

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

BOARD RE-ORGANIZATION AND REGULAR MEETING

Monday, January 2, 2023

7:30 p.m.

Minutes of January 2, 2023

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Edward Kemp, to appoint Jean Flynn, Board Secretary, as temporary chair to conduct election, as recommended by the Superintendent. Eisner, Graf, Kemp, Knittel and Rock, all voting yes, motion carried.

Call to order by Board Secretary

Time: 7:30 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 on January 13, 2022, to The Express Times and the Clerk of Washington Township.

Results of the Election held on November 8, 2022 were as follows:

Karen Graf -1,347

Kimberley Morris - 1,294

Nicholas Riess - 1172

Write-In Total – 65

(Karen Graf won write-in 1-year unexpired term and 3-year term - Selected 3-year term)

Administering the Oath of Office to the newly elected Board Members. (Newly elected Board Members sign the Oath of Office).

3 - Year Term

Karen Graf

Kimberley Morris-absent

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

Members absent: Kimberley Morris

Flag Salute:

B. RE-ORGANIZATION MOTIONS

Board Secretary requests nominations for President.

Edward Kemp nominated Karen Graf, for President. Are there any other nominations?

(Following the close of nominations.) RCV: Eisner, Graf, Kemp, Knittel and Rock all voting yes, motion carried.

C. NEWLY ELECTED PRESIDENT ASSUMES CHAIR

President requests nominations for Vice-President.

Patrick Rock nominated Edward Kemp, for Vice-President. Are there any other nominations? (Following the close of nominations.) RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

D. CODE OF ETHICS FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS: Review

Board will review New Jersey School Board Member Code of Ethics (board members sign acknowledgement of receipt of File Code 9271). (Please sign and return to Board Secretary).

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Edward Kemp, to adopt the following 2023-2024 calendar of board meetings for the Washington Township Board of Education: RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

REGULAR MEETINGS FOR 2023-2024

January 2, 2023	(Monday) Board Reorganization/Public Hearing on School Safety Report
February 13, 2023	
March 13, 2023	
April 24, 2023	Public Hearing on Budget
May 8, 2023	2023-2024 Annual School Appointments and Adoptions
June 12, 2023	
July 10, 2023	Public Hearing on School Safety Report
August 21, 2023	
September 11, 2023	
October 2, 2023	Public Hearing on Nursing Services Plan
November 13, 2023	Public Hearing on Audit
December 11, 2023	
January 3, 2024	(Wednesday Board Reorganization/Regular/Public Hearing on School Safety Report

Board President appointed Jennifer Knittel and Karen Graf, alternate, as Delegate to the New Jersey School Boards Association.

Board President appointed Karen Graf and Jennifer Knittel, alternate, to the Warren County School Boards Association.

Board President appointed Patrick Rock, as Legislative delegate.

E. INTRODUCTION/INTERVIEWS

Candidates for open board seat:

- Amie Beyrent
- Stefana Niemo
- Nicholas Riess

Motion by Edward Kemp, seconded by Patrick Rock, to approve the minutes of December 12, 2022, as presented. MV: all voting yes, Eisner abstained, motion carried.

Motion by Patrick Rock, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to approve the executive session minutes of December 12, 2022, as presented. MV: all voting yes, Eisner abstained, motion carried.

F. PUBLIC HEARING

SCHOOL SAFETY REPORT

As per Public Law 6A:16-5.3, each school district shall report incidents of violence, vandalism, weapons, substance abuse and HIB two times per year. Those incidents shall also be reported between September 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022, to the NJ Department of Education via the department's Student Safety Data System.

- 0 - Violence, vandalism, substance abuse or weapons reports
- 1 - Confirmed HIB
- 2 – HIB Investigations

As reported to the Department of Education, there were zero incidents of violence, vandalism, weapons, substance abuse, during the 2022-2023 school year for the period ending December 31, 2022.

There was one confirmed HIB during the 2022-2023 school year for the period ending December 31, 2022.

Motion by Kristopher Eisner, seconded by Edward Kemp, to accept the Bi-Annual Student Safety Data Report, dated December 31, 2022, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

G. PUBLIC QUESTIONS & DISCUSSIONS (agenda Items)

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

H. SECRETARY'S REPORT

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Kristopher Eisner, to approve the Student Activity and Cafeteria Account Reports, as presented. MV: all voting yes, motion carried.

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

Motion by Kristopher Eisner, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to approve the Bills List for December 2022. MV: all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Patrick Rock, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to approve the Board Secretary's and Cash Reports for the month ending November 30, 2022, as presented. RCV: Eisner, 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.

I. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Patrick Rock, to approve the following substitutes for the 2022-2023 school year, pending completion of employment requirements, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

- Jessica DeSanto-Teacher/Paraprofessional
- Megan Ordemann-Teacher/Paraprofessional

Motion by Edward Kemp, seconded by Patrick Rock, to approve the following home instructor, for student #15010756, from December 16, 2022 through January 31, 2023, not to exceed 10 hrs./wk., as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

- Christine Drevitch

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Edward Kemp, to approve the following formal mentor for the 2022-2023 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

FORMAL MENTOR	STAFF MEMBER
Stacie Paruta	Melanie Ward

Motion by Edward Kemp, seconded by Kristopher Eisner, to approve Jessica Garcia, Brass Castle School Principal, as mentor for Erin Porter, for Supervisory Internship in Spring semester – January 2, 2023 through April 23, 2023, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Patrick Rock, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to approve the following field trip for the 2022-2023 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

(All students will be transported in school buses unless their destination is New York City, Philadelphia or beyond 50 miles or otherwise noted. Parents/guardians are responsible for all fees and transportation costs).

Grade	Destination
6	Warren Hills Regional HS – Performing Arts Presentation/Fine Arts Film Tour

Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Edward Kemp, to approve Nathanya G. Simon, as Board Counsel, for 2023-2024, with the firm of Scarinci Hollenbeck, at the hourly rate of \$170.00 (one hundred seventy dollars) for General, special education, construction, and litigation matters, handled by partners and counsel; and at the hourly rate of \$160.00 (one hundred sixty dollars) for matters handled by Associates. Paralegals and law clerks shall be billed at the hourly rate of \$116.73 (one hundred sixteen and 73/100 dollars), as of recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Edward Kemp, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to approve the updated American Rescue Plan (ARP) - Safe Return Plan, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Motion by Kristopher Eisner, seconded by Edward Kemp, to accept, with regret, the resignation of Jordan Delicato, Teacher, effective February 23, 2023, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

J. PRINCIPALS' REPORT

K. CORRESPONDENCE

- . Letter from Jordan Delicato

L. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education: None

Facilities: None

Motion by Kristopher Eisner, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to accept the following quotes for replacement and installation of a Vulcan Heated Holding/Transport Institutional Cabinet, at Brass Castle School, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Chef's Corner	\$5,190.00
Culinary Depot	\$4,914.50
Map International (ESCNJ)	\$5,020.00
Sam Tell Companies	\$8,798.00

Motion by Edward Kemp, seconded by Patrick Rock, to award the contract for replacement and installation of a Vulcan Heated Holding/Transport Institutional Cabinet, at Brass Castle School, to Culinary Depot, in the amount of \$4,914.50, as recommended by the Superintendent. RCV: Eisner, Kemp, Knittel, Rock and Graf, all voting yes, motion carried.

Finance: None

Personnel: None

M. 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.)

N. EXECUTIVE SESSION - if required as indicated in items b & g below:

Motion by Kristopher Eisner, 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 Individual privacy and pending or anticipated litigation. 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: 8:13 p.m.

Motion by Kristopher Eisner, seconded by Edward Kemp, to return to open session.

MV: unanimous, motion carried

Time: 8:48 p.m.

Motion by Kristopher Eisner, seconded by Patrick Rock to appoint Nick Riess, as a Board Member at the February 13, 2023, Board of Education Meeting (upon completion of criminal history check). MV: all voting yes, Kemp and Knittel, voting no, motion carried.

O. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Patrick Rock, seconded by Edward Kemp, to adjourn.

MV: unanimous, motion carried

Time: 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Flynn, Business Administrator/Board Secretary