

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HAMILTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION JANUARY 3, 2024

1. OPENING MEETING

The Regular meeting of the Hamilton Township Board of Education was called to order at 5:30 p.m. in the William Davies Middle School Cafetorium by Jerry Nelson, Board President.

Open Public 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. This meeting is being recorded.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Mrs. Ankrah, Mrs. Barr, Dr. Cirino, Mrs. Jackson, Dr. Lihach, Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Poretto, and Dr. Nelson.

Absent: Mr. Rogers

Also Present: Dr. Jeffery Zito, Superintendent; Mr. Christopher Veneziani, Asst. Superintendent/Business Administrator/Board Secretary; Amy Houck-Elco, Solicitor

2. RESOLUTION - EXECUTIVE SESSION 1-4-24

Motion by Nanci Barr, seconded by Dr. Cirino, to convene into Executive session.

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:

- Legal Matters/Attorney Client Privilege
- Personnel
- Transportation
- HIB

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 30 minutes.

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

The Board entered the Executive session of the meeting at 5:32 p.m.

Motion by Mrs. Barr, seconded by Dr. Cirino, to adjourn from Executive session.

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

Motion by Mrs. Barr, seconded by Mrs. Jackson, to reconvene to the Public session of the meeting.

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

3. PUBLIC MEETING OPENING

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. This meeting is being recorded.

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. 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.

Dr. Nelson led the pledge of allegiance.

Dr. Nelson asked for a moment of silence for private reflection.

4. MINUTES

Motion by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Dr. Cirino, to approve the minutes of the Regular and Executive session meeting of December 13, 2023.

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

5. PRESENTATIONS

Dan Cartwright and Donna Maulone presented the Austin, the therapy dog. He will has been approved for the Shaner School program.

A presentation was given for the Teachers of the Year, Educational Service Professionals of the Year and Paraprofessionals of the Year for each school.

The Board took a five-minute recess at this time to enjoy refreshments provided by the PTA.

The Board was recognized for Board Appreciation Month and Mrs. Stecher thanked each of them for the work they do all year.

Mrs. Miller left the meeting at 6:26 p.m.

6. SUPERINTENDENT/STAFF REPORTS

Informational Items

- Registration/Transfer Statistics for the Month of December, 202
- Enrollment for the month of December, 2023
- HIB Report for the month of December, 2023
- Discipline Report for the month of December, 2023

Dates to Remember

- January 8, 2024 - [PTA Meeting - 7:00 p.m. - Davies Cafeteria](#)
- January 15, 2024 - Schools Closed - Martin Luther King Day
- February 19, 2024 - Schools Closed - Presidents' Day

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

8. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Board members thanked everyone for acknowledging the Board during Board Appreciation.

9. PERSONNEL/POLICY COMMITTEE (Personnel, Discipline and Policy) - Chairperson: Mrs. Miller

Personnel/Policy Committee did not meeting in December.

9.2: To approve the following resignations:

Name	Location	Position	Dated
Mia Gonzalez	Shaner	Paraprofessional	12.15.23, eff. 1.15.23
Lily Sutton	Davies	Secretary	12.14.23, eff.1.14.23
Danielle Pulli	Davies	BCBA Analyst	12.22.23, eff. 2.16.24

9.3: To approve the following retirements: - None

9.4: To approve the following Leaves of Absence:

Name	Location	Leave	Position
Tonya Pannell	Davies	Unpaid leave 12/8, 12/11-1/08/24	Paraprofessional
Kristin Marr	Shaner	Medical leave 1/2-2/27/24, RTW 2/28/24	Teacher
Valaria Moya	Shaner	Unpaid leave, 12/7, 12/8/23, 12/21/24	Paraprofessional
Erick Toca	Hess	Unpaid leave 12/11, 12/12, 12/13, 12/14, 12/15, 12/18-1/5, RTW 1/8/24	Paraprofessional
Stephanie Bogdan	Davies	Unpaid leave 12/20, 12/21, 12/22/23	Food Services

Elizabeth Roberts	Hess	Unpaid leave 12/15, 12/18, 12/19/23	Paraprofessional
Sandra Mount	Davies	Medical leave 1/2-3/27/24, RTW 3/28/24	Teacher
Melissa Inferrera	Hess	Medical leave 11/6-12/22/23, RTW 1/2/24	Teacher
Krystyn McAllister	Hess	1/2-3/27/24, REVISED RTW 3/28/24	BCBA Behavior Analyst
Barabara Signorello	Hess	1/12-1/26/24 Leave of Absence	Teacher
Bonnie Horner	Hess	Unpaid leave half day 12/22/23	Teacher

9.5: To rescind offer of employment to the following: - None

9.6: To approve new hires:

Name	Position	Location	Effective	Guide/Step	Salary	Replacement For/Reason	Position Control
Cristal Guzman	Admin Secretary	Davies	TBD	Secretaries/Step 1	\$37,824	Chantel Bullock/Resignation	19-03-29/ats
Linda Waldron	PT Acting Supervisor of Pupil Personnel Services	Davies	TBD		\$450 per diem	Darnell Williams/LOA	22-05-26/bnl
Jessica Martinez	PT Paraprofessional 29 hours	Shaner	TBD	Para/Step 1	\$20,460	Danila Laws/Moved to FT	24-01-01/beg
Denise Bennett	Admin Secretary Personnel	Central Office	TBD	Secretaries/Step 1	\$37,824	Amanda Husta/Resignation	19-09-29/aua

9.7: To approve the following mentors for the 2023-2024 school year:

- Heather McGinty for Luz Santos (Headstart)
- Heather McGinty for Ericks Edwards (Headstart)

9.8 Substitutes - None

9.9: To approve the following homebound instruction:

Student Homebound Number	Student Grade	Dates of Homebound Instruction	Teacher	Reason
2023-2024-32b	6	12-5-23-12-22-23	Jeff Gildiner	Medical
2023-2024-33b	6	11-15-23-TBD	Donna Peck	Behavioral
2023-2024-37	8	12-8-23-12-21-23	Kathleen Curtis/ Stephanie Gibbons	Discipline
2023-24-38	7	12-7-23-12-20-23	Jessica Tobin	Discipline
2023-24-39	8	12-8-23-12-21-23	Carla Yutzy/ Michele Giardino	Discipline
2023-24-40	3	12-6-23-TBD	Cory Meisenhelter/Jennifer Schairer	Behavioral
2023-24-41	7	12-15-23-TBD	TBD	Behavioral
2023-24-42	8	12-20-23-1-4-24	Jessica Tobin	Discipline

9.10: To approve the following building transfers:

Name	Position	Location From:	Location To:	Effective Date	Replacement for:
Kevin Salamone	Paraprofessional	Shaner	Hess	11.16.23	Brianna Montoya/ Temporary LOA

9.11: To approve the following internal transfers. - None

9.12: Policies and Regulations -First Reading - None

9.13: To approve the following Policies/Regulations on Second Reading: - None

9.14: To approve the following fieldwork placements for the 2023-2024 school year: - None

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

9.16: Motion by Mrs. Jackson, seconded by Dr. Cirino, to approve Administration Committee Items 9.2 through 9.15 as recommended by the Superintendent.

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

10. FINANCE/OPERATIONS (Facilities, Transportation, Finance, Food Services and Technology) - Chairperson: Dr. Lihach

Dr. Nelson reported on the Finance/Operations Committee Meeting held on December 13, 2023.

10.2 Informational Items

- Purchase Orders for the Month of December/Jan. 2024.
- Budget Summary Report Month of October
- Refunds for month of October
- Miscellaneous Revenue Month of October
- Rentals for the month of October
- Capital Reserve for the month of October.
- Receipts for the month of October
- Interest for month of October.

10.3: To approve the Board Secretary's Report for the month of October.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3, the Hamilton Township Board of Education certifies that as of September 30, 2023, 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 Boards 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 districts financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

10.4: Report of Receipts and Expenditures - None

10.5: To approve budget transfers in the amount of \$598,378.53.

10.6: 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.

10.7: To approve bills and payroll in the amount of \$592,062.40 for the month of December 2023.

10.8: To approve the following tuition contracts (sending) for the 2023-2024 school year.

District	Type	# of Students	School Year (time frame)	Cost (pro-rated as necessary)
Deptford Twp. BOE	Ed. Stability	1	9/7/23 to 6/14/24 (180 days)	\$17,723 plus, Transportation cost - \$840

10.9: To approve the following tuition contracts (receiving) for the 2023-2024 school year.

District	Type	# of students	School Year (time frame)	Cost (prorated as necessary)
Weymouth BOE	Special Ed	1	2023-2024 school year	\$27,246 plus related services = \$2,470
Egg Harbor Twp.	McKinney Vento	3	2022-2023 school year	\$15,056 (prorated for 47 days) (\$83.64 per diem)) \$3,931.08 each
Egg Harbor Twp.	McKinney Vento	1	2022-2023 school year (47 days)	\$3,932.02 plus additional services

Paulsboro Public Schools	McKinney Vento	1	2023-2024 school year	\$16,012.48 plus additional services
Atlantic City	McKinney Vento	1	2023-2024 school year (136 days)	\$27,246.96 plus additional services

10.10: To approve professional development/travel for the 2023-2024 school year.

10.11: To approve the disposal of the attached items that are no longer of use to the district. - None

10.12: To approve the sale of 508 SRECs (Solar Renewable Energy Credits) at current market price and accept payment in the amount of \$101,600.

10.13: To approve the following contracts/agreements for the 2023-2024 school year. - None

10.14: To accept a check in the amount of \$309.61 from Chic-fil-A for a Hess School fundraiser.

10.15: To approve/accept the following Grants/Grant Funds and Awards:

- AtlantiCare Healthy Schools Edible School Garden/Alternative Garden Grant in the amount of \$1,500 for the Davies School
- AtlantiCare Healthy Schools, Resiliency Room/Zen Den Grant in the amount of \$1,500 for the Shaner School
- AtlantiCare Healthy Schools, Nutrition Enhancement Grant in the amount of \$750.00 for the Hess School

10.16: To approve club/activity trips for the 23-24 school year. Dates and times subject to change.

Date	Event	School	# of Students and Staff	# of Buses
2/7/24	Red Wings -Super's List	Davies	176 / 8	3-4
3/7/24	Volley Ball - Mullica	Davies	20 / 2	1
3/8/24	Volley Ball - Folsom	Davies	20 / 2	1
3/19/24	Volley Ball - Vineland	Davies	20 / 2	1
1/9/24	Davies to Oakcrest	Davies	283	Buses provided by OC
1/31/24	Davies to Shaner Shark Challenge	Davies	50 / 7	1

10.17: To approve the following Use of Facilities requests:

Cedar Creek Swim Team	Hess cafeteria	Pasta dinner 4:30 PM-7:30 PM	12/19/23. 1/6/24, 1/9/24, 1/19/24, 1/23/24
Civil Air Patrol	Davies Cafeteria	Christmas Party 6PM-8:45PM	12/18/23
SJ Barons Soccer	Davies gym	5:30-9:00 PM	1/2/24 - 2/27/24 W&F
Carmona Pools	Hess Pool	4:30 PM Fri through 5 PM Sunday	3/8,9&10/24 and 4/12,13&14/24

10.18: Motion by Dr. Nelson, seconded by Mrs. Barr, to approve Finance Committee Items 10.2 through 10.17.

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

11. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE (Curriculum) - Chairperson: Mrs. Barr

Curriculum Committee did not meeting in December.

11.2: To approve the revised Curriculum for the 2023-2024 School year.

- [George L. Hess Educational Complex](#)
- [Joseph C. Shaner School](#)
- [William Davies Middle School](#)
- [Grades K-8 Technology Curriculum](#)
- [Kindergarten PE Curriculum](#)

11.3: To approve the following stipends for the 23-24 School Year - None

11.4: Motion by Mrs. Barr, seconded by Mrs. Ankrah, to approve Instruction Committee item 11.2 to 11.3.

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

12. OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Nelson read a Resolution regarding the Duberson School Property.

Motion by Mrs. Barr, seconded by Mrs. Ankrah, to approve a Resolution regarding Duberson School Property and allow Harry Rogers to act on the Board's behalf in reference to this Resolution.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Mrs. Ankrah, Mrs. Barr, Dr. Cirino, Mrs. Jackson, Dr. Lihach, Mrs. Poretto, and Dr. Nelson. (7-0-0)

13. NEW BUSINESS - None

14. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

15. POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was not necessary to enter into Executive session.

16. ACTION MAY BE TAKEN AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

17. ADJOURNMENT

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

The Hamilton Township Board of Education meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Veneziani
Board Secretary