

LONG HILL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
JANUARY 21, 2013

The Long Hill Township Board of Education held a Regular Monthly Meeting on Monday, January 21, 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. LoCascio, Mr. Meringolo, Miss Nyquist, Mr. Russo, Mr. Stevens, Mrs. Scanlon.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Rovtar, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Esposito, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Mrs. Franklin, LHEA President

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 January 3, 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

Buildings & Grounds – Mr. Meringolo reported the committee met and discussed roof replacements at Central and Millington Schools. The committee recommends going ahead with part of the work this summer. They would try to address other areas at Millington the following year – 2014. The Board asked several questions that Mr. Meringolo addressed.

The committee also discussed other issues such as field work and the purchase of grounds equipment. Mrs. Scanlon asked several questions of the committee and Mr. Meringolo and Dr. Rovtar responded.

WHRHS Liaison – Mr. Stevens attended the Watchung Hills Board of Education Reorganization meeting. Issues discussed there included the Code of Ethics, the timing of appointing Board committees, storm damage, and other topics. He noted that the Long Hill Township Board of Education functions well together.

Negotiations – Mr. Russo reported the committee will meet with the Administrators next month.

Policy – Ms. Barone reported a technology policy will be on the next agenda with minor revisions.

Finance – Mr. Blocker reported the committee reviewed the bills and found all in order for payment. The budget is still being developed and state aid figures won't be known until the end of February.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Dr. Rovtar reported on the following:

- As the Violence & Vandalism Reports are now required on a half-year cycle, she reported the incidents that occurred between July 1 and December 31, 2012..
- FEMA representatives will be in the district on Wednesday to assess our storm damage.
- Regional Superintendents met today and one of the topics was a White-out Day which would be in support of anti-bullying. Tentative date is March 8.
- Dr. Rovtar also corrected her HIB report from last week.

BOARD SECRETARY'S UPDATE

Mr. Esposito reported on the following:

- Budget development continues to move forward; He met with Finance Committee earlier to review bills and discuss the 2013-14 budget in general terms.
- Mr. Esposito reminded Board Members of the required training sessions. Governance I through IV are all offered in webinars through NJSBA. The Board Office will register Board Members as required by School Boards.
- Financial Disclosure Forms must be filled out on-line starting this year. All Board Members will receive an e-mail from the DOE with log-on information and instructions on how to use the system.

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. Franklin, LHEA President, welcomed Mr. Brown to the Board. Mrs. Franklin asked about the use of Kindles and other devices in school. Dr. Rovtar explained that the policy will address the use of these devices, saying they are only allowed in the classroom with the permission of the teacher and should be for instructional purposes only. The policy will indicate that the Board shall not bear any responsibility for damage to or loss of these devices if they are brought to school.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

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

January 2, 2013 Reorganization/Worksession – Public Session

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution #1:

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

NO: None.
Miss Nyquist abstained on resolution #1.
Resolution #1 carried 8-0-1.

It was moved by Mr. Blocker and seconded by Miss Nyquist that the Long Hill Township Board of Education approve the following recommendations of the Superintendent numbered 2,3,4,5,6,7.

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.

2. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education approve the payrolls for December 14 and 21, 2012 and the List of Bills for December 19, 2012 and January 10, 14, and 21, 2013 for payment as follows (as attached):

APPROVAL OF
BILLS LIST

Payroll for December 14, 2012	Amount
Fund 10	\$ 22,857.76
Current Expense-Fund 11	\$420,359.79
Capital Outlay-Fund 12	\$ -0-
Special Revenue Fund-Fund 20	\$ -0-
Capital Projects-Fund 30	\$ -0-
Debt Services-Fund 40	\$ -0-
Total	\$443,217.55

Payroll for December 21, 2012

	Amount
Fund 10	\$ 27,742.11
Current Expense-Fund 11	\$401,066.29
Capital Outlay-Fund 12	\$ -0-
Special Revenue Fund-Fund 20	\$ -0-
Capital Projects-Fund 30	\$ -0-
Debt Services-Fund 40	\$ -0-
Total	\$423,808.40

Bills for December 19, 2012

	Amount
Fund 10	\$ -0-
Current Expense-Fund 11	\$ 4,125.00
Capital Outlay-Fund 12	\$ -0-
Special Revenue Fund-Fund 20	\$ -0-
Capital Projects-Fund 30	\$ -0-
Debt Services-Fund 40	\$ -0-
Total	\$ 4,125.00

Bills for January 10, 2013

	Amount
Fund 10	\$ -0-
Current Expense-Fund 11	\$153,443.70
Capital Outlay-Fund 12	\$ -0-
Special Revenue Fund-Fund 20	\$ -0-
Capital Projects-Fund 30	\$ -0-
Debt Services-Fund 40	\$ -0-
Total	\$153,443.70

Bills for January 14, 2013

	Amount
Fund 10	\$ -0-
Current Expense-Fund 11	\$ -0-
Capital Outlay-Fund 12	\$ -0-
Special Revenue Fund-Fund 20	\$ -0-
Capital Projects-Fund 30	\$ -0-
Debt Services-Fund 40	\$600,475.00
Total	\$600,475.00

Bills for January 21, 2013

Fund 10	\$ -0-
Current Expense-Fund 11	\$334,025.53
Capital Outlay-Fund 12	\$ 53,138.65
Special Revenue Fund-Fund 20	\$ 36,922.86
Capital Projects-Fund 30	\$ -0-
Debt Services-Fund 40	\$ -0-
Total	\$424,087.04

3. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13€ , certifies that as of October 31, 2012 after review of the Board Secretary’s monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(B) and sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the year.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL CERTIFICATIONS OCT. 2012

4. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education accept the financial reports of the Board Secretary and Treasurer of School Funds for the month ending October 31, 2012.

APPROVAL OF BD. SEC. & TREAS. REPORT, OCT. 2012

5. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, approve the transfers for October 31, 2012.

APPROVAL OF OCT. 2012 TRANSFERS

6. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, approve a correction to the contract amount approved on December 17, 2012 for the work to be performed by Parette Somjen Architects for the preparation of submissions and drawings for the partial roof replacement project at Central School. The correct contract amount should be \$2,800.00 plus reimbursable expenses, as per December 12, 2012 proposal letter submitted by Greg Somjen, project architect.

CORRECTION TO ARCHITECT’S FEE

7. 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 2,3,4,5,6,7:

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

NO: None.

Resolutions 2,3,4,5,6,7 carried 9-0.

It was moved by Ms. Barone and seconded by Mr. Meringolo 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, the Business Administrator and the Director of Special Services, approve home instruction for student #1958405734. Home instruction will be provided by Mrs. Caitlin Grogard for a maximum of 6 hours per week. Instruction will begin no later than January 11, 2013 and will continue until March 11, 2013. As per the LHEA contract the instructors will be paid at the rate of \$37.45 per hour.

APPROVAL OF
HOME INSTRUCTION

9. 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 in the amount of \$650.00 to Dr. Vanna Amorapanth for a Neuro-Developmental Evaluation for student #9757723511 to assist in determining special education category.

APPROVAL OF
PAYMENT TO
DR. AMORAPANTH

10. 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 additional Itinerant Teacher services with Summit Speech School for student #7220511039, beginning January 9, 2013 thru June 2013. The services will be provided 2X week at a rate of \$145.00 per session.

APPROVAL OF
SUMMIT SPEECH
SCHOOL SERVICES

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolutions 8,9,10:

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

NO: None.

Resolutions 8,9,10 carried 9-0.

11. 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 Dr. Dale Jacobs for a Psychiatric Evaluation for student #1958405734 to assist in determining special education classification.

APPROVAL OF
PAYMENT TO
DR. JACOBS

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution #11:

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

NO: None.

Miss Nyquist abstained on resolution #11.

Resolution #11 carried 8-0-1.

It was moved by Mr. Meringolo and seconded by Miss Nyquist that the Long Hill Township Board of Education approve the following recommendations of the Superintendent numbered 12,13,14,15.

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.

12. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, revise the dates of the maternity leave for Stacie Holzinger, Teacher at Millington School, which had previously been approved at the September 24, 2012 meeting and revised at the November 26, 2012 meeting, to reflect the following:

REVISION OF MATERNITY LEAVE DATES

December 13, 2012 – January 8, 2013	Paid disability leave utilizing accumulated sick days
January 9 – March 7, 2013	Paid maternity leave using accumulated sick days
March 8 – June 30, 2013	NJ Family Leave for childcare (unpaid)

13. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, revise the appointment of Elizabeth Wheeler to the position of full time maternity teacher at Millington School, as previously approved at the October 22, 2012 meeting and revised at the November 26, 2012 meeting, to reflect a new start date of December 13, 2012.

REVISION OF MATERNITY LEAVE REPLACEMENT DATES

14. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, approve the appointment of Anne Marie Heithmar as a Central School Milk Aide at the hour rate of \$10.00 effective January 22, 2013.

A. HEITHMAR APPOINTED MILK AIDE

17. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, approve the following changes to the 2013 Board of Education meeting schedule:

MEETING
SCHEDULE
CHANGE

Add – Worksession meeting – March 4, 2013 7:30 p.m.

Cancel – Worksession meeting – March 11, 2013 7:30 p.m.

This change is due to the fact that the district will not receive 2013-2014 state aid figures until February 28, 2013 and must submit the budget to the Executive County Superintendent by March 7, 2013.

18. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, reaffirm its support of the full implementation of the district’s Comprehensive Equity Plan to achieve and maintain compliance with all applicable laws, codes, regulations, and guidelines governing equity in education including, but not limited to: N.J.S.A. 18A:36-20; N.J.S.A. 10:5; N.J.A.C. 6A:7, Guidelines for the Desegregation of Public Schools in New Jersey (1989); Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; Individuals with Disabilities Act of 1990; and the Individuals with Disabilities Act (I.D.E.A.) of 2004.

SUPPORT OF
COMPREHENSIVE
EQUITY PLAN

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolutions 16,17,18:

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

NO: None.

Resolutions 16,17,18 carried 9-0.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Blocker stated the “Long Hill’s Got Talent” show will be presented on February 8 at Watchung Hills High School.

The Board discussed the low number of kindergarten registrations (47) for the 2013-14 school year.

The Board discussed the flu epidemic and what Long Hill Township is doing to prevent its spread.

Miss Nyquist asked about the security review that is being done by Morris County officials. Dr. Rovtar responded that we have not had our review yet as there is a backlog in the wake of the Sandy Hook incident. We will wait until after the review before considering any additional security changes or measures.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None.

It was moved by Mr. Meringolo and seconded by Ms. Barone that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried 9-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

FUTURE MEETING DATES

February 11, 2013 – Worksession Meeting – 7:30 p.m. – Township Municipal Building – 7:30 p.m.

February 25, 2013 – Regular Meeting – 7:30 p.m. – Township Municipal Building – 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Esposito
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

René Rovtar, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

JE:mh