

WEST MILFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
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**BOARD OF EDUCATION
 MINUTES
 BUDGET/REGULAR MEETING
 FEBRUARY 21, 2023**

DISTRICT GOALS - 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

- *Enhance the District math program through a commitment to rigorous, standards-based instruction, professional development and best practice, and selection of quality materials.*
- *Stabilize District finances and find cost-effective solutions to the compound difficulties of S2 reductions in State Aid and declining enrollment.*
- *Build and foster a culture of mental and physical wellness for student and staff in order to craft a more supportive educational environment.*
- *Increase a sense of unity across all schools in the District.*

Mrs. Kate Romeo, Board President, called to order the Budget/Regular Meeting of the Board of Education at 7:00 p.m., in the Westbrook School Media Center. She asked for a moment of silence, led the flag salute, read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement, and reminded everyone in attendance to silence or turn off their cell phones and note the locations of the emergency exits.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT

In accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, a public notice of this meeting has been sent to Board Members, all district schools, the Herald News, the Suburban Trends, the Record, the Messenger, West Milford Town Hall, the County Superintendent’s Office, the Board Attorney, Cablevision of Warwick and West Milford TV77; and posted in the Administration Building. Copies of the Board Meeting Calendar Resolution were provided to all local media, Town Hall, Township Library, and all district schools.

MS. BARBARA FRANCISCO, BOARD SECRETARY, CALLED THE ROLL:

TRUSTEE	ATTENDANCE	TRUSTEE	ATTENDANCE	TRUSTEE	ATTENDANCE
Mrs. Racano	Present	Mrs. Dwyer	Present	Mrs. Lockwood	Present
Mr. Cytowicz	Present	Mr. Guarino	Present	Mrs. Van Dyk	Absent
Mr. Lippe	Absent	Mrs. O’Brien	Present	Mrs. Romeo	Present

Minutes for the Budget/Regular Meeting of February 21, 2023

MS. BARBARA FRANCISCO, BOARD SECRETARY, CALLED THE ROLL:

ADMINISTRATION	POSITION	ATTENDANCE
Dr. Alex Anemone	Superintendent of Schools	Present
Ms. Barbara Francisco	Board Secretary/Business Administrator	Present
Mr. Daniel Novak	Director of Education	Present
Dr. Karen D'Avino	Interim Director of Special Services	Present
Andrew Brown, Esq.	Board of Education Attorney	Present
Gabriella Meza	Student Representative	Present

There were approximately 9 members of the public in attendance.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - Dr. Alex Anemone

- Dr. Anemone reported on the HIB/ITP Training and Program Information biannual report for Period 1 (July 1 through December 31). Our Anti-Bullying Coordinator, Mr. Rowe, received all of our information from the Principals that is being reporting on. For Period 1, there were two (2) Districtwide trainings, and there was a "Hidden in Plain Sight" event this past Fall. District totals for the first half of the school year: nine (9) HIB investigations, and of these, four (4) were affirmed as bullying and five (5) were not; Apshawa - 0 investigations initiated; Maple Road - 2 investigations and neither were affirmed as HIB; Marshall Hill - 0 investigations; Paradise Knoll - 0 investigations; Upper Greenwood Lake - 0 investigations; Westbrook - 0 investigations; Macopin - 4 investigations and two (2) were affirmed by the Board as bullying and two (2) were affirmed as not bullying; and West Milford High School - three (3) investigations, two (2) were bullying, and one (1) was not. This information will be uploaded to the Department of Education website, and it goes into our annual self-assessment for HIB scores for every school. He indicated that Period 2 will be reported on over the Summer.
- Student Representative - Gabriella Meza. Miss Meza was not in attendance. She will attend the March meeting and provide the Board with a report.

VII. DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION'S REPORT - Mr. Daniel Novak

- Mr. Novak provided a power point presentation on the West Milford Public Schools District Mathematics Goals. He introduced Jill Nitkinas from the High School Math Department, and Melissa Welch, High School Special Education Resource Center teacher. Both provided comments and information during the presentation. Mr. Novak provided the Board and the community a review of the District Math goal in place. He spoke about the Conquer Math training giving deeper insight, and gave some examples of what it looks like when implemented in our classrooms. Also discussed were the three (3) stages of learning Mathematics. The concrete stage, the representational or pictorial state, and the abstract stage. He concluded by sharing the essential goal of mathematical understanding, and the importance of transferring students from one stage to the next. Mrs. Nitkinas and Mrs. Welch shared that this training has invigorated them, and that the students have been very receptive and positive, and are showing improvement.

Board members had questions. Mr. Novak responded to their inquiries.

VII. DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION'S REPORT - Mr. Novak - Continued

- Mr. Novak spoke about our February 21, 2023 Professional Development Day. He stated that it was one of the more exciting days of his career here in West Milford. He spoke about our guest keynote speaker, Mr. Gerry Brooks, who is very well known in the teacher world, on YouTube, and an Instagram sensation. His message was received extremely well by our staff. He also spoke about a tremendous day of staff led professional development, and how he worked with the Educational Technology Committee to help plan the day. He explained the day was broken into three (3) sessions. The first session entitled "Learn," the second entitled "Together," and the third entitled "Wellness." He provided the Board with detailed information regarding each session. Mr. Novak thanked everyone that was part of this Professional Day. He thanked Mr. Robert Winston and his Technology team, the custodians, and the West Milford Education Association who provided breakfast items, coffee and lunch to all of our staff. He expressed that it was an amazing day.

VIII. SPECIAL REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE - Ms. Barbara Francisco, Board Secretary/
Business Administrator

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, to approve the following Board of Education meeting minutes:

- January 3, 2023 Reorganization Meeting
- January 24, 2023 Workshop/Special Action Meeting
- January 24, 2023 Executive Session
- January 31, 2023 Budget/Ethics/Regular Meeting

VOICE VOTE: **Mrs. Dwyer "Abstained" to the January 3, 2023 Reorganization Meeting minutes.**

All Others in Favor.

MOTION PASSED.

IX. PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Mrs. Kate Romeo

Mrs. Romeo thanked everyone in the District for all of their support after the passing of her father. The words, encouragement and empathy made the situation easier for her and her family. She knows that West Milford is a special place, and what she has witnessed in the past month really proves that. She asked that everyone continue to lift people up, the way her and her family were lifted up.

Mrs. Romeo expressed thanks and excitement regarding stories of student activities in Elementary schools, PTA meetings, and things that are happening where we are combining the District. She is happy that everybody is joining together and she is hearing incredible stories. She feels that although change is difficult, it seems like people are really embracing it. She is thankful for these combined activities, because it seems that relationship building is occurring.

Mrs. Romeo also spoke about her attendance at Professional Development Day. She expressed that by far it was one of the best she had ever seen. She thanked Alison Scully for coming up with the idea and the WMEA for breakfast and lunch. She stated that it was such a great day to see the excitement all over social media. She thanked the Education Committee, Mr. Novak, and everyone in his office for all of their hard work.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA ITEMS (PLEASE SIGN IN)

This portion of the meeting is open to members of the public for the purpose of addressing resolutions on this agenda only. Members of the public who have requested to speak prior to the meeting will be recognized by the chair first. Each speaker will be given five (5) minutes, for a period of thirty (30) minutes; and then time permitting, other public comment limited to five (5) minutes per speaker will be allowed, until the thirty (30) minute period transpires. All members of the public speaking during this public comment period are asked to address topics listed in the agenda. All speakers are asked to sign the register provided and to give their full name, spell their last name, group affiliation, if appropriate, and provide their address. Issues raised by members of the public may or may not be responded to by the Board. All comments will be considered and a response will be forthcoming if and when appropriate.

The Board asks that members of the public be courteous and respectful of the rights of other individuals when speaking. Specifically, comments regarding students and employees of the Board are discouraged, and the Board and the Administration will not respond to them. Students and employees have specific legal rights afforded to them by the laws of New Jersey. The Board is not responsible and is not liable for any comments made by members of the public. Members of the public should consider their comments in light of the legal rights of those affected or identified in their comments. Members of the public are reminded that they are legally responsible and liable for their comments.

Motion by Mrs. O'Brien, seconded by Mr. Cytowicz, to close Public Comment.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

XI. MOTION BY MRS. O'BRIEN, SECONDED BY MRS. DWYER, TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED AND AMENDED.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

XII. EDUCATION - Mrs. Claire Lockwood, Chairperson

Motion by Mrs. Lockwood, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, to approve the following agenda items #1 through #11:

1. The recommendation of the Superintendent to adopt the following resolution proclaiming March 2023 as **MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH**:

WHEREAS, the study of music contributes to young people's development through heightened skills in listening, reading, self-expression, and creativity; and

WHEREAS, music education in the schools includes a broad range of types of music and active musical experiences; and

WHEREAS, music and the other arts significantly enhance the morale and quality of the school environment; and

XII. EDUCATION - Mrs. Lockwood, Chairperson - Continued

1. (Continued)

WHEREAS, it is the stated objective of the public school to prepare children for a productive role in our society; and

WHEREAS, NAFME: The National Association for Music Education has designated March as **MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH**, focusing on the theme **"Your Art, Your Voice."**

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Board of Education of West Milford Township endorses the observance of **MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH** as an opportunity to support the purposes and practices of music education and encourages teachers, parents, students, and all citizens to participate.

The Board of Education of the West Milford School District, for its own part, rededicates itself to the maintenance of a music education program that will be relevant to the needs of the children placed in its care and will reach and positively influence each child and that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the public meeting of the West Milford Board of Education held on February 21, 2023.

2. The recommendation of the Superintendent to adopt the following resolution proclaiming March 2023 as **YOUTH ART MONTH**:

WHEREAS, art education contributes powerful educational benefits to all elementary and secondary students including the following:

- * art education develops students' creative problem solving and critical thinking abilities;
- * art education teaches sensitivity to beauty, order, and other expressive qualities;
- * art education gives students a deeper understanding of world cultures, values, and beliefs;
- * art education reinforces and brings to life what students learn in other subjects; and
- * art education integrates student learning in art production, art history, art criticism and aesthetics, philosophy; and

WHEREAS, our national leaders have acknowledged the necessity of including arts experiences in all students' education;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that support should be given to art educators as they attempt to strengthen art education in their schools and communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is proclaimed that March be observed as **YOUTH ART MONTH** focusing on the theme, **"Your Art, Your Voice"** in the schools of the West Milford Township School District, and that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the public meeting of the West Milford Board of Education held on February 21, 2023.

3. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following **HIGH SCHOOL OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP(S)** for the 2022-2023 school year:

XII. EDUCATION - Mrs. Lockwood, Chairperson - Continued

3. (Continued)

COLOR GUARD

Purpose of Trip: Compete in the NASSP (National Association of Secondary School Principals) approved WGI World Championships in Dayton, Ohio. This experience would allow the members to meet and interact with groups from across the country and West Milford High School Color Guard to be nationally recognized as a top color guard in this prestigious competition.

Location:	Dayton, Ohio
Dates of Trip:	April 12 - April 16, 2023
Number of Students:	12
Cost of Trip to Students:	\$1,054.00
Name of Advisor(s):	Peter Shaver
Name of Chaperone(s):	Erica McPartland Casey McCoy
Number of School Days Missed:	0 (Spring Break)
Cost to District:	\$0.00

NOTE: All student and chaperone fees are included in the total cost of the trip.

CHOIR

Purpose of Trip: This is a national Choral Festival held in Hershey, Pennsylvania.

Location:	Hershey, Pennsylvania
Dates of Trip:	May 11 - May 13, 2023
Number of Students:	38
Cost of Trip to Students:	\$778.95
Name of Advisor(s):	Douglas Heyburn
Name of Chaperone(s):	Heather Burns David Gerold
Number of School Days Missed:	2
Cost to District:	\$0.00

NOTE: All student and chaperone fees are included in the total cost of the trip.

4. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following field trip destination(s) to be added to the list of Board approved **FIELD TRIP LOCATION(S)** for the 2022-2023 school year:

- Morley's Magic Theater, Butler, New Jersey

5. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following **ADDITION** to the **GENERAL EDUCATION/SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT CONSULTANTS, PHYSICIANS, HOSPITALS/MEDICAL CENTERS, CLINICS, AGENCIES,** and listed fees for the 2022-2023 school year:

XII. EDUCATION - Mrs. Lockwood, Chairperson - Continued

5. (Continued)

Psychiatrist - Evaluation

Jeffrey Ilardi, MD \$1,600.00 per evaluation

6. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following **SCHOOL YEAR SPECIAL EDUCATION OUT-OF-DISTRICT DAY SCHOOL TUITION CONTRACTS**, retroactive from November 28, 2022, through June 30, 2023 (tuition prorated):

<u>Number of Students</u>	<u>Tuition</u>	<u>Placement</u>
1	\$44,330.85	ECLC of New Jersey
1:1 Aide Student #: 70365	\$22,575.00	Ho-Ho-Kus, New Jersey

7. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following **SCHOOL YEAR SPECIAL EDUCATION OUT-OF-DISTRICT DAY SCHOOL TUITION CONTRACT with OTHER LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCIES**, retroactive from January 26, 2023 through June 30, 2023 (tuition prorated):

<u>Number of Students</u>	<u>Tuition</u>	<u>Placement</u>
1 Student #: 74182	\$32,527.00	Brownstone School (Bergen County Special Services) Saddle Brook, New Jersey

8. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve **EXTRA THERAPIES** provided by **BERGEN COUNTY SPECIAL SERVICES**, per the student's IEP (ID#'s 70547, 71215), not to exceed \$3,000.00 per student, for the 2022-2023 school year.

9. The recommendation of the Superintendent to accept a proposal from **INNOVATIONS IN ONLINE EDUCATION, INC.**, for 2023 Academic Spring Semester Courses (Italian), in the amount of \$22,500.00. (Documentation provided electronically.)

10. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve **TRAINING AND TRAVEL RELATED EXPENDITURES** for **DANIEL NOVAK** and **GREGORY MATLOSZ** to attend the Disney Institute - Disney's Approach to Leadership Excellence, from May 22, 2023, through May 25, 2023, at the mileage rate established by the Board. (Documentation provided electronically.)

NOTE: The original request was approved at the January 24, 2023 Board Meeting for the April 17-20, 2023 session. Upon registration, we were informed that this session had been filled. We are now requesting approval for the May session.

11. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve **TRAINING AND TRAVEL RELATED EXPENDITURES** for Instructional and School Support Staff, at the mileage rate established by the Board. (Documentation provided electronically.)

XII. EDUCATION - Mrs. Lockwood, Chairperson - Continued

ROLL CALL FOR ITEMS #1 THROUGH #11:

TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE
Mrs. Lockwood	Yes	Mr. Cytowicz	Yes	Mr. Lippe	Absent
Mr. Guarino	Yes	Mrs. Dwyer	Yes	Mrs. O'Brien	Yes*
Mrs. Racano	Yes	Mrs. Van Dyk	Absent	Mrs. Romeo	Yes

*Mrs. O'Brien voted "No" to item #10.

The **MOTION PASSED.**

XIII. PERSONNEL/STUDENT AFFAIRS - Mrs. Lynda Van Dyk, Chairperson

NOTE: All appointees recommended for employment will meet the New Jersey State law requirements for the criminal history review prior to their start date.

Motion by Mrs. Racano, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, to approve the following agenda items #1 through #30:

DISCUSSION: Mrs. Dwyer inquired about item #20 and item #21, Literacy and Math Nights. She asked if they will eventually take place in all of the Elementary schools. Mr. Novak responded to her inquiry and provided an explanation on Title I funding for Family Literacy Night, and Title IV funding for Family Math Night.

Mr. Guarino spoke about item #1. He thanked Mrs. Grill for taking care of the children of Paradise Knoll School, and for taking care of the Paradise Knoll parents. He congratulated her on her retirement, and stated she will be sorely missed.

1. The recommendation of the Superintendent to accept, with regret, the resignation of **KAREN GRILL**, Principal's Secretary, Paradise Knoll School, effective July 1, 2023, for the purpose of retirement.
2. The recommendation of the Superintendent to accept, with regret, the resignation of **ANDREW FOSTEK**, Bus Driver, Transportation, retroactive from February 7, 2023, for the purpose of retirement.
3. The recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of **MELISSA DORAN**, Special Class Aide, Macopin School, retroactive from February 1, 2023.
4. The recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of **ARLENE HARRINGTON**, Bus Driver, Transportation, retroactive from February 7, 2023.
5. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the appointment of **KATIE DeBELL**, Health & Physical Education Teacher, High School (PC#90.09.26.ANF), at the annual salary of \$56,100.00 (BA/1) (prorated), with health benefits, effective February 22, 2023, through June 30, 2023, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement. (Replaces Rakotci)
Account: 11-140-100-101-10-10-000

XIII. PERSONNEL/STUDENT AFFAIRS - Mrs. Van Dyk, Chairperson - Continued

6. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the appointment of **MARIE SOMMERS**, Replacement Special Education Teacher, Upper Greenwood Lake School (PC#99.06.00.BWA), at the annual salary of \$70,500.00 (MA+30/8) (prorated), without health benefits, effective March 20, 2023, through June 23, 2023, per Board of Education Agreement. (Replaces Patiro) Account: 11-000-219-104-10-10-142

NOTE: Pending medical and fingerprint clearance. This appointment is pursuant to Chapter 408, P.L. for the 2022-2023 school year. The duration of the position is based on the date of the employee's return to work.

7. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the appointment of **GINA EDMOND**, Replacement English Teacher, Macopin School (PC#99.08.00.CBX), at the per diem rate of \$250.00, with health benefits, effective March 6, 2023, through May 8, 2023, per Board of Education Agreement. (Replaces Ruglio) Account: 11-130-100-101-10-10-103

NOTE: The duration of this position is based on the date of the employee's return to work.

8. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the appointment of **AMBER LIEBAU**, Replacement English Teacher, Macopin School (PC#99.08.00.CIK), at the per diem rate of \$250.00, with health benefits, effective March 6, 2023, through May 8, 2023, per Board of Education Agreement. (Replaces Hefferon) Account: 11-130-100-101-10-10-103

9. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a leave of absence for **ALICE SUSKA**, Grade 4 Teacher, Marshall Hill School, with pay using sick days, retroactive from February 7, 2023, through March 3, 2023. (Medical)

NOTE: The employee may return prior to the above date pending medical certification.

10. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a leave of absence for **LEONEL ANDRADE**, World Language Teacher, High School, with pay using sick days, retroactive from January 19, 2023, through February 20, 2023. (Medical)

11. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve an **EXTENSION** to a leave of absence for **DENISE PODMOKLY**, Cafeteria/Vehicle Aide, Paradise Knoll School/Transportation, without pay, retroactive from February 14, 2023, through June 12, 2023. (Medical)

NOTE: The employee may return prior to the above date pending medical certification.

12. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a leave of absence for **DIANA O'DONNELL**, Bus Driver, Transportation, with pay using sick days, effective February 27, 2023, through March 10, 2023, then without pay under the Family Medical Leave Act, effective March 11, 2023, through June 9, 2023, then without pay, effective June 12, 2023, through June 30, 2023. (Maternity/Child Rearing)

NOTE: The employee may return prior to the above date pending medical certification.

XIII. PERSONNEL/STUDENT AFFAIRS - Mrs. Van Dyk, Chairperson - Continued

13. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following additions to the certified personnel list of **SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS/COACHES/NURSES/SPECIAL PROJECTS** for the 2022-2023 school year, effective February 22, 2023, through June 30, 2023:

JAMES BOLGER (Coach)
KELLY ROCKEY (Teacher)
MARIE SOMMERS (Teacher)

14. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following additions to the non-certified personnel list of **SUBSTITUTE SECRETARIES/BUILDING AIDES/CAFETERIA AIDES/SPECIAL CLASS AIDES/SACC AIDES/OPERATIONS/SCHOOL BUS/VAN/SPECIAL USE VEHICLE DRIVERS & VEHICLE AIDES** for the 2022-2023 school year, effective February 22, 2023, through June 30, 2023:

AMBER LIEBAU (SACC)
MELISSA LIEBAU (SACC)

15. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the appointment of **RONALD ROWE**, Lead Teacher, **SUMMER READING and LITERACY PROGRAM**, to coordinate program development, implementation, and reporting, at a total cost not to exceed \$10,895.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 20-487-100-101-10-50-103 - ARP ESSER III Grant

NOTE: Funded through ARP ESSER III Grant.

16. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following **TRANSFER OF ASSIGNMENTS**, for the 2022-2023 school year, effective February 22, 2023, through June 30, 2023:

<u>Employee</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
MARY JEANNE NEWELL (PC#60.08.S5.AVM; PC#60.09.S5.AVY) Account: 11-209-100-106-10-10-000	Special Class Aide Highlander Academy	Special Class Aide Macopin/High School
ROSEMARY JANSEN (PC#60.09.S5.AVB) Account: 11-209-100-106-10-10-105	Special Class Aide Macopin	Special Class Aide Highlander Academy

17. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following **TRANSFER OF ASSIGNMENTS**, for the 2023-2024 school year, effective September 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024:

<u>Employee</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
ERIN BRANAGAN (PC#90.05.53.XXX) Account: 11-214-100-101-10-10-000	Special Education Teacher (CLIMB) Marshall Hill	Special Education Teacher (CLIMB) Paradise Knoll
MARILYN LASALANDRA (PC#90.05.53.XXX) Account: 11-214-100-101-10-10-000	Special Education Teacher (CLIMB) Marshall Hill	Special Education Teacher (CLIMB) Paradise Knoll

XIII. PERSONNEL/STUDENT AFFAIRS - Mrs. Van Dyk, Chairperson - Continued

17. (Continued)

<u>Employee</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
JONELLE PETROU (PC#90.03.53.KDS)	Special Education Teacher (CLIMB) Marshall Hill	Special Education Teacher (CLIMB) Maple Road
Account: 11-214-100-101-10-10-000		
ELIZABETH MESSANO (PC#90.04.39.XXX)	Special Education Teacher (Preschool Disabled) Maple Road	Special Education Teacher (Preschool Disabled) Marshall Hill
Account: 11-215-100-101-10-10-000		

18. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the addition of **DOMENICA BASSORA** for a **CLIMB PARENT PRESENTATION**, to be held March 6, 2023, at the hourly rate of \$36.00, not to exceed two (2) hours, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 11-401-100-110-10-10-000

19. The recommendation of the Superintendent to retroactively approve **RACHEL FERRIS**, Guidance Counselor, Macopin, for the **5TH GRADE PARENTS' NIGHT - MACOPIN SCHEDULING PRESENTATION**, at the hourly rate of \$36.00, for two (2) hours, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement. Account: 11-000-218-104-10-10-071

20. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the addition of **SHAWN RHINESMITH** to the **MARSHALL HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FAMILY LITERACY NIGHT**, in the amount of \$180.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 20-231-100-101-10-50-XXX - ESEA Title I Grant.

NOTE: Funded through the ESEA Title I Grant. (Replaces Mulligan.)

21. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following **ELEMENTARY FAMILY MATH NIGHTS, ADVISORS, and HOURS** for the 2022-2023 school year, at the hourly rate of \$36.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 20-280-200-101-10-50-XXX - ESEA Title IV Grant:

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
KATIE BONFORTE	Paradise Knoll	2	\$ 72.00
JESSICA COHEN	Paradise Knoll	2	\$ 72.00
DEIRDRE COLLINS	Paradise Knoll	2	\$ 72.00
KELLY FRASCA	Paradise Knoll	2	\$ 72.00
TRICIA GINDER	Paradise Knoll	2	\$ 72.00
SHARON JENSEN	Paradise Knoll	2	\$ 72.00
LEIGH ANN MISIANO	Paradise Knoll	2	\$ 72.00
JENNIFER CASPERSON	Westbrook	3.5	\$126.00
JODIE COMUNE	Westbrook	3.5	\$126.00
HOLLY STANLEY	Westbrook	3.5	\$126.00
SUZANNE OESTERLE	Westbrook	3.5	\$126.00

NOTE: Funded through the ESEA Title IV Grant.

22. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following **MARSHALL HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENT ACTIVITY CLUB, ADVISOR, and HOURS** for the 2022-2023 school year, at the hourly rate of \$36.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 20-490-100-101-10-50-103 - ARP ESSER III Grant:

XIII. PERSONNEL/STUDENT AFFAIRS - Mrs. Van Dyk, Chairperson - Continued

22. (Continued)

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
KELLYANN MCKEAN	Newspaper Club	5	\$180.00

NOTE: Funded through the ARP ESSER III Grant.

23. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following **PARADISE KNOLL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENT ACTIVITY CLUB, ADVISORS, and HOURS** for the 2022-2023 school year, at the hourly rate of \$36.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 20-490-100-101-10-50-103 - ARP ESSER III Grant:

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
JULIE CHESHIRE	Intro to Chess	5	\$180.00
SHANNON RICKER	Intro to Chess	5	\$180.00

NOTE: Funded through the ARP ESSER III Grant.

24. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following **UPPER GREENWOOD LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENT ACTIVITY CLUB, ADVISOR, and HOURS** for the 2022-2023 school year, at the hourly rate of \$36.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 20-231-100-101-10-50-XXX - ESEA Title I Grant:

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
JOHANNA ARCHER	Domino Master Builders	4	\$144.00

NOTE: Funded through the ESEA Title I Grant.

25. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve ***an amendment to a previously approved resolution (October 2022)*** for the following **UPPER GREENWOOD LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENT ACTIVITY, ADVISORS, and HOURS** for the 2022-2023 school year, at the hourly rate of \$36.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 20-490-100-101-10-50-103 - ARP ESSER III Grant:

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
DANIELLE POST	Tiny Tutors	10	\$360.00
KRISTINE RALICKI	Tiny Tutors	10	\$360.00

NOTE: Funded through ARP ESSER III Grant (Replaces Pasquino and Patiro.)

26. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following **WESTBROOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENT ACTIVITY CLUB, ADVISORS, and HOURS** for the 2022-2023 school year, at the hourly rate of \$36.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement:

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
MEGHAN DONEGAN	Family Literacy Night	3.5	\$126.00
LYNN DOHERTY	Family Literacy Night	3.5	\$126.00

XIII. PERSONNEL/STUDENT AFFAIRS - Mrs. Van Dyk, Chairperson - Continued

26. (Continued)

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
STEPHANIE SANACORE	Family Literacy Night	3.5	\$126.00
HOLLY STANLEY	Family Literacy Night	3.5	\$126.00

NOTE: Funded by the PTA.

27. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following **MACOPIN SCHOOL STUDENT ACTIVITY CLUB, ADVISORS, and HOURS** for the 2022-2023 school year, at the hourly rate of \$36.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 20-490-100-101-10-50-103 - ARP ESSER III Grant:

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
CHRISTIAN CONWAY	Pokemon Club	12	\$432.00
RYAN KYPERS	Pokemon Club	12	\$432.00

NOTE: Funded through the ARP ESSER III Grant.

28. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following staff members for the **HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ACTIVITY ASSIGNMENT, DISTRICT ARTS FESTIVAL**, for the 2022-2023 school year, at a stipend of \$74.00 per chaperone - Account: 11-401-100-110-10-10-000:

<u>Chaperone</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
COLLEEN LESLIE	Apshawa
SARAH WARREN	Apshawa
KRISTI CLAVE	Maple Road
TRICIA GRANEY	Maple Road
ERIN BRANAGAN	Marshall Hill
CHRISTINE GENARDI-FISHER	Marshall Hill
BRIAN LESLIE	Paradise Knoll
JULIE McCALL-BRAMLEY	Paradise Knoll
BAILEY DOMENICK	Upper Greenwood Lake
COLLEEN MILNES	Upper Greenwood Lake
JENNIFER BALOGH	Westbrook
AMANDA MENIER	Westbrook

29. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following **HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ACTIVITY ASSIGNMENTS, DISTRICT ARTS FESTIVAL**, for the 2022-2023 school year - Account: 11-401-100-110-10-10-000:

<u>Staff Member</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
<u>High School</u>		
HEATHER BURNS	Theater Teacher	\$144.00
CYNTHIA GALLAUGHER	Art/Technology Education Teacher	\$144.00
JOSEPH JORDAN	Art/Technology Education Teacher	\$144.00
NIKLAS LATRONICA	Art/Technology Education Teacher	\$144.00
EDWARD MARZALIK	Art/Technology Education Teacher	\$144.00
JENNIFER MONEGO	Art/Technology Education Teacher	\$216.00
PETER SHAVER	Art/Technology Education Teacher	\$144.00
LEONARD VAN WINGERDEN	Art/Technology Education Teacher	\$144.00
DAVID GEROLD	Art/Technology Education Teacher	\$144.00

XIII. PERSONNEL/STUDENT AFFAIRS - Mrs. Van Dyk, Chairperson - Continued

29. (Continued)

<u>Staff Member</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
<u>Grades 6-12</u>		
MATTHEW GRAMATA	Music Teacher	\$360.00
DOUGLAS HEYBURN	Music Teacher	\$360.00
SUSAN KACZOR	Music Teacher	\$360.00
BRIAN McLAUGHLIN	Music Teacher	\$720.00
ERICA McPARTLAND	Music Teacher	\$360.00
MATTHEW PACCIONE	Music Teacher	\$360.00
LORRAINE POAT	Art Teacher	\$180.00
BETH ELSEA	Art Teacher	\$180.00
<u>Grades K-5</u>		
CHELSEA PIRES	Art Teacher	\$180.00
JENNA SOKOLIK	Art Teacher	\$180.00
JESSICA ZIEGENBALG	Art Teacher	\$180.00
KRISTEN CALLAHAN	Music Teacher	\$432.00
COURTNEY MATTIE	Music Teacher	\$432.00
CHRISTINE PATERNO	Music Teacher	\$432.00

30. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following **COLLEGE STUDENT** for the purpose of field experience, for the 2022-2023 school year, at no cost to the District:

<u>Student</u>	<u>College</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Timeframe</u>
JOSHUA WAUCHEK	Fairleigh Dickinson	High School	February 22, 2023 - June 1, 2023

ROLL CALL FOR ITEMS #1 THROUGH #30:

TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE
Mrs. Van Dyk	Absent	Mrs. Lockwood	Yes	Mrs. Dwyer	Yes
Mrs. O'Brien	Yes	Mr. Cytowicz	Yes	Mrs. Racano	Yes
Mr. Guarino	Yes	Mr. Lippe	Absent	Mrs. Romeo	Yes

The **MOTION PASSED.**

XIV. OPERATIONS & FINANCE - Mr. Raymond Guarino, Chairperson

Motion by Mr. Guarino, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, to approve the following agenda items #1 through #3:

1. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:24-54 permits a Board of Education to transfer the proceeds of a capital project when the project is completed, and such funds are no longer necessary for the original purpose or any other authorized purpose; and

XIV. OPERATIONS & FINANCE – Mr. Guarino, Chairperson – Continued

1. (Continued)

WHEREAS, the aforementioned statute authorizes the Board of Education to determine whether to apply such funds to either the general fund or the debt service fund of the district; and

WHEREAS, the West Milford Board of Education has determined that \$104,002 is available for such transfer;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the West Milford Board of Education that it hereby authorizes the district’s School Business Administrator to transfer \$104,002 of this available balance to the debt service fund consistent with all applicable laws and regulations.

- 2. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a reimbursement to **THE FRIENDS OF WALLISCH HOMESTEAD**, for WiFi usage in an amount not to exceed \$1,000.00 per year, for the 2022-2023 school year.
- 3. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve **TRAINING AND TRAVEL RELATED EXPENDITURES** for Board Office Staff, at the mileage rate established by the Board. (Documentation provided electronically.)

ROLL CALL FOR ITEMS #1 THROUGH #3:

TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE
Mr. Guarino	Yes	Mrs. Dwyer	Yes	Mr. Lippe	Absent
Mrs. Racano	Yes	Mr. Cytowicz	Yes	Mrs. Van Dyk	Absent
Mrs. Lockwood	Yes	Mrs. O’Brien	Yes	Mrs. Romeo	Yes

The **MOTION PASSED.**

Motion by Mr. Guarino, seconded by Mrs. O’Brien, to approve the following agenda item #4:

- 4. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the **PAYROLL** of February 15, 2023, in the amount of \$2,100,715.50. (Documentation provided electronically.)

ROLL CALL FOR ITEM #4:

TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE
Mr. Guarino	Abstain	Mrs. Dwyer	Yes	Mr. Lippe	Absent
Mrs. Racano	Yes	Mr. Cytowicz	Yes	Mrs. Van Dyk	Absent
Mrs. Lockwood	Yes	Mrs. O’Brien	Yes	Mrs. Romeo	Abstain

The **MOTION PASSED.**

Motion by Mr. Guarino, seconded by Mrs. Dwyer, to approve the following agenda items #5 through #8:

XIV. OPERATIONS & FINANCE – Mr. Guarino, Chairperson – Continued

5. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the **LIST OF BILLS/ VENDORS** for the period ending **February 21, 2023**, in the amount of \$1,071,943.27. (Documentation provided electronically.)

6. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following **TRANSFER OF FUNDS RESOLUTION** for the period ending **February 21, 2023**:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Township of West Milford that the following transfers made on the financial records of the Board affecting the **2022-2023** budget be affirmed and approved. (See folder insert.)

Total transfers in the amount of \$294,330.04.

7. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Agenda file of **February 21, 2023** Regular Meeting of the Board contains the A148 Report of the Secretary and the A149 Treasurer’s Monthly Report; and

WHEREAS, both the A148 and A149 are in agreement with the cash balance in the Governmental Funds of:

\$14,007,509.50 as of January 31, 2023; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Report of the Secretary and the Treasurer’s Monthly Report be accepted. (Documentation provided electronically.)

8. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board certify as of January 31, 2023, after review of the Secretary’s Monthly (A-148) Report and Treasurer’s Monthly Report (A-149), and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials that, to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been over-expended in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-13.3 and 6A:23A-16.10, and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

ROLL CALL FOR ITEMS #5 THROUGH #8:

TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE
Mr. Guarino	Yes	Mrs. O’Brien	Yes	Mrs. Van Dyk	Absent
Mr. Cytowicz	Yes	Mrs. Lockwood	Yes	Mrs. Racano	Yes
Mr. Lippe	Absent	Mrs. Dwyer	Yes	Mrs. Romeo	Yes

The **MOTION PASSED**.

XV. POLICY – Mr. William Cytowicz, Chairperson

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mrs. O’Brien, to approve the following agenda item #1, and items #3 through #19: (**ITEM #2 WAS PULLED FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION**)

XV. POLICY - Mr. Cytowicz, Chairperson - Continued

1. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised BYLAW** entitled, "Public Participation in Board Meetings." (Code 0167) (Documentation provided electronically.)

ITEM #2 WAS PULLED FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

3. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the second reading of a **revised BYLAW** entitled, "Board Officers." (Code 0152) (Documentation provided electronically.)
4. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the second reading of a **revised BYLAW** entitled, "Call, Adjournment, and Cancellation." (Code 0161) (Documentation provided electronically.)
5. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the second reading of a **revised BYLAW** entitled, "Notice of Board Meetings." (Code 0162) (Documentation provided electronically.)
6. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the second reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Bilingual and ESL Education." (Code 2423) (Documentation provided electronically.)
7. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the second reading of a **revised REGULATION** entitled, "Bilingual and ESL Education." (Code 2423) (Documentation provided electronically.)
8. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the second reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program." (Code 2425) (Documentation provided electronically.)
9. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the second reading of a **new REGULATION** entitled, "Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program." (Code 2425) (Documentation provided electronically.)
10. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the second reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Attendance." (Code 5200) (Documentation provided electronically.)
11. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the second reading of a **revised REGULATION** entitled, "Attendance." (Code 5200) (Documentation provided electronically.)
12. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the second reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying." (Code 5512) (Documentation provided electronically.)
13. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the second reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Student Enrollments." (Code 8140) (Documentation provided electronically.)
14. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the second reading of a **revised REGULATION** entitled, "Enrollment Accounting." (Code 8140) (Documentation provided electronically.)
15. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the second reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Student Records." (Code 8330) (Documentation provided electronically.)

XV. POLICY - Mr. Cytowicz, Chairperson - Continued

- 16. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the second reading of a **revised REGULATION** entitled, "Student Records." (Code 8330) (Documentation provided electronically.)
- 17. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the second reading of a **revised REGULATION** entitled, "Bomb Threats." (Code 8420.2) (Documentation provided electronically.)
- 18. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the second reading of a **revised REGULATION** entitled, "Lockdown Procedures." (Code 8420.7) (Documentation provided electronically.)
- 19. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the second reading of a **revised REGULATION** entitled, "Active Shooter." (Code 8420.10) (Documentation provided electronically.)

ROLL CALL FOR ITEM #1 AND ITEMS #3 THROUGH #19:

TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE
Mr. Cytowicz	Yes	Mr. Guarino	Yes	Mrs. Dwyer	Yes
Mr. Lippe	Absent	Mrs. Racano	Yes	Mrs. Lockwood	Yes
Mrs. O'Brien	Yes	Mrs. Van Dyk	Absent	Mrs. Romeo	Yes

The **MOTION PASSED.**

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, to approve the following agenda item #2:

- 2. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Assignment of Students." (Code 5120) (Documentation provided electronically.)

DISCUSSION: Mr. Cytowicz explained that the reason why this is on the agenda was to discuss the shortened version of what the Committee had for "Assignment of Students." There was discussion among the Committee that the change in policy to make it where students were to be put into their geographic zone based on essentially the Ross Haber study. There were opinions of whether or not we should afford students different assignments, if requested.

Mr. Guarino inquired as to whether or not the Committee all agreed.

Mrs. Racano stated that we agreed to put the item on the Agenda.

Mr. Cytowicz went further to explain that because of the restructuring, our policy as currently written allows for changes to be made where a student goes to Elementary school. With the policy that is currently before the Board for a vote, we would be limiting that dramatically in order to keep students within the attendance zone. Some were in favor of restricting the programs while we are going through the restructuring process. That is why the Committee opened it up to this agenda for a first reading to discuss whether or not individual members are in favor of it.

XV. POLICY - Mr. Cytowicz, Chairperson - Continued

DISCUSSION: Mrs. Romeo asked Mr. Cytowicz if we could approve a first reading, is this something that we wanted to discuss here tonight or do we want to bring it back to Committee for next month.

Mr. Cytowicz believes that discussion here, as Committee of the Whole, would provide an opportunity for input from everyone. If there isn't consensus, the resolution can be withdrawn and sent back to Committee, or voted on for first reading.

As a member of the Committee, Mrs. O'Brien feels this is a rather important topic, and that it should not be just the Committee discussing this, it should be all of the Board members. She feels that because of the restructuring, all of the Board had to deal with it, and this is a part of the aftermath of dealing with it. It is why we are bringing it to the Board tonight as a whole.

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mrs. Dwyer, that the Board go into a Committee of the Whole.

VOICE VOTE:

All in Favor.

MOTION PASSED.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Cytowicz feels that it is most important to give our professionals the ability to allow the restructuring process to happen without being inundated with requests to move students from here, there, and everywhere. Not to say that it would be a massive amount, but it could be a destructive amount where new sections are created for different schools, because one or two students moved from one school to another. He did not know if that is something that is shared.

Mrs. Dwyer agreed with Mr. Cytowicz, and thinks that when you open up school choice, you are telling parents that you can send your child to any school you want, provided the Superintendent approves it. She feels you are setting a precedent because if you do it for one child, you are going to have to do it for the District. She feels right now, there are many people that are looking at this policy and they are going to ask for school choice. She thinks it is in the Board's best interest to eliminate that this year while the restructuring is going on.

Mrs. Racano explained that she respectfully disagrees with Mr. Cytowicz and Mrs. Dwyer on this. She thinks that the policy as it is written is too absolute, and too black and white. She feels that in life and in education, there is always a gray area and an exception to a rule. She can think of two groups within our community. One being special education families, where their special education child has no choice but to go to a specific school, so you are essentially breaking up that family and causing a hardship for them. The other is our teachers, and we have teachers that take advantage of this. Mrs. Racano explained that if a teacher lives in Oak Ridge and their geographic school is Paradise Knoll, and they need to get to the High School to report for a 7:30 a.m. start, they cannot drop their child off at SACC and get there in time. The school choice benefits them in that instance.

XV. POLICY - Mr. Cytowicz, Chairperson - Continued

Mrs. Racano also stated that for our Elementary teachers, if they can bring their child to school with them, they are going to stay later and do those after school programs, otherwise they might be running to pick their child up from SACC to save some money. She thinks that giving our administration the flexibility to make these one off exceptions is important, and feels that we need to, as a District and as a community, recognize that there are exceptions.

Mrs. Lockwood feels that she is in between right now. Her concern is what if it does have to open up another section, and then we have to hire another teacher, and right now we are under budget constraints. That is her only concern, where the students lie and where they end up if that were to happen.

Mrs. Romeo agreed with all of their comments. She would like to see the Committee going back to the table next month and creating bullet points of priority for school choice. She is not comfortable eliminating school choice altogether. She thinks it is unfair to many stakeholders, and she would personally be very uncomfortable with that. She spoke about how it is the Board's job to create policy. She explained that the Board can have a stop point because we cannot hire new teachers for school choice, and she feels that the Board would probably all agree with that. She appreciates this was opened up for discussion, because she feels it is important. She feels that to say no altogether is extremely unfair to our community as a whole. She would like to see it go back to Committee and have Dr. Anemone's input, knowing that we are not adding teachers.

Mrs. O'Brien has no problem taking this back to the Committee. She would like to ensure that we do not have anything written in the policy that is not appropriate, especially for the Board and especially for Dr. Anemone. She would like it reviewed by our Board attorney.

Mr. Cytowicz stated it's imperative that if you want to see bullet points and if you want to make sure that things are put into the policy or taken away from the policy that we communicated. Mr. Cytowicz feels the Board should make a concerted effort, and he would be happy to make a motion to postpone it.

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mrs. Dwyer, to come out of Committee of the Whole.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, to postpone item #2 under Policy.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

XVI. COMMITTEE REPORTS/LIAISONS

Parks & Recreation - Mrs. Racano/Mr. Lippe - Mrs. Racano spoke about a meeting on Thursday, February 16th, and provided highlights including Bubbling Springs hiring lifeguards, indoor soccer, the playground at Bubbling Springs being redone, Legacy Field and Farrell Field, as well as events for Seniors and Eagle Scout projects.

Safety - Mrs. Dwyer/Mrs. O'Brien - Mrs. Dwyer stated there was a Safety Committee meeting two weeks ago. Detective Fantasia from the West Milford Police Department and Mr. Bill Kane, Maple Road Principal, emphasized the fact that we as a District are following all of the protocols and safety measures necessary, and we meet all of the standards set by the State.

Superintendent's Roundtable - Mrs. Racano/Mrs. Van Dyk - Mrs. Racano spoke about the meeting on February 2, 2023. The Committee discussed snow routes and parent communication on the day of the delayed opening on January 23rd. They also discussed parent and student concerns of students not being able to use the restroom all day for fear of being accused of vaping in Macopin and the High School. Parents asked if the District had a plan to combat vaping, especially inside of the schools. The website was discussed, as well as sports physicals and Kindergarten registration.

Passaic County School Boards Association - Mrs. Lockwood indicated that the next meeting is on March 13th at Clifton High School, and the event is "Unsung Heroes." The event recognizes a Senior from each High School who makes outstanding contributions to their schools and communities, but whom are often overlooked by traditional school recognized programs. She asked if anyone on the Board would like to attend this event with her.

New Jersey School Boards Association - Mr. Cytowicz/Mrs. Van Dyk - Mr. Cytowicz spoke about Governance I in-person training earlier in February, and how it will now be limited to virtual sessions. He spoke about Governance II and Governance III virtual training on February 27th, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. On March 9, 2023, there is a deadline if we want to submit a resolution to the Delegate Assembly. He explained that all of the New Jersey School Boards across the state have a person they choose who goes to the full assembly. These resolutions are things that the NJSBA will advocate for us on our behalf. If we have anything that we would like to see represented, we would craft a resolution here and then it would be submitted to NJSBA for the full Delegate Assembly to vote on. He discussed some of these items with the Board. Mrs. Romeo and Mrs. Dwyer also discussed items they would like to include.

Legislative - Mrs. O'Brien/Mr. Lippe - Mrs. O'Brien explained that on February 9th and 13th, the Assembly, Education and Senate Budget Appropriations Committee respectively met to advance various pieces of legislation. She stated that some of it should pertain to matters that were discussed earlier this evening. She provided detailed information to the Board and the community on these legislations. She indicated that under discussion is the elimination of the High School Graduation Proficiency Test. The Committee heard testimony, but did not vote on this bill.

Technology Oversight - Mr. Guarino/Mr. Lippe - Mr. Guarino indicated there was no meeting. He spoke about some issues and frustrations that have transpired with the Wi-Fi at the schools. He feels that something needs to be done to try and fix this, and that we need to get to a flawless phase with Wi-Fi signal in our district, like other districts have.

XVI. COMMITTEE REPORTS/LIAISONS - Continued

Township/Board of Education Joint Committee - Mr. Guarino/Mrs. Romeo/Mrs. Lockwood/Mr. Cytowicz - Mr. Cytowicz reported that on February 9th, the Joint Committee discussed the possibility of redeveloping some of the Board of Education property for community use, and we will be continuing that discussion on March 9th.

West Milford Municipal Alliance - Mrs. Van Dyk/Mrs. Lockwood - Mrs. Lockwood spoke about the meeting held on Monday, February 13th. The election of Chair, Co-Chair and Secretary took place, and the County audit went well. There were discussions about fundraising, creating a flyer, the Atlantic Health Grant, future guest speakers, trainings, and the second annual Wellness Family Festival which will take place in September. The Scott's Fun Run will be held on Saturday, May 13, 2023, and the next WMMA meeting will be on Monday, March 13th at 7:00 p.m., in the West Milford Library Conference Room and on Zoom.

Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (SEPAC) - Mrs. Lockwood/Mrs. O'Brien - Mrs. Lockwood indicated there will be a virtual parent only meeting on April 3, 2023, at 7:00 p.m., and the first SEPAC meeting for 2023 will be on April 4th at 7:00 p.m. at Westbrook School.

XVII. OLD BUSINESS

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, to close Old Business.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

XVIII. NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, to close New Business.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

XIX. PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA OR NON-AGENDA ITEMS (PLEASE SIGN IN)

This portion of the meeting is open to members of the public having a legitimate interest in the actions of the Board for the purpose of addressing any subject matter pertinent to and/or directly related to the operation of the West Milford Public School District. Members of the public who have requested to speak prior to the meeting will be recognized by the chair first. Each speaker will be given five (5) minutes, for a period of thirty (30) minutes; and then time permitting, other public comment limited to five (5) minutes per speaker will be allowed, until the thirty (30) minute period transpires. All speakers are asked to sign the register provided and give their full name, spell their last name, group affiliation, if appropriate, and provide their address. Issues raised by members of the public may or may not be responded to by the Board. All comments will be considered and a response will be forthcoming if and when appropriate.

XIX. PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA OR NON-AGENDA ITEMS - Continued

The Board asks that members of the public be courteous and respectful of the rights of other individuals when speaking. Specifically, comments regarding students and employees of the Board are discouraged, and the Board and the Administration will not respond to them. Students and employees have specific legal rights afforded to them by the laws of New Jersey. The Board is not responsible and is not liable for any comments made by members of the public. Members of the public should consider their comments in light of the legal rights of those affected or identified in their comments. Members of the public are reminded that they are legally responsible and liable for their comments.

Cortney Stephenson, 307 Ridge Road, West Milford. Mrs. Stephenson spoke about the Senior Walk Through. This fairly new tradition is where West Milford's graduating seniors walk through their elementary schools. Since Westbrook School is closing this year, this could be the last year this tradition happens. It is unfair to all of Westbrook Alumni to simply wave them off to choose a different school to walk through and it seems that the Administration and the Board does not care that our school was chosen to close. Since this is not a 100 year old tradition, this is an easy fix, and she suggests to discontinue it and honor the Westbrook community by choosing to make this right. She then spoke about the school choice policy and stated her thoughts on this subject. She feels that school choice should not be a Board run policy. The Board needs to trust the Administration and allow them to do their job. She also inquired about the homework policy and stated that her children are still not getting homework.

Dr. Marisa Gough, 34 Center Street, West Milford. She spoke about school choice and she agrees that it should be more of an Administration decision. She asked if it was at all possible to ask the community through a survey of what their thoughts are on this. She feels you could possibly get a percentage of how many families would prefer to have the ability to transfer their child. Once you have that percentage based on that survey, you can see if that would be feasible if you gave school choice. If you could not give everyone school choice, what would be the contingencies or exceptions to give it. She feels it would be very appropriate to ask the community and then leave it up to the Administration to make that decision for choice, instead of completely eliminating it. She also asked what the average enrollment for Kindergarten has been in the last few years. She understands it is currently less than normal. She spoke about growing up in a neighboring town and they had a similar situation where 4-5 years ago, they closed one of their Elementary schools and now they are in trouble. Their Pre-School and Kindergarten enrollment has skyrocketed and can no longer fit all of those children in their current Elementary school. Now they are only putting Pre-School and Kindergarten in that current Elementary school, and have to expand on the other Elementary school, which costs money. She would like to know the reason why people are not enrolling their children in our schools. She also inquired as to how the Stabilization Aid was broken down. Mrs. Romeo and Ms. Francisco responded to her inquiry.

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, to close Public Comment.

VOICE VOTE:

All in Favor.

MOTION PASSED.

XX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:41 p.m., Mrs. Lockwood made a motion, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing negotiations and HIBs. Action will be taken when the Board returns to the public meeting.

The executive session minutes will not be released until such time as the privilege or confidentiality is no longer applicable.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

ROLL CALL UPON RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION:

TRUSTEE	ATTENDANCE	TRUSTEE	ATTENDANCE	TRUSTEE	ATTENDANCE
Mrs. Van Dyk	Absent	Mrs. Dwyer	Present	Mrs. Lockwood	Present
Mr. Cytowicz	Present	Mrs. O'Brien	Present	Mr. Lippe	Absent
Mrs. Racano	Present	Mr. Guarino	Present	Mrs. Romeo	Present

XII. EDUCATION - Mrs. Claire Lockwood, Chairperson

Motion by Mrs. Lockwood, seconded by Mrs. Romeo, to approve the following agenda item #12:

12. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, in accordance with the requirements set forth in P.L. 2010, Chapter 122, the West Milford Board of Education has received results of HIB investigative reports on **February 21, 2023**; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the West Milford Board of Education approves issuance of written decisions affirming, rejecting or modifying the Superintendent's determination in the following HIB investigation(s):

<u>Incident Report Number</u>	<u>Board Determination</u>
2023/M-5	Substantiated
2023/E-3	Unsubstantiated

ROLL CALL FOR ITEM #12:

TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE
Mrs. Lockwood	Yes	Mrs. Dwyer	Yes	Mrs. Van Dyk	Absent
Mr. Cytowicz	Yes	Mrs. O'Brien	Yes	Mrs. Racano	Yes
Mr. Guarino	Yes	Mr. Lippe	Absent	Mrs. Romeo	Yes

The **MOTION PASSED.**

XXI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mr. Guarino, to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 p.m.

VOICE VOTE:

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Francisco
Board Secretary