

BOONTON TOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

434 Lathrop Avenue, Boonton, NJ 07005

November 22, 2021

The Boonton Town Board of Education, of Morris County, New Jersey, held a meeting at John Hill School, 435 Lathrop Ave, Boonton, NJ, at 7:30 pm on November 22, 2021.

Mrs. Irene LeFebvre, Board President, called the meeting to order, and Mr. Steven Gardberg, Board Secretary, read the following statement: This is the November 22, 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.

ROLL CALL

Members present at roll call were Mr. Chris Cartelli, Mrs. Jennifer Darling, Dr. Crystal Davis, Mrs. Elaine Doherty(remote), 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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion at 7:31 pm by and seconded by Mrs. Darling, 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 7:56 pm by Mrs. Darling and seconded by Mr. Geslao, all present voted to adjourn executive session and return to open session.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board reconvened in open session at 8:00 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Approximately 5 members of the public were in attendance, as well as the administrator Judy Sorochnyskyj.

ORDER OF THE DAY

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

CORRESPONDENCE

None

LIAISON REPORTS

1. John Hill School: None
2. Boonton High School by Batisse Manhardt, SRA President: Powder puff football; gratitude; new lockers; winter sports; Student Council meeting; prom fundraiser; winter recess prep rally; door decorating contest.
3. Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) K-8 by Sue Chara-Post: Tricky Tray > \$20k; Square One; assemblies; Amazon Smiles; flocking; Box Tops.
4. Home School Association 9-12: None
5. Town Council by Mayor Richard Corcoran: None

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Steve Bossen, Boonton Town: 1) Policy 5751 "welcome sexual conduct items"? Mrs. LeFebvre to table Policy item #2. 2) Personnel

SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Presuto reported on Middle States accreditation process; congratulates fall athletes; no weekly update this week; Governor Murphy press conference and mask mandate; Happy Thanksgiving.

ITEMS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION

A. Minutes

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

1. Regular and Executive session: November 8, 2021

B. ADMINISTRATION

PK8 Resolutions

Approval of Admin PK8 resolutions #1-13 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. 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, John Hill School and Boonton High School for the 2021-2022 school year.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Madison Affinito	Adult Support Staff Sub	\$20/hr
Debra Nunn	Adult Support Staff	\$20/hr

2. Bridges to Learning Enrichment Staff: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Beth Phelps for the Bridges to Learning Enrichment Staff at John Hill School during the 2021-2022 school year, to be paid \$30 - \$65 per hour, based upon enrollment. Minimum enrollment numbers must be met in order for program to run.
3. Leave of Absence Request: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves a leave of absence request for Susan Viggiano, Elementary Social Studies Teacher, John Hill School, effective January 18, 2022, utilizing a total of 29 accumulated sick days followed by an unpaid leave of absence through June 30, 2022.
4. Leave of Absence Request: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves a leave of absence request for Marcia Cifelli, Paraprofessional, School Street School, effective November 18, 2021, through January 2, 2022, utilizing 20 days of accumulated sick days, followed by an unpaid leave of absence.
5. Long-Term Leave Replacement Paraprofessional: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Debora Acevedo as the long-term leave replacement Paraprofessional at School Street School, at a salary of \$35,142 (Step 4), prorated from November 22 through December 23, 2021, pending the outcome of negotiations.
6. Amend Contract for Long-Term Leave Lunch Aide: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator the Board approves to amend the contract for Elizabeth DeVincenzo, long-term leave lunch aide, School Street School, to extend through December 10, 2021 (previously approved on October 11, 2021, to extend through November 23, 2021).
7. Approval of Paraprofessional: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Wafia Larbi-Cherif to the position of Paraprofessional, School Street School, at a salary of \$35,142 (Step 4), prorated from November 16, 2021 through June 30, 2022, pending outcome of negotiations.
8. Extra Hours for Attendance Duties: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following extra hours for attendance duties at School Street School effective November 23, 2021, for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year at \$27.28/hr, pending outcome of negotiations.
 Debbie Salemi: Two extra hours per day for 3 days/wk
 Ann Tvedt: Two extra hours per day for 2 days/wk.
9. Field Trip: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following field trip destination for the 2021-2022 school year.

