

LONG HILL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
WORKSESSION
NOVEMBER 12, 2012

The Long Hill Township Board of Education held a Worksession on Monday, November 12, 2012 in the Long Hill Township Town Hall. The meeting was called to order by Board President Lisa Scanlon.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Barone, Mr. Blocker, Mr. LoCascio, Mr. Meringolo, Miss Nyquist, Mr. Russo, Mr. Stevens, Mrs. Scanlon.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Rae.

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Rovtar, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Esposito, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Mr. Villar, Central School Principal
Mrs. Dawson, Millington School Principal
Dr. Jones, Gillette Principal/Dir. of Curriculum
Mr. Blinder, Technology Coordinator
Mrs. Franklin, LHEA President
5 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 and the Daily Record on February 28, 2012. 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

There were no communications.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Buildings & Grounds – Mr. Russo reported the committee met and reviewed the preliminary energy audit report. There are no recommendations at this point. The final report will be shared with the Board.

The committee also discussed the recent power loss and generators, saying this is a very complex discussion and the committee will continue to review and discuss the issues associated with it.

Morris County Ed. Services Commission – Miss Nyquist reported that she attended the arbitration meeting on October 10. The next session is scheduled in December. The Board meeting that was scheduled for last week was cancelled.

SUPERINTENDENTS UPDATE

Dr. Rovtar presented the Make a Difference Award to Suzanne Aiello, teacher assistant at Gillette School. She thanked Mrs. Aiello for her contributions to Gillette School and the things that she does to enhance the school community.

Dr. Rovtar congratulated Ms. Barone, Mr. LoCascio and Mr. Stevens on their re-election to the Board. It appears that Mr. Steven Brown was the successful write-in candidate for the other 3 year term. We are still awaiting the official results of the election.

There is an item on the agenda this evening to revise the Futures/Horizon/QUEST selection criteria. Dr. Rovtar emphasized that **no changes are being recommended to the program**. The changes being recommended are to the selection criteria.

Dr. Rovtar was very happy to welcome the students and staff back to school today. She worked very closely with the Township Office of Emergency Management and stated that residents are extremely lucky to have an excellent Director of Emergency Management, Ken Fullagar, who worked around the clock over the past 2 weeks to try to manage emergency response efforts. The Township is also fortunate to have very dedicated elected officials. Mr. Piserchia and Mr. Roshto were at Town Hall holding briefings and providing communication with residents on a daily basis. Board President Lisa Scanlon worked tirelessly with the CERT program and was instrumental in keeping the Township's website updated with current information on power restoration, road closures, gas availability, warming center and shelter information.

Dr. Rovtar expressed her thanks to Ron Erazo, the Temco Site Supervisor and his staff for being very responsive in attending to generators, building issues, snow removal and other issues during the storm.

Alex Blinder was also most helpful in finding a way to power the servers through the generator to enable the finalization of the agenda for this meeting.

The first marking period will be extended to November 21 with report cards being released online to parents on November 30.

We will not be scheduling any Halloween celebrations in schools.

Parent/teacher conferences will not be rescheduled. Teachers are encouraged to reach out to parents if a conference seems necessary.

Dr. Rovtar is proposing a calendar adding 4 days (January 21, February 14 and 15, April 1). There are 4 snow days built into the calendar and the calendar would then be at 180 days.

ADMINISTRATORS AND SUPERVISORS UPDATES

Central Middle School

Mr. Villar reported on the following:

- The Central School dance on October 26 was attended by 90 students. The next dance will be on December 7.
- Basketball tryouts will be held on November 14, 15 and 16.
- Central School will have a presentation of Ryan's Story on December 6. The speaker will address concerns of bullying, cyberbullying and teen depression. The student portion of the presentation will take place during the school day as a 90 minutes assembly. The parent presentation will be held that evening from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the all purpose room.

Millington School

Mrs. Dawson reported on the following:

- Teachers welcomed students back to school today. She saw many teachers sitting on the rug allowing each student to share their storm stories.
- November 16 is School Spirit Day; students should wear blue and gold.
- November 21 is a 4 hour day, dismissal at 1:25 p.m.
- Picture retake is November 29.

Gillette School/Curriculum

Dr. Jones reported on the following:

- Gillette School had a successful disco day with Mr. Rideout on October 25.
- Dr. Jones has been taking walk-through in Gillette School and has been in the other schools conducting observations.
- Kindergarteners participated in a pumpkin picking activity in the Butterfly Garden which was decorated by Mrs. Aiello.
- School Spirit Day is this Friday.
- The book of the month is "Thank you, Mr. Falker". It is the true story of a young girl's struggle with dyslexia.
- First grade will have their Thanksgiving Feast on November 20 during their lunch time. The students made placemats in art class and can take them home for their own Thanksgiving.
- Picture re-take is November 28.
- Dr. Jones will be attending an anti-bullying workshop with Dr. Rovtar given by the State of New Jersey on November 29.

Technology Supervisor

Mr. Blinder reported that there are no major issues with technology. The system was powered down before the storm and then manually brought up after power was restored. Due to some Verizon issues there was a loss of connection to the Internet during the post-storm aftermath. He spent a great deal of time working with Verizon to resolve problems. There are still 3 phone lines not operating at Central. Mr. Blinder thanked the Temco staff for their assistance over the past 2 weeks.

BOARD SECRETARY'S UPDATE

Mr. Esposito stated that when the final report on the energy audit is received, it will be shared with the Board. He indicated that an addendum has been added tonight regarding the award of a contract for the Central School Gym Lighting Project. The firm that is being recommended is the same firm that did the ADA project in the Central School nurse's office this summer.

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 Ms. Barone that the following minutes of the Long Hill Township Board of Education be accepted as amended to include private session and made part of the public record:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

October 22, 2012 – Regular Meeting – Public & Private Sessions

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution #a:

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

NO: None.
Miss Nyquist abstained.
Resolution #1 carried 7-0-1.



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.

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

2. WHEREAS, the Long Hill Township Board of Education has gone out to bid on the Central Middle School Gym Lighting Fixture Project on two occasions; and

APPROVAL OF CENTRAL GYM LIGHTING CONTRACT

WHEREAS, the Long Hill Township Board of Education has not received bid responses to either of these bid requests, and

WHEREAS, the Long Hill Township Board of Education has received two quotes for the completion of this project, as listed below, and

WHEREAS, upon the Board’s consideration of the quotes received, and upon the recommendation of Parette Somjen Architects, the Board has determined that the proposal submitted by Lanyi & Tevald, Inc. represents the lowest responsible quote, not therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Business Administrator and Parette Somjen Architects, award a contract to Lanyi & Tevald for the completion of the Central Middle School Gym Lighting Fixture Replacement Project at a cost of \$40,200.00 contingent upon a project completion date of January 2, 2013.

3. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Director of Special Services and the Business Administrator, approve payment of \$550.00 to Dr. Dale Jacobs for a Psychiatric Evaluation for student #9516144033 to assist in determining special education classification.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT FOR EVALUATION

4. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Business Administrator and Middle School Principal approve the following appointments for the 2012-2013 school year:

APPROVAL OF STIPEND

<u>Sport/activity</u>	<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Baseball Coach	Jonathan Birckhead	\$2,994.00*
Cheerleading Coach	Jami LaMaita	\$2,236.00*
CMS Games Club Advisor	Angela Barth	\$ 686.00*
CMS Theater Arts		
Construction	Caitlin Groggaard	\$ 998.00*

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

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolutions 2,3,4:

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

NO: None.

Resolutions 2,3,4 carried 8-0.



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

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 the revisions to the Futures/Horizon/QUEST Selection Criteria for the 2013-2014 school year.

APPROVAL OF HORIZON CRITERIA

Explanatory note: **No program changes** are being proposed for the Futures/Horizon/QUEST programs for gifted and talented students. Selection criteria changes include: Grade 4 Futures Program: Remove SAGES-2 Test from the criteria. Replaced with student scores on the 3rd Grade NJASK Math assessment. Criteria points for prior year grades for middle school language arts, mathematics and science will reflect a scale of one point higher for grades earned in accelerated or Horizon classes. QUEST Program is expended to include grade 7 in 2012-2013 and grade 8 in 2013-2014. 6th Grade Cogat scores are added to the QUEST criteria for 7th and 8th grade students.

6. 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 trip listed below:

APPROVAL OF FIELD TRIP

May 23, 2013	Third Grade	Liberty Science Center
8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.		Jersey City, NJ
\$36.20 parent paid		90 students, 5 teachers, 1 teacher assistant, 1 nurse and 20 parents

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolutions 5 and 6:

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

NO: None.

Resolutions 5 and 6 carried 8-0.

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

7. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, attests to the accuracy and approves the submission of the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) Statement of Assurance and the District Performance Review Checklists, as reviewed by the District QSAC Committee, for the 2012-2013 School Year, as summarized below, to the New Jersey Department of Education.

APPROVAL OF
QSAC REPORT

<u>Statement of Assurance Area</u>	<u>% of Yes Responses</u>
Instruction and Program	96%
Fiscal Management	98%
Governance	100%
Personnel	95%
Operations	100%

8. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the harassment, Intimidation and Bullying report and affirm the Superintendent's decision for the period ending October 22, 2012.

ACCEPTANCE OF
HARASSMENT,
INTIMIDATION &
BULLYING
REPORT

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolutions 7 and 8:

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

NO: None.

Resolutions 7 and 8 carried 8-0.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Discussion of proposed revisions to the 2012-2013 school calendar.

9. It was moved by Ms. Barone and seconded by Mr. Blocker that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the revised 2012-2013 calendar approving the addition of January 21, February 14, February 15 and April 1 to the school calendar. (attached)

APPROVAL OF
REVISED 2012-13
CALENDAR

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution #9:

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

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

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None.

It was moved by Mr. Meringolo and seconded by Mr. Russo that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried 8-0.
Meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

FUTURE MEETING DATES

November 26, 2012 – Regular Meeting – Township Municipal Building – 7:30 p.m.
December 17, 2012 – Worksession/Regular Meeting – Township Municipal Building – 7:30 p.m.
January 7, 2013 – Reorganization/Worksession Meeting – Township Municipal Building – 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Esposito
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

René Rovtar, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

