

BOONTON TOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

434 Lathrop Avenue, Boonton, NJ 07005

April 8, 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 7:32 pm on April 8, 2024.

The meeting was called to order, and the following statement was read: This is the April 8, 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, Mr. Christopher Cartelli, Mrs. Jennifer Darling, Mrs. Elaine Doherty Mr. Patrick Joyce, Mrs. Loren Katsakos, Mrs. Irene LeFebvre, Mr. Daniel Piccioni. Absent were Mr. Matthew Mondino, Ms. Brianna O'Halloran.

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. Cartelli 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: None
2. Boonton High School by Ashley Suplicki, SRA President: Lacrosse meeting; Powderpuff tournament; Spring pep rallies
3. Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) K-8 by Nicole Cechony: Meeting tomorrow; Off-campus movie night; Pk-5-Family STEM night; Grades 6-8-Living Voices assembly; Grades K-2-author and illustrator; Multicultural Festival; Book fairs; Staff Appreciation Week
4. Home School Association 9-12 by Mrs. Darling: Teacher Appreciation Week
5. Town Council by Robert Murray: Meeting on April 18 about security personnel

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

SUPERINTENDENT

- A. District News and Updates: Solar eclipse - already had early dismissal; April 10 is Staff Development Day, including all staff with keynote speaker; Thank you to ACME/King’s Supermarkets for donations to families in need; 94th induction of BHS honor society; JHS in problem-solver bowl; SSS had “Brown Bear” event.

- B. Presentation: Boonton High School by Jason Klebez, Meghan Stratton and Louis Castano

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. Piccioni. NO: None. ABSTAIN: Mrs. Caicedo. ABSENT: Mr. Mondino, Ms. O’Halloran.

- 1. Regular and Executive session: March 25, 2024

B. ADMINISTRATION

PK8 Resolutions

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

- 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:

Amy Smith	Francine Marcello	Stacey Lazar
Diana Gutierrez	Christina Graff	Anthony Fleres
Heather Canova	Shimone Walker	Gabrielle Lanzo
Megan Rosenthal	Colleen Jahn	Eva Payano-Rivera
Laura Hesselink	Ashley Koppinger	Savannah Brink
Ilsar Hernandez	Kimberly Wolf	

- 2. Volunteer Coach: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Michelle Becker as a Volunteer Softball Coach at John Hill School for the 2023-2024 school year.

- 3. Leave of Absence: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves a leave of absence request from Tracy Col-Spector, Elementary Teacher, School Street School, from June 4, 2024 through the end of the 2023-2024 school year, utilizing 12 days of accumulated sick days, followed by an unpaid leave of absence.

- 4. Amend Bridges to Learning Support Staff Hourly Rate: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves to amend the hourly rate for Madison Dooreman from college staff at \$17 per hour to adult support staff at \$23 per hour, for the 2023-2024 school year, for securing a Substitute Certificate.

5. Home Instruction: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the provision of home instruction for Student State ID# 6743726160-B, for up to 10 hours per week, beginning March 25, 2024, with instruction to be provided by district approved home instructors at a rate of \$40 per hour.

PK12 Resolutions

Mrs. LeFebvre: Marcia Tucci and NJIT

Approval of Admin PK12 resolutions #1-7 was moved by Mrs. LeFebvre and seconded by Mrs. Katsakos. YES: Mrs. Caicedo, Mr. Cartelli, Mrs. Darling, Mrs. Doherty Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mr. Piccioni. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Mr. Mondino, Ms. O'Halloran.

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 Custodian/Maintenance Worker
Richard Garcia*

Substitute Teacher/Paraprofessional
Enrico Cielo*

*Pending receipt of background approval

2. Volunteer Coach: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Michelle Becker as a Volunteer Softball Coach at Boonton High School for the 2023-2024 school year.
3. Memorandum of Understanding: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves a Memorandum of Understanding between New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) and Boonton High School for students to have the opportunity to take college credit courses for the 2024-2025 school year.
4. Acceptance of Letter of Resignation: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board accepts a letter of resignation from Marcia Tucci, Boonton High School Nurse, effective June 30, 2024, for the purpose of retirement.
5. Outside Evaluations: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Hillmar, LLC to provide Bilingual Evaluations for Student State ID# 2973843978-B, as follows:

Bilingual Psychological Evaluation \$650
Bilingual Educational Evaluation \$650
6. Wraparound Program: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Effective School Solutions to provide the Wraparound Program for School Street School, John Hill School and Boonton High School, for the 2024-2025 school year, at a cost not to exceed \$399,650, pending final approval of the 2024-2025 budget.

7. District Program: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following for the MD Program at Boonton High School, at no cost to the district, for the 2024-2025 school year,

The Arc of NJ’s MAPs Program (Making Action Plans) provides experiences for BHS High School students both in a classroom environment and virtually, emphasizing Transition Planning, Health & Behavioral Health, Housing Options, Legal and Financial Planning, Social Skills, Self-Direction & Advocacy, and Post-Secondary Planning & Education. Sessions will be held up to twice monthly and last the length of a typical class period. This program will run for the entire 2024-2025 school year, including the 2024 Summer ESY program. The MAPs Program is provided free of charge through a grant received by the Arc of NJ. Dates for sessions TBD.

