

WEST MILFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES
WORKSHOP/REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 19, 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 7:02 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	Present	Mr. Lippe	Present	Mrs. Van Dyk	Present
Mrs. Dwyer	Absent	Mrs. Marquard	Absent	Mrs. Racano	Present
Mrs. Jurgensen	Present	Mrs. Romeo	Present	Mrs. Lockwood	Present

Minutes for the Workshop/Regular Meeting of March 19, 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	Present

There were approximately 12 members of the public in attendance.

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

- Dr. Furnari introduced Eagle Scout, Colby Scott, who provided the Board and the community with his Eagle Scout project proposal. Colby is a Junior at West Milford High School and with Boy Scout Troop #159. He distributed his Eagle Scout Service Project Proposal handout to Board members and the Administration, and he thanked Dr. Furnari and the Board for allowing him to speak at the meeting. He also thanked Mr. Strianse, Principal of West Milford High School, and his Scout Master. For his Eagle Scout project, he would like to create signage and a seating area in front of Kilgallen Field. He pointed out pictures of where the area will be in his proposal and explained there will be three (3) signs in total. One sign will be located near Nosenzo Pond Road, double sided, that will say "Kilgallen Field," and two (2) signs will be near the walk way - one for "West Milford Baseball" and one for "West Milford Field Hockey." He wants to commemorate the teams that play here, and he stated that the main issue in this area is that the field is hidden and there are a lot of visiting teams and parents that have trouble finding the field. Scouting and baseball have both been a huge part of his life, and he feels that combining both of these would be meaningful for his Eagle Scout project. Colby continued to outline supplies, materials, and prices that are needed to complete this project. He also explained the pathway and the seating area that he will be creating, and he intends to put in pavers so the area is handicap accessible. Board members asked questions regarding the project, and he responded to their inquiries providing additional information. Colby also explained to the Board the multiple fundraising options for this project. He spoke about a meeting he had with Mr. Matt Strianse, West Milford High School Principal, and Mr. Douglas Glenn, Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds, regarding the project. Mr. Cytowicz congratulated Colby on getting to this step, and noted some areas of the proposal for him to look at.
- Mia Harrison, Student Representative, reported on recent and upcoming events at the High School, including the Leap Year Spirit Winter Pep Rally and Unified Basketball game held on February 29th; Spirit Week where students wore specific clothing and colors each day; and an additional Spirit Week that celebrated International Woman's Day. Freshman Class Officers were announced and she congratulated all students who were elected. She stated that Student Council is seeking acts for the Senior Choice Awards held in the Spring, needing singers, dancers, magicians, comedians, and any other performers are welcome. Interact Club hosted the annual Cinderella Project on Saturday March 2nd, featuring gently used prom dresses sold at lower costs, along with jewelry and hair accessories.

VI. INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - Dr. Furnari - Continued

- She indicated that the total proceeds of the Cinderella project financially assist students to have the opportunity to attend the prom. She also spoke about the Spring High School Musical, "Footloose" performed on March 7th through March 10th, that hit records for ticket sales. Trivia Night was held on Friday, March 15th and was open to all students, staff and community members, and the event was a huge success. The annual All-District Arts Festival will be held on March 27th and will feature the bands of all elementary schools, middle school and high school, along with a performance by the Highlander Pipes and Drums. Visual arts, photography and woodshop students will be hosting an exhibit featuring their favorite pieces, and the sculpture and culinary students will meet together to present the Empty Bowls fundraiser. She stated that Junior Prom will be held on March 28th, and that National Honor Society eligibility letters were distributed to Juniors and Seniors who meet the requirements, with application materials due by March 29th.

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

- Mr. Novak provided the Board with an update on the process for our Kindergarten through 5th Grade English Language Arts (ELA) replacement. He spoke about the replacement process, and what had occurred prior to the knowledge of the hand carry motion for Curriculum Associates for discussion this evening. He spoke about the amount of discussion over the last year about our Math replacement program. He explained that you would not typically replace a K-5 Math program in one year and then replace a K-5 Language Arts program the following year. However, this can be done through the type of grant funding we are using to replace these programs, with stabilization aid that has been received. He continued to explain how in the Summer of 2022, we experienced supervisory restructuring, and how he took on the role of K-5 Director for content areas. Prior to that, there was a single subject Supervisor for all programs, K-12. He continued to outline what the District Literacy Committee is, how they review and process our programs, how the administration works with the group, and discussion with them on program replacement. He also spoke about a literacy consultant who helped us fill the gaps that we saw in the program, and our teachers creating our own handwriting program with the work of our occupational therapists and District nursing committee, piecing together what we currently have. He indicated that with the pandemic, we lost many staff members and hired a lot of new staff, but lost the services of the District literacy consultant. The question became, "How do we put a new program in place with new teachers, and teachers changing grade levels with the recent restructuring?" To move forward, last year Math took precedent to be replaced for this year, and Mr. Novak started the groundwork with the District literacy committee regarding what the ELA program replacement would look like for the following year, if we did in fact receive Stabilization Aid grant funding. As we have received additional Stabilization Aid grant funding, we can now move forward with going ahead in replacing the program for next year. He explained that they have seen a total of seven (7) different programs, teachers have received sample materials, teacher manuals, and on-line digital access for some of the tools to be used, to take a look at what all of the programs have to offer. A month ago, they started the process of narrowing the programs down to three, and then the top two (2) vote getters were discussed and how the District should move forward. Feedback from the Committee was to do a structured pilot process of each program.

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

- He continued to explain the pilot process, the administrators and teaching staff on the team, and there was also discussion and a survey sent out to expand the pilot process. He indicated there were thirty (30) staff members who volunteered to be part of the pilots, and with these pilot programs, the materials received are ours to keep. He explained what is involved with the pilot program costs, and how part of it will come from Stabilization Aid, and the other part of it will come from ESSER funds.

Board members had questions for Mr. Novak regarding the pilot programs. Mr. Novak responded to their inquiries, and provided additional detailed information, including timeframes for each pilot program.

- Mr. Novak provided information to the Board and the community regarding LEGAL ONE - "Signs Matter: Early Detection." He stated that discussion had taken place in Committees and at the Board level regarding the District's response to suicide prevention training. Mr. Novak explained that each year, our teachers view the Global Compliance Network training module as they are required to do. However, that module is not as in-depth and is not as targeted as the training we are engaging in now through LEGAL ONE. He continued to explain that the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association have partnered with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, and have created a module specific for educators entitled, "Signs Matter: Early Detection." Our staff will be completing this two (2) hour module between now until the end of the school year, and as a precursor to the in-person training they will receive in the Fall professional development, which is through the Rutgers Center for Behavioral Health. He continued to explain this process to the Board, and Dr. Ressa also commented on this professional development.

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

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

- February 20, 2024 Budget/Regular Meeting
- February 20, 2024 Executive Session

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

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

- February 21, 2024 Special Meeting
- February 21, 2024 Executive Session

VOICE VOTE: Mrs. Romeo and Mrs. Van Dyk "Abstained" All Others in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

VIII. SPECIAL REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE - Mr. Scholts, Board Secretary/Business Administrator - Continued

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

- February 22, 2024 Special Meeting

VOICE VOTE: Mrs. Romeo and Mrs. Van Dyk "Abstained"
All Others in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

IX. PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Mrs. Claire Lockwood

Mrs. Lockwood spoke about everyone that was involved with the High School Musical, "Footloose." She expressed that it was an amazing performance and that it was very well attended. She extended her congratulations to all on a job well done. She also spoke about the Macopin School play next month, "James and the Giant Peach Jr.," and indicated that tickets are now on sale. Mrs. Lockwood spoke about the Eagle Scout that presented at the January 30th Board meeting, Aidan Cimbrik. She indicated that Aidan has completed part of his project. The Maple Road Walkway to SACC has been finished and is being used, and looks amazing. Mr. Bill Kane, Principal of Maple Road School, reported the post on his Facebook, and some of the project still needs to be completed. Mrs. Lockwood also spoke about the Empty Bowls fundraiser and stated that all proceeds will go to the local food banks. Mrs. Lockwood also stated that a notification was sent out today for a Special Board Meeting on March 28th at 7:00 p.m., in the Macopin School Cafeteria, where the appointment of the new Superintendent of Schools will be on the agenda for approval. She encouraged the community to attend the meeting to meet the new Superintendent.

X. 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).

X. PUBLIC COMMENT REGULATIONS - Continued

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 question 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.

XI. 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.

Cortney Stephenson, 307 Ridge Road, West Milford. Mrs. Stephenson spoke about the pilot program for the English Language Arts program, with a sense of optimism and enthusiasm for the 2024-2025 school year. She spoke about Curriculum Associates for this pilot program, and urged each of the Board members to consider the importance of passing this pilot program tonight. She feels that allowing our administration the opportunity to pilot this program now is critical. With only three and a half short months left in this school year, initiating the pilot will afford our teachers, students, and parents valuable time to immerse themselves in a new curriculum, explore its resources, and engage in meaningful discussions. She also feels it will ensure better alignment with the existing iReady program, provide students with academic rigor essential to their growth, and offer parents a firsthand glimpse into the educational journey of their children. She feels that we should not delay this decision and seize this opportunity, and asked the Board for their support this evening.

