

BOARD BRIEF

Regular Meeting

August 18, 2008

AT THE August 18, 2008 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, THE BOARD TOOK ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS...

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Township Committee Liaison – Mrs. Scanlon reported that the Township Committee passed an ordinance that requires the keys to buildings be placed in a secure box attached to the building. This will provide access for the Fire Department. There is a 6 month period for buildings to be brought into compliance.

Transportation Task Force – Mrs. Scanlon reported that dry runs on the drop off and pick up procedures at each of the three buildings have been held. The police also participated and were able to offer some helpful suggestions.

Buildings and Grounds – Mr. Dreyer reported that while the Committee has not met since the last meeting, a listing of the current status of the various projects was provided for the Board Members. The listing was prepared by Eric Schwartz, the Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds. The listing indicates those projects that have already been completed. Additional signage and painting in the parking lots will be accomplished prior to the start of school to facilitate the safe flow of traffic around the buildings.

Policy Committee – Mrs. Nyquist reported that the Board will be taking action on the second reading of the Nepotism Policy and the first reading of the Equipment Policy this evening.

Finance Committee – Mr. McCarthy reported that the Finance Committee met prior to tonight's meeting. The Bill List was reviewed and is in agreement with the figures contained in the agenda for this meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Dr. Rovtar reported that the transportation dry runs were conducted. These exercises allowed us to fine tune the practices that will be in place for drop off and pick up at all three schools. The procedures have been posted on the district's website. The information was also sent to the Echoes Sentinel. It is hoped that they will public the information so that parents will begin to become familiar with some of the changes in procedure from prior years.

The plans for the joint inservice workshop on September 2nd are being finalized. The teachers from Long Hill, Watchung Borough and Watchung Hills will all be participating in what promises to be a very exciting program.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Dr. Wetherell reported that the class assignments for Gillette School will be mailed on Friday. She has reviewed the 504 plan procedures with Fraida Yavelberg, who will be overseeing them during the upcoming year. There is a recommendation on the agenda for the appointment of a teacher assistant for Gillette School. Dr. Wetherell indicated that she received more than 70 applications and 25 phone inquiries for this position. Training on the new math materials for the Millington School teachers will take place in early September. The scheduling will allow the Futures program to be maintained for grades 1 and 2. Dr. Wetherell discussed the Gillette School goals for the 2008-2009 school year. The Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills will be used to assess student proficiency to help guide decision about differentiated instruction in reading.

ADMINISTRATORS AND TECHNOLOGY COORDINATOR'S UPDATES

Mrs. Dawson reported on the preparations that have been made over the summer at Millington School. Work order requests have been submitted to reduce some of the impact of the shrubs in the front of the building. The homeroom assignments for Millington School will also be mailed on Friday.

Mr. Cimino reported on the power washing, painting and other repairs that have taken place at Central School over the summer. The student scheduling process has been delayed this year due to the NJ ASK results. We are expecting to receive the individual student results tomorrow. This information is needed in order to make student assignments with regard to the Horizon program and Basic Skills. The current SASI program used for Student Administration will be phased out over the next two years. Mr. Cimino indicated that the district will be exploring alternative software applications, including the Genesis program which was recently implemented by the high school.

Mr. Blinder reported that the server upgrade project is continuing and should be finalized next week. Beginning tomorrow the district will be without e-mail and Internet access until August 27th. All of the computers in Gillette School have been upgraded.

BOARD SECRETARY’S UPDATE

Mr. Esposito reported that he met with a representative from Energy for America to discuss the energy management services that the company provides. The company will conduct a free energy audit for the school system to determine if an energy management system might be able to save the district money on our current energy expenses.

The Morris Union Jointure Commission recently informed us of some changes to some of the district bus routes. Bus passes for those routes will need to be printed again. That information will be sent out to parents shortly.

Mr. Esposito reported on the results of the recent water testing that was conducted in all three schools. The results of the second draw indicated that there was no health issue or threat with regard to the water. School personnel will be advised to continue to flush the faucets before using the water.

Sample Location	Sample size	Sample Type	Action Level	Result ppb
<u>Central School</u>				
Teachers Lounge	250 ml	2 nd draw	15 ppb	<2.00
First Floor Fountain	250 ml	2 nd draw	15 ppb	<2.00
Room 33 - Right	250 ml	2 nd draw	15 ppb	<2.00
Room 33 – Left	250 ml	2 nd draw	15 ppb	<2.00
<u>Millington School</u>				
Teachers room sink	1000 ml	1st draw	15 ppb	<2.00
Teachers room sink	250 ml	2 nd draw	5 ppb	<2.00
Classroom 32 sink	1000 ml	1st draw	15 ppb	<2.00
Classroom 32 sink	250 ml	2 nd draw	5 ppb	<2.00
Art room sink	1000 ml	1st draw	15 ppb	71.6**
Art room sink	250 ml	2 nd draw	15 ppb	<2.00
<u>Gillette School</u>				
Nurse lab sink	1000 ml	1st draw	15 ppb	<2.00
Nurse lab sink	250 ml	2 nd draw	5 ppb	<2.00
Teachers Room sink	1000 ml	1st draw	15 ppb	<2.00
Teachers Room sink	250 ml	2 nd draw	5 ppb	<2.00
Room 9 sink	1000 ml	1st draw	15 ppb	7.61
Room 9 sink	250 ml	2 nd draw	15 ppb	<2.00

