

BOONTON TOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

434 Lathrop Avenue, Boonton, NJ 07005

December 11, 2023

The Boonton Town Board of Education, of Morris County, New Jersey, held a meeting at Boonton High School, 306 Lathrop Ave, Boonton, NJ, at 7:30 pm on December 11, 2023.

The meeting was called to order, and the following statement was read: This is the December 11, 2023, 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 Mrs. Jennifer Darling, Dr. Crystal Davis, Mrs. Elaine Doherty, Ms. Natavia Hayes, Mr. Patrick Joyce, Mrs. Loren Katsakos, Mrs. Irene LeFebvre, Mr. Matthew Mondino, Mrs. Sandra Vucenovic. Absent was Mr. Christopher Cartelli.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion at 7:31 pm by Mr. Mondino and seconded by Mr. Joyce, 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 8:01 pm by Mrs. Doherty and seconded by Mr. Mondino, all present voted to adjourn executive session and return to open session.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board reconvened in open session at 8:04 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Approximately 5 members of the public were in attendance.

ORDER OF THE DAY

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

CORRESPONDENCE

None

LIAISON REPORTS

1. John Hill School by Skylar Brady, student representative: Toy drive; sports; concerts; assembly; teacher and support staff of the year; DC trip
2. Boonton High School by Ashley Suplicki, SRA President: Sports; pep rally; spirit week; door decorating contest; teacher vs student basketball game; Gateway guest speaker; Criminal Justice Academy
3. Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) K-8 by Caitlyn Magennis: Craft market; cookie pick up; parents night out; assemblies; spirit wear recycling
4. Home School Association 9-12 by Mrs. Darling: Calendar raffle
5. Town Council: None

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

SUPERINTENDENT

- A. District News and Updates: Thank you to Dr. Davis and Natavia Hayes for their service to the Board; Educators and Support Staff of the Year; Math and Science Night; Concerts; Helping Hands Club and Key Club; PTA holiday craft market;
- B. NJQSAC Update: Voting tonight and visit on January 10 by Department of Education

ITEMS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION

A. Minutes

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

1. Regular and Executive session: November 27, 2023

B. ADMINISTRATION

PK8 Resolutions

Approval of Admin PK8 resolutions #1-10 was moved by Dr. Davis and seconded by Mrs. Darling. YES: Mrs. Darling, Dr. Davis, Mrs. Doherty, Ms. Hayes, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mr. Mondino. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Mr. Cartelli.

1. Leave of Absence: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator the Board approves a leave of absence for Lauren Dedoussis, Elementary Teacher, John Hill School effective April 22, 2024, utilizing 25 days of accumulated sick days followed by an unpaid leave of absence through November 10, 2024.

2. Detention Monitor: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Joseph Diaz as a Detention Monitor at John Hill School at a rate of \$26 per hour for the 2023-2024 school year.

3. Field Trip: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following field trip destination for the 2023-2024 school year:

<u>Grade/Group</u>	<u>Destination</u>
Grades K-8 (CBI)	Roma Pizzeria

4. 8th Grade Overnight Field Trip: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the 8th grade overnight field trip to Washington, DC for March 20-22, 2024.

5. Chaperones for 8th Grade Overnight Field Trip: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following staff members and stipends to chaperone the 8th grade overnight field trip to Washington, DC March 20-22, 2024:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Stipend Rate @ \$40 per night</u>
Amanda Sheehan	\$80.00
Bevin Hughen	\$80.00
Sara Brogan	\$80.00
Kelli Shiels	\$80.00
Terrence O'Dell	\$80.00
Gregory LaPointe	\$80.00

6. Elementary Before and/or After School Academic Support Certified Staff: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Corrine Norton for Elementary Before and/or After School Academic Support during the 2023-2024 school year at John Hill School at a rate of \$40 per hour, for up to 2 days per week and up to 1 hour per day, dependent on enrollment to be paid for with Title I ESSER II and III funds.

7. Bridges to Learning Enrichment Activity Payments: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves up to \$75 per person to plan and run enrichment activities during the Bridges to Learning program, not to exceed \$1,450 for John Hill School and \$25 for Boonton High School, utilizing the NJ ARP Stabilization Grant.

8. Approval of Certified Staff Member: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Amy Macaluso to the position of Preschool Disabilities Teacher, John Hill School, at a salary of \$64,825 (Step 1/MA) prorated from January 4, 2024, pending receipt of certification, for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year, and further be paid the \$130 daily substitute rate of pay until certification is issued.

9. Home Instruction: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the provision of home instruction for Student State ID# 9732235202-B, for up to 10 hours per week, beginning November 28, 2023, with instruction to be provided by district-approved home instructors at a rate of \$40 per hour.

10. Outside Evaluation: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Dr. Sostre-Oquendo, MD, to conduct a Psychiatric Evaluation for Student State ID# 9732235202-B, at a cost of \$1,000.

PK12 Resolutions

Approval of Admin PK12 resolutions #1-15 was moved by Dr. Davis and seconded by Mrs. Darling. YES: Mrs. Darling, Dr. Davis, Mrs. Doherty, Ms. Hayes, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mr. Mondino, Mrs. Vucenovic. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Mr. Cartelli.

1. Field Trips: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following field trip destinations for the 2023-2024 school year:

<u>Grade/Group</u>	<u>Destination</u>
Grades 11-12 (Business Law Class)	Boonton Court House
Grades 9-12 (CBI)	Roma Pizzeria

2. District On-Roll Report: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the District's On-Roll Report for the month of November 2023.

3. Common Lunch Monitor: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Julie Rienzi as a Common Lunch Monitor at Boonton High School at a stipend of \$3,000, prorated from January 16, 2024, for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year.

4. 6th Period Stipend for Certified Staff Member: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves a 6th period stipend, for Rachel Olivo in the amount of \$5,500 prorated from December 12, 2023 through June 30, 2024, as per the Agreement Between the BEA and the Board of Education.

5. Safe Return to School Plan for the 2023-2024 School Year: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the Department of Education's required Safe Return to School Plan for the 2023-2024 school year, as per the attached.

6. QSAC Committee Members: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following individuals as members of the NJQSAC Committee who assisted to complete the 2023-2024 District Performance Review Data:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
Thomas Valle	Chief School Administrator
Rebecca Kipp-Newbold	District Administrative Staff
Christopher Hurd	Teacher
Steven Gardberg	School Business Administrator
Meghan Stratton	Curriculum and Instruction Representative
Louis Castano	Curriculum and Instruction Representative
Robert Davidson	Local Collective Bargaining Representative
Irene LeFebvre	District Board of Education Member

7. Statement of Assurance and District Performance Review Data: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the 2023-2024 Statement of Assurance and District Performance Review Data for NJQSAC:

WHEREAS, the Boonton Board of Education in the County of Morris is undergoing evaluation under NJ QSAC for the 2023-2024 school year, and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:30-3.2(f) requires participating school districts to hold a public meeting to approve the submission of the district's DPR responses and the Statement of Assurance with respect to this process, and

WHEREAS, the Boonton Board of Education has reviewed the district's DPR responses and Statement of Assurance and hereby approves these documents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Boonton Board of Education does hereby authorize the Superintendent of Schools to submit the DPRs and Statement of Assurance.

8. Assistant Advisor: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Michelle McBride as Peer Leadership Assistant Advisor at Boonton High School at a stipend of \$1,030, prorated from January 16, 2024 for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year.
9. Acceptance of Letter of Resignation from Coach and Approve Head Coach: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board accepts a letter of resignation from Colleen Faessinger, Assistant Girls Lacrosse Coach, Boonton High School, and further approves Colleen Faessinger as Head Girls Lacrosse Coach, Boonton High School, at a stipend of \$11,231 (Step 4) for the 2023-2024 school year.
10. Volunteer Weight Room Supervisor: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Steven Delaporte as a volunteer weight room supervisor at Boonton High School during the 2023-2024 school year.
11. Volunteer Coach: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Jason Earle as a volunteer Boys Lacrosse Coach at Boonton High School for the 2023-2024 school year.
12. Home Instructors: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following staff members to provide home instruction during the 2023-2024 school year, based on their individual certifications, at a rate of \$40 per hour:

Christina Buck
Michael LaVaglio

Mia Fondacaro
Tiffanie Henry

Alyssa DeOrio

13. Home Instruction: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the provision of home instruction for Student State ID# 6811852377-B, for up to 10 hours per week, beginning November 29, 2023, with instruction to be provided by district approved home instructors at a rate of \$40 per hour.

14. Home Instruction: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the provision of home instruction for Student State ID# 8328796113-B, for up to 10 hours per week, beginning November 27, 2023, with instruction to be provided by Center for Children's Behavioral Health (CCBH) at a rate of \$95 per hour.
15. Addition to Substitute List: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Amy Macaluso to the 2023-2024 substitute teacher list.

C. OPERATIONS

Approval of Operations resolutions #1-11 was moved by Mrs. Darling and seconded by Mr. Mondino. YES: Mrs. Darling, Dr. Davis, Mrs. Doherty, Ms. Hayes, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mr. Mondino, Mrs. Vucenovic. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Mr. Cartelli.

1. Payments: The Board approves these Check Journals.

\$454,106.88	12/4/2023 (Check Journal)
\$19,934.20	12/4/2023 (ACH General)
\$248,495.89	12/11/2023 (Check Journal)
\$41,042.43	12/11/2023 (ACH Cafeteria)
\$81,275.51	12/11/2023 (ACH General)
\$3,134,227.20	10/01 -- 10/31/2023 (electronic checks, including payroll)
\$3,224,049.98	11/01 -- 11/30/2023 (electronic checks, including payroll)
2. Transfer Reports: The Board approves Transfer Reports for the month ending 10/31/2023 and 11/30/2023.
3. Reports of the Board Secretary and Treasurer: The Board approves reports of the Board Secretary and Treasurer for the months ending 10/31/2023 and 11/30/2023; major funds have not been over-expended.
4. Payroll Expenses: The Board approves the following payroll expenses.

\$1,043,044.88	11/15/2023
\$1,102,979.01	11/30/2023
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
Bevin Huguen	12/6/23	AVID Showcase White Plains, NY	\$52.67
Sara Brogan	12/6/23	AVID Showcase White Plains, NY	\$52.67
Marybeth Comer	12/6/23	AVID Showcase White Plains, NY	\$52.67
Steven Gardberg	12/12/23	NJASBO Pension Update, Whippany, NJ	\$125.00

6. Use of Facilities: The Board approves the District Facilities Use List of 12/11/2023 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
2311-0014	Boonton PTA: Fundraiser Pick Up JHS - Lobby Tuesday 12/12/2023 (2:30-6:00 PM)
2311-0015	Qawwali Night BHS Auditorium, Turf Lights Saturday 12/2/2023 (7:00-11:00 PM)

7. Agreement: The Board approves the agreement with Tri-County Behavioral Care for \$165 for each school clearance assessment and \$200 for each substance evaluation & treatment, as needed, for the 2023-2024 school year.
8. Transfer to Capital Reserve: The Board approves a transfer of \$55,532 from Fund 30 to the Capital Reserve account to return the remaining balance from the Boonton High School Roofing Upgrade project.
9. Corrective Action Plan FY2023: The Board accepts the Corrective Action Plan in response to the FY2023 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and Auditors Management Report (AMR).
10. Donation: The Board accepts donations of \$400 in prizes, supporting the Boonton HS Gateway Academy's Family Trivia Night on November 16, 2023, from 12 local businesses: AEV Contracting, Al-Aqsa Restaurant, B&D Cleaning Service, Bear Minimum, Boonton Antlers, Chili Willie's, Don's Sandwich Shop, Java Smugglers, Olde Towne Deli, Pasquale's, Pink Sunday Nails and Spa, and Tentaciones Colombianas Bakery and Café.
11. Transportation Agreement: The Board approves the transportation reimbursement for Student State ID# 6871142752-B for transportation to and from PG Chambers School in Cedar Knolls for the 2023-2024 school year, to be paid based on student attendance, not to exceed \$3,237.36.

D. POLICY

None.

E. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

REPORTS FROM BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

1. HS Committee by Mrs. Doherty: Met December 5; Student recognition; concerts; athletics; Education and Support Staff of the Year; College readiness; Student/Parent Info Sessions; Open House and admissions for Academies; Aviation Academy; AVID goals; Academy trips

2. Curriculum by Mrs. Katsakos: Department of Education new standards in ELA and Math; Computer Science and Design Thinking; PD visit by AVID staff to another district; PD re: data analysis; JHS focus on career and college readiness; Academies on track to have 100 hours of experimental learning; Grading philosophy; Seal of biliteracy
3. PR/Communications by Ms. Hayes: None
4. Communications/Legislation by Mrs. LeFebvre: Commissioner is retiring; State redistricting affected Town of Boonton state representative
5. ESC by Mrs. LeFebvre: None
6. MCSBA by Mrs. Darling: Met last week; February 8 virtual meeting
7. NJSBA by Mrs. LeFebvre: Delegate Assembly was held

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

None

OTHER BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

- Next meeting is on 1/8/2024

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion at 8:41 pm by Mr. Mondino and seconded by Mrs. Doherty, all present voted to approve the following resolution 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.

NO ACTION BE TAKEN

On a motion at 8:57 pm by Mrs. Darling and seconded by Mr. Joyce, all present voted to adjourn executive session and return to open session.

F. DISTRICT WIDE HIB REPORT

On a motion by Mr. Mondino 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: BHS #4, JHS #4-6.

YES: Mrs. Darling, Dr. Davis, Mrs. Doherty, Ms. Hayes, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mr. Mondino, Mrs. Vucenovic. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Mr. Cartelli.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion at 9:00 pm by Mrs. Katsakos and seconded by Mr. Mondino, all present voted to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven Gardberg
Board Secretary

BOARD APPROVAL: