

BOONTON TOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

434 Lathrop Avenue, Boonton, NJ 07005

December 14, 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 December 14, 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 December 14, 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. Joseph Geslao, Mr. Patrick Joyce, Mrs. Loren Katsakos, Mrs. Irene LeFebvre, Mrs. Jennifer Shollenberger. Mrs. Sandra Vucenovic joined at 7:31. Absent was Mr. Chris Cartelli.

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. Doherty and seconded by Mrs. LeFebvre, all present voted to enter Executive Session. Mr. Cartelli was 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

On a motion at 7:59 pm by Mr. Doherty and seconded by Mrs. Katsakos, all present voted to adjourn executive session and return to open session. Mr. Cartelli was absent.

V. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board reconvened in open session at 8:01 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Approximately 10 members of the public were in attendance, as well as the administrator Judy Sorochnykyj.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

None

VII. LIAISON REPORTS

1. John Hill School by Josie Meyer, student representative: Toy drive, patriotism contest, drama club, cookie recipe collection.
2. Boonton High School by Batisse Manhardt, SRA President: Thanksgiving gratitude week, Instagram account, fall sports, winter spirit week, gingerbread house competition, club activities.
3. Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) K-8 by Sue Chara-Post: Fundraisers (flocking, Box Tops, Amazon Smile, spirit wear, Kidstuff), Dinners-to-Go on January 11 at Pasquale's, assemblies, next meeting on January 12.
4. Home School Association 9-12: None
5. Board of Aldermen by Joe Bock: Semi-monthly meetings continue virtually.

VIII. ORDER OF THE DAY

A motion was made by Mrs. Darling and seconded by Mrs. Doherty to approve the order of the day. All present voted in favor. Mr. Cartelli was absent.

IX. MINUTES

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

1. Regular and Executive session: November 23, 2020

X. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

XI. ITEMS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION

A. SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Presuto reported on the Google service outage this morning; parent survey about the return to in-person instruction and Bridges after-school program; Chromebooks shipping from the vendor; state computer science grant coordinated by Fairleigh Dickinson University; teachers and educational professionals of the year. Mr. Presuto also offered thank-you to Jim Grube, Lincoln Park superintendent, who is retiring; and Dave Mayhood, Boonton Chief of Police, who

B. ADMINISTRATION

PK8 Resolutions

Approval of Admin PK8 resolutions #1-3 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. Shollenberger. NO: None. ABSENT: Mr. Cartelli.

1. Long-Term Leave Replacement Teacher: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Ashley Perri as a long-term leave replacement Social Studies Teacher at John Hill School, at the salary of \$57,204 (Step 1 BA), pro-rated from date CEAS is issued through March 12, 2021. Ms. Perri will be paid the daily substitute rate of \$125.00 until the certificate is issued.
2. Placement: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the placement of Student State ID# 6524710533-B to attend Knollwood Elementary School as per N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1d, effective September 26, 2020, for the 2020-2021 school year, at a cost of \$16,067.
3. Virtual Fieldwork Assignment: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves a 60-hour virtual fieldwork assignment for Steven Sanfilippo, Fairleigh Dickinson University, effective when background check clears, under the supervision of Terence O'Dell.

PK12 Resolutions

Approval of Admin PK12 resolutions #1-6 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. Shollenberger, Mrs. Vucenovic. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Mr. Cartelli.

1. Volunteers: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator the Board approves the following to serve as district wide volunteers during the 2020-2021 school year:

Marc Ficarra	Jennifer Osborne	Jennifer DeStefano
Allyson Gerdes		
2. District's Fire Drill and On-Roll Reports: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the District's Fire Drill and On-Roll Reports for the month of November 2020.
3. Letter of Resignation: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board accepts a letter of resignation from Jeffrey Dembiak, Boonton High School Paraprofessional, effective close of day January 29, 2021, for the purpose of retirement.
4. Outside Evaluation: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Dr. Fennelly to conduct a psychiatric evaluation for Student State ID# 6140341184-B at a fee of \$700.
5. Submission of 2020-2021 QSAC District Performance Review: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the 2020-2021 District Performance Review of the data for the 2019-2020 school year as per NJQSAC.
6. Sidebar Agreement: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the Sidebar to the Agreement between the Board of Education and the Boonton Education Association for the Association to withdraw the "Office Hours" grievance and for the parties to agree with the 100% "Virtual Instruction" during the 2020-2021 school year.

C. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Gardberg reported the district's auditor met with the Operations Committee tonight about the FY2020 audit; School Street roof is waiting on the new ladder; meeting with administrators for the FY2022 budget; meal counts improved dramatically after posting to the district's Facebook page; and additional funds from the CARES Act.

D. OPERATIONS

Mr. Geslao reported on the auditor's presentation to the Operations Committee and looking to add security vestibule at School Street School.

Approval of Operations resolutions #1-11 was moved by Mr. Geslao and seconded by Mrs. Darling. On roll call the resolutions were approved. YES: Mrs. Darling, Mrs. Doherty, Mr. Ezzi, Mr. Geslao, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mrs. Shollenberger, Mrs. Vucenovic. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Mr. Cartelli.

1. Payments: The Board approves these Check Journals.
\$5,343.40 11/30/2020 (machine checks)
\$958,910.68 12/14/2020 (machine checks)
\$2,718,259.57 11/01 -- 11/30/2020 (electronic checks, including payroll)
2. Transfer Reports: The Board approves Transfer Reports for the month ending 11/30/2020.
3. Reports of the Board Secretary and Treasurer: The Board approves reports of the Board Secretary and Treasurer for the month ending 11/30/2020.
4. Payroll Expenses: The Board approves the following payroll expenses.
11/15/2020 \$886,270.48
11/30/2020 \$889,926.12
5. Professional Development: The Board approves these professional development expenses, in accordance with OMB Guidelines, State travel regulations and/or employee contracts.

Name	Date (s)	Workshop / Conference	Total Cost
Cunningham, Elisabeth	11/16/20 - 12/7/20	Seesaw and Connected Aps for the Music Teacher - Online	\$355.00
Sayle, Marianne	1/13/21	Catching Up Your English Language Learners Who Have Fallen Behind	\$279.00
Danzi, Patrise	12/10/20	Excel workshop	\$25.00

6. Athletics Officials: The Board approves to use VantageSportz for paying athletics officials, incurring a fee of \$1.95 per official per pay period, for interscholastic athletic events hosted by the John Hill School and Boonton High School athletics teams, estimated not to exceed \$1,927, included in the estimated total of \$44,000.
7. CARES Act Funding: The Board accepts a revised award of \$187,143 (increased by \$27,761 from the amount of \$159,382 previously approved on September 28, 2020) from the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund, provided by the federal

Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, for 2019-2020, to provide funding to support areas impacted by the disruption and closure of schools from COVID-19.

8. Grant Application: The Board approves submission of the Ruth Halvorsen Professional Development Grant application to the National Arts Education Foundation.
9. Grant Application: The Board approves submission of the FY2020 National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grant application to the USDA in the amount of \$22,943.05.
10. SOP Manual: The Board approves the Business Office Standard Operating Procedures Manual for 2020-2021.
11. Disposal of Records: The Board approves the disposal of public records per New Jersey Division of Archives and Records Management Guidelines. Authorization for disposal was approved by the Department of Treasury on 12/10/2020, Authorization #568770.

E. POLICY

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

1. Final Reading of Revisions to Policy #2422 – Health and Physical Education: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the final reading of revisions to Policy #2422 – Health and Physical Education, as per the attached.

F. REPORTS FROM BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

1. HS Committee by Mrs. Shollenberger: Next meeting is December 17.
2. Communications/Legislation by Mrs. LeFebvre: Changes in legislation are moving fast, notably for QSAC reviews.
3. ESC by Mrs. LeFebvre: Next meeting is in January.
4. MCSBA by Mrs. LeFebvre: None
5. NJSBA by Mrs. LeFebvre: Today was a meeting for county leaders; upcoming meeting about working with the press.
6. Curriculum by Mrs. Katsakos: Topics at the committee meeting on December 10 included distance learning; grades during marking period 1; BHS staff “adopting” students; improving student engagement; preparations for QSAC review; special education and ELL subgroups; applying for BHS academies and Gateway; Also, the Diversity Council met last week.
7. PR/Communications by Mrs. Doherty: None

XII. OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

None

XIII. DISTRICT WIDE HIB REPORT

None

XIV. OTHER BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

Mr. Gardberg: Next meeting on January 4, 2021, is the annual reorganization, when members starting new terms join the board after taking the oath of office.

Members thanked Mr. Joyce and Mrs. Shollenberger, whose last meeting is tonight, for their service.

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion at 8:47 by Mrs. LeFebvre and seconded by Mrs. Darling, all present voted to adjourn. Mr. Cartelli was absent.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven Gardberg
Board Secretary

BOARD APPROVAL: