

BLAIRSTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Blairstown, New Jersey 07825

www.blairstownelem.net

November 19, 2015 Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER The Blairstown Township Board of Education held this meeting in the School Library on Thursday, November 19, 2015.

Mr. Herrmann, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:03PM.

FLAG SALUTE Everyone present was requested to rise and repeat the Pledge of Allegiance.

SUNSHINE LAW Mr. Herrmann read the Notice of Meeting and Mission Statement

MISSION STATEMENT

ROLL CALL The following board members were present: Mrs. Glory, Mr. Herrmann, Mr. Karolchyk, Mrs. Mantegna, Mrs. McLain, Mrs. Ruben, and Mrs. Wood-Rosso
Tardy: Mr. Cook (7:18PM) and Mrs. Hadden (7:20PM)

Also Present: Mr. Saalfield, Superintendent; Mrs. Petty, SBA/Board Secretary; and Mr. Leal, Principal; Mr. Castellucci, Attorney; and several members of the staff, students and community

APPROVE REGULAR MINUTES - A motion was made by Mrs. Glory, seconded by Mrs. Mantegna, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes as amended (for amount of class trips transportation) contract for October 15, 2015.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Superintendent's Update** – Mr. Saalfield informed the Board that new iron railings and a paved walkway near the gym have been installed recently. He noted that the Building & Grounds committee needs to meet. This week we sent our Crisis Team professionals to North Warren to assist with the recent loss of Mrs. Erd. He recently attended meetings with the Land Use Board, Blair Women's Club, and Blairstown Rotary. Additionally, he attended the NSJBA Annual Workshop in Atlantic City and a workshop on Legal Updates. He and Mr. Leal are looking into the possibility of using a GPS system for school buses. He noted the PARCC scores are due soon, that supervisors will be providing reports for the BOE, and that the December field trip to NYC has been postponed. He asked Mrs. Petty to discuss the difficulty in finding part-time custodians, which may necessitate considering a third full-timer.

2. **Principal's Report** – Mr. Leal reviewed his written report.

3. **Student Council Introduction** – Mr. Leal introduced the 2015-16 members of the Student Council. Miss Devon Benzaia, Student Council President, gave a short speech. Students were treated to refreshments before continuing with the meeting.

4. **2015 Election Results**

(3) <u>Three-Year Terms:</u>	L. Glory	539 + 93 = 632 votes
	K. Hadden	545 + 98 = 643 votes
	S. Mantegna	558 + 94 = 652 votes

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- (1) One-Year Term: Write-Ins:
1. L. Ruben 9 votes
 2. L. Dwyer 2 votes
 3. M. Paino 2 votes

PUBLIC HEARING & PETITION – Mrs. Calhoun introduced herself and noted that her cheerleading group has requested building space for practice, which is on tonight’s agenda. Mr. Thatcher reviewed the basketball practice challenges and requested displaying a banner (with sponsor names) this year, with which the Board agreed.

Mrs. Van Valkenberg introduced herself as the new Township Committee representative for the BOE.

APPROVE FINANCIAL REPORTS - A motion was made by Mrs. Mantegna, seconded by Mrs. Hadden, and carried unanimously by roll call vote to approve September Transfers in the amount of \$2,450.00 and the Board Secretary’s Reports, in agreement with the Treasurer’s Reports, in the amount of \$1,333,930.08 for September 2015 in total Government Funds; and to certify that as of September 30, 2015, after review of the Secretary and Treasurer’s monthly financial reports (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been overexpended in violation with N.J.A.C.6A:23A-16.10(c)4 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligation for the fiscal year.

APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS - A motion was made by Mrs. Glory, seconded by Mrs. Hadden, and carried unanimously by roll call vote to approve payment of the Bills & Claims List for the General Fund in the amount of \$846,319.59 and for the Food Service Fund in the amount of \$11,281.34.

MOTION ITEMS

A. PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Mrs. Mantegna, seconded by Mrs. Wood-Rosso, and carried unanimously by roll call vote to approve the following five Personnel items:

1. Approve Maternity Leave - To approve Mrs. McDonald’s request for a maternity leave of absence per her letter dated October 26, 2015.
2. Approve Custodian – To accept the Superintendent’s recommendation to hire Anthony Gagliardi as a part-time Custodian at the hourly rate of \$13.00, effective November 23, 2015 for the 2015-16 School Year.
3. Accept Resignation of Custodian – To accept the resignation of Jessica Goble, part-time Custodian, effective November 27, 2015.

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4. Substitutes – To accept the Superintendent’s recommendation to add the names of John Cosgrove, Kristi Thatcher, Jennifer Unick, Kelsey Vincello, and Andrea Walsh to the Substitute teacher list, the name of Karen Kurkowski to the substitute nurse list, and the names of Robert Duffy, Kristopher DeWitt, and Jessica Goble to the substitute custodian list for 2015-16.

5. Approve Stipend positions with the BTA contract stipend amounts as follows:

Warren County Consortium Debate –C. Groseibl, Judge	\$120
C. Robinson, Judge	\$120
J. Pillion, Scorer	\$120
Third Grade Battle of the Books - A. Voss, Advisor	\$480
Assistant Chess Club - K. Dachisen, Advisor	\$320
(if student participation warrants this additional position)	

B. FACILITIES

A motion was made by Mrs. Hadden, seconded by Mrs. McLain, and carried unanimously by roll call vote to approve the following two Facilities items:

1. Facilities’ Use Requests – To approve the attached list of Facilities’ Use requests.
2. Approve Engineer for Asbestos Removal Bid Work – In preparation for continuing our summer flooring projects in the fourth grade wing during 2016, a motion to accept the proposal from RKO&E Engineers to prepare the specifications and oversee the removal and air sampling and reporting in the estimated amount of \$5,705.

C. FINANCE

A motion was made by Mr. Herrmann, seconded by Mrs. McLain, and carried unanimously by roll call vote to approve the following two Finance motions:

1. Workshop & Mileage Reimbursement Requests - To approve the attached list (amended to include a request from Mrs. Andrews) of workshop and mileage reimbursement requests.
2. Approve Tuition Contract – To approve a contract with the State of NJ, Department of Children and Families, to pay tuition to BES in the amount of \$14,947.00 for one “state-responsible” student for the 2015-16 School Year.
3. Lambert Road Property – Mr. Castellucci, Board Attorney, informed the Board that the project application has been sent to the DOE in Trenton, and that the County’s attorney is handling the property subdivision.

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D. TRANSPORTATION

A motion was made by Mrs. McLain, seconded by Mrs. Wood-Rosso, and carried unanimously by roll call vote to approve the following two Transportation motions:

1. Approve Joint Transportation Contract – To approve a joint transportation contract for Route #RVCS with North Warren Regional BOE as the “Joiner District”, in the amount of \$5,030, for the transportation of their 13 students to the Ridge & Valley Charter School for the 2015-16 School Year.
2. Approve Joint Transportation Contract – To approve a joint transportation contract for Route #K-70S with Kittatiny Regional as the “Host District”, in the amount of \$646.80, for the transportation of one student to St. Joseph School in Newton for the 2015-16 School Year, effective November 2, 2015.
3. Bus Evacuation Reports – FYI -- included in agenda packet

E. POLICY

1. First Readings – A motion was made by Mrs. Glory, seconded by Mrs. Mantegna, and carried unanimously to approve the first policy readings as listed on the attachment.

OLD BUSINESS - Mrs. Petty reminded all Board members to complete online BOE training by December 31st.

CORRESPONDENCE – Mr. Saalfield received a letter from the Blair Women’s Club, thanking him for attending their meeting and sharing information about Blairstown Elementary School.

PUBLIC HEARING & PETITION – Mrs. Van Valkenberg asked about the sale of one acre of the Lambert Road property, and Mr. Herrmann provided a brief overview of the transaction.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – J. Karolchyk noted that the Delegate Assembly is this Saturday and reviewed the proposed resolution concerning expenses of charter schools that can be fully passed on to the public schools, and he will be voting negatively. He also noted that there are links on the NJSBA.org website with information on PARCC.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Wood-Rosso, seconded by Mrs. Glory, and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:25PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Molly Petty
School Business Administrator