01-021-020	BCMS	Paid Sick Leave/FMLA	2/4/20-2/14/20	2/4/20-2/21/20	Estimated date of return will be 2/24/20

J. Approval of Medical Leave					
Name	Account #	Location	Type of Leave	Dates	Discussion
Jennifer Dedominicis	61-910-310-110-01-001	SBS	Sick Leave	1/24/20-2/13/20	Estimated date of return will be 2/18/20

K. Approval of Maternity Leave					
Name	Account #	Location	Type of Leave	Dates	Discussion
Lauren DePrima	11-000-216-101-01-063-020	BCMS	FMLA/NJFLA	9/1/20-11/25/20	Estimated date of return will be 11/30/20

L. Approval of Revision of Interim Administrator						
Name	Account #	Position	Location	From	To	Discussion
Jennifer Dinardi	11-000-221-102-01-207-999	Interim Administrator	District	Not to exceed \$14,500	Not to exceed \$21,500	Extension of days worked

M. Approval of Administrative Leave					
Employee #	Account #	Location	Position	Discussion	
5059	11-120-100-101-01-012-090	WES	Second Grade Teacher	Administrative leave with pay beginning 2/10/20	

XII. BUSINESS

Motion by Mr. Tuma, seconded by Mrs. Fabriczi that Items XII.A. through XII.G. be moved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.

On call of the vote, Items XII.A. through XII.G. were approved by Roll Call.

There was no Business Committee report.

The next Business Committee meeting will be held on February 10, 2020.

A. Bill List

It is recommended that the Board approve the List of Bills for the period January 17, 2020 through February 6, 2020, totaling \$1,220,459.44, and ratify the Payroll for the period January 16, 2020 through January 30, 2020, totaling \$972,990.31.

B. Approval of Resolution for Participation in Coordinated Transportation

WHEREAS, the Branchburg Township Board of Education desires to transport students for the purpose of special education, nonpublic school education, or its 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 prorated contract costs, plus a 4% administration fee as presented to the Branchburg Township Board of Education by the billing formula adopted by the WCSSSD's Board of Education.

C. Approval of Resolution Authorizing the Disposal of Furniture/Equipment

It is recommended that the Board approve the following resolution authorizing the disposal of furniture/equipment through GovDeals.

WHEREAS, the School District is the owner of certain furniture/equipment which is no longer needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education is desirous of selling said furniture/equipment in "as is" condition without express or implied warranties.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of Branchburg Township in the County of Somerset, as follows:

- (1) The sale of the furniture/equipment shall be conducted through GovDeals pursuant to State Contract A-70967/T2581 in accordance with the terms and conditions of the State Contract. The terms and conditions of the agreement entered into with GovDeals are available online at govdeals.com and also available from the Board of Education.
- (2) The sale will be conducted online and the address of the auction site is govdeals.com.
- (3) The sale is being conducted pursuant to Local Finance Notice 2008-9.
- (4) The furniture/equipment to be sold is as follows:

14 computer tables	1 milk cooler	1 Snapple juice cooler
24 assorted student desks	1 double door refrigerator	1 snow blower
25 assorted student chairs	1 single door freezer	

- (5) The furniture/equipment identified shall be sold in an "as-is" condition without express or implied warranties with the successful bidder required to execute a Hold Harmless and Indemnification Agreement concerning use of said furniture/equipment.
- (6) The School District reserves the right to accept or reject any bid submitted.

D. Approval of Nonpublic Security Program Purchases

It is recommended that the Board approve the following nonpublic security program purchases:

Kangaroo Kids

All Basic Concepts, LLC:

Item: Lithonia Lighting Ext Arm	
Quantity: 10 @ \$14.00	\$ 140.00
Item: Lithonia Lighting LED Integrated	
Quantity: 10 @ \$109.98	\$1,100.00
Item: Misc. Wiring – 200 14/2	
Quantity: 1 @ \$185.00	\$ 185.00
Item: Installation – Remove & Replace Fixtures	
Quantity: 10 @ \$95.00	\$ 950.00
	<u>\$2,375.00</u>

Funded: \$2,400.00; Expending: \$2,375.00

E. Approval of Nonpublic Technology Purchase

It is recommended that the Board approve the following nonpublic technology purchase:

Kangaroo Kids

Dell:

Item: Chromebook #11-3100	
Quantity: 1 @ \$319.00	\$319.00
SCESC Admin. Fee (Up to 5%)	\$ 15.95
	<u>\$334.95</u>

Funded: \$576.00; Expending: \$334.95

F. Acceptance and Award of Bid for Contract for the Boiler and RTU Replacement at Branchburg Central Middle School Project

