

BOONTON TOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

434 Lathrop Avenue, Boonton, NJ 07005

August 10, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Boonton Town Board of Education, of Morris County, New Jersey, held a meeting via Google Meet at 7:30 pm on August 10, 2020.

II. OPEN PUBLIC MEETING

Mr. Joseph Geslao, Board Vice President, called the meeting to order, and Mr. Steven Gardberg, Board Secretary, read the following statement: This is the August 10, 2020, meeting of the Boonton Town Board of Education. Pursuant to Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting was provided to the Daily Record and the Citizen; distributed to The Neighbor News and the Boonton Town Clerk; and posted at the Board of Education Building at 434 Lathrop Avenue, Boonton, New Jersey.

III. ROLL CALL

Members present at roll call were Mrs. Jennifer Darling, Mrs. Elaine Doherty, Mr. Bob Ezzi, Mr. Joe Geslao, Mr. Patrick Joyce, Mrs. Loren Katsakos, Mrs. Irene LeFebvre, Mrs. Sandra Vucenovic. Absent were Mr. Chris Cartelli and Mrs. Jennifer Shollenberger.

Also present were Mr. Robert Presuto, Superintendent and Mr. Steven Gardberg, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion at 7:31 pm by Mrs. LeFebvre and seconded by Mrs. Darling, all present voted to enter Executive Session. Mr. Cartelli and Mrs. Shollenberger were absent.

Be it resolved, that the following portion of this meeting dealing with the following generally described matters shall not be open to the public: Personnel matters; Current or Potential Litigation; and Matters of Attorney/Client Privilege. Be it further resolved, that it is anticipated that the matters to be considered in private may be disclosed to the public at a later date when confidentiality is no longer required. Be it further resolved, that private consideration is deemed required and is permitted because of the following noted exceptions set forth in the Open Public Meetings Act: Would constitute an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy; Related to investigation of violations or possible violations of the law; Related to pending/anticipated litigation or contract negotiations in which the Public body is or may be a party; and Falls within the attorney-client privilege and confidentiality is required.

ACTION WILL BE TAKEN

Having no further business in closed executive session, at 7:59 pm a motion was made by Mrs. Doherty and seconded by Mrs. Darling to adjourn executive session and return to open session. All present voted in favor. Mr. Cartelli and Mrs. Shollenberger were absent.

V. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board reconvened in open session at 8:00 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Approximately 10 members of the public were in attendance.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Presuto commented on board members and himself receiving multiple emails about diversity in the school district.

VII. LIAISON REPORTS

1. John Hill School: None
2. Boonton High School: None
3. Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) K-8: Nicole Cechony reported on the face mask fundraiser.
4. Home School Association 9-12: None
5. Board of Aldermen Representative: Alderman Joe Bock invited the public to attend BOA meetings, which are still virtual.

VIII. CHANGE THE ORDER OF THE DAY

On a motion by Mrs. Darling, seconded by Mr. Joyce and with all in favor, order of the day was approved.

IX. MINUTES

Approval of minutes from previous meetings was moved by Mrs. Doherty, seconded by Mrs. LeFebvre, and approved on roll call. YES: Mrs. Darling, Mrs. Doherty, Mr. Ezzi, Mr. Geslao, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mrs. Vucenovic. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Mr. Cartelli, Mrs. Shollenberger.

1. Regular and Executive session: July 27, 2020

X. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

XI. ITEMS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION

A. SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Presuto reported the reopening plan will be posted on the district website tomorrow morning; and commented on the power and internet outage last week.

B. ADMINISTRATION

PK8 Resolutions

Approval of Admin PK8 resolutions #1-3 was moved by Mrs. Darling and seconded by Mrs. Doherty. On roll call the resolutions were approved. YES: Mrs. Darling, Mrs. Doherty, Mr. Ezzi, Mr. Geslao, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mrs. Vucenovic. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Mr. Cartelli, Mrs. Shollenberger.

1. Coaches: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following coaches and stipends at John Hill School for the 2020-2021 school year. Per the Sidebar Agreement between the Boonton Education Association and the Board of

Education regarding the payment schedule for athletic stipends during the 2020-2021 school year, approved on July 27, 2020, stipends may be prorated based on if/when the season is cancelled or postponed due to health crisis-related incidents, NJSIAA determination, or Governor's Executive Order.

<u>Coach</u>	<u>Sport</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Zachary Sabatino	Baseball	\$ 4,460.00
Tina Londino	Softball	\$ 4,460.00

2. Appointment of Paraprofessional: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Debbie Robinson to the appointment position of Paraprofessional, John Hill School, at a salary of \$35,142 (Step 4), effective 9/1/2020 for the 2020-2021 school year.
3. Leave of Absence for Certified Staff Member: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves a leave of absence for Melanie Chin beginning 10/24/2020 utilizing a total of 38 accumulated sick days, followed by an unpaid leave of absence beginning 12/23/2020 through 5/31/2201.

PK12 Resolutions

Approval of Admin PK12 resolutions #1-5 was moved by Mrs. Darling and seconded by Mrs. LeFebvre. On roll call the resolutions were approved. YES: Mrs. Darling, Mrs. Doherty, Mr. Ezzi, Mr. Geslao, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mrs. Vucenovic. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Mr. Cartelli, Mrs. Shollenberger.

1. Coaches: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following coaches and stipends at Boonton High School for the 2020-2021 school year. Per the Sidebar Agreement between the Boonton Education Association and the Board of Education regarding the payment schedule for athletic stipends during the 2020-2021 school year, approved on July 27, 2020, stipends may be prorated based on if/when the season is cancelled or postponed due to health crisis-related incidents, NJSIAA determination, or Governor's Executive Order.

<u>Coach</u>	<u>Sport</u>	<u>Step/Stipend</u>
Michael London	Head Boys Tennis	4 \$ 6,799.00
Robert Davidson	Head Softball	4 \$10,901.00
Courtney Degro	Assistant Softball	4 \$ 7,290.00
Edward DiMaggio	Head Baseball	4 \$10,793.00
Dean Del Guercio	Assistant Baseball	4 \$ 7,290.00
Michael Norton	Head Boys Lacrosse	4 \$10,901.00
Wayne Barreto	Assistant Boys Lacrosse	4 \$ 7,290.00
Matthew Testa	Assistant Boys Lacrosse	4 \$ 7,290.00
Colleen Faessinger	Head Girls Lacrosse	4 \$10,901.00
Kristy Showlowsky	Assistant Girls Lacrosse	4 \$ 7,290.00
Amanda Sheehan	Assistant Girls Lacrosse	4 \$ 7,290.00
Bob Bongo	Head Track & Field	4 \$10,901.00
Patrick Hancock	Assistant Track & Field	4 \$ 7,290.00
Melanie Sohl	Assistant Track & Field	4 \$ 7,290.00
Devin Engelberger	Assistant Track & Field	4 \$ 7,290.00
Peter Nosal	Assistant Track & Field	4 \$ 7,290.00

2. Volunteer Coach: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Patrick Hancock as a volunteer Cross Country Coach at Boonton High School for the 2020-2021 school year.
3. Appointment of Paraprofessional: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Daniel Montgomery to the position of Paraprofessional, Boonton High School, at a salary of \$34,498 (Step 2) effective 9/1/2020 for the 2020-2021 school year.
4. Realtime Trainers: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Natalie Perez and Jessica Harbeson as Realtime Trainers during virtual New Staff Orientation on August 25-26, 2020, at \$35/hr, for up to 3 hours each.
5. Superintendent Merit Goal Achievements: The Board approves the following Quantitative Merit Goal achievement by the Superintendent for completing a 2019-2020 Goal approved by the Morris County Superintendent of Schools in September 2019 and by the Board in October 2019 and further authorizes submission of completion of goals to be submitted to the Morris County Superintendent of Schools for authorization of payment.

Quantitative Goal #1: Payment of \$5,934 – Increase % of students taking AP exams and receiving a 3 or higher (threshold for earning college credit) = 10% compared to 2019 scores (49% > 3) by implanting better criteria for enrollment in AP courses and improved AP courses supplemental requirements.

If the percentage of students receiving a 3 or higher on their AP exams increases by 10% (to 59% > 3), the remuneration for the goal will be 3.33% (\$5,934)

If the percentage of students receiving a 3 or higher on the AP exams increases by 6% (to 55% > 3), the remuneration for the goal will be 2.33% (\$4,152)

If the percentage of students receiving a 3 or higher on their AP exams increases by 3% (to 52% > 3), the remuneration for the goal will be 1.33% (\$2,370)

C. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Mr. Gardberg reported on the bills list being short due to last week’s power and internet outage; pending board approval of the state aid reduction; and ordering PPE and computers.

D. OPERATIONS

Approval of Operations resolutions #1-8 was moved by Mr. Geslao and seconded by Mrs. LeFebvre. On roll call the resolutions were approved. YES: Mrs. Darling, Mrs. Doherty, Mr. Ezzi, Mr. Geslao, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mrs. Vucenovic. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Mr. Cartelli, Mrs. Shollenberger.

1. Payments: The Board approves these Check Journals.

\$429,427.83	7/30/2020 (machine checks)
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2. Payroll Expenses: The Board approves the following payroll expenses.

7/15/2020	\$191,935.31
7/30/2020	\$191,515.46

3. Contract: The Board approves awarding a contract for Chromebooks to CDW for \$122,623.58, per ESCNJ Co-op contract #18/19-03, including \$12,130.08 of Title I Reallocated funding.
4. Contract: The Board approves renewal of its contract for dental insurance benefits to Delta Dental for \$214,600 for the 2020-2021 school year.
5. Contract: The Board approves renewal of its contract for medical and prescription drug insurance benefits to Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey for \$5,227,200 for the 2020-2021 school year.
6. Contract: The Board approves renewal of its contract for commercial insurance to New Jersey Schools Insurance Group for \$306,430 for the 2020-2021 school year.
7. Digital Divide Grant: The Board approves submission of the Digital Divide Grant to the NJ Department of Education.
8. Alyssa's Law Compliance Grant: The Board approves submission of the Alyssa's Law Compliance Grant to the NJ Department of Education.

E. POLICY

There were no Policy motions to move.

F. REPORTS FROM BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

1. HS Committee: The next meeting is on August 20.
2. Communications/Legislation: Mrs. LeFebvre reported on providing the option to retain students for repeating a grade.
3. ESC: Mrs. LeFebvre reported the meeting agenda for August 12 will include a reopening plan and financial concerns.
4. MCSBA: The next meeting is on August 13.
5. NJSBA: Mrs. LeFebvre reported on gathering data from districts about reopening, and Mr. Gardberg reported that he will register the full board for the October workshop.
6. Curriculum: The next meeting is in September.
7. PR/Communications: None

XII. OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Tim McKenzie, former Boonton student, referring to previous comment about in-school suspensions being for tardiness, asked when the rule changed. Mr. Presuto said he would investigate and asked Mr. McKenzie to contact him by email. Mr. McKenzie also asked if audio or video of the meetings is recorded, suggesting it would be helpful for people who are hearing impaired. Mr. Presuto said that, because board policy does not call for recording meetings, the board and policy committee would need to discuss it and possibly address with a policy update.

Steve Bossen asked if the district will establish a pandemic response team. Mr. Presuto responded that each school has a team, and Mr. Gardberg responded that the district team has been meeting.

Natavia Hayes commented on diversity and in-school suspensions.

Jessica Mondino, parent of an incoming preschooler, asked about orientation. Mr. Presuto asked her to contact him by email.

Allison Gurdes, referring to the hybrid schedule, complimented Mr. Presuto, recommended including specials for in-person schooling to give students and staff a break, and asked what the specialists will do during in-person schooling if their classes will be 100% virtual.

T'Anna Kimbrough sent an email asking who is facilitating the summer reading of the book "Everyday Antiracism." Mr. Presuto responded that group discussion was planned for the administrators' retreat, which was canceled.

XIII. DISTRICT WIDE HIB REPORT

None

XIV. OTHER BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

None

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Mrs. Darling and seconded by Mrs. LeFebvre, the following motion was presented for approval to enter Executive Session at 9:06 pm. All present voted in favor. Mr. Cartelli and Mrs. Shollenberger were absent.

Be it resolved, that the following portion of this meeting dealing with the following generally described matters shall not be open to the public: Personnel matters; Current or Potential Litigation; and Matters of Attorney/Client Privilege. Be it further resolved, that it is anticipated that the matters to be considered in private may be disclosed to the public at a later date when confidentiality is no longer required. Be it further resolved, that private consideration is deemed required and is permitted because of the following noted exceptions set forth in the Open Public Meetings Act: Would constitute an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy; Related to investigation of violations or possible violations of the law; Related to pending/anticipated litigation or contract negotiations in which the Public body is or may be a party; and Falls within the attorney-client privilege and confidentiality is required.

NO ACTION BE TAKEN

Having no further business in closed executive session, a Motion was made by Mrs. LeFebvre and seconded by Mrs. Doherty to adjourn executive session at 9:34 pm and return to open session. All present voted in favor. Mr. Cartelli and Mrs. Shollenberger were absent.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business before the Board, a motion was made by Mrs. Doherty and seconded by Mrs. LeFebvre to adjourn at 9:35 pm. All present voted in favor. Mr. Cartelli and Mrs. Shollenberger were absent.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven Gardberg
Board Secretary

BOARD APPROVAL: