

**CLINTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MINUTES**

**Regular Meeting March 24, 2014 at 7:30 PM  
Clinton Township Middle School Auditorium**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Ms. Grant called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm.

**PUBLICATION  
OF NOTICE:**

In accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Laws of 1975, adequate notice of this meeting was provided through the annual public notice on January 9, 2014.

- a. Faxing to three newspapers designated by the Board – Hunterdon County Democrat, Hunterdon Review and Express Times
- b. Posting on the District Website, the main bulletin board in the Administration Office and in each Clinton Township School
- c. Faxing to the Clerk of Clinton Township

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:**

*Board Members:*

Maria Grant, President

Rachel McLaughlin, (arrived at 7:50 pm)

Marc Freda

Gina Hand

Kevin Maloy

Dan McTiernan

John Patuto

Kevin Sturges

Megan Verderamo

**Present:**

*District Administrators:*

Dr. Drucilla W. Clark, Superintendent of Schools

Mrs. Heather A. Spitzer, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

**Also Present:** Rachel Welsh, Esq., Board Attorney

**PLEDGE OF**

**ALLEGIANCE:**

Mr. Sturges led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS/REPORT**

Ms. Grant appointed Mr. Freda as process guardian. Ms. Grant then updated the board on the following:

- 2014/15 Budget – Preliminary budget has been submitted for Executive County Superintendent approval, if no changes, then April 28, 2014 will present at Public Hearing.
- Board Tasks – List of all projects working on this year, list will be a “living document” updated as necessary.
- Provided summary on the history of full day kindergarten program proposal from prior administration and that Board’s actions and objectives as well as actions taken by the current Board towards the feasibility of implementing a full day program.

### **REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

#### **Action Item 14-SU-012**

**LEGO Presentation** - Melissa Goad, Jennifer Collett, Ellen Sidbury

Dr. Clark expressed her thanks for bringing this presentation to the Board. The activities performed in Lego Robotics promote higher order thinking skills. These skills will assist students as they prepare for online PARCC testing and technologies of the future.

#### **Action 14-SU-012:**

Dr. Clark will present the following to the Board of Education:

1. Enrollment Report - 1558
2. Suspension Report - 0
3. HIB Report
  - (2) Investigation at SRS – Determined not to be HIB
  - (4) Investigations at RVS – (1) Determined to be HIB
  - (3) Investigations at CTMS – (1) Determined to be HIB
4. Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights District and School HIB Grade Report - Melissa Goad

***BE IT RESOLVED*** that the Board of Education accepts the enrollment, suspension and HIB report of the superintendent as presented.

Discussion:

Mr. McTiernan inquired on CTSD scores as compared to other schools? Mrs. Goad responded that they are currently completing an analysis.

Mr. Freda asked if there are any concerns on the district’s lower scores. Mrs. Goad responded No, none identified at this time.

*Motion by D. McTiernan, Seconded by R. McLaughlin. The Board adopts resolution 14-SU-012 on a roll call vote as follows: ayes 9; nays 0*

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

No comments at this time.

**FIRST RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC**

Public comment session opened at 8:20 pm

- Mrs. Brennan, Fawn Drive, inquired on the revisions to the Class Size policy.
- Mr. Cleary, spoke in support and the benefits of a full day kindergarten program, based on Harris Cooper's 2010 research.
- Mrs. MacIssac, spoke in support of a full day kindergarten program and the academic benefits it provides to prepare students for first grade.
- Mrs. Ford, commented on demographics study and impact on providing a full day kindergarten program. District should act without the study, follow other districts. She commented that larger class sizes in Kindergarten wouldn't have as such an adverse impact, as students would have additional instructional time. She also commented on the financial impact to households.
- Mrs. Lutsky spoke in support of full day kindergarten for future CTSD Kindergartners, and compared Clinton Township with other districts in Hunterdon County that have full day programs.
- Mrs. Keith, spoke in support of full day kindergarten program and how her child, currently in 4<sup>th</sup> grade, could have benefitted from the additional preparedness.
- Mrs. Marvin, is the parent of a Preschool student, and expressed her desire for a full day program and inquired as to when and how a decision will be relayed to the public.
- Mrs. Sudol, spoke in support of the 2012 kindergarten presentation. She inquired on the current Board's stance for a full day program.

Public comment session closed at 8:40 p.m.

**REPORT OF THE SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY**

**Action Item 14-BA-022 through 14-BA-025**

Informational:

- The current date of the Board of Education's next meeting and Public Budget Hearing is scheduled for Monday April 28, 2014 at 7:30 p.m., in the Auditorium of Clinton Township Middle School.

**Action 14-BA-022:**

***BE IT RESOLVED*** that the Board of Education hereby approves the following Board Meeting minutes and Executive Session minutes for:

**Minutes**

*February 24, 2014*

*March 10, 2014*

*March 17, 2014*

**Executive Session**

*February 24, 2014*

**Action 14-BA-023:**

*BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the Board Secretary and Treasurer's Reports for the period ending January 31, 2014.*

**Action 14-BA-024:**

*BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the line item transfers for the period ending January 31, 2014.*

**Action 14-BA-025:**

*BE IT RESOLVED that the 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 of Schools recommends that the Clinton Township Board of Education accept the monthly financial reports of the Secretary and Treasurer of School Monies for the month January 2014; 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 over-expended 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.*

*Motion by K. Maloy, Seconded by M. Verderamo. The Board adopts resolutions 14-BA-022 through 14-BA-025 on a roll call vote as follows: ayes 9; nays 0 (M. Freda, K. Sturges abstained on 14-BA-022 3/17/14, M. Verderamo abstained on 14-BA-022 2/24/14 executive session & 3/17/14, R. McLaughlin abstained on 14-BA-022 2/24/14 executive session)*

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**FACILITIES/FINANCE:**

**Kevin Maloy - Chair; Maria Grant, Dan McTiernan & John Patuto**  
**Action Items 14-FF-149 through 14-FF-161**

Mr. Maloy reported from the committee on the following:

- Agenda items: Fire suppression system at SRS, SDA grant resources, transportation

**Action 14-FF-149:**

*BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the payment of bills in the amount of \$862,836.76 for the period ending March 31, 2014.*

**Action 14-FF-150:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education hereby approves the following requests for employee/board member travel in accordance with the School District Accountability Act and Board of Education Policy No. 6471 "School District Travel." Only overnight stays are eligible to meal reimbursement. Mileage, meals, and lodging reimbursements shall be in accordance with NJ Statute, Code and NJ Department of Treasury Guidelines. Where more than five individuals from the district are to attend the same out-of-state conference, the school district shall obtain the prior written approval of the Executive County Superintendent, OMB Mileage Reimbursement Rate: \$0.31.

<b>Employee</b>	<b>Program Title/Location</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Mileage</b>	<b>Lodging/Meals</b>
<i>Kathleen Pilla, Julie Snee, Catharine Miller, Roberta Grambor</i>	<i>Rutgers Writing Conference New Brunswick NJ</i>	<i>3/28/14</i>	<i>\$150 each</i>	<i>OMB</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Allison Lenig</i>	<i>National Art Education Assoc. Conf. San Diego CA</i>	<i>3/31/14 – 4/1/14</i>	<i>\$150</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Melissa Hoffman</i>	<i>Boost Achievement with Best Strategies Parsippany NJ</i>	<i>4/1/14</i>	<i>\$229</i>	<i>OMB</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Ellen Sidbury</i>	<i>Current Best Strategies for Challenging Gifted Students Parsippany NJ</i>	<i>4/10/14</i>	<i>\$229</i>	<i>OMB</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Donald Helmstetter</i>	<i>Understanding the link between climate &amp; liability Ramapo College, Mahwah NJ</i>	<i>4/11/14</i>	<i>\$150</i>	<i>OMB</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Heather Spitzer</i>	<i>GPANJ Conference, Atlantic City NJ</i>	<i>4/9/14 – 4/11/14</i>	<i>\$500</i>	<i>OMB</i>	<i>OMB</i>
<i>Alice Steinheimer</i>	<i>English Language Learner Webinar</i>	<i>4/15/14</i>	<i>\$250</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Melissa Hoffman</i>	<i>Practical Strategies to Implement CCMS 3-5 Allentown PA</i>	<i>4/28/14</i>	<i>\$235</i>	<i>OMB</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Patrick Ferrante</i>	<i>NJTEEA iSTEM Conference Montclair NJ</i>	<i>5/16/14</i>	<i>\$105</i>	<i>OMB</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Heather Spitzer</i>	<i>NJASBO Conference Atlantic City NJ</i>	<i>6/4/14 – 6/6/14</i>	<i>\$150</i>	<i>OMB</i>	<i>OMB</i>

**Action 14-FF-151:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education amends prior motion 14-FF-119 (1/27/14) to reflect a change in registration amount for Tracy Menzie & Jennie Kahl from \$150 to \$175 each.

**Action 14-FF-152:**

*BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves Dr. Dale M. Jacobs to conduct a Psychiatric assessment for SID# 6678852498 during the 2013/2014 school year, not to exceed \$550.00.*

**Action 14-FF-153:**

*BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves a shared service agreement between Clinton Township & Lebanon Borough School Districts for School Psychologist Services for the 2013/14 school year at the rate of \$75 per hour.*

**Action 14-FF-154:**

*BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education accepts a grant for the 2014/15 school year from the Clinton Township Foundation for Educational Excellence as follows:*

*Patrick McGaheran School Theme Grant     \$1,977.80*

**Action 14-FF-155:**

*BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves an additional 20 hours for James Cardeneo for School Development Authority Consulting Services at a rate of \$60 per hour.*

**Action 14-FF-156:**

*BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the Architect of Record, Parette-Somjen, to develop plans for the Fire Suppression system for completion of the 2005 SRS Kitchen Renovation Project.*

**Action 14-FF-157:**

*BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education authorizes the School Business Administrator to solicit quotes for the SRS Fire Suppression System and award a contract to the most qualified contractor.*

**Action 14-FF-158:**

*BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education authorizes the use of \$695,809 from the Capital Reserve Account and \$320,591 from Capital Outlay Projects, a total of \$1,016,400, for the purpose of funding the local share for the following SDA projects:*

<u>SDA Project ID</u>	<u>Local Share</u>
0920-030-13-G1RE	\$312,576
0920-035-13-G1RF	\$305,487
0920-040-13-G1RG	\$398,337

**Action 14-FF-159:**

***BE IT RESOLVED*** that the Board of Education approves a Joint Transportation Agreement with Delaware Valley Regional for Spring athletics for the 2013/14 school year not to exceed \$7,250 for the regular season schedule (does not include playoff trips).

**Action 14-FF-160:**

***BE IT RESOLVED*** that the Board of Education approves a Joint Transportation Agreement with Hunterdon County ESC for route# PM PreK in the amount of \$51.50 per diem effective 3/25/14 for the 2013/14 school year.

**Action 14-FF-161:**

***BE IT RESOLVED*** that the Board of Education hereby resolve to transfer ownership of asset# 38462 to North Hunterdon-Voorhees Regional School District for the continuation of IEP for SID# 6592964779 as of July 1, 2014.

*Motion by M. Freda, Seconded by D. McTiernan. The Board adopts resolutions 14-FF-149 through 14-FF-161 on a roll call vote as follows: ayes 9; nays 0 (G. Hand abstained on 14-FF-149 & 14-FF-160)*

**PERSONNEL/NEGOTIATIONS:**

**Dan McTiernan – Chair; Maria Grant, Gina Hand & Kevin Maloy**  
**Action Items 14-PN-176 through 14-PN-183**

Mr. McTiernan reported from the committee on the following:

- Agenda items: resignations, hiring practices

**Action 14-PN-176:**

***BE IT RESOLVED*** that the Board of Education accepts the resignation of **Ronald Marinelli**, Building & Grounds Supervisor, effective February 28, 2014.

**Action 14-PN-177:**

***BE IT RESOLVED*** that the Board of Education accepts the resignation of **Lidia Ward**, RVS Lunch Aide, effective March 19, 2014.

**Action 14-PN-178:**

***BE IT RESOLVED*** that the Board of Education approves the employment of **Alexandria Piesla**, PMG Teaching Assistant, (replacing M. Henry) at (1) Step A, BA, \$20,910 (pro-rated to start date) effective March 25, 2014 for the 2013/2014 school year.

**Action 14-PN-179:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves the employment of **John Grambor**, PMG Bus Aide, at \$15 per hour, effective March 25, 2014 for the 2013/2014 school year.

**Action 14-PN-180:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education hereby approves the request for Disability/Maternity Leave of Absence for **Lynn Avery**, SRS Teacher – Grade 1, for the period beginning May 27, 2014 through June 30, 2014.

**Action 14-PN-181:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approves Hunterdon County Polytech student to be placed with Patrick McGaheran staff member(s) for classroom observation for 4 hours per day for 4 weeks effective March 26, 2014 as follows:

*Kelsey Guenther with Katie Shea, Dennis Stinner, Deb Nolan*

**Action 14-PN-182:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education hereby approves the following individual as Athletic advisor for the 2013/14 school year, with stipend as per negotiated agreement (stipend to be adjusted upon settlement of the Negotiated Agreement):

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Staff Member</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Baseball	Kyle Kays	1	\$1,802

**Action 14-PN-183:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education hereby approves the following individual as Co-Curricular advisor for the 2013/14 school year with stipend as per the negotiated agreement (stipend to be adjusted upon settlement of the Negotiated Agreement):

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Golden Eagle Singers	Joyce Klizus	\$1,060

Motion by J. Patuto, Seconded by K. Maloy. The Board adopts resolutions 14-PN-176 through 14-PN-181 and 14-PN-183 on a roll call vote as follows: ayes 9; nays 0. The Board adopts resolution 14-PN-182 on a roll call vote as follows: ayes 7, nays 2.



**POLICY/CURRICULUM:**

**Rachel McLaughlin – Chair; Gina Hand, Kevin Sturges & Megan Verderamo  
Action Item 14-PC-026 through 14-PC-027**

Mrs. McLaughlin reported from the committee on the following:

- Policy – reviewed changes with the Board
- Field trips are aligned with curriculum

**Action 14-PC-026:**

*BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the first reading of the following policies and regulations, as presented to the Board as follows:*

**Policies**

1230	Superintendent's Duties
2132	School District Goals and Objectives
2312	Class Size

**Action 14-PC-027:**

*BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the following field trips (costs are funded through outside sources):*

<u>Date</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Grade/Group</u>	<u>Teacher</u>
April 17, 2014	Franklin Institute Philadelphia, PA	Grade 6	Mr. Greco
May 6, 2014	Lehigh Valley Zoo Schnecksville, PA	Grade 1	Ms. Pilla
May 21, 2014	NJ State Bar Foundation New Brunswick, NJ	CTMS/Law Adventure Team	Ms. Cormican
June 10, 2014	Great Adventure Jackson, NJ	Grade 8	Ms. Nojiri & Ms. Abrams

*Motion by K. Maloy, Seconded by D. McTiernan. The Board adopts resolutions 14-PC-026 through 14-PC-027 on a roll call vote as follows: ayes 9; nays 0*

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

**Megan Verderamo – Chair, Marc Freda & Rachel McLaughlin**

No report at this time.

### OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Sturges inquired on the status of the Barn. Mr. Maloy responded on the steps that have been taken per FEMA directive for the foundation removal, including the well abandonment.

### NEW BUSINESS

Mr. McTiernan provided a report to the Board as Liaison to Town Council including:

- Fiscal responsibility, request to council to present the School District's budget
- Solar energy challenge from Attorney, W. Wilson.
- COAH status, plan needs to be submitted by April 1<sup>st</sup> to state.

Mr. McTiernan updated the Board on the DEAC Committee:

- Committee met on 3/4/14, CTSD Administration is above performance levels as compared to other schools. He commended the administrators on their efforts to the unfunded, time consuming process. He stated that teachers are performing well based on criteria set by the State and the Board of Education.

Mr. Maloy commented that some districts have not even done one evaluation, while CTSD has done 3-4. Mr. McTiernan responded that it's indicative of the commitment of the Administrators and leadership of the Superintendent to the process. Dr. Clark added that she is very proud of the administrators and their commitment to this process. She also discussed lost opportunity costs, what else the district may not be doing because of the mandate, as there is just not enough time in a day after evaluations and HIB.

Dr. Clark also provided clarification on the waiver request; teachers thought that the waiver request was not approved. The request has not been formally denied, although the Executive County Superintendent would request a considerable amount of information prior to approving the request, and a notice has not been received.

Mrs. McLaughlin reported on the Hunterdon County School Board Association's recent meeting:

- All Hunterdon County districts are experiencing problems with all the evaluation models being used. HCSBA recommends districts focus on waivers to remain within 2% cap restrictions.
- HIB & Evaluation, Hunterdon County districts are behind in timelines
- PARCC updates – Band width
- How to run effective Board meetings.

In all of these areas, Clinton Township School District is very effective. HCSBA discussed other ideas to meet these unfunded mandates in creative ways.

Mrs. McLaughlin updated the Board on the Kindergarten Ad-Hoc Committee:

- The committee is moving forward in the process, very slow process, comparing data on ½ day vs full day program to build the presentation. Dr. Clark is awaiting a proposal from Demographers.

Mr. Freda inquired on a status update to the community based on new and/or updated information. Dr. Clark will be meeting with Finance & Kindergarten Ad-Hoc committees and information will be discussed once it is available.

**SECOND RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC**

Public comment session opened at 9:18 p.m.

- Mrs. Brennan, presented the Board with a petition in support of Full Day Kindergarten program signed by 117 individuals in the local area.
- Mr. Cleary, spoke in support of full day kindergarten program as prevention oriented strategy. He commented on how a full day program could save money in the long term, by providing a stronger base at the lower grade levels, eliminating systematic problems of high special education populations and math & reading support.

Public comment session closed at 9:20 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Action 14-AJ-014:**

*BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby adjourns this meeting.*

*Motion by M. Freda, Seconded by M. Verderamo. The resolution was adopted by the full membership of the Board at 9:21 p.m.*


Respectfully Submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Heather A. Spitzer  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Minutes Prepared: 3/25/14

Minutes remain unofficial until Board of Education approval.

Board of Education Approved:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Maria Grant, President

4-28-14  
Date