

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION
NORTH HUNTERDON-VOORHEES REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
HUNTERDON COUNTY, NJ**

Meeting Location - District Administration Office
1445 Route 31, Annandale, NJ 08801
August 15, 2017
7:00 p.m. Public Hearing and Regular Meeting

Mission Statement

The North Hunterdon-Voorhees Regional High School District, a district committed to innovation, personal excellence, high achievement, and community partnership, provides all students with personalized opportunities through a broad spectrum of exemplary educational experiences to develop their fullest potential, to foster lifelong learning, and to become responsible citizens in a continually changing society.

At 7:00 pm, Board President, F. Goger called the meeting to order and led the opening activities.

1. **Call to Order** - Francis Goger, Board President
2. **Open Public Meeting Act Statement**
 - 2.1. In accordance with the requirements of the Open Public Meeting Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., adequate notice of the meeting has been provided by posting of notice at North Hunterdon High School and Voorhees High School, delivery by facsimile to the Hunterdon County Democrat and the Star Ledger; and by delivery by mail and facsimile to the clerks of Bethlehem Township, Califon Borough, Town of Clinton, Clinton Township, Franklin Township, Glen Gardner Borough, Hampton Borough, High Bridge Borough, Lebanon Borough, Lebanon Township, Tewksbury Township and Union Township as well as other interested parties.
3. **Fire Code Announcement**
 - 3.1. In compliance with the NJ Fire Code, fire exits are located in the direction indicated. In case of fire, you will be signaled by bell and / or public address system. If so alerted to fire, please move in a calm and orderly fashion to the nearest smoke-free exit. At this time, please silence all cell phones.
4. **Roll Call**

Lisa Approvato - present	Clinton Township / Lebanon Borough
Robert Becker - arrived at 7:12 pm	Califon Borough / Tewksbury Township
Francis Goger - present	Bethlehem Township / Hampton Borough
Amy Masters - present	Union Township
John Melick - present	Califon Borough / Tewksbury Township

Thomas Roll - present	High Bridge Borough / Lebanon Township
John Roncoroni - absent	High Bridge Borough / Lebanon Township
Sandra Seidorf - absent	Clinton Township / Lebanon Borough
Roger Straight - present	Clinton Township / Lebanon Borough
Marc Strauss - present	Clinton Township / Lebanon Borough
Jessica Viotto - present	Town of Clinton / Franklin Township / Glen Gardner Borough
Megan Wranitz - present	Town of Clinton / Franklin Township / Glen Gardner Borough

Also Present: J. Bender, Superintendent of Schools, S. Press, Business Administrator / Board Secretary, R. Bergacs, Principal, North Hunterdon High School, R. Peterson, Principal, Voorhees High School, Greg Cottrell, Assistant Principal, North Hunterdon High School, M. P. Publicover, Director of Special Services, G. Vargas-Dellacasa, Technology Coordinator, M. Smagala, Communications Coordinator, T. Moore, Board Attorney, Riker Danzig, Scherer, Hyland, Perretti.

Approximately fifteen members of the public were present.

5. **Flag Salute**
6. **Public Hearing** - Proposed addendum to the contract of the Superintendent of Schools. F. Goger called for a motion to adopt the following motion which he read: Motion to amend the employment contract for Jeffrey Bender, Superintendent, North Hunterdon-Voorhees Regional High School District to a base salary of \$174,689 for the remaining term of the contract retroactive to 7/1/2017. This motion was the only item, (item 1.1) presented on Personnel hand carry P08152017-02. F. Goger called for comments or questions from the public; there were none. **Motion**, by R. Straight, second by A. Masters, the **motion carried** unanimously upon a roll call vote [R. Becker was not present for this vote].
7. **Opportunity for Public Comment on Agenda Items**
 - 7.1. District employee, Abigail Makoski, asked if Board members received her letter of intent to rescind her letter of resignation. Receipt of the letter was acknowledged.
8. **Superintendent's Report** - Superintendent, J. Bender reported the following:
 - 8.1. Report on Harassment, Intimidation & Bullying (HIB)
 - 8.2. **Motion** by R. Straight, second by J. Melick to affirm the Superintendent's determinations on the HIB incidents reported at the June 20, 2017 board meeting; the motion **carried unanimously**.

9. **President's Report** - Board President, F. Goger reported the following:
 - 9.1. September 8, 2017 - 4:30 p.m. - New Jersey School Boards Association deadline for submission of nominations for 2017 New Jersey Board of Education Member of the Year <https://www.njsba.org/awards-programs/board-member-year/>
 - 9.2. September 19, 2017 - regular board meeting - 7:00 p.m. - Voorhees High School Cafeteria
 - 9.3. **Motion** by R. Straight, second by J. Viotto to approve the 2018 Board meeting calendar; the **motion carried** unanimously.
10. **Committee Reports**
 - 10.1. **Community Relations / Student Affairs** - M. Wranitz reported that the committee recommends using the services of New Jersey School Boards Association for strategic planning. The committee also reviewed updates about staff changes.
 - 10.2. **Policy** - M. Strauss reported that policy changes appear on the agenda and that the committee plans to review all Board policies.
 - 10.3. **Curriculum, Instruction & Technology** - L. Approvato reported that the committee reviewed student test results, discussed the opening of school, new schedule, and articulation.
 - 10.4. **Personnel** - L. Approvato commented on the successful search to fill vacancies and the utilization of an ad hoc committee during the selection process.
11. **Motion** by R. Straight, second by J. Melick to approve new textbook purchases; the **motion carried** upon a roll call vote with one abstention by R. Becker, who arrived at the meeting at the start of the roll call for this vote.
12. **Motion** by R. Straight, second by L. Approvato to approve action items 13.1 through 17.9. The **motion carried** with the following abstentions M. Strauss, M. Wranitz, and R. Straight on item 16.10, minutes for a meeting they did not attend; and R. Straight on action item 16.8, check number 018980, conflict of interest. [It was at a point later in the meeting, when R. Straight commented that he was amending his vote to record his abstention on action item 16.8, check number 018980, conflict of interest].
13. **Curriculum, Instruction and Technology**
 - 13.1. Home instruction / out-of district-placement
 - 13.2. Out-of-district placement extended school year for 2017-2018
 - 13.3. Out-of-district placement for 2017-2018 school year
 - 13.4. Revised appointment of school officials
 - 13.5. Pursuant to NJAC 6A:14-1.1 approve agreements with School Districts to reimburse the North Hunterdon-Voorhees Regional High School District for home instruction services at a rate of \$63.97 for instruction and \$0.31 per mile
 - 13.6. Prevention program agreement with Hunterdon Drug Awareness Program, Inc. of Flemington, NJ in the amount of \$10,000 for the 2017-2018 school year at North Hunterdon High School
 - 13.7. Renewal of the Affiliation Agreements with Hunterdon Medical Center to provide school based services to North Hunterdon and Voorhees High School for 2017-2018

- 13.8. Agreement with Foundation for Educational Administration, of Monroe Township, NJ in the amount of \$2,000, for the provision of a staff legal training program
- 13.9. Agreement with Mind of the Athlete, LLC of Bethlehem, PA for the provision of three Athletic Leadership Academy presentations in the amount of \$2,500 per presentation at North Hunterdon High School
- 13.10. Agreement with Evolution Labs of Morristown, NJ, in the amount of \$5,000, for the provision of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying programs for both North Hunterdon High School and Voorhees High School
- 13.11. Addendum agreement with S4Teachers, LLC of Cherry Hill, NJ for services of substitute teachers and staff
- 14. **Student Activities**
 - 14.1. North Hunterdon High School and Voorhees High School booster clubs and parent organizations for the 2017-2018 school year pursuant to Policy 0210 and its regulations
- 15. **Policy**
 - 15.1. Second reading of board policies
 - 15.2. First and only reading of board regulations
- 16. **Finance**
 - 16.1. Acceptance of the NJ Department of Education Final Determination of Educational Adequacy letter (FEA) for the Bio Medical Lab renovation at North Hunterdon High School - state project # 3660-050-17-5000
 - 16.2. Acceptance of the NJ Department of Education Final Educational Adequacy letter for the Library / Technology Center renovation at Voorhees High School - state project # 3660-060-16-3000
 - 16.3. Acceptance of the NJ Department of Education Final Educational Adequacy letter for the Visitor Bleacher Planking Replacement at North Hunterdon High School state project # 3660-050-16-6000
 - 16.4. Appointment of Riverfield Family Health Center of Flemington, NJ as Voorhees High School medical inspector in the amount of \$7,500 for 2017-2018
 - 16.5. Tuition contract agreement in the amount of \$630,270 with Hunterdon County Polytech of Flemington, NJ for 2017-2018
 - 16.6. Agreement with Computer Solutions, Inc. (CSI) in the amount of \$14,808 for software support services for 2017-2018
 - 16.7. Resolution BR81517-01 for student meals at the Willowglen Academy of Sussex County, NJ
 - 16.8. List of bills in the amount of \$8,340,219.68
 - 16.9. Cancelled checks
 - 16.10. Minutes June 20, 2017
 - 16.11. Treasurer's report May 2017
 - 16.12. Transfer report May 2017
 - 16.13. Treasurer's report June 2017
 - 16.14. Transfer report June 2017
 - 16.15. Staff training / travel requests

17. **Buildings, Grounds, Capital Improvements and Transportation**
 - 17.1. Agreement with DMR Architects of Hasbrouck Heights, NJ, to provide professional services, including DOE submission, for a replacement exterior school sign at Voorhees High School
 - 17.2. Agreement with DMR Architects of Hasbrouck Heights, NJ, to provide professional services, including DOE submission, for structural repairs to stair towers at North Hunterdon High School
 - 17.3. Agreement with DMR Architects of Hasbrouck Heights, NJ, to provide professional services, including DOE submission, for the installation of an above ground storage tank at the District Office
 - 17.4. Pursuant to a bid opening on July 27, 2017, award a contract to Tri-Form Construction, of Metuchen, NJ, in the amount of \$1,344,000 for the renovations of the Libraries at North Hunterdon High School, state project #3660-050-16-6000 and Voorhees High School, state project #3660-060-16-3000
 - 17.5. Amended annual temporary facility approvals for 2017-2018
 - 17.6. Parental contract for student transportation for 2016-2017, route number W16171 in the amount of \$3,228
 - 17.7. Rescind action item M 6.2 on the June 20, 2017 agenda for the parent transportation contracts for the Extended School Year for 2017-2018
 - 17.8. Joint transportation agreement with Hunterdon Central Regional High School of Flemington, NJ for 2016-2017 for route #97958 in the amount of \$8,625
 - 17.9. Transportation renewal contracts for the 2017-2018 school year
18. **Second Opportunity for Public Comment on General Matters**
 - 18.1. There were no comments.
19. **Old and New Business**
 - 19.1. Regionalization - under review
 - 19.2. Progress towards Ad Hoc Committee / Regionalization - pending
 - 19.3. J. Melick asked F. Goger to comment on the last Presidents' roundtable meeting. F. Goger reported that Gwen Thornton, of NJSBA, led a group workshop and discussion with a focus on identification of articulation interests and priorities. J. Melick followed up with an inquiry about any discussion focused on declining enrollment and regionalization. A discussion ensued; it was the consensus of the Board to add the topic of validation and utilization of the demographic study as a starting point for determining next steps.
 - 19.4. M. Strauss inquired about public access to athletic fields at North Hunterdon High School and about the school buses and student transport during an emergency. J. Bender responded that signs will be posted for the fields and that the Hunterdon County ESC was prepared to transport students.
20. **Monthly Reports**
21. **Motion** by R. Straight, second by A. Masters to approve action item 22, Resolution for Executive Session, as read by the Board President. The **motion carried** unanimously and the Board adjourned to executive session at approximately 7:30 p.m.

22. Board President, F. Goger read the following: **Resolution: Executive Session**
Whereas Section 7 of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, authorizes a public body to exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which the Board discusses topics falling within certain specified exceptions to the requirement for open public meetings, and Whereas the matters to be discussed fall within one or more of those exceptions, now therefore be it Resolved that the Board of Education of the North Hunterdon-Voorhees Regional High School District now adjourns from public session to executive session for the purpose of discussing the following:
- 22.1. Personnel - recommendations for appointments, separations, changes in assignment and leaves of absence
 - 22.2. Pending and threatened litigation and matters falling within the attorney-client privilege
 - 22.3. Executive session minutes June 20, 2017
23. **Motion** by R. Straight, second by A. Masters to reconvene Public Session. The **motion carried** unanimously; and the Board reconvened in public session at approximately 8:25 p.m.
24. **Motion** by R. Straight, second by L. Approvato to approve hand carried items included on HCB81517-01. The **motion carried** unanimously upon a roll call vote.
25. **Motion** by R. Straight, second by R. Becker to approve action items 25.1 to 25.2. The **motion carried** upon a roll call vote with all in favor and the following exceptions: M. Wranitz voted no on action items 5.2.3, 6.2.1, and 6.2.6 as included on personnel agenda P08152017; and abstentions by M. Strauss, M. Wranitz, and R. Straight on action item 25.2 minutes for a meeting they did not attend.
- 25.1. Personnel agenda -P08152017
 - 25.2. Executive session minutes June 20, 2017
26. **Motion** by R. Straight, second by L. Approvato to adjourn. The **motion carried** unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Press

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School Business Administrator / Board Secretary