

**WEST MILFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
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**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
 MINUTES  
 WORKSHOP/REGULAR MEETING  
 OCTOBER 17, 2023**

**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. Kate Romeo, Board President, called to order the Workshop/Regular Meeting of the Board of Education at 7:00 p.m., in the Macopin School Auditorium. She asked for a moment of silence and to remember the family and friends of the late Diane Eriksen, who touched the hearts of so many West Milford students during her 32 years as a School Counselor and a Math Teacher for our District. She 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:**

<b>TRUSTEE</b>	<b>ATTENDANCE</b>	<b>TRUSTEE</b>	<b>ATTENDANCE</b>	<b>TRUSTEE</b>	<b>ATTENDANCE</b>
Mrs. Racano	Present	Mrs. Dwyer	Present	Mrs. Lockwood	Present
Mr. Cytowicz	Absent/Arr. 7:14 p.m.	Mr. Guarino	Present	Mrs. Van Dyk	Present
Mr. Lippe	Present	Mrs. O'Brien	Present	Mrs. Romeo	Present

Minutes for the Workshop/Regular Meeting of October 17, 2023

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 33 members of the public in attendance.

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

- Dr. Furnari spoke about the recipients of the National Merit Student Recognition Awards. She invited Mr. Matthew Strianse and Ms. Karen Johnson to the podium for the student presentations, and provided the recipients with a Certificate of Recognition from the Board of Education. Ms. Johnson read a statement regarding the award criteria, and called each of the recipients to come forward and receive their Certificate of Recognition from Mr. Strianse.
- Dr. Furnari spoke about a surprise visit from the Passaic County Office of Emergency Management (OEM). The OEM had the opportunity to use our High School facility for Regional Training of groups of first responders, which included the New Jersey State Police, the Passaic County Sheriff's Office, the Passaic County Office of Emergency Management, American Red Cross, the Federal Emergency Management Office - Region 2, and a number of others. The staff from the Passaic County OEM who visited were nothing but complimentary to our District, to our facilities, and to the custodial staff and our Supervisor of Operations. She also stated there were 122 individuals who participated in the program. The Passaic County OEM staff presented Dr. Furnari with a Certificate of Appreciation plaque to the West Milford Board of Education from Sheriff Richard H. Berdnik. The plaque is in appreciation of assisting the Passaic County Office of OEM with providing the use of West Milford High School on October 7, 2023, in support of the Statewide New Jersey CERT Workshop.
- Dr. Furnari provided the Board and the community with the HIB Self-Assessment Scores 2022-2023 (grade reports). She explained that annually, schools go through a process where they are graded on indicators that the State has provided and are required to evaluate an implementation of this program, implementing the anti-bullying bill of rights, for the period of July 1 to June 30 of each year. They use a self-assessment tool that is provided by the State, and the schools have a maximum score of 78 points. She further explained how this data is additionally corroborated and backed-up. The self-assessment scores based on last year's data are: Apshawa - 76; Maple Road - 78; Marshall Hill - 75; Paradise Knoll - 75; Upper Greenwood Lake - 76, Westbrook - 76; Macopin - 74; and West Milford High School - 76. Dr. Furnari thanked the administrators and teams at each school for going through this process, which is done on an annual basis. She will report back at the end of the year with the State's verification. Once that is completed, the information will be posted on the website.

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

- Mia Harrison, Student Representative, reported on recent and upcoming events at the High School. Items discussed were Homecoming Week from September 26-29, 2023; the Pep Rally held on October 13<sup>th</sup> - pictures can be seen at TheHighlandEcho.com; Week of Respect from October 2-6, 2023; and SAT testing that was hosted at West Milford High School on Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. She indicated that if Juniors or Seniors still need to register for the SAT's, a testing date is scheduled for December 2<sup>nd</sup> with test centers in Butler and Wayne. Other special events included the High School parking lot spots painting with the PTSO, Senior wall painting, Senior Yearbook quotes and when they are due, PSAT's, celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month the week of October 9-13, 2023, School Violence Week and creating awareness, picture re-takes, Red Ribbon week, and the Annual Spooktacular Trunk or Treat event on October 28<sup>th</sup>. She also spoke about the High School Fall play entitled, "Radium Girls," based on a true story. The play will be performed on Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, November 18, 2023.

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

- Mr. Novak and District administrators presented the Board and the community with a New Jersey Student Learning Assessments testing and action plan presentation entitled, "NJSLA Results: Spring 2023 Administrator." He introduced the Elementary Principals: Dr. Jared Fowler, Mrs. Jennifer Miller, Mr. Bill Kane, Mr. Patrick O'Donnell, and Dr. Dana Swarts. He also introduced Dr. Greg Matlosz, Macopin School Principal and District Testing Coordinator (K-8); Mr. Matt Strianse, High School Principal; Mrs. Sharon West, Supervisor of Humanities (ELA, Music & Art); and Ms. Karen Johnson, Supervisor of Guidance and World Language, and High School District Testing Coordinator.

Mr. Novak, Dr. Matlosz, and Ms. Johnson presented on the NJSLA testing results from the Spring 2003 administration. Dr. Matlosz gave a brief history of NJSLA, the NJSLA ELA/Math Performance Levels, and NJSLA Science Levels. Dr. Matlosz and Ms. Johnson continued to present comparisons of West Milford's Spring 2022 and 2023 NJSLA administrations English Language Arts percentages, Mathematics percentages, and Science percentages. Dr. Matlosz presented on Grades K-8, and Ms. Johnson presented on the High School. Mr. Novak provided additional comments on Algebra and Geometry taught at the Middle School, and how it is taught at the High School. The presentation continued with a comparison of West Milford's student tested Spring 2022 and 2023 NJSLA administrations English Language percentages, Mathematics percentages, and Science. Next was a comparison of West Milford's Spring 2022 and 2023 NJSLA administrations English Language Arts percentages for Grades 3-8, and Grade 9, for Levels 1 and 2, Levels 3 and 4, and Level 5, comparing District percentages with State percentages. The same comparison was done for Mathematics. Dr. Matlosz also provided a chart showing Proficiency by Program and achievement level distribution from 2016-2017 to 2022-2023 for English Language Arts and Math (all grades). Mr. Novak provided an overview of this and what the Board will see moving forward. Dr. Matlosz further provided notable achievements - West Milford versus State of New Jersey, for Elementary Mathematics Grades 3-5 and Science Grade 5. Ms. Johnson provided notable achievements - WMHS versus State of New Jersey, percent change in passing scores (Levels 4&5) 2022 to 2023, showing growth in English Language Arts, Mathematics and Science at the High School. Dr. Matlosz provided resources for parents from the New Jersey Department of Education and the NJ Score Report Guide.

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

Board members commented on testing and asked questions. Ms. Johnson and Mr. Novak responded to their inquiries.

The second portion of the presentation was provided by the Elementary Principals. Mrs. Jennifer Miller presented the Board and the community with Elementary K-5 - Mathematics and action plans, including continuing standards-based, best practice professional development, Conquer Math; Eureka Math Implementation; iReady - diagnostic assessment for students performing below grade level expectations, and My Path (student individualized learning plans); and grade level data team analysis - LinkIt! navigator reports. Mr. Novak also provided additional information on these action plans. Mrs. Miller then went on to present action plans for English Language Arts, including the District Literacy Committee and how they will research, review and recommend ELA Program replacement for 2024-2025; iReady - diagnostic assessment for students performing below grade level expectations, and My Path (student individualized learning plans); and grade level data team analysis - LinkIt! navigator reports.

Board members asked questions. Mr. Bill Kane, Dr. Dana Swarts, Mr. Novak, and Mrs. Miller responded to their inquiries. They also provided additional information on these action plans.

Dr. Matlosz, then presented on Macopin School, including vertical articulation meetings (Grades 5-9), iReady and analyzing the data, inter-disciplinary writing, and LinkIt! navigator reports; environment - social emotional learning; and action plans - professional development, instructions, curriculum development, and intervention meetings.

Mr. Novak then spoke about all schools and the New Jersey Social and Emotional Learning Competencies and Sub-Competencies, which includes self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, responsible decision-making, and relationship skills. He continued to present on Macopin School Mathematics and action plans, including continued standards-based, best practice professional development - Conquer Math; Algebra 1 and Geometry High School and Macopin articulation; and iReady - diagnostic assessment all students, and MyPath (student individualized learning plans).

Mrs. West presented on Macopin School English Language Arts, with continued standards-based, best practice professional development, including the 2023 NJSLA update, iReady implementation - differentiated instruction, and SEL NJDOE competencies. She also presented on Grade 8 to 9 High School and Macopin articulation and align scope and sequence; and iReady - diagnostic assessment of all students, and MyPath (student individualized learning plans).

Mr. Novak explained why there are no slides for Science during the presentation. He spoke about Science being a testing area for Grades 5, 8 and 11, and that the action plan for our Science standards are very similar to what we are doing for Mathematics and ELA. He explained what has been implemented in Science with the prior STEM Supervisor, and expressed that discussion for Science is part of our action plan with a new STEM Supervisor being appointed.

Mr. Strianse presented on West Milford High School Mathematics, with continued standards-based, best practice professional development - Conquer Math; Algebra 1 and Geometry High School and Macopin articulation, with teachers shared scope and sequence, and Conquer Math summer curriculum; iReady - diagnostic assessment for students performing below grade level expectations and MyPath (student individualized learning plans); and department data team analysis, and LinkIt! navigator reports.

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

Mr. Novak provided the Board with additional information regarding Algebra 1 and Geometry. Mrs. Romeo inquired about iReady, and Mr. Novak responded to her inquiry.

Mrs. West then presented on West Milford High School English Language Arts, with continued standards-based, best practice professional development - 2023 NJSLS update and SEL NJDOE competencies; Grade 8 and 9 English articulation - align scope and sequence; iReady - diagnostic assessment for students performing below grade level expectations, and MyPath (student individualized learning plans); and department data analysis, e.g. NJSIA released items and areas of strength and focus, evidence statement tables, and LinkIt! navigator reports.

Board members posed questions, and Mrs. West responded to their inquiries. In closing, Mr. Novak thanked all of the administrators and their participation in the presentation. He also spoke about Family Math Night (Grades K-5) to be held on Wednesday, October 18, 2023.

Board members continued to comment on the presentation. Mr. Novak provided additional information on resources for parents, and how parents can better support their children at home. There was also discussion of parent/teacher conferences, objectives of the District to attain our target goals and individual goals for each student, and iReady.

Mrs. Romeo thanked Mr. Novak and the administration for tonight's presentation. Dr. Furnari also thanked the administrative team for the plans that were presented, and knows that all of their staff members and all of their students are in their minds. She feels it is the way to make improvements, and it is a full team effort.

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

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

- September 19, 2023 Workshop/Regular Meeting
- September 19, 2023 Executive Session

**VOICE VOTE:**

**All in Favor.**

**MOTION PASSED.**

**IX. PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Mrs. Kate Romeo**

Mrs. Romeo indicated she met with our new Field Service Representative for New Jersey School Boards, Ms. Kelly Mitchell. She and Mrs. Romeo discussed doing a Board assessment, and Mrs. Romeo will be sending that out before the next Board meeting. Mrs. Romeo expressed that she was able to really learn about what NJSBA offers to Board members, and becoming certified School Board members.

Mrs. Romeo also spoke to the public about receiving emails. She indicated she will not respond to anonymous emails, and will not forward anonymous emails to the Interim Superintendent. If she receives an email from an email address with a name and any concerns of the District, she will forward it to the Interim Superintendent, who will make sure it is responded to either by herself or the appropriate staff members.

**IX. PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Mrs. Romeo - Continued**

Mrs. Romeo received an email from the Friends of the Wallisch Estate. On October 21 and 22, 2023, The East Coast Research and Discovery Association, which is a metal detecting club, will be hosting a fundraiser for the Friends of the Wallisch Estate and the historical barn (the Red Timber Barn). She spoke about all of the events that will be shared with the community during this fundraiser.

Mrs. Romeo spoke about Family Math Night which will be held on October 18<sup>th</sup>, and also the Highlander Education Foundation Committee Night. Mrs. Romeo then asked Mrs. Lockwood to proceed with an announcement.

Mrs. Lockwood provided an update on the Superintendent Search. She explained that Ms. Kathleen Helewa, who has been hired to aid the Board with the Superintendent Search, has given an update on some upcoming dates and provided more information. The District website will have a link to a page that is dedicated for the purpose of the Superintendent Search, and all updates and information will be posted there. Some key dates include October 18<sup>th</sup> to October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, which will be opened up for on-line input surveys for the District staff, families and community members to fill out. That information will be sent through School Messenger. On November 14<sup>th</sup>, Ms. Helewa will be coming to the District during the day to do in-person input sessions for the District staff, and hold an evening input session for families and community members. The times for these sessions will be posted at a later date. The position will be posted on December 4, 2023, and will be advertised and posted via the NJSBA website, social media, as well as other advertising sites. It will close on January 5, 2024, and the Board will move forward with interviews and have a candidate for approval and a start date of July 1, 2024.

Board members asked questions. Mrs. Lockwood responded to their inquiries.

**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 questions Board members individually.
5. Questions requiring investigation shall be referred by the Board to the Superintendent's Office for consideration and later response. A participant may be asked to submit such questions in written format.

**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.

Dr. Marisa Gough, 34 Center Street, West Milford. Dr. Gough thanked the administration for tonight's presentation. She inquired about the Free and Reduced Lunch application packet and a link that brings you to the Parent Portal. She indicated that there are currently four steps to take in order to get to the on-line application, and feels this can be easily reduced to two steps and explained how. She understands that completing an application is not a requirement, but that it should be highly encouraged. She believes that for next year, there are two schools that we are losing Title I funding for. She also stated that she does not think that parents even know that the Free and Reduced Lunch program is directly correlated to our Title I funding. She spoke about Title I funding and foundations, academic clubs, and family literacy nights. She feels that having parents know this and providing an educational session on this for them would be very helpful. Dr. Gough also inquired about clarification on after school activities that are funded by ESSER Grants and funded by PTA's, and she noted that some are on tonight's meeting agenda. She would like to see a clearer picture or list of what programs are funded by ESSER which may be lost next year, as well as the Encore program.

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

**VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.**

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, to waive the rules of Public Comment.

**VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.**

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT - AGENDA ITEMS - Continued

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz to rescind his motion to close Public Comment.

**VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.**

Laurel Harraka, 16 Weedon Drive, West Milford. She thanked the Board for serving and the effort they put in, and thanked the Administration for their informative presentation. She spoke about concerns for the current West Milford school curriculum K-12 and Policy 5756, both addressing issues of transgender and parental rights. She shared definitions of transgender and cisgender taken from USAFacts.org, and provided a fact sheet to the Board members with additional information from USAFacts.org. She feels that families have different feelings about gender dysphoria and gender identity, and it should be left up to the family unit to discuss. She also feels if a student is struggling with anything physically or psychologically, it should be brought to the attention of parents, as this is a parental right and is not the responsibility of educators, the State Board, nor of our Governor. She spoke about the school anti-bullying policy that is written for all students and is all-inclusive. She spoke about how our schools and our community should be encouraging our students to find their talents and pursue them through Math, Science, English, Art, Music and Physical Education. Her plea to the Board of Education, Interim Superintendent, and Director of Education, is to repeal the Policy guideline of 5756, like many schools in the State of New Jersey have. She provided names of the school districts that have repealed Policy 5756. Her other plea was to ask those who write the New Jersey State guideline curriculum, and those who write the curriculum for West Milford Schools, to go back to the drawing board and come up with a K-12 curriculum that concentrates on academics, and unites, uplifts and encourages students to find their talents, and pursue them with excellence. She thanked the Board members for their time.

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

**VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.**

XII. **MOTION BY MR. CYTOWICZ, SECONDED BY MR. LIPPE, TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED AND AMENDED, INCLUDING HAND CARRY.**

**VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.**

XIII. EDUCATION - Mrs. Claire Lockwood, Chairperson

Motion by Mrs. Lockwood, seconded by Mr. Cytowicz, to approve the following agenda items #1 through #11:

1. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the submission of the **SCHOOL SELF-ASSESSMENT FOR DETERMINING GRADES under the ANTI-BULLYING BILL OF RIGHTS ACT** for each school to the New Jersey Department of Education Office of Student Support Services, for the 2022-2023 school year. (Documentation provided electronically.)
2. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve a **9-DAY "NO CONTACT" PERIOD** by coaching personnel for any of their sports offerings on or off campus, effective Saturday, July 27, 2024, to Sunday, August 4, 2024.



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

3. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to accept the **PLAY UNIFIED GRANT** for Macopin Middle School in the amount of \$4,000.00, for the 2023-2024 school year.
4. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to accept the **PLAY UNIFIED GRANT** for High School in the amount of \$10,000.00, for the 2023-2024 school year.
5. 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:
  - Café e Dolci, Warwick, New York
  - Café e Dolci, Franklin, New Jersey
  - Chef It Up, Budd Lake, New Jersey
  - Hug a Mug, Pompton Lakes, New Jersey
  - Lakeside Diner, Ringwood, New Jersey
  - Silas Condict County Park, Kinnelon, New Jersey
  - Sockworks Laundry, Ringwood, New Jersey
  - Think Clean Laundromat, Haskell, New Jersey
  - Urban Air, South Hackensack, New Jersey
  - Willowbrook Golf Center, Wayne, New Jersey

6. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **ADDITIONS to GENERAL EDUCATION/SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT CONSULTANTS, PHYSICIANS, HOSPITALS/MEDICAL CENTERS, CLINICS, and AGENCIES** for the 2023-2024 school year:
  - Best of You Therapy Inc.
  - Jason Dean, M.D. LLC d/b/a The Center for Developmental Psychiatry

7. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **RECEIVABLE MCKINNEY VENTO GENERAL EDUCATION PUBLIC SCHOOL TUITION CONTRACTS**, retroactive from September 7, 2023, through June 30, 2024:

<u>District Placement</u>	<u>Tuition</u>	<u>Sending District</u>
Macopin Middle School Student#: 73208	\$16,890.00	Pequannock School District Pompton Plains, New Jersey
Paradise Knoll School Student#: 73207	\$18,575.00	Pequannock School District Pompton Plains, New Jersey

8. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **GENERAL EDUCATION TUITION RECEIVABLE CONTRACTS**, retroactive from September 7, 2023, through June 30, 2024:

<u>District Placement</u>	<u>Tuition</u>	<u>District of Residence</u>
West Milford High School Student#: 74372	\$106.00/diem	Paterson Public Schools Paterson, New Jersey
Macopin Middle School Student#: 74376	\$ 93.31/diem	Paterson Public Schools Paterson, New Jersey

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

9. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL PAYABLE CONTRACT FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 2023-2024**:

<u>Number of Students</u>	<u>Tuition</u>	<u>Placement</u>
1	\$16,829.00 (Special Ed.)	Passaic County Technical Institute Wayne, New Jersey

10. 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.)

- (11.) The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **MCKINNEY VENTO GENERAL EDUCATION SCHOOL TUITION CONTRACT**, retroactive from September 6, 2023, through December 6, 2023 (tuition prorated):

<u>Number of Students</u>	<u>Tuition</u>	<u>Receiving District</u>
1 Student #: 74247	\$5,435.70	Lodi Board of Education Lodi, New Jersey

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

<b>TRUSTEE</b>	<b>VOTE</b>	<b>TRUSTEE</b>	<b>VOTE</b>	<b>TRUSTEE</b>	<b>VOTE</b>
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	Abstain	Mrs. Romeo	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 #36:

1. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to accept, with regret, the resignation of **LYNN DOHERTY**, Special Education Teacher, Upper Greenwood Lake School, effective January 1, 2024, for the purpose of retirement.
2. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to accept, with regret, the resignation of **HELEN FRANKE**, Administrative Assistant to the Director of Special Services, Board Office, effective January 1, 2024, for the purpose of retirement.

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

3. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to accept, with regret, the resignation of **EDIE RINALDI**, Special Class Aide, High School, effective May 1, 2024, for the purpose of retirement.
4. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to accept the resignation of **CARA MURRAY**, Graphic Arts Teacher, High School, retroactive from September 22, 2023.
5. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the appointment of **DR. BRYAN BELSER**, Supervisor of STEM, Districtwide (PC#15.98.P4.XXX; #15.98.P4.XXX), at the annual salary of \$118,012.00 (prorated), plus a \$2,100.00 Doctorate Stipend, with health benefits, effective December 18, 2023, or upon release from present employer, through June 30, 2024, per Board of Education/WMPA Agreement. (Replaces Weiss-Magasic) Account: 11-000-223-102-10-10-143; 11-000-221-102-10-10-143

NOTE: Pending medical and fingerprint clearance.

6. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the appointment of **MELISSA CAROLAN**, Special Education Teacher, High School (PC#90.09.40.AQC; #90.09.40.AYR), at the annual salary of \$90,800.00 (MA/17) (prorated), with health benefits, effective January 2, 2024, or upon release from present employer, through June 30, 2024, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement. (Replaces McClurg) Account: 11-213-100-101-10-10-000

NOTE: Pending medical and fingerprint clearance.

7. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the appointment of **LEXI PFEIFER**, Special Class Aide, Maple Road School (PC#60.03.S5.AVW), at the annual salary of \$25,492.00 (Step 3) (prorated), with health benefits, effective October 18, 2023, through June 30, 2024, per Board of Education/WMTAA Agreement. (Replaces Milnes) Account: 11-214-100-106-10-10-000
8. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the appointment of **NANCY SOMMERVILLE-MAHON**, Building Aide, Paradise Knoll School (PC#60.05.S3.AZG), at the annual salary of \$15,536.00 (Step 8) (prorated), without health benefits, effective October 18, 2023, through June 30, 2024, per Board of Education/WMESA Agreement. (Replaces Lombardi) Account: 11-000-240-105-10-10-080
9. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the appointment of **JAZMIN SANCHEZ**, Cafeteria Aide, Apshawa School (PC#30.01.F4.AZO), at the annual salary of \$6,901.00 (prorated), without health benefits, effective October 18, 2023, through June 30, 2024, per Board of Education/WMCAA Agreement. (Replaces Barca) Account: 11-000-262-107-10-10-000

NOTE: Pending medical clearance.

10. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the appointment of **JAMMIA NEWKIRK**, School Bus/Van Driver, Transportation (PC#25.18.T1.BED), 4 hours/day, at the annual salary of \$15,364.68 (prorated), without health benefits, effective October 18, 2023, through June 30, 2024, per Board of Education/WMBDA Agreement. (Replaces Manahan) Account: 11-000-270-161-10-10-000

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

10. (Continued)

NOTE: Pending medical clearance.

11. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the appointment of **APRIL PROVENZANO**, Long Term Substitute Special Education Teacher, High School (PC#99.09.00.BNU), at the per diem rate of \$250.00, with health benefits, retroactive from October 10, 2023, through December 8, 2023, per Board of Education Agreement. (Replaces McClurg) Account: 11-209-100-101-10-10-000

12. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve a leave of absence for Employee #4179, with pay using sick days, effective December 18, 2023, through January 26, 2024, then without pay under the Family Medical Leave Act, effective January 29, 2024, through April 19, 2024. (Maternity/Child Rearing)

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

13. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve a leave of absence for Employee #3285, with pay using sick days, effective November 27, 2023, through January 26, 2024, then without pay under the Family Medical Leave Act, effective January 29, 2024, through April 19, 2024. (Maternity/Child Rearing)

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

14. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve a leave of absence for Employee #4314, with pay using sick days, retroactive from September 26, 2023, through November 27, 2023. (Medical)

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

15. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve **an amendment to a previously approved resolution (June 2023)** for a leave of absence for Employee #4148, with pay using sick days, retroactive from September 1, 2023, through **September 29, 2023**, then without pay under the Family Medical Leave Act, effective **October 1, 2023**, through **December 22, 2023**. (Maternity/Child Rearing)

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

16. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve **an amendment to a previously approved resolution (September 2023)** for a leave of absence for Employee #3121, with pay using sick days, retroactive from September 29, 2023, through **October 18, 2023**, then without pay under the Family Medical Leave Act, effective **October 19, 2023**, through **November 15, 2023**. (Medical)

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

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

- 17. 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 October 18, 2023, through June 30, 2024:

**BRIAN JOHNSON** (Teacher)  
**KERRIE NEWTON** (Teacher)  
**JULIE WILLIAMS** (Coach)  
**ROMAN TRUJILLO** (Special Projects)

- 18. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve a **TEMPORARY TRANSFER OF ASSIGNMENT** for **DAVID GEROLD**, from Special Class Aide, High School, to Long Term Substitute Graphic Arts Teacher, High School, at the per diem rate of \$250.00, with health benefits, retroactive from September 26, 2023, through November 22, 2023, per Board of Education Agreement. (Replaces Murray) Account: 11-140-100-101-10-103

- 19. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve a **TEMPORARY TRANSFER OF ASSIGNMENT** for **KELLY ROCKEY**, from Door Monitor, High School, to Substitute Special Class Aide, High School, at the per diem rate of \$110.00, with health benefits, retroactive from September 26, 2023, through November 22, 2023, per Board of Education Agreement. (Replaces Gerold) Account: 11-190-100-106-10-10-000

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

- 20. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve a **TEMPORARY INCREASE OF ASSIGNMENT**, for **DIANA SINCAGLIA**, Door Monitor, High School, from 3.5 hours per day to 5.0 hours per day, at the hourly rate of \$15.00, without health benefits, retroactive from September 26, 2023, through November 22, 2023, per Board of Education Agreement. (Replaces Rockey) Account: 11-000-226-110-10-10-000

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

- 21. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve an **INCREASE OF ASSIGNMENT** for the following **BUILDING AIDE**, 3.5 hours per day, not to exceed ten (10) days, at their present hourly rate, for the 2023-2024 school year:

**NANCY SOMMERVILLE-MAHON**

- 22. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **SALARY GUIDE CHANGE** adjustment for the following certified teaching staff member, retroactive from September 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement:

<u>Employee</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Salary</u>
<b>BLAKE VISCONTI</b>	BA+30/11	MA/12	\$71,300.00

- 23. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **NURSES** for student #72984 for **AFTER SCHOOL STUDENT ACTIVITIES** for the 2023-2024 school year, not to exceed 60 hours, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 11-000-213-104-10-10-645:

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

23. (Continued)

<u>Nurses</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
<b>BARBARA CORBETT</b>	\$55.64
<b>MARYELISE NORRELL</b>	\$75.07
<b>JOANNA REILLY</b>	\$44.00
<b>JOYCE RILEY</b>	\$78.92
<b>PAMELA TAVARONE-BIESIADA</b>	\$44.78
<b>DAWN TETTAMANTI</b>	\$42.85

NOTE: A 1:1 nurse is required as per student's Individual Health Plan. Nurses will be assigned based on availability.

24. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve **MELISSA CSENGETO**, Guidance Counselor, High School, for the **2023 FINANCIAL AID NIGHT**, Thursday, November 2, 2023, at the hourly rate of \$37.00, for two and one half (2.5) hours, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement. Account: 11-000-218-104-10-10-071

25. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following staff to conduct a **EUREKA MATH PARENT PRESENTATION**, to be held on October 18, 2023, at the hourly rate of \$37.00, not to exceed two and one half (2.5) hours, for a payment of \$92.50 to each staff member, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 11-401-100-110-10-10-000:

Employee

<b>JACLYN BECKER</b>	<b>HOLLIE MILLER</b>
<b>TRICIA GINDER</b>	<b>LEIGH ANN MISIANO</b>
<b>JENNIFER MAGNOTTA</b>	<b>KELLY COMERFORD</b>

26. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **PARADISE KNOLL STUDENT ACTIVITY AFTER SCHOOL CLUB, ADVISORS, and HOURS** for the 2023-2024 school year, at the hourly rate of \$37.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 11-401-100-101-10-10-000:

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
<b>MELISSA KEIL</b>	School Ambassador Club	9.0	\$333.00
<b>BRIAN LESLIE</b>	School Ambassador Club	3.0	\$111.00
<b>AMI HOGUE</b>	School Ambassador Club	6.0	\$222.00

NOTE: Funded through the PTA.

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

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
<b>BRIAN LESLIE</b>	Fitness Club	7.5	\$277.50
<b>JOHANNA ARCHER</b>	Battle of the Books	6.0	\$222.00

NOTE: Funded through the ARP ESSER III Grant.

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

28. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **UPPER GREENWOOD LAKE STUDENT ACTIVITY AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS, ADVISORS, and HOURS** for the 2023-2024 school year, at the hourly rate of \$37.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 11-401-100-101-10-10-000:

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
CATHERINE SEKELSKY	STEM K-1 (Spring)	6.0	\$222.00
CATHERINE SEKELSKY	STEM K-1 (Fall)	6.0	\$222.00
CATHERINE SEKELSKY	STEM 2-3 (Spring)	6.0	\$222.00
CATHERINE SEKELSKY	STEM 2-3 (Fall)	6.0	\$222.00
CATHERINE SEKELSKY	Generation Pound	6.0	\$222.00
KATHRYN ENERING	Generation Pound	6.0	\$222.00
JOHANNA ARCHER	Squishy Circuits		
	Storytelling	6.0	\$222.00
JOHANNA ARCHER	Battle of the Books	6.0	\$222.00
DANIEL BROPHY	Kickstart SEL	6.0	\$222.00
PAUL CHIESA	Kickstart SEL	6.0	\$222.00
CATHERINE SEKELSKY	Escape Room	7.0	\$259.00
NICOLE KRUSE	Garden Club	8.0	\$296.00
DANIEL BROPHY	Learning on the Move	8.0	\$296.00
PAUL CHIESA	Learning on the Move	8.0	\$296.00
HOLLIE MILLER	Chess	10.0	\$370.00
KIMBERLY WALKER	Chess	10.0	\$370.00
KELLY COMERFORD	Honor Society	14.0	\$518.00
DEENA ACCARDI	Honor Society	14.0	\$518.00
JENNIFER MAGNOTTA	Kind Kids	14.0	\$518.00
CHARLENE PAPPAS	Kind Kids	14.0	\$518.00
SAMANTHA PATIRO	Kind Kids	14.0	\$518.00
HOLLIE MILLER	TREP\$	15.0	\$555.00
KIMBERLY WALKER	TREP\$	15.0	\$555.00
DANIEL BROPHY	Scooter Football	18.0	\$666.00
KRISTA YUHAS	Scooter Football	18.0	\$666.00

NOTE: Funded through the PTA.

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

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
JOHANNA ARCHER	Journalism Club	27	\$999.00

NOTE: Funded through the ARP ESSER III Grant.

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

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

30. (Continued)

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
<b>MONICA BOHORQUEZ-ZEMSER</b>	AIM	72	\$2,664.00
<b>MERJEME DUFFY</b>	AIM	72	\$2,664.00
<b>JENNIFER FEAR</b>	AIM	72	\$2,664.00
<b>NANCY KENNY</b>	AIM	72	\$2,664.00
<b>DAWN MAGIE</b>	AIM	72	\$2,664.00
<b>ANNE McGOWAN</b>	AIM	72	\$2,664.00
<b>MICHELLE PALUZZI</b>	AIM	72	\$2,664.00
<b>JACQUELINE SEGAL</b>	AIM	36	\$1,332.00
<b>KRISTA TRIPODI</b>	AIM	36	\$1,332.00

NOTE: Funded through the ESEA Title I Grant.

31. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **MACOPIN SCHOOL STUDENT ACTIVITY ASSIGNMENTS and STIPENDS** for the 2023-2024 school year, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 11-401-100-110-10-10-000:

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
<b>ALEXIS RIZZO</b>	Director	\$2,205.00
<b>JESSICA ZIEGENBALG*</b>	Producer	\$1,080.00
<b>LORRAINE POAT*</b>	Asst. Director 1	\$ 755.00
<b>MATTHEW PACCIONE*</b>	Asst. Director 2	\$ 755.00
<b>ALEXIS RIZZO*</b>	Choreographer	\$1,080.00

\*Funded through the proceeds of the play.

32. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve **an amendment to a previously approved resolution (July 2023)**, for **MACOPIN SCHOOL STUDENT ACTIVITY AFTER SCHOOL CLUB, ADVISORS, and HOURS** for the 2023-2024 school year, at the hourly rate of \$37.00, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 11-401-100-110-10-10-000

<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Payment</u>
<b>MARY BOZENMAYER</b>	GSA ALLIANCE	5	<b>\$185.00</b>
<b>JULIA PLISKIN*</b>	<b>GSA ALLIANCE</b>	5	<b>\$185.00</b>

**\*Replaces five (5) days for Mary Bozenmayer**

33. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **COMPLIANCE OFFICERS** for the 2023-2024 school year, retroactive from October 1, 2023:

Clerk of the Works	William Scholts, Business Administrator
Custodian of School Monies	William Scholts, Business Administrator
Health Information Privacy Officer	William Scholts, Business Administrator



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

33. (Continued)

Public Agency Compliance Officer (P.A.C.O.)	William Scholts, Business Administrator
Vehicle Coordinator	William Scholts, Business Administrator

34. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ACTIVITIES ASSIGNMENTS and STIPENDS** for the **WINTER 2023-2024 ATHLETIC SEASON**, per Board of Education/WMEA Agreement - Account: 11-402-100-110-10-10-000:

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
<b>TAYLOR PEVNY</b>	Head Wrestling	C+Longevity	\$11,478.00
<b>GARY STOLL</b>	Asst. Wrestling	C+Longevity	\$ 8,126.00
<b>CRAIG SPENCER</b>	.5 Asst. Wrestling	C+Longevity	\$ 4,063.00
<b>MICHAEL BLAKELY</b>	.5 Asst. Wrestling	C+Longevity	\$ 4,063.00
<b>ALEX CAILLIE</b>	Head Bowling (Co-Ed)	B	\$ 6,022.00
<b>IAN WHITE</b>	Head Ski Racing	C+Longevity	\$ 7,848.00
<b>MCKENZIE MORANDO</b>	Head Basketball (Boys)	B	\$ 9,911.00
<b>KENNETH CANALI</b>	Asst. Basketball (Boys)	C+Longevity	\$ 8,126.00
<b>TYLER MAURER</b>	Asst. Basketball (Boys)	C	\$ 7,926.00
<b>RAYMOND LACROIX</b>	Head Basketball (Girls)	C+Longevity	\$11,478.00
<b>NICOLE GRIMSHAW</b>	Asst. Basketball (Girls)	C+Longevity	\$ 8,126.00
<b>EDWARD MILKO</b>	Asst. Basketball (Girls)	C+Longevity	\$ 8,126.00
<b>DAVID GEROLD</b>	Head Fencing (Boys)	C	\$ 7,648.00
<b>THOMAS SANTORO</b>	.7 Head Fencing (Girls)	A	\$ 3,866.80
<b>DAVID GEROLD</b>	.3 Head Fencing (Girls)	A	\$ 1,657.20
<b>KRISTA TRIPODI</b>	Varsity Cheerleading	C+Longevity	\$ 7,848.00
<b>MICHAEL LAMBERT</b>	Head Winter Track	C+Longevity	\$ 7,848.00
<b>LAUREN REMBRANDT</b>	Asst. Winter Track	C	\$ 5,894.00
<b>PATRICK KEYZER</b>	.5 Asst. Winter Track	A	\$ 1,891.50
<b>ARTHUR JOECKS</b>	.5 Asst. Winter Track	C	\$ 2,947.00
<b>CHRISTOPHER SCARPA</b>	Head Ice Hockey	B	\$ 8,772.00
<b>NIKLAS LATRONICA</b>	Asst. Ice Hockey	B	\$ 6,357.00
<b>JULIE WILLIAMS</b>	Asst. Ice Hockey	A	\$ 5,338.00
<b>MATTHEW KANE</b>	Head Swim	A	\$ 7,752.00

35. 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>
<b>LAURA DiGIROLAMO</b>	Passaic County Community College	Upper Greenwood Lake	Elementary/2
<b>AVA DRAGONETTI</b>	Passaic County Community College	Maple Road	Elementary/3
<b>DAMIEN INNELLA</b>	Montclair State University	Macopin	Chorus/6-8

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

36. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **STUDENT(S)/INTERN(S)** for the 2023-2024 school year, at no cost to the District:

<u>Student Teacher</u>	<u>College</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Subject/Grade</u>
<b>SARA GILLOOLEY</b>	Montclair State University	Upper Greenwood Lake	Elementary/Special Education

**ROLL CALL FOR ITEMS #1 THROUGH #36:**

<b>TRUSTEE</b>	<b>VOTE</b>	<b>TRUSTEE</b>	<b>VOTE</b>	<b>TRUSTEE</b>	<b>VOTE</b>
Mrs. Van Dyk	Yes	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. Dwyer "Abstained" on item #5, and voted "No" to item #24.

The **MOTION PASSED**.

Mrs. Romeo congratulated Dr. Bryan Belser, and welcomed him to the District as the new Supervisor of STEM. Dr. Belser addressed the Board and the community. He thanked the Board and the District leadership for this opportunity, and he looks forward to working with West Milford to help the students and the staff to succeed.

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

Motion by Mr. Guarino, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, to approve the following agenda items #1 through #10:

**DISCUSSION:** Mrs. Dwyer inquired about item #5, and the donation of the old computer equipment. Mr. Scholts responded to her inquiry.

Mrs. O'Brien commented on item #5. She explained the background on the company, Upcycle LLC, and how they help students with disabilities.

1. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following Resolution, for approval and submission of a **COMPREHENSIVE MAINTENANCE PLAN:**

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Education requires New Jersey School Districts to submit three-year maintenance plans documenting required maintenance activities for each of its public school facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the required maintenance activities as listed in the attached document for the various school facilities of the West Milford Township School District are consistent with these requirements; and

**WHEREAS**, all past and planned activities are reasonable to keep school facilities open and safe for use or in their original condition and to keep their system warranties value;

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

1. (Continued)

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the West Milford Township School District hereby approves and authorizes the School Business Administrator to submit the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan, including the M-1, for the West Milford Township School District, in compliance with Department of Education requirements. (Documentation provided electronically.)

2. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **PURCHASE AUTHORIZATION** for the 2023-2024 school year, retroactive from October 1, 2023:

**RESOLVED**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3(a), the Board designates William Scholts, Board Secretary/Business Administrator as the Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA) pursuant under N.J.A.C. 5:34-5.1 for the Board of Education and authorizes him to award contracts that do not exceed in the aggregate in a contract year the total sum of \$32,000 (bid threshold) as provided in N.J.S.A. 18A:8A-3 and 18A:8A-4.3 without public advertising for bids.

Furthermore, purchasing agent is authorized to solicit competitive quotations for purchases in excess of 15% of the bid threshold, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-37(a) and to award contracts pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-37(c).

Preparation of Bid Advertisements

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2(b), the purchasing agent is designated to have the power to prepare advertisements, to advertise for and receive bids.

Purchase Order System Authorized Purchases

All purchases made by the Board of Education shall be done through the purchase order system. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2(V), a purchase order is a document issued by the purchasing agent authorizing a purchase transaction with a vendor to provide goods or to perform services.

Unauthorized Purchases

Any Board of Education employee who orders and/or receives any goods and services without going through the approved purchase order process has made an unauthorized purchase. Unauthorized purchases are a violation of State Law N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2(v) and 18A:18A-3(a). Board employees making unauthorized purchases are subject to disciplinary action as outlined by the Superintendent.

