

BOONTON TOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

434 Lathrop Avenue, Boonton, NJ 07005

January 25, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Boonton Town Board of Education, of Morris County, New Jersey, held a meeting via Zoom at 7:30 pm on January 25, 2021.

II. OPEN PUBLIC MEETING

Mrs. Irene LeFebvre, Board President, called the meeting to order, and Mr. Steven Gardberg, Board Secretary, read the following statement: This is the January 25, 2021, 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, the Citizen 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 Mr. Chris Cartelli, Mrs. Jennifer Darling, Dr. Crystal Davis, Mrs. Elaine Doherty, Mr. Bob Ezzi, Mr. Joseph Geslao, Ms. Natavia Hayes, Mrs. Loren Katsakos, Mrs. Irene LeFebvre, Mrs. Sandra Vucenovic.

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

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 8:02 pm by Mrs. Doherty and seconded by Mrs. Darling, all present voted to adjourn executive session and return to open session.

V. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board reconvened in open session at 8:04 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Approximately 20 members of the public were in attendance, as well as the administrators Sara Brogan, Rebecca Kipp-Newbold, Jason Klebez and Judy Sorochnykyj.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

None

VII. LIAISON REPORTS

1. John Hill School by Josie Meyer, student representative: Earn Your Wings, Take Flight
2. Boonton High School by Batisse Manhardt, SRA President: Basketball, floral decorations
3. Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) K-8: Dinners-to-Go, virtual assemblies in February thru April, spring book fairs, and next meetings is on February 9.
4. Home School Association 9-12: None
5. Board of Aldermen by Richard Corcoran: Serving as the liaison this year, budget cycle, new employees (CFO, AP and Public Safety Director)

VIII. ORDER OF THE DAY

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

IX. MINUTES

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

1. Regular and Executive session: January 4, 2020

X. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

XI. ITEMS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION

A. SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH

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

1. School Board Recognition: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves commending the efforts of colleagues and urges the public to support efforts to improve education, per the attached resolution.

B. SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Presuto reported on the FY20 audit, reopening school for PreK-5 and 6-12, COVID and vaccinations.

C. ADMINISTRATION

Mrs. Katsakos thanked the retiring staff, Mrs. Bednar and Mrs. Whitney-Morley, for their service.

PK8 Resolutions

Approval of Admin PK8 resolutions #1-5 was moved by Mrs. Katsakos and seconded by Mr. Cartelli. On roll call the resolutions were approved. YES: Mr. Cartelli, Mrs. Darling, Dr. Davis, Mrs. Doherty, Mr. Ezzi, Mr. Geslao, Ms. Hayes, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mrs. Vucenovic. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

1. Bridges to Learning Before/After School Staff: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following for the Bridges to Learning Before/After School Program at School Street School and John Hill School for the 2020-2021 school year. The assignment of hours is contingent on enrollment and the program running, and appointment is no guarantee of assignment of hours.

Lead Teachers at \$31/hr: Amy Zaniewski, Bridget Burke-Weiss, Jennifer George

Substitute Lead Teachers at \$31/hr: Dina Davis, Nicole Pollina

Adult Support Staff at \$19/hr: Jessica Giordano, Zoraya Forero, Madelyn Leva, Julia Leva

Substitute Adult Support Staff at \$19/hr: Dylan Capalbo, Deb Salemi

College Support Staff at \$13/hr: Kaylee Kravis

Substitute College Support Staff at \$13/hr: Abira Khan, Victoria Mierzwa, Rebekah Olexsak, Hannah Salemi

2. Letter of Resignation: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board accepts a letter of resignation from Patricia Bednar, John Hill School Elementary Teacher, effective June 30, 2021, for the purpose of retirement.
3. Letter of Resignation: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board accepts a letter of resignation from Lillian Whitney-Morley, John Hill School Special Education Teacher, effective May 1, 2021, for the purpose of retirement.
4. Letter of Resignation: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board accepts a letter of resignation from Leo Recon, John Hill School Custodian, effective January 8, 2021.
5. Appointment of Custodian: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Maria Hidalgo to the position of Custodian, John Hill School, at a salary of \$37,622 (Step 1), pro-rated for 2/1 – 6/30/2021.

PK12 Resolutions

Approval of Admin PK12 resolutions #1-10 was moved by Mrs. Katsakos and seconded by Mrs. Darling. On roll call the resolutions were approved. YES: Mr. Cartelli, Mrs. Darling, Dr. Davis, Mrs. Doherty, Mr. Ezzi, Mr. Geslao, Ms. Hayes, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mrs. Vucenovic. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

1. 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 December 2020.
2. Additions to Substitute List: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following additions to the 2020-2021 substitute list.

Substitute Teacher / Paraprofessional: Madelyn Leva, Jenna Guirgis*
*Pending receipt of certification
3. Appointment of Paraprofessional: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Gerald Davidove to the position of Paraprofessional, Boonton High School, at a salary of \$34,498 (Step 2) prorated from February 1, 2021, for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.
4. Leave of Absence: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves a leave of absence for Melissa Bialick, Boonton High School Psychologist, effective 5/20 – 6/30/2021, utilizing 21 days of accumulated sick time, followed by an unpaid leave of absence.
5. Unpaid Financial Internship: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves an unpaid financial internship for Michael Clarke, effective 1/11 – 6/30/2021.
6. Volunteer: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Justine Cirinelli to serve as a districtwide volunteer during the 2020-2021 school year.
7. Appointment of Part-Time Bus Aide: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Dylan Capalbo as a part-time bus aide effective February 1, 2021, for the 2020-2021 school year, at \$26.53/hr (Step 1), for up to 4.5 hr/day.
8. Extra Hours: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves up to an additional 0.75 hr/day effective January 19, 2021, through the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year for Maureen Cosentino to ride the bus with SSS/JHS/BHS students, before and after the school day (based on in-person hybrid schedule), at \$27.28/hr. Rebecca Ross will serve as the alternate, on an as needed basis, at \$27.28/hr.
9. Extra Hours: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves up to an additional 0.25 hours per day effective February 1, 2021, through the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year for Clare Zarzecki to assist BHS student(s) off the bus before school (based on in-person hybrid schedule), at \$27.28/hr. Kathleen Post will serve as the alternate, on an as needed basis, at \$27.28/hr.

10. Contract for Superintendent: Moved that the Board of Education approves the employment contract and detailed statement of contract costs for Robert Presuto, Superintendent of Schools, approved by the Executive County Superintendent, for the term July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2025, in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth therein.

D. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Gardberg reported on the FY20 audit, school lunch, DOA grant for kitchen equipment.

E. OPERATIONS

Mr. Geslao reported on the FY20 audit, Chromebooks for students, School Street security vestibule, FY22 budget and replacing water fountains.

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

1. Payments: The Board approves these Check Journals.

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|----------------|--|
| \$473,957.74 | 1/25/2021 (machine checks) |
| \$478,788.08 | 1/7 – 1/13/2021 (machine checks) |
| \$2,743,064.51 | 12/1 – 12/31/2020 (electronic checks, including payroll) |
2. Transfer Reports: The Board approves Transfer Reports for the month ending 12/31/2020.
3. Reports of the Board Secretary and Treasurer: The Board approves reports of the Board Secretary and Treasurer for the month ending 12/31/2020.
4. Contract: The Board approves awarding the contracts for Chromebook cases to CDW Government for \$10,750 and \$13,500, per ESCNJ Co-op contract #18/19-03, using federal CARES/ESSER funds.
5. Change Order: The Board approves change order #1 in the amount of \$1,839.62 for the School Street School roofing project, awarded on August 24, 2020, to Weatherproofing Technologies Inc.

F. POLICY

There were no Policy motions to move.

G. REPORTS FROM BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

1. HS Committee by Mrs. Doherty: Next meeting is the week of February 15.
2. Communications/Legislation by Mrs. LeFebvre: None
3. ESC by Mrs. LeFebvre: Fee schedule was approved at the last Executive committee meeting with a significant increase for one group.
4. MCSBA by Mrs. LeFebvre: Next meeting is on February 11.

5. NJSBA by Mrs. LeFebvre: Board of Directors meets on February 5, and virtual meetings continue.
6. Curriculum by Mrs. Katsakos: Suggesting to meet on the second Tuesday each month; reported on the launch of Atlas for online curriculum mapping.
7. PR/Communications by Mrs. Doherty: None

XII. OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

None

XIII. DISTRICT WIDE HIB REPORT

There were no HIB motions to move.

XIV. OTHER BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

Mrs. LeFebvre thanked members for accepting their committee assignments.

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion at 8:52 by Mrs. Doherty and seconded by Mrs. Darling, all present voted to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven Gardberg
Board Secretary

BOARD APPROVAL: