

**Board of Education - Hunterdon County, NJ**

**Minutes**

**Annual Goal Setting Meeting and Regular Meeting**

**Tuesday, June 28, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Meeting Location - District Administration Office**

**1445 Route 31, Annandale, NJ 08801**

Click <https://youtu.be/qinzRxWg-pk> to access the livestream/recording of meeting

1. Board President Jessica Viotto called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and read the Public Meeting Notice.

2. **Roll Call**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Municipalities Represented</u>	<u>Weighted Vote</u>
Debra Bonomi - present	Califon Borough / Tewksbury Township	0.8
Bryan Chapman - present	Clinton Township / Lebanon Borough	0.9
Shelley Crisologo - absent	Town of Clinton / Franklin Township / Glen Gardner Borough	0.9
Glen Farbanish - absent	Union Township	1.4
Tara Marie Hintz - absent	High Bridge Borough / Lebanon Township	1.2
M. Rion Hoffmann - present	High Bridge Borough / Lebanon Township	1.2
Robert Kirchberger - present	Clinton Township / Lebanon Borough	0.9
John Melick - present	Califon Borough / Tewksbury Township	0.8
Kimberly Solino - present	Bethlehem Township / Hampton Borough	1.3
Daniel Spanton - present	Clinton Township / Lebanon Borough	0.9
Roger Straight - present	Clinton Township / Lebanon Borough	0.9
Jessica Viotto - present	Town of Clinton / Franklin Township / Glen Gardner Borough	0.9

**Also present:** J. Bender - Superintendent of Schools, R. Bergacs - Assistant Superintendent, K. Blew - School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, M. Squarcia - Director of School Counseling Services, R. Broan, Director of Curriculum, Articulation and Student Achievement, G. Vargas-Dellacasa - District Technology Coordinator, M. Smagala - District Communications Coordinator, G. Cottrell - Principal of North Hunterdon High School, J. Comegno-School Board Attorney, Comegno Law Group P.C.,

3. **Flag Salute**
4. **Motion by D. Bonomi and second by R. Kirchberger** to adopt resolution [062822-2.1](#) for executive session. **Motion carried unanimously on voice vote and the Board adjourned to executive session at 6:03pm.**

Board also moved the second executive session, resolution [062822-2.2](#), to this point of the meeting and reviewed items 22.1 and 22.2 while in executive session.

5. **Motion by R. Kirchberger and second by R. Straight** to reconvene public session. **Motion carried unanimously on voice vote** and the Board reconvened public session at 7:05pm.
6. **Public Hearing on Contract Amendment to the Superintendent of Schools, Jeffrey Bender.**

Statement to amend the contract of the Superintendent of Schools, public notice information and approval by Interim Executive County Superintendent was read by J. Viotto.

**Opportunity for public comment on the amended contract:** One comment was made asking if any changes had been made to the Agenda once it was published to the public.

**Motion by B. Chapman and second by D. Bonomi** to approve the amended contract for the period of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2023 between the Board and Jeffrey Bender. **Motion carried unanimously on roll call vote.**

7. **Goal Setting Discussion** - Gwen Thornton, New Jersey School Boards Association Field Representative, facilitated Board Goal Setting for the 2022-2023 school year:
  - **District Goals** - 2021-2022 District goals were reviewed and goals for 2022-2023 were discussed with five goals set.
  - **Board Goals** - Discussion on Board self-evaluation and recommendation was made to add progress reports of goals to the board calendar quarterly. Board set four goals in the areas of onboarding new board members, increased PD for board members, referendum, and exploration of regionalization.
8. **Motion by D. Spanton and second by D. Bonomi** to approve agenda item 8.1. **Motion carried on voice vote with an abstention by B. Chapman.**
  - 8.1. [Minutes of the May 24, 2022](#) regular School Board meeting.
9. **J. Bender provided the Chief School Administrator's Report:**
  - Graduation ceremonies were held on June 15th for the Class of 2022. North Hunterdon graduated 397 seniors and Voorhees graduated 236. We wish them well in all of their future endeavors. Thank you to the Board members who attended graduation.
  - The Summer Enrichment Program is running this week, June 27 thru 30th. Five courses on various topics were offered at each high school to rising freshmen, sophomores and juniors. Courses are taught by our high school teachers.
  - STEM Camp and Spanish Immersion Camp will run August 1, 2 and 3rd at North Hunterdon. Incoming freshmen from any of our sending districts were invited to sign up.
  - Update on new Polytech building - construction plans are 80% complete. They hope to go out to bid in late July with ground breaking in September 2022.
  - 9.1. Report on Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) - 2 incidents were reported, none founded.
  - 9.2. **Motion by D. Bonomi and second by R. Straight** to affirm the determinations on the [HIB incidents](#) reported at the May 24, 2022 Board meeting. **Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.**
  - 9.3. [Monthly Reports](#)
10. **School Board President's Report**
  - 10.1. July 26, 2022 - Regular Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m. - District Administration Office

- 10.2. July 25, 2022, 4:00pm - Deadline to submit [nominating petitions](#) for School Board vacancies to the County Clerk's office.

11. **School Board Committee Reports:**

**Community Relations/Student Affairs**

- Campaign for Referendum was discussed as being a committee goal. Campaign plan to be presented in August.

**Curriculum Instruction and Technology Committee**

- Home Instruction process was reviewed and clarified.
- Curriculum goal to address missed learning & lost instruction to be included in District goals.
- Strategic planning completed, with exception of transition coordinator, as it was determined that this position is not necessary.
- Final grades for school year district-wide were reviewed - 65% A's & 1% Fs, with highest percentage of Fs being in math classes.

**Facilities, Finance and Transportation Committee**

- There is a 30% increase to transportation costs for current bus routes & discussion ensued on possible elimination of the 3:15 "late" bus for savings in this area.
- Solar panel project at Voorhees is online and the panel project at North will be online in July.
- Summer projects are progressing and contract renewals are underway for food service, copiers, security officers, etc.

**Personnel Committee**

- Personnel agenda was discussed as well as the new North Hunterdon Theater Camp scheduled to run this summer from August 15-19.

**Policy Committee and School Security**

- District goal to complete the Strauss Esmay audit is set for this year.
- Policy for Superintendent's evaluation was reviewed and the committee plans to continue to follow policy as is. Regulation of this policy to be continued for discussion next month.
- Next steps for potential regionalization were discussed and reported that interest from sending districts seemed high at the Board Presidents' roundtable meeting.

**Board Presidents Roundtable Meeting:**

- J. Viotto & D. Bonomi provided a review of their last roundtable meeting with sending district presidents and vice presidents in June. Gwen Thornton, New Jersey School Boards Association Field Representative, reported on details and procedures on Regionalization including feasibility study and positive impact on both taxpayers and our curriculum.
- Pros and cons were reviewed.
- There are three interested districts to date and the topic of Regionalization will continue to be reviewed and worked toward.

12. **Opportunity for Public Comment - [Click here for public participation policy](#)**

- Two members of the public commented regarding the updated Health Curriculum
- Three members of the public commented on improving engagement of parents and community with the school board.
- Two members of the public commented on Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) curriculum topics.

- Two members of the public commented on inappropriate library books in our school libraries.
- 13. **Motion by D. Spanton and second by D. Bonomi** to approve agenda items 14.1 to 17.23. **Motion carried on voice vote** with abstentions by B. Chapman on items: 14.1, 14.2, 17.9, 17.10, and 17.11.
- 14. **Annual Activities**
  - 14.1. Resolution [062822-7](#) Report of awarded contracts P.L. 2015 Chapter 47
  - 14.2. Resolution [062822-3](#) Authorize the 2022-2023 Annuity Services
  - 14.3. Resolution [062822-8](#) Authorize the 2022-2023 Professional Services
  - 14.4. Resolution [062822-5](#) Authorize the School Business Administrator to pay all bills and transfer funds for the 2021-2022 school year
  - 14.5. Resolution [062822-9](#) Authorize renewal of bonds for School Business Administrator and Treasurer of School Monies
  - 14.6. Resolution [062822-4](#) Authorize a year-end transfer to the Capital Reserve account
  - 14.7. Resolution [062822-6](#) Accept notice of insurance accountability procedures
  - 14.8. Resolution [062822-10](#) Authorize participation in cooperative pricing systems
- 15. **Curriculum, Instruction and Technology**
  - 15.1. [Home Instruction](#)
  - 15.2. [2022-2023 Home Instruction Providers](#)
  - 15.3. [2022-2023 Out of District Placements](#)
- 16. **Policy**
  - 16.1. [Second Reading of Policies](#)
  - 16.2. [First and Only Reading of Mandatory Regulations](#)
- 17. **Finance, Facilities and Transportation**
  - 17.1. Accept the 2021-2022 School Bus Emergency Evacuation Drill Reports for [North Hunterdon High School](#) and [Voorhees High School](#)
  - 17.2. Approve contract renewal for the management of the food service program, to [Pomptonian Food Service Management](#) of Fairfield, NJ for the 2022-2023 school year
  - 17.3. Resolution [062822-15](#) to authorize participation in the WSCA-NASPO cooperative pricing systems for copiers, printers and other services with Sharp Electronics Organization.
  - 17.4. Resolution [062822-16](#) to appoint ESS Northeast LLC as the Substitute Staffing Services provider for the 2022-2023 school year
  - 17.5. Resolution [062822-17](#) to appoint Hey Tutor as the Tutoring provider for the 2022-2023 school year
  - 17.6. Resolution [062822-18](#) to appoint Axiom Learning as the Teacher Professional Development provider for the 2022-2023 school year
  - 17.7. Approve the contracts for Clinton Township [School Resource Officer](#) and [Class III Officers](#).
  - 17.8. Approve the contracts for Lebanon Township [School Resource Officer](#) and [Class III officers](#)
  - 17.9. Authorize application and submission of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act [\(IDEA\) Part B](#) for fiscal year 2022-2023 in the amount of \$476,592
  - 17.10. Approve the submission of the [ESEA Grant](#) for 2022-2023 School Year: Title I-A: \$46,496; Title II-A: \$27,939 and TitleIV Part A: \$10,000

- 17.11. Approve the [rates](#) for the Educational Services Commission of Morris County for the 2022-2023 school year.
  - 17.12. Resolution [062822-13](#) to allow Superintendent hiring authority between Board of Education meetings during the Summer of 2022
  - 17.13. Resolution [062822-14](#) to update designated signatories for District bank accounts
  - 17.14. Resolution [062822-12](#) to approve the attached state contract purchases above \$44,000 for the 2022-2023 school year
  - 17.15. Approve the Shared Service Agreement with [CJ Pride for 2022-2023](#) School Year
  - 17.16. Accept the donation in the approximate amount of \$4,000 in supplies for social and emotional learning from the State of New Jersey DREAMS Program for the 2021-2022 school year.
  - 17.17. [Co-op and State Contract Vendors](#) that exceed the bid threshold
  - 17.18. [Monthly Bills List](#)
  - 17.19. Resolution [062822-1](#) Monthly Financial Reports Certification
  - 17.20. [Board Secretary Report](#) for the month ending May 2022
  - 17.21. [Treasurer Report](#) for the month ending May 2022
  - 17.22. [Transfer of Funds](#) within the 2021-2022 school year budget - May 2022
  - 17.23. [Staff Training and Travel Requests](#)
18. **Old and New Business**
- B. Chapman suggested public awareness for solar panel projects at the high schools - Potential Celebration/Ribbon Cutting Event to be planned.
19. Resolution [062822-2.2](#) for executive session to discuss matters falling under categories 7 & 8 as reflected in the attached resolution - combined with first executive session at 6:03pm.
- New Business - Skipped

**Motion by R. Straight and second by R. Kirchberger** to approve agenda items 22.1 and 22.2 **Motion carried on roll call**, with D. Bonomi voting no on item 7.3 in personnel agenda.

22.1 [Personnel Agenda](#) June 28, 2022

22.2 Executive session minutes May 24, 2022

**Motion by R. Straight and second by R. Kirchberger** to adjourn. **Motion carried unanimously on voice vote**, and the meeting adjourned at 9:09p.m.

Submitted by:

*Kathryn Blew*

Kathryn Blew, CPA

School Business Administrator/Board Secretary