

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 19, 2022
HAMILTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION**

The Regular meeting of the Hamilton Township Board of Education was called to order at 6:09 p.m. in the William Davies Middle School Cafetorium by Nanci Barr, President.

The following members answered Roll Call: Mrs. Ankrah, Dr. Lihach, Mrs. Miller, Dr. Nelson, Mrs. Poretto, Mr. Rogers, and Mrs. Barr.

Absent: Ms. Newman

2. New Board Member Oath of Office

Amy Houck-Elco, Solicitor, administered the Oath of Office to Amy Hassa, newly appointment Board Member for a one year term.

3. Executive Session

Motion by Mrs. Barr, seconded by Mrs. Hassa, to recess into Executive Session.

ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor: Mrs. Ankrah, Mrs. Hassa, Dr. Lihach, Mrs. Miller, Dr. Nelson, Mrs. Poretto, Mr. Rogers, and Mrs. Barr.

Resolved that pursuant to Sections 7 and 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, the public shall be excluded from that portion of the meeting involving discussion of:

- HIB
- Attorney Client Privilege
- Personnel

Be it further resolved that the discussion of such subject matter in executive session can be disclosed to the public when formal action is taken on such subject matter or at any other appropriate time.

Be it further resolved the Board may take action on items discussed in executive session.

Now therefore, be it resolved that the Board will be in executive session for approximately 60 minutes.

The Board entered into Executive session at 6:12 p.m.

4. Reconvene Public Session

Motion by Mrs. Barr, seconded by Dr. Nelson, to reconvene to public session.

ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor: Mrs. Ankrah, Mrs. Hassa, Dr. Lihach, Mrs. Miller, Dr. Nelson, Mrs. Poretto, Mr. Rogers, and Mrs. Barr. (8-0-0)

The Regular session of the meeting reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

Notice of Advertisement of Meeting

This meeting is being held in compliance with the Sunshine Law, having been advertised in the Press of Atlantic City and notices posted at the Township Clerk's Office, Mays Landing Post Office, Mizpah Post Office, Atlantic County Library, as well as all the schools of the district. A mechanical device is being used to record this meeting and this meeting is also being video-taped.

There are two opportunities to address the members of the Board. The Board values and welcomes comments and opinions from residents as long as remarks are not personal or discourteous. If your remarks are about students and/or personnel, you should follow the chain of command as the Board cannot respond to those comments. The public comment portion of the meeting allows the Board to listen to community members and to hear their opinions on school policy and operations.

The first public portion is reserved for persons wishing to speak about agenda items only. The second opportunity, following the action items, is when residents may address the Board on any school-related issue. Each speaker is asked to limit their comments to three minutes and you are not permitted to yield your time to another. The public comments portion of the meeting, during both sessions, will not exceed 30 minutes. Upon being recognized, persons wishing to speak should stand and identify themselves by name and address.

Mrs. Barr led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Barr asked for a moment of silence for private reflection.

5. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mrs. Barr, seconded by Dr. Nelson, to approve the Regular and Executive session minutes of December 22, 2021 and the minutes of the Reorganization Meeting of January 5, 2022.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Seven in favor for December 22, 2021: Mrs. Ankrah, Mrs. Hassa, Dr. Lihach, Mrs. Miller, Dr. Nelson, Mrs. Poretto, and Mrs. Barr. Abstain: Mr. Rogers (7-0-1)

Seven in favor January 5, 2022: Mrs. Ankrah, Dr. Lihach, Mrs. Miller, Dr. Nelson, Mrs. Poretto, Mr. Rogers, and Mrs. Barr. Abstain: Mrs. Hassa (7-0-1)

6. Correspondence - Dr. Zito reported correspondence from the New Jersey Department of Health which regarding an inspection of the Davies School. No violations were found.

7. Public Comments - Agenda Items Only (Receive comments from the public on tonight's agenda items in accordance with the Board's policy on participation at a Board meeting.) - None

8. Superintendent/Staff Reports

Dr. Zito thanked the staff and administration for preparing the Board of Education Appreciation presentation. He also thanked Mrs. Bregatta and Mr. Wellington for coming tonight to present. He noted that parents and guardians have been provided with new quarantine protocols and further information can be found on the district website. He thanked the Board of Education for all of their volunteer hours and their continued support.

Informational Items:

- Registration/Transfer Statistics for the Month of December, 2021
- Enrollment for the Month of December, 2021
- Discipline Reports for the Month of December, 2021
- HIB Reports

Dates to Remember:

- Wednesday, February 16, 2022 - Board of Education Meeting, Davies Cafeteria - 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, February 16, 2022 - Hess Parent Teacher Conferences - 1:40-3:20 p.m.
- Wednesday, February 16, 2022 - Shaner and Davies Parent Teacher Conferences - 6-8 p.m.
- Thursday, February 17, 2022 - Shaner and Davies Parent Teacher Conferences - 12:30-2:30 p.m.
- Thursday, February 17, 2022 - Hess Parent Teacher Conferences - 6-8 p.m.
- Monday, February 21, 2022 - Schools Closed - President's Day
- Monday, February 28, 2022 - PTA Meeting - Hess Library - 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday, March 12, 2022 - Budget Workshop/Board Retreat - Davies Cafeteria - 9:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, March 16, 2022 - Board of Education Meeting, Davies Cafeteria - 7:00 p.m.

Dr. Zito also noted that testing for NWEA will begin the week of January 24.

9. Presentations

Board Recognition

A special presentation was given to the Board Members in honor of their service to our schools.

Student Safety Data Presentation

Given by: Jeff Wellington, Supervisor of Special Projects

Start Strong Results Presentation

Given by: Ramona Bregatta, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

10: Board Member Comments

Mrs. Miller thanked everyone for coming tonight to give presentations.

Mrs. Hassa thanked the Board for appointing her to the Board for the next year. She also asked any board member interested in being a member of the Board of Directors for NJSBA reach out to her.

She noted the upcoming Atlantic County virtual meeting to be held on February 10, 2022.

Mrs. Barr thanked everyone for their commitment to the Board and for selecting her to the position of Board President.

11. Instruction Committee - (Curriculum and Technology) - Chairperson: Dr. Lihach

Dr. Lihach reported on the Instruction Committee meeting.

Motion by Dr. Lihach, seconded by Dr. Nelson to approve Instruction Committee Item 11.2.

To approve the following ELL teachers @ \$31.15/hour for 1 and ½ hours (5:30-7:00) for attending the ELL Parent Tech. Night.

- Kritine LaBue
- Ann Andrew
- Iliese Wagner
- Virginia Dzialo
- Heather Harner

ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor: Mrs. Ankrah, Mrs. Hassa, Dr. Lihach, Mrs. Miller, Dr. Nelson, Mrs. Poretto, Mr. Rogers, and Mrs. Barr (8-0-0)

12. Policy - Chairperson: Ms. Newman

Mrs. Miller reported on the Policy Committee meeting.

Motion by Ms. Newman, seconded by Dr. Nelson, to approve Policy Committee Items 12.2 to 12.3.

12.2: Policies and Regulations -First Reading - None

12.3: To approve the following Policies/Regulations on second reading:

- Policy #1648.14 - Safety Plan for Healthcare Settings in School Buildings - COVID-19 (New-Mandated)

ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor: Mrs. Ankrah, Mrs. Hassa, Dr. Lihach, Mrs. Miller, Dr. Nelson, Mrs. Poretto, Mr. Rogers, and Mrs. Barr. (8-0-0)

13. Operations Committee (Facilities, Transportation, Finance, Food Services and Technology) - Chairperson: Dr. Nelson

Dr. Nelson reported on the Operations Committee meeting.

13.1: Motion by Dr. Nelson, seconded by Dr. Lihach, to approve Items 13.2 to 13.16.

13.2: Informational Items

- Registration/Transfer Statistics for the Month of December, 2021
- Enrollment for the Month of December, 2021
- Discipline Reports for the Month of December, 2021
- HIB Reports

13.3: To approve the Report of Receipts and Expenditures for the Month of November 2021.

The Report of Receipts and Expenditures and the Secretary's Report are in agreement for the month of November 2021.

13.4: To approve Board Secretary's Report for the Month of November, 2021.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3, the Hamilton Township Board of Education certifies that as of November 30, 2021, and after review of the Secretary's Monthly Financial appropriations section as presented and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of the Board's knowledge, no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)4 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

13.5: To approve budget transfers in the amount of \$158,850.50 for the 2021-2022 school year.

13.6: To accept the Superintendent's and Board Secretary's certification that they have reviewed all bills and purchase orders which are listed on the bill list, and hereby certify to the Board of Education that all purchase orders are sufficiently encumbered to cover the submitted bills, and further that all goods and services have been previously received.

13.7: To approve bills and payroll in the amount of \$6,061,034.45.

13.8: To approve bills between meetings.

13.9: To approve the following tuition contracts (sending) for the 2021-2022 school year.

<u>Placement</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u># of students</u>	<u>School Year (time frame)</u>	<u>Cost (prorated as necessary)</u>
Pineland Learning Center	OOD	1	1/5/22 to 6/30/22 (108 days)	\$33,912.00

13.10: To approve the following tuition contracts (receiving) for the 2021-2022 school year.
- None

13.11: To approve the following contracts/agreements for the 2021-2022 school year.

- TROX/Horizon AVL

13.12: To approve professional development/travel for the 2021-2022 school year.

13.13: To approve/accept the following Grants:

- Motion to approve Davies Atlanticare Grant in the amount of \$900.
- \$750.00 Resiliency Enhancement Grant and AtlantiCare AED Heart Heros Grant

13.14: To approve the disposal of the following items that are no longer of use to the district:

- Technology Equipment (as per attachment)

13.15: School Bus Confirmation - None

13.16: To approve the following Use of Facilities:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Date of Use</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Hamilton Township PAL	5/16/2022-5/20/2022	Dance Rehearsals

Hamilton Township PAL	5/22/2022	Dance Recital
Oakcrest	2/7/2022-2/18/2022	Oakcrest Scheduling
Hess Concert Band	5/5/2022	Hess Spring Concert
Davies Middle School	5/13/2022	8th Grade Dinner Dance
Davies Middle School	6/8/2022	8th Grade Award Night

ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor: Mrs. Ankrah, Mrs. Hassa, Dr. Lihach, Mrs. Miller, Dr. Nelson, Mrs. Poretto, Mr. Rogers, and Mrs. Barr (8-0-0)

14. Administration Committee (Personnel and Discipline) - Chairperson: Mrs. Ankrah

Mrs. Ankrah reported on the Administration Committee meeting.

14.1 Motion by Mrs. Ankrah, seconded by Dr. Nelson, to approve Administration Committee Items 14.2 to 14.13 as recommended the Superintendent.

To approve the following resignations:

Name	Location	Position	Dated
Tracy Santo	Davies	School Nurse	12/20/21; eff 2/16/22
Michael Fichetola	Hess	Phys Ed Teacher	12/21/21; eff 2/21/22
Kaela Lindsay	Hess	Paraprofessional	1/10/22; eff 1/19/22 (previously approved on 12/22/21)

14.3: Retirements - None

14.4: To approve the following leaves of absence:

Name	Location	Leave	Position
Andrea Muth	Hess	Maternity LOA for the 21/22 SY utilizing sick leave 5/9 - 5/20, followed by FMLA for the remainder of the school year. RTW date is 9/1/22.	Special Ed Teacher
Karen Wigglesworth	Hess	Unpaid LOA through on or about 3/4/22.	Paraprofessional
Allison Baggstrom	Hess	Unpaid LOA 1/6/22 through on or about 2/4/22.	Paraprofessional
Jeanne Petrillo	Hess	Unpaid LOA 2/1 - 2/28/22.	Paraprofessional
Rachel Scott	Davies	Amend a maternity leave using NJFMLA through 2/3/22 with RTW date of 2/4/22	Teacher
Tina Bannon	Davies	Intermittent NJFMLA for the month of January, 2022.	Nurse
Belinda Velez	Hess	Unpaid .5 day 1/14/22 and NJFMLA 1/18 - 1/21/22	Paraprofessional

14.5: Building Transfers and Position Control Transfers - None

14.6: To approve new hires:

Name	Position	Location	Effective	Degree/Step	Salary	Replacement For/Reason
Julianna Johnson	Music Teacher	Hess	TBD	BA/1	\$54897 prorated	F. Rushmore/Retirement (Offer contingent upon cert being issued)

14.7: To approve start date for the following employee(s):

Name	Position	Start	Previously
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		Date	Approved
Christine Lattanzio	Supervisor of Purchasing & Transportation	12/20/21	12/22/21
Tammy Piwowski	PT Paraprofessional	1/10/22	12/22/21
Mary Vitelli	PT Paraprofessional	1/6/22	12/22/21
Blake Rosario	Guidance Counselor	1/20/22	12/22/21
Dawn Pineda	School Nurse	3/14/22	1/6/22
Maribel Torres	PT Paraprofessional	1/18/22	11/23/21
Emma Guenther	PT Paraprofessional	1/18/22	12/22/21
Cynthia Edmunds	Elementary Teacher	1/24/22	12/22/21
Raquel Wilson	PT Custodian	1/24/22	12/22/21

14.8: Student Teacher/Internship/Volunteer Placements - None

14.9: Mentors for the 2021-22 SY - None

14.10: To approve substitutes for the 2021-2022 school year.

2021-2022 School Year					
BOARD APPROVED SUBSTITUTES					
01.19.2022					
Last Name	First Name	Position	Rate	Certification	Interview
Pearl	Tammy	sub custodian	\$14/hr	na**	current district employee
Trovato	Angela	sub teacher	\$115/day	elem*	former employee
D'Agostino	Joanne	sub para	\$85/day	na	w/ Dana Kozak
Lindsay	Kaela	sub para	\$85/day	na	former employee
Snyder	William	sub teacher	\$115/day	Principal*	M. Diorio and A. Husta
Maulone	Donna	sub teacher	\$105/day	sub cert pending	current district employee
Cradock	Derek	sub custodian	\$14/hr	na**	Val Robinson
Voce	Michelle	Sub para	\$85/day	na	Colleen Bretones
Cohen	Steven	sub teacher	\$115/day	Elem,ELA,TOSD*	Dave Neff and Amanda Husta
Burns	Gary	sub teacher	\$125/day	ELA*	Dave Neff and Amanda Husta
Gonzalez	Manuel	sub teacher	\$105/day	sub cert	Dave Neff and Amanda Husta
Purgavie	Cara	sub teacher	\$115/day	Elem*	Dave Neff and Amanda Husta
McGuckin	Georgina	sub teacher	\$105/day	sub cert pending	Dave Neff and Amanda Husta
Maldonado	Stephanie	sub teacher	\$105/day	sub cert pending	Dave Neff and Amanda Husta

*Covid rate of \$225/day for those holding a NJ DOE Teaching Certificate during the pandemic.

** Covid rate of \$15/hour for sub custodians and sub food service workers during the pandemic.

14.11: To approve the following homebound instruction:

Student Homebound Number	Student Grade	Dates of Homebound Instruction	Teacher	Reason
2021-22-12	7	1-5-22-1-20-22	Jessica Tobin	Medical
2021-22-13	6	1-11-22-TBD	Donna Lee Stickle	Medical
2021-22-14	7	11-14-22-3-14-22	Ashley Demmy/Christina Collins	Medical

14.12: To affirm the action taken as authorized by the Superintendent for all HIB investigations originally submitted to the Board at the December 22, 2021 meeting.

14.13: To approve the Job Description and stipend position for a two year Ed Tech Liaison in the amount of \$5,000.00/year paid through ARP funds.

ROLL CALL VOTE: All in favor: Mrs. Ankrah, Mrs. Hassa, Dr. Lihach, Mrs. Miller, Dr. Nelson, Mrs. Poretto, Mr. Rogers and Mrs. Barr. (8-0-0)

15. Solicitor's Report - Amy Houck-Elco reported that she has had the opportunity to work with the Administration on District personnel matters, student matters and Covid matters since the last meeting.

16. Old Business - None

17. New Business

Dr. Nelson informed the Board of an upcoming meeting with Township Committee Member, Susan Hopkins, regarding reopening the pool to the public.

18. Public Comment - None

19. Adjournment

Motion by Mrs. Barr, seconded by Dr. Nelson, to adjourn the meeting.

Voice Vote: All in favor: 8-0-0

The Hamilton Township Board of Education meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne-Marie Fala
Business Administrator/Board Secretary