## 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 28, 2023

## DISTRICT GOALS - 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

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

Mrs. Kate Romeo, Board President, called to order the Workshop/Regular Meeting of the Board of Education at 6:30 p.m., in the Westbrook School Media Center. She asked for a moment of silence, led the flag salute, read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement, and reminded everyone in attendance to silence or turn off their cell phones and note the locations of the emergency exits.

# OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT

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

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

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

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

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

There were approximately 25 members of the public in attendance.

#### VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION

At 6:32 p.m., Mr. Cytowicz made a motion, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, to approve the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board immediately go into Executive Session for approximately forty-five (45) 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: MOTION PASSED. All in Favor.

The Board returned to the Public Meeting at 7:16 p.m.

## ROLL CALL UPON RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

#### VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - Dr. Alex Anemone

• Gabriella Meza, Student Representative, provided the Board and the community with highlights of events held at West Milford High School. She stated that on March  $3^{rd}$  at their annual Volleyball Tournament, they raised \$1,200.00 that will be donated to the Alzheimer's Association. On Saturday, April  $1^{st}$ , the PTSO will be running a Food Truck Festival with a Car Show at the High School. The annual District Arts Festival is on Wednesday, March  $29^{th}$  from 6:00-9:00 p.m. She spoke about the High School Musical, "Something Rotten," which was held at the High School on March  $9^{\rm th}$ ,  $10^{\rm th}$ , and  $11^{\rm th}$  and was very successful. Also, Digital Citizenship Night for Grades 3-8 was held at the High School on March 22, 2023, and the Junior Prom will be held on Friday, March 31, 2023, at Casa Bianca.

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - Dr. Anemone - Continued VII.

- Dr. Anemone spoke about the Passaic County Unsung Heroes Award. The recipient of this award is one of our High School Seniors, Gianna Hardison. This annual award recognizes one student from every High School in Passaic County for making outstanding contributions to their schools and their community. Dr. Anemone asked Gianna Hardison to come forward to receive a Certificate of Recognition, and the Board congratulated Gianna on her award.
- Auditor's Presentation Please note this report is summarized under:

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

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

- Mr. Novak provided the Board and the community with a review of Digital Citizenship Night held at the High School on Wednesday, March 22, 2023. He stated there were over 300 registered guests. He thanked the Educational Technology Committee members for putting this annual event together. We were able to educate parents on the dangers of apps and cyberbullying on technology devices. We were fortunate to have a keynote presenter named Kevin Honeycutt who summarized this event with heart and soul about the positives that can be done with student's access to digital tools. He stated it was a very successful event and there were many items raffled off to students, thanks to community donations that were received. Mr. Joe Jordan and students from the TV Science Class were able to record a short highlights video of the event.
- Mr. Novak spoke about one of the programs introduced during Digital Citizenship Night called SmartSocial.com. It is something that we registered for as a District that every family has access to. Mr. Novak explained that over 150 families have signed up. When the video link is sent to everyone via School Messenger, he will include the QR Code for how families can sign up for Smart Social. SmartSocial is a collection of video tutorials and has access to live webinars that brings families and parents through the steps on how to set up phones with parental protection, and goes through roadblocks and the dangers for children meeting on-line. It also includes some instructions on how to use QR Codes. He thanked the Educational Technology Committee again for such a tremendous Digital Citizenship Night event.

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

 Ms. Francisco introduced Mr. Jim Cerullo from the auditing firm of Wielkotz & Company, LLC, to present the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) and the Auditor's Management Report, for the period ending June 30, 2022. Mr. Cerullo explained his firm comes in every year to conduct the audit, and usually presents the audit in December. However, audits have been postponed to March for a few years now, due to delays in receiving information from the Division of Pensions. This put off the due date for the audit from December  $5^{\rm th}$  to March  $17^{\rm th}$  for this year. Mr. Cerullo spoke about the Auditor's Management Report, which has ten (10) areas that the Department of Education requires auditors to look into, along with general accepted auditing standards.

## SPECIAL REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE - Ms. Barbara Francisco, Board Secretary/ IX. Business Administrator - Continued

- Mr. Cerullo explained that auditors are to report any findings, no matter how large or small. He was pleased to report there are no findings in this year's report. He then spoke about the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), made up of various sections, and provided the Board with an explanation of the report. Board members had questions and comments for Mr. Cerullo regarding the audit.
- Mrs. Dwyer thanked Ms. Francisco for all of her hard work. Ms. Francisco thanked her staff for doing a great job throughout the year.

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

- February 21, 2023 Budget/Regular Meeting
- February 21, 2023 Executive Session

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

#### Χ. PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Mrs. Kate Romeo

Mrs. Romeo spoke about events during the last month and what she attended, including a Wrestling event held at the High School, Family Reading Nights, Marshall Hill Bingo and Tricky Tray fundraiser, Paradise Knoll School TREP\$ and the Harlem Wizards, the High School Musical, "Something Rotten," and the "Mary Poppins, Junior" Macopin Production, and Digital Citizenship Night.

Mrs. Romeo also thanked Level I Games, on Route 23 South in Pompton Plains. They are donating to West Milford schools \$500.00 worth of Pokemon items. She will ask the Board to accept these items as a donation that Mr. Novak can use for our clubs and/or special education students. She thanked everyone involved for their support in their donation of these items to West Milford schools.

She also expressed her excitement for the Districtwide Arts Festival to be held on Wednesday, March 29th, at West Milford High School.

#### XI. PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA ITEMS (PLEASE SIGN IN)

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

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

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

Cortney Stephenson, former Board Trustee. Mrs. Stephenson inquired about Policy items #2 and #4. She is concerned about what the class size changes have been, and also what the assignment of students is. It says that documentation has been provided electronically and knows that it is only to Board members. She would like it said publicly to everyone at the meeting and on video what the class size changes are, and what the assignment of student's changes have been.

Mrs. Romeo stated that both policies are on the agenda for a first reading and these changes are posted on our website under Policy.

Stephanie Marquard, 486 Lakeshore Drive, Hewitt. She has a son in Macopin School, and a son at Maple Road School. She is here to speak about the budget cuts proposed by the Superintendent. She spoke about the funding that the District has lost over the years. She feels that tax payers, parents, and school officials need to continue to fight to have the funding formula fixed. She believes more can be done by applying for grants. She believes forming a grant writing committee could help bring money into the District. The state had millions in CTE grant money available to comprehensive high schools that could have been used to keep students in our High School. She feels we have many teachers in our District that would be more than willing to write grants for our District. She spoke about the staff reductions being made to adjust for the loss of revenue. She also spoke about capital projects and feels that nothing should be done unless it is absolutely necessary, if it means that our kids lose anything academically. She feels that the pay-to-participate fee for clubs, band, and athletics should be raised to \$150.00 which she feels is fair. She spoke about the tax increase, and how it was advised in the past (back in 2016), that a zero percent increase would only defer a higher increase at a later date. She understands that cuts have to be made, but not at the expense of our children. She asks the Board to please choose wisely.

Kristi Klave, 31 Hilltop Road, Newfoundland. She wanted to recognize and give a sincere thank you to Jackie Addice, who has made such an impact on our student's lives for all of her years of service in our District. She is a Special Class Aide in her class. She is the most kind and loving person she knows, and has sustained many years of working in her classroom as her seamless right hand. She stated that we will be at a loss without her, but we are happy to celebrate her retirement. She feels that she has done so much for so many.

Brendan Kenny, 280 High Crest Drive, West Milford. He spoke about concerns he has in regard to cutting Media Specialists. He does not know them personally, but listens to what his children say about them. His first concern is our rotation for our kids and our teachers. We have three (3) Media Specialists for five (5) schools. He is curious to know how a rotation would work that would not burden the student and the teacher. He feels we cannot keep asking more and more from our teachers and paying them less than what many in the county average would be.

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

Mr. Kenny's second concern is that in January 2023, it was requested that Media Specialists help teach course content and it is a class he assumes is proposed for next year. His concern is if three (3) Media Specialists are being cut to one (1), how would the District ask one (1) individual to teach that class in five (5) different schools, in addition to having the same responsibilities that our faculty members are being asked of. Mr. Kenny was part of the Redistricting Committee with Mr. Novak and others. He is passionate about the education in this District, and he is a 2003 Graduate. His third concern is retaining and keeping our own staff, and he feels this retention of our own must be a priority.

Dr. Marisa Gough, 34 Center Street, West Milford. She spoke about parent's concerns on the Preliminary Budget. The first concern is the loss of Media Specialists. Her understanding is they are a vital source to our students and their literacy education, as well as their digital literacy. A parent concern she received is that teachers are "spread thin" with their schedules. This parent also referred to our District having a great program called "Digital Citizenship Night," offered to Grades 3-8 currently. Having a Media Specialist at the elementary level is what helps this program flourish as it progresses to the other grades. She showed the Board a book that the Media Specialist helped her daughter pick out. Her daughter is excited to come home with a book on Mondays, because she gets to show her what she picked out and they read it together at bedtime. She feels the loss of Media Specialists will leave an immediate and lasting gap in our children's education. She understands the problem of increased costs and declining revenue, but is asking the Board to think outside of the box and be proactive rather than reactive.

Teresa Lindholm, 41 Sommerville Road, Hewitt. She thanked the Board members for their time and commitment to the Board. She spoke about her concerns on the redistricting of schools. She feels the Board had one plan and then hired someone to fulfill the plan, and there was no Plan B or Plan C. She stated the redistricting has not even happened and the budget is being cut. We are losing teachers and cutting programs, and she is worried about the students and the teachers. She feels there should have been another plan in place, and that we should have been be more prepared for this.

Dr. Liz McQuaid, 32 Bisset Drive, West Milford. She spoke about several items on the agenda. She congratulated and thanked Karen Barriero, Transportation Supervisor, and Jacqueline Addice, on their retirements. She stated that both of these women served our District well. She welcomed Dr. Ressa to West Milford and to our school community, and congratulated Dr. Matlosz on his new position at Macopin School. She feels Dr. Matlosz has extensive experience and will be a huge asset to our middle school. She then spoke about another item on the agenda, Dr. Anemone's resignation. Before his arrival, this District had five (5) Superintendents in an eight (8) year period. She stated that Dr. Anemone provided West Milford with consistency, leadership, and strength. She wanted to take a moment and personally congratulate him on his new position, and thank him for the years he gave us as a Highlander. She thanked him for being a visionary leader that set ambitious goals, for supporting students with special needs, and being committed to all students to grow academically and socially. He does not look for recognition in an often thankless position, and he endured multiple fiscal challenges that our community faced over the years and still provided our children with the best quality education that he and the Board felt at that time. She hopes the Board will look to fill the position with a strong educational leader that loves the community, has the strength that it will take to face financially difficult times, and a leader that remains student focused.

# XI. PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA ITEMS - Continued

Lisa Bingham, 230 Lake Shore Drive, Hewitt. She spoke about the proposed cuts to the budget, specifically in Special Education, regarding the Social Worker at Macopin. She knows that one of the two Social Workers will potentially be cut. She feels this can be hazardous with Special Education and the parents. She spoke about the role of a Social Worker, how essential the two Social Workers are that we have now, and how difficult it would be to lose one at the middle school. She hopes the Board can think outside of the box in order to possibly save and retain this position. She would be open to researching what can be done to keep this position and would advocate for it.

Kristin Seibert, 16 Hillview Court, West Milford. She wanted to echo what the other speakers talked about this evening. She has grown up in West Milford and has been in the District a long time, and has worked in other Districts. She understands that cuts have to made, but she wants to make the Board aware of how important some of those cuts being proposed are. She feels we do not have enough Media Specialists to begin with. She explained that she has seen so much support from them in her new role as an Encore teacher for all grades in her building. She spoke about how the Media Specialist in her building goes above and beyond to get books for her students, and how the Media Specialist helps her with technical reports for meetings she must attend. She spoke about her daughter in Kindergarten, and how much she loves to go to the library twice a week to read books and work on different projects. She feels we are really thin in the areas of Music and Arts, and this is something that our District prides themselves in and drives people to West Milford. She also feels that we have the District Arts Festival and Digital Citizenship Night, but that does not happen without those Media Specialists and staff. She stated the Media Specialists get back to teachers very quickly with any and all requests, resources and directions, even when they are in different buildings. Mrs. Seibert also spoke about her concerns as a parent on cutting any kind of counseling and social work, with all of these students coming out of COVID. She feels we should be looking at how to get funding to have a full time counselor in every building as opposed to cutting one, for both the support staff, as well as the students and families.

Cortney Stephenson, former Board Trustee. She spoke about the Board policy and saw the changes on the website regarding class size changes. She stated that the policy change for Kindergarten class size is 25. She feels it is wonderful that people are at the meeting speaking, and that we have an amazing community. She stated that when the Board was proposing to close a school, the Board created various Committees. She asked if the Board could create Committees on who could write grants and how to research grants for funding. She feels there are people in this community that are willing to help. She also feels that unfortunately, our District is losing a great Superintendent and his time here was very stable. She feels that we really need to start thinking outside of the box in how we can help each other.

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

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

XII. MOTION BY MR. CYTOWICZ, SECONDED BY MRS. O'BRIEN, TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED AND AMENDED, INCLUDING HAND CARRY, AND REMOVING ITEM #16 UNDER PERSONNEL/STUDENT AFFAIRS FROM THE AGENDA.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

#### XIII. EDUCATION - Mrs. Claire Lockwood, Chairperson

Motion by Mrs. Lockwood, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, to approve the following agenda items #1 through #4:

DISCUSSION: Mrs. Romeo inquired about item #1. Mr. Novak responded to her inquiry.

- The recommendation of the Superintendent to submit AMENDMENT #1 for the CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE and RELIEF SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS (CRRSA-ESSER II) GRANT application FY 2020-2023.
- 2. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following CHANGES TO SECONDARY PROGRAMS\* for the 2023-2024 school year:

#### COURSE TYPE OF PROGRAM CHANGE

Food, Nutrition, and You Credit Change:

From 2.5 credits to 5.0 credits

\*Highlander Academy

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

# BOYS TRACK & FIELD

Purpose of Trip: Penn Relays - The purpose of this trip is to allow West Milford students to participate in an international Track and Field Event. It will also stress the importance of maintaining a high standard of grades and athleticism, so the students are allowed to participate.

Location: Cherry Hill, New Jersey April 26 - 28, 2023 Dates of Trip: Dates of Trip:

Number of Students:

Cost of Trip to Students:

April 2

Approximation 
\$315.00 Approximately 12

Name of Advisor(s):
Name of Chaperone(s): Arthur Joecks Brian Leslie

Number of School Days Missed:

Cost to District: \$1,200.00

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 (4) 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: Cherry Hill, New Jersey Dates of Trip: April 28 - 29, 2023 Number of Students: Approximately 12

Cost of Trip to Students: \$303.50

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

3. (Continued)

# GIRLS TRACK & FIELD

Name of Advisor(s): Sharon Piecuch Name of Chaperone(s): Arthur Joecks

Number of School Days Missed: 1

\$1,200.00 Cost to District:

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

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

## ROLL CALL FOR ITEMS #1 THROUGH #4:

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

The MOTION PASSED.

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

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 Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, to approve the following agenda items #1 through #15, and items #17 through #35 (ITEM #16 WAS PULLED AND REMOVED FROM THE AGENDA):

DISCUSSION: Mrs. Dwyer inquired about #9, and if the salary is correct. Dr. Anemone responded to her inquiry.

Mrs. O'Brien spoke about item #4. She is sad to see Mr. Calamari leave the District. She stated she has known him since he was a young child, and he has turned out to be one of the nicest people and a phenomenal teacher. She feels he is a big loss to our District that he is resigning and thanked him.

Mrs. Racano spoke about item #3 and item #5. As a Maple Road parent, she wanted to thank Mrs. Addice for everything she has done for Maple Road School. She stated that anyone who is part of Maple Road knows that Mrs. Clave's class is part of the heart of the school, and Mrs. Addice was a big part of that. She also thanked Mr. Shevlin, Assistant Head Custodian, for being invaluable to Maple Road School and the Maple Road PTO. She thanked them both for their years of service and everything they have done for the District.

Mrs. Lockwood spoke about item #8. She welcomed Dr. Ressa to the District as the new Director of Special Services, and she looks forward to working with him.

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

DISCUSSION: Mrs. Romeo spoke about item #8, and welcomed Dr. Ressa. She spoke about item #1, and thanked Karen Barriero for her years of service in West Milford. She also spoke about item #2, and wished Fran Kulak well in her retirement and thanked her for taking care of and supporting our students.

- The recommendation of the Superintendent to accept, with regret, the resignation of KAREN BARRIERO, Supervisor of Transportation, Districtwide, effective July 1, 2023, for the purpose of retirement.
- The recommendation of the Superintendent to accept, with regret, the resignation of ALFONSINA KULAK, Principal's Secretary, Macopin School, effective July 1, 2023, for the purpose of retirement.
- The recommendation of the Superintendent to accept, with regret, the resignation of JACQUELINE ADDICE, Special Class Aide, Maple Road School, effective July 1, 2023, for the purpose of retirement.
- 4. The recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of ROBERT CALLAMARI, Social Studies Teacher, Macopin School, effective July 1, 2023.
- 5. The recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of ROBERT SHEVLIN, Assistant Head Custodian, Maple Road School, effective May 1, 2023.
- The recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of ISRAEL VARGAS-REYES, Bus Driver, Transportation, retroactive from March 22, 2023.
- 7. The recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of RACHEL FERRIS, Assistant Girls Lacrosse Coach, High School, retroactive from March 9, 2023.
- The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the appointment of DR. DEREK RESSA, Director of Special Services, Districtwide (PC#11-10-P3-AOW), at the annual salary of \$165,000.00, plus a \$2,100.00 Doctorate Stipend, with health benefits, effective July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, per Board of Education Agreement. (Replaces McQuaid) Account: 11-000-219-104-10-10-142

NOTE: Pending fingerprint and medical clearance.

- The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the appointment of DR. GREGORY MATLOSZ, Principal, Macopin School (PC#15.08.P1.AEM), at the annual salary of \$150,000.00, plus a \$2,100.00 Doctorate Stipend, with health benefits, effective July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, per Board of Education/WMPSA Agreement. (Replaces Citro) Account: 11-000-240-103-10-10-150
- 10. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the appointment of MICHAEL NOWACKI, Special Class Aide, Highlander Academy (PC#60.09.S5.AVB), at the annual salary of \$24,142.00 (Step 1) (prorated), effective April 1, 2023, through June 30, 2023, per Board of Education/WMTAA Agreement. (Replaces Connors) Account: 11-209-100-106-10-10-105

NOTE: Pending medical clearance.

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

11. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a leave of absence for DIANE BIDWELL, Special Use Vehicle Driver, Transportation, with pay using sick days, retroactive from March 2, 2023, through April 28, 2023. (Medical)

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

12. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following additions to the certified personnel list of SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS/COACHES/NURSES/ SPECIAL PROJECTS for the 2022-2023 school year, effective March 29, 2023, through June 30, 2023:

SHANEN GUISALA (Teacher) **AMY KELLER** (Teacher) ANNIE NEVIN (Teacher)

SAM LAURITANO (Special Projects) COLETTE METCALF (Teacher)
SARA GILLOOLEY (Teacher) JULIE KEEFE\* (Special Projects)

13. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following additions to the non-certified personnel list of SUBSTITUTE SECRETARIES/BUILDING AIDES/CAFETERIA AIDES/SPECIAL CLASS AIDES/SACC AIDES/OPERATIONS/SCHOOL BUS/ VAN/SPECIAL USE VEHICLE DRIVERS & VEHICLE AIDES for the 2022-2023 school year, effective March 29, 2023, through June 30, 2023:

JOANNE OTTENS (Vehicle Aide) KIAWA VITALE (Building Aide, Secretary)

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

Employee From To

JESSICA DINETTA Physical Education Teacher Physical Education Teacher (PC#90.03.26.AMP; Maple Road/Marshall Hill Maple Road/Highlander Academy PC#90.09.26.ANB)

Account: 11-120-100-101-10-50-000; 11-140-100-101-10-10-105

JILL CULLEN Physical Education Teacher Physical Education Teacher (PC#90.05.26.ANA; Paradise Knoll/Marshall Hill Paradise Knoll/Highlander Prep PC#90.08.26.XXX)

Account: 11-120-100-101-10-50-000; 11-130-100-101-10-10-XXX

Principal's Secretary Principal's Secretary AMANDA MENIER (PC#65.05.S2.AXT) Westbrook Paradise Knoll Account: 11-000-240-105-10-10-149

15. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a payment to KIMBERLEY HALL, Substitute Nurse, in the total amount of \$700.00 for services rendered from March 30, 2023, through March 31, 2023, for the Macopin School 7th Grade trip to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Account: 11-130-100-101-10-10-103

NOTE: Funded by students through the overall trip cost.

# ITEM #16 WAS PULLED AND REMOVED FROM THE AGENDA

<sup>\*</sup>Pending medical clearance.

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

17. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a payment to KIMBERLEY HALL, Substitute Nurse, in the total amount of \$1,100.00 for services rendered from May 31, 2023, through June 2, 2023, for the Macopin School 8th Grade trip to Washington, D.C. Account: 11-130-100-101-10-10-103

NOTE: Funded by students through the overall trip cost.

18. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a payment to JOAN DARNSTEADT, Substitute Nurse, in the total amount of \$1,900.00 for services rendered from April 12, 2023, through April 16, 2023, for the High School Color Guard World Competition trip to Dayton, Ohio. Account: 11-401-100-110-10-10-000

NOTE: Funded by students through the overall trip cost.

19. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a payment to KAYLA SIBBLIES, Substitute Nurse, in the total amount of \$1,500.00 for services rendered retroactive from February 24, 2023, through February 27, 2023, for the High School National Cheerleading Competition trip to Hershey, Pennsylvania. Account: 11-401-100-110-10-000

NOTE: Funded by students through the overall trip cost.

20. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a payment to JOAN DARNSTEADT, Substitute Nurse, in the total amount of \$1,500.00 for services rendered from April 19, 2023, through April 22, 2023, for the High School National Percussion trip to Miamisburg, Ohio. Account: 11-401-100-110-10-10-000

NOTE: Funded by students through the overall trip cost.

21. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve an ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENT for KAREN ROMER, Building Aide, for TEMPORARY CLERICAL WORK, Special Services Department, at the hourly rate of \$14.13, for 3 hours/ day, 2 days/week, effective March 29, 2023, through May 19, 2023, per Board of Education Agreement. (Replaces Franke) Account: 11-110-100-101-10-10-000

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

- 22. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve JOSEPH JORDAN, Videographer, for the 2023 DISTINGUISHED SCHOLARS and COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP NIGHT, at the hourly rate of \$36.00, for four (4) hours, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement. Account: 11-000-240-320-09-09-000
- 23. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve JOSEPH JORDAN, Graduation Videographer, High School/Macopin School, at the hourly rate of \$36.00, for ten (10) hours, for the 2022-2023 school year, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement. Account: 11-000-240-320-09-09-000
- 24. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following High School students as AUDIO VISUAL/LIGHTING TECHNICIANS for the 2022-2023 school year, at the hourly rate of \$14.13 - Account: 11-000-262-300-17-17-000:

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

24. (Continued)

JACOB BLUM MAXINE KUNZ JAMES CLARK ZOE LISBONA AIDAN LONGACRE ZACHARY MIRKOVIC AMANDA DELLAGICOMA NADIA FELIPE KAYLA FILIPOWICZ EMMA POLGLAZE HAILEY KAPRAL JASON PRITCHETT MADELINE KEATES MIGUEL TAPIA

25. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve an ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENT for the following staff for KINDERGARTEN SUMMER EXPERIENCE, at the hourly rate of \$36.00, for two (2) hours during August 2023 -Account: 11-110-100-101-10-10-000:

Employee	School
ALLISON GOODELL	Apshawa
LINDSAY GORNALL	Apshawa
KAREN McCOURT	Apshawa
HOLLY STANLEY	Maple Road
PETRINA VALESE	Maple Road
MELISSA BERGH	Marshall Hill
KELLY ROWLAND	Marshall Hill
DEIRDRE COLLINS	Paradise Knoll
LEIGH ANN MISIANO	Paradise Knoll
ASHLEY BAUMGARTNER	Upper Greenwood Lake
KELLY YOST	Upper Greenwood Lake

26. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following MACOPIN SCHOOL TEACHERS for the 5th Grade Parents Presentation, at the hourly rate of \$36.00, not to exceed three (3) hours, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 11-401-100-110-10-10-000:

# Employee

DIANA BIVONA JESSICA BULLOCK CHRISTINE ERRICHIELLO DIANA BIVONA ALYSSA HAUSMANN LINDA JACOBS SUSAN KACZOR AMY FRITZ RACHEL FERRIS TRACY GENCARELLI

27. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following staff members for the SUMMER READING and LITERACY PROGRAM, per contracted rate, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 20-487-100-101-10-50-103 - ARP ESSER III Grant:

Employee	<u>Payment</u>	
MELISSA BERGH	\$4,617.00	
MARY BICKFORD	\$6,793.00	
DANIEL BROPHY	\$2,434.00	
GEORGEAN COLEMAN	\$8,608.00	
KELLY COMERFORD	\$4,787.00	
MICHELLE DeVOID	\$4,698.00	
MERJEME DUFFY	\$8,286.00	
TRICIA GRANEY	\$7.581 00	

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

27. (Continued)

Employee	<u>Payment</u>
NICOLE GWINNETT	\$2,599.00
KAREN McCOURT	\$8,286.00
AMY METT	\$8,608.00
SHAWN RHINESMITH	\$8,608.00
JACQUELINE SEGAL	\$5,363.00

NOTE: Funded through ARP ESSER III Grant.

28. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following additional staff member and stipend, for the HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ACTIVITY ASSIGNMENT, DISTRICT ARTS FESTIVAL, to be held on March 29, 2023, for the 2022-2023 school year, at a stipend of \$74.00 per chaperone - Account: 11-401-100-110-10-10-000:

Chaperone Assignment SUSAN FREY Westbrook

NOTE: Replaces Balogh

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

Advisor	Club	Hours	<u>Payment</u>
LINDSAY GORNALL	Yoga	4	\$144.00
CHRISTINA RODEK	Incredible Insects	6	\$216.00
BLAKE VISCONTI	Incredible Insects	6	\$216.00

NOTE: Funded through the ARP ESSER III Grant.

30. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve an amendment to a previously approved resolution (November 2022), for the following MARSHALL HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENT ACTIVITY CLUB(S), ADVISOR(S), and HOURS for the 2022-2023 school year, at the hourly rate of \$36.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 20-231-100-101-10-50-XXX - ESEA Title I Grant:

Advisor	Club	Hours	Payment
MAUREEN KELLY	Eagle Scholars	20	\$720.00
KAETLYN SCARPA	Eagle Scholars	20	\$720.00
ALICE SUSKA	Eagle Scholars	11	\$396.00
ERIN BRANAGAN	Eagle Scholars	8	\$288.00

NOTE: Funded through the ESEA Title I Grant.

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

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

31. (Continued)

Advisor	<u>Club</u>	Hours	Payment
MARIANNE MARIANI	Let's Latch-hook!	5	\$180.00

NOTE: Funded by the PTA.

32. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve an amendment to a previously approved resolution (August 2022), for the following MACOPIN SCHOOL STUDENT ACTIVITY CLUB(S), ADVISOR(S), and HOURS for the 2022-2023 school year, at the hourly rate of \$36.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 20-073-100-101-10-50-000 - Play Unified Grant:

Advisor	Club	Hours	<u>Payment</u>
ANDREA JONES	Unified Intramurals	12	\$432.00
CANDICE CARLISLE	Unified Intramurals	12	\$432.00

NOTE: Funded through the Play Unified Grant.

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

Advisor	Club	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
MARY BOZENMAYER	Green Team	12	\$432.00

NOTE: Funded through the ARP ESSER III Grant.

34. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ACTIVITY CLUB(S), ADVISOR(S), and HOURS, for the 2022-2023 school year, at the hourly rate of \$36.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 20-066-100-101-10-50-000 - Play Unified Grant:

Employee	Position	<u>Hours</u>	Payment
JESSICA DINETTA	Unified Track	10	\$360.00

NOTE: Funded through the Play Unified Grant.

35. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ACTIVITY ASSIGNMENTS AND STIPENDS for the SPRING 2023 ATHLETIC SEASON, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement -Account: 11-402-100-110-10-10-000:

Employee	Position	<u>Step</u>	Stipend
KRISTA TRIPODI	Asst. Girls Lacrosse (.5)	А	\$2,616.50
KRISTA PROVOST	Asst. Girls Lacrosse (.5)	С	\$3,685.50

NOTE: Replaces Ferris

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

## ROLL CALL FOR ITEMS #1 THROUGH #15, AND ITEMS #17 THROUGH #35:

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

\*Mrs. Romeo "Abstained" on item #14 and item #34.

The MOTION PASSED.

Dr. Anemone congratulated Dr. Derek Ressa on his appointment, and asked him to address the Board.

Dr. Ressa addressed the Board. He stated he is very happy to be the new Director of Special Services in West Milford, and thanked Dr. Anemone and the Board for the opportunity to be here. He thanked the administration he has met so far, the prior administration, the staff he has met, and he appreciates the warm welcome. He also thanked his family, his wife, son and daughter, and his two aunts that are developmentally delayed. He informed the Board and community that he has 20 years of experience in Special Education, and his background is in School Psychology. Mental health and the whole child approach to education is a big part of why he is here, and he hopes to serve our community well in that regard. Service and community is a big part of what we all are here for, and he thanked the Board once again for the opportunity to serve the West Milford community.

Dr. Matlosz addressed the Board and the community. He acknowledged his Upper Greenwood Lake staff and parents that were at the meeting. He spoke to them about working well together and that staff, parents, and community at Upper Greenwood Lake School were always one. That is why he feels it was the best elementary school in the District and thanked all of them. He acknowledged Mrs. Reinhold and spoke about how she came out of retirement to come back to Macopin School, which says a lot about the school itself. He thanked everyone and he feels so lucky to work with the Macopin teachers and the community, and Mr. Oliver Pruksamukul. He thanked the Board for this opportunity, and also thanked Dr. Anemone, Mr. Novak, Dr. D'Avino, and also Dr. McQuaid in the audience.

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, to approve the following agenda item #36:

(36.) **RESOLVED**, to accept the resignation of **ALEX ANEMONE**, **Ed.D.**, Superintendent of Schools, effective June 30, 2023.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Cytowicz thanked Dr. Anemone for all of the work he has done for the school district. He commented that the Superintendent's office was a rotating door for quite a long time supported by a Business Administrator who held us through, and then a team was put together during his tenure. He stated a lot of changes were made during that time, and that Dr. Anemone handled tough situations with a lot of grace during his tenure. During this course, Dr. Anemone had to navigate through state aid cuts and in the process we are restructuring the District in a big way, because a leader was at the helm.

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

DISCUSSION: Mr. Cytowicz feels that could not be any more critical for this District and any other thing that was happening. He thanked Dr. Anemone again for all of his hard work, and feels he is a true "Highlander."

Mrs. Racano thanked Dr. Anemone for his service. She feels that one of the biggest challenges during his tenure was navigating COVID. Looking back, she stated that family and friends were very impressed on how our District handled it, and feels that it is a testament to Dr. Anemone's leadership. She also thanked him for his listening ear through the years when she was a representative at the Superintendent's Roundtable meetings, and for his help since she has been on the Board. She wished him good luck in his new position.

Mrs. Dwyer feels that she and Dr. Anemone have always worked together for the betterment of the District, and she wished him good luck and best wishes for his new tenure in Ridgefield.

Mrs. Romeo feels very emotional about Dr. Anemone leaving the District. She is very thankful that Dr. Anemone listens to the end. She knows that as a parent and as a Board member, you only see one part of the job of a Superintendent, and as a staff member, you only see one part of a Superintendent. She feels that he is definitely in the top three (3) of Superintendents she has worked with over her career. He is extremely attentive and she feels he has "heart" and that is rare. She is very sad to see Dr. Anemone leave our District.

## ROLL CALL FOR ITEM #36:

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

The MOTION PASSED.

#### XV. OPERATIONS & FINANCE - Mr. Raymond Guarino, Chairperson

Motion by Mr. Guarino, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, to approve the following agenda items #1 through #12:

DISCUSSION: Mrs. Dwyer inquired about item #6, and if the High School has looked into any other photographers. Ms. Francisco responded to her inquiry and indicated it is for a two (2) year period.

- The recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the independent ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT for the period ending June 30, 2022, prepared by the firm of Wielkotz & Company, LLC, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:23-1 through 11.
- The recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the AUDITORS MANAGEMENT REPORT for the period ending June 30, 2022.
- The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a **RESOLUTION TO** RENEW MEMBERSHIP IN THE POOLED INSURANCE PROGRAM OF NEW JERSEY:

3. (Continued)

WHEREAS, a number of Boards of Education in various Counties have joined together to form a Joint Insurance Pool as permitted by N.J. Title 18A-18B; and

WHEREAS, said Pool was approved effective July 1, 1984 by the New Jersey Commissioner of Insurance and has been in operation since that date; and

WHEREAS, the Bylaws and regulations governing the creation and operation of this Insurance Pool contain elaborate restrictions and safeguards concerning the safe and efficient administration of the public interest entrusted to such a Pool; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of West Milford has determined that membership in the Pooled Insurance Program of New Jersey is in the best interest of the District;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of West Milford does hereby agree to renew membership in the Pooled Insurance Program of New Jersey and hereby accept the Bylaws as approved and adopted. The renewal term is from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Secretary/Business Administrator is authorized to execute the application for membership and the accompanying certification on behalf of the District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Secretary/Business Administrator is authorized and directed to execute the Indemnity and Trust Agreement and such other documents signifying membership in the Pool as are required by the Group's Bylaws and to deliver same to the Executive Director.

- 4. The recommendation of the Superintendent to accept funds for the 2022 EQUIPMENT GRANT through the NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, in the amount of \$28,964.07, for the 2022-2023 school year.
- The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the formation of a COOPERATIVE ICE HOCKEY TEAM PROGRAM with the PEQUANNOCK BOARD OF EDUCATION and the POMPTON LAKES BOARD OF EDUCATION, for the 2023-2024 school year, made up of students from three (3) school districts, subject to the approval of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA), and in accordance with the terms of the agreement mutually developed between the West Milford, Pequannock, and Pompton Lakes Boards of Education. West Milford will act as the lead district for all team activities. Upon approval by the Board and by the Pequannock Board of Education and the Pompton Lakes Board of Education, the Board President is authorized to sign the agreement, a copy of which shall be on file in the offices of the Business Administrator and the Athletic Director.

The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a Photography 6. Services Agreement with LORS PHOTOGRAPHY, Springfield, New Jersey, for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years.

- 7. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a service agreement with **THE NATIONAL WEATHER STATION**, Lodi, New Jersey, in the amount of \$1,600.00, effective May 1, 2023, through April 30, 2024.
- 8. The recommendation of the 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 Friday, June 30, 2023 (rain date July 1, 2023).
- 9. The recommendation of the 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 22, 2023, at the incounty field trip transportation rate of \$42.00 per hour, and any associated overtime cost.
- 10. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a RESOLUTION of West Milford Township Public Schools AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF ELECTRICITY SUPPLY SERVICES FOR PUBLIC USE ON AN ONLINE AUCTION WEBSITE:

WHEREAS, West Milford Township Public Schools has determined to move forward with the EMEX Reverse Auction in order to procure electricity for West Milford Township Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, the Local Government Electronic Procurement Act (P.L. 2018, c. 156) (the "Act") authorizes the purchase of electricity supply service for public use through the use of an online auction service; and

WHEREAS, West Milford Township Public Schools will utilize the online auction services of EMEX, LLC, a division of Mantis Innovation, an approved vendor pursuant to the Act; and

WHEREAS, EMEX, LLC, a division of Mantis Innovation, is compensated for all services rendered through the participating supplier that a contract is awarded to; and

WHEREAS, the auction will be conducted pursuant to the Act; and

WHEREAS, if the auction achieves a price of \$0.10671/kWh or less for a 12 month term, a price of \$0.10904/kWh or less for an 18 month term, a price of \$0.10882/kWh or less for a 24 month term; West Milford Township Public Schools may award a contract to the winning supplier for the selected term.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Business Administrator of the West Milford Township Public Schools be and she hereby is authorized to execute on behalf of the West Milford Township Public Schools any electricity contract proffered by the participating supplier that submits the winning bid in the EMEX Reverse Auction if the auction achieves a price of \$0.10671/kWh or less for a 12 month term, a price of \$0.10904/kWh or less for an 18 month term, a price of \$0.10882/kWh or less for a 24 month term; West Milford Township Public Schools may award a contract to the winning supplier for the selected term.

11. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a **RESOLUTION** of West Milford Township Public Schools AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF NATURAL GAS SUPPLY SERVICES FOR PUBLIC USE ON AN ONLINE AUCTION WEBSITE:

WHEREAS, West Milford Board of Education has determined to move forward with the EMEX Reverse Auction in order procure natural gas for West Milford Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, the Local Government Electronic Procurement Act (P.L. 2018, c. 156) (the "Act") authorizes the purchase of natural gas supply service for public use through the use of an online auction service; and

WHEREAS, West Milford Board of Education will utilize the online auction services of EMEX, LLC, a division of Mantis Innovation, an approved vendor pursuant to the Act; and

WHEREAS, EMEX, LLC, a division of Mantis Innovation, is compensated for all services rendered through the participating supplier that a contract is awarded to; and

WHEREAS, the auction will be conducted pursuant to the Act; and

WHEREAS, if the auction achieves a price of \$0.8237/therm or less for a 12 month term, a price of \$0.8691/therm or less for an 18 month term, a price of \$0.843/therm or less for a 24 month term, a price of \$0.8456/therm or less for a 36 month term; West Milford Board of Education may award a contract to the winning supplier for the selected term.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Business Administrator of the West Milford Board of Education be and she hereby is authorized to execute on behalf of the West Milford Board of Education any natural gas contract proffered by the participating supplier that submits the winning bid in the EMEX Reverse Auction if the auction achieves a price of \$0.8237/therm or less for a 12 month term, a price of \$0.8691/therm or less for an 18 month term, a price of \$0.843/therm or less for a 24 month term, a price of \$0.8456/therm or less for a 36 month term; West Milford Board of Education may award a contract to the winning supplier for the selected term.

12. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve TRAINING AND TRAVEL RELATED EXPENDITURES for Board Office Staff, at the mileage rate established by the Board. (Documentation provided electronically.)

## ROLL CALL FOR ITEMS #1 THROUGH #12:

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

The MOTION PASSED.

Motion by Mr. Guarino, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, to approve the following agenda item #13:

13. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the PAYROLL of February 28, 2023 and March 15, 2023, in the amount of \$4,095,940.60. (Documentation provided electronically.)

## ROLL CALL FOR ITEM #13:

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

The MOTION PASSED.

Motion by Mr. Guarino, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, to approve the following agenda items #14 through #17:

- 14. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the LIST OF BILLS/ VENDORS for the period ending March 28, 2023, in the amount of \$5,697,076.06. (Documentation provided electronically.)
- 15. The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following TRANSFER OF FUNDS RESOLUTION for the period ending March 28, 2023:

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

Total transfers in the amount of \$297,876.00.

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

WHEREAS, the Agenda file of March 28, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Board contains the A148 Report of the Secretary and the A149 Treasurer's Monthly Report; and

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

\$13,392,107.59 as of February 28, 2023; therefore

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

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

## 17. (Continued)

RESOLVED, that the Board certify as of February 28, 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 #14 THROUGH #17:

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

The MOTION PASSED.

#### POLICY - Mr. William Cytowicz, Chairperson XVI.

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, to approve the following agenda items #1 through #4:

DISCUSSION: Mr. Guarino inquired about item #4, and asked if it pertained to all students. Dr. Anemone responded to his inquiry and he provided additional information.

Mrs. Romeo and Mrs. O'Brien made comments on item #4, and the work done on this policy. Mr. Cytowicz also commented on item #4. He agrees with the policy as is, and he hopes the Board supports it.

Mr. Guarino also inquired about item #2, and asked if the State of New Jersey has guidelines for class sizes. Dr. Anemone responded to his inquiry and provided an explanation on the guidelines.

Mrs. O'Brien also spoke about item #2, and she thinks there is a state quideline as far as a minimum/maximum in a classroom. She commented that this is just a recommendation, and that this is a first reading.

Mr. Cytowicz asked a question regarding item #2, through the Board President, to Mr. Brown, the Board Attorney. Mr. Brown responded to the inquiry.

- The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the second reading of a revised BYLAW entitled, "Public Participation in Board Meetings." (Code 0167) (Documentation provided electronically.)
- The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the first reading of a revised POLICY entitled, "Class Size." (Code 2312) (Documentation provided electronically.)
- The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the first reading of a revised POLICY entitled, "Activity Participation Fee Program - Pay to Participate." (Code 2436) (Documentation provided electronically.)

#### XVI. POLICY - Mr. Cytowicz, Chairperson - Continued

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

## ROLL CALL FOR ITEMS #1 THROUGH #4:

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

<sup>\*</sup>Mr. Guarino and Mrs. Dwyer voted "No" to item #2 and item #4.

The MOTION PASSED.

#### XVII. COMMITTEE REPORTS/LIAISONS

Parks & Recreation - Mrs. Racano/Mr. Lippe - Mrs. Racano spoke about the meeting last week. She indicated they are in desperate need of lifeguards and are also in need of a seasonal nurse or nurses for Bubbling Springs, for eight (8) weeks over the summer. She also spoke about the situation of the Devil Rays Swim Team. They are in the process of evaluating the program. There is a lot of equipment that needs repair, and there was discussion of other activities that can take place at the lake in place of it. The program is losing money and the equipment needs to be replaced. She also reported that the Township Fireworks will take place on Friday, June 30th with a rain date of July 1st.

Safety - Mrs. Dwyer/Mrs. O'Brien - Mrs. Dwyer indicated there was no meeting.

Superintendent's Roundtable - Mrs. Racano/Mrs. Van Dyk - Mrs. Racano stated the next meeting will be on Thursday, March 30th.

Passaic County School Boards Association - Mrs. Lockwood indicated that the next meeting will be on May 8, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. The Unsung Heroes Awards were presented this month, and our recipient was Gianna Hardison.

New Jersey School Boards Association - Mr. Cytowicz/Mrs. Van Dyk -Mr. Cytowicz reported that on March  $9^{\text{th}}$ , the New Jersey School Boards Association released a report entitled, "Firearms Safety Process Programs and Practices for Safety in School, Home and Community." With the tragedies that continue to happen, including the most recent in Nashville, these are well developed studies by the NJSBA. He commented that between this and the Mental Health Task Force that was put together several years ago, it is something that maybe the Board could personally endeavor to read more about and share our thoughts with the community. He spoke about the annual NJSBA Workshop held in Atlantic City, which takes place in October. One of the highlights of the workshop is seeing different school districts showcase their Arts and their Music, and he feels that our talented students could really bring a lot to something like this. He asked for this to be a consideration for the future.

