

LONG HILL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
WORKSESSION
MARCH 14, 2011

The Long Hill Township Board of Education held a Worksession on Monday, March 14, 2011 at the Long Hill Township Town Hall. The meeting was called to order by Board President Lisa Scanlon at 7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Barone, Mr. Carbone, Mr. Meringolo (arrived at 7:45 p.m.), Mrs. Nyquist, Dr. Rae, Mr. Russo, Dr. Verlezza, Mrs. Scanlon.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Blocker.

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Rovtar, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Villar, Central School Principal
Mrs. Dawson, Millington School Principal
Mrs. Jones, Gillette Principal/Curriculum Coordinator
Mr. Blinder, Technology Coordinator
10 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

Curriculum – Dr. Verlezza reported the committee reviewed the curriculum for the STAR program for Central School. Revisions to the Horizon program and proposed QUEST program were reviewed with the administrators. The Curriculum Committee is

comfortable with the changes. Dr. Rovtar will discuss the proposed changes in her report this evening.

Buildings and Grounds – Mrs. Nyquist reported a presentation was made to Dr. Rovtar and Mr. Esposito by Reading Electric Renewables on possible options for solar energy installations. A presentation will be arranged for the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

Educational Services Commission of Morris County – Mrs. Nyquist attended the March 2nd meeting. She will become an official Board member of the ESC at the next regular meeting. The ESC budget was approved and represents no increase.

Finance – In Mr. Blocker’s absence, Mr. Carbone reported the committee met and item #2 on the agenda is being recommended for approval.

Policy – Mr. Carbone stated there are polices on the agenda for a first reading and a second reading, some to be readopted following review by the committee, and two policies to be rescinded.

President’s Report – Mrs. Scanlon attended the FORCE meeting and reported that the Millington School Play, “Lemonade”, which is sponsored by FORCE will be presented tomorrow evening at 7:00 p.m. FORCE will also be offering a summer arts camp at Millington School and they will be sponsoring the Art and Music Fest at the Stirling Hotel on June 12th.

SUPERINTENDENT’S UPDATE

Dr. Rovtar presented a certificate of appreciation to Patrick McGrath and thanked him for constructing large playground maps of the United States at both Millington and Gillette Schools as part of his Eagle Scout Project. Patrick also created tiles that can be used by the students to play games and learn more about the individual states.

Dr. Rovtar noted that Mrs. Theresa Dunn, art teacher at Central and Gillette Schools, has some of her art work on display this month at the Long Hill Township Public Library and encouraged residents to stop in and see the exhibit.

The PTO sponsored a Game Show Night last Friday. Dr. Rovtar attended and said that it was a great evening of family entertainment.

Dr. Rovtar explained a revised proposal for the Horizon classes. This proposal was formulated by the administration in response to comments that had been received from parents, students and faculty members. An outline was posted on the district website on

Friday. Dr. Rovtar reviewed the changes that are proposed for the 2011-2012 school year. A resolution will be on the March 28th meeting agenda.

ADMINISTRATORS AND TECHNOLOGY COORDINATOR'S UPDATES

Mr. Villar reported on the following topics:

- Students participated in the annual spelling bee with students from St. Vincent's
- Girls basketball team was again league champions.
- Teachers in math and language arts are helping students to prepare for the State testing.
- Students in grade 7 participated in Victorian Day.
- Students attended a PTO sponsored assembly dealing with peer pressure and character education.
- A workshop was presented by Regina Carter, a well known jazz violinist.
- School musical, "Honk Jr." will be presented on March 24, 25 and 26.

Mrs. Dawson reported on the following topics:

- The Millington School musical "Lemonade" will be held on March 15 at 7 p.m.
- NJPASS assessment has been scheduled for the week of April 11 for 2nd grade students.
- Mrs. Dawson will be participating in the on-line test coordinator training for NJASK.
- Assemblyman Jon Bramnick is coming to Millington School on March 25 to describe how a bill becomes a law.
- Fifth graders will be going to the Newark Museum on March 18.
- PTO Book Fair is scheduled for March 29 and 30.
- Students in grades 3-5 will take the second Learnia assessment in April.

Mrs. Jones reported on the following topics:

- Gillette School celebrated Dr. Seuss' birthday this month and students from Watchung Hills High School came to read to the students.
- All students participated in a hands-on assembly with honeybees last week.
- This week the Star Lab is coming to our kindergarten.
- Mrs. Schmitz and Mrs. Jones will attend the awards dinner sponsored by WDHA to recognize Mrs. Schmitz as one of their selected "Teachers Who Rock".
- Mrs. Magee and Mrs. Jones will be making a presentation on the Gillette kindergarten curriculum to the preschool parents at Union Village Nursery School.
- The PTO book fair will be held this month.
- Family Reading Night will take place on March 30.

- Mrs. Jones is working on the mid-year assessment for all of the first grade students in the new Rigby reading program. The results and progress will be reviewed by Mrs. Jones and the first grade teachers.

Mrs. Jones reported on the following Curriculum topics:

- Mrs. Jones is hosting the curriculum meeting for the WHRHS sending districts.
- The book talk for "The Help" will meet again this month to conclude the multi-part workshop.
- Mrs. Jones will be attending the Elementary Principals Committee Subgroup this month at Morris Union Jointure Commission.
- Mrs. Jones will be meeting with Language Arts Literacy and Social Studies teachers from Central School later this month to finalize the Language Arts program and update the Social Studies textbooks.
- Gillette and Millington teachers are meeting to discuss the Social Studies textbooks and they too will be updated.
- Mrs. Dawson, Mr. Villar and Mrs. Jones met with the representatives from Premier and have placed orders for the Character Education planners for next year.

Mr. Blinder stated that Dell has replaced 54 monitors and we shipped back the defective monitors at Dell's expense. He thanked Noah Scanlon for his help in installing the new monitors. Mr. Blinder also worked with Mr. Salvatoriello to modify the bell schedule for Central School now that the delayed opening schedule will be a 2 hour delay instead of a 90 minute delay.

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.

MRS. BROWN thanked Dr. Rovtar and the Board for listening to parent input on the Horizon issue. It is heartening to know that Long Hill students will be prepared for honors and advanced placement courses at the high school. She stated that she believed that larger class sizes should not be a problem for the Horizon students, as they are very self-motivated.

MR. DEO echoed Mrs. Brown's comments. He also indicated he hoped that the expanded class size would be strictly for Horizon classes and not a general class size policy. Dr. Rovtar stated that the larger class sizes will apply only to Horizon classes.

Mr. Deo also asked about why Horizon reading was only offered at the 6th grade level. Dr. Rovtar responded.

WILLIAM PATTERSON, a 7th grade student at Central Middle School, stated that he is currently in the Horizon social studies class and has enjoyed his experience in the class very much.

MR. HANSEN thanked the Board for listening to the parent input on the Horizon issue. He suggested that the Board consider expanding the Horizon offerings beyond what is currently being proposed.

MRS. CELESTE asked what standardized tests the students take. Dr. Rovtar responded.

MR. GIANAKIS thanked Mrs. Scanlon and Mrs. Dawson for mentioning the Lemonade performance tomorrow evening and the summer camp, which is open to students who will be entering grades 1 through 5 in September. He also indicated that FORCE is looking for volunteers to assist with the Art and Music Fest on June 12th.

MR. RUSSO thanked Mr. Gianakis for his volunteer efforts through FORCE.

MR. HANSEN asked about the Horizon selection criteria for rising 6th graders, since they will not have taken the COGAT test. Dr. Rovtar responded.

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

February 28, 2011 – Regular Meeting – Public and Private Session

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution #1:

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

NO: None.

Resolution #1 carried 8-0.

It was moved by Mr. Carbone and seconded by Mrs. Nyquist 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, rescind the February 28, 2011 approval of the January 31, 2011 Board Secretary and Treasurer’s Reports and approve the revised January Reports submitted for the March 14, 2011 meeting.

JAN., 2011 BD.SEC. & TREAS.REPORT RESCINDED/ APPROVED

3. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, void and void/reissue the following outstanding checks as per the district’s auditor:

CHECKS VOIDED

<u>Void/Reissue</u>		<u>Void</u>	
Check#	Amount	Check#	Amount
21802	\$11.34	24802	\$25.50
24808	\$95.74	26728	\$24.31
27696	\$18.48	27654	\$58.66
28595	\$30.10	27850	\$20.00
28955	\$18.26	29991	\$22.50
28962	\$21.65		

4. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, approve the following resolution:

MEMBERSHIP RENEWED IN MORRIS ESSEX INS. GROUP

WHEREAS, a number of Boards of Education in Morris and Essex Counties have joined together to form a Joint Insurance Pool as permitted by N.J.Title 18A-,18B and;

WHEREAS, said Pool was approved effective February 10, 1984 by the New Jersey Commissioner of Insurance and has been in operation since that date and;

WHEREAS, the Pool contains elaborate restrictions and safeguards concerning the safe and efficient administration of the public interest entrusted to such a Pool, and;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Long Hill Township has determined that membership in the MORRIS ESSEX INSURANCE GROUP is in the best interest of the District;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Education of Long Hill Township does hereby agree to renew membership in the MORRIS ESSEX INSURANCE GROUP and hereby accept the Bylaws as approved and adopted. The renewal term is from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2013.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Secretary/ Business Administrator is authorized to execute the application for membership and the accompanying certification on behalf of the District and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Secretary/ Business Administrator is authorized and directed to execute the Indemnity and Trust Agreement and such other documents signifying membership in the Pool as are required by the Pool's Bylaws and to deliver the same to the Executive Director.

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
		Mrs. Nyquist	Dr. Verlezza
	Mr. Carbone	Dr. Rae	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 6,7,8.



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, the Business Administrator, and the Director of Special Services, approve the payment of tuition in the amount of \$12,430.38 (\$151.59 per diem for 82 days) to P.G. Chambers School. Student #7944587013 will attend P.G. Chambers School, as per student’s IEP, beginning March 2, 2011 and ending June 24, 2011.

APPROVAL OF
TUITION TO
P.G. CHAMBERS
SCHOOL

7. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator and the Director of Special Services, approve the payment of \$850.00 to Dr. Katherine Feingold for a Psychiatric Evaluation for student #3477929241 to assist in determining possible change in classification category.

APPROVAL OF
PAYMENT TO
DR. FEINGOLD

8. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Business Administrator and the Director of Special Services, approve the payment of \$1,065.00 for three Psychological Evaluations (\$355.00 each) to the Educational Services Commission of Morris County. The Commission will conduct psychological evaluations for the following students: #8896243981, #8356464546, and #8057398993. These evaluations will provide necessary information to determine eligibility for special education classifications.

APPROVAL OF
PAYMENT TO
ED.SERV.COMM.

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolutions 6,7,8:

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

NO: None.
Resolutions 6,7,8 carried 8-0.

It was moved by Ms. Barone and seconded by Mr. Carbone that the Long Hill Township Board of Education approve the following recommendations of the Superintendent numbered 9,10,11,12,13,14.

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.

9. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, approve the extension of the unpaid maternity leave of Michele Spinello from March 30, 2011 through June 30, 2011. Mrs. Spinello plans to return to work on September 1, 2011.

EXTENSION OF MATERNITY LEAVE

10. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, approve the extension of the appointment of Juliette Evans as maternity leave replacement Basic Skills teacher at Millington School at the Step 1 salary of \$45,665 (prorated) for the period March 30, 2011 through June 30, 2011.

J. EVANS EXTENDED AS MATERNITY LEAVE REPLACEMENT

11. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, hereby ratifies the Agreement Between the Long Hill Township Board of Education and the Long Hill Association of School Administrators for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2013.

AGREEMENT WITH ADMINISTRATORS RATIFIED

12. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator and the Middle School Principal, approve the following appointments for the 2010-2011 school year:

APPROVAL OF STIPEND POSITIONS

Sport/Activity	Advisor	STIPEND
Theater Arts Advisor/ Vocal Coach	Johnathan Birckhead** Jaye Barre**	\$1,470.97* \$1,470.97*
Theater Arts Construction	Beverly Webb	\$ 941.00
Scenery Advisor	Beverly Webb	\$ 353.00

**Co-advisors to share contractual stipend equally.

*Stipend to be paid from existing activity account balances and/or pay to participate fees paid.

13. 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, for up to 200 minutes per week in the area of language arts. Home instruction will be provided by Deborah Lamer at the rate of \$35.30 per hour as per the LHEA contract.

APPROVAL
OF HOME
INSTRUCTION

14. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, approve the appointment of the following people to the Substitute Teacher List for the 2010-2011 school year:

J. DOKTOR
APPOINTED
TO SUB. LIST

Jody Doktor

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolutions #9,10,11,12,13,14:

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

NO: None.

Resolutions #9,10,11,12,13,14 carried 8-0.

15. It was moved by Dr. Verlezza and seconded by Mr. Carbone that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Business Administrator and the Building Principal, approve the field trips listed below:

APPROVAL OF
FIELD TRIPS

April 13, 2011
\$8.00 approx. cost*
*To be paid by parents

Kindergarten Trip

Community Theater
Morristown, NJ
58 students/16 parents
7 teachers/1 nurse

April 27, 2011
\$5.00 approx. cost*
*To be paid by parents

2nd Grade Trip

Great Swamp, Harding Twp.
88 students/10 teachers

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution #15:

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

NO: None.
Resolution #15 carried 8-0.

It was moved by Mr. Meringolo and seconded by Mr. Carbone that the Long Hill Township Board of Education approve the following recommendations of the Superintendent numbered 16,17,18,19,20.

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.

16. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Policy Committee, adopt the following revised policies on a second reading:

ADOPTION OF POLICIES

Policy 4112.4	Employee Health Examinations
Policy 4119.23	Employee Substance Abuse

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

FIRST READING OF POLICIES

Policy 5111	Admission of Students
Policy 5111R	Admission of Students-Administrative Regulations
Policy 5112	Ages of Attendance
Policy 5131.6	Drugs, Alcohol, Tobacco – Substance Abuse
Policy 5134	Married/Pregnant Pupils
Policy 5145.4	Equal Educational Opportunity
Policy 5145.11	Questioning and Apprehension

18. 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:

READOPTION OF POLICIES

- Policy 5118R Non-Resident Pupils-Calculation of Tuition
- Policy 5124.2 Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Policy 5124 Reporting to Parents/Guardians
- Policy 5141.1 Accidents
- Policy 5200 Nonpublic School Pupils

19. 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

- Policy 3541.1 Routes and Services
- Policy 5142.1 Safety Patrols

20. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, approve the submission of the Long Hill Township School District Local Professional Development Plan for 2011-2012 to the Morris Executive County Superintendent of Schools.

SUBMISSION OF PROF. DEVELOP. PLAN

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolutions #16,17,18,19,20:

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

NO: None.
Resolutions #16,17,18,19,20 carried 8-0.



OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Meringolo asked if the Board might be able to expand the number of world languages offered as Mr. Hansen had suggested. Dr. Rovtar stated that it would be cost-prohibitive at this point in time.

Mr. Russo mentioned an article that he had read regarding the Detroit Public School System. Detroit's scores on the national assessment were the lowest in the country. The article noted that Detroit had incorporated charter schools 15 years ago. The assessment results between charter schools and the regular public schools were virtually identical, even though the regular public schools had a much higher percentage of special education students in their population.

Ms. Barone suggested that we explore some of the "get out the vote" strategies that have been recommended by New Jersey School Boards Association, such as the use of social media.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

MR. GIANAKIS stated that FORCE had explored the idea of offering enrichment classes in Spanish, but there was not sufficient enrollment. He asked Dr. Rovtar to let him know what the cost might be to expand the world language offerings, as perhaps FORCE could do some fundraising to help support this expense.

MR. GIANAKIS asked about having more students enrolled in Horizon classes. Mr. Russo and Ms. Barone explained the desire to serve more of our brightest students through Horizon. The QUEST program will have a much smaller enrollment than Horizon.

It was moved by Mr. Carbone and seconded by Mrs. Nyquist that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried 8-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

FUTURE MEETING DATES

March 28, 2011 – Regular Meeting and Public Hearing on the Budget – 7:30 p.m.
Township Administration Building

April 11, 2011 – Worksession/Regular Meeting – 7:30 p.m. – Township Administration Building

May 2, 2011 – Reorganization/Regular Meeting – 7:30 p.m. – Township Administration Building

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. René Rovtar
Superintendent of Schools

