

LONG HILL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
JANUARY 26, 2009

The Long Hill Township Board of Education held a Regular Monthly Meeting on Monday, January 26, 2009 in the Gillette Board Office. The meeting was called to order by Board President Suzanne Becker at 7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Blocker, Mr. Butterworth, Mr. Carbone, Mr. Dreyer,  
Mr. Meringolo, Mrs. Nyquist, Mrs. Scanlon, Ms. Becker.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. McCarthy.

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Rovtar, Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. Esposito, Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
Mrs. Harrington, Township Committee Liaison  
Mrs. Franklin, LHEA Co-President  
3 township residents

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Ms. Becker led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADEQUATE NOTICE OF MEETING:

Adequate notice of this meeting of the Long Hill Township Board of Education was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act as follows:

Notice was sent to the Courier News, Echoes Sentinel or the Daily Record on April 28, 2008. Notice was posted on the bulletin board in the first floor entrance hall of the School District Administration Building, Gillette, New Jersey. Notices were filed with the Township Clerk; and notices were mailed to all persons who have requested individual notice pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act.

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance – Mr. Dreyer said that the committee met prior to the meeting and talked about the budget. He also stated the committee reviewed the bills list and all is in order for payment.

Negotiations – Mr. Meringolo stated that the committee is meeting on January 28 with our insurance broker and our negotiator. The LHEA has sent the Board a letter asking to begin negotiations.

Ms. Becker said that she went to a meeting of the Sending Districts Council this week. They discussed district budgets and curriculum issues. They also discussed regionalization/consolidation and the state of the K-12 district. They will meet once more to talk about each district's respective 2009-2010 budget.

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Dr. Rovtar reported on the following:

- Accountability Regulations require that the Executive County Superintendent form a committee for regionalization of K-8 and non-operating districts. Dr. Rovtar will represent Long Hill Township in the Somerset County group.
- The State has asked all districts to freeze spending immediately.
- Potential that "flat" State Aid may be the best outcome for schools this year.
- Much of the budget process is either unknown or delayed.

#### BOARD SECRETARY'S UPDATE

Mr. Esposito reported the bid opening for the privatization of custodial and maintenance services is tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. The bids will be reviewed and analyzed; the attorney will also review the information before any recommendation is made to the Board.

#### COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

At this point, the Board of Education welcomes comments from any member of the public. Please note that as per Board Policy #1120, a total of fifteen (15) minutes is allocated for public comments at any single Board meeting. In order to provide residents the opportunity to comment, individual speakers are limited to three minutes each at any particular Board meeting. The Board may extend these time limits at its discretion.

MRS. HARRINGTON, in her capacity as Township liaison to the Board, volunteered to help the district in any way in the regionalization process.

MR. GIANAKIS asked about resolution #12. Dr. Rovtar stated it should say "4" students, not 2. Mr. Gianakis also asked how someone should ask the Board a question if they can't make a meeting and Ms. Becker responded.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. It was moved by Mr. Carbone and seconded by Mrs. Scanlon that the following minutes of the Long Hill Township Board of Education be accepted as presented and made part of the public record:

APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES

Jan. 12, 2009 – Regular Meeting – Public Session

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution #1:

YES: Mr. Blocker	Mr. Dreyer	Mrs. Nyquist
		Mrs. Scanlon
Mr. Carbone	Mr. Meringolo	Ms. Becker

NO: None.

Mr. Butterworth abstained on resolution #1.

Resolution #1 carried 7-0-1.

It was moved by Mr. Meringolo and seconded by Mrs. Scanlon that the Long Hill Township Board of Education approve the following recommendations of the Superintendent numbered 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10.

Any Board Member who takes exception to any of the following actions may reserve the right to object now, and a separate motion for each of the excepted actions will be entertained.

2. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education approve the List of Bills for January 15 – 26, 2009 for payment as follows:

APPROVAL OF  
BILLS LIST

Bill List for January 15 – 26, 2009:

Fund 10	\$ -0-
Current Expense-Fund 11	\$ 359,424.14
Capital Outlay-Fund 12	\$ -0-
Special Revenue Fund-Fund 20	\$ 20,598.72
Capital Projects-Fund 30	\$ -0-
Debt Services-Fund 40	\$ 923,140.63
Total	\$1,303,163.49

3. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2.13(E), certifies that as of October 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.

APPROVAL OF  
OCT. BD. SEC.  
REPORT

4. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education accept the financial reports of the Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Funds for the month ending October 31, 2008.

APPROVAL OF  
OCT. TREAS.  
REPORT

5. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, approve the transfers for October, 2008.

APPROVAL OF  
TRANSFERS

6. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, in conjunction with the Watchung Hills Regional High School District, will conduct the Annual School Election on Tuesday, April 21, 2009 at which time the polls will be open from 2:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF  
ELECTION

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education set the date and time for the drawing for position on the ballot for the voting machine in connection with the 2009 Annual School Election for 3:00 p.m. on March 11, 2009.

