

# WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

## REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, February 23, 2022

7:30 p.m.

### **Minutes of February 23, 2022**

Call to order by President

Time: 7:32p.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, February 18, 2022, to the Express Times and to the Clerk of Washington Township.

Members in attendance: Kristopher Eisner (remote), Edward Kemp, Vice-President, Jennifer Knittel, Kimberley Morris (7:35), Patrick Rock (remote), and Karen Graf, President. In addition, Keith Neuhs, Jean Flynn, Business Administrator and Jessica McDonagh, Principal.

Members absent: none

Flag Salute:

Motion by Edward Kemp, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to appoint Nick Riess to fill Board vacancy through December 31, 2022, upon completion of all legal requirements. MV: all voting yes, motion carried.

- Administering the Oath of Office to appointed Board Member. (Board Member will sign the Oath of Office).

Motion by Kimberley Morris, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to approve the minutes of January 3, 2022, as presented. MV: all voting yes, Riess and Rock abstained, motion carried.

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Edward Kemp, to approve the executive session minutes of January 3, 2022, as presented. MV: all voting yes, Riess and Rock abstained, motion carried.

### **B. PUBLIC QUESTIONS & DISCUSSIONS** (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 Kimberley Morris, to approve the Student Activity, Petty Cash, and Cafeteria Account Reports for the month ending December 31, 2021, as presented. MV: all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Kimberley Morris, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to approve the Board Secretary and Cash Reports for the month ending December 31, 2021, as presented. RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Morris, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, Riess 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 items 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.

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Edward Kemp, to approve the line item transfers, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Morris, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, Riess abstained, motion carried.

Motion by Edward Kemp, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to approve the Bills List for January 2022 and February 2022. RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Morris, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, Riess abstained, motion carried.

#### **D. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Motion by Kimberley Morris, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to accept, with regret, the resignation of Antoinette Standish, part-time paraprofessional and to waive the 14-day notice clause in contract, without setting precedence, effective January 28, 2022, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Morris, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, Riess abstained, motion carried.

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Edward Kemp, to approve Amanda Bastos, part-time Paraprofessional, Step 1, for the 2021-2022 school year, upon completion of employment requirements, salary to be \$13.60, hourly rate, effective, February 28, 2022, not to exceed 30 hours per week, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Morris, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, Riess abstained, motion carried.

Motion by Kimberley Morris, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to retroactively approve Megan Ordemann, part-time Social Worker, Step 2 MA, salary to be \$277.70/per diem, effective January 19, 2022 (employment requirements completed). The part-time Social Worker position will be funded by the CRRSA-CR Mental Health Grant and the ARP-NJTSS Mental Health Support Staff Grant, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Morris, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, Riess abstained, motion carried.

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Edward Kemp, to approve an FMLA medical leave of absence for employee #2100, effective April 28, 2022 through last day of school, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Morris, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, Riess abstained, motion carried.

Motion by Edward Kemp, seconded by Kimberley Morris, to approve the out-of-district experiences, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Morris, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, Riess abstained, motion carried.

Staff Member	Type of Travel/Workshop	Registration Fee	Dates	Mileage RT	Parking	Tolls	Lodging Costs	Meals
Rebecca Clinebell	Judge at FCCLA Education Competition	0	3/24/22	150	-	-	-	-

Stacie Paruta	PESI Kids Executive Function Mastery-Online Course	\$199.00	Self-paced	-	-	-	-	-
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Motion by Kimberley Morris, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to approve the 2022 Extended School Year Program, to operate at Brass Castle School, June 29 and June 30, 2022 and July 6 through July 29, 2022, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Morris, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, Riess abstained, motion carried.

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Edward Kemp, to approve the following Resolution/Waiver of Requirements, Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Morris, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, Riess abstained, motion carried.

Whereas, N.J.A.C 6A:23A-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district's participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2022-2023 school year, and;

Whereas, the Washington Township Board of Education currently has 23 Medicaid-Eligible/Special Education projected students for the 2022-2023 school year, the Board desires to request a SEMI waiver based on the 40 or fewer Medicaid-Eligible classified students;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Washington Township Board of Education hereby authorizes the Chief School Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent Schools in the County of Warren an appropriate waiver of the requirements of N.J.A.C 6A23A-5.3 for the 2022-2023 school year.

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Edward Kemp, that the Washington Township Board of Education hereby establishes the school district travel maximum, pursuant to N.J.A.C 6A:23A-7.3 for the 2022-2023 school year at the sum of \$35,000 and the School Business Administrator shall track and record these costs to insure that the maximum amount is not exceeded, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Morris, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, Riess abstained, motion carried.

Motion by Edward Kemp, seconded by Kimberley Morris, to approve the WTSD English Language Learners (ELLs) Three-Year Plan submission to the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE), as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Morris, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, Riess abstained, motion carried.

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Edward Kemp, to update the district's Safe Return to School Plan to reflect a mask optional school environment, beginning on March 7, 2022, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Morris, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, Riess abstained, motion carried.

Motion by Edward Kemp, seconded by Kimberley Morris, to approve the 6<sup>th</sup> grade environmental trip to Camp Bernie, Port Murray, NJ on Tuesday, May 31, 2022 and Wednesday, June 1, 2022, (non-overnight trip), as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Morris, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, Riess abstained, motion carried.

Motion by Kimberley Morris, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to award the Network IT Service Agreement, for the 2022-2023 school year, to the JDM Group, at \$62,000, (price reflects a 4% increase), as recommended by the Superintendent, RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Morris, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, Riess abstained, motion carried.

(Note: contract was bid and awarded through E-rate)

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Edward Kemp, to approve March 14, 2022 Board Meeting be rescheduled to March 21, 2022, due to the Governor changing release of state aid. MV: all voting yes, motion carried.

## F. CORRESPONDENCE

- . Letter from Antoinette Standish
- . Anonymous Letter

## G. COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Education:** - None

**Facilities:** - None

**Finance & Policy:** Finance meeting 1/31/22 @ 7:00 p.m.

**Personnel:** Personnel meeting 2/10/22 @ 7:00 p.m.

**H. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION** - old and/or new business - None

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

**I. EXECUTIVE SESSION** - if required as indicated in items a & c below.

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Edward Kemp, 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 by Federal Law, State Law, or Court Rule and Collective bargaining agreement. 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: 8:14 p.m.

Motion by Kimberley Morris, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to return to open session.

MV: unanimous, motion carried      Time: 8:20 p.m.

#### **J. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Edward Kemp, seconded by Kimberley Morris, to adjourn.

MV: unanimous, motion carried      Time: 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Flynn, Business Administrator/Board Secretary