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

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

XII. MOTION BY MRS. ROMEO, SECONDED BY MR. CYTOWICZ, TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED AND AMENDED, INCLUDING HAND CARRYS.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

Minutes for the Workshop/Regular Meeting of March 19, 2024

XIII. EDUCATION - Mrs. Teresa Dwyer, Chairperson

Motion by Mrs. Jurgensen, seconded by Mrs. Van Dyk, to approve the following agenda items #1 through #9:

DISCUSSION: Mrs. Van Dyk inquired about item #5, and asked about chaperones. Mrs. Lockwood discussed the item with Mrs. Van Dyk. Mr. Novak also commented.

Mrs. Lockwood asked Dr. Furnari to discuss item #1. Dr. Furnari explained the revisions to the language in the calendar to the Board and the community.

1. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **SCHOOL CALENDAR REVISIONS** - (Calendars provided electronically):

SCHOOL YEAR 2023-2024

SCHOOL YEAR 2024-2025

2. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to **RESCIND** a professional development services agreement with **GREAT MINDS PBC**, Washington, D.C., in an amount not to exceed \$98,280.00, for the 2023-2024 school year. Accounts: 20-231-200-320-10-50-003 - ESEA Title I Grant; 20-488-200-320-10-50-000 - ARP ESSER III Grant.

NOTE: Funded through ESEA Title I Grant and ARP ESSER III Grant.

3. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve an agreement for professional development services with **GREAT MINDS PBC**, Washington, D.C., in an amount not to exceed \$10,530.00, for additional professional development sessions, for the 2023-2024 school year. Account: 20-488-200-320-10-50-000 - ARP ESSER III Grant.

NOTE: Funded through ARP ESSER III Grant.

4. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve a professional services agreement with **GREAT MINDS PBC**, Washington, D.C., in an amount not to exceed \$33,150.00, for coaching sessions, for the 2023-2024 school year. Account: 20-488-200-320-10-50-000 - ARP ESSER III Grant.

NOTE: Funded through ARP ESSER III Grant.

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

BOYS TRACK & FIELD

Purpose of Trip: The purpose of this trip is to allow West Milford students to participate in an International Track and Field event. It also stresses the importance of maintaining a high standard of grades and athleticism in order to participate.

Location:	Cherry Hill, New Jersey
Dates of Trip:	April 25 - April 27, 2024
Number of Students:	10-12
Cost of Trip to Students:	\$310.00
Name of Advisor:	Arthur Joecks
Name of Chaperone(s):	Brian Leslie
Number of School Days Missed:	0 days
Cost to District:	\$1,769.00 (Transportation)

XIII. EDUCATION - Mrs. Dwyer, Chairperson - Continued

5. (Continued)

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

GIRLS TRACK & FIELD

Purpose of Trip: To allow the students to experience the diversity offered by their chosen sport. The Penn Relays is the largest and oldest Track and Field competition in our hemisphere, outside of the Olympic Games which is only offered every four years. Athletes will not only be able to compete in this prestigious and elite meet, but they will be afforded the opportunity to observe the elite talents of the international entries. This exposure will enable them to gain a better understanding of the broad spectrum of track and field and how athletics can broaden their horizons.

Location:	Mount Laurel, New Jersey
Dates of Trip:	April 24 - April 26, 2024
Number of Students:	8-12
Cost of Trip to Students:	\$410.00
Name of Advisor:	Sharon Piecuch
Name of Chaperone(s):	Christopher Jones
Number of School Days Missed:	0 days
Cost to District:	\$1,799.50 (Transportation)

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

6. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following field trip destinations to be added to the list of Board approved **FIELD TRIP LOCATIONS** for the 2023-2024 school year:
 - Kiddie Dome, Kinnelon, New Jersey
 - Urban Air, Middletown, New York
7. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the adoption of the **DISTRICT NURSING SERVICES PLAN** for the West Milford School District, for the 2023-2024 school year. (Documentation provided electronically.)
8. 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.)
- (9.) The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve a professional services agreement with **CURRICULUM ASSOCIATES**, North Billerica, Massachusetts, in an amount not to exceed \$25,871.19, to implement an English Language Arts Pilot Program, for the 2023-2024 school year. Accounts: 11-190-100-610-10-12-000 - Stabilization Aid Grant; 20-488-200-320-10-50-000 - ARP ESSER III Grant.

NOTE: Funded through the Stabilization Aid Grant and ARP ESSER III Grant.

XIII. EDUCATION - Mrs. Dwyer, Chairperson - Continued

ROLL CALL FOR ITEMS #1 THROUGH #9:

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

The **MOTION PASSED**.

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 #29:

DISCUSSION: Mrs. Lockwood spoke about items #1 through #4, recognizing staff that are retiring. She provided their years of service to community: Dr. Brian McLaughlin - 20 years; Marie Baldini-Doyle - 29 years; Alison Perry - 23 years; and Wendy Wittman - 25 years. She thanked them all for what they have done for this District and extended her congratulations to each of them.

Mrs. Van Dyk spoke about item #1, and that Dr. McLaughlin will be truly missed. She wished him well in his retirement and extended her congratulations to him. She also acknowledged the teachers leaving and wished them well in their retirement.

Mrs. Romeo spoke about the teachers that are retiring and thanked them for everything they have done. She then spoke about item #1, and Dr. McLaughlin. She thanked him for everything he has done and knows that he is leaving us in good hands. She wished him well in his retirement.

1. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to accept, with regret, the resignation of **DR. BRIAN MCLAUGHLIN**, Music Teacher, High School, effective July 1, 2024, for the purpose of retirement.
2. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to accept, with regret, the resignation of **MARIE BALDINI-DOYLE**, Social Studies Teacher, Macopin School, effective July 1, 2024, for the purpose of retirement.
3. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to accept, with regret, the resignation of **ALISON PERRY**, Grade 4 Teacher, Maple Road School, effective July 1, 2024, for the purpose of retirement.
4. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to accept, with regret, the resignation of **WENDY WITTMAN**, Grade 3 Teacher, Marshall Hill School, effective July 1, 2024, for the purpose of retirement.
5. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the appointment of **BRIANA DEMAY**, Special Class Aide, Upper Greenwood Lake School (PC#60.06.S5.AWC), at the annual salary of \$24,920.00 (Step 2) (prorated), with health benefits, effective March 20, 2024, through June 30, 2024, per Board of Education/WMTAA Agreement. (New Position) Account: 11-190-100-106-10-10-000

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

6. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the appointment of **RICHARD CASTRONOVA**, Custodian, Macopin School (PC#45.08.M3.BCG), at the annual salary of \$47,879.00 (Step 1) (prorated), with health benefits, effective April 16, 2024, through June 30, 2024, with a 180-day probationary period, per Board of Education/WMCMA Agreement. (Replaces Rich) Account: 11-000-262-110-10-10-000

NOTE: Pending medical clearance.

7. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to **RESCIND** 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, retroactive from 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

8. 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, at the per diem rate of \$250.00, with health benefits, effective April 2, 2024, through May 6, 2024, per Board of Education Agreement. (Replaces Employee #4762) Account: 11-209-100-101-10-10-105

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

9. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve a leave of absence for Employee #3835, with pay using sick days, retroactive from March 13, 2024, through April 5, 2024. (Caregiver)

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

10. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve a leave of absence for Employee #4244, with pay using sick days, retroactive from February 12, 2024, through April 4, 2024, then without pay, effective April 5, 2024, through May 3, 2024. (Medical)

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

11. 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 March 20, 2024, through June 30, 2024:

NICHOLAS ROSONE (Teacher)
JENNIFER CHAYKA (Nurse)
JENNIFER VANSANTEN (Nurse)
MACKENZIE BROWNE (Nurse)

12. 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 March 20, 2024, through June 30, 2024:

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

12. (Continued)

GINA VINCENTI (Special Class Aide)
MADISON LOMBARDO (Building Aide, Special Class Aide)
NICHOLAS ROSONE (Special Class Aide)

13. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve **an amendment to a previously approved resolution (January 2024)** for 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 - ESEA Title I Grant; 20-487-100-101-10-50-000 - 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	\$27,000.00	\$20,820.00	Paradise Knoll

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

14. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve **DONALD HEANEY** for the **2024 DISTINGUISHED SCHOLARS NIGHT**, at the hourly rate of \$37.00, for two (2) hours, on April 18, 2024, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 11-000-218-104-10-10-070

15. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELORS** for the **2024 COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP NIGHT**, at the hourly rate of \$37.00, for two and one half (2.5) hours, on May 23, 2024, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 11-000-218-104-10-10-070:

MELISSA CSENGETO
DONALD HEANEY
DANA LAMBERT
JANICE GERISCH

16. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve **JOSEPH JORDAN**, Videographer, for the **2024 COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP NIGHT**, on May 23, 2024, and the **2024 DISTINGUISHED SCHOLARS NIGHT**, on April 18, 2024, at the hourly rate \$37.00, for seven (7) hours, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement. Account: 11-000-240-320-09-09-000

17. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve **JOSEPH JORDAN**, Graduation Videographer, High School/Macopin School, at the hourly rate of \$37.00, for ten (10) hours, for the 2023-2024 school year, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement. Account: 11-000-240-320-09-09-000

18. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following staff for **DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP NIGHT** to conduct a **PARENT PRESENTATION**, at the hourly rate of \$37.00, not to exceed eight (8) hours, for a payment of \$296.00 to each staff member, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 20-280-200-101-10-50-000 - ESEA Title IV:

<u>Employee</u>	
JASON BENZ	LEIGH ANN MISIANO
MARY BOZENMAYER	SUSAN NEBIKER

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

18. (Continued)

Employee

KELLY COMERFORD	DEANA PEZZINO
JOSE ESTRADA	ALISON SCULLY
TRICIA GRANEY	KELLEY VISAGGIO
JOSEPH JORDAN	MELISSA WELCH
NICOLE KLOSZ	

NOTE: Funded through the ESEA Title IV Grant.

19. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve an **ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENT** for the following staff for **EXTENDED FIELD TRIP HOURS**, at a total stipend of \$75.00, for the 2023-2024 school year. Account: 11-401-100-110-10-10-000:

Employee

School

KRISTA DEHAAS	Apshawa
AMBER GIAMANCO	Apshawa
RACHAEL PHELPS	Apshawa
SARAH WARREN	Apshawa
PAMELA TAVARONE-BIESIADA	Apshawa/Maple Road
THOMAS ANTONUCCI	Maple Road
TRICIA GRANEY	Maple Road
ELAINE ADRAGNA	Marshall Hill
JENNIFER CASPERSON	Marshall Hill
CHRISTINE GENARDI-FISHER	Marshall Hill
AMANDA FRUIT	Marshall Hill
AMI HOGUE	Paradise Knoll
MELISSA KEIL	Paradise Knoll
BRIAN LESLIE	Paradise Knoll

20. 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:

<u>Employee</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
JACLYN BECKER	Apshawa	3	\$111.00
MICHELLE FUENTES	Apshawa	3	\$111.00
AMBER GIAMANCO	Apshawa	3	\$111.00
ALLISON GOODELL	Apshawa	3	\$111.00
LINDSAY GORNALL	Apshawa	3	\$111.00
KAREN MCCOURT	Apshawa	3	\$111.00
BROOKE QUILLIO	Apshawa	3	\$111.00
CHRISTINA RODEK	Apshawa	3	\$111.00
ERIN BRANAGAN	Paradise Knoll	3	\$111.00
JESSICA COHEN	Paradise Knoll	3	\$111.00
DEIRDRE COLLINS	Paradise Knoll	3	\$111.00
MARILYN FAHNESTOCK	Paradise Knoll	3	\$111.00
KELLY FRASCA	Paradise Knoll	3	\$111.00
AMI HOGUE	Paradise Knoll	3	\$111.00
SHARON JENSEN	Paradise Knoll	3	\$111.00
LEIGH ANN MISIANO	Paradise Knoll	3	\$111.00

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

20. (Continued)

NOTE: Funded through ESEA Title IV Grant.

21. 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>
MARY BICKFORD	Paradise Knoll	3.5	\$129.50
ERIN BRANAGAN	Paradise Knoll	3.5	\$129.50
JESSICA COHEN	Paradise Knoll	3.5	\$129.50
MARILYN FAHNESTOCK	Paradise Knoll	3.5	\$129.50
KELLY FRASCA	Paradise Knoll	3.5	\$129.50
AMI HOGUE	Paradise Knoll	3.5	\$129.50
SHARON JENSEN	Paradise Knoll	3.5	\$129.50
DEENA ACCARDI	Upper Greenwood Lake	4.0	\$148.00
JOHANNA ARCHER	Upper Greenwood Lake	4.0	\$148.00
KELLY COMERFORD	Upper Greenwood Lake	4.0	\$148.00
BRITTANY ECONOMOU	Upper Greenwood Lake	4.0	\$148.00
HEATHER EGLI	Upper Greenwood Lake	4.0	\$148.00
KIMBERLY HEINER	Upper Greenwood Lake	4.0	\$148.00
JENNIFER MAGNOTTA	Upper Greenwood Lake	4.0	\$148.00
HOLLIE MILLER	Upper Greenwood Lake	4.0	\$148.00
CHARLENE PAPPAS	Upper Greenwood Lake	4.0	\$148.00
DANIELLE POST	Upper Greenwood Lake	4.0	\$148.00
KRISTINE RALICKI	Upper Greenwood Lake	4.0	\$148.00
KIMBERLY WALKER	Upper Greenwood Lake	4.0	\$148.00

NOTE: Funded through ESEA Title I Grant.

22. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **PARADISE KNOLL ELEMENTARY 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: 20-231-100-101-10-50-XXX - ESEA Title I Grant:

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
DEIRDRE COLLINS	Kinder Kids	7.5	\$277.50
LEIGH ANN MISIANO	Kinder Kids	7.5	\$277.50

NOTE: Funded through the ESEA Title I Grant.

23. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **MACOPIN 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: 20-231-100-101-10-50-XXX - ESEA Title I Grant:

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
JILL NITKINAS	Algebra Readiness	24	\$888.00
MELISSA WELCH	Algebra Readiness	24	\$888.00

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

23. (Continued)

NOTE: Funded through the ESEA Title I Grant.

24. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **MACOPIN 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: 11-401-100-110-10-10-000:

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
ERICA MCPARTLAND	Highlander United (Spring)	9	\$333.00
TRACEY CHIMILESKI	Highlander United (Spring)	9	\$333.00

NOTE: The above club is funded through the student registration fees.

25. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **VOLUNTEERS** for the 2023-2024 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
NICHOLAS ROSONE	High School	Boys/Girls Golf
RAYMOND GORNY	High School	Boys Lacrosse

26. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **COLLEGE STUDENT(S)** 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</u>	<u>Subject/Grade</u>
LAURA DIGIROLAMO	Passaic County Community College	Maple Road	Elementary

(27.) The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the appointment of **RAYMOND GORNY**, Special Class Aide, Highlander Academy (PC#60.09.S5.CAD), at the annual salary of \$24,382.00 (Step 1) (prorated), with health benefits, effective March 20, 2024, through June 30, 2024, per Board of Education/WMTAA Agreement. (Replaces Nowacki) Account: 11-209-100-106-10-10-105

(28.) The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve a **TEMPORARY TRANSFER OF ASSIGNMENT** for **APRIL PECORARO**, from Special Class Aide, Highlander Academy, to Long Term Substitute Special Education Teacher, Highlander Academy, for one (1) period a day, at an additional per diem rate of \$50.00, with health benefits, effective March 21, 2024, through April 19, 2024, per Board of Education Agreement. (Replaces Elsea) Account: 11-209-100-101-10-10-105

(29.) The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve **JESS PRITCHETT**, High School student, as an **AUDIO VISUAL/LIGHTING TECHNICIAN** for the 2023-2024 school year, at an hourly rate not to exceed \$15.13 - Account: 11-000-262-300-17-17-000

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

ROLL CALL FOR ITEMS #1 THROUGH #29:

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

*Mrs. Van Dyk "Abstained" on items #20 and #21.

The **MOTION PASSED**.

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

Motion by Mr. Lippe, seconded by Mr. Cytowicz, to approve the following agenda items #1 through #7:

DISCUSSION: Mrs. Romeo spoke about item #6, and thanked Mrs. Christensen for her donations to the District.

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, having received written notification of 2024-2025 stabilization aid in the amount of \$405,996, and pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-13.3(d) that allows a district board of education at any time and without Commissioner approval, to appropriate unbudgeted or under-budgeted State aid for which the approval was granted by the Department in written notification to the district of the additional aid, approves the transfer of \$405,996, to the district's General Fund account as follows:

11-190-100-610-10-12-000 Supplies-Instruction \$405,996

2. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve an agreement with **WALTER A. McDERMOTT TELEPHONE AUDITING SERVICE**, Ridgewood, New Jersey, to conduct an audit of the District POTS lines, at no cost to the District. Based upon the reduction in POTS lines and cost savings to the District, Walter A. McDermott Telephone Auditing Service's fee is as follows:

The fee for obtaining credits or refunds for the telephone bill portion is fifty (50%) percent of the credit or refund. This portion of the fee is payable when the District receives the credit or refund. The fee for auditing and eliminating overcharges for telephone billing resulting in a forward savings is fifty (50%) percent of the recurring monthly reduction for the following twelve (12) months.

3. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve an agreement between the **TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD** and the **WEST MILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION** to provide a 54-passenger bus for use in connection with Bubbling Springs Day Camp from July 1, 2024, through August 16, 2024, at a fee of \$10.00 per day, plus fuel and maintenance repair costs.

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

4. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve an agreement between the **TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD** and the **WEST MILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION** for the use of fields behind West Milford High School and District parking locations, for the West Milford Community Services and Recreation Fireworks event to be held on June 28, 2024 (rain date June 29, 2024).
5. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve a **TRANSPORTATION SHUTTLE TRIP REQUEST** from **WEST MILFORD LITTLE LEAGUE**, to provide shuttle services from the West Milford Recreation Center to Hillcrest Community Center, to accommodate extra parking for attendees of the West Milford Little League Opening Day event on Saturday, April 13, 2024, at the in-county field trip transportation rate of \$42.00 per hour, and any associated overtime cost.
6. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the **DONATION** of an air hockey table and an arcade-style basketball game for Highlander Academy/Prep, valued at approximately \$500.00, from Lindsey Christensen, LCSW, School Social Worker.
7. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve **TRAINING AND TRAVEL RELATED EXPENDITURES** for Board Office Staff, at the mileage rate established by the Board. (Documentation provided electronically.)

ROLL CALL FOR ITEMS #1 THROUGH #7:

TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE
Mr. Lippe	Yes	Mrs. Dwyer	Absent	Mrs. Marquard	Absent
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 #8:

8. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the **PAYROLL** of February 29, 2024, and March 15, 2024, in the amount of \$4,082,523.06. (Documentation provided electronically.)

ROLL CALL FOR ITEM #8:

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

The **MOTION PASSED**.

Motion by Mr. Lippe, seconded by Mr. Cytowicz, to approve the following agenda items #9 through #12:

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

- 9. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the **LIST OF BILLS/VENDORS** for the period ending **March 19, 2024**, in the amount of \$2,806,893.65. (Documentation provided electronically.)
- 10. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **TRANSFER OF FUNDS RESOLUTION** for the period ending **March 19, 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 \$56,762.22.

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

WHEREAS, the Agenda file of **March 19, 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:

\$14,721,323.40 as of January 31, 2024; therefore

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

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

RESOLVED, that the Board certify as of January 31, 2024, 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 #9 THROUGH #12:

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

The **MOTION PASSED**.

XVI. POLICY - Mr. William Cytowicz, Chairperson

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mr. Lippe, to approve the following agenda items #1 through #15:

XVI. POLICY - Mr. Cytowicz, Chairperson - Continued

1. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to **ABOLISH** the **POLICY** entitled, "Equity in Educational Programs and Services." (Code 5755) (Documentation provided electronically.)
2. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Educational Equity Policies/Affirmative Action." (Code 1140) (Documentation provided electronically.)
3. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Comprehensive Equity Plan." (Code 1523) (Documentation provided electronically.)
4. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Equal Employment Opportunities." (Code 1530) (Documentation provided electronically.)
5. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised REGULATION** entitled, "Equal Employment Opportunity Complaint Procedure." (Code 1530) (Documentation provided electronically.)
6. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Equal Employment/Anti-Discrimination Practices." (Code 1550) (Documentation provided electronically.)
7. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised REGULATION** entitled, "Curriculum Content." (Code 2200) (Documentation provided electronically.)
8. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Equity in School and Classroom Practices." (Code 2260) (Documentation provided electronically.)
9. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised REGULATION** entitled, "Equity in School and Classroom Practices Complaint Procedure." (Code 2260) (Documentation provided electronically.)
10. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Guidance Counseling." (Code 2411) (Documentation provided electronically.)
11. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Bilingual Education." (Code 2423) (Documentation provided electronically.)
12. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised REGULATION** entitled, "Bilingual Education." (Code 2423) (Documentation provided electronically.)
13. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Concussions and Head Injuries." (Code 2431.4) (Documentation provided electronically.)

XVI. POLICY – Mr. Cytowicz, Chairperson – Continued

- 14. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised REGULATION** entitled, "Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Concussions and Head Injuries." (Code 2431.4) (Documentation provided electronically.)
- 15. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Equitable Educational Opportunity." (Code 5750) (Documentation provided electronically.)

ROLL CALL FOR ITEMS #1 THROUGH #15:

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

The **MOTION PASSED.**

XVII. COMMITTEE REPORTS/LIAISONS

Parks & Recreation – Mrs. Dwyer – No report.

Safety – Mrs. Racano/Mrs. Dwyer – No report.

Superintendent’s Roundtable – Mrs. Racano/Mrs. Van Dyk – Mrs. Racano spoke about the meeting, which was led by Mr. Novak. The main topic of discussion was the new Math regrouping at Macopin School. Many had questions regarding what that is actually going to look like and how it is going to work, especially with students already existing in Macopin. Mr. Novak provided all of the information regarding this topic, and it seems this will be a fairly seamless transition for those students. There will be a cohort of 8th Grade students moving to the High School for Geometry, and the members wanted to know a little bit more about the logistics of how that was going to work. Another topic discussed was if the 4:30 p.m. late bus could be reinstated, which will be requested through Mr. Scholts, and there were also questions regarding the late bus routes.

Passaic County School Boards Association – Mrs. Lockwood stated that she and Mrs. Van Dyk attended the Passaic County Unsung Hero Awards, honoring those students who often go unnoticed. Michael McCloskey, who was recognized at the January 30th Board meeting, received his award. She encouraged anyone who would like to attend this award ceremony in the future to do so. The next meeting will be on May 29, 2024, which will be the last meeting of this school year. Mrs. Van Dyk also commented on the wonderful awards ceremony and was moved by the speeches given by the counselors and the principals on why they chose the recipients for this award. Mr. Strianse, Mr. Novak, and Ms. Lambert also attended the ceremony, and it was a wonderful recognition for these students.

New Jersey School Boards Association – Mr. Cytowicz stated that on March 20th from 7:00-8:00 p.m., there will be trainings for Governance I, Governance II, Governance III, and Governance IV. On Thursday, March 28th there is a webinar series that is entitled, "Revolutionize Learning: Step into the Era of Immersive Experiences!" and on April 11th, there is "Leveraging State & Federal Dollars to Establish Long-Term, High-Impact Tutoring Program." He indicated that both webinars can be viewed after those dates.

XVII. COMMITTEE REPORTS/LIAISONS - Continued

Legislative - Mr. Cytowicz/Mr. Lippe - Mr. Cytowicz stated that on March 14th, the Senate Education Committee heard testimony from invited guests across the spectrum of the Pre-K through 12th Grade community. He indicated it was a range of different school funding circumstances, and the importance of this is that there is seemingly going to be a restructuring of the funding formula. He will keep the Board updated on this.

Technology Oversight - Mr. Lippe/Mrs. Marquard - Mr. Lippe stated there was a meeting, however he was not available to attend. No report.

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 - Mrs. Jurgensen indicated she was able to join the meeting via Zoom, but had some technical difficulties. She was able to report that there was discussion about the Pickleball Tournament which will be held on April 13th, and there was a lot of discussion regarding the logistics of "Scott's Fun Run."

Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (SEPAC) - Mrs. Marquard/Mrs. Lockwood - Mrs. Lockwood indicated that Mrs. Marquard did attend the SEPAC meeting on March 13th. Mrs. Lockwood spoke about some of the bullet points that were on the agenda, including a presentation by our District BCBA on Behavioral Management Strategies; an update on recent professional development days, February 20th and March 18th, by Dr. Ressa; Realtime updates for IEPs; discussion on the West Milford School District "Week of Inclusion" and parent feedback; update on some Special Education programs being looked at for the Fall; the West Milford Education Foundation is requesting to visit on May 15th, which may change; resources were given to parents; discussion on the sensory reading program; ESY was discussed and dates were given; an update by Dr. Ressa on the fence installation at Paradise Knoll School; Stabilization Aid; NJ4S was discussed in more detail; and transitioning, IEPs, and a brochure for special programs that is being worked on.

XVIII. OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Van Dyk commented that she was able to visit all of the schools for Reading Across America week. She stated that she was given a very warm welcome from the students and the staff in every building, and it felt so wonderful to be back in the schools again. She could see that the students and staff really enjoyed seeing guest readers come to their building. She encourages all Board members to do this if it is possible for them.

Mrs. Romeo indicated that the students were incredibly well-behaved and she felt so much kindness towards one another.

Mr. Lippe stated that he thoroughly enjoyed participating in this as well.

Mrs. Racano also commented on her experience at Apshawa School.

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mr. Lippe, to close Old Business.

VOICE VOTE:

All in Favor.

MOTION PASSED.

XIX. NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Romeo spoke about a discussion with Dr. Ressa and Mrs. Jurgensen about Reading. She explained an app called “Libby” that directly connects to you to our West Milford Township Library, where you can put in your card number and you can download an audiobook, borrow ebooks and audiobooks, and you can put ebooks on hold from the library.

Mrs. Romeo thanked Mr. Kane, Principal of Maple Road School, for the detailed information that he sends out about what is happening at Maple Road School, including emails, newsletters, and updates. She extended her appreciation to Mr. Kane.

Mrs. Van Dyk agreed with Mrs. Romeo. She feels it is great to get this information and wished there was a way to get information from all of the schools. It is very much appreciated to receive it.

Mrs. Romeo commented that she also appreciates the information that she receives from Macopin School. She also is very thankful for Ms. Dana Lambert and the Guidance newsletter. She encourages everyone to read the newsletter as there are many scholarship opportunities available that are not only for Juniors and Seniors, as well as essay writing opportunities. She thanked Ms. Lambert for sharing this newsletter with the Board, and everyone else in the Guidance Department for making the newsletter so great.

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

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

XX. 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.

Caitlyn Babcock, 13 Post Place, West Milford. She spoke about the school calendar and if no additional days are used, and asked for clarification if the last three days are early dismissal days for students and staff. Dr. Furnari responded to her inquiries.

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

Nathan Bedford, Hewitt. Mr. Bedford announced to the Board and the public that it is the 40th Anniversary of The Friends of Long Pond Ironworks. It is a State park located at 1334 Greenwood Lake Turnpike in Hewitt, New Jersey, and is the birthplace and cradle of West Milford. They will be holding their Spring Clean-Up Day on Saturday, March 30th at 10:00 a.m., both in the museum and on-site, if anyone is interested in helping to get these areas ready for the season which starts on Saturday, April 13th. He stated that he also does Civil War reenacting, and that Civil War weekend is scheduled for June 8th and 9th. He wanted to make this announcement for Mr. Hans Niederstrasser, President of The Friends of Long Pond Ironworks. He thanked the Board and expressed keeping history alive.

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

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

XXI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board determined there was no need for Executive Session.

XXII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mr. Lippe, to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 p.m.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

Respectfully submitted,

William Scholts
Board Secretary