

WEST MILFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
 46 Highlander Drive
 West Milford, NJ 07480
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www.wmtps.org

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
 MINUTES
 BUDGET/REGULAR MEETING
 JANUARY 30, 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 Budget/Regular Meeting of the Board of Education at 6:30 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.

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

TRUSTEE	ATTENDANCE	TRUSTEE	ATTENDANCE	TRUSTEE	ATTENDANCE
Mr. Cytowicz	Absent/Arr. 6:55 p.m.	Mr. Lippe	Present	Mrs. Van Dyk	Present
Mrs. Dwyer	Present	Mrs. Marquard	Present	Mrs. Racano	Present
Mrs. Jurgensen	Present	Mrs. Romeo	Present	Mrs. Lockwood	Present

Minutes for the Budget/Regular Meeting of January 30, 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
Mia Harrison	Student Representative	Absent

There were approximately 3 members of the public in attendance.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION

Motion by Mrs. Racano, seconded by Mrs. Van Dyk, to approve the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board immediately go into Executive Session for approximately thirty (30) minutes for the purpose of conducting a grievance hearing.

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

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

The Board returned to the Public Session at 7:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL UPON RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

At 7:16 p.m., Mrs. Racano made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cytowicz, to approve the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board return to Executive Session for an additional thirty (30) minutes for the purpose of conducting grievances.

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

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION - Continued

The Board returned to the Public Session at 7:41 p.m.

ROLL CALL UPON RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

VII. INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - Dr. Lydia Furnari

- Dr. Furnari recognized and congratulated this year's recipient of the Passaic County Unsung Hero Award. She stated that this award goes to one 12th Grade student at each High School in Passaic County who makes outstanding contributions to their schools and communities, and are often overlooked by traditional recognition programs. Selection criteria may include students who have overcome difficult academic or personal challenges, model good citizenship, or exhibit a spirit and quiet strength that inspires others. This award is given to students who make their school districts better places and inspire others in the school community. As West Milford High School counselors and administrators discussed the candidates for this year's recipient, they chose one particular student, Michael McCloskey, that will be honored with this award. She spoke about all of Michael's accomplishments, acceptances to colleges, and announced he is our 2024 Unsung Hero. He and his parents are invited to attend an Awards Ceremony to be held in March 2024. Dr. Furnari provided Michael with a Certificate of Recognition from the West Milford Public Schools for attaining this honor.

- Dr. Furnari invited Aidan Cimbric to speak to the Board and the community regarding a proposal for his Eagle Scout project. Aidan is from Troop #159 and his proposal for his Eagle Scout project is to make a new podium for Maple Road School for after school activities, and indicated there is an additional project he will be working on. He stated that currently, the after school program held in the Media Center has a door to the main walkway, but there is nothing there but just dirt. He will make a pathway going over that area with different stepping stones on it. On those stepping stones, there will be different STEM quotes and engravings into the stones, to try to get students intrigued by STEM and find new career paths they may be interested in. He provided the Board with a packet of information and diagrams of his project. He also explained to the Board and the community how he came up with this idea and his concept drawings. Board members had questions about materials, funds, costs, and garbage disposal, and what his timeframe is. Aidan responded to their inquiries.

- Student Representative - Mia Harrison - No report.

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

- Mr. Novak announced that he received information last week that our High School Computer Science received the AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award. He read a statement: "Congratulations. The West Milford Township High School has earned the College Board's AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award, for expanding young women's access to AP Computer Science. Research shows that female students who take AP Computer Science are more likely to major in Computer Science in college compared with matched peers. Through your leadership in diversifying computer science education, you are preparing female students for the in-demand jobs in the future and giving them the opportunity to help some of society's most challenging problems. West Milford High School was one of 225 schools nationwide to be honored in this capacity." Mr. Novak thanked our High School Computer Science teachers, Anna Niewodniczanska, known as "Mrs. N" and Kelly Downs, who teach our AP Computer Science and AP Computer Science Principles courses. Mr. Novak is sure the strong female leadership in our Department is what helped push us forward and receive this award. He congratulated the High School Math Department, and our students who participated in these courses. He also explained how the award document will be received and that it will be posted on the website.

- Mr. Novak gave an update on our progress for a second iReady Diagnostic, which is well underway. He stated that students began taking the second diagnostic on January 22, 2024, and we will be completed by February 9th. To date, we have completed 75% of our Reading diagnostics, and 61% of our Math diagnostics. Preliminary results have displayed substantial progress while revealing a pattern of achievement in regard to the individual learning path. Students who are completing lessons, and committing to assignments on task, are showing meaningful gains. He stated that once the testing window has been closed, iReady will share District level performance data with us and also with LinkIt. LinkIt will then prepare the navigator reports that we often share, and he is anticipating that process should be complete in time for our Education Committee meeting in February. He has also turned on the "For Families" report on our website, which will give families the opportunity to login through the student page and profile to see the results of the diagnostic, as it is complete. He is waiting for clarification from iReady on how he can share the login information with the community, and then it will be shared through School Messenger.

Board members asked questions regarding training. Mr. Novak responded to their inquiries.

**IX. SPECIAL REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE - Mr. William Scholts, Board Secretary/
Business Administrator**

Motion by Mrs. Van Dyk, seconded by Mr. Lippe, to approve the following Board of Education meeting minutes:

- December 19, 2023 Workshop/Regular Meeting
- December 19, 2023 Executive Session
- January 2, 2024 Reorganization Meeting
- January 20, 2024 Special Meeting
- January 20, 2024 Executive Session

VOICE VOTE:

All in Favor.

MOTION PASSED.

X. PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Mrs. Claire Lockwood

Mrs. Lockwood gave an update on the Superintendent Search Committee. She spoke about a question from a Trustee that came up regarding community involvement, and stated that she asked Ms. Helewa about it. Ms. Helewa asked Mrs. Lockwood to report that everything is being posted on the West Milford Township Public Schools website, www.wmtps.org, and to click on "Board of Education" and then "Superintendent Search 2023-24." All updates for any meetings and reports are on there, and you can actually access the report that was given to the Board on how many candidates have applied. If anyone has any questions, you can reach out to Ms. Helewa. She indicated that the community involvement, at this point, ended with the input sessions that she did both online and in-person. She stated there are first round interviews this week and second round interviews the week of February 12th, and then there will be a final round. She indicated that hopefully, they will find a candidate that the Committee will be able to bring forth to the Board. Once that individual is on an agenda, the community is welcome to come out and speak at a Board meeting. If the community would like to speak before that time, they can always come to any of the Board meetings and speak under the second Public Comment, non-agenda items.

XI. 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 agenda items only. 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.
2. 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).
3. 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.
5. 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.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT - 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.

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mrs. Dwyer, to close Public Comment.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

XIII. MOTION BY MR. CYTOWICZ, SECONDED BY MRS. VAN DYK, TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED, INCLUDING HAND CARRYS.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

XIV. EDUCATION - Mrs. Teresa Dwyer, Chairperson

Motion by Mrs. Dwyer, seconded by Mr. Cytowicz, to approve the following agenda items #1 through #3, and items #5 through #6 (**ITEM #4 WAS TABLED FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION AT THE FEBRUARY EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING**):

DISCUSSION: Mrs. Dwyer inquired about item #4, and she checked the Committee meeting minutes and did not see it. Dr. Ressa provided an explanation to the Board on this item.

Mrs. Romeo made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cytowicz, to **TABLE** item #4 until the next Education Committee meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE TO TABLE ITEM #4:

TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE
Mr. Cytowicz	Yes	Mr. Lippe	Yes	Mrs. Racano	Yes
Mrs. Dwyer	No	Mrs. Lockwood	Yes	Mrs. Romeo	Yes
Mrs. Jurgensen	Yes	Mrs. Marquard	Yes	Mrs. Van Dyk	No

The **MOTION PASSED.**

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

XIV. EDUCATION - Mrs. Dwyer, Chairperson - Continued

1. (Continued)

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.

- (2.) The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following field trip destination to be added to the list of Board approved **FIELD TRIP LOCATIONS** for the 2023-2024 school year:

- Lincoln Park Airport, Lincoln Park, New Jersey

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

ITEM #4 WAS "TABLED" FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION AT THE FEBRUARY EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING

5. 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.)

- (6.) 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 30, 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):

XIV. EDUCATION - Mrs. Dwyer, Chairperson - Continued

(6.) (Continued)

<u>Incident Report Number</u>	<u>Board Determination</u>
2024/M-6	Substantiated
2024/M-7	Unsubstantiated

ROLL CALL FOR ITEMS #1 THROUGH #3, AND ITEMS #5 THROUGH #6:

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

The **MOTION PASSED.**

Motion by Mrs. Dwyer, seconded by Mr. Cytowicz, to approve the following agenda items #7 through #8:

DISCUSSION: Mrs. Romeo inquired about item #7, and asked for additional information. Dr. Ressa responded to her inquiry, and provided more detailed information to the Board and the community on these services through the grant.

Mrs. Van Dyk thanked Dr. Ressa for these services. She feels we need all of the support we can receive.

Mrs. Romeo also inquired as to whether or not this grant money can be used to hire staff. Dr. Furnari responded to her inquiry and provided a thorough explanation as to why these grant funds are not used to hire District employees.

(7.) The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve **an amendment to a previously approved resolution (July 2023)** for an agreement with **NORTHERN REGION EDUCATIONAL, Wayne, New Jersey**, for mental health counselor services, in an amount not to exceed **\$49,120.00**, for the 2023-2024 school year.

NOTE: Partially funded through the ARP ESSER III Mental Health Grant.

(8.) The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **SCHOOL YEAR SPECIAL EDUCATION OUT-OF-DISTRICT DAY SCHOOL TUITION CONTRACTS**, retroactive from January 22, 2024, through June 30, 2024:

<u>Number of Students</u>	<u>Tuition</u>	<u>Placement</u>
1	\$43,599.10	North Jersey Elks
1:1 Aide	\$19,380.00	Developmental
Student #: 74230		Disabilities Agency
		Clifton, New Jersey

XIV. EDUCATION - Mrs. Dwyer, Chairperson - Continued

ROLL CALL FOR ITEMS #7 THROUGH #8:

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

The MOTION PASSED.

XV. 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 #31:

- (1.) The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the appointment of **MARC PANFILE**, Electrician, Districtwide (PC#45.17.M5.BDB), at the annual salary of \$57,354.00 (Step 1) (prorated), with health benefits, effective February 16, 2024, through June 30, 2024, with a 180-day probationary period, per Board of Education/WMCMA Agreement. (Replaces Bowlby) Account: 11-000-261-110-10-10-000

NOTE: Pending medical and fingerprint clearance.

2. 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.

3. 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.

- (4.) The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the appointment of **KERRIE NEWTON**, Special Class Aide, Maple Road School (PC#60.03.S5.AWY), at the annual salary of \$24,382.00 (Step 1) (prorated), with health benefits, effective February 1, 2024, through June 30, 2024, per Board of Education/WMTAA Agreement (Replaces McGowan) Account: 11-190-100-106-10-10-000

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

- (5.) The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the appointment of **BRIDGET DUNN**, Cafeteria Aide, Maple Road School (PC#30.03.F4.BSM), at the annual salary of \$5,521.00 (prorated), without health benefits, effective February 15, 2024, through June 30, 2024, per Board of Education/WMCAA Agreement. (Replaces Dimitrion) Account: 11-000-262-107-10-10-000
- (6.) The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve an **EXTENSION** to a **TEMPORARY TRANSFER OF ASSIGNMENT** for **PATRICIA MONTANO**, from Special Class Aide, Highlander Academy, to Long Term Substitute Special Education Teacher, Highlander Academy/Prep, at the per diem rate of \$250.00, with health benefits, effective January 31, 2024, through February 29, 2024, per Board of Education Agreement. (Replaces Balletto) Account: 11-209-100-101-10-10-105
- (7.) The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve an **EXTENSION** to a **TEMPORARY TRANSFER OF ASSIGNMENT** for **TIFFANY CAIOLA**, from Special Class Aide, Maple Road School, to Long Term Substitute Special Education Teacher, Maple Road School, at the per diem rate of \$250.00, with health benefits, effective January 31, 2024, through February 29, 2024, per Board of Education Agreement. (Replaces Employee #5183) Account: 11-214-100-101-10-10-000
- (8.) The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve a **TRANSFER OF ASSIGNMENT** for **MICHAEL CHESKI**, from In-School Suspension Monitor, High School, to Graphic Arts Teacher, High School (PC#90.09.18.ALG), at the annual salary of \$67,000.00 (MA/9) (prorated), with health benefits, effective February 1, 2024, through June 30, 2024, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement. (Replaces Murray) Account: 11-140-100-101-10-10-000

NOTE: Pending Certification.

9. 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.

10. 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:

HAILEY GERITANO (Teacher)
IRENE VALLS (Teacher)
MADISON LOMBARDO* (Teacher)
MADISON VACCA (Teacher)
NICHOLAS LIGOSH (Teacher)
RAYMOND GORNY (Teacher)
MARK NOWACKI (Teacher)
VIKTORIJA FORTINO (Nurse)

*Pending fingerprint clearance.

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

11. 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:

HAILEY GERITANO (Special Class Aide)
NICHOLAS LIGOSH (Special Class Aide)
RAYMOND GORNY (Special Class Aide)
MARK NOWACKI (Special Class Aide)
MEAGAN WALSH (Secretary, Building Aide, Special Class Aide)
TRACY MILLS (Custodian, Building Aide, Cafeteria Aide, SACC)

12. 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, 2023.
 **Effective February 1, 2024.

- (13.) The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following addition to the schedule of salaries and benefits credits from **ESEA AND ARP ESSER III FUNDS** for the 2023-2024 school year. Accounts: 20-231-100-101-10-50-000; 20-487-100-101-10-50-000 - ESEA Title I Grant and ARP ESSER III Grant:

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Portion by ESEA Grant</u>	<u>Portion by ESSER Grant</u>	<u>School</u>
SUZANNE OESTERLE	\$79,700.00	\$27,00.00	\$20,080.00	Paradise Knoll

NOTE: Portion by grant prorated from January 2, 2024. Replaces Balogh.

14. 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

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

- 15. 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**

- 16. 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 15, 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**

- 17. 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: 11-401-100-110-10-10-000:

Chaperone

Assignment

COLLEEN LESLIE	Apshawa
BLAKE VISCONTI	Apshawa
SARAH WARREN	Apshawa
TRICIA GRANNEY	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
BARBARA CORBETT	Upper Greenwood Lake
CATHERINE SEKELSKY	Upper Greenwood Lake
JENNIFER FEAR	Macopin
JACQUELINE SEGAL	Macopin

- 18. 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: 11-401-100-110-10-10-000:

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

18. (Continued)

<u>Staff Member</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
<u>High School</u>		
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
<u>Grades 6-12</u>		
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
<u>Grades K-5</u>		
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
CHRISTINE PATERNO	Music Teacher	\$444.00

19. 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:

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
ELISSA MURPHY	Unified Basketball	1.5	\$55.50

NOTE: Funded through the Play Unified Grant.

20. 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:

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

20. (Continued)

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
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.

21. 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:

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
KRISTI CLAVE	Unified Track	30	\$1,110.00
KELLY ROCKEY	Unified Track	20	\$ 740.00

NOTE: Funded through the Play Unified Grant.

22. 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:

<u>Employee</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
JODIE COMUNE	Maple Road	4	\$148.00
JAMIE HOLLICK	Maple Road	5	\$185.00
TRICIA GRANEY	Maple Road	4	\$148.00
JAIME KETTNER	Maple Road	5	\$185.00
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.

23. 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:

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

23. (Continued)

<u>Employee</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
COLLEEN BEGLEY	Marshall Hill	2	\$ 74.00
MELISSA BERGH	Marshall Hill	2	\$ 74.00
REGINA CANALI	Marshall Hill	2	\$ 74.00
CHRISTINE GENARDI-FISHER	Marshall Hill	2	\$ 74.00
RACHEL LEHR	Marshall Hill	2	\$ 74.00
KELLYANN MCKEAN	Marshall Hill	2	\$ 74.00
SHAWN RHINESMITH	Marshall Hill	5	\$185.00
STEPHANIE SANACORE	Marshall Hill	2	\$ 74.00
KRISTEN SEIBERT	Marshall Hill	2	\$ 74.00
MELISSA VARIAN	Marshall Hill	2	\$ 74.00
DEENA ACCARDI	Upper Greenwood Lake	6	\$222.00
KELLY COMERFORD	Upper Greenwood Lake	6	\$222.00
BRITTANY ECONOMOU	Upper Greenwood Lake	6	\$222.00
CHARLENE PAPPAS	Upper Greenwood Lake	6	\$222.00

NOTE: Funded through ESEA Title IV Grant.

24. 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:

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
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.

25. 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:

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
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

NOTE: Funded through the ESEA Title I Grant.

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

- (26.) The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **MARSHALL HILL 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: 11-401-100-110-10-10-000:

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
MELISSA VARIAN	Drama	8	\$296.00
CHRISTINE GENARDI-FISHER	Drama	8	\$296.00

NOTE: Funded through the PTA.

27. 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:

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
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.

28. 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:

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
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.

29. 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:

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
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.

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

30. 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: 11-401-100-110-10-10-000:

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
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.

31. 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:

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

*Retroactive from January 2, 2024.

ROLL CALL FOR ITEMS #1 THROUGH #31:

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

*Mrs. Romeo "Recused" on item #24.

The **MOTION PASSED**.

XVI. OPERATIONS & FINANCE - Mr. Peter Lippe, Chairperson

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

1. 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).

XVI. OPERATIONS & FINANCE – Mr. Lippe, Chairperson – Continued

ROLL CALL FOR ITEM #1:

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

The **MOTION PASSED.**

Motion by Mr. Lippe, seconded by Mrs. Van Dyk, to approve the following agenda item #2:

- The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the **PAYROLL** of December 29, 2023, and January 12, 2024, in the amount of \$4,259,940.10. (Documentation provided electronically.)

ROLL CALL FOR ITEM #2:

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

The **MOTION PASSED.**

Motion by Mr. Lippe, seconded by Mr. Cytowicz, to approve the following agenda items #3 through #6:

- The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the **LIST OF BILLS/VENDORS** for the period ending **January 30, 2024**, in the amount of \$3,357,248.36. (Documentation provided electronically.)
- 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 \$115,597.90.

- 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

XVI. OPERATIONS & FINANCE – Mr. Lippe, Chairperson – Continued

5. (Continued)

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

\$16,965,274.51 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.

ROLL CALL FOR ITEMS #3 THROUGH #6:

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

The **MOTION PASSED**.

Motion by Mr. Lippe, seconded by Mr. Cytowicz, to approve the following agenda item #7:

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF A GRANT PROPOSAL TO THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS FY24 LOCAL RECREATIONAL IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM BY THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD FOR LIGHTING INSTALLATION AT WEST MILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION-OWNED DYGOS FIELD

WHEREAS, the Township of West Milford desires to apply for and obtain a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for approximately \$100,000.00 to install lighting as a part of a phased project for lighting and field improvements at West Milford Board of Education-owned Dygos Field;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

1) That the West Milford Board of Education does hereby authorize the application for such a grant; and

XVI. OPERATIONS & FINANCE - Mr. Lippe, Chairperson - Continued

(7.) (Continued)

- 2) That the West Milford Board of Education does hereby authorize the Township's application to carryout lighting improvements on Board of Education property, specifically at Dygos Field; and
- 3) Recognizes and accepts that the Department may offer a lesser or greater amount and therefore, upon receipt of the grant agreement from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, does further authorize the execution of any such grant agreement; and also, upon receipt of the fully executed agreement from the Department, does further authorize the expenditure of funds pursuant to the terms of the agreement between the Township of West Milford, the West Milford Board of Education and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the West Milford Board of Education President and Board Secretary authorize Township of West Milford officials to sign the application, and that they or their successors in said titles are authorized to sign the agreement, and any other documents necessary in connection therewith.

ROLL CALL FOR ITEM #7:

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

The **MOTION PASSED**.

XVII. POLICY - Mr. William Cytowicz, Chairperson

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

DISCUSSION: Mrs. Romeo requested that the Committee consider adding a liaison for the Highlander Education Foundation (HEF). She feels it would be beneficial to have updates on that. She also spoke about her comments at a past Board meeting about a Special Education Committee, however she would not call it that. She feels that it should be called a Support Services Committee, aside from the Education Committee, where all support services are presented to the Board and not just Special Education matters. She has done a lot of research on this and would like to print it and distribute it to the Board before the next Policy Committee meeting. She feels it would be important to move those topics to a Policy meeting.

Mr. Cytowicz spoke about item #1, and explained that the change being voted on is really a structural matter, because Policy is currently an ad-hoc committee when in fact, we treat it as a standing committee. He feels that as far as changing it, he is not sure if it is more prudent to try to hurry along with changing things versus waiting a little longer and experimenting with adding ad-hoc committees at any time. If it is unnecessary, the Board can then stop having them, versus changing the Bylaw again.

XVII. POLICY - Mr. Cytowicz, Chairperson - Continued

DISCUSSION: Mr. Cytowicz expressed that anything brought into Committees is worth discussing, but for tonight's purposes, he hopes this first reading will pass and not delay a small issue. Mr. Cytowicz explained that if we structurally change something and add Committees, it will be a new first reading because the entire Bylaw was changed.

Mrs. Lockwood stated that we could start a discussion in Committee of what was brought up tonight by Mrs. Romeo. She is not saying that the Board should not vote on this as presented this evening as a first reading, as it does not sound like there are any objections to it. She expressed that it sounds like Mrs. Romeo would like to have more discussion about potentially adding a liaison and a Support Services Committee that she has done research on and can share with the Board. She feels it should go back to Committee for discussion, and not be discussed in conjunction with what is being presented tonight.

Dr. Furnari explained that the reason we have first and second readings is because of something exactly like this. During a first reading, the Board has the opportunity to hear what the Committee is recommending and often in those discussions, new things arise. Even if we went to second reading for this individual policy change, moving the Policy Committee to the correct section of the Bylaw, it does not mean that at a future meeting, we couldn't have another first reading on the policy, if the Board thinks it needs a change. She feels it is safe to consider the policy for first reading as presented, and see where that discussion brings us in the future.

Mr. Lippe asked for clarification on the policy being voted on this evening. Mrs. Lockwood responded to his inquiry.

Mrs. Van Dyk stated that any Board member can email the Chairperson and Dr. Furnari to ask them to add an item on any Committee agenda for discussion.

Mr. Cytowicz stated that after discussion at the last meeting, there were a lot of different thoughts about how to change how the Board sees our Committees. By the end of it, he gathered that the Board was experimenting, if we add a new Ad-Hoc committee and see where that goes, instead of trying to alter a Bylaw.

Mrs. Lockwood stated she thought that instead of splitting the Education Committee meeting, it would be held on a different night to give more time for the Education Committee to be able to discuss both Education and Special Education, without being restricted to an end time. She thought that was what the Board was going to try first, to see if it would give us the opportunity to have discussions with no time limit.

Mr. Lippe asked Mrs. Romeo for clarification on setting up a separate Committee to speak about Special Services districtwide, and keeping education in Education. Mrs. Romeo responded to his inquiry and explained her idea.

Board members had questions and discussed as to what Committee this discussion should take place. Dr. Furnari responded to their inquiries and explained what information is shared during the Committees.

1. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised BYLAW** entitled, "Board Committees." (Code 0155) (Documentation provided electronically.)

XVII. POLICY - Mr. Cytowicz, Chairperson - Continued

ROLL CALL FOR ITEM #1:

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

The **MOTION PASSED.**

XVIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS/LIAISONS

Parks & Recreation - Mrs. Dwyer attended the last meeting. The Township enjoyed the tree lighting ceremony on December 4th, and they are discussing how to make it even better. They appreciated that the Highlander Band and the Concert Choir played music at the event. There is registration now open for the Animal Tracks program, where participants can discover the difference between various animal furs, tracks, trails, and homes they leave behind. The program will be held on Saturday, February 17th. She spoke about a problem with Recreation Basketball, with 328 children participating, and 137 children participating in travel basketball, they are lacking a gym, as they used Westbrook in the past. West Milford Municipal Alliance is working on holding a Pickleball Tournament called, "Paddles for Prevention," with a date of April 13th. Parks & Recreation is in the process of getting quotes for fencing behind the goal at Legacy Field to stop the balls for going into the woods. It is appreciated, as we share that field with the Township, and Parks & Recreation does maintain that field. The Township and the Board of Education had conducted interviews with four companies for a Feasibility Study of the Hillcrest building, and a final decision was made. The company chosen was ENV Group Architects. They have contacted the Township with inquiries about Hillcrest and the property. The Township has also hired a Grant Writer, Bruno Associates, who are helping the different departments in the Township. Through a mutual agreement with the Board of Education, they are looking into Dygos Field and improving it with turf and lighting installation. Also, on May 11th there will be an Elks Beefsteak to benefit Parks & Recreation.

Safety - Mrs. Racano/Mrs. Dwyer - Mrs. Racano indicated the first meeting of 2024 will be held on February 22, 2024.

Superintendent's Roundtable - Mrs. Racano/Mrs. Van Dyk - Mrs. Racano stated that in the meeting last month, there was discussion on Kindergarten registration, which opened on January 16th. There are numerous ways to register a child for Kindergarten, and she explained each. Also discussed was looking into putting book vending machines in all of the Elementary schools as a reward for students. They are trying to work on logistics to see how they will be funded and filled. She stated that Dr. Furnari spoke and explained how the Superintendent puts the budget together, how much thought is put into it, and how the mindset is to touch the classroom last. There was also discussion on an issue with the 8th Grade to High School scheduling night, and how there was very little notice given. She also stated they are working on a program for Media Center volunteers called, "Library Lovers." Each school will have volunteers working in the library, after a completed fingerprint and background check. There was discussion of possibly having Friends of the Library do it as well.

XVIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS/LIAISONS - Continued

Mrs. Romeo inquired if the books that were boxed from Westbrook could be used. Mr. Novak responded to her inquiry and explained how it will work. Dr. Furnari also spoke about the company for the book vending machines.

Mrs. Racano also stated that the vending machines can be branded, as we have been discussing re-branding our District.

Mrs. Van Dyk suggested an idea and wondered if we could do a sponsorship for the books for the different schools, and maybe businesses and the community would like to help with the cost of the books. She feels if we can get the information out there, maybe someone would like to sponsor it.

Mrs. Romeo inquired about the "Library Lovers" volunteer program. She wondered if it would be a good idea to have our High School and Macopin Honor Society students be able to get service hours to spend time working in the libraries, as they really like to help out at the Elementary schools.

Passaic County School Boards Association - Mrs. Lockwood stated there is a meeting on February 1st that she will not be able to attend. It will be only virtual and the topic is entitled, "Special Education and Advocacy." She inquired if anyone could attend, and Mrs. Romeo and Mrs. Van Dyk responded.

New Jersey School Boards Association - Mr. Cytowicz stated that on Saturday, February 3rd, Governance I New Board Member Mandated Training will be held in person, and virtual training on Governance II and Governance IV will be held on the same date. On Friday, February 23rd to Sunday, February 25th is New Board Member Orientation weekend, which he highly recommends. On January 31st at 10:00 a.m., there is an online webinar entitled, "The Board's Role in the Annual Budget." He stated the webinar would also be available to watch at any time after that date.

Legislative - Mr. Cytowicz/Mr. Lippe - Mr. Cytowicz feels that Legislative is better known as Government Relations, as it pertains to the DOE, the Executive Offices, the Legislature, and it is something to keep in mind for when the Board discusses changing names of Committees. He stated that on January 9th, the Governor had his State of the State address and spoke about topics, such as universal Pre-K, a teacher shortage, increasing literacy rates, and calling on the Legislature to send a voting rights bill that would allow 16 and 17 year olds the ability to vote in local School Board elections. He stated the Legislature ended their session on January 8th and many items were passed. He added that what will become as mandatory instruction will be Grief Instruction. It will be required by the State Board of Education to adopt and Districts to implement into the New Jersey Student Learning Standards. It pertains to grief in the comprehensive health and physical education content area, and will be implemented at its next required update of the standards. Another requirement is a FAFSA Graduation Requirement, which requires students to complete financial aid applications as part of High School graduation. He also indicated that the bulk of what was passed by the Legislature was based on addressing the teacher shortage, which is a crisis that we are having.

Technology Oversight - Mr. Lippe/Mrs. Marquard - Mr. Lippe indicated that a meeting will be held on February 20th. Mrs. Romeo commented that parents can still pay \$25.00 to have insurance in place for their child's Chromebook, so if a child loses or breaks their Chromebook, the insurance will cover it. It was noted that it is not mandatory. A notification went out to the families with a link that had a date that is expired. Dr. Furnari stated that this link will be updated.

Minutes for the Budget/Regular Meeting of January 30, 2024

XVIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS/LIAISONS - Continued

Township/Board of Education Joint Committee - Mr. Cytowicz/Mrs. Romeo/
Mrs. Van Dyk/Mrs. Lockwood - No report.

West Milford Municipal Alliance - Mrs. Van Dyk/Mrs. Jurgensen - Mr. Van Dyk stated the meeting was held on Monday, January 8th. Items discussed were the "Paddles for Prevention" Pickleball Tournament, which is scheduled for Saturday, April 13th at the West Milford Recreation Center. The Atlantic Health Grant was submitted for "Sidekicks," which is a program that is similar to our "Heroes and Cool Kids" program, but for 8th Grade students. Mrs. O'Brien is working with Mrs. Gerisch on programs to be funded through that grant. In addition, Sergeant Stephen Herzog spoke about a Junior Police Academy taking place between July 29, 2024 - August 2, 2024. They are finalizing the Academy to the grade levels, and the program that they are offering. The goal is to have 30 recruits, and further details will be provided in the near future. Additionally, "Scott's Fun Run" has been set for Sunday, May 19, 2024. The next WMMA meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 12th at 7:00 p.m., in the West Milford Library, and will also be on Zoom.

Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (SEPAC) - Mrs. Marquard/
Mrs. Lockwood - Mrs. Marquard stated SEPAC met on Wednesday, January 17th in the Media Center at the High School. There was a presentation by CPS, Community Personnel Services, which is a non-profit agency providing supported employment and transition services to individuals in Bergen, Essex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, and Union Counties in New Jersey. It was very informative, and the presentation will be available on the website. Dr. Ressa gave updates on the rescheduled "Nurtured Heart" training, some Realtime IEP updates and the ability to go back and see archived IEP's, and the ESY dates for 2024. ESY is July 8th through August 8th, Monday through Thursday, for all programs. There was follow-up discussion regarding CST protocols, sensory reading program, foreign language alternative, Kindergarten inclusion model, and the inclusion of out-of-district students in activities at their home school, which Dr. Ressa spoke about and is working out. The hiring process is on-going for the Assistant Principal at Highlander Academy/Prep. A question was asked about training for the whole staff at Paradise Knoll School for the CLIMB program. A need for a future Macopin CLIMB program was also brought up, as well as an MD program at the High School for 2024-2025. Other items discussed were the Inclusion Pre-School program, Paradise Knoll not having a fenced in playground, and The Cove at the High School and Pomptonian. The next SEPAC meeting is scheduled for March 13th with a location to be determined.

XIX. OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Dwyer inquired about Pomptonian not allowing our students in the transition program to sell items. Mr. Scholts explained that it is a State Lunch Program and you cannot compete against the cafeteria if you are a member of the program. If you are selling items during off-hours, the items sold must be in compliance with the Healthy Snacks Nutritional Guidelines that are part of the National School Lunch Program. If we do not follow this, we risk losing all of our reimbursements and funding for the lunch program. Dr. Ressa explained that he and Mr. Scholts are working with the staff and the program to offer other opportunities, other activities, and other merchandise that students can purchase, and assured the Board that the importance of the program will continue to be recognized and be committed to.

XIX. OLD BUSINESS - Continued

Mr. Scholts indicated that the students can sell items after school or in the evening during an event. Mr. Scholts also indicated he and Dr. Ressa are looking into some of the items that they use the funding for, such as Martial Arts for the students, and Yoga. He is looking to incorporate that into the budget for the 2024-2025 school year, and for the rest of this year and moving forward, so that the transition program does not have to depend on the sales from The Cove.

Mrs. Marquard stated that one of the biggest parts of the program is the interaction between the children in the program, the entire student body and the staff. She understands there are legal restraints, but the program is being missed. She hopes that there is a resolution to this, and that the kids continue to be engaged and make the progress this allows them to have towards their transition in life. This is a big part of their curriculum, and she hopes they are not losing anything because of some type of a Government regulation.

Mr. Lippe inquired to Dr. Ressa and Mr. Scholts about other items that would not be in competition that the students in this program can sell. Dr. Ressa responded to his inquiry and provided additional information.

Mrs. Romeo was happy to hear about the changes that will be implemented for this program, and including it into the budget moving forward.

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

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

XX. NEW BUSINESS

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.

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

Caitlyn Babcock, 13 Post Place, Newfoundland. She thanked the Board for allowing her to speak about the matter of splitting the Education Committee. She is a mother of two (2) children in the District, one is in Special Education, and the other is in General Education. As an educator herself, she knows how important appropriate inclusion is for all of the children. She also knows that this suggestion was not made in any way to limit the amount of inclusion in our District, but to give Special Education more time to be discussed, and appreciates the thought behind that suggestion. Her concern is both the perception that separating the Committees causes, no matter what name you put on it, and also the precedent that is sets in motion. She is concerned that having two (2) Committees would mean the possibility of having different Board members sit on those committees. She is concerned there would be so much information that may be lost in the shuffle, and that information might come back to the whole Board not as clear in their original intention. She would feel more comfortable if the Education Committee can be moved to a separate night as a whole Committee. She expressed her feelings on Special Education and the benefits that we receive as a whole. She also expressed how our children, no matter what their ability, need to learn to work together. She provided statistics on the disabled population employment. She feels that all of this starts in our school, and these conversations all start in the Board's Committee meetings. She asked the Board to please choose to have the Education Committee on a separate evening, and requests that the Board does not separate her children.

Courtney Weiss-Chromeck, 7 Bordeaux Terrace, West Milford. She spoke in relation to separating the Education Committee into General and Special Education, or General and Special Services, and that it was stated tonight that 60 school districts in New Jersey have divided Committees. She indicated that while it does sound like a big number, she shared there are 593 operating school districts, 85 charter schools, 3 renaissance schools, and 16 non-operating school districts, for total of 697 local education agencies. Therefore, approximately 9.9% have separate committees, and the remaining 90% do not. Her question is, how can the Board guarantee that the Committee will not end up being more Special Education than truly Special Services, as discussed. She stated these statistics are readily available online.

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mrs. Dwyer, to close Public Comment.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

XXII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board determined there was no need for Executive Session.

XXIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mr. Lippe, to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 p.m.

VOICE VOTE:

All in Favor.

MOTION PASSED.

Respectfully submitted,

William Scholts
Board Secretary