

BOONTON TOWN BOARD OF EDUCATION

434 Lathrop Avenue, Boonton, NJ 07005

December 9, 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 7:00 pm on December 9, 2024.

The meeting was called to order, and the following statement was read: This is the December 9 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. 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 were Mrs. Dawn Caicedo, 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 five members of the public were in attendance.

ORDER OF THE DAY

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

AUDIT PRESENTATION

Mr. Robert Haag of Lerch, Vinci & Bliss, LLP, presented results of the 2023-2024 audit.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

LIAISON REPORTS

1. John Hill School by Talia Adamo, student representative: Presentation by Google for fifth grade; winter sports and concerts; STEM adventure; robots for grades 3-5.
2. Boonton High School by Ashley Suplicki, SRA President: Door decorating contest; spirit week and pep rally; GSA; winter concerts and sports.
3. Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) K-8 by Gabriella Lanzo: Meeting tomorrow; fundraisers – ornaments, Box Tops, flocking; assemblies; spirit wear; membership.
4. Home School Association 9-12 by Jennifer Darling: Calendar raffle
5. Town Council by Robert Murray: School security
6. ESC of Morris County: None
7. MCSBA by Jennifer Darling: There was a meeting last week.
8. NJSBA: None

WORK OF THE BOARD BY COMMITTEE

1. Administration
 - a. Agreements with BEA and Lincoln Park
 - b. Schedules for delayed openings, early dismissals and closures
 - c. Family nights, CS Education Week, Gateway Academy, Town holiday parade
 - d. District staffing: Leaves of Absence, replacements
 - e. School security with the Town
 - f. 2025-2026 scheduling due to large cohort in second grade moving up to John Hill
2. Curriculum
 - a. Professional development highlights: PreK and math
 - b. Academic honors & celebrations: Emily Bohn, Olivia DiTrollo, Christina Buck, John Sisto, Vicki Cornell, Laura Sudak, Morris Area Curriculum Network, Seal of Biliteracy, Questbridge, Dean DelGuercio
 - c. AVID: Hosted regional program at Boonton HS; certification visit; college visits
 - d. Academies: Aviation (Air Force), Business (Peter Onorati), Criminal Justice (guest speaker), STEM (breast cancer awareness), Teaching & Learning (reading to PreK), Gateway (Columbia University)
 - e. SAMR Initiative, Goal Setting & Progress
3. Operations
 - a. Auditor
 - b. Negative meal balances
 - c. Projects: BHS roof, lockers; CST building; School Street air handler and cafeteria; door access panels
 - d. Transportation: Driver and vehicles
 - e. FY26 Budget: State aid, meetings and district expenditures
 - f. Displaced and DCF-placed students
4. Public Relations: None
5. Policy: Meeting next week
6. High School: Meeting next week
7. Other: Pick-up and drop-off at John Hill School

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Steve Bossen: Is the district required to have collective bargaining agreements? Thank you to the Business Office for a good audit; Thank you for improving student attendance, but how do we improve staff attendance? What is the purpose of a security officer?

ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION

A. Minutes

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

1. Regular and Executive session: November 25, 2024

B. ADMINISTRATION

PK8 Resolutions

Approval of Admin PK8 resolutions #1-8 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 Trips: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following field trip destinations for the 2024-2025 school year:

<u>Grade/Group</u>	<u>Destination</u>
PreK John Hill School	PreK Boonton High School
Grade 3 (Gifted & Talented)	Morristown Unitarian Fellowship

2. Advisor: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Julie Rogers as the Green Team Advisor at John Hill School at a stipend rate of \$817.00, pending outcome of negotiations, for the 2024-2025 school year.

3. Student Occupational Therapy Observation: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves a student occupational therapy observation for Allison Hess, Stockton University, at John Hill School, for 40 hours, starting December 2024, pending receipt of background clearance, under the supervision of Dr. Paul Chiodo.

4. Leave of Absence Request: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves a leave of absence request from Taylor Burke, Boonton High School PreK Teacher, effective March 8, 2025 through June 30, 2025, utilizing a total of 25 days of accumulated sick days followed by an unpaid leave of absence.

5. Extracurricular Aide Services: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves up to 6 hours each to assist and supervise the following John Hill School students during evening Junior Choir Concerts for the 2024-2025 school year at their hourly rate of pay, pending the outcome of negotiations.

Melyssa Stella to assist and supervise Student State ID# 5315840638-B
Laura Affinito to assist and supervise Student State ID# 8359684319-B
Briana Affinito to assist and supervise Student State ID# 6465764251-B

6. Extracurricular Aide Services (TAG): Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Melyssa Stella to assist/supervision Student State ID# 1104912701-B for the Special Education Teen Advocacy Group (TAG) evening events at Boonton High for up to 7 events and up to 3 hours per event (based on student attendance) during the 2024-2025 school year, at her hourly contractual rate of pay, pending the outcome of negotiations.

