

LONG HILL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
WORKSESSION/REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 9, 2013

The Long Hill Township Board of Education held a Worksession/Regular Meeting on Monday, September 9, 2013 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: Ms. Barone, Mr. Blocker, Mr. Brown, Mr. Meringolo, Miss Nyquist, Mr. Russo, Mr. Stevens, Mrs. Scanlon.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. LoCascio

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

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 and the Daily Record on July 19, 2013. 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. Blocker stated that there is only one bill on the agenda this evening.

Policy – Ms. Barone reported that there are a number of policies on the agenda tonight. She pointed out the specific policy covering Board vacancies in anticipation of Long Hill's having only one person on the ballot for three seats in the next election.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Dr. Rovtar reported on the following:

- She thanked everyone for a good start to the new school year.
- Long Hill was rated in New Jersey Monthly Magazine as the #5 community to live in New Jersey.
- Central School was selected by the State to participate in the PARCC Field Test during the Spring of 2014. Dr. Rovtar explained the details and responsibilities associated with the testing. Training and webinar sessions should be forthcoming to prepare staff.
- The Superintendent noted that the district is preparing to go out to referendum on March 11, 2014 to secure local funding for the Millington roof project and an HVAC project to install more efficient ventilators to provide both heat and air conditioning in the instructional area that currently do not have cooling capabilities.
- She reported that the district scored 100% in three areas and 90% in two areas of the NJ QSAC Statement of Assurance.

ADMINISTRATORS AND SUPERVISORS UPDATES

Central Middle School

- Mr. Villar reported that Central Middle School started the year with 343 students.
- He thanked all staff in helping to launch a successful opening day.
- Approximately 70 students attended the annual New Student Open House.

Millington School

- Mrs. Dawson welcomed all new families and students to Long Hill and stated that the first day of school was successful
- Codes of Conduct assemblies are scheduled for 9/12 and Back to School night is 9/19.
- Food sign-up continues until 9/15.

Gillette School

- Dr. Jones reported that the first day of school went well, and she thanked parents and staff for all their help.
- She noted that an 'all-school' read will take place this week as well as an 'all-school' project with river stones.
- The principal stated that Back to School night is 9/24 at 6:15 pm.
- She thanked the PTO for the bagel breakfast it put on for Gillette staff.

Curriculum

- Dr. Jones stated that it would be a very busy year for curriculum development.
- She is currently revising the sixth grade Math and will be working on implementing the Common Core Science standards in grades K-8

Technology Supervisor

- Mr. Blinder reported that he has been very busy this summer installing new equipment, and now the schools are all in good shape
- All new students have been added to the system and all grades were moved up.
- He will be offering two flex day workshops for teachers on special education software and the ELMO document camera.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY'S UPDATE

- Mr. Esposito thanked Mary Herrmann for her years of dedicated service in the district and wished her well in retirement.
- He thanked Liz Mickles for invaluable help with transportation the past few weeks.
- He stated that there were only minor busing problems and issues that were resolved quickly.
- The Business Administrator gave a brief summary of the transportation program for the Board. He noted that enrollment is down, and so is the number of families opting for subscription busing. He will provide fresh numbers at next month's meeting.

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.

Rory Pipeling, Executive Director of the Work Family Connection, apologized for the situation that occurred in the aftercare program she runs at Central School. When the number of students in that session fell to three, she unilaterally had those children ride a bus from Central to the program WFC sponsors at Millington School. She thought she was helping Dr. Rovtar by making these arrangements on her own.

Mrs. Scanlon noted that this is the responsibility of the Superintendent and should have gone through Dr. Rovtar's office for review and approval/denial. She noted that the Board isn't able to make individual arrangements for bus riders to meet a family's specific childcare needs.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

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

September 9, 2013 – Regular Meeting – Public Session

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution #1:

YES: Ms. Barone Mr. Russo
 Mr. Blocker Mr. Meringolo Mr. Stevens
 Mr. Brown Miss Nyquist Mrs. Scanlon
 NO: None
 ABSENT: Mr. LoCascio

Resolution #1 carried 8-0.

Financials

It was moved by Mr. Blocker and seconded by Ms. Barone that the Long Hill Township Board of Education approve the following recommendations of the Superintendent numbered 2 & 3.

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 approve the List of Bills for September 9, 2013 (as attached):

Bills for 09/09/2013	Amount
Fund 10	\$0.00
Current Expense - Fund 11	\$0.00
Capital Outlay - Fund 12	\$152,100.00
Special Rev. Fund - Fund 20	\$0.00
Capital Projects - Fund 30	\$0.00
Debt Services - Fund 40	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$152,100.00

- 3. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, approve a transportation agreement with Dealaman Enterprises to provide transportation from WHRHS to Central Middle School for the Central School students enrolled in the High School Math class in the 2013-14 school year at a cost of \$6,000. The fee will be prorated between Long Hill and Watchung proportionally, based on the number of students each sends to the class.

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolutions #2 & 3:

YES: Ms. Barone Mr. Russo
 Mr. Blocker Mr. Meringolo Mr. Stevens
 Mr. Brown Miss Nyquist Mrs. Scanlon
 NO: None
 ABSENT: Mr. LoCascio

Resolutions #2 & 3 carried 8-0.

It was moved by Mr. Blocker and seconded by Ms. Barone that the Long Hill Township Board of Education approve the following recommendations of the Superintendent numbered 4, 5, 6, & 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.

Special Education

- 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 \$750.00 to Dr. Vanna Amorapanth for a Neuro-Developmental Evaluation on September 3, 2013 for student #7140608289 to assist in determining special education category.

Personnel

- 5. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator revise the appointment of Sharon Buckle [PCR:GES0000013], Teacher Assistant at Gillette School from .43 to .50 for the 2013-2014 school year at the prorated Step 3 salary of \$16,264.00.
- 6. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, and with the approval of the Morris Executive County Superintendent of Schools, approve payment of \$4,785.00 to René Rovtar based on successful attainment of her 2012-2013 merit goal #2 – increased achievement in NJASK mathematics for the Millington School special education subgroup.
- 7. 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 persons to the Substitute List for the 2013-2014 school year:

Matt Rago Amber Schmidt

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolutions #4, 5, 6, & 7:

YES:	Ms. Barone		Mr. Russo
	Mr. Blocker	Mr. Meringolo	Mr. Stevens
	Mr. Brown	Miss Nyquist	Mrs. Scanlon

NO: None
 ABSENT: Mr. LoCascio

Resolutions #4, 5, 6, & 7 carried 8-0.

It was moved by Mr. Meringolo and seconded by Mr. Blocker that the Long Hill Township Board of Education approve the following recommendations of the Superintendent numbered 8 & 9.

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.

Other

- 10. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, attests to the accuracy and approved the submission of the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) Statement of Assurance for the 2013-2014 school year, as summarized below, to the New Jersey Department of Education.

<u>Statement of Assurance Area</u>	<u># of Yes Responses</u>	<u>% of Yes Responses</u>
Instruction and Program	5	100%
Fiscal Management	9	90%
Governance	9	90%
Personnel	5	100%
Operations	20	100%

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution #10:

YES: Ms. Barone Mr. Russo
 Mr. Blocker Mr. Meringolo Mr. Stevens
 Mr. Brown Miss Nyquist Mrs. Scanlon

NO: None

ABSENT: Mr. LoCascio

Resolution #10 carried 8-0.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

OLD BUSINESS

Miss Nyquist asked about the Kindergarten enrollment for this year and Dr. Rovtar responded. The current enrollment is 69 students or 23 in each class, and she said that the size is within Board policy and no action need be taken.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Russo commented that a neighbor had expressed concern about a sidewalk on Long Hill Road and Dr. Rovtar said she would send a letter to the Township Committee regarding this issue.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Ms. Barone and seconded by Mr. Blocker that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried 8-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

October 14, 2013 – Worksession Meeting – 7:30 p.m. – Township Municipal Building

October 28, 2013 – Regular Monthly Meeting – 7:30 p.m. – Township Municipal Building

Respectfully submitted,

John Esposito
Business Administrator/Board Secretary