

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
Long Valley, NJ 07853

April 16, 2019

Board of Education Meeting Minutes
Walter J. Kossmann Elementary School Multi-Purpose Room

The regular meeting of the Washington Township Board of Education was held on April 16, 2019 at 6:15 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Walter J. Kossmann Elementary School.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Daly, Board Member, called the meeting to order at 6:16 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Carmine Capogrosso, Mr. Kevin Daly, Mr. Al DiGabriele, Mr. John Gorman, Mr. Justin Kinney, Mrs. Kathy Koop, Mr. Jose Lourenco, Mrs. Michelle Munley, Mrs. Laura-Ann Quiñones

Mr. Jeffrey S. Mohre, Superintendent; Dr. Jolene R. Battitori, Assistant Superintendent; and Ms. Liz George, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, were also present.

STATEMENT OF MEETING NOTICE

Mr. Daly announced that adequate notice of this meeting was given to the public 48 hours in advance of the date setting forth the date, time, location and type of meeting. Notice was published on January 14, 2019, in the Daily Record, one of the Board's official newspapers. The notice was also sent to the Washington Township Clerk and was posted on the district website at www.wtschools.org. All please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Daly made a motion, seconded by Mr. DiGabriele, to enter into an executive session. The motion was carried (9 ayes) and an executive session was held for the purpose of an HIB hearing.

The regular meeting reconvened.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Mrs. Koop welcomed everyone and thanked the Kossmann School for hosting the board meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Mr. Mohre commented on the following:

- Update on the state aid reductions advising that several state education associations have come on board to join in the fight against the drastic cuts taking place throughout the state. Community members are strongly encouraged to contact key legislative officials

during the time of state budget deliberations. Additional information, including contact information, can be found on each of the school district homepages.

- The New Jersey Department of Education has approved the Board of Education's tentative 2019-2020 school budget. The budget will be formally presented for adoption at the Board's April 30th meeting.
- WTS has teamed with the Long Valley Junior Women's Club to bring the Minding Your Mind organization's speaker program to Long Valley Middle School students during the week of April 29 – May 3. The presentations will focus on how to recognize stress, anxiety, depression and crisis. A parent presentation will be held on April 29th at 7:00 p.m. at the Long Valley Middle School for ALL WTS parents and faculty.
- Environmental site assessments are scheduled to begin at each school site in late May/early June and will be conducted by Garden State Environmental.

PRESENTATION

- Mindfulness for Teachers and Children - Mike Craver, Principal

CORRESPONDENCE

- Email from Bob and Erin O'Brien

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Communications Committee – April 4, 2019 – reviewed by Mr. Daly. Topics discussed were state aid cuts information sessions, Spotlight on Your Schools newsletter will be published in the coming weeks, and discussion on how best to facilitate the public comment period at board meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

The meeting was opened to the public at 8:35 p.m. There were no comments. The meeting was closed to the public.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 19, 2019 regular meeting minutes

Mrs. Munley made a motion, seconded by Mr. DiGabriele, to approve the March 19, 2019 regular meeting minutes. The motion was carried (8 ayes, 1 abstain-Mr. Kinney.)

March 19, 2019 executive session meeting minutes

Mr. DiGabriele made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lourenco, to approve the March 19, 2019 executive session meeting minutes. The motion was carried (8 ayes, 1 abstain-Mr. Kinney.)

Education

Agenda Items #1 - #3

Mrs. Munley made a motion, seconded by Mr. Capogrosso, to approve agenda items #1 - #2 and table agenda item #3 as follows:

1. Motion to approve the following students:

- a. Summer Van Nest, Centenary University student, to complete student teaching at the Long Valley Middle School for the fall 2019 semester with Daria Fusaro and Nadine Noonan as her cooperating teachers and Dr. William Carpluck as her college advisor.
 - b. Jacklyn Lutz, Centenary University student to complete observation at the Cucinella School for the spring 2019 semester with cooperating teachers Jason Manzella, Debbie Hille, Herb Mauro, Karen Cross, Christine Draghi, and Ginny Plumbo; and Dr. Emily Anderson as her college advisor.
2. Motion to accept Superintendent's report to the Board of Education relevant to the New Jersey Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act.
 3. Motion to affirm the February 19, 2019 and the March 19, 2019 reports to the Board of Education relevant to the New Jersey Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act.—**THIS ITEM WAS TABLED.**

Roll Call:

Ayes: Mr. Capogrosso, Mr. Daly, Mr. DiGabriele, Mr. Gorman, Mr. Kinney, Mrs. Koop, Mr. Lourenco, Mrs. Munley, Mrs. Quiñones

Finance

Agenda Item #4

Mr. DiGabriele made a motion, seconded by Mr. Capogrosso, to approve agenda item #4 as follows:

4. Motion to accept, with gratitude, the following contributions:
 - a. \$40.00 from AT&T YourCause Corporate Employee Giving Program to be used at the Long Valley Middle School for educational programs.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Mr. Capogrosso, Mr. Daly, Mr. DiGabriele, Mr. Gorman, Mr. Kinney, Mrs. Koop, Mr. Lourenco, Mrs. Munley, Mrs. Quiñones

Agenda Items #5 - #13

Mr. DiGabriele made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gorman, to approve agenda items #5 - #13 as follows:

5. Motion to accept check journal as presented.
6. Motion to approve budget transfers as presented.
7. Motion to accept the REPORT OF THE SECRETARY for the month of March 2019 and acknowledge the certification made by the board secretary in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3 that, as of the date of the report no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district board of education and further, in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-16.10(c)4, the Washington Township Board of Education certifies that, after review of the secretary's

monthly financial reports (appropriation section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of its knowledge, no major account or fund has been over-expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

8. Motion to authorize professional services agreement with the Burlington County Special Services School District.

9. Motion to approve Statistical Forecasting, Inc. to conduct a demographic study complete with projected student enrollments by elementary school in the amount of \$7,400.

10. Motion to approve the following consultant for the 2018-2019 school year:

Consultant	Topic	Cost
Brett DiNovi Associates	Restraint Training (two trainers at \$115 per hour for 6.5 hours)	\$1,495

11. Motion to approve joint transportation agreement with the Sussex County Regional Transportation Cooperative for the 2019-2020 school year as presented.

12. Motion to approve the following transportation jointure for the 2018-2019 school year:

Student	Jointure	Route	Total
14411431	Brick Township	V-13	\$1,328.90

13. Motion to approve district travel for the 2018-2019 school year as follows:

Name	Event	Date	Location	Not to Exceed
Irene May	Mental Health Issues in the Classroom	May 20, 2019	Hackettstown	\$90.00
Liz George	NJASBO Annual Conference	June 5 – 7, 2019	Atlantic City	\$850.90
Jana Rojas Kristen Olsen	PGD – ADHD, Anxiety and Autism: Practical Strategies for the Classroom	May 10, 2019	Pompton Lakes	\$0
Kerry Conklin Jennifer Cryan	PGD – Winners! Workshop: A Closer Look at the Year's Best Books for Children	May 17, 2019	Whippany	\$209.00 each
Emily Palmieri Stefanie Fracasso Louise Quinn	PGD – Mental Health Issues in the Classroom	May 20, 2019	Hackettstown	\$90.00 each
Kathleen Burke	PGD – Homegrown Violent Extremists, Lone Actor Terrorists & Target Violence	June 10, 2019	Morris Plains	\$0

The Chief School Administrator, in accordance with New Jersey Law A-5, the School District Accountability Act, has reviewed the following travel expenditures and found them to be educationally necessary and fiscally prudent. Travel expenditures include all costs associated with travel including registration, with the exception of mileage which is paid according to OMB Circular and defined by state statute.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Mr. Capogrosso, Mr. Daly, Mr. DiGabriele, Mr. Gorman, Mr. Kinney, Mrs. Koop,
Mr. Lourenco, Mrs. Munley, Mrs. Quiñones

Personnel

Agenda Item #14

Mr. Gorman made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Munley, to approve agenda item #14 as follows:

14. Motion to accept, with regret, the following resignations:
 - a. Jeanine Marino, part-time Aide, Long Valley Middle School, effective June 1, 2019. Position #AIDE-RR.
 - b. Nancy Quam, Teacher, Long Valley Middle School, effective July 1, 2019, due to retirement. Position #TEACH-SCIENCE.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Mr. Capogrosso, Mr. Daly, Mr. DiGabriele, Mr. Gorman, Mr. Kinney, Mrs. Koop, Mr. Lourenco, Mrs. Munley, Mrs. Quiñones

Agenda Items #15 - #19, including Addendum Item #20

Mr. Gorman made a motion, seconded by Mr. Daly, to approve agenda items #15 - #19 and addendum item #20 as follows:

15. Motion to fill the following posted leave replacement positions:
 - a. Pamela Demski, leave replacement teacher, Cucinella School, in position #TEACH-PREK, effective on or about May 6, 2019 through the end of the 2018-2019 school year or until the teacher for whom the employee is substituting returns, whichever is earlier, resulting in her resignation from part-time Aide, Cucinella School, effective May 1, 2019. Position #AIDE-PER.
16. Motion to ratify contracts for the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school years as follows:
 - a. Aides
 - b. Alann Whitmore, Facilities Manager
17. Motion to approve/adjust the following leaves:
 - a. Laura Rebimbas, Special Education Teacher, Long Valley Middle School, extending leave of absence with an adjusted return to work date of June 1, 2020.
 - b. Kerry Conklin, Media Specialist, Flocktown-Kossmann School, approve an unpaid FMLA leave of absence effective April 15, 2019 through on or about April 25, 2019. Position #MEDIAS.
 - c. Amy Casha, Teacher, Cucinella School, extending leave of absence with an adjusted return to work date of the start of the 2020-2021 school year.
18. Motion to approve horizontal moves effective September 1, 2019 as follows:

Name	From	To
Lisa LaPella	MA+15	MA+30
Lisa Tasnady	MA+30	MA+45

19. Motion to approve the following substitutes for the 2018-2019 school year:
(final employment status subject to receipt of requested employment information pursuant to PL 2018, c.5 for all new staff)

Teacher	Aide
Pamela Demski	Pamela Demski

Addendum Item #20:

20. Motion to continue the suspension through April 30, 2019 of an employee whose name is on file in the board of education office.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Mr. Capogrosso, Mr. Daly, Mr. DiGabriele, Mr. Gorman, Mr. Kinney, Mrs. Koop, Mr. Lourenco, Mrs. Munley, Mrs. Quiñones

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Koop commented she recently attended the Morris County School Board Association meeting where discussion was in support of districts who received increases in state aid as well as districts who received state aid deductions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The meeting was opened to the public at 8:40 p.m. A member of the public questioned the status of the Environmental Task Force recommendations. Ms. George advised the architect has visited the district and is waiting pricing for the climate control projects. Also, the Tools for Schools protocols are being refined and will be rolling out in June. Ms. George further advised that we are moving forward with the paperwork required for the Old Farmers Road School project.

WHAT DID WE DO FOR THE CHILDREN THIS EVENING?

- Thank you to Kossmann School for hosting us this evening and thank you to Mr. Craver for his insightful presentation on Mindfulness.
- Thank you to Mr. Mohre for his tireless efforts and commitment to the state aid reduction issue affecting our district.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Quiñones made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gorman, to enter into an executive session. The motion was carried (9 ayes) and an executive session was held for discussion of an HIB matter.

The regular meeting reconvened.

Addendum Item #21 and Agenda Item #3

Mr. Gorman made a motion, seconded by Mr. Daly, to approve Addendum Item #21 and Agenda Item #3 as follows:

21. Motion to affirm the Superintendent's decision in an HIB matter, which was the subject of an appeal hearing before the board on April 16, 2019, and direct the Board Secretary to transmit a copy of the board's decision to the affected student's parents forthwith.

3. Motion to affirm the February 19, 2019 and the March 19, 2019 reports to the Board of Education relevant to the New Jersey Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Mr. Capogrosso, Mr. Daly, Mr. DiGabriele, Mr. Gorman, Mr. Kinney, Mrs. Koop, Mr. Lourenco, Mrs. Munley, Mrs. Quiñones

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. DiGabriele made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Munley, to enter into an executive session for discussion of legal and personnel matters. The motion was carried (9 ayes).

The regular meeting reconvened.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DiGabriele made a motion, seconded by Mr. Daly, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried (9 ayes) and the meeting adjourned at 10:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,