<u>Group</u>	<u>Destination</u>
Grades 6-8	Morris Museum, Morristown
10. Staff for Before and/or After School Academic Support: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following staff for before and/or after school Academic Support, dependent on enrollment, at John Hill School and School Street School, during the 2021-2022 school year at \$40/hr for certified staff positions, pending outcome of negotiations and \$21/hr for non-certified staff positions, pending outcome of negotiations, for up to 3 days/wk for 1.5 hr/day, paid with ESSER III funds.

<u>Certified Positions</u>			
Lynn Bariso	Dina Davis	Erika Faruolo	Lacee Gold
Kristin Groeneveld	Jenna Irwin	Karen Kovall	Laura O'Shea

<u>Certified Substitutes</u>		
Laura Baseil	Tracy Paulozzo	Laura Sudak

<u>Non-certified Positions</u>	
Kathy Beiermeister	Deb Gleeson

11. Home Instruction: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the provision of home instruction for Student State ID# 5230919871-B, for up to 10 hr/wk, beginning 11/16/2021, provided by approved home instructors at \$40/hr pending the outcome of negotiations.
12. Resignation from Coach: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board accepts a letter of resignation from Zachary Sabatino, John Hill School Baseball Coach effective November 17, 2021.
13. Staff for Title III Family Engagement Events: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Janet Chauhan for up to 3 hours for planning and presentation of programs per event for ELL Family nights during the 2021-2022 school year at \$40/hr, pending the outcome of negotiations, paid with Title III funds.

PK12 Resolutions

Approval of Admin PK12 resolutions #1-12 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. Field Trips: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following field trip destinations for the 2021-2022 school year.

<u>Group</u>	<u>Destination</u>
Grades 9-12	Lincoln Tech, South Plainfield
Grades 10-11	Caldwell College
2. Amend Start Date for Director of Special Services: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves to amend the start date for Danica Davidman, Director of Special Services to December 1, 2021 (previously approved as December 2, 2021, on September 13, 2021).
3. Appointment of Custodian: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the appointment of Marta Lucy Robles Polo to the position of Custodian, Boonton High School, at a salary of \$37,622 (Step 1), pro-rated from date of background clearance for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year, pending the outcome of negotiations.

4. Appointment of Bus Driver: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the appointment of Karina Avilez to the position of bus driver at an hourly rate of \$29.78 (Step B), pending outcome of negotiations, for 25 hr/wk, effective November 22, 2021, pending receipt of required documents.
5. Extra Hours: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves 5 extra hours to each of the following staff members for additional case management responsibilities from September to November 2021.
Cassidy Buchanan at \$42.76/hr and Julie Rienzi at \$56.49/hr, pending outcome of negotiations.
6. District-Wide Volunteers: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following to serve as district wide volunteers during the 2021-2022 school year.

Cynthia Tserkis-Schlitt	Jessica Rodriguez	Carly Pena
Jennifer Pratt	Jennifer Douglas-Kruk	
7. Outside Evaluation: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Morris County Educational Services Commission to conduct a psychological evaluation for Student State ID# 3040754169-B, at a fee of \$392.00.
8. Home Instructors: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Kathleen Foley and Andrea Villegas to provide home instruction during the 2021-2022 school year, based on individual certifications, at \$40/hr, pending the outcome of negotiations.
9. Home Instruction: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the provision of home instruction for Student State ID# 3101362241-LP, for up to 4 hr/wk, beginning 11/12/2021, with instructional services provided by approved home instructors at \$40/hr, pending the outcome of negotiations.
10. Volunteer Weight Room Supervisors: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following staff to serve as volunteer weight room supervisors during the 2021-2022 school year.

Bryan Gallagher	Josh Corporan	Ryan Connolly
Peter Llaneza	Peter Neinstadt	Peter Nosal
11. School Safety and Security Plan Statement of Assurance: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the School Safety and Security Plan Annual Review Statement of Assurance.
12. Addition to Substitute List: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves William Charlton as a substitute teacher/aide for the 2021-2022 school year, pending receipt of background check.