Inspection of Goods and Services

Pursuant to 18A:18A-44, all goods and services provided or performed under any contract with the Board shall be inspected and reviewed by the purchasing agent and/or by the appropriate officer (administrator; supervisor) of the School District who initially recommended the award of contract.

Trade-in of Personal Property

The purchasing agent pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-45(g) may include the sale of personal property no longer needed for school purposes as part of the specifications to offset the price of a new purchase.

**XV. OPERATIONS & FINANCE – Mr. Guarino, Chairperson – Continued**

3. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to authorize the Business Administrator to enter into an **INTERLOCAL VEHICLE SALES AGREEMENT** with **HUNTERDON COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION (HCESC)**, Califon, New Jersey, to prepare bid documents and advertise for the sale of two (2) used 2013 54-Passenger school buses (#209/#227).
4. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to accept the **DONATION** of school supplies and two (2) Amazon gift cards for the District, from **UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AT NEWFOUNDLAND**, Newfoundland, New Jersey, for the 2023-2024 school year.
5. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the **DONATION** of old computer equipment, no longer of use to the District, to **UPCYCLE LLC**, Fairfield, New Jersey. Equipment will be picked up at no cost to the District. (Documentation provided electronically.)

**ROLL CALL FOR ITEMS #1 THROUGH #5:**

TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE
Mr. Guarino	Yes	Mrs. Dwyer	Yes	Mr. Lippe	Yes
Mrs. Racano	Yes	Mr. Cytowicz	Yes	Mrs. Van Dyk	Yes
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 #6:

6. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the **PAYROLL** of September 29, 2023, and October 13, 2023, in the amount of \$4,060,328.06. (Documentation provided electronically.)

**ROLL CALL FOR ITEM #6:**

TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE	TRUSTEE	VOTE
Mr. Guarino	Abstain	Mrs. Dwyer	Yes	Mr. Lippe	Yes
Mrs. Racano	Yes	Mr. Cytowicz	Yes	Mrs. Van Dyk	Abstain
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 #7 through #10:

7. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the following **TRANSFER OF FUNDS RESOLUTION** for the period ending **October 17, 2023**:

**XV. OPERATIONS & FINANCE – Mr. Guarino, Chairperson – Continued**

7. (Continued)

**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 \$86,378.36.

8. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the **LIST OF BILLS/VENDORS** for the period ending **October 17, 2023**, in the amount of \$3,589,376.52. (Documentation provided electronically.)

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

**WHEREAS**, the Agenda file of **October 17, 2023** Regular Meeting of the Board contains the A148 Report of the Secretary and the Treasurer’s Monthly Report; and

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

\$15,093,624.79 as of August 31, 2023; therefore

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

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

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

**ROLL CALL FOR ITEMS #7 THROUGH #10:**

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

The **MOTION PASSED**.

**XVI. POLICY – Mr. William Cytowicz, Chairperson**

Motion by Mr. Cytowicz, seconded by Mrs. O’Brien, to approve the following agenda items #1 through #19:

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

1. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the second reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Conduct of Reduction in Force." (Code 3146) (Documentation provided electronically.)
2. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to **ABOLISH** the **POLICY** entitled, "Bridge Year Pilot Program." (Code 5460.02) (Documentation provided electronically.)
3. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to **ABOLISH** the **REGULATION** entitled, "Bridge Year Pilot Program." (Code 5460.02) (Documentation provided electronically.)
4. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to **ABOLISH** the **POLICY** entitled, "School Nutrition Programs." (Code 8540) (Documentation provided electronically.)
5. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to **ABOLISH** the **POLICY** entitled, "Meal Charges/Outstanding Food Service Bill." (Code 8550) (Documentation provided electronically.)
6. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Religion in the Schools." (Code 2270) (Documentation provided electronically.)
7. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Examination for Cause" (Teaching Staff Members). (Code 3161) (Documentation provided electronically.)
8. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Attendance" (Teaching Staff Members). (Code 3212) (Documentation provided electronically.)
9. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised REGULATION** entitled, "Attendance" (Teaching Staff Members). (Code 3212) (Documentation provided electronically.)
10. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Right of Privacy" (Teaching Staff Members). (Code 3324) (Documentation provided electronically.)
11. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Examination for Cause" (Support Staff Members). (Code 4161) (Documentation provided electronically.)
12. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Attendance" (Support Staff Members). (Code 4212) (Documentation provided electronically.)
13. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised REGULATION** entitled, "Attendance" (Support Staff Members). (Code 4212) (Documentation provided electronically.)
14. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Right of Privacy" (Support Staff Members). (Code 4324) (Documentation provided electronically.)

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

- 15. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Eligibility of Resident/ Nonresident Students." (Code 5111) (Documentation provided electronically.)
- 16. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised REGULATION** entitled, "Eligibility of Resident/ Nonresident Students." (Code 5111) (Documentation provided electronically.)
- 17. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Education of Homeless Children and Youths." (Code 5116) (Documentation provided electronically.)
- 18. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised REGULATION** entitled, "Education of Homeless Children and Youths." (Code 5116) (Documentation provided electronically.)
- 19. The recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the first reading of a **revised POLICY** entitled, "Food Services." (Code 8500) (Documentation provided electronically.)

**ROLL CALL FOR ITEMS #1 THROUGH #19:**

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	Yes	Mrs. Romeo	Yes

The **MOTION PASSED.**

**XVII. NEGOTIATIONS - Mrs. Debbie O'Brien, Chairperson**

Motion by Mrs. O'Brien, seconded by Mr. Lippe, to approve the following agenda item #1:

- 1. **BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent and Board Negotiations Committee, that the Board approves the **REVISION** to the 2022-2025 West Milford Bus Drivers Association salary guides, and their application to unit members.

**ROLL CALL FOR ITEM #1:**

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

The **MOTION PASSED.**

**XVIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS/LIAISONS**

Parks & Recreation - Mrs. Racano/Mr. Lippe - Mrs. Racano spoke about a meeting in September and gave an update from the Parks & Recreation Director. He asked Mrs. Racano to report on two items. The first item is that both travel and recreation basketball registrations are open. The second is that at the beginning of November, there will be a limited number of veteran flags still available for sale. These flags are hung up and visible throughout the Township. She explained that the limited number of veteran flags is due to a limited number of poles left for flags to be hung upon.

Safety - Mrs. Dwyer/Mrs. O'Brien - No report.

Superintendent's Roundtable - Mrs. Racano/Mrs. Van Dyk - Mrs. Racano explained that at the September meeting, there was discussion of moving the dates of the meetings. Other items discussed were the beginning of the school year and transportation issues, many of which have been ironed out at this point, and late buses. They spoke about a list of all "no homework" days Districtwide and also spoke about iReady. There was a suggestion of departmental public relations, and a way to highlight, for instance, the "History Department" or "What's Happening in Science," and highlight some of the Elementary programs. We see a lot of athletics and the arts being highlighted, but not necessarily our academics, which are also really strong in our District that possibly the public does not realize. They spoke about a District Newsletter or possibly putting it on the Hometown Pride Facebook page. The next meeting is on October 19, 2023.

Passaic County School Boards Association - Mrs. Lockwood stated the meeting was held on September 26, 2023. There was a lot of discussion about the NJSBA Workshop. The Manchester Regional High School Board of Education received a Board certification, and they were honored and presented with a plaque. The program was actually in regards to Finance, and Ms. Francisco was in attendance presenting and answering questions, along with other Business Administrators from Wayne and Woodland Park. Another item that was discussed was the NJSBA Connection. They provided a flyer and asked attendees of the meeting to discuss it with their Boards. It can be accessed through the Board member sign in on the NJSBA website. She explained what it is, and how NJSBA is encouraging their members to go on it. Mrs. Lockwood stated she will share the information she received with the Board.

New Jersey School Boards Association - Mr. Cytowicz spoke about our new representative, Kelly Mitchell. He looks forward to seeing what offerings NJSBA has for School Boards. For newer members, or those that do not know much about NJSBA, there are plenty of offerings available to be used as continuing education, which will make our Board stronger. On September 28<sup>th</sup>, there was a negotiations training session, which was a full-day session. Mr. Cytowicz indicated that he and Mr. Lippe attended. On October 23-26, 2023, is the New Jersey School Boards Association Workshop, which will be held in Atlantic City. If Board members have signed up, it is a great learning experience and great opportunity to see what is happening around the State with other school districts. On Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, there is a training session that is a leadership conference entitled, "Everyone Moving Forward Together." The conference brings Board members and District leaders together to develop and improve communication, relationships with each other, and the educational systems they serve. If any Board member is interested, they can sign up for it on the website. He also spoke about how Boards have the opportunity to earn certifications.



**XVIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS/LIAISONS - Continued**

Legislative - Mrs. O'Brien/Mr. Lippe - Mrs. O'Brien brought to the Board's attention detailed information about New Jersey law makers preparing tweaks to the State school funding formula.

Technology Oversight - Mr. Guarino/Mr. Lippe - No report.

Township/Board of Education Joint Committee - Mr. Guarino/Mrs. Romeo/Mrs. Lockwood/Mr. Cytowicz - Mrs. Romeo indicated that another meeting will be scheduled, and that a feasibility study is still being looked into.

West Milford Municipal Alliance - Mrs. Van Dyk/Mrs. Lockwood - Mrs. Van Dyk attended the meeting on October 9<sup>th</sup>. The Wellness Family Festival was discussed and was very well attended. She indicated that Mrs. O'Brien will be meeting with Janice Gerisch to discuss programs through the Youth Leadership Grant. The WMMA is scheduling a Pickleball Tournament fundraiser on Saturday, April 13, 2024, and details will follow. She also stated that Mrs. O'Brien will be attending the Passaic County NJ4S NJCDC to discuss resources and services for our community. She will also be at William Paterson University on Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, for the Teen Summit. Mr. Dougherty and West Milford High School Heroes and Cool Kids students will be attending this as well.

Mrs. O'Brien explained that the services and resources through NJ4S pertain to youth mental health, bullying, suicide, and substance abuse. Dr. Furnari indicated that NJ4S was a presenter at the September Superintendent's Roundtable for the County. She stated their programming is amazing. She had brought information back to Dr. Ressa, who has made contact with NJ4S leadership, and indicated we are looking to form a partnership. Mrs. O'Brien continued to provide the Board and the community with additional information on NJ4S, and stated they will be doing a presentation at the Highlands Family Success Center on Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Van Dyk spoke about attending the Highland Family Success Center Open House, and saw many of our staff and many of our PTA representatives there. She encourages the community to go in and see the resources that they have to offer.

Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (SEPAC) - Mrs. Lockwood/Mrs. O'Brien - Mrs. Lockwood stated the next meeting, which is a parent/caregiver meeting and is virtual, will be held on October 30, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. The next SEPAC meeting will be held on November 15, 2023, at 7:00 p.m., at Paradise Knoll School. Mrs. Racano filled in at the SEPAC meeting for Mrs. Lockwood on September 26<sup>th</sup>. She thinks that every Board member should attend a SEPAC meeting if they have not had the opportunity to do so. It was the introductory meeting of Dr. Ressa and Mrs. Porochniak. They went over what SEPAC is and what their goals are, and it was a really good opportunity for the Special Education community to see where the programs were headed. The overall theme of the evening was communication, and it was really beneficial. As a Board member, she feels it was a great opportunity for her to understand the struggles and obstacles that special education families are sometimes faced with.

**XIX. OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Cytowicz spoke earlier in 2023 about a possibility of getting an Energy Audit for our ESIP projects. He asked if we could request that the New Jersey Department of Energy provide that audit, if possible.

**XIX. OLD BUSINESS - Continued**

Mrs. Dwyer asked Mrs. Romeo if an Energy Audit was done last year.

Mr. Scholts stated that one was done last year for the ESIP, which was an audit to make sure we were hitting the savings as part of the ESIP. He indicated that they confirmed, as part of their audit, we were hitting the savings that they promised us.

Mrs. Van Dyk asked Mr. Scholts if the audit for energy savings has to be done each year for the ESIP. Mr. Scholts explained that the option is offered each year. Mrs. Romeo asked that Mr. Scholts add this to the Operations and Finance Committee meeting agenda for November.

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

**VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.**

**XX. NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. O'Brien thanked those in the education community for coming out to the Highlands Family Success Center Open House. Mrs. O'Brien is a Case Manager through Centers for Family Resources. She explained that Highlands Family Success Center is also under the auspices of Centers for Family Resources (CFR). She stated that people who came really did not know what we are about and what we do. It is free for the community, and it is also free for people who do not live in West Milford or Passaic County. They support families, those who are homeless, those who lost belongings in a fire, and those who need assistance. She thanked Mrs. Van Dyk and Mr. Novak for attending. She described the programs for kids and for seniors, and feels that so many of their programs tie in with curriculum. Mr. Novak inquired about a homework help program, and Mrs. O'Brien provided information to him.

Mrs. Dwyer inquired about the Military Tattoo event and when it would be held this year. Mrs. Lockwood stated she received a flyer on the event and will provide the information to her.

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

**VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.**

**XXII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 10:03 p.m., Mrs. Lockwood made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Dwyer, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing negotiations, HIBs, and matters of 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 thirty (30) minutes. No action will be taken, and the Board will adjourn from Executive Session.

**VOICE VOTE: All in Favor. MOTION PASSED.**

Respectfully submitted,

William Scholts  
Board Secretary