

Branchburg Township School District

**REGULAR ACTION MEETING AGENDA
BOARD RETREAT
September 19, 2015**

Public Meeting – 9:00 A.M.
Branchburg Central Middle School
Media Center

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:08 a.m. by Board President, David Rehe who stated that the meeting was convened in compliance with the provisions of Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, the Sunshine Law; notices were sent to the *Courier News*, filed with the Township Clerk and posted in the Branchburg Township Schools.

The following members of the Board of Education were present: Zoltan Ambrus, Jack Dempsey, Theresa Joyce, Carmela Noto, Cathy Palmieri, David Rehe, Patricia Santos and Jose-Ramon Suarez.

The following member was absent: Olga Phelps.

Also present were: Acting Superintendent of Schools Rebecca Gensel, Business Administrator/Board Secretary Theresa Linskey, and no members of the public.

II. The assembly saluted the flag.

III. Statement of Adequate Notice

IV. The Secretary called the roll.

V. CALL TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Mr. Ambrus, seconded by Mrs. Noto, and carried unanimously, the Board agreed to convene at 9:14 a.m. to executive session to discuss personnel, H.I.B., and legal issues.

On a motion by Mrs. Noto, seconded by Mrs. Palmieri, and carried unanimously, the Board reconvened to public session at 10:08 a.m. with 3 members of the public.

VI. ACTING SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

There was no Superintendent's report.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Baldoni addressed the Board about his concerns regarding students being transferred from one bus to another at Branchburg Central Middle School before they are transported to Stony Brook School.

Donna Cardamone asked the Board about the status of the Superintendent search. She asked if the interview process for a consultant has taken place, and if so, will the consultant be named on the agenda.

VIII. GOVERNANCE

Motion by Mr. Dempsey, seconded by Dr. Suarez that Items VIII.A. through VIII.B., be moved upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent.

On call of the vote, Items VIII.A. through VIII.B. were unanimously approved by Roll Call with Dr. Suarez abstaining from Item VIII.A.

There was no Governance Committee report.

A. Approval of Minutes

It is recommended that the Board approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting and Executive Session of August 27, 2015.

B. Approval of Contract with New Jersey School Boards Association

It is recommended that the Board approve a contract between the Branchburg Township Board of Education and New Jersey School Boards Association to conduct a search for a Superintendent of Schools for a cost not to exceed \$7,000.

IX. EDUCATION

Motion by Mr. Dempsey, seconded by Dr. Suarez that Items IX.A. through IX.E. be moved upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent.

On call of the vote, Items IX.A. through IX.E. were unanimously approved by Roll Call with Mrs. Santos abstaining from Item B.

There was no Education Committee report.

A. Conferences/Travel

WHEREAS, the employees listed below are requesting Board of Education authorization to attend the conferences/workshops listed below; and

WHEREAS, the attendance at stated function was previously approved by the chief school administrator as work related within the scope of the work responsibilities of the attendee and within the funds budgeted for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, the attendance at the function was approved as promoting delivery of instruction or furthering efficient operation of the school district; and fiscally prudent;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes attendance at the stated conferences/workshops and reimbursement for the related expenses in accordance with Board policy on conference and workshop attendance.

Art Educators of New Jersey (AENJ) Conference, Long Branch, New Jersey, October 4, 2015 through October 6, 2015, Total Maximum Cost for all Participants - \$997.00 (Account# 11-000-223-580-04-144, 11-000-223-580-05-144, 11-000-223-580-08-144)

Rokiah Barry
Christopher Boehm
Randy Kupcha
Nicole Roth

Reasoning with Unreasonable People: Focus on Disorders of Emotion Regulation, Edison, New Jersey, September 30, 2015, Total Maximum Cost - \$79.00 (Account# 11-000-219-580-03-001)

Alane Cook

Meeting the Educational Needs of Students with Dyslexia and other Reading Disabilities, Somerset, New Jersey, October 16, 2015, Total Maximum Cost - \$190.00 (Account# 11-000-219-580-03-001)

Amy Garner

Strategies for Helping Struggling Readers and Students with Disabilities, Monroe, New Jersey, October 19, 2015, November 16, 2015 and December 8, 2015, Total Maximum Cost for all Participants - \$1,166.00 (Account# 11-000-219-580-03-001, 11-000-219-580-03-144)

Amy Garner
Carol Webb
Ann Wonesh

Special Education Law in New Jersey Seminar, Mount Laurel, New Jersey, October 9, 2015, Total Maximum Cost - \$259.99 (Account# 11-000-219-580-03-001)

Heather Lilly

Differentiating Math Instruction, Grades K-5, New Brunswick, New Jersey, December 8, 2015, Total Maximum Cost - \$195.00 (Account# 11-000-223-580-08-144)

Catherine Rello

New Jersey Council for Social Studies Fall Conference, Piscataway, New Jersey, October 20, 2015, Total Maximum Cost - \$80.00 (Account# 11-000-223-580-04-144)

Michael Simko

48th Annual Conference on Reading and Writing, New Brunswick, New Jersey, October 23, 2015, Total Maximum Cost – 135.00 (Account# 11-000-223-580-05-144)

Abbie Sutherland

B. Approval of Out-of-District Placements

It is recommended that the Board approve the following Out-of-District placements for School Year Programs, Vo-Tech Programs, Extraordinary Services, Instructional Aides and Extended School Year Programs as noted, to be paid by purchase orders through the General Fund, and sufficient funds are available in the 2015-2016 budget.

Location	Student ID #	Program/ESY/Aide/Tuition	Effective Dates
Hunterdon Central Regional High School 84 Route 31 Flemington, NJ 08822	#6051839975	Special Education School Year 184 days Total Tuition: \$17,689.00	SY: September 1, 2015 through June 16, 2016
Hunterdon Preparatory School 11 Spencer Lane Annandale, NJ 08801	#6489312669	Special Education School Year 180 days \$242.40 per diem Total Tuition: \$43,632.00	SY: September 3, 2015 through June 14, 2016
Somerset County Vocational and Technical Schools P.O. Box 6350 14 Vogt Drive Bridgewater, NJ 08807	#6535742845 #2971801001 #9520893545 #9273732029 #5032343416 #5661637271 #8776550952	General Education School Year Academy for Health and Medical Sciences 183 days Total Tuition: \$18,935.00	SY: September 8, 2015 through June 23, 2016
Somerset County Vocational and Technical Schools P.O. Box 6350 14 Vogt Drive Bridgewater, NJ 08807	50 full and shared time students	General Education School Year and Special Education School Year 183 days Total Tuition: \$36,210.00	SY: September 8, 2015 through June 23, 2016
Somerset County Vocational and Technical Schools P.O. Box 6350 14 Vogt Drive Bridgewater, NJ 08807	#6330669419 #7738473066	Special Education School Year TOPS Program 183 days Total Tuition: \$46,500.00	SY: September 8, 2015 through June 23, 2016

Union County Education Services Commission 45 Cardinal Drive Westfield, NJ 07090	#7411890574	Special Education 205 days ESY: \$6,730.00 ESY Aide: \$2,980.00 SY: \$65,500.00 SY Aide: \$39,500.00 Total Tuition: \$114,710.00	ESY: June 29, 2015 through July 31, 2015 SY: September 8, 2015 through June 23, 2015
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C. Revisions of Out-of-District Special Education Placements

It is recommended that the Board approve the following revisions of Out-of-District High School Special Education Placements as noted, to be paid by purchase orders through the General Fund, and sufficient funds are available in the 2015-2016 budget.

Program/Location	Student ID #	From: ESY/Extra Services/Tuition	To: ESY/Extra Services/Tuition	Effective Dates
The Midland School P.O. Box 5026 North Branch, NJ08876	#3700266864	ESY: \$8,206.20 SY: \$49,237.20 Total \$57,443.40	ESY: \$8,206.20 ES: \$29,400.00 SY: \$49,237.20 Total \$86,843.40	ESY: 7/5/15-8/15/15 SY: 9/2/15-6/21/16
The Center School 2 Riverview Drive Somerset, NJ 08876	#3390197211	ESY: \$6,158.60 ES: \$28,000.00 SY: \$55,427.40 Total \$89,586.00	ESY: \$6,158.60 ES: \$29,800.00 SY: \$55,427.40 Total \$91,386.00	ESY: 7/1/15-7/29/15 SY: 9/2/15-6/23/16

D. Approval of a Branchburg Central Middle School Fundraiser

It is recommended that the Board approve a Branchburg Central Middle School fundraiser by BCMS students for the Save the Children Foundation and earmarked for the children impacted by the Syrian Refugee Crisis. The fundraiser will be sponsored by the Social Studies Department and held during October/November 2015.

E. Stronge Evaluation Training for New Administrators, Piscataway, New Jersey, September 16th, 25th, and 29th, 2015, Total Maximum Cost - \$497.00 (Account# 11-000-240-580-02-000)

Rocco Fornaro

X. HUMAN RESOURCES

Motion by Mr. Ambrus, seconded by Dr. Suarez that Items X.A. through X.M. be moved upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent.

On call of the vote, Items X.A. through X.M. were unanimously approved by Roll Call.

There was no Human Resources Committee report.

A. Revision of 2015-2016 Extracurricular Stipend Positions

It is recommended that the Board approve the following revision of Athletic Extracurricular Stipend Positions, in accordance with provisions of the B.O.E./B.T.E.A. Agreement/Teachers (which is effective July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2016) for the 2015-2016 school year as noted, and sufficient funds are available in the 2015-2016 budget.

Name	From Titled Position	To Titled Position	Stipend
Tiffany Stulack	Girls Cross Country (BCMS)	<i>Cross Country (BCMS)</i>	\$2,574.00
Amy Finkenaur	Boys Cross Country (BCMS)	<i>Cross Country (BCMS)</i>	\$2,574.00

B. Approval of Acting Principal of Whiton Elementary School

It is recommended that the Board approve Danielle Shoher as Acting Principal of Whiton Elementary School, for the period of October 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015, or the commencement of employment of an Interim Superintendent, whichever occurs first, an additional stipend of \$1,500.00 per month.

C. Approval of Third Grade Teacher

It is recommended that the Board approve Colleen Repoli for the position of Third Grade Teacher at Whiton Elementary School, effective November 5, 2015, or sooner if she is released from her current contract, through June 30, 2016 at Level 150, Step 4 of the Teacher Salary Guide (\$57,445.00 prorated), in accordance with the provisions of the B.O.E./B.T.E.A Agreement/Teachers (which is effective July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2016), to be paid through Payroll for the General Fund, and sufficient funds are available in the 2015-2016 budget.

D. Approval of Substitute Nurse

It is recommended that the Board approve Adrienne Guistwite as a Substitute Nurse, effective September 21, 2015 through June 30, 2016, to be paid via Payroll through the General Fund, and sufficient funds are available in the 2015-2016 budget.

E. Approval of Substitute Teachers and Substitute Instructional Aides

It is recommended that the Board approve the following Substitute Teachers and Substitute Instructional Aides, effective September 21, 2015 through June 30, 2016 to be paid via Payroll through the General Fund, and sufficient funds are available in the 2015-2016 budget.

Jeannette Pizza
Emma Ryan
Kanwal Sayani
Amy Williams

F. Approval of Substitute Instructional Aide

It is recommended that the Board approve the following Substitute Instructional Aide, effective September 21, 2015 through June 30, 2016 to be paid via Payroll through the General Fund, and sufficient funds are available in the 2015-2016 budget.

Theresa Kelly

G. Approval of Home Programming and Home Instruction

It is recommended that the Board approve the following teachers to provide Home Programming and Home Instruction for the 2015-2016 school year, at a hourly rate of \$41.00, in accordance with the provisions of the B.O.E./B.T.E.A.

Agreement/Teachers (which is in effect from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2016) to be paid through Payroll for the General Fund, and sufficient funds are available in the 2015-2016 budget.

Danielle DuFermont	Sarah Landon
Maggie Emmons	Arlene Little
Stephanie Formus	Janice Monetti
Victoria Gerry	Erin Rimmler
Jodi Harwood	Abbie Sutherlin
Devra Hobbs	Randi Lee Venturini
Michele Jordan	Lori Villanova

H. Approval of Part Time Instructional Aide

It is recommended that the Board approve Kim Gislao as a Part Time Instructional Aide at Stony Brook School, effective September 21, 2015 through June 30, 2016, for 80 minutes per 6-day cycle on Step 1 of the Salary Guide for Instructional Aides at an annual prorated salary of \$3,127.68, in accordance with provisions of the B.O.E./B.T.E.A. Agreement/Instructional Aides (which is effective July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2016) to be paid through Payroll from the General Fund, and sufficient funds are available in the 2015-2016 budget.

I. Approval of Staff Transfer

It is recommended that the Board approve the following staff transfers as noted, effective September 21, 2015.

Name	From	To	Title
Michele Rina	Stony Brook	Whiton	Instructional Aide

J. Approval of Disability Retirement

Be it resolved that the resignation of Ellen McKee from employment with the Board of Education be accepted, effective December 31, 2015, or upon the effective date of a disability retirement approved by the applicable State pension authorities, whichever occurs earlier.

Be it Further Resolved that Ellen McKee be placed on an administrative leave of absence, without pay but with health insurance coverage, from September 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015, or the effective date of her resignation from employment with the Board, whichever occurs earlier, and with a lump sum payment of \$1500.00 in satisfaction of any claim to additional compensation of any sort, pursuant to the terms of a written agreement which is hereby approved.

K. Approval of a Part Time Nurse Aide – Bus Route

It is recommended that the Board approve Bernadette McGovern as a part time nurse aide (bus route) at an hourly rate of \$30.00 per hour, not to exceed 30 hours per week, effective September 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, to be paid via paid via Payroll, and sufficient funds are available

L. Approval of Acting Assistant Principal of Whiton Elementary School

It is recommended that the Board approve Rocco Fornaro as Acting Assistant Principal at Whiton Elementary School for the period of September 21, 2015 through December 31, 2015, or the commencement of employment of an Interim Superintendent, whichever occurs first, at an additional stipend of \$357.23 for each additional day worked beyond the Teacher's contract, not to exceed \$2,500.61;

Be it further resolved, that Rocco Fornaro be granted a leave of absence, with pay and benefits, from his position as Instructional Support Teacher at Stony Brook School to fulfill his responsibilities as Acting Assistant Principal of Whiton Elementary School.

M. Acceptance of Resignation

It is recommended that the Board accept the resignation of Chris Paradiso, from the position of Third Grade Teacher at Whiton Elementary School.

XI. BUSINESS

Motion by Mr. Ambrus, seconded by Mrs. Noto that Items XI.A. through XI.G., be moved upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent.

On call of the vote, Items XI.A. through XI.G. were unanimously approved by Roll Call.

There was no Business Committee report.

A. Bill List

It is recommended that the Board approve the List of Bills for the period August 28, 2015 through September 18, 2015, totaling \$1,717,141.40, and ratify the Payroll for the period August 7, 2015 through September 18, 2015, totaling \$394,584.55.

B. Secretary's Report

The Report of the Secretary for July 2015 has been submitted for Board review. As required by N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)(3) I, Theresa Linskey, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, certify that no line item account has been over expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations this fiscal year.

It is recommended that the Secretary's Report for July 2015 be accepted and filed, and the Board of Education hereby certifies that no major account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)(4) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

C. Treasurer's Report

It is recommended that the Treasurer's Report for the month of July 2015 be accepted and filed.

D. Line Item Transfers

It is recommended that the Board accept the list of Line Item Transfers for the month of July 2015.

E. Monthly Transfer Report

It is recommended that the Board approve the July 2015 Monthly Transfer Report.

F. Safety Grant Application Award

It is recommended that the Branchburg Township Board of Education approve a grant application Award for the 2015 Safety Grant Program through the New Jersey School Boards Association Insurance Group's ERIC North Subfund for the purposes described in the application in the amount of \$4,709.00 for the period July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016.

G. Approval of Resolution For Participation In Coordinated Transportation With Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission

It is recommended that the Board approve a Resolution with Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission for participation in coordinated transportation for the 2015-2016 school year.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

XIII. BOARD RETREAT

The Board facilitator, Gwen Thornton from New Jersey School Boards Association, led the Board Retreat discussion for the day.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**XV. ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Mrs. Palmieri, seconded by Mrs. Noto, and carried unanimously, the Board agreed to adjourn at 1:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Theresa Linskey
Board Secretary/Business Administrator