

BOONTON TOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

434 Lathrop Avenue, Boonton, NJ 07005

March 25, 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 7:30 pm on March 25, 2024.

The meeting was called to order, and the following statement was read: This is the March 25, 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 Mr. Christopher Cartelli, 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 Mrs. Dawn Caicedo.

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 Mr. Joyce and seconded by Mrs. Darling 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: Spring sports; Assembly; Bookmark contest; AVID visit to BHS
2. Boonton High School: None
3. Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) K-8: Assemblies, Family STEM Night, bookfairs, volunteers for next year, water bottles, Staff Appreciation Week, Multicultural Festival, field days
4. Home School Association 9-12: None
5. Town Council: None

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

SUPERINTENDENT

- A. District News and Updates: MCSBA Unsung Heroes recognition; NHS induction; MS leadership recognition; DC trip last week; PTA art reflectors contest.
- B. Presentations / John Hill School Grades 6-8
 - a. Gifted and Talented by Julie Rogers
 - b. Schoolwide Update by Mrs. Brogan, Mr. Castano, Mrs. Stratton.

ITEMS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION

A. Minutes

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

- 1. Regular and Executive session: March 11, 2024
March 18, 2024

B. ADMINISTRATION

PK8 Resolutions

Approval of Admin PK8 resolutions #1-3 was moved by Mrs. LeFebvre and seconded by Mrs. Katsakos. YES: Mr. Cartelli, Mrs. Darling, Mrs.Doherty, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mr. Mondino, Ms. O’Halloran, Mr. Piccioni. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

- 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:

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Ricardo Cristao | Andrea Pfeil | Suzanne Tavalacci |
| Jasmine Fierro-Sheehan | Allison Delcalzo-Berens | Roula Vasilopoulos |
| Steven Kampschmidt | Alyssa Huncken | Kathleen Hernandez |
| Agata Machnicka Sroka | Jessica Meshnick | Leidy Castro |
| Maria Elisa Glatz | Donna Nilsson | Lindsay Bouroult |
| Hana Ziyadeh | Carly Pena | Melissa Camacho |
| Lauren Wonnell | Carley Fleres | Amanda Martinez |
| DeAnna Cook | Jessica Rodriguez | Catherine McKenzie |
| Emily Yosh | Risa Magid | Jason Viken |
| Catherine McKenzie | Beatrice Lotito | Shameem Ibrahim |
| Fernanda Chaves de Paula Heitkoetter | | |

- 2. Appointment of Certified Staff Member: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the appointment of Jennifer Sannazzaro to the position of Interventionist, John Hill School, at a salary of \$61,525 (Step 5 BA) prorated from May 1, 2024 for the remainder of 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:

| Grade/Group | Destination |
|-------------|-------------------|
| PreK | Curly's Ice Cream |

PK12 Resolutions

Approval of Admin PK12 resolutions #1-9 was moved by Mrs. LeFebvre and seconded by Mrs. Katsakos. YES: Mr. Cartelli, Mrs. Darling, Mrs.Doherty, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mr. Mondino, Ms. O'Halloran, Mr. Piccioni. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Mrs. Caicedo.

1. 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 Teachers/Paraprofessionals

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Jordon Torres-DeCosta | Holly Winans |
| Jennifer Eckels* | Brittany Kangas* |
| Cheryl Schleicher | Eve Gada** |
| Bryan Michael Figueroa* | Saima Choudhry* |
| Diane Carey-Pape* | Rajul Salunia* |
| Marissa Haight** | |

*Pending receipt of Substitute Certification

**Pending receipt of background approval

2. Volunteer Coach: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Haylee Roller as a Volunteer Girls Lacrosse Coach at Boonton High School for the 2023-2024 school year, pending receipt of substitute certification.
3. 6th Period Stipend: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves a 6th period stipend for Matthew Brandt, Health & Physical Education Teacher, Boonton High School, in the amount of \$5,500, prorated from February 20, 2024, for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year, as per the Agreement Between the BEA and the Board of Education.
4. Field Trips: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following field trip destinations for the 2023-2024 school year:

| Grade/Group | Destination |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Grades 9-12 (Wrestling) | Casa Bianca, Morris County Luncheon |
| Grades 9-12 (Business Academy) | Turtle Back Zoo |

5. Emergency Evacuation Use Agreement: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the Emergency Evacuation Use Agreement Between the Boonton Town Board of Education and County College of Morris.
6. Acceptance of Letter of Resignation: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board accepts a letter of resignation from Melissa Bialick, Boonton High School Psychologist, effective May 24, 2024.

7. 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# 1100265772-B, at a cost of \$1,000.
8. Steff Member for Teen Advocacy Group: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Melanie Dibartolo to conduct the Boonton School District Special Education Teen Advocacy Group (TAG/Jr. TAG) events for up to 3 events, between April 2024 and June 2024, as needed, for up to 3 hours per event at a rate of \$40 per hour.
9. Extracurricular Aide Services for Teen Advocacy Group (TAG): Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Marie Evans to assist/supervise Student State ID# 5903634416-LP, for up to 4 evening TAG (Teen Advocacy Group) events at Boonton High School, between March 2024 and June 2024, for up to 3 hours per event (based on student attendance to events), at a rate of \$29.58 per hour.

C. OPERATIONS

Mr. Gardberg commented on the 24-25 budget, scoreboards, crosswalk system, air handlers and a passenger van.

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

1. Payments: The Board approves these Check Journals.
 \$716,029.20 03/25/2024 (Check Journal)
 \$46,166.86 03/25/2024 (ACH General)
 \$34,871.42 03/25/2024 (ACH Cafeteria)
 \$3,150,888.20 2/01 -- 2/29/2024 (electronic checks, including payroll)
2. Transfer Reports: The Board approves Transfer Reports for the month ending 2/29/2024.
3. Reports of the Board Secretary and Treasurer: The Board approves reports of the Board Secretary and Treasurer for the month ending 2/29/2024; major funds have not been over-expended.
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 |
|--------------------------|------------------|---|------------|
| Meghan Stratton | 7/8 - 7/11/24 | CAL SIOP Train the Trainer Institute Chevy Chase, MD | \$3500.00 |
| Monica Nieves | 5/3/24 | Catching Up English Language Learners Virtual | \$279.00 |
| Petra Wiehe Lieberman | 4/25- 4/26/24 | 19th Annual NJ ABA Conference Somerset, NJ | \$260.00 |

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|---|-----------|
| Steven Gardberg | 6/6 - 6/7/2024 | Annual Conference NJASBO Atlantic City, NJ | \$1004.25 |
| Thomas Valle | 4/16/24 | K-12 Behavioral Threat Assessment Training, Pennington, NJ | \$24.25 |
| Philip Johnson | 3/20/24 | AP Calc Round Table Morristown, NJ | \$9.40 |
| Robin Schwalb | 6/5/24 | Advanced Behavioral Threat Assessment, Haskell, NJ | \$10.72 |
| Tonia Merlino | 4/24/24 | School Law for Admin Assistants Monroe, NJ | \$201.32 |
| Lindsay Halliwell | 4/18/24 | Arts in Education Showcase Shakespeare Theatre of NJ, Madison, NJ | \$12.41 |
| Christina Buck | 5/29/24 | 2024 NJTESOL/ NJBE, Inc. Spring Conference, New Brunswick, NJ | \$436.82 |
| Sara Simmons | 4/19/24 | NJ School Counselor Conference Kean University, Union, NJ | \$35.00 |
| Alison Schessler | 5/9/24 | 2024 NJ PBSIS Leadership Forum Mercer Community College, Trenton, NJ | \$94.80 |

5. Use of Facilities: The Board approves the District Facilities Use List of 3/25/2024 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. All permits are pending building administration final approval and receipt of documentation.

| Permit # | Requested by / Facility / Dates |
|-----------|--|
| 2403-0000 | Tri-Town Little League Practice & Games BHS JV Baseball Field Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri & Sat 3/25 - 7/30/2024 (5:30 – 8:30 PM) JV NOT AVAILABLE TO TRI-TOWN SUNDAYS or THURSDAYS |
| 2403-0001 | Tri-Town Little League Practice & Games JHS Lower Field Saturdays 3/30 - 7/27/2024 (9:00 AM– 2:00 PM) |
| 2403-0002 | Tri-Town Little League Practice & Games JHS Upper Fields Saturdays 3/23 - 7/27/2024 (9:00 AM– 2:00 PM) |
| 2403-0003 | Boonton PTA Fundraiser Pick up JHS Lobby Wednesday 3/20/2024 (2:45 – 6:00 PM) |

D. POLICY

Approval of Policy resolutions #1-19 was moved by Mrs. Katsakos and seconded by Mr. Cartelli. YES: Mr. Cartelli, Mrs. Darling, Mrs. Doherty, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mr. Mondino, Ms. O'Halloran, Mr. Piccioni. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Mrs. Caicedo.

1. Final Reading of Revisions to Policy #1140 – Educational Equity Policies / Affirmative Action: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the final reading of revisions to Policy #1140 – Educational Equity Policies / Affirmative Action, as per the attached.
2. Final Reading of Revisions to Policy #1523 – Comprehensive Equity Plan: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the final reading of revisions to Policy #1523 – Comprehensive Equity Plan, as per the attached.
3. Final Reading of Revisions to Policy #1530 – Equal Employment Opportunities: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the final reading of revisions to Policy #1530 – Equal Employment Opportunities, as per the attached.
4. Final Reading of Revisions to Regulation #1530 – Equal Employment Opportunity Complaint Procedure: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the final reading of revisions to Regulations #1530 - Equal Employment Opportunity Complaint Procedure, as per the attached.
5. Final Reading of Revisions to Policy #1550 – Equal Employment/Anti-Discrimination Practices: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the final reading of revisions to Policy #1550 – Equal Employment/Anti-Discrimination Practices, as per the attached.
6. Final Reading of Revisions to Regulation #2200 – Curriculum Content: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the final reading of revisions to Regulation #2200 – Curriculum Content, as per attached.
7. Final Reading of Revisions to Policy #2260 – Equity in School and Classroom Practices: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the final reading of revisions to Policy #2260 – Equity in School and Classroom Practices, as per the attached.
8. Final 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 final reading of revisions to Regulation #2260 – Equity in School and Classroom Practices Complaint Procedure, as per the attached.
9. Final Reading of Revisions to Policy #2411 – Guidance Counseling: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the final reading of revisions to Policy #2411 – Guidance Counseling, as per the attached.
10. Final Reading of Revisions to Policy & Regulation #2423 – Bilingual Education: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the final reading of revisions to Policy & Regulation #2423 – Bilingual Education, as per the attached.
11. Final 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 final reading of revisions to Policy & Regulation

#2431.4 – Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Concussions and Head Injuries, as per the attached.

12. Final Reading of Revisions to Policy #3211 – Code of Ethics: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the final reading of revisions to Policy #3211 – Code of Ethics, as per the attached.
13. Final Reading of Revisions to Policy & Regulation #5440 – Honoring Student Achievement: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the final reading of revisions to Policy & Regulation #5440 – Honoring Student Achievement, as per the attached.
14. Final Reading of Revisions to Policy #5570 – Sportsmanship: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the final reading of revisions to Policy #5570 – Sportsmanship, as per the attached.
15. Final Reading of Revisions to Policy #5750 – Equitable Educational Opportunity: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the final reading of revisions to Policy #5750 – Equitable Educational Opportunity, as per the attached.
16. Final Reading of Revisions to Policy #5841 – Secret Societies: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the final reading of revisions to Policy #5841 – Secret Societies, as per the attached.
17. Final Reading of Revisions to Policy #5842 – Equal Access of Student Organizations: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the final reading of revisions to Policy #5842 – Equal Access of Student Organizations, as per the attached.
18. Final Reading of Revisions to Policy & Regulation #7610 – Vandalism: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the final reading of revisions to Policy & Regulation #7610 – Vandalism, as per the attached.
19. Final Reading of Revisions to Policy #9323 – Notification of Juvenile Offender Case Disposition: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the final reading of revisions to Policy #9323 – Notification of Juvenile Offender Case Disposition, as per the attached.

E. DISTRICT WIDE HIB REPORT

None

F. OTHER BUSINESS

None

REPORTS FROM BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

1. HS Committee by Mrs. Doherty: Mrs. Doherty will work on scheduling next meeting
2. Curriculum by Mrs. Katsakos: Next meeting April 15
3. Community Relations by Mr. Mondino: Meeting next week

4. Communications/Legislation by Mrs. LeFebvre: New Commissioner
5. ESC by Mrs. LeFebvre: None
6. MCSBA by Mrs. Darling: Next meeting is awards meeting on May 2; scholarships
7. NJSBA by Mrs. LeFebvre: Planning on October workshop; change in ELF leadership

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Steve Bossen; Echo Mrs. Brogan's comments about DC trip and compliment the staff; Questions about the presentations: How could a student be two grade levels behind? Data warehouse availability?

OTHER BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Next meeting is April 8

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion at 8:41 pm by Mrs. Darling and seconded by Ms. O'Halloran, all present voted to approve the following resolution to enter Executive Session.

Mr. Mondino left at 8:42 pm.

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 9:11 pm by Mrs. Katsakos and seconded by Ms. O'Halloran, all present voted to adjourn executive session and return to open session.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion at 9:12 pm by Mrs. Katsakos and seconded by Mr. Piccioni, all present voted to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven Gardberg
Board Secretary

BOARD APPROVAL: