#### WEST MILFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

46 Highlander Drive West Milford, NJ 07480 (973) 697-1700 www.wmtps.org

## BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES WORKSHOP/ETHICS/SPECIAL ACTION MEETING JANUARY 23, 2024

## DISTRICT GOALS - 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

- Continue our initiative to enhance the District Math program in order to provide students with the skills necessary to prepare for future success, as measured by the planning and implementation of a rigorous, standards-based curriculum, supported by the allocation of resources, use of formative assessments, and continued professional development.
- Stabilize District finances in light of the challenges of S2 reduction in State aid and declining enrollment, as measured by the identification of cost-effective solutions, and potential means of revenue generation.
- Continue to foster a culture that supports the mental and physical well-being of our students and staff, as measured by the identification and implementation of appropriate resources, professional development, and communication about available supports.
- Increase a sense of unity across all schools in the District as measured by the implementation of revised communication and branding strategies, and appropriate consistency of program implementation.

Mrs. Claire Lockwood, Board President, called to order the Workshop/Ethics/Special Action Meeting of the Board of Education at 7:00 p.m., in the Macopin School Auditorium. 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.

TRUSTEE	ATTENDANCE	TRUSTEE	ATTENDANCE	TRUSTEE	ATTENDANCE
Mr. Cytowicz	Absent/Arr. 7:20 p.m.	Mrs. Dwyer	Present	Mrs. Marquard	Present
Mrs. Jurgensen	Present	Mrs. Lockwood	Present	Mr. Lippe	Present
Mrs. Racano	Present	Mrs. Van Dyk	Present	Mrs. Romeo	Present

## MR. WILLIAM SCHOLTS, BOARD SECRETARY, CALLED THE ROLL:

## Minutes for the Workshop/Ethics/Special Action Meeting of January 23, 2024

## MR. WILLIAM SCHOLTS, BOARD SECRETARY, CALLED THE ROLL:

ADMINISTRATION	POSITION	ATTENDANCE
Dr. Lydia Furnari	Interim Superintendent of Schools	Present
Mr. William Scholts	Board Secretary/Business Administrator	Present
Mr. Daniel Novak	Director of Education	Present
Dr. Derek Ressa	Director of Special Services	Present
Andrew Brown, Esq.	Board of Education Attorney	Present

There were approximately 9 members of the public in attendance.

## VI. INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - Dr. Lydia Furnari

- Dr. Furnari provided the Board and the community with information regarding Kindergarten Registration for the 2024-2025 school year. She announced that registration is now open, and reported that we have approximately 118 completed registrations. She spoke about where the information has been posted on the website, it is on the digital signs outside of our schools, and it has been posted in The Suburban Trends and will be posted in The Messenger.
- Dr. Furnari announced to the community that January is Board of Education School Board Recognition month. She stated it is also provided under "New Business" and she read the Resolution for the public into the record. She provided each Board member with a Certificate of Recognition and thanked the Board. She understands the detail-oriented work they are engaged in, and stated that the time and energy that is spent is very much appreciated by the Administration.

## VII. <u>SPECIAL REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE - Mr. William Scholts, Board Secretary/</u> Business Administrator

The following minutes will be presented for anticipated action at the Budget/ Regular Meeting of January 30, 2024:

- December 19, 2023 Workshop/Regular Meeting
- December 19, 2023 Executive Session
- January 2, 2024 Reorganization Meeting

## VIII. PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Mrs. Claire Lockwood

Mrs. Lockwood spoke about an email she received from a staff member thanking the Board for all that they do and School Board Recognition month. She read the statement, sharing it with the Board, and expressed that she responded to it on behalf of the Board.

Mrs. Lockwood also spoke about the Superintendent Search Committee. She updated the community that the Committee met with our Consultant, Ms. Kathy Helewa, and went through all 29 applications in total. She explained this was narrowed down to nine (9) candidates who will come in for first round interviews next week. She announced that Board members on the Superintendent Search Committee will be reconvening into a second Executive Session this evening to discuss the interviews next week.

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## IX. PUBLIC COMMENT REGULATIONS

At all regular meetings, two opportunities are provided for citizens to make comments. The public comment period will be scheduled after the President's Report. The second comment period will be scheduled after New Business.

During the first opportunity for public comment, citizens are invited to comment on subjects on the <u>agenda items only</u>. During the second opportunity for public comment, citizens may comment on all other general topics. At the discretion of the presiding officer, public comments may be permitted at other times.

Please remember this is a public meeting. Anything you say will be a public record. As a result, pursuant to law, the Board of Education cannot respond to you publicly concerning certain matters, such as those regarding an individual student or personnel. If there is a matter that you wish to remain private concerning personnel or students, please contact the Superintendent's Office. Public comment periods shall also be governed by the following rules:

- 1. Persons wishing to speak must, upon being recognized, rise, sign in, and state their names and addresses.
- Each speaker shall be limited to five minutes. The Board Secretary will note the time. A speaker who has not finished in the allotted time will be directed by the presiding officer to summarize quickly and relinquish the floor within 30 seconds (Bylaw 0167).
- Comments shall be limited to issues. If personal remarks or discourteous statements are made, the presiding officer shall require the speaker to stop.
- 4. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer. No participant may address or questions Board members individually.
- Questions requiring investigation shall be referred by the Board to the Superintendent's Office for consideration and later response. A participant may be asked to submit such questions in written format.

## X. <u>PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA ITEMS</u> (<u>PLEASE SIGN IN</u>)

All speakers will have five (5) minutes to speak until a period of thirty (30) minutes transpires. Before speaking, please state your name, group affiliation and address for the record. Members of the public who have requested to speak prior to the meeting will be recognized by the chair first. After speaking, all speakers are asked to sign the register provided and give their full name, group affiliation, and their address.

All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer. No participant may address or question Board members individually.

All speakers are expected to have read the statement within the agenda regarding the regulations concerning public comments.

Members of the public are reminded that they are legally responsible and liable for their comments.

#### X. PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA ITEMS - Continued

Mrs. Lockwood asked Mr. Scholts if anyone has signed up to speak. Mr. Scholts indicated there was no one was signed up to speak at the first public comment, but that someone was signed up to speak during the second public comment for a non-agenda item. Mrs. Lockwood asked the Board if they would have any issue with her asking that individual to speak during the first public comment. The Board did not have an issue, and Mrs. Lockwood asked Amanda Batson to come forward to speak.

Amanda Batson, Marshall Hill School PTA Treasurer and parent. Mrs. Batson spoke about the Marshall Hill playground and issues that have occurred over the last few school years. She provided the Board with a hand out of information and pictures of the playground, and the problems that exist there, including mulch that is constantly washed away. She asked the Board for solutions and resolutions to the issues of over-saturation of the playground and how it is under-utilized. She spoke about articles written regarding the benefits of outdoor play beyond the physical activity it provides, how children can socialize, understand their bodies better, engage in imaginative play, and how they can build strength and gross motor skills, as well as other beneficial skills. She urged the Board to utilize the correct resources to fix these conditions, and to help our students gain access to their playground.

Motion by Mr. Lippe, seconded by Mrs. Romeo, to close Public Comment.

VOICE VOTE:

All in Favor.

MOTION PASSED.

#### XI. ETHICS PRESENTATION

Kelly Mitchell, New Jersey School Boards Association, stated that she is the new NJSBA representative. She thanked the Board for inviting her to provide this very important annual presentation, Ethics for School Officials. She provided the Board with information from NJSBA and asked the Board members to sign the Acknowledgment of Receipt, as the Board is required to discuss the Code of Ethics once a year. She also provided the Board with a copy of this power point presentation.

She spoke about and outlined ethics/accountability, as well as the School Ethics Act, what it has established, who is accountable, and who enforces the Act. She went on to explain SEC jurisdiction, outlining advisory opinions under N.J.S.A. 18A:12-31, and ethics complaints alleging a violation of the School Ethics Act. Ms. Mitchell continued with an explanation of mandatory training and the timeframes when training must be completed, providing multiple options through in-person, live-virtual, and self-paced online.

She then went on to present on Personal/Relative and Financial Disclosure Statements for new school officials, and also returning school officials. She spoke about penalties and if a violation is found, the SEC makes a recommendation to the Commissioner (i.e. reprimand, censure, suspension, removal). She then presented on the Code of Ethics for School Board Members and discussed standards for each. She also outlined cases related to the Code of Ethics that included a violation, and also presented on prohibited acts, and conflicts and recusals from discussion and the vote.

## XI. ETHICS PRESENTATION - Continued

Ms. Mitchell went on to discuss relationship definitions, and who are considered a "relative" for purposes of contract negotiations, hiring personnel, and collective bargaining agreements. She also spoke about other possible conflicts and advisories on prohibited acts. She further explained that in May of 2022, an outline was created with the impact of conflicts on committee assignments when a relative works in-district, as well as the impact on Executive Session. Also outlined were prerequisite factors to a potential "advice of counsel" defense for penalties. Her presentation continued with Board members volunteering in schools, including the degree of involvement and degree of authority. The presentation continued with voting and conflict, as well as social media and a suggested disclaimer provided by the SEC, and social media general guidance.

XII. MOTION BY MRS. ROMEO, SECONDED BY MRS. DWYER, TO ADOPT THE AGENDA, AS PRESENTED.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

## SPECIAL ACTION

## XIII. EDUCATION - Mrs. Teresa Dwyer, Chairperson

Motion by Mrs. Dwyer, seconded by Mr. Cytowicz, to approve the following agenda item #1:

Motion by Mrs. Romeo, seconded by Mr. Cytowicz, to **TABLE** item #1 to be voted on after Executive Session.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

# ITEM #1 UNDER EDUCATION (SPECIAL ACTION) WAS "TABLED" TO BE VOTED ON AFTER DISCUSSION IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

## SPECIAL ACTION

## XIV. 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. Van Dyk, seconded by Mr. Cytowicz, to approve the following agenda items #1 through #11:

**DISCUSSION:** Mrs. Dwyer inquired about item #8, and asked how the Board can vote on something that has already occurred. Mr. Novak responded to her inquiry. Mrs. Romeo also commented on having information on the calendar and inquired as to when it was discussed. Mrs. Marquard inquired as to if these dates are picked over the Summer. Mr. Novak responded to her inquiry. Board members continued to discuss item #8.

 The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to accept the resignation of **DEBBIE DIMITRION**, Cafeteria/Vehicle Aide, Maple Road School/Transportation, retroactive from January 5, 2024.

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

 The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve a leave of absence for Employee #1893, with pay using sick days, effective February 2, 2024, through March 1, 2024. (Medical)

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

 The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve a leave of absence for Employee #4024, without pay, retroactive from January 2, 2024, through February 12, 2024. (Medical)

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

4. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve an **EXTENSION** to a leave of absence for Employee #3440, with pay using sick days, retroactive from January 2, 2024, through January 5, 2024, then an intermittent leave of absence, with pay using sick, personal, and vacation days, retroactive from January 8, 2024, through February 2, 2024. (Medical)

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

5. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve an EXTENSION to a leave of absence for Employee #1897, with pay using sick days, retroactive from January 12, 2024, through January 31, 2024. (Medical)

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

6. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve an EXTENSION to a leave of absence for Employee #2266/#4050, without pay, retroactive from January 22, 2024, through February 14, 2024. (Medical)

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

7. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve an **EXTENSION** to a leave of absence for Employee #4861, without pay, retroactive from September 19, 2023, through June 30, 2024. (Medical)

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

8. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to retroactively approve MELISSA CSENGETO, Guidance Counselor, High School, for the 2024 8TH GRADE PARENTS NIGHT, held on Thursday, January 18, 2024, at the hourly rate of \$37.00, for two and one half (2.5) hours, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement. Account: 11-000-218-104-10-10-071

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

- 9. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve MELISSA CSENGETO, Guidance Counselor, High School, for the 2024 FAFSA FOR FAMILIES NIGHT, on Wednesday, January 24, 2024, at the hourly rate of \$37.00, for two and one half (2.5) hours, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement. Account: 11-000-218-104-10-10-071
- 10. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT/SICK DAY PAYMENTS, for payment January 31, 2024, in accordance with the provisions of the Board of Education negotiated agreement - Account: 11-000-291-290-10-13-000:

Employee/Agreement	Days	<u>Unit Rate</u>	Payment
WMEA Agreement			
LYNN DOHERTY	126.5	\$125.00	\$15,812.50
Unaffiliated Agreement			
HELEN FRANKE	8	\$125.00	\$ 1,000.00

11. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve an Administrative Leave of Absence, for Employee #4773, with pay, retroactive from January 19, 2024.

## ROLL CALL FOR ITEMS #1 THROUGH #11:

TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE
Mrs. Van Dyk	Yes	Mrs. Dwyer	Yes	Mr. Lippe	Yes
Mrs. Marquard	Yes	Mrs. Romeo	Yes	Mr. Cytowicz	Yes
Mrs. Jurgensen	Yes	Mrs. Racano	Yes	Mrs. Lockwood	Yes

The MOTION PASSED.

## SPECIAL ACTION

## XV. OPERATIONS & FINANCE - Mr. Peter Lippe, Chairperson

Motion by Mr. Lippe, seconded by Mrs. Van Dyk, to approve the following agenda items #1 through #3:

**DISCUSSION:** Mrs. Dwyer inquired about item #1, and why it was not included on the Agenda prior to this date. Mr. Lippe and Mrs. Romeo spoke about discussing these items in Committee. Mr. Scholts and Dr. Ressa responded to their inquiries.

- The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve a COORDINATED TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AGREEMENT with UNION COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION, to provide transportation services for the 2023-2024 school year, retroactive from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024.
- 2. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve TRAINING AND TRAVEL RELATED EXPENDITURES for Transportation Staff at the mileage rate established by the Board. (Documentation provided electronically.) S:\WS--JC\Board\Drafts-Finals\Minutes Draft\2024 Minutes\2024 01 23wesm.doc 7 [24-06]

## XV. OPERATIONS & FINANCE - Mr. Lippe, Chairperson - Continued

3. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following Resolution:

**RESOLVED,** that the Board of Education accepts the Settlement Agreement between the West Milford Township Board of Education and the parents of student ID #71218; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Board President and the Board Secretary is authorized to sign the agreement on behalf of the Board.

#### ROLL CALL FOR ITEMS #1 THROUGH #3:

TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE
Mr. Lippe	Yes	Mrs. Marquard	Yes	Mrs. Dwyer	Yes
Mrs. Jurgensen	Yes	Mrs. Romeo	Yes	Mr. Cytowicz	Yes
Mrs. Racano	Yes	Mrs. Van Dyk	Yes	Mrs. Lockwood	Yes

The MOTION PASSED.

## WORKSHOP/DISCUSSION

## XVI. EDUCATION - Mrs. Teresa Dwyer, Chairperson

The following items were presented for anticipated action at the Budget/ Regular Meeting of January 30, 2024:

**DISCUSSION:** Mrs. Dwyer inquired about item #1. She asked if the chaperones have been vetted, and have had their criminal background checks. Mr. Novak responded to her inquiry.

1. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **HIGH SCHOOL OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP** for the 2023-2024 school year:

Purpose of Trip: Participating in the Regional Color Guard competition for a National Ranking with the top circuit. Historical experience includes Salem, Massachusetts, as well as Faneuil Hall/Quincy Market in downtown Boston, Massachusetts.

Location:	Boston, Massachusetts
Dates of Trip:	February 16 - February 18, 2024
Number of Students:	15
Cost of Trip to Students:	\$998.00
Name of Advisor:	Peter Shaver
Name of Chaperone(s):	Keith Williams
	Sophia Souran
Number of School Days Missed:	1 day
Cost to District:	\$0.00

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

#### XVI. EDUCATION - Mrs. Lockwood, Chairperson - Continued

- The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to submit AMENDMENT #2 for the AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (ARP) HOMELESS II GRANT application FY 2021-2024.
- 3. The recommendation of the Interim 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.)

#### WORKSHOP/DISCUSSION

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

The following items were presented for anticipated action at the Budget/ Regular Meeting of January 30, 2024:

**DISCUSSION:** Dr. Furnari stated that on item #9, there will be an adjustment to the date of the event, to February 15, 2024. On item #16, there will be two adjustments that will be made: Jodie Comune will be at 4 hours with a payment of \$148.00; and Jaime Kettner will be at 5 hours, with a payment of \$185.00. Item #24 to be removed from the Agenda, for further discussion at the February Committee Meeting, and for approval at the February 20, 2024 Board meeting.

Mrs. Romeo asked for clarification on item #24, that it will not be on the agenda for January 30, 2024. Mr. Lippe also inquired about item #24, and when we will have additional information on it.

1. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the appointment of MELISSA MALEC, 0.6 Encore Teacher, Marshall Hill School (PC#90.04.28.CHN), at the annual salary of \$38,400.00 (MA/6) (prorated), without health benefits, effective February 1, 2024, through June 30, 2024, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement. (New Position) Account: 20-231-100-101-10-50-XXX - ESEA Title I Grant

NOTE: Funded through the ESEA Title I Grant.

2. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the appointment of BRIANA DEMAY, Special Class Aide, Highlander Academy (PC#60.09.S5.CAD), at the annual salary of \$24,920.00 (Step 2) (prorated), with health benefits, effective February 1, 2024, through June 30, 2024, per Board of Education/WMTAA Agreement. (Replaces Nowacki) Account: 11-209-100-106-10-10-105

NOTE: Pending medical and fingerprint clearance.

3. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve a leave of absence for Employee #4762, with pay using sick days, effective February 29, 2024, through March 8, 2024, then without pay under the Family Medical Leave Act, effective March 11, 2024, through June 10, 2024. (Maternity/Child Rearing)

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

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

4. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following additions to the certified personnel list of SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS/COACHES/ NURSES/SPECIAL PROJECTS, for the 2023-2024 school year, effective January 31, 2024, through June 30, 2024:

Names to be added prior to the Regular Meeting.

5. The recommendation of the Interim 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 2023-2024 school year, effective January 31, 2024, through June 30, 2024:

Names to be added prior to the Regular Meeting.

6. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **COMPLIANCE OFFICERS**, for the 2023-2024 school year:

Chemical Hygiene Officer	*Bryan Belser, Supervisor of STEM
Environmental Compliance Coordinator (including, but not limited to, AHERA Coordinator, Indoor Air Quality Designee, Safety & Health Designee)	**Douglas Glenn, Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds
Integrated Pest Management Coordinator	**Douglas Glenn, Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds
Right to Know Liaison	**Douglas Glenn, Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds
*Retroactive from December 18, 20	023.

\*Retroactive from December 18, 2023. \*\*Effective February 1, 2024.

- 7. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve DANA LAMBERT to conduct a COLLEGE PANEL EVENING for students and parents, Grades 9-11, on Wednesday, February 21, 2024, for two and one half (2.5) hours, at the hourly rate of \$37.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement. Account: 11-000-218-104-10-10-071
- 8. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE COUNSELORS, for the 2024 POST SECONDARY PATHWAYS AND PREPARATION, on Thursday, April 4, 2024, at the hourly rate of \$37.00, for three (3) hours, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement -Account: 11-000-218-104-10-10-071:

Employee

MELISSA CSENGETO JANICE GERISCH DONALD HEANEY DANA LAMBERT

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

9. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following MACOPIN GUIDANCE COUNSELORS, for the 5TH GRADE PARENTS NIGHT - MACOPIN SCHEDULING PRESENTATION, on Thursday, February 8, 2024, at the hourly rate of \$37.00, for two and one half (2.5) hours, per Board of Education/ WMEA Agreement - Account: 11-000-218-104-10-10-071:

Employee

KENNETH RYERSON MONIKA DRUCKER

NOTE: This date will be changed to February 15, 2024 on the agenda for the Budget/Regular Meeting of January 30, 2024.

10. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve an amendment to a previously approved resolution (November 2023) for the following HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC STIPEND, for the 2023-2024 school year, per Board of Education Agreement - Account: 11-401-100-110-10-000:

<u>Employee</u> <u>Position</u> <u>Stipend</u>

ALEXANDER KERSSEN*	Accompanist	\$1,540.00
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\*Pending fingerprint clearance. (Replaces Schecter)

11. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following staff members for the HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ACTIVITY ASSIGNMENT, DISTRICT ARTS FESTIVAL, for the 2023-2024 school year, at a stipend of \$75.00 per chaperone - Account: 11-401-100-110-10-000:

Chaperone Assignment COLLEEN LESLIE Apshawa BLAKE VISCONTI Apshawa SARAH WARREN Apshawa TRICIA GRANEY Maple Road KRISTI CLAVE Maple Road MELISSA BERGH Marshall Hill CHRISTINE GENARDI-FISHER Marshall Hill KELLYANN MCKEAN Marshall Hill ERIN BRANAGAN Paradise Knoll BRIAN LESLIE Paradise Knoll DANIEL BROPHY Upper Greenwood Lake Upper Greenwood Lake BARBARA CORBETT CATHERINE SEKELSKY Upper Greenwood Lake JENNIFER FEAR Macopin JACQUELINE SEGAL Macopin

12. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ACTIVITY ASSIGNMENTS, DISTRICT ARTS FESTIVAL, for the 2023-2024 school year - Account: 11-401-100-110-10-000:

\$444.00

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

## 12. (Continued)

Staff Member	Assignment	Stipend
High School		
HEATHER BURNS	Theater Teacher	\$148.00
CYNTHIA GALLAUGHER	Art/Technology Education Teacher	\$148.00
JOSEPH JORDAN	Art/Technology Education Teacher	\$148.00
NIKLAS LATRONICA	Art/Technology Education Teacher	\$148.00
EDWARD MARZALIK	Art/Technology Education Teacher	\$148.00
JENNIFER MONEGO	Art/Technology Education Teacher	\$222.00
PETER SHAVER	Art/Technology Education Teacher	\$148.00
LEONARD VAN WINGERDEN	Art/Technology Education Teacher	\$148.00
DAVID GEROLD	Art/Technology Education Teacher	\$148.00
DANIELLE GARDNER	Family Consumer Science Teacher	\$185.00
Grades 6-12		
MATTHEW GRAMATA	Music Teacher	\$370.00
SUSAN KACZOR	Music Teacher	\$370.00
BRIAN MCLAUGHLIN	Music Teacher	\$740.00
ERICA MCPARTLAND	Music Teacher	\$370.00
MATTHEW PACCIONE	Music Teacher	\$370.00
DWIGHT WEAVER	Music Teacher	\$370.00
BETH ELSEA	Art Teacher	\$185.00
LORRAINE POAT	Art Teacher	\$185.00
Grades K-5		
CHELSEA PIRES	Art Teacher	\$185.00
JENNA SOKOLIK	Art Teacher	\$185.00
JESSICA ZIEGENBALG	Art Teacher	\$185.00
KRISTEN CALLAHAN	Music Teacher	\$444.00
COURTNEY MATTIE	Music Teacher	\$444.00

13. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following ADDITION to the MACOPIN SCHOOL STUDENT ACTIVITY CLUB, ADVISOR, and HOURS, for the 2023-2024 school year, retroactive from December 13, 2023, at the hourly rate of \$37.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 20-073-100-101-10-50-000 - Play Unified Grant:

Music Teacher

Advisor	Club	Hours	Payment
ELISSA MURPHY	Unified Basketball	1.5	\$55.50

NOTE: Funded through the Play Unified Grant.

CHRISTINE PATERNO

14. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve an amendment to a previously approved resolution (November 2023) to the HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ACTIVITY CLUBS, ADVISORS, and HOURS, for the 2023-2024 school year, at the hourly rate of \$37.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 20-063-100-101-10-50-000 - Play Unified Grant:

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

14. (Continued)

Advisor	Club	Hours	Payment
KRISTI CLAVE	Unified Basketball	50	\$1,850.00
KELLY ROCKEY	Unified Basketball	30	\$1,110.00

NOTE: **Rockey replaces Silvestri.** Funded through the Play Unified Grant.

15. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following ADDITIONS to the HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ACTIVITY CLUB, ADVISORS, and HOURS, for the 2023-2024 school year, at the hourly rate of \$37.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 20-063-100-101-10-50-000 - Play Unified Grant:

Advisor	Club	Hours	Payment
KRISTI CLAVE	Unified Track		\$1,110.00
KELLY ROCKEY	Unified Track		\$ 740.00

NOTE: Funded through the Play Unified Grant.

16. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following FAMILY LITERACY NIGHTS, ADVISORS, and HOURS, for the 2023-2024 school year, at the hourly rate of \$37.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 20-231-100-101-10-50-XXX - ESEA Title I Grant:

Employee	School	Hours	Payment
JODIE COMUNE	Maple Road	5	\$185.00*
JAMIE HOLLICK	Maple Road	5	\$185.00
TRICIA GRANEY	Maple Road	4	\$148.00
JAIME KETTNER	Maple Road	4	<del>\$148.00</del> **
DANIELLA PRESTON	Maple Road	4	\$148.00
HOLLY STANLEY	Maple Road	4	\$148.00
MELISSA BERGH	Marshall Hill	3.25	\$120.25
JULIE CANGIALOSI	Marshall Hill	3.25	\$120.25
JENNIFER CASPERSON	Marshall Hill	3.25	\$120.25
MEGHAN DONEGAN	Marshall Hill	3.25	\$120.25
RACHEL LEHR	Marshall Hill	3.25	\$120.25
STEPHANIE SANACORE	Marshall Hill	3.25	\$120.25
JANET SCALES	Marshall Hill	3.25	\$120.25
MELISSA VARIAN	Marshall Hill	3.25	\$120.25

NOTE: Funded through ESEA Title I Grant. \*Jodie Comune will be changed to 4 hours, for a total of \$148.00, for the Budget/Regular Meeting of January 30, 2024. \*\*Jaime Kettner will be changed to 5 hours, for a total of \$185.00, for the Budget/Regular Meeting of January 30, 2024.

17. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following FAMILY MATH NIGHTS, ADVISORS, and HOURS, for the 2023-2024 school year, at the hourly rate of \$37.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement -Account: 20-280-200-101-10-50-XXX - ESEA Title IV Grant:

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

17. (Continued)

Employee	School	Hours	Payment
Employee COLLEEN BEGLEY MELISSA BERGH REGINA CANALI CHRISTINE GENARDI-FISHER RACHEL LEHR KELLYANN MCKEAN SHAWN RHINESMITH STEPHANIE SANACORE	School Marshall Hill Marshall Hill Marshall Hill Marshall Hill Marshall Hill Marshall Hill Marshall Hill Marshall Hill	Hours 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 5 2	Payment \$ 74.00 \$ 74.00
KRISTEN SEIBERT MELISSA VARIAN DEENA ACCARDI KELLY COMERFORD BRITTANY ECONOMOU CHARLENE PAPPAS	Marshall Hill Marshall Hill Upper Greenwood Lake Upper Greenwood Lake Upper Greenwood Lake Upper Greenwood Lake	2 2 6 6 6 6	\$ 74.00 \$ 74.00 \$222.00 \$222.00 \$222.00 \$222.00

NOTE: Funded through ESEA Title IV Grant.

18. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following APSHAWA ELEMENTARY STUDENT ACTIVITY AFTER SCHOOL CLUB, ADVISORS, and HOURS, for the 2023-2024 school year, at the hourly rate of \$37.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 20-490-100-101-10-50-103 -ARP ESSER III Grant:

Advisor	Club	Hours	Payment
JACLYN BECKER	Apshawa SOARS	5	\$185.00
ERIN DAVIE	Apshawa SOARS	10	\$370.00
KRISTA DEHAAS	Apshawa SOARS	10	\$370.00
AMBER GIAMANCO	Apshawa SOARS	10	\$370.00
LORI KANE	Apshawa SOARS	5	\$185.00
CHRISTINA RODEK	Apshawa SOARS	10	\$370.00
BLAKE VISCONTI	Apshawa SOARS	5	\$185.00
SARAH WARREN	Apshawa SOARS	5	\$185.00

NOTE: Funded through the ARP ESSER III Grant.

19. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following MAPLE ROAD ELEMENTARY STUDENT ACTIVITY AFTER SCHOOL CLUB, ADVISORS, and HOURS, for the 2023-2024 school year, at the hourly rate of \$37.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 20-231-100-101-10-50-XXX -ESEA Title I Grant:

Advisor	Club	Hours	Payment
THOMAS ANTONUCCI	Mustang Movers	18	\$666.00
LAURA CROSS	Mustang Movers	18	\$666.00
TRICIA GRANEY	Mustang Movers	18	\$666.00
JENNIFER HIGGINS	Mustang Movers	18	\$666.00
MARY LEMANOWICZ	Mustang Movers	18	\$666.00
DANIELLA PRESTON	Mustang Movers	18	\$666.00
JENNIFER HIGGINS MARY LEMANOWICZ	Mustang Movers Mustang Movers	18 18	\$666.00 \$666.00

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

19. (Continued)

NOTE: Funded through the ESEA Title I Grant.

20. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following MARSHALL HILL ELEMENTARY STUDENT ACTIVITY AFTER SCHOOL CLUB, ADVISORS, and HOURS, for the 2023-2024 school year, at the hourly rate of \$37.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 20-231-100-101-10-50-XXX - ESEA Title I Grant:

Advisor	Club	Hours	Payment
JENNIFER CASPERSON	Eagle Scholars	20	\$740.00
MEGHAN DONEGAN	Eagle Scholars	20	\$740.00
MAUREEN KELLY	Eagle Scholars	20	\$740.00
MELISSA MALEC	Eagle Scholars	10	\$370.00
KELLY MCCOURT	Eagle Scholars	20	\$740.00
KELLYANN MCKEAN	Eagle Scholars	10	\$370.00

NOTE: Funded through the ESEA Title I Grant.

21. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following PARADISE KNOLL ELEMENTARY STUDENT ACTIVITY AFTER SCHOOL CLUB, ADVISORS, and HOURS, for the 2023-2024 school year, at the hourly rate of \$37.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 20-231-100-101-10-50-XXX - ESEA Title I Grant:

Advisor	Club	Hours	Payment
TRICIA GINDER	Jump Start for Success	20	\$740.00
SHARON JENSEN	Jump Start for Success	20	\$740.00
TRACEY LOMBARDI	Jump Start for Success	20	\$740.00
SHANNON RICKER	Jump Start for Success	20	\$740.00
MARILYN FAHNESTOCK	Jump Start for Success	20	\$740.00

NOTE: Funded through the ESEA Title I Grant.

22. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following UPPER GREENWOOD LAKE ELEMENTARY STUDENT ACTIVITY AFTER SCHOOL CLUB, ADVISORS, and HOURS, for the 2023-2024 school year, at the hourly rate of \$37.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 20-231-100-101-10-50-XXX - ESEA Title I Grant:

Advisor	Club	Hours	Payment
CAYLA CASEY	Jump Start for Success	20	\$740.00
MAUREEN MULLIGAN	Jump Start for Success	20	\$740.00
KRISTINE RALICKI	Jump Start for Success	20	\$740.00

NOTE: Funded through the ESEA Title I Grant.

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

23. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following UPPER GREENWOOD LAKE STUDENT ACTIVITY AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS, ADVISORS, and HOURS, for the 2023-2024 school year, at the hourly rate of \$37.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 11-401-100-110-10-000:

Advisor	Club	Hours	Payment
DANIELLE POST	Rising Readers	9	\$333.00
KELLY COMERFORD	Crafty Kids	8	\$296.00
BRITTANY ECONOMOU	Crafty Kids	8	\$296.00

NOTE: Funded through the PTA.

## ITEM #24 WAS REMOVED FROM THE AGENDA

25. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following COLLEGE STUDENTS for the purpose of classroom observation, for the 2023-2024 school year, at no cost to the District:

Student	College	School(s)	Subject/Grade
SARAH GERLITZ	Fort Hays State University	Maple Road	Elementary
KATHERIN GARCIA*	University of Hartford	Maple Road, Marshall Hill, and Upper Gree	Music/K-5 nwood Lake

\*Retroactive from January 2, 2024.

## WORKSHOP/DISCUSSION

## XVIII. OPERATIONS & FINANCE - Mr. Peter Lippe, Chairperson

The following items were presented for anticipated action at the Budget/ Regular Meeting of January 30, 2024:

- The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the DONATION of \$750.00 for the West Milford High School Art and Culinary Arts Departments, for the Empty Bowls Project to be held during the District Arts Festival, from Corinna Bekiers-Sassano, Claus Bekiers, Dana Bekiers, and William Bekiers, in memory of Rita Bekiers (WMTHS Class of 1977).
- The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the PAYROLL of December 29, 2023, and January 12, 2024, in the amount of \$TBD. (Documentation provided electronically.)
- The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the LIST OF BILLS/VENDORS for the period ending January 30, 2024, in the amount of \$TBD. (Documentation provided electronically.)

#### XVIII. OPERATIONS & FINANCE - Mr. Lippe, Chairperson - Continued

 The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following TRANSFER OF FUNDS RESOLUTION for the period ending January 30, 2024:

**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 **2023-2024** budget be affirmed and approved. (See folder insert.)

Total transfers in the amount of \$TBD.

5. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Agenda file of January 30, 2024 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:

**\$TBD** as of November 30, 2023; therefore

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

6. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following Resolution:

**RESOLVED**, that the Board certify as of November 30, 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.

## XIX. OLD BUSINESS

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mrs. Van Dyk, to close Old Business.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

## XX. <u>NEW BUSINESS</u>

**DISCUSSION:** Mrs. Romeo indicated that she has recently reviewed Board meeting videos, and there is a different sound in the Macopin Auditorium. She stated that if you speak directly into the microphone, voices can be heard, but if not, you cannot hear anything that Board members are saying. She wanted to make the Board aware of this.

## XX. NEW BUSINESS - Continued

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Cytowicz spoke about the gentleman who encourages the Board to speak into the microphone, and extended his best wishes for a "Happy Birthday" to Nathan Bedford, who films the Board meetings. The Board extended their best wishes to Nate.

Mrs. Dwyer asked Mr. Scholts if we have a Custodian in the Westbrook building in the evening. Mr. Scholts responded to her inquiry and stated that the Custodian leaves Westbrook at 6:00 p.m., and finishes the shift at the High School.

Motion by Mrs. Romeo, seconded by Mrs. Dwyer, to approve the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, The New Jersey School Boards Association has declared January 2024 to be School Board Recognition Month, a time when all residents can acknowledge the contributions made by our local school board members; and

WHEREAS, The West Milford Board of Education is one of more than 581 local school boards in New Jersey, which sets policies and oversees operations for public school districts; and

WHEREAS, The West Milford Board of Education embraces the goal of highquality education for all New Jersey public school students; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's local school boards help determine the educational goals for approximately 1.4 million children in pre-kindergarten through  $12^{th}$  grade; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's 5,000 local school board members, who receive no remuneration for their services, act as advocates for public school students as they work with administrators, teachers and parents for the betterment of public education; and

WHEREAS, School boards strive to provide the resources necessary to meet the needs of all students, including those with special needs; and

WHEREAS, Boards of education provide accountability to the public; they communicate the needs of the school district to the public; and they convey to school administrators the public's expectations for the schools; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey can take pride in its schools, which rank among the nation's best in key achievement indicators such as the National Assessment of Educational Progress scores, and the preparation for college through advanced placement offerings and SAT assessments; Now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That the West Milford Board of Education, does hereby recognize the services of local school board members throughout New Jersey as we join communities statewide in observing January 2024 as SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That the West Milford Board of Education urges all New Jersey citizens to work with their local boards of education and public school staffs toward the advancement of our children's education.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

Minutes for the Workshop/Ethics/Special Action Meeting of January 23, 2024

## XX. NEW BUSINESS - Continued

Motion by Mrs. Romeo, seconded by Mr. Cytowicz, to close New Business.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

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

All speakers will have five (5) minutes to speak until a period of thirty (30) minutes transpires. Before speaking, please state your name, group affiliation and address for the record. Members of the public who have requested to speak prior to the meeting will be recognized by the chair first. After speaking, all speakers are asked to sign the register provided and give their full name, group affiliation, and their address.

All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer. No participant may address or question Board members individually.

All speakers are expected to have read the statement within the agenda regarding the regulations concerning public comments.

Members of the public are reminded that they are legally responsible and liable for their comments.

Cathryn Weiss-Connors, 37 Highview Drive, West Milford. She asked the Board if a decision has been made about separating Special Education from the Education Committee, and if not, will we be given more information about it at the next Board meeting.

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mr. Lippe, to close Public Comment.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

## XXII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:28 p.m., Mrs. Racano made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cytowicz, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing current litigation matters, HIBs, and matters of attorney/client privilege.

The executive session minutes will not be released until such time as the privilege or confidentiality is no longer applicable. The Board will be in Executive Session for approximately forty-five (45) minutes. Action be will be taken.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

The Board returned to the Public Meeting at 9:18 p.m.

Minutes for the Workshop/Ethics/Special Action Meeting of January 23, 2024

#### XXII. EXECUTIVE SESSION - Continued

## ROLL CALL UPON RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION:

TRUSTEE	ATTENDANCE	TRUSTEE	ATTENDANCE	TRUSTEE	ATTENDANCE
Mrs. Van Dyk	Present	Mrs. Dwyer	Present	Mrs. Racano	Present
Mrs. Romeo	Present	Mr. Lippe	Present	Mrs. Marquard	Present
Mrs. Jurgensen	Present	Mr. Cytowicz	Present	Mrs. Lockwood	Present

## SPECIAL ACTION

## XIII. EDUCATION - Mrs. Teresa Dwyer, Chairperson

Motion by Mrs. Dwyer, seconded by Mr. Cytowicz, to approve the following agenda item #1:

1. The recommendation of the Interim 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 **January 23**, **2024**; 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):

Incident Report Number

Board Determination

2024/E-3 2024/E-4 Unsubstantiated Substantiated

#### ROLL CALL FOR ITEM #1:

TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE
Mrs. Dwyer	Yes	Mrs. Romeo	Yes	Mrs. Van Dyk	Yes
Mr. Cytowicz	Yes	Mrs. Marquard	Yes	Mrs. Racano	Yes
Mrs. Jurgensen	Yes	Mr. Lippe	Yes	Mrs. Lockwood	Yes

The MOTION PASSED.

#### SPECIAL ACTION

## XIV. 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. Van Dyk, seconded by Mr. Cytowicz, to approve the following agenda item #12:

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

(12.) BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, on the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, terminate Employee #4773, effective January 24, 2024.

## ROLL CALL FOR ITEM #12

TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE
Mr. Cytowicz	Yes	Mr. Lippe	Yes	Mrs. Racano	Yes
Mrs. Dwyer	Yes	Mrs. Lockwood	Yes	Mrs. Romeo	Yes
Mrs. Jurgensen	Yes	Mrs. Marquard	Yes	Mrs. Van Dyk	Yes

The MOTION PASSED.

## XXIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION

At 9:21 p.m., Mrs. Racano made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lippe, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the Superintendent Search.

The executive session minutes will not be released until such time as the privilege or confidentiality is no longer applicable. No action will be taken, and the Board will adjourn from Executive Session.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor.

MOTION PASSED.

Respectfully submitted,

William Scholts Board Secretary