

# **BOARD BRIEF**

## **Regular Meeting**

### **July 21, 2008**

AT THE July 21, 2008 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, THE BOARD TOOK ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS...

#### **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Buildings and Grounds – Mr. Dreyer reported that the committee met this evening. He provided copies of the status report given by Eric Schwartz, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds.

Technology Committee – Mr. Butterworth reported that the committee met last Monday evening. Alex Blinder, Technology Coordinator, is in the process of installing the new servers and updating district computers. There is a resolution on the agenda to approve consultant services to assist with the integration project.

Finance Committee – Mr. McCarthy reported that the committee met this evening to review the bills and claims.

Negotiations – In Mr. Meringolo's absence, Mr. McCarthy reported that there is resolution on the agenda with regard to the contract for Alex Blinder for the 2008-2009 school year. The committee is recommending approval of this resolution.

Policy Committee – Mrs. Nyquist reported that the policy committee met last week. The nepotism policy was on the agenda last month for a first reading. Because there is specific language that is now required by the state, the policy has been revised. Because the revisions were substantial, the policy is on the agenda once again for a first reading.

Transportation Task Force – Mrs. Scanlon reported that the task force met last week to discuss the plans for the implementation of the subscription busing program at all three schools.

President's Council – Ms. Becker reported that she and Mr. McCarthy attended a meeting of the President's Council last week. This group originally began with the presidents of the Watchung Hills Regional Board and the sending districts. The group has expanded to include vice presidents and therefore the group is now search for a new name. The group discussed a number of issues including technology services, solar energy projects, and math curriculum. The purpose of the group is to allow for the sharing of ideas and explore other means of cooperation and collaboration.

#### **SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

Dr. Rovtar state that she is very happy to be attending her first official board meeting. She has been busy meeting with various community and district groups, conducting interviews for vacancies, and beginning the preparations for NJQSAC. She also mentioned the rise in the cut scores on the state assessments for grades 5 through 8 that was announced by the NJDOE last week. This change will result in a decrease statewide in the percentage of students attaining the advanced proficient and proficient designation.

#### **ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

Dr. Wetherell presented a summary of the F.I.E.L. conference that she attended last week.

#### **ADMINISTRATORS AND TECHNOLOGY COORDINATOR'S UPDATES**

Mrs. Dawson reported on the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors conference that she attended last week.

Mr. Blinder gave a status report on the server project. He indicated that at some point this summer, the e-mail system will be down for 5 days.

## BOARD SECRETARY'S UPDATE

Mr. Esposito reported that slightly more than 200 students have enrolled in the subscription busing program. It is approximately 51% of those eligible to participate. Because all of the routes have at least 30 students assigned, we have not been able to combine any of those routes and eliminate a bus route.

## RESOLUTIONS

### Minutes

- Approved the following minutes of the Long Hill Township Board of Education  
June 23, 2008 – Board Retreat & Regular Meeting – Public & Private Sessions

### Financials

- Approved the List of Bills for June 30, 2008 and July 21, 2008 for payment as follows:

#### Bills List for 6/30/08:

Fund 10	\$ 6,663.13
Current Expense-Fund 11	\$276,644.41
Capital Outlay-Fund 12	\$ -0-
Special Revenue Fund-Fund 20	\$ 29,462.84
Capital Projects-Fund 30	\$ -0-
Debt Services – Fund 40	-0-
Total	\$312,770.38

#### Bills List for 7/21/08

Fund 10	\$ -0-
Current Expense – Fund 11	\$215,358.25
Capital Outlay – Fund 12	\$ -0-
Special Revenue Fund-Fund 20	\$ -0-
Capital Projects – Fund 30	\$ -0-
Debt Services – Fund 40	\$ -0-
Total	\$215,358.25

- Certified that as of May 31, 2008, after review of the Board Secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of NJAC 6:20-2.13(B), and sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the year.
- Accepted the financial reports of the Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Funds for the month ending May 31, 2008.
- Authorized transfers for the month of May, 2008.
- Approved a contract with Pittsgrove Board of Education cooperative to purchase paper materials and supplies.
- Accepted the allocation of No Child Left Behind Funds for fiscal year 2008-09 school year as follows:

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Long Hill</u>	<u>St. Vincent</u>
Title II-A	\$23,120	\$18,674	\$4,446
Title III	\$ 3,756	\$ 3,756	\$ 0
Title IV	\$ 1,733	\$ 1,399	\$ 334

- Renewed transportation contracts, Multi-contract 01-01, with Dealaman Enterprises for regular education student transportation for the 2008-09 school year as follows:

<u>Route #</u>	<u>Amount</u>
CSV3	\$21,155.45
GM3	\$20,429.46
GM6	\$22,873.97
GM8	\$21,318.60

As per N.J.S.A. 18A:39-3, these rates reflect a 2.89% increase over the rates from the 2007-08 school year.

- Renewed transportation contracts, Multi-contract CP2, with Dealaman Enterprises for regular education student transportation for the 2008-09 school year as follows:

<u>Route #</u>	<u>Amount</u>
CSV2	\$20,957.05
CSV6	\$20,831.38
CSV7	\$20,893.20
GM2	\$21,264.08
GM4	\$21,387.71

As per N.J.S.A. 18A:39-3, these rates reflect a 2.89% increase over the rates from the 2007-08 school year.

- Renewed transportation contracts, Multi-contract 02-01, with Dealaman Enterprises for regular education student transportation for the 2008-09 school year as follows:

<u>Route #</u>	<u>Amount</u>
GM10	\$37,251.94
GM11	\$31,243.56
GM12	\$31,243.56

As per N.J.S.A. 18A:39-3, these rates reflect a 2.89% increase over the rates from the 2007-08 school year.

- Authorized purchase of Professional Services (technology integration services) from DynTek Services, Inc. at the cost of \$25,600.00.

Professional Services to be provided in the months of July '08 and August '08

- Approved the following preliminary route costs for renewal contracts with the Morris Union Jointure Commission for special education transportation for the following routes for the 2008-2009 school year:

<u>Route</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Annual Cost</u>	<u>Aide per Diem</u>
902	PG Chambers School	\$ 49,575.66	\$ 63.56
906	ECLC	\$ 38,060.36	\$ 63.56
913	Midland School	\$ 61,217.21	\$ 77.69
941	SKIP	\$102,937.29	\$127.13
954	Bright Beginnings	\$ 46,884.44	\$ 70.62
	TOTAL	\$298,674.96	

- Approved the following preliminary route costs for renewal contracts with the Morris Union Jointure Commission for special education transportation for the following routes for the 2008-2009 school year:

<u>Route</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Annual Cost</u>
917	Kindergarten	\$ 23,670.00
918	Kindergarten	\$ 23,670.00
919	Kindergarten	\$ 23,670.00
933	CSV-1 & GM-9	\$ 27,495.00
957	GM – 7	\$ 28,683.00
967	GM – 5 & CSV-5	\$ 44,122.50
981	CSV-4 & GM-1	\$ 41,085.00
	TOTAL	\$212,395.50

### **Special Education**

- Approved the out of district placements and payment of tuition, as per student's IEP for the 2008-09 school year as follows:

<u>Student #</u>	<u>Placement</u>	<u>Projected Tuition</u>
2011713	Newmark School	\$42,352.20
245	Cedar Hills School	\$44,953.00
2012937	Rock Brook School	\$39,827.00+
	One-on-One Aide	\$26,000.00
2011827	Bright Beginnings	\$36,210.00
2014192	Midland School	\$39,375.00
999903	Phoenix Center	\$48,150.00+
	One-on-One Aide	\$22,320.00
201319	Early Childhood Learning Center	\$34,286.00
999905	P.G. Chambers	\$48,276.00
201530	Midland School	\$39,375.00
999906	YCS George Washington School	\$40,430.00

- Approved a back-charge of \$2,243.00 to ECLC for tuition for student #201319 for the 2007-08 school year.
- Approved the payment of \$75.00 per day to Morris Union Jointure Commission for transportation of a special education student to Convent Station for the period July 1, 2008 through August 12, 2008. Total cost for transportation for this extended year program of 30 days is \$2,250.
- Approved the acceptance of tuition for student HB from the Harding Township Board of Education. Student HB will attend the Extended School Year program for six weeks at a tuition cost of \$3,000 and attend Long Hill Township School District for the 2008-09 school year at a tuition rate of \$13,000. Transportation will be provided by the Harding School District.

### **Personnel**

- Accepted the resignation of Lisa Schuffenhauer, District Counselor, effective August 31, 2008.
- Approved the following maternity (child care) leave of absence for Kimberly Horincewich, teacher at Millington School:
  - Paid leave of absence beginning on October 6, 2008 through November 28, 2008, using accumulated sick days.
  - Unpaid family leave of absence beginning November 29, 2008 through February 27, 2008.
  - Anticipated return date is March 2, 2008.
- Approved the appointment of Michael Velez, part-time (.83) physical education teacher, BA Step 1, at a salary of \$42,595.00 pro-rated to \$35,353.85, effective September 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.
- Corrected the salary of Thomas Schwartz, Math teacher at Central School, to \$62,325.00, MA30 Step 10, for the 2008-09 school year.

- Approved the annual salary of \$77,028.07 for Alex Blinder, Technology Coordinator, for the period July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009., plus a one time adjustment of \$1,000.00. (Eligible for up to \$3,000 merit pay).
- Appointed Julie Evans as .2 BSI leave replacement teacher BA Step 6 at an annual salary of \$48,525.00 prorated to \$9,705.00 effective September 1, 2008 through December 23, 2008.
- Appointed Elizabeth Bussiculo as Secretary to the Superintendent for the period August 4, 2008 through June 30, 2009 at the annual salary of \$45,000.00, prorated.
- Made the following changes (in bold) to the contract of Superintendent Dr. René Rovtar:
  - Item 4 Other Benefits
    - D. Job Related Expenses and Other Compensation
      - 1. Expense Reimbursement: The Superintendent shall have the option of using her own vehicle for business-related trips. In accordance with Board Policy **and New Jersey Administrative Code**, the Superintendent shall receive reimbursement at the **IRS** prevailing rate **in accordance with regulations promulgated by OMB** and reimbursement for reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of her duties.
  - Item 5 Separation from Service
    - A. Sick Days
      - Upon the Superintendent's retirement from employment with the district, the Board will pay all unused, accumulated sick days at the per diem rate, calculated as **1/260<sup>th</sup>** of the Superintendent's then current annual salary. **Payment for unused sick days will be capped at \$15,000.**
    - B. Payment to Estate: Delete this paragraph.
- Approved the carry-over of five (5) vacation days from the 2007-2008 school year to the 2008-2009 school year for Alex Blinder, Technology Coordinator, in accordance with provisions contained in his contract.
- Approved the appointment of Susan Verdes as a part time Spanish teacher at Millington School at the MA Step 1 salary of \$45,395 prorated (.49 = \$22,243.55), pending certification and criminal history review.
- Approved the appointment of Deborah Lamer as a part time language arts teacher at Central School at the BA Step 1 salary of \$42,595 prorated (.49 = \$20,871.55), pending certification and criminal history review.

### **Policy**

- Adopted at second reading the following policies to become part of the official record:
  - 2120 Organization Chart
  - 5141.3 Health Examinations and Immunizations
- Approved the first reading of the following policy:
  - 4112.8 Nepotism
- Deleted the following policy:
  - 4113.1 Length of Working Day (dated April 24, 1972)

### **Emergent Hiring**

- Approved the submission to the County Superintendent of application for emergent hiring and the applicant's attestation that he/she has not been convicted of any disqualifying crime pursuant to the provision of N.J.S.A. 18A:6.4.15 for the employees listed below:

Alex Silagi, Michael Velez, Elizabeth Bussiculo

### **OTHER**

- Approved the submission of the Long Hill Township School District Mentor Plan for the years 2008-2011 to the Executive County Superintendent.
- Approved the submission of the Bilingual/ESL/ELS Three Year Program Plan for 2008-2011 to the Executive County Superintendent and the New Jersey Department of Education.

- Authorized the Business Administrator to develop specifications and solicit bids for the provision of custodial and maintenance services for the Long Hill Township School District.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The Board will begin the August 18<sup>th</sup> meeting at 5:30 P.M. and immediately adjourn into private session for the purpose of holding a negotiations workshop with representatives from New Jersey School Boards Association. The regular public meeting will start at the normal 7:30 time.

### **Dates To Remember:**

August 18, 2008 – Worksession & Regular Meeting – Gillette Board Office – 5:30 p.m. (Public meeting to begin at 7:30 p.m.)

September 8, 2008 – Worksession – Gillette Board Office – 7:30 p.m.

September 22, 2008 – Regular Meeting – Gillette Board Office – 7:30 p.m.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IS ENCOURAGED AT ALL BOARD MEETINGS  
THE BOARD BRIEF DOES NOT REPRESENT OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF  
EDUCATION.**