

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

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

DATE: JANUARY 11, 2010

The Board of Education of the East Windsor Regional School District held a Regular meeting on Monday, January 11, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. in the Hightstown High School cafeteria.

ITEM 1. WELCOME

Board President Alice Weisman called the meeting to order at 7:30 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: Paul Connolly, Stuart Dolgon, Bruce Ettman (arrived 7:58 p.m.), Suzann Fallon, Bonnie Fayer (arrived 7:40 p.m.) Bob Lavery Susan Lloyd, Kennedy Paul and Alice Weisman.

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Dr. Thomas F. Butler, Interim Superintendent
Kurt Stumbaugh, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
David Coates, Board Legal Counsel

Fire Code Compliance: Ms. Weisman 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 3.A APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Having read the material received, Mr. Lavery moved, seconded by Mr. Paul, to approve the agenda. On a roll call vote, the motion to approve was carried unanimously.

ITEM 3.B 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 January 11, 2010.

This closed session concerns: Personnel Matters, Litigation, Contract Matters & Attorney Client Privilege. 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, the motion to approve was carried unanimously.

ITEM 4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Butler thanked the Board for his appointment to the East Windsor School District as Interim Superintendent. He commented that he has visited all the buildings, including the Roosevelt school, and attended school events. He plans to meet with the parent groups this week. Dr. Butler also thanked the administrative staff for the great job transitioning him to the District. He commented that the new principals at the Kreps school, Ms. Lori Stein, and the Drew School, Ms. Michele Corsi, had a smooth transition to their new positions. Dr. Butler also spoke about the grant program – “Race to the Top”. An update was given and more information will follow on this federal stimulus grant.

ITEM 5. DESIGNATION OF BENECARD FOR PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT PLAN

The District currently has negotiated through its benefits consultant, Willis HRH, to obtain an equal to or better prescription drug plan from Benecard Services. It is recommended that the Board approve Benecard as the District prescription drug plan provider effective March 1, 2010.

ITEM 6. FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Christine Harrington, of East Windsor, gave out packets of information which focused on the essential skills of reading, writing and critical thinking. Dr. Harrington presented research that supports a strong phonics program. The District’s lack of reading specialists is a concern. Feels professional development in the District should use outside providers more.

ITEM 7. FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBERS COMMENTS

Mr. Dolgon mentioned that former Board member; Jim Hauck, had told him that Dr. Butler also served in Mr. Hauck’s district as an interim superintendent.

Mr. Laverty commented that he supports the Race to the Top initiative. The District currently performs many elements of the model and the grant application is prudent. On another note, Mr. Laverty suggested that the District research the feasibility of having a Facebook account.

Ms. Weisman commented that it makes no sense for the District to not participate (Facebook). We already do many of the elements. Ms. Weisman also spoke about the HHS orientation. The band sounded wonderful. She officially welcomed Dr. Butler to the District. Ms. Weisman also expressed profound gratitude to Mr. Bolandi for his many significant contributions the District and said we all wish him well.

Mr. Connolly supports the aspect of using technology to communicate on current issues. Many times the print media is lagging.

Mr. Dolgon commented that Facebook is a good vehicle to publicize current activities.

ITEM 8. MOTION TO APROVE ROUTINE ITEMS BY EXCEPTION

- A. Staffing
- B. Emergent Hiring
- C. Travel Related Expenses
- D. Approve the Offering of New Courses at HHS
- E. Out of District Placement
- F. Professional Services for Students
- G. Field Trips
- H. Volunteers
- I. Approval of Non-Paid Club at HHS
- J. Approval of Minutes – December 14, 2009
- K. Employee Mileage Reimbursement
- L. Award of Bids: Truck King International
- M. Board Secretary’s Report – November, 2009
- N. Treasurer’s Report – November, 2009
- O. Transfer Report – November, 2009
- P. Bill List – January 11, 2010

8.A STAFFING

As submitted

8.B EMERGENT HIRING

Move that the Board of Education approve the submission of applications for emergent hiring pending completion of the criminal history background check to the County Superintendent for the following individuals(s):

Dr. Thomas Butler	Interim Superintendent
Sandra Gomez	School Social Worker
Angela Rocchietti	Health Aide
Barbara Rogers	Teacher
Corey Schrier	School Nurse
Kelly Webster	School Counselor

8.C TRAVEL RELATED EXPENSES

ATTENDEE	LOCATION	DATE OF CONFERENCE	CONFERENCE ATTENDING	TOTAL	YTD TOTAL
					\$17,713
T. Kalick	HHS	Feb. 25, Feb. 27, 2010	Soccer Champions Coaches Clinic - Soccer Coaches Clinic - Mohegan Sun Convention Center	\$159.00	
M. Friedman	HHS	Feb. 25 - Feb. 27, 2010	Soccer Champions Coaches Clinic - Soccer Coaches Clinic - Mohegan Sun Convention Center	\$159.00	
S. Camuto	EMK	April 30, 2010	Libraries Unlimited Winners-A Closer Look at the Year's 100 Best Books for Children K-6, Edison , NJ	\$179.00	
T. Halsey	PLD	March 4-5,2010	NJAGC/NJ Assoc for Gifted Children - 19th Annual Conference for the Gifted Learner	\$280.00	
A. Polanski	EMK	March 4-5,2010	NJAGC/NJ Assoc for Gifted Children - 19th Annual Conference for the Gifted Learner	\$280.00	
D. Feaster	Admin	March 4, 2010	NJAGC/NJ Assoc for Gifted Children - 19th Annual Conference for the Gifted Learner	\$167.00	
D. Nemeth	Admin	March 4, 2010	NJAGC/NJ Assoc for Gifted Children - 19th Annual Conference for the Gifted Learner	\$167.00	
G. Parker	Admin	March 4, 2010	NJAGC/NJ Assoc for Gifted Children - 19th Annual Conference for the Gifted Learner	\$167.00	
T.Mahon	WCB	January 25, 2010	NJASPERD - Annual Convention, Ocean Place Resort, Long Branch, NJ	\$60.00	
D. Feaster	Admin.	February 23, 2010- February 24, 2010	Kean University Differentiation of Instruction Workshop	\$250	
D. Nemeth	Admin.	February 23, & 24, 2010	Kean University Differentiation of Instruction Workshop	\$250.00	
G. Parker	Admin	February 23, & 24, 2010	Kean University Differentiation of Instruction Workshop	\$250.00	

Regular Meeting of the EWRSB Board of Education January 11, 2010

T. Thompson	Business Office	January 13, 2010	NJ Assoc. of School Business Officials - "The Ins & Outs of Purchasing by State Contracts - NJASBO - Robbinsville	\$100.00	
M. Dzwonar	Admin.	January 28, 2010	NJASA Techsbo 2010 @ Bally's Atlantic City	\$199.00	
M. Svoboda	Admin.	January 28, 2010	NJASA Techsbo 2010 @ Bally's Atlantic City	\$199.00	
M. Griffin	Admin.	January 28, 2010	NJASA Techsbo 2010 @ Bally's Atlantic City	\$199.00	
K. Akey	Admin.	January 29, 2010	NJASA Techsbo 2010 @ Bally's Atlantic City	\$199.00	
M.Beckman	Stu.Services	January 28-29, 2010	NJASA Techsbo 2010 @ Bally's Atlantic City	\$349.00	
L.Inglisa	Stu. Services	January 29, 2010	NJASA Techsbo 2010 @ Bally's Atlantic City	\$199.00	
H. Horowitz	HHS	February 19,2010	NJME "Music! Just Imagine...Hilton, East Brunswick	\$130.00	
C. Ernst	HHS	February 19, 2010	NJME "Music! Just Imagine...Hilton, East Brunswick	\$130.00	
J. Toomey	HHS	February 19, 2010	NJME "Music! Just Imagine...Hilton, East Brunswick	\$130.00	
C. Anzuini	HHS	February 19, 2010	NJME "Music! Just Imagine...Hilton, East Brunswick	\$130.00	
J. Albertson, G. Dilts, W.McGovern, J.Cavanaugh, G. Dilts III, R. Sexton, W. Sweeney	Building & Grounds	February 4, 2010	National Asbestos Environment Training Institute, Refresher Course for O&M and VAT	\$825.00	
Michael Dzwonar	Admin.	February 4, 2010	NJASA "Special Education: Issues, Action & Promising Practices" Crowne Plaza, Monroe Township	\$120.00	
Tekelah Sherrod	Student Services	February 12, 2010	McAdse/NJDDOE- Monmouth - "Section 504, The ADA, and Public Schools: Update on Compliance Issues	\$25.00	
Tekelah Sherrod	Student Services	February 24, 2010	NJILE NJ Continuing Legal Ed - 2010 School Law Conference @ Pines Manor, Edison	\$185.00	
Mark Beckman	Student Services	February 24, 2010	NJILE NJ Continuing Legal Ed - 2010 School Law Conference @ Pines Manor, Edison	\$185.00	
Tekelah Sherrod	Student Services	March 23, 2010	National Business Institute - "Student Privacy: The Top 4 Hot Button Legal Issues"	\$289.00	
Becky Wiley, Pam Schad	GNR	March 12, 2010	MEDS-PDN Inc." ADHD, Aspergers, OCD and Torettes, Princeton, NJ	\$338.00	
				\$6,299.00	\$17,713.00

8.D APPROVE THE OFFERING OF NEW COURSES AT HHS (on SharePoint)

Board approval is recommended for the following on-line courses:

Film Studies: Story & Structure to be offered in the spring of 2010 and the courses

Music Production, Songwriting,

Musical Theatre

Foundations in Algebra to be offered in the 2010-2011 school year at HHS.

- Curriculum will be developed after minimum enrollment has been secured.

Course Descriptions

Film Studies: Story & Structure

This on-line elective course will explore and analyze how different film genre use many of the same archetypal stories and characters to explore the human condition, entertain the audience, and reveal cultural assumptions, attitudes, and mores. Course content will be provided through readings, web sites, PowerPoint presentations, Podcasts and Discussion Boards. The first three weeks of the class will immerse students in learning the vocabulary of film, understanding story structure and form, reading film criticism and critiques, learning how to write a movie review and reading screen plays. Students will continue their study in 3 – 4 week “units.” Working in groups, students will select a film genre, view 3 - 4 examples from that genre and analyze aspects of the films such as story structure, characterization, film production, scoring, and cultural assumptions, attitudes and mores. Formal presentations will be submitted as text documents or Podcasts which reflect the consensus of the group.

Music Production

Students will develop understanding of the basics of sound engineering including editing, mixing and recording. Students will demonstrate skills by using specialized software (Protools, Garageband, Logic) to learn how to create original soundtracks for musical compositions, jingles, morning announcements, radio spots, as well as educational material.

Songwriting

Students will develop an understanding of song forms, songwriting techniques, and vocal technique. Class will creatively explore a multitude of genres and writing styles. The relationship of prose, rhyme scheme, metaphor and songwriting will be covered. Students will demonstrate their knowledge via various performance opportunities. (“Open Mic” night.)

Musical Theatre

In this course, students will gain a working knowledge of the development of musical theatre through studying various styles of musical theatre. Students will participate in performing scenes and musical numbers from various Broadway shows and perform in a one act musical. Also, students will learn about the various careers that are involved in musical theatre production.

Foundations in Algebra

This course takes the place of Standard Algebra 1 for freshmen.
Pre-Requisite: Partially Proficient on the NJ ASK 8 Mathematics section

Students in Algebra 1 are now required to pass an End-of-Course Algebra 1 Assessment (State Test) to be eligible for graduation. This course is geared for those students who are lacking some basic mathematical skills required for success in high school mathematics courses as well as real life applications.

8.E OUT OF DISTRICT PLACEMENT

Approval is recommended for the following student placements in Private & Public Schools.

The Rugby School

Tuition December 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010

1. Student	#600796	Reg.	\$62,571.60
2. Student	#600231	Reg.	\$62,571.60 (revised)

MCSSSD

Tuition January 1, 2010 through June 30, 2010

1. Student	#501035	Reg.	\$24,280.00
2. Student	#602932	Reg.	\$22,589.40(revised)

The Newgrange School of Princeton, Inc.

Tuition December 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010

1. Student	#600765	Reg.	\$31,159.70
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8.F PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

The special education department requires services of consultants to provide children with disabilities a free appropriate public education as defined by The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Board approval is recommended for the following consultants for the 09-10 school year.

Name	Type of Service	Rate
Bucks County Intermediate Unit#22	Bedside Instruction	\$45.00
Dr. Dorothy Pietrucha, M.D.	Neurological Evaluations	\$175.00

8.G FIELD TRIPS

Field Trip planned for Hightstown High School:

1/23/10 Child Development Class
 Kids Kottage Learning Center
 659 Abbington Drive East Windsor, NJ

8.H VOLUNTEERS

The Board of Education approves all volunteers who serve in the East Windsor Regional School District. The following people have offered to volunteer/chaperone at the Hightstown High School:

- Veronica Nicklaus
- Steven Anzuini

8.I APPROVAL OF NON-PAID CLUB AT HH

Hightstown High School would like to start a new club entitled “Junior Statesmen of America” (JSA) which would fall under the category of non-paid extra-curricular activity with a teacher advisor. The advisor for this club will be Stuart Wexler, a social studies teacher.

8. J APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 14, 2009

Minutes of the Board of Education meetings are routinely submitted for Board approval, and are available for review on the District’s website, or in the Board Secretary’s office.

8.K EMPLOYEE MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT

State travel regulations require the Board of Education to approve in advance payment for school related travel. The District compiles a list of individual(s) who may routinely receive the standard IRS mileage reimbursement rate for district related travel in accordance with collective bargaining agreements and unaffiliated employee terms of employment. Added to this list will be:

- Dr. Thomas F. Butler Interim Chief School Administrator

It is recommended that the Board approve the above employee(s) be added to current list of staff eligible for reimbursement for district related travel for the period of July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010.

8.L AWARD OF BIDS: TRUCK KING INTERNATIONAL

The District conducted formal bidding for two 2011 54 passenger buses with an optional video camera system and extended warranty. Bids were received, opened, and read aloud by Mr. Kurt Stumbaugh, the School Business Administrator on December 17, 2009.

Vendors meeting advertised specifications:

The results are:	Price for 2 buses	2 camera systems	Extended Warranty
Wolffington Body Co.Inc:	\$165,400	\$4,600	\$2,110
Truck King International:	\$159,360	\$4,290	\$3,494* (revised)

Vendors that did not meet advertised specifications:

H.A. Dehart & Son:	\$153,000	\$5,790	no bid
American Bus & Coach:	\$164,952	\$6,494	no bid

Lowest bid from vendor meeting specifications: Truck King International

After careful review of the bid results by Ms. Patricia Bye, District Transportation Director, and the School Business Administrator, it has been decided that Truck King International of Keansburg, NJ, provides the District with the most responsible purchase for two 2011 54 passenger school buses.

The lower bidder, H.A. DeHart & Son offered a bid on two 2010 buses, and the District requested bids for a 2011 model.

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the award of bid for two 2011 54 passenger school buses with video camera option and extended warranty, to the lowest responsible bidder: **TRUCK KING INTERNATIONAL.**

8.M BOARD SECRETARY’S REPORT FOR NOVEMBER, 2009

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has received the report of the Board Secretary and Treasurer for the month of November, 2009 submitted pursuant to N.J.S.A 18A:17-9, and

WHEREAS, in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6:20-2A.10 (d) the Secretary has certified that, as of the date of the reports, no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district Board of Education;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education accepts the above referenced reports and certifications and certifies that after review of the Secretary’s monthly financial report (appropriation section), to the best of its knowledge, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C.6:20-2A.10(a)(1), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the year.

8.N TREASURER'S REPORT FOR NOVEMBER, 2009

The Report of the Treasurer of School Monies for the period ending November 30, 2009 is submitted for approval. The Treasurer's report is in agreement with the Board Secretary's report.

8.O TRANSFER REPORT

All budget transfers must be properly recorded, documented and approved by the Board of Education.

The School Business Administrator of the East Windsor Regional School District certifies to the best of his knowledge that no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-1.11 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

RESOLVED, that the East Windsor Regional Board of Education ratifies the attached transfers between budget line items approved by the School Business Administrator as submitted pursuant to Board policy and State regulation.

8.P BILL LIST – JANUARY 11, 2010

The Bill and Claims Report must be approved by the Board of Education before being submitted for payment.

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education approves the payment of bills/claims in the amount of **\$926,419.86**

ITEM 9. SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Jim Fidler, East Windsor, commented that Facebook is a much better way of communicating to the community at large. District Facebook presence would be a plus.

ITEM 10. SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Ms. Weisman congratulated Lori Stein on her appointment as Principal at the Kreps school.

ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board went into closed session

ITEM 12. OPEN SESSION

ITEM 13. ADJOURN

Ms. Fallon moved to adjourn at 9:20 p.m.

Kurt Stumbaugh, Board Secretary