

BOONTON TOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

434 Lathrop Avenue, Boonton, NJ 07005

March 11, 2024

The Boonton Town Board of Education, of Morris County, New Jersey, held a meeting at Boonton High School, 306 Lathrop Ave, Boonton, NJ, at 7:34 pm on March 11, 2024.

The meeting was called to order, and the following statement was read: This is the March 11, 2024, 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. Dawn Caicedo, Mrs. Jennifer Darling, Mrs. Elaine Doherty, Mr. Patrick Joyce, Mrs. Loren Katsakos, Mrs. Irene LeFebvre, Mr. Matthew Mondino, Ms. Brianna O'Halloran, Mr. Daniel Piccioni. Absent was Mr. Christopher Cartelli.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board 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 Mrs. Doherty 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: State testing; bookmark contest; DC trip; spirit week; yearbook; Read Across America
2. Boonton High School by SRA Secretary: Production of Grease; Spanish Club La Copa tournament; State testing; wrestling; spring pep rally
3. Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) K-8 by Lauren Wainer: Elections for board; March 12 meeting; assemblies; family game night; family STEM night; book fairs; graduate signs
4. Home School Association 9-12 by Mrs. Darling: Calendar raffle
5. Town Council by Robert Murray: Meeting about code violations

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Steve Bossen: Policies; Affirm Action Office

SUPERINTENDENT

- A. District News and Updates: Power outage today; 9th Grade-Edison, NJ for college fair; Consumer Bowl team won county competition; Charles Sagerer-Art contest winner; County student art show; Artwork on display at Mayo Performing Arts Center; 6th Grade-LEAD program; Read Across America; PreK family literacy night
- B. Budget discussion: Looking Forward at Boonton Schools
Mr. Steve Bossen: Asked about 2 % levy
PTA Representative: SRO presence at JHS
Mr. Robert Murray: HVAC; SRO

ITEMS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION

A. Minutes

Approval of minutes from previous meetings was moved by Mrs. Darling, seconded by Mr. Mondino, and approved on roll call. YES: Mrs. Caicedo, Mrs. Darling, Mrs. Doherty, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mr. Mondino, Ms. O'Halloran, Mr. Piccioni. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Mr. Cartelli.

1. Regular and Executive session: February 26, 2024

B. ADMINISTRATION

PK8 Resolutions

Approval of Admin PK8 resolutions #1-5 was moved by Mrs. LeFebvre and seconded by Mrs. Darling. YES: Mrs. Darling, Mrs. Doherty, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mr. Mondino, Ms. O'Halloran, Mr. Piccioni. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Mr. Cartelli.

1. Field Trip Chaperones: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following field trip chaperones during the 2023-2024 school year:

Katarzyna Khan	Norman Taclob	Cristal Rios
Sarah Pagliara	Jacqui Kosut	Craig Drake
Faye Parrilla	Giselle Rodriguez	Emmanuel Lomeli
Kathleen Mooney-Melendez	Lauren Checke	Michele Whitney
Catherine Hopkins	Allyson Gerdes	Renee Caratozzolo
Crystal Iacouzzi	Milena Sillett	Beth Zuffelato
Daniel Matarazzo	Jamie Drake	Courtney Valdeon
Will Coughlin	Luisa Westura	Bettina Petit
Brislyn Anton	Johan Enstrom	Melissa Harris
Christina Thomas	Armando Triana	Erin Carcich
Veronica Adamo	Maria Harris	Jessica Roman
Shannon Grivalsky	Gina DeRosa	

2. Movement on Salary Guide: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator the Board approves the following staff members' movement on guide in accordance with the

Agreement between the Board of Education and the Boonton Education Association, retroactive to February 1, 2024:

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Placement on Guide</u>
Danielle Alfano	Step 4 BA+15 to Step 4 MA
Caroline Dougherty	Step 6 BA+15 to Step 6 MA
Erika Faruolo	Step 6 BA+15 to Step 6 MA
Pavlina Mineva	Step 2 BA to Step 2 BA+15
Monica Nieves	Step 14 BA+15 to Step 14 MA+15
Kelli Shiels	Step 10 BA to Step 10 BA+15

3. 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>
Preschool	Brookhollow Barnyard
Grades K-2 (CBI)	Pepe Park
Grade 1	Turtle Back Zoo

4. Curricular Assistance: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves extra hours for Meg DiNapoli to complete weekly lesson plans, provide instructional materials, provide student feedback and update gradebooks as appropriate in the Elementary/Special Education class at John Hill School, at a rate of \$35 per hour, for up to two hours per week from March 12, 2024.
5. Home Instruction: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the provision of home instruction for Student State ID# 6993762811-B, for up to 5 hours per week, beginning February 21, 2024, with instruction to be provided by St. Clare's Prime Health Services at a rate of \$55.00 per hour.

PK12 Resolutions

Approval of Admin PK12 resolutions #1-11 was moved by Mrs. LeFebvre and seconded by Ms. O'Halloran. YES: Mrs. Caicedo, Mrs. Darling, Mrs. Doherty, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mr. Mondino, Ms. O'Halloran, Mr. Piccioni. 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 9-11 (Gateway Academy)	New York University
Grades 11-12 (FBLA)	Essex County Hospital Center
Grades 9-12 CBI	Denville Train Station, Rockaway Mall, I-HOP (Parsippany), Ramapo College, Dave and Busters, Chili Willies

2. Letter of Resignation: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board accepts a letter of resignation from Anne Roque, Boonton High School Social Studies Teacher, effective April 22, 2024.
3. Letter of Resignation: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board accepts a letter of resignation from Jason Earle, Long-Term Leave Replacement Paraprofessional and Volunteer Boys Lacrosse Coach, Boonton High School, effective March 12, 2024.
4. Additions to Substitute List: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following additions to the 2023-2024 substitute list:

Substitute Custodian
Cecilia Correa de Lopera*

Substitute Teacher/Paraprofessional
Madison Dooreman**

*Pending receipt of background check

**Pending receipt of substitute certificate

5. 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 February 2024.
6. Bus Driver: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Richard Garcia to drive the bus for extracurricular trips, athletics, field trips, and home to school runs, on an as needed basis, at a rate of \$33.40 (Step 4 U18) per hour, effective March 12, 2024 for the 2023-2024 school year.
7. Volunteer Coach: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Matthew Brandt as a volunteer Baseball Coach at Boonton High School for the 2023-2024 school year.
8. STEM Enrichment Supervisor: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Vicki Cornell as the STEM Enrichment Supervisor at Boonton High School for 3 hours per day, one day per week for 7 weeks, effective from the week of March 11, 2024, at a rate of \$40 per hour, to be paid for by ESSER III funds, dependent on student enrollment.
9. Revise Anti-Bullying Specialist Stipend Rate: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves to revise the Anti-Bullying Specialist Stipend Rate previously approved on June 12, 2023, for Leah Birchler for the second half of the 2023-2024 school year to receive \$1,044.50, in accordance with the original BEA stipend Agreement for Boonton High School for the Anti-Bullying Specialist.
10. 2024 Special Education Extended Year Programs: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following 2024 Special Education Extended Year Programs, to be held at John Hill School:

Preschool, June 24, 2024 - July 26, 2024 (Monday-Friday), excluding July 4-5, from 8:30 am - 11:30 am and

K-12, June 24, 2024 - July 26, 2023 (Monday-Friday), excluding July 4-5, from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

11. Out-of-District Placement: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the out-of-district placement for the following student for the 2023-2024 school year and that transportation be arranged as needed:

Gateway High School (BCSS)

Student State ID# 5740385473-B

2023-2024 school year tuition - \$63,900 prorated from March 5, 2024 plus the out of County Fee of \$7,000, prorated from March 5, 2024

C. OPERATIONS

Approval of Operations resolutions #1-6 was moved by Mrs. Darling and seconded by Mr. Piccioni. YES: Mrs. Caicedo, Mrs. Darling, Mrs. Doherty, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mr. Mondino, Ms. O'Halloran, Mr. Piccioni. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Mr. Cartelli.