C. OPERATIONS

Mr. Gardberg reported on Grant for Bridges; BHS bathroom renovations; FY23 budget; LGEA.

Mr. Geslao reported on facility use/rental for summer; new state grant \$34k; new bus driver; \$5M state program for HVAC; and appropriation of FY21 ExAid in FY22.

Approval of Operations resolutions #1-7 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.

\$429,899.88	11/22/2021 (machine checks)
\$10,754.64	11/22/2021 (ACH payments)
\$2,901,663.16	10/01 – 10/31/2021 (electronic checks, including payroll)

2. Transfer Reports: The Board approves Transfer Reports for the month ending 10/31/2021.

3. Reports of the Board Secretary and Treasurer: The Board approves reports of the Board Secretary and Treasurer for the month ending 10/31/2021.

4. 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
Cassidy Buchanan	11/29 - 11/30/2021	Ethical Issues in Social Worker Practice- Rutgers University Virtual Workshop	\$100.00
Marianne Sayle	6/1/2022	NJTESOL/NJBE Spring Conference	\$281.42
Dalia Ibrahim	6/2/2022	NJTESOL/NJBE Spring Conference	\$281.42

5. Use of Facilities: The Board approves the District Facilities Use List of 11/22/2021 to organizations, provided all required documents are submitted. District teams have priority. No activities on days school is closed. Use of all gyms and fields are coordinated with Mr. Huguen, Athletic Director. All permits are pending building administration final approval and receipt of documentation.

Permit #	Requested by / Facility / Dates
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2111-0000	Boonton Football Parents – Parking for away game BHS – Parking Lot Friday 11/12/21 (5:00 - 11:00 pm)
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6. Grant Application: The Board approves submission of the \$1,000 Hiring and Retention Bonus Grant to the New Jersey Department of Human Services for \$61,000 for the Bridges to Learning program.

7. 2021-2022 District Budget: The Board approves a \$255,955 appropriation of FY2021 under-budgeted Extraordinary Aid revenue in the account lines below.

<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11-000-100-566	\$180,000
11-000-217-320	53,000
<u>11-000-270-514</u>	<u>22,955</u>
TOTAL	\$255,955

D. POLICY

Approval of Policy resolutions #1 was moved by Mr. Cartelli 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. Final Reading of Policy #1648.14 – Safety Plan for Healthcare Settings in School Buildings -
Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the final reading of Policy #1648.14 – Safety Plan for Healthcare Settings in School Buildings, as per the attached.
2. **Tabled:** Final Reading of Revisions to Policy & Regulation #5751 – Sexual Harassment -
Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the final reading of revisions to Policy & Regulation #5751 – Sexual Harassment, as per the attached.

E. DISTRICT WIDE HIB REPORT

On a motion by Mr. Cartelli and seconded by Mrs. Darling, the Board approved by roll call to affirm the findings and recommendations of the Superintendent on the following Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying complaints: JHS #7.

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.

F. OTHER BUSINESS

There were no motions to move.

REPORTS FROM BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

1. HS Committee by Mrs. Vucenovic: AP scores; sports teams; Jan 13 next meeting; Presentations to 8th graders and parents.
2. Curriculum by Mrs. Katsakos: Meeting on December 14
3. PR/Communications by Mrs. Doherty: None
4. Communications/Legislation by Mrs. LeFebvre: Lame duck session in Trenton
5. ESC by Mrs. LeFebvre: Collective Bargaining agreement, trying to sell building
6. MCSBA by Mrs. LeFebvre: Meeting last week, next meeting in February
7. NJSBA by Mrs. LeFebvre: Last week Board of Director meeting and Delegate Assembly

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Steve Bossen, Boonton Town: Curriculum-Dates in Atlas still not showing.

Jeff Dee, Pequannock: Town Council Meetings-Constitutional Oath; EO's; mask mandate; ventilation and fresh air.

OTHER BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

Mrs. Katsakos: Boonton Historical Society Open House December 12

Mrs. LeFebvre: Former BOE member Edwin Collins passed away

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion at 8:50 pm by Mr. Ezzi and seconded by Mrs. Doherty, all present voted to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,
Steven Gardberg
Board Secretary

BOARD APPROVAL: