

LONG HILL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
WORKSESSION MEETING
February 10, 2014

The Long Hill Township Board of Education held a Worksession Meeting on Monday, February 10, 2014 in the Long Hill Township Town Hall. The meeting was called to order by Board President Rita Barone at 7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Blocker, Mr. Brown, Mr. Carn, Mr. DiGiorgio, Mr. LoCascio, Mrs. Moakley, Mr. Stevens, Ms. Barone.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Miss Nyquist.

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Rovtar, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Esposito, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Dr. Jones, Gillette Principal/Curriculum Director
Mrs. Dawson, Millington School Principal
Mr. Meringolo, Long Hill Township Committee Member

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Ms. Barone 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 and the Daily Record on January 7, 2014. 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

Finance – Mr. LoCascio stated that the Finance Committee met this evening and discussed the upcoming March 11th Referendum and the 2014-15 tentative budget. He said the State will pay 40 percent of the total cost of the projects through ROD grants. He then reviewed the proposed budget and noted that the Board plans to vote at the March 3, 2014 meeting on the submission of the tentative budget to the Executive County Superintendent.

Technology – Mr. Brown indicated the Technology Committee met last week with Mr. Blinder and Dr. Rovtar. They discussed timetables for the purchase of new servers and computers. He thanked

Mr. Blinder for all of his hard work in the district. Mr. Brown said he will be attending the Technology Conference sponsored by the New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA) in late February.

Watchung Hills Regional High School Liaison – Mr. DiGiorgio reported that he attended the last meeting. They have started a new student recognition program at their meetings to honor students for academic and athletic achievements. The high school now has two three-dimensional printers.

Band Aid – Mr. Stevens reported that the Band Aid fundraiser held on February 8th at Rolf's Restaurant was very successful. In addition to ticket sales, Rolf's also donated a portion of the food sales. Approximately \$2,300 was raised for the Central Middle School Band and Chorus.

PTO Liaison – Mr. Carn indicated that the Long Hill's Got Talent Program held on January 31st was successful. He noted the PTO wanted to express thanks to the teachers and administrators who attended the performance, as it was a thrill for the students to perform for them. February 21st is the annual Bingo Night which will be held at St. Joseph's Shrine.

Community Relations –Mr. Brown reported that the Committee met. The district does a great job with submitting press releases and pictures of school events for publication in the local papers.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Dr. Rovtar reported on the following:

- She presented the report of Violence and Vandalism and Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying for the period from July 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013. Three incidents occurred during this time period.
- The New Jersey Department of Education released the 2012-2013 School Performance Reports at the end of January, which contain a great deal of data. The reports are available on the district website.
- The referendum election will occur on Tuesday, March 11, 2014. The Millington roof project and HVAC improvements are the two project components to the referendum.

ADMINISTRATORS AND SUPERVISORS UPDATES

Millington School

Mrs. Dawson reported:

- Report cards will be posted Wednesday, February 12th at 3:00 p.m.
- The Valentine's Day ice cream socials in the classrooms will occur on Wednesday, February 12th.
- The Cognitive Abilities Test will be administered to all 4th graders beginning February 18th.
- The DARE Program began this month in 5th grade.
- The first week of March is the PTO Book Fair and the next PTO School Spirit Day is March 7th.
- Assemblyman Jon Bramnick will be visiting with Millington 4th graders on March 7th. He will talk to them about how a bill becomes a law.
- She will be sending home a mid-year letter to parents who have students with significant tardies or absences thus far.
- The first ever Grade Level Book Read will occur during the week of March 3rd. The teachers developed it to promote reading while focusing on the theme of character education.

Gillette School/Curriculum Report

Dr. Jones reported:

- Kindergarten registration was held at the end of January. There are 67 students registered for Kindergarten in September.
- The All School Read was held last week.
- Gillette School has the Star Lab on February 10th and 11th. She thanked Mr. and Mrs. Ziegler for spending these two days with the Gillette students.
- On February 19th and 21st the annual Jump Rope for Heart will be held.
- On February 20th the Harlem Wizards will make a visit to the school.
- On February 27th Dr. Nettune is coming to talk to the Gillette students about Dental Health.

Today was a curriculum Monday. The teachers worked on several different items, including the creation of a novel list and a non-fiction text list per grade level. Dr. Jones will gather the lists and create a master list for the district to allow each grade to know what the prior and future grades are teaching. This should eliminate repetition. The teachers are also continuing to map out the curriculum for PARCC.

Central Middle School

In Mr. Villar's absence, Dr. Rovtar provided his report:

- Officer Tommy Sciarretta of the Long Hill Township Police is working with the School to present a six-week 7th grade D.A.R.E program, which is using the Truth About Drugs program to educate students about the misperceptions and dangers of drug use and addiction.
- The 3rd dance of the year was held on Friday, February 7th.
- All 6th grade students will be taking the Cognitive Abilities Test on Wednesday, February 19th.
- All 8th grade students took the math mid-term on February 4th.
- Students and staff enjoyed the "Within the Silence" program of the Living Voices series, a one woman show which presented the injustice and hardships endured by Japanese-Americans in the 1940's who were interred by the United States government for fear of espionage. Mr. Villar thanks Mrs. Gully, Mrs. Blocker, Mrs. DeMizio, and the CMS Cultural Arts Committee for bringing this program to Central.
- Congratulations to 8th grader Ashil Jhaveri for winning the National Geographic Geography Bee. Ashil will represent Central School in the state competition later this year.

Technology

Dr. Rovtar reported that Mr. Blinder is attending the Sun-Discovery Education Training and Pennsylvania Tech Convention and is busy gathering new and updated technology information for the district. He will report to the Board next month.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY'S UPDATE

Mr. Esposito reported on the following:

- He thanked the Board members for using the online system to complete their disclosure forms.
- The budget is now due March 20th instead of March 4th. The public budget hearing is April 28th and the budget must be submitted by May 14th. The increase is anticipated to be within the 2 percent cap so there will be no need for a vote.
- He should receive State aid figures on February 27th, which will allow him time to finalize the 2014-15 tentative budget.

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 #1130, 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.

Mr. Meringolo commented that the Band Aid event was a very successful and enjoyable event. He complimented Mr. Stevens on his guitar playing skills.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. It was moved by Mr. Stevens and seconded by Mr. Blocker 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

January 20, 2014 Regular Meeting – Public Session

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution #1:

YES: Mr. Blocker	Mr. DiGiorgio	
Mr. Brown	Mr. LoCascio	Mr. Stevens
Mr. Carn	Mrs. Moakley	Ms. Barone

NO: None.

Resolution #1 carried 8-0.

It was moved by Mr. LoCascio and seconded by Mr. Blocker that the Long Hill Township Board of Education approve the following recommendation of the Superintendent numbered 2.

2. 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 resolution #2:

YES: Mr. Blocker	Mr. DiGiorgio	
Mr. Brown	Mr. LoCascio	Mr. Stevens
Mr. Carn	Mrs. Moakley	Ms. Barone

NO: None.
Resolution #2 carried 8-0.

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

3. 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 placement and payment of tuition for educational services for student # 3876773251 to the Windsor Learning Center, 230-234 Wanaque Ave., Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442 , in the amount of \$285.79 per school day, beginning February 3, 2014 through June 2014.

APPROVAL OF
SP. ED. PLACEMENT
AND TUITION

4. 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 payment of \$550.00 to Francie M. Matthews, Ph.D., for a parent requested independent educational evaluation for student #9697412859.

PAYMENT TO
F. MATTHEWS, Ph.D

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolutions #3,4:

YES: Mr. Blocker Mr. DiGiorgio
 Mr. Brown Mr. LoCascio Mr. Stevens
 Mr. Carn Mrs. Moakley Ms. Barone

NO: None.
Resolutions #3,4 carried 8-0.

It was moved by Mr. Blocker and seconded by Mr. Stevens that the Long Hill Township Board of Education approve the following recommendations of the Superintendent numbered 5,6,7,8.

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.

5. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, approve a medical leave of absence for Jane Fragnito, fifth grade reading teacher at Millington School

MEDICAL LEAVE FOR
J. FRAGNITO

for the period from February 12 through March 28, 2014.

6. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, approve an advancement on the salary guide for Kristie Haag, special education teacher at Gillette School, from BA Step 2 at \$49,678.00 to BA+30/MA Step 2 at \$52,478.00 effective March 1, 2014.

K. HAAG
SALARY GUIDE
ADVANCEMENT

7. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Business Administrator, and the Principals, approve the following professional internship (student teaching) placements for the 2013-2014 school year:

APPROVAL OF
INTERNSHIP

Melissa Katz Speech/Language Services Spring 2014

8. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, approve the addition of the following person to the Substitute List for the 2013-2014 school year:

APPOINTMENT OF
SUBSTITUTE

Joanne Behr

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolutions #5,6,7,8:

YES: Mr. Blocker Mr. DiGiorgio
 Mr. Brown Mr. LoCascio Mr. Stevens
 Mr. Carn Mrs. Moakley Ms. Barone

NO: None.

Resolutions #5,6,7,8 carried 8-0.

It was moved by Mr. Carn and seconded by Mr. Blocker that the Long Hill Township Board of Education approve the following recommendation of the Superintendent numbered 9.

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

APPROVAL OF
FIELD TRIPS

February 7, 2014 Honor Band Tour Warren, Watchung and
7:45 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Green Brook Middle Schools
No cost to parents 16 students, 1 teacher

February 27, 2014	Central School Consortium Participants	Morris Plains Borough
8:20 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Volleyball	School, Morris Plains NJ
\$10.00 per person		6 students, 1 teacher

March 12, 2014	Fourth and Fifth Grade Students	Central School Play
9:05 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.	Stirling, NJ	
Bus to be provided by PTO		
185 students, 9 teachers, 3 teacher assistants		

March 26, 2014	Central School Consortium Participants	County College of
8:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Science	Morris, Randolph, NJ
\$10.00 per person		
9 students, 1 teacher		

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution #9:

YES: Mr. Blocker	Mr. DiGiorgio	
Mr. Brown	Mr. LoCascio	Mr. Stevens
Mr. Carn	Mrs. Moakley	Ms. Barone

NO: None.
Resolution #9 carried 8-0.



It was moved by Mrs. Moakley and seconded by Mr. Stevens that the Long Hill Township Board of Education approve the following recommendations of the Superintendent numbered 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.

10. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, approve a revision to the 2013-2014 school calendar to include Thursday, February 13, 2014 as a school day with the professional day scheduled for that date being shifted to June 26, 2014 on the day following the last day of school for students.

APPROVAL OF
REVISION TO 2013-14
SCHOOL CALENDAR

11. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, approve a revision to the 2014 school Board Meeting Schedule to reschedule the April Regular meeting date from April 21, 2014 to April 28, 2014. April 28, 2014 will be the date of the public hearing on the 2014-2015 budget.

MEETING SCHEDULE
CHANGE

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolutions #10,11:

YES: Mr. Blocker	Mr. DiGiorgio	
Mr. Brown	Mr. LoCascio	Mr. Stevens
Mr. Carn	Mrs. Moakley	Ms. Barone

NO: None.

Resolutions #10,11 carried 8-0.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Ms. Barone stated that the Morris County School Boards Association is holding a meeting in Morris Plains on the topic of School Finance on the evening of February 19th. She also suggested that the district might want to consider resubmitting an application for the STAR programs to be considered for the Innovative Programs in Special Education Award.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None.

It was moved by Mr. Blocker and seconded by Mr. LoCascio that the Board enter into private session for the purpose of discussing a contractual matter related to Board of Education property. It is anticipated that the private session will last no more than one hour. No action is anticipated this evening. Into private session at 8:14 p.m.

PRIVATE SESSION

It was moved by Mr. Stevens and seconded by Mr. Brown that the Board return to public session. Motion carried 8-0. Into public session at 9:05 p.m.

PUBLIC SESSION

It was moved by Mrs. Moakley and seconded by Mr. Blocker that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried 8-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

FUTURE MEETING DATES

February 24, 2014 – Regular Meeting– 7:30 p.m. – Township Municipal Building
 March 3, 2014 – Worksession Meeting– 7:30 p.m. – Township Municipal Building

Respectfully submitted,

John Esposito
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

René Rovtar, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools