

BLAIRSTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Blairstown, New Jersey 07825

www.blairstownelem.net

Thursday, February 16, 2017 Meeting – 7:00PM

Mr. Herrmann called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

BOARD MEMBERS: Mr. Jeremy Cook, Mrs. Michelle Gerhardt, Mrs. Lauren Glory, Mr. Dirk Herrmann, Mrs. Kelly Hadden, Mr. John Karolchyk, Mrs. Donna Krauss, Mrs. Shelly Mantegna, and Mrs. Jessica Wood-Rosso

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. Gerhardt, Mrs. Glory, Mrs. Hadden, Mr. Herrmann, Mr. Karolchyk, Mrs. Krauss, Mrs. Mantegna, and Mrs. Wood-Rosso

Absent: None.

Tardy: Mr. Cook arrived at 8:05PM

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

APPROVE REGULAR MINUTES - A motion was made by Mrs. Mantegna, seconded by Mrs. Hadden, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes as amended by Mrs. Glory for January 5, 2017.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Superintendent's Update – Mr. Saalfield noted that the All-Star Band will perform on March 2nd. He also spoke about our new outdoor lighting, the January 12th “Foundations” session, the termination of the Blairstown sewer project, ESSA replacing NCLB, having our own Facebook page, and the spring musical. Mr. Saalfield informed the Board that we are working on reviewing new Social Studies resources and replacing our “Olweus” program, possibly with “Responsive Classroom”. He will have more details in March. Also noted was an expensive boiler repair needed this weekend in the Schaare wing. Mr. Saalfield happily informed the Board that Mr. Leal attained tenure last week.

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

PUBLIC HEARING & PETITION – None.

BOE ETHICS PRESENTATION BY KATHY HELEWA, NJSBA REPRESENTATIVE

Ms. Helewa reviewed the NJSBA Ethics presentation, which is required annually for the BOE.

*Mrs. Wood-Rosso left the meeting at this time.

APPROVE FINANCIAL REPORTS - A motion was made by Mrs. Mantegna, seconded by Mrs. Glory, and carried unanimously by roll call vote to approve the attached list of December Transfers in the amount of \$10,200 and the Board Secretary's Reports, in agreement with the Treasurer's Reports, in the amount of \$1,183,911.78 in Total Government Funds and to certify that as of December 31, 2016, 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. Wood-Rosso, seconded by Mrs. Herrmann, and carried unanimously by roll call vote to approve payment of the General Fund Bills & Claims list in the amount of \$1,239,793.87 and the Food Service Fund list in the amount of \$24,142.48.

MOTION ITEMS

A. PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Mrs. Mantegna, seconded by Mr. Cook, and carried unanimously by roll call vote to approve the following four Personnel items:

1. Approve Maternity Leave – To approve Mr. Saalfield's recommendation to hire Juliana Goncalves as a long-term replacement teacher on Bachelor's Step 1, effective February 21, 2017, through June 30, 2017.
2. Hire Personal Care Aide – To approved Mr. Saalfield's recommendation to hire Taj Bridygham as a personal care aide at the hourly rate of \$10, effective February 21, 2017, for the remainder of the 2016-17 School Year.
3. Hire Substitutes – To accept the Mr. Saalfield's recommendation to add the name of Rachel Simpson to the substitute nurse list and the name of Erika Pelosi to the substitute aide list for the 2016-17 School Year.
4. Increase Employment Contract – To increase the employment contract for Jillian Cardoso by one hour and fifty minutes per day, effective February 21, 2017 through June 30, 2017.

B. FINANCE

A motion was made by Mrs. Mantegna, seconded by Mr. Herrmann, and carried unanimously by roll call vote to approve the following three Finance items:

1. Approve Workshop and Mileage Reimbursement Requests – To approve the revised list of requested workshop and mileage reimbursement requests.

2. SEMI Program Waiver Request – To approve the 2017-18 SEMI waiver request.
3. Approve Parent Transportation Contract – To approve a parent transportation contract with Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Barinas to transport their child to and from school at a cost of \$50 per diem, effective January 11, 2017, for the remainder of the 2016-17 School Year.

** Mrs. Mantegna left the meeting at this time (8:18PM).

C. FACILITIES

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

1. Projects for Long Range Facility Plan – To approve the attached list of projects to be included in the Blairstown Township Board of Education's Long Range Facility Plan.
2. MOU – Approval – To approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Warren County Prosecutor's Office and the Public School Districts Located within Warren County for payment of the annual maintenance fee (for building security software). (Mr. Karolchyk noted that we should not have to pay for this).
3. Facilities' Use Requests – To approve the attached list of Facilities' Use Requests, adding a PTG request to use the Library for their book fair on May 13th.

D. EDUCATION

1. HIB Report – Mr. Saalfield summarized Incident #16172, which involved fifth grade boys accused of calling another student names, and the incident involved some intimidation. Two of the three students were found to be guilty. The punishments included detention, parent conferences, and counseling.
2. Semi-Annual Violence and Vandalism Report – Mr. Saalfield reported that while there were two HIB incidents, there were no violence or vandalism incidents so far this year.
3. 2017-18 School Calendar – Mr. Saalfield reviewed his suggested changes for the attached 2017-18 School Calendar. No vote was taken on this matter.

E. POLICY

1. First Reading on Policies – A motion was made by Mrs. Glory, seconded by Mrs. Hadden, and carried unanimously to approve the first reading of the following policies:

- 1510 - Americans with Disabilities Act
- 2415.30 - Title I – Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care
- 2418 - Section 54 of the Rehab Act of 1973
- 5116 - Education of Homeless Children
- 8330 - Student Records

OLD BUSINESS - None.

CORRESPONDENCE – Mr. Saalfeld received an email from the Principal at the Great Meadows School, praising our Ed Camp recently held. A letter was received from the BEA, offering several possible meeting dates for starting Negotiations.

PUBLIC HEARING & PETITION – Mrs. Pelosi spoke about the Ed Camp sessions, the topics of which were suggested by the teachers themselves.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – J. Karolchyk distributed an Appellate Court ruling on Rice letters. Mr. Karolchyk reviewed pending legislative items.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – A motion was made by Mrs. Hadden, seconded by Mrs. Cook, and carried unanimously by roll call vote at 8:46PM to convene to Executive Session to discuss matters of Personnel (2017-18 staffing) and Negotiations, the results of which will be released to the public once the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

The meeting re-opened to the public at 9:10PM.

A motion was made by Mrs. Krauss, seconded by Mr. Herrmann, and carried unanimously to approve the Executive Session minutes as submitted for January 5, 2017.

The Board discussed the date of the first Negotiations session.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 PM was made by Mrs. Hadden, seconded by Mr. Herrmann, and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Molly Petty
School Business Administrator