#### XVII. COMMITTEE REPORTS/LIAISONS - Continued

Legislative - Mrs. O'Brien/Mr. Lippe - Mrs. O'Brien reported that on March 16, 2023, the Assembly Education Committee approved the following: Suicide Prevention Training; Social Media Impact Study; Lyme Disease Prevention Instruction; Eliminating the High School Exit Exam; and Security Drills and Students with Disabilities. Mrs. O'Brien further reported that under the Senate, easing State Aid cuts would offer additional State Aid to school districts that would see a reduction in State Aid in the Governor's proposed fiscal year 2024 budget, as a result of S-2. The bill was considered by the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee earlier in the day. In a rare move, this legislation was sent immediately to the Senate floor on the same day and it was unanimously passed through both Committees and the full Senate.

Technology Oversight - Mr. Guarino/Mr. Lippe - Mr. Guarino indicated there was no meeting.

Township/Board of Education Joint Committee - Mr. Guarino/Mrs. Romeo/ Mrs. Lockwood/Mr. Cytowicz - Mrs. Romeo stated there is a meeting scheduled for Monday, April 3, 2023.

West Milford Municipal Alliance - Mrs. Van Dyk/Mrs. Lockwood - Mrs. Lockwood indicated that the WMMA held a meeting on Monday, March 13th. There were discussions on getting more community members to join, bringing awareness of WMMA to the community, fundraising, and programs for the 2024 year. The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 10th at 7:00 p.m. All meetings are hybrid.

Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (SEPAC) - Mrs. Lockwood/ Mrs. O'Brien - Mrs. Lockwood stated the next meeting, which is a parent only meeting that is virtual, is scheduled for April  $3^{\rm rd}$  at 8:00 p.m. The SEPAC Meeting will be held at Westbrook School at 7:00 p.m., on April 4, 2023.

## XVIII. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Guarino spoke about the budget cuts and the aspect of cutting teachers and retirements, and hopes there is more discussion on this. He also spoke about School Resource Officers and the importance of them. He spoke about grant writing and with millions of dollars out there, how the possibility of hiring a grant writer would be beneficial to us in the future. Lastly, he spoke about Social Workers and their importance, as well as Media Specialists, specifically for the elementary schools, and how important they are there and what they do.

Mrs. Dwyer feels that the High School is sometimes ignored as far as their needs, and one of the biggest needs at the High School is the Media Specialist. She is in charge of resources for every research paper that is done there. Mrs. Dwyer explained that she edits, she revises for the students, she meets with the students and meets with teachers and they bring to her their units, as well as pulls the resources for them. Mrs. Dwyer remembers that the Media Specialist would come in early and stay later after school to help the students and be their resource. She also helps and pulls in materials for Guidance, Science, and English Language Arts, and is a very valuable asset.

## XVIII. OLD BUSINESS - Continued

Mrs. O'Brien spoke about not being in favor of a proposed cut of a Social Worker. She explained she is a Case Manager for Highlands Family Success Center and works with families throughout the county. She is working to help them and spoke about what it entails. She stated it is a rewarding position, but it is also a heartbreaking position. Mrs. O'Brien explained that we really do not see what happens in the home, but the teachers and staff, and the principals can see what is going on. She feels the Social Worker is such an important position. She also feels that not only are Social Workers there for the students, but also for the faculty and staff. It is a collaborative team effort, and she expressed that kids are dealing with issues today that a lot of us never had to deal with as a child. She also spoke about Media Specialists and feels that they are equally as important in their tasks and helping others, and they are definitely a lifeline for the faculty, staff, and the students. She visited four (4) of the Elementary schools to read to the students. The Media Specialists picked out all of the books for her to read and they knew those books that were perfect for her to read. She stated she will fight for these positions. She would like to fight for every position, but feels that those two (2) positions are so important right now.

Mr. Cytowicz spoke to the Board about thinking a little more critically down the road, and feels if positions are not cut this year, then what will happen next year? Do we then cut those positions? He stated we have been offered suggestions on the possibility of state aid that is going to funnel in to save jobs, and we will do that and down the road cut jobs anyway. He feels the Board should not traverse too far away from the path that the Administration has laid out, as they have to think about what is happening on the ground. He feels we will keep having these discussions and our heartstrings are supposed to be tugged at this point. He also feels this is probably the hardest time in not only the District's history, but our Township's history. He stated that the Board needs to trust that decisions are being made wisely, because if it is not now, it will be later.

Board members continued to discuss and comment on budget cuts.

Mrs. Romeo thanked Mrs. Lockwood for attending the Passaic County dinner where one of our students was awarded. She feels it is extremely important that we support our students when they are receiving awards, and when they

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

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

#### XIX. **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Guarino spoke about Kilgallen Baseball Field and how it looks fantastic. He stated that Mr. Kelly and his buildings and grounds team did a good job in working to make that a really nice baseball field for West Milford.

Mrs. Romeo spoke about the budget cuts and is uncomfortable with all of them. She loves the idea of a Town Hall meeting where we come together similar to like we did when it was held in the Macopin Cafeteria for strategic planning. People showed up from the Town Council and parents came, and she wished more staff was there, as we need input from them. She explained that administrators were there and we broke off into groups. The groups talked about strategic planning, and what we wanted to see in our District.

#### XIX. NEW BUSINESS - Continued

She feels we can do that with grant writing and get ideas on how to make our District better. Mr. Romeo stated that if this is planned, she will attend and feels it is a great idea. She also feels we can try to write letters to the Governor's office to get into the political realm of this problem. She continued to discuss her concerns on the budget cuts, and provided the community with an explanation on why it is important to discuss personnel and ask questions.

Mr. Guarino stated that this does not just affect West Milford, but that it affects a lot of towns that are in the Highlands. He does not know if it is possible for the Board to speak to other towns that are losing lots of money, and having to cut even more staff than West Milford will have to cut. He stated it would be great if staff members in those towns got together. He feels that is the grassroots effort, and the letters and calls to the Governor's office, State Senators, and State Congressmen that can help.

Mrs. O'Brien commented that if the idea is about getting a group of people together, she feels maybe the first place to start is to ask Dr. Anemone or Mr. Novak, since they are meeting with other Districts, and some in different counties. She stated it could start with Lakeland, who also lost a lot of state aid, and possibly Ringwood, and have the administrators, the Board members, and the community members get involved.

Mrs. Dwyer inquired as to what happened to the Save Our Schools (SOS) group. Dr. Anemone indicated it started prior to the pandemic, but seems to have dissipated during the pandemic.

Mr. Cytowicz feels that those efforts are happening, as the Board voted on a motion to have a cooperative ice hockey team, and he believes in ongoing efforts to do things. He feels that the Board should take a look at the intricacies of the funding formula, and spoke about points that are given to students. He explained that we live in a Highlands zone and feels that maybe in the near future, the Board should take a look at the funding formula and try to get something for being in a Highland zone.

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mr. Guarino, to close New Business.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

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

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

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

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

Monica Church, 40 Beach Haven Road, Hewitt. Mrs. Church spoke about athletics, which was part of the Preliminary Budget, and did not know what the plans are for it. She wanted to stress the importance of athletics, especially for High School students, giving them something to do after school. She also stated that Family ID has been the same price for ten (10) years. She explained to the community that if your child plays a sport in the High School, there is one fee for the entire year, \$75.00, whether they do Winter or Spring or Fall. She knows most parents would agree they prefer to pay more so that the programs do not go away, however, some parents cannot afford that. She does not agree with doubling it, especially in one year. She feels possibly the fee can rise incrementally, or change the payment structure to possibly one fee per sport. She also asked if there can possibly be a clause that asks if someone wants to donate to a child that cannot afford the fee for the year. At the Macopin PTO meeting, she learned from Mrs. Reinhold that one of the local churches was collecting money to fund a Macopin student going on the Philadelphia trip, and the same thing for the trip to Washington, D.C. She stated some parents wrote checks right then and there. She knows parents will be willing to do anything to prevent athletics from being cut, and to keep what we have is very important.

Mrs. Romeo spoke about the policy that was voted on tonight for a first reading, on the Participation Fee program. She explained the fees are going up a little at the High School and that Macopin would be fair across the board as one fee, just like the High School, and that is the Board's goal.

Liz McQuaid, 32 Bisset Drive, West Milford. Dr. McQuaid wanted to address the Board because she heard items coming up about looking at the funding formula. She does think that exploring ways to save the District or look at things again is a smart idea. She stated the Board and administration have talked about legislation efforts, and this Board and prior Boards having tried those efforts without prevailing, as we are still at the table again in the same way. She understands that tonight is difficult and so will the next few weeks, and that she too, as a parent and as a community member, does not want to see cuts. She wanted to let the public know that the Board and the administration have made efforts before.

Matthew Gough, 34 Center Street, West Milford. Mr. Gough is concerned the restructuring did not accomplish anything. He stated that the goals of it were minimizing loss of staff, keeping class sizes low or average, and saving in Transportation, and he does not see any of those things being accomplished. The numbers on the policy that he looked at shows the minimum class size for Kindergarten to Grade 3 is eighteen (18). He stated that is about what was said that our maximum class size would be when we sat through many months of the Restructuring Meetings. He continued to speak about an increase in class sizes and the District providing an aide if the class size hit 30.

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

He stated that for months, his wife spent a lot of her personal time doing research on the population, and that no one wanted to hear anything about possible increases in the future with the COVID housing boom. He does not understand why we are setting these maximums so high, when we were told the population is never going to go up. He thinks it is unanimous that nobody wants to see a Kindergarten class of thirty (30) kids, especially in West Milford. We were told there was plenty of space in the schools when the kids were being moved to out of Westbrook. He feels there will definitely not be room if a class size hits thirty (30) kids at Marshall Hill or Maple Road. He spoke further about the effects of the kids being moved away from their school and not seeing their friends, the policy on class sizes, and he voiced his frustration, again, on how none of the goals of the restructuring that were given to the community were accomplished. He is frustrated that it is affecting people's jobs and coming full circle to affect the students.

Teresa Lindholm, 41 Sommerville Road, Hewitt. She spoke about teachers and class sizes. She spoke about her daughter's and her son's classes and their sizes. She asked the Board, "What are you thinking?" She does not agree and feels we can do better for our students.

Dr. Marissa Gough, 34 Center Street, West Milford. She had some follow up questions. She understands that a larger class size is not something that is going to happen right now. She has read the power point presentations and everything from restructuring, and knows the average class sizes that are being proposed for the next few years. She knows that because of the schools that remained open are smaller, that if there is a slight fluctuation, if there are more children coming in, we will need to have larger class sizes. She stated that is a terrible idea. She agreed with what Mrs. O'Brien stated, that things exist now that didn't exist years ago, such as mass shootings and security. She feels these things have to be taken into account before you put more kids in a classroom with just one teacher. She knows we are not going to be hiring any more aides or hiring anybody, but that we must keep in mind there are things that exist now that did not exist years ago. She spoke about behavioral issues and autism now, and the difference from years ago. She feels this will become a bigger problem if kids are put in bigger class sizes. Her daughter is five (5) years old, and her son is three (3) years old. If her daughter is placed in a larger class, she feels that she may be general education now, but then she may need special services, and feels the Board would have done that to her. She would like the Board to consider that for the general education population, as she really feels that they are getting left behind. She also spoke about the two (2) new positions that the Board approved. She feels that when you are hiring someone, the Board needs to please consider the amount of the raise that you are giving to them. She feels these large raises have now lost another position in our school, and maybe it is that one teacher that all those children love. She spoke about a teacher in middle school who helped her completely change her mindset of hating school and feels this teacher made her become a doctor. She stated that had she not had that teacher, and that teacher left of a fear of losing her job or was cut, she would not be standing at the podium addressing herself as a doctor. She asked the Board to please consider this moving forward, and asked that before the Board hires people to please consider the people that they have, and the people that they need to save.

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

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

#### XXI. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 9:25 p.m., Mrs. Lockwood made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cytowicz, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters, resignations, HIBs, and matters of attorney/client privilege.

The executive session minutes will not be released until such time as the privilege or confidentiality is no longer applicable. The Board will be in Executive Session for approximately 70 minutes. Action will be taken.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

The Board returned to the Public Meeting at 10:38 p.m.

At 10:38 p.m., Mrs. Lockwood made a motion, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, to go back into Executive Session for the purpose or discussing personnel and matters of attorney/client privilege.

The executive session minutes will not be released until such time as the privilege or confidentiality is no longer applicable. The Board will be in Executive Session for approximately 30 minutes. Action will be taken.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

The Board returned to the Public Meeting at 11:15 p.m.

## ROLL CALL UPON RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

#### EDUCATION - Mrs. Claire Lockwood, Chairperson XIII.

Motion by Mrs. Lockwood, seconded by Mr. Cytowicz, to approve the following agenda item #5:

The recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, in accordance with the requirements set forth in P.L. 2010, Chapter 122, the West Milford Board of Education has received results of HIB investigative reports on March 28, 2023; therefore,

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

Incident Report Number	Board Determination
2023/M-9	Substantiated
2023/M-10	Substantiated

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

## ROLL CALL FOR ITEM #5:

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

The MOTION PASSED.

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

Motion by Mrs. Lockwood, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, to approve the following agenda item #37:

(37.) **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education has determined to deny grievances filed by the West Milford Bus Drivers Association docketed as #2023/01 and #2023/2.

## ROLL CALL FOR ITEM #37:

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

The MOTION PASSED.

Motion by Mrs. Lockwood, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, to approve the following agenda item #38:

(38.) **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, on the recommendation of the Superintendent, terminates Employee #5410, effective March 31, 2023.

## ROLL CALL FOR ITEM #38:

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

The MOTION PASSED.

**DISCUSSION:** The Board discussed moving the April Committee Meetings to April 17, 2023, as Mrs. Dwyer cannot attend on April 18<sup>th</sup>. The Board agreed to move the April Committee Meetings to April 17<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Francisco spoke about completing personal/relative and financial disclosure forms. She also spoke to the Board about the Board meeting on April 25<sup>th</sup> and if that should be changed. The Board members agreed to keep the April 25<sup>th</sup> meeting date and add an additional Board Meeting on May 2, 2023, for the Public Budget Hearing.

# XXII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mrs. Racano, to adjourn the meeting at 11:31 p.m.

VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Francisco Board Secretary