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

RENEWAL IN  
MEIG  
INSURANCE  
GROUP

WHEREAS, said Pool was approved effective February 10, 1984 by the New Jersey Commissioner of Insurance and has been in operation since that date and;

WHEREAS, the Pool contains elaborate restrictions and safeguards concerning the safe and efficient administration of the public interest entrusted to such a Pool, and;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Long Hill Township has determined that membership in the **MORRIS ESSEX INSURANCE GROUP** is in the best interest of the District;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Education of Long Hill Township does hereby agree to renew membership in the **MORRIS ESSEX INSURANCE GROUP** and hereby accept the Bylaws as approved and adopted. The renewal term is from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2011;

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

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

8. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, authorize the Superintendent to apply for the following Investors Savings Bank Charitable Foundation grant:

APPLICATION FOR GRANT

<u>Purpose of Grant</u>	<u>Amount Requested</u>
Acquisition of Versa Trans Bus Routing Software	\$11,460.00

9. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, accept the funds for the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) Fiscal Year 2009 as follows:

ACCEPTANCE OF NCLB FUNDS

Title II Part A	\$23,120
Title IV	\$ 1,733

10. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Director of Special Services and the Business Administrator, cancel the district’s transportation contract with the Somerset County Educational Services Commission for student #999903 effective January 23, 2009. The student will no longer need transportation to the previous placement.

CANCELLATION  
OF TRANSP.  
CONTRACT

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolutions 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10:

YES: Mr. Blocker      Mr. Dreyer      Mrs. Nyquist  
      Mr. Butterworth      Mrs. Scanlon  
      Mr. Carbone      Mr. Meringolo      Ms. Becker

NO: None.

Resolutions 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10 carried 8-0.

It was moved by Mr. Blocker and seconded by Mr. Carbone that the Long Hill Township Board of Education approve the following recommendations of the Superintendent numbered 11,12,13.

Any Board Member who takes exception to any of the following actions may reserve the right to object now, and a separate motion for each of the excepted actions will be entertained.

11. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Business Administrator and the Director of Special Services approve the payment of \$2,600.00 to Dr. Vanna Amorapanth for four neuro-developmental evaluations (\$650.00 each) for students #7140608289, #9668020560, #124 and #125.

APPROVAL OF  
PAYMENT TO DR.  
AMORAPANTH

12. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Business Administrator and the Director of Special Services, cancel the district’s tuition contract with The Phoenix Center effective January 23, 2009. Student #999903 has been discharged from this school placement as per the school’s request.

TUITION  
CONTRACT  
CANCELLED



16. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the submission of the Long Hill Township School District's 2009-2010 Local Professional Development Plan to the Morris County Professional Development Board.

APPROVAL OF  
PROF. DEVELOP.  
PLAN

17. RESOLVED that the Long Hill Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, approve the following revision to the 2009-2010 District Calendar:

APPROVAL OF  
CALENDAR  
CHANGE

Change Thursday, October 29, 2009 from a full day to a four-hour session day for parent/teacher conferences

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolutions 14,15,16,17:

YES: Mr. Blocker	Mr. Dreyer	Mrs. Nyquist
Mr. Blocker		Mrs. Scanlon
Mr. Carbone	Mr. Meringolo	Ms. Becker

NO: None.

Resolutions 14,15,16,17 carried 8-0.



ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Nyquist reminded Board Members of the e-mail she sent out regarding training sessions they have attended the past year.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Becker noted that it is time to think about Superintendent and Board Secretary evaluations. School Boards has a service that collects Board Member data and will tally it at no cost.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

MR. GIANAKIS asked about maintenance costs and Mr. Esposito responded.

It was moved by Mrs. Nyquist and seconded by Mrs. Scanlon that the Long Hill Township Board of Education go into private session for the purpose of discussing negotiations with the Long Hill Education Association and the contract with the district's architect.

PRIVATE  
SESSION

Disclosure of the above will be permitted following formal action by the Board at an open public meeting. Formal action is anticipated as soon as these matters are no longer of a confidential nature. Motion carried 8-0. Into private session at 8:05 p.m.

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It was moved by Mr. Blocker and seconded by Mr. Meringolo that the Board return to public session. Motion carried 8-0. Into public session at 8:49 p.m.

PUBLIC  
SESSION

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It was moved by Mr. Butterworth and seconded by Mr. Carbone that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried 8-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

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FUTURE MEETING DATES

February 9, 2009 – Worksession Meeting – Gillette Board Office – 7:30 p.m.

February 23, 2009 – Regular Meeting – Gillette Board Office – 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Esposito  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Dr. René Rovtar  
Superintendent

JE:mh