7. Out-of-District Placement: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following out-of-district placement beginning December 9, 2024 for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year and that transportation be arranged as needed:

Shepard School

Student State ID# 4528801449-B
Tuition - \$419.25 per day (117 days)
1:1 Aide - \$245.00 (117 days)

8. Home Instruction: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the provision of home instruction for Student State ID# 2674022887-B for up to 20 hours between November 25, 2024 and December 20, 2024, with instruction to be provided by district approved home instructors at a rate of \$40.00 per hour, pending the outcome of negotiations.

PK12 Resolutions

Approval of Admin PK12 resolutions #1-6 was moved by Mrs. LeFebvre and seconded by Mrs. Katsakos. YES: Mrs. Darling, Mrs. Doherty, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mr. Mondino, Ms. O'Halloran (except #1), Mr. Piccioni. NO: None. ABSTAIN: Ms. O'Halloran (#1). ABSENT: Mrs. Caicedo, Mr. Cartelli.

1. Ratified Agreement Between the Boonton Education Association and Boonton Board of Education: The Board ratifies the Contractual Agreement and salary guides between the Board and the Boonton Education Association effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2028.
2. Detention Monitor: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Robin Schwab as a Detention Monitor at Boonton High School at a rate of \$26.00 per hour, pending the outcome of negotiations, during the 2024-2025 school year.
3. 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 2024.
4. Senior Portfolio Staff: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following Boonton High School staff for Senior Portfolio at a rate of \$40.00 per hour, pending the outcome of negotiations:
 - ELA Staff – for up to 20 total hours:
Jillian Glaser

	<u>Math Staff – for up to 20 hours each:</u>		
Alyssa DeOrio	Kathy Foley	Sandra Green	Sameera Hanafi
5. Addition to Substitute List: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following addition to the 2024-2025 substitute list:
 - Substitute Teacher/Paraprofessional
Meagan Daly
6. 6th Period Stipend for Certified Staff Member: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves a 6th period stipend for Matthew Brandt in the amount of \$5,500.00, prorated from December 6, 2024, pending the outcome of negotiations, as per the Agreement Between the BEA and the Board of Education.

C. OPERATIONS

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

1. Payments: The Board approves these Check Journals.
 \$197,700.84 12/9/2024 (Check Journal)
 \$75,636.38 12/9/2024 (ACH General)
 \$44,60.31 12/9/2024 (ACH Cafeteria)
 \$2,368.00 12/3/2024 (StAct JHS check Journal)
 \$11,476.66 12/9/2024 (StAct BHS check Journal)
 \$459.21 12/9/2024 (ACH StAct JHS)
 \$3,213,020.91 10/01/2024 - 10/31/2024 (electronic checks, including payroll)
2. Transfer Reports: The Board approves Transfer Reports for the month ending 10/31/2024.
3. Reports of the Board Secretary and Treasurer: The Board approves reports of the Board Secretary and Treasurer for the month ending 10/31/2024.
4. Payroll Expenses: The Board approves the following payroll expenses.
 \$1,069,892.11 11/15/2024
 \$1,117,461.24 11/30/2024
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
Wayne Barreto	12/10/2024	Girls Soccer All County Banquet Hanover, NJ	\$53.46

6. Use of Facilities: The Board approves the District Facilities Use List of 12/9/2024 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
2411-0005	Tri Town Little League; Clinics SSS Multipurpose room Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays 1/3-2/28/2025 (6:15 – 9:00 PM) NO ACCESS WHEN SCHOOL IS CLOSED

7. Disposal of Records: The Board approves the disposal of public records per New Jersey Division of Archives and Records Management Guidelines. Authorization for disposal was approved by the Department of Treasury on 12/04/2024, Authorization # 282992, 282581, 293014, 293015, 293016, 293019, 293133, 293135, 293139, 293140, 293141, 293143, 293147, and 293151.

8. FY2024 Audit: The Board accepts the FY2024 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) and Auditors Management Report (AMR).
9. Transportation Agreement: The Board approves the transportation reimbursement for Student State ID# 5759515210-B for transportation to and from Lake Drive School in Mountain Lakes for the 2024-2025 school year, to be paid based on student attendance, not to exceed \$2,353.80.

D. POLICY

None

E. DISTRICT WIDE HIB REPORT

On a motion by Mrs. Darling and seconded by Mrs. Katsakos, the Board approved by roll call to affirm the findings and recommendations of the Superintendent on the following Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying complaints: SSS #1.

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

F. OTHER BUSINESS

None

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Mrs. Katsakos: Girl Scouts took first place in the float competition, and the Historical Society's Christmas party is coming up.
2. Mrs. Doherty: Town Hall has decals for students to park in the Kiwanis lot.

OTHER BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Next meeting is January 6, 2025, but the Board is likely to have a special meeting next week.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion at 9:03 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.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN

On a motion at 9:34 pm by Mrs. Doherty and seconded by Mr. Piccioni, all present voted to adjourn executive session and return to open session.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion at 9:35 by Mr. Piccioni and seconded by Mrs. Darling, all present voted to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven Gardberg
Board Secretary

BOARD APPROVAL: