

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

Monday, November 10, 2014

7:30 P.M.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Personnel – 7:15 p.m. – Graf, Mohan, Smith

Minutes of November 10, 2014

Call to order by President. Time: 7:38 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Karen Graf. Mrs. Graf read the following statement: The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this act, the Washington Township Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be emailed on February 18, 2014 to The Express Times, The Star Gazette, and to the Clerk of Washington Township.

Flag Salute

Members present were: Karen Graf, President, Anita Smith, Vice President, Jason Ford, Jude Mohan and John Trush. In addition Keith Neuhs, Superintendent, Jean Flynn, Board Secretary, were also present.

Members absent: Sally Christine and Sheila Dempski

Motion by Anita Smith, seconded by Jude Mohan to approve the minutes of October 20, 2014, as presented. MV: Ford and Trush abstained, all others voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Jude Mohan, seconded by John Trush, to approve the executive session minutes of October 20, 2014, as presented. MV: Ford and Trush abstained, all others voting yes, motion carried.

B. PUBLIC QUESTIONS & DISCUSSIONS: (Agenda Items) - NONE

- a. The public may speak for three (3) minutes on agenda items, unless they have requested to be on the agenda.

C. PRESENTATIONS:

Introduction of New Teachers:

- Sarah Bettenhausen, Gr. 1, Nicole Campagna, Kindergarten, Samantha Davey, IMD, Dawn Nisivoccia, Special Ed., Tiffany Page, Gr. 3, Ashley Piccione, Gr. 1, Nicole Smith, Speech Language Specialist, Jennifer Testa, BSI, Kathryn Wikander, School Nurse

Samantha Davey and Ashley Piccione will be introduced at the December 8, 2014 board of education meeting.

D. PUBLIC HEARING:

a. As per Public Law 18A:23-1 the Board of Education of every school district shall cause an annual audit of the district's accounts and financial transactions to be made by a public school accountant employed by it, which audit shall be completed no later than 4 months after the end of the school fiscal year.

- Audit and CAFR presentation by Anthony Ardito, Auditor

Motion by Anita Smith, seconded by Jude Mohan, to accept the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of Administrative Findings Financial Compliance and Performance, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014, and note that there were no audit recommendations. RCV: Graf, Smith, Ford, Mohan and Trush all voting yes, motion carried.

E. SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Motion by Jude Mohan, seconded by Jason Ford, to approve the Student Activity and Petty Cash Account Reports for the month ending October 31, 2014, as presented. MV: Unanimous, motion carried.

Motion by John Trush, seconded by Jason Ford, to approve the line item transfers, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Graf, Smith, Ford, and Mohan all voting yes, Trush voting no, motion carried.

Motion by Jason Ford, seconded by Anita Smith, to approve the Bills List for November 2014, as amended. MV: Unanimous, motion carried.

Motion by Anita Smith, seconded by Jude Mohan, to approve the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for the month ending October 31, 2014, as presented. RCV: Graf, Smith, Ford and Mohan, all voting yes, Trush abstained, motion carried.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington Township Board Secretary, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 3, does hereby certify that as of the date of these reports, no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A-16.10 (a);

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent recommends that the Washington Township Board of Education accept the monthly financial reports of the Secretary and the

Treasurer; and further recommends, in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A-16.10 (c) 4, that the Board of Education Certifies that no major account has been overexpended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A-16.10 (b), and that as of this report sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the year.

Motion by Jude Mohan, seconded by John Trush to adopt the following Resolution to Withdraw Maintenance Reserve, as follows, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Graf, Smith, Ford, Mohan and Trush all voting yes, motion carried.

WHEREAS, NJSA 6A:23A-14.2(d) permits a Board of Education to withdraw such funds from the maintenance reserve account and appropriate into the required maintenance account lines at budget times or any time during the year for use on required maintenance activities for a school facility as reported in the comprehensive maintenance plan pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26A-4.

WHEREAS, the aforementioned statutes authorizes procedures, under the authority of the Commissioner of Education, which permit a board of education to withdraw funds from a district's Maintenance Reserve Account any time during the year by resolution, and

WHEREAS, the Washington Township Board of Education is desirous to withdraw funds from the Maintenance Reserve Account and appropriate said funds into the required maintenance account line in the general fund for the following:

\$15,000 for Maintenance Accounts for Brass Castle and Port Colden

WHEREAS, according to 6A:23A-14.2E, the Washington Township Board of Education shall restore any unexpended required maintenance appropriations, up to the amount of maintenance reserve account funds withdrawn, to the maintenance reserve account at year-end.

F. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Motion by Anita Smith, seconded by Jude Mohan, to approve the following substitute for the 2014-2015 school year, pending satisfactory completion of employment requirements. RCV: Graf, Smith, Ford, Mohan and Trush all voting yes, motion carried.

Marelin Benitez - Custodian

Motion by Jude Mohan, seconded by John Trush, to accept, with regret, the resignation of Maria Rotola, Childcare Worker, effective October 20, 2014, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Graf, Smith, Ford, Mohan and Trush all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Jason Ford, seconded by Anita Smith, to approve the out-of-district staff development workshops, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Graf, Smith, Ford, Mohan and Trush all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Anita Smith, seconded by Jude Mohan, to approve the following clubs for the 2014-15 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Graf, Smith, Ford, Mohan and Trush all voting yes, motion carried.

Club	Advisor	Sessions	Rate	Length of Session	Cost
Scrabble Club	Susan Peterson	10	\$ 27.00	45 min.	\$ 270.00
3 rd Gr. PARCC Club	Kara Lisk/ Amybeth Kupcha	30	\$ 27.00	45 min.	\$ 810.00

Motion by Jude Mohan, seconded by John Trush, to approve granting permission to the property owners of 29 East Front Street, Washington, NJ 07882, the right of way to access the property land locked on East Front Street, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Graf, Smith, Ford, Mohan and Trush all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by John Trush, seconded by Jason Ford, to approve an increase in hours, for Deborah Tierney, from 26.5 hours per week to 29 hours per week, effective November 1, 2014, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Graf, Smith, Ford, Mohan and Trush all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Anita Smith, seconded by Jude Mohan, to approve a Publishing Company stipend in the amount of \$4,000, prorated, for Kimberly Sigman, for the 2014-2015 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Graf, Smith, Ford, Mohan and Trush all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Anita Smith, seconded by Jude Mohan to rescind the Publishing Company stipend, in the amount of \$4,000 (prorated portion) for Suzanne Lee, effective November 10, 2014. RCV: Graf, Smith, Ford, Mohan and Trush all voting yes, motion carried.

G. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Tabled to December 8, 2014 board of education meeting.

- NJASK Presentation

H. TECHNOLOGY REPORT:

I. CORRESPONDENCE: - None**J. COMMITTEE REPORTS:****Finance & Policy Committee:**

Motion by Jude Mohan, seconded by John Trush, to approve for first reading, Policy Alert #203, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Graf, Smith, Ford, Mohan and Trush all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Jude Mohan, seconded by John Trush, to transfer \$15,077 from Capital Reserve to account 12-000-260-730, to purchase a Kubota Tractor for the use at Port Colden School, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Graf, Smith, Ford, Mohan and Trush all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Jude Mohan, seconded by John Trush, to approve the 2014-2015 School-Based Mentoring Program Partnership Agreement between Washington Township School District and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hunterdon, Somerset and Warren, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Graf, Smith, Ford, Mohan and Trush all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Jude Mohan, seconded by John Trush, to accept the ExxonMobil Foundation Volunteer Grant, in the amount of \$1,000, awarded to the Washington Township Board of Education, in recognition of volunteer hours by Fred and Karen Graf, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Graf, Smith, Ford, Mohan and Trush all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by John Trush, seconded by Jason Ford, to accept the donation of a Savin Copier, donated by the Warren County Technical School District, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Graf, Smith, Ford, Mohan and Trush all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Anita Smith, seconded by Jude Mohan, to authorize the use of Capital Reserve funds in the amount of \$220,290, for the purpose of funding the local share of the Schools, Facilities Projects for the partial roof replacement at the Brass Castle Elementary School – SDA Project #5530-040-14G2UN and DOE Project #5530-040-14-1001 under Grant Agreement #G5-5955, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Graf, Smith, Ford, Mohan and Trush all voting yes, motion carried.

DISCUSSION OF BOARD GOALS:

Motion by Anita Smith, seconded by Jude Mohan to approve the following board goals:

- PARCC/Common Core: support implementation by communicating information to parents/community.
- TeachNJ – help educate parents/community and support teachers.
- Continued fiscal management and operational efficiency to ensure long term sustainability for quality education.

K. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION - old and/or new business. (The public may speak for three (3) minutes on non-agenda items, unless they have requested to be on the agenda.) - NONE

L. EXECUTIVE SESSION - if required as indicated in items b, i.

Motion by Anita Smith, seconded by Jude Mohan, the Board of Education of the Washington Township School District in the County of Warren will adjourn into a closed meeting to discuss the item (s) which falls within an exception of our open meetings policy and permits the Board to have a private discussion, since it deals with specific exceptions contained in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 b.

- a. Matters rendered confidential by Federal Law, State Law, or Court Rule
- b. Individual privacy
- c. Collective bargaining agreements
- d. Purchase or lease of real property if public interest could be adversely affected

- e. Investment of public funds if public interest could be adversely affected
- f. Tactics or techniques utilized in protecting public safety and property
- g. Pending or anticipated litigation
- h. Attorney-client privilege
- i. Personnel – employment matters affecting a specific, prospective or current employee

Be it resolved that the Board will now go into private session to discuss matters rendered confidential due to the nature of Individual privacy and Personnel-employment matters affecting a specific, prospective or current employee. Any discussion held by the Board, which need not remain confidential, will be made public as soon as practical. Minutes of the private session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists. All appropriate persons, who may be discussed in private session, have been adequately notified.

MV: Unanimous – motion carried

Time: 9:17 p.m.

Motion by Anita Smith, seconded by Jude Mohan, to return to open session.

MV: Unanimous – motion carried

Time: 9:32 p.m.

M. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Anita Smith, seconded by Jude Mohan to adjourn.

MV: Unanimous – motion carried

Time: 9:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Flynn, Business Administrator/Board Secretary