It is recommended that the Board acknowledge the following bids for the Boiler and RTU Replacement at Branchburg Central Middle School Project which were received on January 31, 2020:

Name	Base Bid	Total
Pennetta Industrial Automation	\$237,000	\$237,000
MPA Contractors	\$237,948	\$237,948
SRJ Mechanical	\$257,900	\$257,900
Hanna's Mechanical	\$267,750	\$267,750
Comfort Mechanical	\$274,937	\$274,937
ACP Contracting	\$291,000	\$291,000
Dumont Mechanical	\$293,980	\$293,980
1st Goal Heating and Cooling	\$299,000	\$299,000
Burlew Mechanical	\$309,000	\$309,000
AMCO Enterprises	\$313,000	\$313,000

It is recommended that the Board award the contract for the Boiler and RTU Replacement at Branchburg Central Middle School Project to Pennetta Industrial Automation for a total project cost of \$237,000 to be paid through account #12-000-400-450-04-612 and there are sufficient funds in the 2019-2020 budget.

G. Approval for Capital Reserve Withdrawal

WHEREAS, the Branchburg Board of Education, desires to withdraw from the 2019-2020 Capital Reserve \$49,250 for the Boiler and RTU Replacement at Branchburg Central Middle School.

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

RandiLee Childers, President of the Branchburg Township Education Association, said she respects and thanks Mr. Ambrus for all he has done as a Board member.

RandiLee Childers also thanked Anthony Tomaro for his years of service with the Branchburg Township School District.

XIV. BOARD LIAISON REPORTS

Mrs. Fabriczi spoke about Somerville Board of Education's 2020-2025 Strategic Planning Survey.

Mr. Horowitz thanked the PTO for organizing the Harlem Wizard's event.

Mr. Carpentier spoke about the upcoming training sessions offered through the New Jersey School Boards Association.

Mrs. Joyce attended the Branchburg Township Committee meeting where she spoke to the Township Committee members and invited them to the district's strategic planning sessions.

Ms. Gensel said the Emergency Management team met and developed an evacuation emergency plan if students needed to be relocated to another location.

XV. BOARD FORUM

Mrs. Fabriczi spoke about the following:

- She heard that next year's Somerville High School incoming freshmen class were told block scheduling is going to be postponed for a year; and
- The Somerville Board of Education members, who attended Branchburg's Strategic Planning process, were happy they were invited to attend.

Mrs. Phelps thanked Mr. Ambrus for his years on the Board.

Mr. Carpentier spoke about the following:

- Teen night, which is run by the Township Recreation Department, will be held on February 21, 2020 at Branchburg Central Middle School; and
- He thanked Ms. Gensel for working with the Township to come up with ways to reach out to the students and to get these types of programs up and running.

Mrs. Purohit thanked Mr. Ambrus for his years on the Board and that she has learned a lot under his guidance.

Mr. Sarles thanked everyone who attended the Strategic Planning sessions.

Mr. Horowitz thanked Mr. Ambrus for his years on the Board.

Mr. Tuma thanked Mr. Ambrus for his years on the Board.

Mr. Tuma spoke about the Strategic Planning session.

Mrs. Curcio spoke about the Strategic Planning session.

Mrs. Curcio thanked Mr. Ambrus for his years on the Board and that he will be missed.

Ms. Gensel spoke about the following:

- Stony Brook School's band, strings and chorus concert she attended;
- The February 14, 2020 Somerville and Branchburg combined Professional Development day; and
- She said the Professional Development day was planned by the staff of both school districts.

Mrs. Joyce spoke about the following:

- Stony Brook School's band, strings and chorus concert she attended;
- She thanked the teachers and administration for attending the Strategic Planning sessions;
- Branchburg Central Middle School's newscast called "The Scoop";
- February 7, 2020 is the 8th grade Social Change Convention which will be held at 1:15 p.m.;
- February 7, 2020 is the 6th grade Glow Party at Branchburg Central Middle School at 7:00 p.m.;
- February 14, 2020 is a Professional Development day at Branchburg and Somerville; and
- February 17, 2020 schools are closed for Presidents' Day.

XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Mrs. Curcio, seconded by Mrs. Fabriczi, and carried unanimously, the Board agreed to adjourn public session at 9:09 p.m.

On a motion by Mrs. Curcio, seconded by Mr. Horowitz, and carried unanimously, the Board agreed to convene to executive session at 9:12 p.m. to discuss Student Matters.

On a motion by Mr. Horowitz, seconded by Mrs. Fabriczi, and carried unanimously, the Board agreed to adjourn executive session at 9:54 p.m.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Horowitz, seconded by Mrs. Fabriczi, and carried unanimously, the Board agreed to adjourn at 9:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Theresa Linskey
School Business Administrator/Board