1. Payments: The Board approves these Check Journals.
\$231,442.36 2/16/2024 (Check Journal)
\$51,450.33 2/26/2024 (ACH General)
\$28,429.57 2/26/2024 (ACH Cafeteria)
2. Payroll Expenses: The Board approves the following payroll expenses.
\$1,054,024.82 2/15/2024
\$1,037,052.42 2/29/2024
3. 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
Julie Riezni	3/12/24	IR&S to MTSS- Implementing MTSS to Meet NJ Intervention and Referral Services, Virtual	\$100.00
Leah Birchler	5/2/24	Student Mental Health Issues and the Law, Virtual	\$150.00
Kelly Liberati	5/29-5/30/24	NJTESOL Spring Conference New Brunswick, NJ	\$628.46
Robin Schwalb	5/2/24	Student Mental Health Issues and the Law, Virtual	\$150.00
Victoria Branchini	3/12-3/14/24	Intro to Floortime DIR Virtual	\$199.00
Kristen Houser	6/4/24	Membership PD Day Mountain Lakes, NJ	\$25.00

4. Use of Facilities: The Board approves the District Facilities Use List of 03/11/2024 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. Hughen, Athletic Director.

Permit #	Requested by / Facility / Dates
2402-0003	Boonton Fire Dept: Games BHS Varsity Field Fridays 5/3 - 8/16/2024 (5:30-8:30 PM)
2402-0004	Amateur Baseball Association: Games BHS Varsity Field Sundays 4/7 - 8/25/2024 (1:00-7:00 PM)
2402-0005	Boonton Parks & Recreation: Adult Pickleball JHS Gym Mondays & Tuesdays 3/11 - 4/9/2024 (6:45-9:00 PM)
2402-0006	Boonton Hills & Valley LAX: Practice BHS Turf Saturdays 3/2 & 3/9/2024 (8:00 AM – 12:00 PM)
2402-0007	Our Lady of Mt Carmel: Parish Picnic
2402-0008	SSS Multipurpose Room, Field, Parking Lot
2402-0009	Sunday 7/14/2024 (10:00 AM – 6:00 PM)
2402-0010	Claim to Fame: Dance Recital BHS Auditorium, Art Room, Music Room Sunday 6/9/2024 (11:00 AM - 6:00 PM)
2402-0011	Boonton Hills & Valley LAX: Practice grades 1 & 2 BHS – Turf, Bathrooms Tuesdays 3/5 - 6/4/2024 (7:30 - 9:00 PM)
2402-0014	Boonton Parks & Recreation: Adult Pickleball JHS Gym Mondays & Tuesdays 4/15 - 4/30/2024 (6:30 - 9:00 PM)

5. Disposal of Special Education Records: The Board approves the disposal of public records per NJ 6A:32-7.8 Retention and Disposal of Student Records Guidelines. Authorization for disposal was approved by the Department of Treasury on 8/15/2023 authorization #594492.
6. Cash Management: The Board approves the banking services agreement, effective 3/1/2024 – 2/28/2026, with Lakeland Bank for (1) interest rate calculation at 70% of the Federal Reserve Bank’s Fed Funds Interest rate (FFR) on all interest-bearing checking and savings accounts; and (2) the IntraFi Network Insured DDA Sweep at the FFR minus 50 basis points, effective 2/1/2024.

D. POLICY

Approval of Policy resolutions #1-20 was moved by Mrs. Katsakos and seconded by Mrs. Darling.
YES: Mrs. Caicedo, Mrs. Darling, Mrs. Doherty, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre,
Mr. Mondino, Ms. O'Halloran, Mr. Piccioni. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: Mr. Cartelli.

1. First Reading of Revisions to Policy #1140 – Educational Equity Policies / Affirmative Action: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the first reading of revisions to Policy #1140 – Educational Equity Policies / Affirmative Action, as per the attached.
2. First Reading of Revisions to Policy #1523 – Comprehensive Equity Plan: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the first reading of revisions to Policy #1523 – Comprehensive Equity Plan, as per the attached.
3. First Reading of Revisions to Policy #1530 – Equal Employment Opportunities: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the first reading of revisions to Policy #1530 – Equal Employment Opportunities, as per the attached.
4. First Reading of Revisions to Regulation #1530 – Equal Employment Opportunity Complaint Procedure: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the first reading of revisions to Regulations #1530 - Equal Employment Opportunity Complaint Procedure, as per the attached.
5. First Reading of Revisions to Policy #1550 – Equal Employment/Anti-Discrimination Practices: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the first reading of revisions to Policy #1550 – Equal Employment/Anti-Discrimination Practices, as per the attached.
6. First Reading of Revisions to Regulation #2200 – Curriculum Content: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the first reading of revisions to Regulation #2200 – Curriculum Content, as per attached.
7. First Reading of Revisions to Policy #2260 – Equity in School and Classroom Practices: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the first reading of revisions to Policy #2260 – Equity in School and Classroom Practices, as per the attached.
8. First Reading of Revisions to Regulation #2260 – Equity in School and Classroom Practices Complaint Procedure: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the first reading of revisions to Regulation #2260 – Equity in School and Classroom Practices Complaint Procedure, as per the attached.
9. First Reading of Revisions to Policy #2411 – Guidance Counseling: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the first reading of revisions to Policy #2411 – Guidance Counseling, as per the attached.

