

***EAST WINDSOR REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHTSTOWN, NJ 08520***

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OCTOBER 13, 2008**

The Board of Education of the East Windsor Regional School District held a regular meeting on Monday, October 13, 2008 at the Hightstown High School cafeteria.

ITEM 1: WELCOME

Board President Alice Weisman called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. and read the Open Public Meeting Act Statement as follows:

“Written advance notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with law. Minutes of this meeting are being kept by the Board Secretary and will be made available promptly to any member of the public requesting them from the Board Secretary at the Administration building 25A Leshin Lane, Hightstown, NJ. Minutes will be provided at cost and in accordance with Board policy.”

Ms. Weisman asked “Are there any Board members present who believe this meeting to be in violation of the Open Public Meeting Act?” No one objected. “There being none, we may proceed.”

Members Present: Stuart Dolgon, Bruce Ettman, Bonnie Fayer, James Hauck, Robert Laverty, Susan Lloyd, Kennedy Paul, Alice Weisman.

Members Absent: Suzann Fallon

Also Present: Ronald Bolandi, Chief School Administrator;
Kurt Stumbaugh, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
David Coates, Board Legal Counsel.

Fire Code Compliance: The Board president made the following announcement: “In compliance with the fire code of the State of New Jersey, I call your attention to the emergency exit for this room, which is located.....” (Ms. Weisman pointed to the emergency exit.)

ITEM 2: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board president asked those present to join in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ITEM 3A: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Having read the material received Mr. Laverty moved, seconded by Mr. Paul to approve the agenda.

On a roll call vote, members voting yes: Mr. Dolgon, Mr. Ettman, Ms. Fayer, Mr. Hauck, Mr. Laverty, Ms. Lloyd, Mr. Paul, and Ms. Weisman. Members voting no: none.

Members abstaining: none. Motion was carried unanimously.

ITEM 3B: RESOLUTION FOR CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Lavery moved, seconded by Mr. Paul, to approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the East Windsor Regional School District will hold a closed session during its regular meeting on October 13, 2008. This closed session concerns:

1. Personnel Matters
2. Contract Negotiations
3. Litigation

Minutes of this closed session will be available in accordance with Board policy when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

On a roll call vote, members voting yes: Mr. Dolgon, Mr. Ettman, Ms. Fayer, Mr. Hauck, Ms. Lloyd, Mr. Lavery, Mr. Paul, and Ms. Weisman. Members voting no: none.

Members abstaining: none. Motion was carried unanimously.

ITEM 4. CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR'S PRESENTATION & PUBLIC HEARING ON VIOLENCE AND VANDALISM DATA FOR 07-08 SCHOOL YEAR

Superintendent Bolandi opened the public hearing on violence and vandalism for the 07-08 school year. The data was presented. The additional events are attributable to the serious no tolerance effort on bullying. The increased incidents drive up our numbers. Suspensions for bullying went up from 49 to 109. Vandalism from 15 to 16.

There were no significant changes in the numbers except those related to the bullying, harassment and intimidation. Mr. Bolandi supports the enhanced enforcement of the stricter policies.

Board President, Ms. Weisman asked for Board member comments - there were none.

Ms. Weisman asked for public comments - there were none.

No dialogue transpired regarding Superintendent Bolandi's presentation.

Mr. Lavery moved seconded by Ms. Fayer to accept and approve the data regarding violence, vandalism for the 07-08 school year.

On a roll call vote, members voting yes: Mr. Dolgon, Mr. Ettman, Ms. Fayer, Mr. Hauck, Ms. Lloyd, Mr. Lavery, Mr. Paul, and Ms. Weisman. Members voting no: none.

Members abstaining: none. Motion was carried unanimously.

ITEM 5: AUTHORIZE THE ADMINISTRATION TO SUBMIT THE ANNUAL DISTRICT REPORT OF VIOLENCE AND VANDALISM (EVVRS) FOR 07-08 SCHOOL YEAR.

Mr. Lavery moved seconded by Mr. Paul to approve the submittal of the EVVR report. for the 07-08 school year to the New Jersey Department of Education.

On a roll call vote, members voting yes: Mr. Dolgon, Mr. Ettman, Ms. Fayer, Mr. Hauck, Ms. Lloyd, Mr. Lavery, Mr. Paul, and Ms. Weisman. Members voting no: none.

Members abstaining: none. Motion was carried unanimously.

ITEM 6: SECOND READING OF BOARD POLICIES

- A. Policy #5460 High School Graduation
- B. Policy #9541 Student Teacher /Interns

Ms. Adubato presented the second reading of Board Policies.

Mr. Ettman commented on the HS graduation policy, and requested clarification of paragraph two, the recommended wording on the mandated policy.

Mr. Ettman asked for a definition of terms. Mr. Dzwonar, Assistant Superintendent, gave the definition of an integrated or career based format.

Mr. Lavery moved seconded by Mr. Paul, to approve Policies: #5460 and #9541 as submitted.

On a roll call vote, members voting yes: Mr. Dolgon, Mr. Ettman, Ms. Fayer, Mr. Hauck, Ms. Lloyd, Mr. Lavery, Mr. Paul, and Ms. Weisman. Members voting no: none.

Members abstaining: none. Motion was carried unanimously.

ITEM 7. DISCUSSION – MANDATED POLICIES AND BYLAWS: LANGUAGE

The Board discussed the insertion of a qualifying statement that indicates the Board is adopting mandated policies with mandated language. The Board of Education feels their autonomy and authority has been co-opted by micro managing by the State. Mr. Coates drafted a statement addressing these concerns.

Mr. Ettman added the comment that a one time statement be included in the policy manual.

Mr. Dolgon asked for the state's rationale for the wording. The CSA indicated many of the policy revisions and updates are resulting from new QSAC and accountability laws.

Ms. Fayer commented that this is a matter to be addressed at a state wide level with the assistance of the NJ SBA. A resolution could be passed by the Board and taken to the delegate assembly. There would be more impact with more School Boards and the NJSBA on board.

At the next meeting the Board will introduce a resolution regarding the mandated policy language.

ITEM 8: ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Kreps school principal, Ms. Avis Leverett, gave a detailed presentation on Rowan University Social Norms initiative explaining its research applications and proactive prevention.
- The lightning strike at Kreps was updated. This summertime incident has been investigated, and confirmed to be a lightning strike, and damage has been remediated. Operations were not affected.
- Poster contest winners were detailed. The District had several winners in the poster contest from Mercer County.

ITEM 9: FIRST PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ITEM 10: FIRST BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

ITEM 11. FIRST EXECUTIVE SESSION

Removed from agenda at meeting.

ITEM 12. MOTION TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEMS BY EXCEPTION

- A. Staffing
- B. Emergent Hiring
- C. Out of District Placement
- D. Travel Related Expenses
- E. Approve the NJ State Approved SES Provider List

- F. Winter Sports Schedules
 - 1. Hightstown High School
 - 2. Kreps Middle School
- G. Donations to HHS
 - 1. Meisel E-Fusion Bass
 - 2. Items for the Art Department
 - 3. Bristol-Myers Squibb to HHS First Robotics Team
- H. Field Trip Approvals
- I. Volunteers
- J. Rowan University Social Norms Report from M.H. Kreps School
- K. Student Admission to Hamilton Township Adult High School
- L. Approve Consultant Agreement for Dr. David Abalos
- M. Approve Consultant Agreement for Thomas Edison State College
- N. Approve Music Curricula and Syllabus
- O. Resolution: Joint Transportation Agreements
 - A. West Windsor Plainsboro School District
 - B. Roosevelt Public School District.
- P. Debt Service Aid Adjustment
- Q. NJ School Boards Convention 2008 – Update
- R. Designation of Provider for Security Related Equipment & Services
- S. Purchase of Security Related Equipment & Services
- T. Non-Public Aid: Shalom Torah Academy
 - Better Beginnings Child Development Center
 - Peddie School
- U. Approval of Minutes: September 22, 2008
- V. Transfer Report: August 2008
- W. Bill List
- X. Board Secretary and Treasurer’s Report – August 2008

A. Staffing with addendum: as submitted

B. Authorization for Emergent Hiring Pending Completion of Criminal History Background Check

It is recommended that the Board approve the submission of applications for emergent hiring pending completion of the criminal history background check to the County Superintendent for the following individual(s):

Oscar W. Robles	Middle School Bilingual Teacher
Eladio Reyes	Middle School Bilingual Teacher

C. OUT OF DISTRICT PLACEMENT

Approval is requested for the following placements:

High Point School: Tuition 9/10/08 – 6/30/09	
Student # 201055	Reg. \$61,686.00
MCSSD: Tuition 9/18/ 2008 through 6/30/09	
Student: #402126	Reg. \$38,912.00
Student # 839478	Reg. \$38,912.00

D. EMPLOYEE TRAVEL AND RELATED EXPENSES

Approval is requested for staff travel expenses as submitted.

E. APPROVE THE NJ STATE APPROVED SES PROVIDER LIST

Board approval is requested for the NJ State Approved Supplement Supplemental Educational Services Provider list for 2008-09 as submitted. Since Kreps Middle School has been determined a “School in Need of Improvement” according to the NCLB Accountability mandates, the District has to officer supplemental educational services in order to supplement instruction for these “at risk” students. This provider list is included along with other documentation in a mailing to go out to the parents/guardians of these students on October 14, 2008.

F. WINTER SPORTS 2008-09

Approval is requested of the HHS and Kreps Winter Sports Schedules as submitted.

G.1. MEISEL E-FUSION BASS TO HIGHTSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

Board approval is requested for the following: Ms. Alexandra Strauss of Hightstown, NJ would like to donate a Meisel E-Fusion Bass to the Music Department of HHS.

G.2. DONATION TO ART DEPARTMENT OF HIGHTSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

Board approval is requested for the following: Ms. Virginia Nardino would like to donate the following items to the Art Department of HHS:

3 light weight shelving units

1 card table

1 light weight cart

1 step stool (2 steps)

G.3. BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB DONATION TO HHS

Board approval is requested for the following: Ms. Sandra Jackson, the Charitable Giving Administrator of Bristol-Myers Squibb has arranged a \$15,000. donation to the FIRST Robotics Team of Hightstown High School.

H. FIELD TRIPS

Board approval is requested for field trips planned for the Ethel McKnight School, Melvin H. Kreps School, Walter C. Black School as submitted.

I. VOLUNTEERS

The Board of Education approves all volunteers who serve in the East Windsor Regional School District. Approval is requested for the volunteers for the Grace N. Rogers School, Perry L. Drew School, and the Ethel McKnight School as submitted.

J. ROWAN UNIVERSITY SOCIAL NORMS PROJECT

Board approval is requested for the following: The Melvin H. Kreps Middle School would like to apply to the NJDOE Rowan University Social Norms Project. It is a two year initiative that explores the Social Norms Theory which is a proactive prevention program. If accepted, the school would receive \$2500 to use over the 2 years in order to implement the program.

K. STUDENT ADMISSION TO HAMILTON TWP ADULT HS

Students attending HHS may request to attend the Hamilton Township adult Accredited High School Program for the purpose of attaining credits to graduate this school year. Board approval is requested for student M.V. #1010309.

L. APPROVAL OF CONSULTANT: Dr. David T. Abalos

Approval is requested for the submitted Consultant agreement for Dr. David T. Abalos who will provide professional development for Better Beginnings, a non public school who is receiving NCLB Title 1 funding. This contract will be charged against those Title 1 funds.

M. APPROVE CONSULTANT FOR THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE

Approval is requested for the attached Consultant agreement for Thomas Edison College, John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy, who will provide professional development for Better Beginnings, a non public school who is receiving NCLB Title 1 finding. This contract will be charged against those Title 1 funds.

N. MUSIC CURRICULA AND SYLLABUS

Approval is requested for the music curricula and syllabus which is available for review on the District Sharepoint Website.

O.- A. RESOLUTION: JOINT TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT WITH WEST WINDSOR-PLAINSBORO SCHOOL DISTRICT

BE IT RESOLVED that the East Windsor Regional Schools Board of Education approve the following joint transportation agreement for the 2008-09 school year with the West Windsor-Plainsboro School District.

East Windsor will be the “Joiner District” for the following route:

Route #	East Windsor Students	School	Per Diem Cost	# of Days	Total
HCH2	2	HUN	\$8.19	160	\$ 1,340.40

O. -B -RESOLUTION: JOINT TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENTS WITH ROOSEVELT PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Roosevelt Public School District is requesting an agreement with the EWRSD to provide transportation for its 7th through 12th grade students.

BE IT RESOLVED that the East Windsor Regional Schools Board of Education approve the following joint transportation agreements for the 2008-09 school year with the Roosevelt Public School District.

East Windsor will be the “Host District” for the following routes:

Route #	JOINER DISTRICT	East Windsor Students	School	Per Diem Cost	# of Days	Total
136A	2	25	Sypek/Assun Pink VO-TECH	\$30.00	180	\$ 5,400.00
KLR5	10	30	KREPS	\$30.00	170	\$ 5,100.00
HLR5	15	35	Hightstown HS	\$60.00	180	\$10,800.00

P. DEBT SERVICE AID ADJUSTMENT

A revised debt service aid amount of \$176,334.00 has been received from the State for the 07-08 year. Board action is required to accurately memorialize this change and record the revision in the general ledger for 07-08 as follows: A decrease to debt service aid account 40-3160-000-0 from 194,342.00 to 176,334.00 and an increase to budgeted fund balance account 40-303 from 102,703.00 to 120,721.00.

Q. NJ SCHOOL BOARDS CONVENTION - 2008

Every year administrators and school board members are invited to attend the annual New Jersey School Boards Convention held in Atlantic City, NJ. This year the convention is October 28, 29, & 30, 2008. The following Board members: Susan Lloyd and Kennedy Paul will be added to the list of attendees already Board approved to attend the convention. It is recommended that the Board approve the above named Board members to attend the 2008 NJ School Boards Convention/Workshop in Atlantic City as submitted.

R. DESIGNATION OF PROVIDER FOR SECURITY RELATED EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES

The District currently has identified a need for additional security related equipment and services throughout the district. There are concerns related to allowing site inspections of our existing security related infrastructure and it is advisable to consider the designation of a sole source provider for this equipment and services.

It is recommended that the Board authorize our existing provider as the sole source for security related equipment and services for the 2008-09 year by resolution.

RESOLUTION

Whereas, the District has extensive current installation of security related equipment from our existing provider Sonitrol Security of Central NJ, Inc. (Sonitrol), and

Whereas, the District receives ongoing maintenance and support for this equipment from Sonitrol, and

Whereas, there is limited financial incentives to seek open public bidding since the installation is governed by the prevailing wage laws, and

Whereas, there is a legitimate concern that District security could be compromised by allowing site inspections of our security related infrastructure as a part of open public bidding, now

Therefore, the Board resolves to designate the firm of Sonitrol Security of Central New Jersey, Inc. as our sole source for security related equipment and related services for the 2008-09 school year.

S. PURCHASE OF SECURITY RELATED EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES

The District currently has identified a need for additional security related equipment and services at the Black, Rogers and McKnight schools.

It is recommended that the Board authorize the purchase of security related equipment, installation and services from our existing provider (Sonitrol) as a sole source purchase, as submitted.

T. NON-PUBLIC AID

Textbook Materials; Technology; Nursing Services:

- **Shalom Torah Academy, East Windsor, NJ**
- **Better Beginnings Child Development Center, Hightstown, NJ**
- **The Peddie School, Hightstown, NJ**

The New Jersey Non-Public School Initiative Program requires each Local Education Agency to verify its participation in this program each year. The District will assist as per this program to facilitate the acquisition of technology, textbooks, and nursing services to the Shalom Torah Academy, and Better Beginnings Child Development Center and the Peddie School.

U. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: SEPTEMBER 22, 2008

It is recommended that the Board approve the minutes of the September 22, 2008 regular meeting as submitted. (Copy on file in Board Secretary's office and on District website).

V. TRANSFER REPORT FOR AUGUST 2008

The East Windsor Regional School District submits to the County School Business Administrator an updated report of budget transfers and changes in revenue and appropriations on a monthly basis. That the Board review and approve the budget transfers as attached and after review of the attached document, and the secretary's monthly financial report, and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of its knowledge the Board certifies that no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11, I certify that as of August 31, 2008 no budgetary line item account has been over expended.

- Kurt Stumbaugh, Board Secretary

W. ORDERS OF PAYMENT/BILL LIST

It is recommended that the Board approve the attached bill list for \$1,546,008.77 as submitted.

X. BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT & TREASURER'S REPORT: AUGUST, 2008

The revised Board Secretary's and Treasurer's report are submitted for Board approval.

The Board Secretary's report is in agreement with the Treasurer of School Monies report for the period ending August 31, 2008. Board approval is recommended for these reports as submitted.

Mr. Lavery moved, seconded by Ms. Lloyd to approve the routine exception items listed above as submitted. (Copies of these agenda items are available for review in the Secretary's office).

On a roll call vote, members voting yes: Mr. Dolgon, Mr. Ettman, Ms. Fayer, Mr. Hauck, Ms. Lloyd, Mr. Lavery, Mr. Paul, and Ms. Weisman. Members voting no: none.

Members abstaining: none. Motion was carried unanimously.

13. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

14. SECOND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board went into closed session.

16. OPEN SESSION

17. ADJOURN

Kurt Stumbaugh, Board Secretary