The only area that tested above the action level was the Art room sink in Millington on the first draw. The second draw provided a satisfactory result. The Art room was not originally selected for testing, but was substituted for room 6 as there was a problem with the faucet handles in that room. The testing criteria required that the water be run at the end of the previous day. This was not done in the Art room as it was not originally selected as a test location. The elevated first draw reading is therefore not surprising. All of the 2nd draw readings taken in the district were below the action level. We will continue to require the staff to run the water for 2 minutes in the morning.

The Board received a copy of the Department of Education’s PowerPoint presentation on the new Fiscal Accountability Regulations. There are several policies that the Board must adopt. Standard operating procedures for Business Office functions must also be developed.

RESOLUTIONS

Minutes

- Approved the following minutes of the Long Hill Township Board of Education
July 21, 2008 – Board of Education Regular Meeting – Public & Private Sessions

Financials

- Approved the List of Bills for August 18, 2008 for payment as follows:

Fund 10	\$ 6,821.43
Current Expense-Fund 11	\$273,992.10
Capital Outlay-Fund 12	\$ -0-
Special Revenue Fund-Fund 20	\$ -0-
Capital Projects-Fund 30	\$ -0-
Debt Services – Fund 40	\$330,763.13
Total	\$611,576.66

- Approved the signing of a deed between the Long Hill Township School District and the Township of Long Hill for the property located at 1802 Long Hill Road. This deed will confirm actions taken by the School District in 1933 to transfer the property to the Township for the sum of One Dollar.
- Approved the donation of the following obsolete and unneeded equipment to the Township of Long Hill:

Qty = 3 video cameras
Qty = 3 Panasonic monitors, LHBOE Asset Tags: 1053, 1054,1055
Qty = 1 Video\Audio Patch Panel
Qty = 2 Audio Mixer SURE M267
Qty = 1 SURE AMS 8000 Microphone Mixer
Qty = 1 Realistic Stereo Audio Selector
Qty = 1 Video\Audio distribution Amplifier
And other misc. related ITV hardware.

All equipment will be picked up by Long Hill Township personnel.

- Accepted the following funds for the 2008-09 school year:

Chapter 192	\$18,911
Chapter 193	\$51,134
Non-Public Technology	\$ 8,920
Non-Public Textbooks	\$12,753
Non-Public Nursing	\$17,215

- Approved a Non-Public Services agreement with the Educational Services Commission of Morris County to provide administration of the following programs:

Chapter 192
Chapter 193
Non-Public Technology
Non-Public Textbooks
Non-Public Nursing

Special Education

- Approved the payment of an audited back charge in the amount of \$4,721.00 for the 2006-2007 school year for a Long Hill student who attended the Calais School.
- Approved the placement of the Long Hill Township student enrolled in the Department of Children and Families Regional School program for the 2008-09 school year at a tuition rate of \$139.77 per diem for 220 school days. Total annual tuition is \$30,750.
- Approved submission the following requests to the Executive County Superintendent:

Elimination of the following special education programs:

Perceptually Impaired Class	Central School*
Neurologically Impaired Class	Central School*

- Approved the appointment of the following person to the Substitute Secretary List for the 2008-2009 school year:

Linda Harding

Policy

- Approved the first reading of the following policy:

3514 Equipment

ACTION OF THE BOARD _____

- Approved the second reading of the following policy:

4112.8 Nepotism

OTHER

- Adopted the following resolution to request a waiver of the district's participation in the Special Education Medicare Initiative (SEMI) Program.

Whereas, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district's participation in the Special Education Medicare Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2008-2009 school year, and

Whereas, the Long Hill Township Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having fewer than 30 Medicaid eligible classified students,

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Long Hill Township Board of Education hereby authorizes the Chief School Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Morris an appropriate waiver of the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3 for the 2008-2008 school year.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Nyquist asked about the implementation of the immunization policy. Dr. Rovtar indicated that the Administrative Regulations for the policy were just reviewed by the Board Attorney. The parents of 5th grade students last year were informed by the Millington School nurse about the new 6th grade immunization requirements.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. Sandow thanked the Board for the approval of the resolution conferring the deed on the Old Town Hall Building to the Township. He raised a question as to why the school tax increase on the recently issued tax bills appeared to be lower than had been forecast by the Board. Mr. Esposito indicated that he could review the matter, but it might be a function of the decrease in the debt service portion of the budget or an increase in the total assessed valuation of the Township.

Dates To Remember:

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.**