C. OPERATIONS

Mr. Gardberg: JHS scoreboard; Crosswalk system; budget adoption at April 29 meeting

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

1. Payments: The Board approves these Check Journals.
 - \$78,023.83 4/8/2024 (Check Journal)
 - \$45,368.98 4/8/2024 (ACH General)
 - \$40,128.03 4/8/2024 (ACH Cafeteria)

2. Payroll Expenses: The Board approves the following payroll expenses.
 - \$ 1,099,406.66 3/15/2024
 - \$1,038,579.71 3/30/2024

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
Maribel Martinez	5/15 - 5/17/24	Spring Leadership Conference 2024 Atlantic City, NJ	\$1097.84
Angela Lurito-Brown	4/24/24	School Law for Admin Assistants Monroe, NJ	\$151.70
Louis Castano	10/16 - 10/17/24	Atlas Regional Workshop Mountain Lakes, NJ	\$325.94
Meghan Stratton	10/16 - 10/17/24	Atlas Regional Workshop Mountain Lakes, NJ	\$325.94
Samantha Angelillo	8/1/24	Connecting Collections, New York, NY	\$250.00
Nicole Pollina	5/9/24	PBSIS Leadership Conference Mercer, NJ	\$29.00
Jenna Irwin	5/9/24	PBSIS Leadership Conference Mercer, NJ	\$29.00

4. Use of Facilities: The Board approves the District Facilities Use List of 4/8/2024 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
2403-0004	Language & Motor Development Parent Training BHS Classrooms 101, 103, 104 Tuesday 5/14/2024 (6:00 – 8:00 PM)
2403-0005	Preschool Health & Safety Family Night BHS Classroom 101, 103, 104, Gym Aux Wednesday 6/5/2024 (5:00 – 8:00 PM)
2403-0006	BHS Boys Lacrosse Boosters – Concessions BHS Concession Stand During Home Games 3/23 - 5/22/2024 (2:30 – 9:00 PM weekdays, 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM Saturdays)
2403-0007	Self-regulation workshop for Parents BHS Classrooms 101, 103, 104 Tuesday 4/9/2024 (6:00 – 8:00 PM)
2403-0008	Girl Scout Troop 98529 Coding JHS Media Center Thursday 5/16/2024 (5:30 - 7:00 PM)
2403-0009	Multicultural Festival Meeting JHS Media Center Thursday 4/18/2024 (6:30 – 8:00 PM)
2403-0010	Tri-Town Little League Practice & Games JHS Upper Fields Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays (3/25-7/31/2024 (6:00 – 9:00 PM)
2403-0011	OLMC Met-Pat League Pentathlon BHS Track & Varsity Field Saturday 6/1/2024 (7:30 AM – 2:30 PM)
2403-0012	Tri-Town Little League Practice & Games Tee-Ball SSS Baseball Field Saturdays 4/13 - 6/15/2024 (8:00 AM – 1:30 PM)
2403-0013	Tri-Town Little League Practice & Games JHS Lower Field

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesday, Fridays, Saturdays
3/25 - 7/31/2024 (6:00 - 9:00 PM)

- 2403-0014 BHS Baseball Boosters Team Dinner
BHS Classroom 14
Thursday 3/28/2024 (6:00 – 7:30 PM)

- 2403-0015 Tri-Town Little League Practice & Games
SSS Field
Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays 4/15 - 6/19/2024 (5:30 - 9:00 PM)

- 2403-0016 BHS Boys & Girls Lacrosse Boosters Season Kick Off Lunch
BHS Cafeteria
Monday 4/1/20024 (11:30 AM– 3:00 PM)

- 5. Contract: The Board approves awarding a contract for Private Fiber Network – 10Gb to Lightpath for \$1,700 per month, effective July 2024 – June 2027, pending final approval of the 2024-2025 budget.

D. POLICY

None.

E. DISTRICT WIDE HIB REPORT

On a motion by Mrs. Darling and seconded by Mr. Cartelli, the Board approved by roll call to affirm the findings and recommendations of the Superintendent on the following Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying complaints: BHS #12-14, JHS #13.

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

F. OTHER BUSINESS

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

- 1. Nomination: Nomination of Jennifer Darling for the Morris County School Boards Association 2024 Irene LeFebvre Excellence in Boardmanship Award.

Resolved: Whereas, while a resident of the Town of Boonton, in the County of Morris, Jennifer Darling has served admirably as a member of the Boonton Board of Education;

Whereas, Jennifer Darling has made considerable contributions to the education of students in the district and maintained focus on improving student achievement;

Whereas, Jennifer Darling has shown exemplary leadership on the Board of Education and throughout the community;

Whereas, Jennifer Darling has been actively involved in school governance at the local and regional levels, and has advanced efforts to enhance the educational experiences of all students;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Boonton Board of Education does hereby express its appreciation to Jennifer Darling for their dedicated service, leadership, and contributions to the education of students and the advancement of our schools.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Boonton Board of Education submits the nomination of Jennifer Darling and this Resolution to the Morris County School Boards Association in consideration for the 2024 Irene LeFebvre Excellence in Boardmanship Award.

REPORTS FROM BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

1. HS Committee by Mrs. Doherty: Meeting in May
2. Curriculum by Mrs. Katsakos: Meeting next Monday
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: Meeting May 2
7. NJSBA by Mrs. LeFebvre: National Workshop

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Steve Bossen: BHS presentation: Many strong teachers but still some who are not

OTHER BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Next meeting is April 29.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion at 8:46 pm by Mrs. Darling and seconded by Mr. Piccioni, 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 9:14 pm by Mrs. Darling and seconded by Mr. Piccioni, all present voted to adjourn executive session and return to open session.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion at 9:15 pm by Mr. Piccioni and seconded by Mrs. Darling, all present voted to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven Gardberg
Board Secretary

BOARD APPROVAL: