

HOPE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

TUESDAY

DECEMBER 13, 2011

7:00 PM

Mrs. Ostrzyzek called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m., and proper notice of postings was given. Mrs. Ostrzyzek read the Sunshine Statement and Mrs. Koeppen read the Mission Statement and led the pledge of allegiance. Board members present at the roll call were Mr. Lucas, Mr. Tighe, Mrs. Wallace, Mrs. Koeppen, Mrs. Ostrzyzek and Mr. McKenna. Mr. Annunziata, Superintendent, Mrs. Huff, Business Administrator /Board Secretary and Ms. Peterson, Principal were also in attendance, as well as ten members of the public.

PUBLIC HEARING & PETITION

None

RECOGNITION – STAFF MEMBER OF THE QUARTER

Mr. Grennan was recognized as staff member of the quarter for Quarter 1. Mrs. Ostrzyzek congratulated and thanked Mr. Grennan for his exceptional contributions to the district and presented him with the Quarterly Staff Recognition award. Staff members are nominated for this award by their colleagues and chosen by the Administrative Team.

HOPE SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

Mrs. Gecek accompanied several Grade 5 students to the Board meeting to discuss their participation in a service project during their field trip to Longmeadow Farms. The students gathered apples to donate to needy families as part of the “Farmers Against Hunger” program. Mrs. Gecek noted that the students were all very excited to be a part of and contribute to this worthy program.

Mrs. Kahler arrived at 7:12 p.m.

BOARD SELF EVALUATION

Jane Kershner, Field Service Representative with New Jersey School Boards Association, joined the meeting to present a summary review of the 2010-2011 Board Self Evaluation. Mrs. Kershner noted that as she examined individual evaluations, there was consistency throughout the goals of the Board as a whole. Mrs. Kershner encouraged the Board to continue to work hard and applauded the Board for working cohesively. Mrs. Kershner encouraged the board to use this evaluation as a tool for setting Board goals for the coming year.

CORRESPONDENCE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Huff read a letter from Norman Beatty, President of First Hope Bank, applauding the efforts of Nancy Arnot, Hope School Art Teacher, for her efforts to showcase student artwork at the bank. Mr. Beatty included a donation of \$125.00 to be put towards the art program at the school.

Mr. Lucas discussed Belvidere High School Project Graduation 2012 and asked the Board to consider a donation this year. Mrs. Ostrzyzek asked Mrs. Huff to research previous year donation amounts and the Board will discuss at their next meeting.

APPROVE MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Koeppen and seconded by Mr. McKenna to approve the minutes as submitted from the November 22, 2011 Regular Session Meeting and Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously, all yes, with Mr. Lucas abstaining.

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BUILDINGS & GROUNDS / TRANSPORTATION

Mrs. Huff noted that all of the punch list items for the parking lot project have been completed with the exception of the reseeding, which will be put off until the Spring. Mrs. Huff noted that Wires Electric is still putting together data regarding installation of generators at the school. The work on the Media Center HVAC units is complete and the repairs to the flashing light and pole are not yet complete. Mrs. Huff also reported that Oak Securities will be in the school next week to work on door hinges, weather stripping and sweeps on doors in and around the APR area.

COMMUNITY & PUBLIC RELATIONS

Mrs. Ostrzyzek commended Mr. Tighe for his efforts to keep a schedule of articles from Board members published in the Panther Prints.

Motion – Community & Public Relations

A motion was made by Mrs. Koeppen and seconded by Mrs. Wallace to approve the following agenda item #1. Motion carried unanimously, all yes.

1. Approve a Use of Facility for Haven of Hope

To approve a Use of Facility request from Haven of Hope for Kids to use the APR and Kitchen, March 17, 2012, for an Easter Bunny Workshop.

CURRICULUM / INSTRUCTION / TECHNOLOGY

Mrs. Kahler noted that Mrs. Peterson had sent out the Social Studies Curriculum maps. Mrs. Kahler asked that the motion for approval be held until next meeting so the maps can be more extensively reviewed before approval.

Block Motion – Curriculum/Instruction/Technology

A motion was made by Mr. Lucas and seconded by Mrs. Wallace to approve the following agenda items #1 through #4, and hold action on motion #5 until next meeting. Motion carried unanimously, all yes.

1. Approve a Field Trip for Grade 7 & 8 Students

To approve a field trip for approximately 48 Grade 7&8 students to Belvidere High School to see their winter concert assembly on December 16, 2011, from 8:50 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. The cost for the bus transportation is \$198.00.

2. Approve a Field Trip for Grade 8 Students

To approve a field trip for approximately 10 Grade 8 students to Warren County Technical School to participate in their Student Shadowing Program on December 16, 2011, from 8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. The cost of the bus transportation will be paid by Warren Tech.

3. Approve a Field Trip for Grade 7 & 8 Handbell Students

To approve a field trip for approximately 25 Grade 7 & 8 handbell students to Mansfield Shoprite to perform Christmas music on December 16, 2011, from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Students will be transported by parents.

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Block Motion – Curriculum/Instruction/Technology

4. Approve a Field Trip for Grade 1 & 2 Students

To approve a field trip for approximately 10 Grade 1 & 2 students to Evangelical Free Church of Blairstown to participate in Marvelous Math on January 19, 2012, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. The cost of the transportation will be shared with four other participating districts and will be determined.

5. ~~Approve Curriculums for Grade 4-8 Social Studies~~

~~To approve the Curriculums for Grade 4-8 Social Studies~~

FINANCE

Block Motion - Finance

A motion was made by Mr. Tighe and seconded by Mrs. Koeppen to approve the following agenda items #1 through #5. Motion carried unanimously, by roll call vote, all yes.

1. Approve November 2011 Board Secretary's Report

To approve the November 2011 Board Secretary's Report. After review of the School Business Administrator's monthly financial reports and upon consultation with the Business Administrator and Superintendent, this Board of Education does hereby certify that as of November 30, 2011, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11, and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

2. Authorize the Business Administrator to Pay December 2011 Bills & Claims

To grant authority to the Business Administrator to pay the December 2011 Bills & Claims through the end of December 2011, subject to formal submission and approval of the December 2011 Bills & Claims List by the Board in January 2012.

3. Approve Budget Transfers for November 2011

To approve budget transfers for November 2011 in the amount of \$677.38.

4. Approve Purchase of Hope School Yearbook Public Information Booster Page

To approve the purchase of a full page public information page in the Hope Township School 2011-2012 Yearbook at a cost of \$60.00.

5. Approve A Superintendent Search Agreement

To approve a standard Superintendent Search Agreement between the Hope Township and White Township Boards of Education and New Jersey School Boards Association in the amount of \$6,500.00, \$3,250.00, less \$800 credit, to be paid by the White Township Board of Education and \$3,250.00, less their \$800 credit, to be paid by the Hope Township Board of Education for search services as detailed in the contract.

PERSONNEL

The Board discussed the timeframe for the Shared Superintendent search.

Block Motion - Personnel

A motion was made by Mr. McKenna and seconded by Mrs. Wallace to approve the following agenda items #1 through #2. Motion carried unanimously, all yes.

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Block Motion – Personnel - continued

1. Accept the Resignation of Megan Budd

To accept the resignation of Megan Budd, Resource Room Teacher, effective January 29, 2012, or sooner if a qualified replacement can be found.

2. Accept the Resignation of Alfred Annunziata

To accept, with regret, the resignation of Alfred Annunziata, Superintendent, for the purpose of retirement, effective July 1, 2012.

POLICY

The Board discussed and reviewed the Board policies for first reading this evening.

Block Motion - Policy

A motion was made by Mr. McKenna and seconded by Mrs. Koeppen to approve the following agenda items #1 through #7, with the options as discussed. Motion carried unanimously, all yes.

1. Approve First Reading of Bylaw #0168 – Recording Board Meetings

To approve a First Reading of Bylaw #0168 – Recording Board Meetings

2. Approve First Reading of Policy & Regulation #5519 – Dating Violence at School

To approve a First Reading of Policy & Regulation #5519 – Dating Violence at School

3. Approve First Reading of Policy #6424 – Emergency Contracts

To approve a First Reading of Policy #6424 – Emergency Contracts

4. Approve First Reading of Policy #6472 – Tuition Assistance

To approve a First Reading of Policy #6472 – Tuition Assistance

5. Approve First Reading of Policy #8505 – School Nutrition

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6. Approve First Reading of Policy #9180 – School Volunteers

To approve a First Reading of Policy #9180 – School Volunteers

7. Approve First Reading of Policy #9181 – Volunteer Athletic Coaches and Co-Curricular Activity Advisors/Assistants

To approve a First Reading of Policy #9181 – Volunteer Athletic Coaches and Co-Curricular Activity Advisors/Assistants

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. McKenna shared news of a bill introduced by the Assembly Appropriations Committee, A-4394, which would give local school districts the option to move school board member elections from April to November, while eliminating the annual vote on proposed school budgets that are at or below the state's 2-percent tax levy cap.

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BELVIDERE UPDATE

Mr. Lucas reported on several events at Belvidere High School including winter sports that have started; several community service programs that are going on at the school; the school musical this Spring will be "Thirteen".

APPROVE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A motion was made by Mrs. Wallace and seconded by Mr. Tighe to approve the Superintendent's Report for November 2011. Motion carried unanimously, all yes.

HIB INCIDENTS

A motion was made by Mrs. Wallace and seconded by Mr. Lucas to acknowledge receipt of no HIB Incidents for November 2011. Motion carried unanimously, all yes.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Mr. McKenna and seconded by Mr. Lucas to convene to Executive Session at 9:08 p.m. to discuss a student issue. Motion carried unanimously, all yes.

Be it resolved by the Hope Township Board of Education that it shall meet in closed session this evening to discuss a student issue. The board will publicly disclose information pertaining to the topics discussed as soon thereafter and once the reasons for non-disclosure no longer exist.

The topics to be discussed are within the exemptions that are permitted to be discussed in private session pursuant to P.L. 1975c chapter 321.

A motion was made by Mr. Lucas and seconded by Mrs. Wallace to adjourn the Executive Session at 9:20 p.m. Motion carried unanimously, all yes.

PUBLIC HEARING & PETITION

None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. McKenna and seconded by Mr. Lucas to adjourn the meeting at 9:21 P.M. Motion carried unanimously, all yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Huff
Business Administrator/Board Secretary