

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

Monday, August 23, 2021

7:30 p.m.

Minutes of August 23, 2021

Call to order by President

Time: 7:31 p.m.

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, January 14, 2021, to the Express Times and to the Clerk of Washington Township.

Members in attendance: Edward Kemp, Vice-President, Jennifer Knittel, , Patrick Rock and Karen Graf, President. In addition, Keith Neuhs, Jean Flynn, Business Administrator, Jessica Garcia and Jessica McDonagh, Principals.

Members absent: Kimberley Morris, Lauren Schlauffer and Anita Smith

Flag Salute

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Patrick Rock, to approve the minutes of July 12, 2021, as presented. MV: all voting yes, Kemp abstained, motion carried.

B. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION: (agenda items) - None
(The public may speak for three (3) minutes unless they have requested to be on the agenda.)

C. SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Motion by Edward Kemp, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to approve the final Student Activity, Petty Cash and Cafeteria Account Reports, for the month ending June 30, 2021, as presented. MV: all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Patrick Rock, to approve the attached transfers, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Patrick Rock, seconded by Edward Kemp, to approve the Bills List for August 2021, as recommended by the Superintendent. MV: all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Edward Kemp, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to approve the final Board Secretary's and Cash Reports for the month ending June 30, 2021, as presented. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, 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 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.

D. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Assessment Results – Linkit!

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Edward Kemp, to accept, with regret, the resignation of Melissa Stanneck, Custodian, and to waive the 21-day notice clause in contract, without setting precedence, effective, August 6, 2021, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Patrick Rock, seconded by Edward Kemp, to accept, with regret, the resignation of Dawn Andrews, part-time Paraprofessional, and waive the 14-day notice clause in contract, without setting precedence, effective, July 20, 2021, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Edward Kemp, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to accept, with regret, the resignation of Courtney Ward, part-time Paraprofessional, effective, July 28, 2021, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Patrick Rock, to approve Jordan Delicato, World Language/Basic Skills Teacher, MA Step 2, salary to be \$55,540, (upon completion of employment requirements), effective September 1, 2021, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Patrick Rock, to approve a maternity leave of absence, for employee # 4131, effective on or about November 29, 2021, utilizing sick days (per contract), the Federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) and New Jersey Family and Medical Leave (FLA), as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Patrick Rock, seconded by Edward Kemp, to approve Daniel Petchonka, as a Custodian, rate to be \$14.25/hr., effective on or before August 23, 2021, (upon completion of employment requirements and a 60-day probation period) , as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Edward Kemp, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to approve Nicholas Wulff, as a part-time Childcare Worker, (not to exceed 30 hours per week), rate to be \$14.00/hr. effective September 1, 2021, (upon completion of employment requirements), as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Patrick Rock, to amend the 2021-2022 employment contract for Emily Bussard, part-time Childcare Worker, hourly rate adjustment from \$13.00/hr. to \$14.00/hr., effective September 1, 2021, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Patrick Rock, seconded by Edward Kemp, to approve the following substitutes for the 2021-2022 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

- Jacob Smith – custodian - (retroactive approval 7/22/2021)
- Courtney Ward – paraprofessional/teacher

Motion by Edward Kemp, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to approve a change in preparation classification, for Kaleigh Soles, from BA to BA+15, salary to be \$55,900, effective September 1, 2021, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Patrick Rock, seconded by Edward Kemp, to approve an agreement between the Washington Township Board of Education and the Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission (HCESC) to provide paraprofessionals for the 2021-2022 school year, at the following rate, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

- \$26.75 per hour (inclusive of pension contribution, paid personal and sick days, payroll taxes, workers compensation, unemployment and admin. fee)

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Patrick Rock, to approve a services agreement, between the Washington Township Board of Education and Precision HR Solutions, Inc., effective July 21, 2021 through July 22, 2022, to provide temporary or on-going custodian services, as recommended by the Superintendent

- \$23.00 per hour (inclusive of paid personal and sick days, payroll taxes, workers compensation, unemployment and admin. fee)

Motion by Edward Kemp, seconded by Patrick Rock, to approve the New Jersey Commission for the Blind contract, to provide CBVI Level 1 services, for student # 14204977, for the 2021-2022 school year, in the amount of \$2,200, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Edward Kemp, to approve the WTSD Mentor Plan, Statement of Assurance (SOA), as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Washington Township School District Mentor Plan – State regulations require the CSA to share the Mentor Plan with the BOE for related fiscal impacts. The fiscal impact of the mentor plan is minimal as the Mentor and the Resident will meet outside school district contracted time. As in the past, the Resident is required to pay the Mentor fee and the BOE Business Office will continue to handle mentor payments.

Motion by Patrick Rock, seconded by Edward Kemp, to approve the WTSD Professional Development Plan, Statement of Assurance (SOA), as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Washington Township School District Professional Development Plan – State regulations require the CSA to share the District’s Professional Development Plan with the BOE for related fiscal impacts. The District will allocate approximately \$7,000 to cover the costs associated with the district and school Professional Development Plans. Funding will be allocated for consultants, workshop registrations, supplies and substitute teachers. ESEA Title Ila funds, in the amount of \$5,687 will also be utilized to support these professional development plans.

Motion by Edward Kemp, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to approve enrollment of the following staff member’s children for the 2021-2022 school year (policy #5111) , as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

STAFF ID	STUDENT ID
13144398	15361952
15306721	15114304
13499278	15286376

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Patrick Rock, to approve Second Step Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Curriculum for the 2021-2022 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Patrick Rock, seconded by Edward Kemp, to approve the PTA events at Meadow Breeze Park, in Washington Township, for the 2021-2022 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

E. PRINCIPALS’ REPORT

F. TECHNOLOGY REPORT

G. CORRESPONDENCE:

- Email from Melissa Stanneck
- Email from Courtney Ward
- Letter from Rebecca Whalen
- Email from Parent
- Letter from Board Attorney

H. COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Education Committee: 8/9/21 @ 7:00 p.m.

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Patrick Rock, to approve the Book and Media List for the 2021-2022 school year, (attachment #11), as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Facilities Committee: 8/10/21 @ 7:00 p.m.

Motion by Edward Kemp, seconded by Patrick Rock, to approve Delivery Service Agreement with Maschio’s Trucking, LLC to provide pickup and delivery of USDA Commodities, at a rate of \$164.95 per delivery, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Patrick Rock, seconded by Edward Kemp, to renew the school related activities transportation contract with Snyder Bus Services, Inc. for the 2021-2022 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Patrick Rock, to accept the following quotes for the Port Colden Drain Project (excavate and install trench drain at walkway in rear parking lot), as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

	Cedar Ridge	All Image Asphalt	Bob Viersma & Sons, Inc.	B. Pfenninger Paving & Escavating, LLC
Quote	\$8,385.00	\$9,750.00	\$14,610.00	\$17,200.00

Motion by Edward Kemp, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to award the contract for the Port Colden Drain Project (excavate and install trench drain at walkway in rear parking lot), to Cedar Ridge, in the amount of \$8,385.00, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Patrick Rock, seconded by Edward Kemp, to accept the following quotes for Window Shade Replacement at Brass Castle School, Port Colden School and the Old Schoolhouse, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

	Budget Blinds	BAILAR
Quote	\$42,433.00	\$48,180.20

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Patrick Rock, to award the contract for Window Shade Replacement at Brass Castle School, Port Colden School and the Old Schoolhouse, in the amount of \$42,433, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Edward Kemp, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to accept the following quotes for Pest Management Services for the Washington Township School District, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

	Western Pest Services	Ehrlich
Quote	\$1,500/yr.	\$1,740/yr.

Motion by Patrick Rock, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to award the contract for Pest Management Services for the Washington Township School district, in the amount of \$1,500/yr., as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Patrick Rock, to approve a change order for the Port Colden Schoolhouse Roof Replacement, in the amount of \$13,750.00 (install new roof sheathing), as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Finance Committee:

Personnel Committee:

Motion by Patrick Rock, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to approve the following substitute per diem rates, for the 2021-2022 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

TITLE	RATE
Teacher	\$ 95.00
Paraprofessional	\$ 90.00
Nurse – RN	\$200.00
Nurse – LPN	\$150.00

I. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION: (old and/or new business)

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

Scott and Colette Soletto

Colette Soletto asked what is Second Step Social Emotional Learning (SEL)? Administration responded noting that the curriculum will be posted on the website along with posted curriculum.

What is the difference between the PTA Meet & Greet social distancing and school activities? Board President responded that it's the parent's choice whether to attend.

Board President responded that the Governor's Executive Order 251 as of 08/9/2021 requires all students, educators, staff, and visitors will be required to wear face masks indoors for the start of the 2021-2022 school year.

Nicholas Riess

Nicholas Riess commented on the Governor's Executive Order, Mandates, Selective Information (Cases, Vaccines)

Heather Schott

Heather Schott questioned whether the board was sending a letter to the Governor requesting make wearing a mask a choice.

Nicholas Riess

Nicholas Riess questioned the board about their knowledge of the survival rate of the Flu and COVID19 and that COVID19 is the same as the flu. He commented on that the Board should write a letter to the Governor in support of parent choice to have student wear a mask.

Jamie VanDeMoere

Jamie VanDeMoere questioned about mask breaks, wearing a mask on bus when it is too hot, window open on the bus on a rainy day and student getting soaked, religious exemptions for vaccinations, and SEL.

Colette Soletto

Colette Soletto asked if teachers are coercing students into getting vaccinated. Administration responded no.

Nicolas Riess

Nicolas Riess commented about the shields and masks and that the Township of Washington, Warren County issued a resolution for no masks. Email was not received by Washington Township BOE.

Rebecca Clinebell-Port Colden Teacher

Rebecca Clinebell stated how much she loved the district and community; how difficult the prior year was and hoping it would be a normal school year.

Nicholas Riess

Nicolas Riess commented on the Township resolution. The board responded that we were not in receipt of the documents and requested that the email be forwarded to the Board Secretary.

Iveta Cassels

Iveta Cassels questioned why we are switching from Spanish to Sign language. Superintendent responded that NJ has a shortage of World Language teachers and opted to switch to sign language rather than going to an online option. The board responded that we had made offers to 2 different individuals and both declined.

J. EXECUTIVE SESSION - if required as indicated in items _____ below. - None

Motion by _____, seconded by _____, 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. 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: Time: _____

Motion by _____, seconded by _____, to return to open session.

MV: Time: _____

K. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Edward Kemp, to adjourn.

MV: unanimous, motion carried

Time: 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Flynn, Business Administrator/Board Secretary