10. First Reading of Revisions to Policy & Regulation #2423 – Bilingual Education: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the first reading of revisions to Policy & Regulation #2423 – Bilingual Education, as per the attached.
11. First Reading of Revisions to Policy & Regulation #2431.4 – Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Concussions and Head Injuries: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the first reading of revisions to Policy & Regulation #2431.4 – Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Concussions and Head Injuries, as per the attached.
12. First Reading of Revisions to Policy #3211 – Code of Ethics: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the first reading of revisions to Policy #3211 – Code of Ethics, as per the attached.
13. First Reading of Revisions to Policy & Regulation #5440 – Honoring Student Achievement: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the first reading of revisions to Policy & Regulation #5440 – Honoring Student Achievement, as per the attached.
14. First Reading of Revisions to Policy #5570 – Sportsmanship: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the first reading of revisions to Policy #5570 – Sportsmanship, as per the attached.
15. First Reading of Revisions to Policy #5750 – Equitable Educational Opportunity: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the first reading of revisions to Policy #5750 – Equitable Educational Opportunity, as per the attached.
16. Abolish Policy #5755 – Equity in Educational Programs and Services: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves to abolish Policy #5755 – Equity in Educational Programs and Services, as per the attached.
17. First Reading of Revisions to Policy #5841 – Secret Societies: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the first reading of revisions to Policy #5841 – Secret Societies, as per the attached.
18. First Reading of Revisions to Policy #5842 – Equal Access of Student Organizations: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the first reading of revisions to Policy #5842 – Equal Access of Student Organizations, as per the attached.
19. First Reading of Revisions to Policy & Regulation #7610 – Vandalism: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the first reading of revisions to Policy & Regulation #7610 – Vandalism, as per the attached.
20. First Reading of Revisions to Policy #9323 – Notification of Juvenile Offender Case Disposition: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the first reading of revisions to Policy #9323 – Notification of Juvenile Offender Case Disposition, as per the attached.

E. DISTRICT WIDE HIB REPORT

On a motion by Mrs. Darling and seconded by Ms. O'Halloran, the Board approved by roll call to affirm the findings and recommendations of the Superintendent on the following Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying complaints: BHS #11.

YES: Mrs. Caicedo, Mrs. Darling, Mrs. Doherty, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mr. Mondino, Ms. O'Halloran, Mr. Piccioni. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: Mr. Cartelli.

F. OTHER BUSINESS

None

REPORTS FROM BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

1. HS Committee by Mrs. Doherty: Mike Zucker football player award; Seal of Biliteracy; FAFSA requirements; BHS academies; Field trips; Gateway; AVID training; college visits; AP Human Geography
2. Curriculum by Mrs. Katsakos: FAFSA requirement in affect for 2025-2026 college entrance
3. Community Relations by Mr. Mondino: None
4. Communications/Legislation by Mrs. LeFebvre: None
5. ESC by Mrs. LeFebvre: None
6. MCSBA by Mrs. Darling: March 20 meeting
7. NJSBA by Mrs. LeFebvre: March 14 meeting at Rutgers

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Katsakos: Historical Society scavenger hunt during spring break; new exhibit opening March 24

Mr. Steve Bossen: State passed law in 2008 about hiring employees with criminal history

OTHER BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

Next meeting is March 18

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion at 9:33 pm by Mrs. Darling and seconded by Mr. Joyce, 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 10:26 pm by Mrs. Doherty and seconded by Mrs. Katsakos, all present voted to adjourn executive session and return to open session.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion at 10:27 pm by Mr. Joyce and seconded by Mr. Mondino, all present voted to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven Gardberg
Board Secretary

BOARD APPROVAL: