

LONG HILL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
WORKSESSION
NOVEMBER 8, 2010

The Long Hill Township Board of Education held a Worksession on Monday, November 8, 2010 in the Long Hill Township Town Hall. The meeting was called to order by Board President Lisa Scanlon at 7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Blocker, Ms. Barone, Mr. Carbone, Mr. Meringolo,
Mrs. Nyquist, Mr. Russo, Dr. Verlezza, Mrs. Scanlon.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Rae.

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Rovtar, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Esposito, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Mrs. Dawson, Millington School Principal
Mr. Villar, Central School Principal
Mrs. Franklin, LHEA President
4 township residents

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mrs. Scanlon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADEQUATE NOTICE OF MEETING:

Adequate notice of this meeting of the Long Hill Township Board of Education was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows:

Notice was sent to the Courier News, Echoes Sentinel or the Daily Record on April 27, 2010. Notice was posted on the bulletin board in the first floor entrance hall of the School District Administration Building, Gillette, New Jersey. Notices were filed with the Township Clerk; and notices were mailed to all persons who have requested individual notice pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act.

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Negotiations – Mr. Meringolo stated the Negotiations Committee will not need a private session tonight.

Finance – Mr. Blocker reported the committee met earlier tonight with two auditing firms to get proposals for next year's CAFR.

Policy – Mr. Carbone stated there are 13 policies on the agenda tonight.

SUPERINTENDENT’S UPDATE

Dr. Rovtar presented the “Make a Difference Award” to Kristi Flint, 7th grade math teacher at Central School. Dr. Rovtar complimented Mrs. Flint for her hard work and assistance in identifying Horizons students. She also noted that Mrs. Flint goes beyond the regular workday to work with students when they are involved in the school play.

Dr. Rovtar then talked about the Pepsi Grant that Mr. Birckhead applied for and we are now a finalist in the competition. It appears we will be awarded \$25,000. Mr. Birckhead is to be commended for his efforts as it was a very involved process to develop the grant proposal, organize the voting process and get the word out in the community to encourage all of the voting that contributed to our success. Dr. Rovtar also thanked the Echoes Sentinel for their coverage which helped alert the community residents to vote on the project. As promised, Mr. Birckhead will get his head shaved – it will be part of a cancer fundraiser.

Dr. Rovtar then discussed the Interdistrict School Choice which was launched in 2000 with up to one district in each county being designed as a “Choice District”. Students from other public school districts could then submit an application to attend the choice district instead of their home district. In June 2010, the NJ State Legislature made the Program permanent. Addition districts in each county may now apply to be Districts of Choice.

Dr. Rovtar indicated that she does not recommend that Long Hill apply to become a choice district for the following reasons:

1. The district has no control over the selection of the students who apply to attend through the school choice program. If students are limited English proficient or learning disabled, the district would be obligated to accept them and provide a program that meets their needs if we have space available at the grade level the student would be enrolling in. If there are more students interested in a particular grade level than there are spots available, a lottery would be held to select the students who would be enrolled. There is no benefit to Long Hill in enrolling students who would require additional services or potentially be functioning below grade level. The NJASK scores for these choice students would be attributed to our district.
2. Funding for these students comes through state aid. The choice students are counted in the receiving district enrollment. The receiving district then receives school choice aid for each choice student equal to the adequacy budget local levy per pupil amount. In theory this sounds good, as we would receive additional state funds to educate these additional children. In reality, state aid was reduced

to zero in a number of school districts and we are expecting to experience further reductions in 2011-2012. It would not make sense to accept additional students that we would not be compensated for, especially if, as above, the students might need specialized services.

The resolution on the agenda on Interdistrict Public School Choice limits the number of our students per grade level that we would allow to withdraw from our district and enroll in the choice district. We are responsible for transmitting funds to these choice districts for any of our students that enroll. The Long Hill Township School District would also be responsible for transporting these students up to 20 miles to their choice school. It could be a significant financial drain on our district if students attend other choice district. The time to put the resolution in place, however, is now, so that we will have the protection if needed.

The Board discussed the recommendation and determined that the Interdistrict Public School Choice will be monitored and our policy will be reviewed as necessary.

Dr. Rovtar noted that at the November 22 Board meeting, the Strategic Planning Committee for Facilities Utilization will be presenting their report and recommendations.

ADMINISTRATORS AND TECHNOLOGY COORDINATOR'S UPDATES

Mr. Villar reported on the following:

- He attended the departmental articulation meetings at the high school for physical education and social studies. The articulation meetings for science and Spanish are also coming up and Mr. Villar will be attending them as well.
- Mr. Villar reported the 8th grade trip will be to Washington, D.C. this year at a cost of \$295.00 per student.
- Parent/teacher conferences were held at Central and were very successful. Mr. Villar congratulated Mr. Birkhead on the successful Pepsi Refresh Grant and thanked all the residents in town who voted for helping make the grant a reality.
- The first dance of the year was held on October 22; the next dance is scheduled for December 10.

Mrs. Dawson reported on the following:

- The Halloween parade and classroom activities were great; she thanked the parents who attended and assisted with the class parties.
- Teacher conferences were well attended.
- Veterans Day assembly will be held on Nov. 11 for students, staff and veterans. All students and staff are asked to wear red, white and blue.
- The first marking period ends November 12.
- Report cards will go home on November 24.
- American Education Week is the week of November 15. Parents will receive classroom invitations this week.
- The first Learnia assessment was administered to all 3-5th grade students two weeks ago. Teachers are reviewing the data and will use it for instructional planning.
- The Principal's Wall of Academic Goals is now set. Every student identified their educational goal for school and signed their grade level posters. Mrs. Dawson will refer to these goals at various points throughout the year to remind the students that they can succeed if they put their mind to it.

Dr. Rovtar provided Mrs. Jones' report:

Gillette School

- Mrs. Jones has been working on information for kindergarten and preschool registration for the 2011-12 school year.
- Kindergarten registration is scheduled for January 10 and 11, 2011.
- Mrs. Jones is teaching 2 flex day workshops this month for teachers in grades kindergarten through 2 and 3 through 5 on differentiation of instruction, guided reading strategies and meaningful classroom center ideas.
- Parent/teacher conferences were held over the past 2 weeks and went very well.
- On November 23 the first grade Thanksgiving Feast will be held during lunch time. The students will have a Thanksgiving lunch in place of their typical lunch on that day. Mrs. Dunn has worked with the first graders in creating placemats. The students will listen to a story about sharing while they are eating.
- On November 22 there will be an assembly on interactive reading theater sponsored by the PTO.

Curriculum Report

- On November 9 Mrs. Jones will be attending a curriculum meeting for Morris County Curriculum Directors and building principals that is being hosted by the Morris Union Jointure Commission.
- On November 10 Mrs. Jones will be hosting the first meeting of the year with the curriculum directors from the other regional districts.

- Mrs. Jones has been invited to present a session at the December 14 training program on Bullying Prevention being sponsored by the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association.

Technology Supervisor

Dr. Rovtar gave a report in Mr. Blinder's absence:

- The staff from the Morris County Prosecutor's Office was not available to do a Cyber Safety presentation for the parents. Mr. Blinder is working on scheduling a presentation later in the year.
- He is continuing to replace the old computers with the new ones at Central School.
- Verizon had to repair a phone line at Millington School and the telephone support system vendor had to replace cards in the new phone system. This was done at no cost to the district, to keep the telephone system operational in all three schools.

BOARD SECRETARY'S UPDATE

Mr. Esposito reported on the following:

- The DRTRS and ASSA reports have both been submitted. He is awaiting any edits on the ASSA.
- An audit of our Special Milk Program was conducted last week by the Bureau of Child Nutrition in the Department of Agriculture. This year we had 26 applications for free milk and 10 students met the eligibility criteria. The audit findings letter will be forthcoming.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

At this point, the Board of Education welcomes comments from any member of the public. Please note that as per Board Policy #1120, a total of fifteen (15) minutes is allocated for public comments at any single Board meeting. In order to provide residents the opportunity to comment, individual speakers are limited to three minutes each at any particular Board meeting. The Board may extend these time limits at its discretion.

There were no comments from the public.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. It was moved by Mr. Russo and seconded by Mr. Carbone that the following minutes of the Long Hill Township Board of Education be accepted as presented and made part of the public record:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

October 26, 2010 – Regular Meeting – Public Session

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution #1:

YES: Ms. Barone	Mr. Meringolo	Mr. Russo
Mr. Blocker	Mrs. Nyquist	Dr. Verlezza
Mr. Carbone		Mrs. Scanlon

NO: None.

Resolution #1 carried 8-0.

It was moved by Mr. Blocker and seconded by Mr. Carbone that the Long Hill Township Board of Education approve the following recommendations of the Superintendent numbered 2,3,4,5.

Any Board Member who takes exception to any of the following actions may reserve the right to object now, and a separate motion for each of the excepted actions will be entertained.

2. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, approve the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan and the M-1 Annual Maintenance Reserve Worksheet for the 2010-2011 school year and authorize its submission to the Executive County Superintendent for Morris County (as attached).

APPROVAL OF COMPREHENSIVE MAINT. PLAN

3. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, approve adjustments to the transportation contract with MUJC for the following Special Education bus routes in 2010-2011:

TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT ADJUSTMENTS

<u>Route</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>New Annual Cost</u>	<u>Change</u>
MU929	Montgomery Academy	\$17,479.60	\$4,062.04
Reason: two students from other districts cancelled			

<u>Route</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>New Annual Cost</u>	<u>Change</u>
MU954	Midland School(2 stdts)	\$39,430.05	\$1,523.20
Reason: audit of actual route time and miles			

4. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, gratefully accept a \$2,000 cash donation from Long Hill resident and parent Mrs. Chili Van Weele. The funds are designated to be used solely for the benefit of the music department in the Long Hill Township School district.

ACCEPTANCE
OF DONATION

5. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, approve the Travel/Conference registration for the staff indicated for professional improvement or development as per the attached listing.

APPROVAL
OF TRAVEL

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolutions 2,3,4,5:

YES: Ms. Barone	Mr. Meringolo	Mr. Russo
Mr. Blocker	Mrs. Nyquist	Dr. Verlezza
Mr. Carbone		Mrs. Scanlon

NO: None.

Resolutions 2,3,4,5 carried 8-0.

It was moved by Dr. Verlezza and seconded by Mr. Carbone that the Long Hill Township Board of Education approve the following recommendations of the Superintendent numbered 6 and 7.

Any Board Member who takes exception to any of the following actions may reserve the right to object now, and a separate motion for each of the excepted actions will be entertained.

6. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, approve the provision of home instruction to student 7415798980 as per the student's 504 plan, two hours per week. Home instruction will be provided by Deborah Lamer at the rate of \$35.00 per hour as per the LHEA contract.

APPROVAL
OF HOME
INSTRUCTION

7. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Business Administrator and the Building Principal, approve the field trips listed below:

APPROVAL OF
FIELD TRIPS

May 19-20, 2011 8th grade trip Washington, D.C./Arlington, VA
\$295.00 approx. cost*

*To be paid through fundraising/parent payment

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolutions 6 and 7:

YES:	Ms. Barone	Mr. Meringolo	Mr. Russo
	Mr. Blocker	Mrs. Nyquist	Dr. Verlezza
	Mr. Carbone		Mrs. Scanlon

NO: None.

Resolutions 6 and 7 carried 8-0.



It was moved by Mr. Carbone and seconded by Ms. Barone that the Long Hill Township Board of Education approve the following recommendations of the Superintendent numbered 8,9,10,11.

Any Board Member who takes exception to any of the following actions may reserve the right to object now, and a separate motion for each of the excepted actions will be entertained.

8. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Policy Committee, approve the following policy on a second reading:

ADOPTION OF
POLICY

6161.1 Guidelines for Evaluation and Selection of Instructional Materials

9. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Policy Committee, approve the following policies on a first reading:

FIRST READING OF POLICIES

- 2000/2010 Concepts and Roles in Administration: Goals and Objectives
- 2240 Research, Evaluation and Planning
- 2255 Action Planning for State Monitoring NJQSAC – New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum
- 3280 Gifts, Grants and Bequests
- 3510 Operations and Maintenance of Plant and Integrated Pest Management Plan
- 4119.22 Conduct and Dress

10. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Policy Committee, readopt the following policies following a review that has been conducted by the Policy Committee:

REVIEW AND READOPTION OF POLICIES

- 1322 Contests for Pupils
- 1324 Commercial Enterprises
- 9250 Expenses and Reimbursements

11. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Policy Committee, rescind the following policies:

POLICIES RESCINDED

- 1210 Gifts from Other Sources
- 4119.24 Staff Pupil Relations
- 4131.3 Teaching Experience

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolutions 8,9,10,11:

YES:	Ms. Barone	Mr. Meringolo	Mr. Russo
	Mr. Blocker	Mrs. Nyquist	Dr. Verlezza
	Mr. Carbone		Mrs. Scanlon

NO: None.
Resolutions 8,9,10,11 carried 8-0.

12. It was moved by Ms. Barone and seconded by Mr. Carbone that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator approve a limitation on the number of resident students who may enroll in interdistrict public school choice districts in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:36B-7b(1) and (2) and N.J.A.C. 6A:12-3.1(a)1. The enrollment of Long Hill Township students shall be limited to 2 percent of the number of students per grade level per year.

LIMIT ON NUMBER OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN INTERDISTRICT SCHOOLS

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution #12:

YES:	Ms. Barone	Mr. Meringolo	Mr. Russo
	Mr. Blocker	Mrs. Nyquist	Dr. Verlezza
	Mr. Carbone		Mrs. Scanlon

NO: None.
Resolution #12 carried 8-0.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

There was no private session.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None.

It was moved by Mr. Meringolo and seconded by Mr. Carbone that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried 8-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

FUTURE MEETING DATES

November 22, 2010 – Regular Meeting – 7:30 p.m. – Township Administration Building-
Presentation by Strategic Planning Committee for Facility Utilization
December 13, 2010 – Worksession/Regular Meeting – 7:30 p.m. – Township Administration Building – **Audit Presentation**

Respectfully submitted,

John Esposito
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Dr. René Rovtar
Superintendent of Schools

