

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR VOTING MEETING
MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2020

Pursuant to notices sent to each member of the Board of Education, the regular voting meeting was held on Wednesday, March 18, 2020 in the High School North Library, 63 Tindall Road, Middletown, NJ

1. **Call to Order** by the Board President and Reading of Sunshine Announcement – at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Roll Call**
Present: Leonora Caminiti and Joan Minnuies
Remote Access: Nick DiFranco, Michael Donlon, Tom Giaimo, John Little, Deborah Wright, Robin Stella and Pam Rogers
Also Present: Dr. George, Amy Doherty and Lester Taylor, Esq.
3. **Student Speakers:** None
4. **Resolution for Executive Session** At 7:02 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. DiFranco, seconded by Mrs. Stella to go into executive session for; personnel and student matters. Motion carried on a voice vote
5. **Call to Order by the Board President and Re-Reading of Sunshine Announcement** – at 7:33 p.m.
6. **Roll Call**
Present: Leonora Caminiti and Joan Minnuies
Remote Access: Nick DiFranco, Michael Donlon, Tom Giaimo, John Little, Deborah Wright, Robin Stella and Pam Rogers
Also Present: Dr. George, Amy Doherty and Lester Taylor, Esq.
7. **Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence**
 - *Jeffrey Smayda, Chief Custodian at High School South, passed away on 2/26/2020. Jeff has been working with the district since August of 1996. Our thoughts are with his family, friends and co-workers.*
8. **Public Comment on Agenda Items Only (Limit 30 minutes)**
 - Susan Scerbo and Bradley Moore commented on paraprofessional pay.
 - Rachael Kanapka (Online access) commented on employee benefits and tentative budget.
9. **Proclamations**
 - A. National Autism Awareness Month

Whereas, We celebrate our students affected by autism on April 2nd, World Autism Awareness Day and throughout the month of April,

Whereas, autism is a pervasive developmental disorder affecting the social, learning and behavioral skill of those affected by it, and,

Whereas, autism was once thought to be a relatively rare disorder, affecting only one in 10,000 people, and,

Whereas, as more and more health professionals become proficient in diagnosing autism, more children are being diagnosed on the autistic spectrum, resulting in rates as low as one in 88 children.

Whereas, while there is no cure for autism, it is well-documented that if an individual with autism receives treatment early in their lives, it is often possible for that individual to make significant improvement, and,

Whereas, Middletown Township schools have pioneered a public school Autistic Program and have excelled with devoted administrators, teachers, paraprofessionals, speech pathologists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, and child study teams.

Now, therefore be it resolved that, we, the Middletown Board of Education, do hereby proclaim April as Autism Awareness Month in the Middletown Township Public Schools, and urge all employees and

students to participate in our Autism Awareness Month activities, in order to become better educated on the subject of autistic spectrum disorders.

B. Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month

April has been designated as Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, all children deserve to be nurtured, protected and free from physical or emotional harm; and

WHEREAS, the maltreatment, abuse and neglect of children is a significant social problem that damages children physically, mentally and emotionally and inflicts immeasurable harm on society as a whole; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey and the New Jersey Department of Children and Families believe that the best place to raise children is among strong, healthy families; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey is committed to building a continuum of community-based child abuse prevention and intervention programs that are culturally competent, strength-based and family-centered, and support and empower survivors of domestic violence to achieve positive outcomes for children and families; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Children and Families embraces the Standards for Prevention Programs developed by the New Jersey Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect; and

WHEREAS, all sectors of the community, including law enforcement, medical professionals, schools, courts and media outlets, as well as numerous public and private agencies, have joined forces to promote public awareness and community involvement in strengthening families during the month of April and continuing throughout the year;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Pam Rogers, Serving as Board President, and on behalf of the Middletown Board of Education, Do hereby proclaim April as Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month in New Jersey and urge our residents to become involved in efforts aimed at strengthening families and communities and preventing our children from being abused and neglected.

Motion made by Mrs. Wright seconded by Mr. Donlon for approval of **item #9A&B** Motion carried on a voice vote:

Ayes: (9) Mrs. Caminiti, Mr. DiFranco, Mr. Donlon, Mr. Giaimo, Mr. Little, Mrs. Minnuies, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Stella and Mrs. Rogers

Noes: (0)

10. Motion to Approve Minutes

- Executive Session – 2/26/20
- Regular Voting Meeting – 2/26/20

Motion made by Mr. DiFranco seconded by Mr. Donlon for approval of **item #10**. Motion carried on a voice vote:

Ayes: (9) Mrs. Caminiti, Mr. DiFranco, Mr. Donlon, Mr. Giaimo, Mr. Little, Mrs. Minnuies, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Stella and Mrs. Rogers

Noes: (0)

11. Reports

A. Report of the President – Mrs. Rogers thanked the administration, teaching staff and the Township for the implementation of virtual home learning for the students.

B. Report of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary

1. Motion to approve Bill List for the period of February 27, 2020 through March 18, 2020, as per *Attachment BA-3 Bill List*
2. Approval of transfers for February 2020, as per *Attachments BA-2 Transfers*
3. Motion to accept the Report of the Secretary for the month of February 2020, as per *Attachments BA-1 Report of Secretary*
4. Motion to accept the Board Secretary's certification that no major budget line item has been over-expended for the month of February 2020

Motion made by Mr. Donlon seconded by Mr. DiFranco for approval of **item #11B1-4**. Motion carried on a voice vote:
 Ayes: (9) Mrs. Caminiti, Mr. DiFranco, Mr. Donlon, Mr. Giaimo, Mr. Little, Mrs. Minnuies, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Stella and Mrs. Rogers
 Noes: (0)

C. Report of the Superintendent

1. The Superintendent Report on Harassment Intimidation and Bullying is affirmed by the Board of Education, as per *Attachment Superintendent-1 HIB*
2. The Superintendent Report on incidents of Violence, Vandalism, Weapons & Substance Abuse is affirmed by the Board of Education for the month of February:

District Tally	2019				2020					
	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June
Violence	2	7	1	0	2	5				
Vandalism	0	0	1	0	2	0				
Weapons	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Substance Abuse	4	8	2	3	7	6				

3. The Superintendent of Schools recommends the approval of the twelve-month employee calendar for Teamsters, Maintenance and Facilities Staff for the 2020-2021 school year, as per *Attachment Superintendent-2 Calendar*

Motion made by Mr. DiFranco seconded by Mr. Donlon for approval of **item #11C1-3**. Motion carried on a voice vote:
 Ayes: (9) Mrs. Caminiti, Mr. DiFranco, Mr. Donlon, Mr. Giaimo, Mr. Little, Mrs. Minnuies, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Stella and Mrs. Rogers
 Noes: (2) Mrs. Caminiti (1&3) and Mrs. Minnuies (1&3)

4. Resolution to Approve Tentative Proposed 2020-2021 School District Budget:
BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the tentative proposed 2020-2021 School District Budget; using the 2020-2021 state aid figures;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, to approve the use of banked cap in the amount of \$1,059,281 in the proposed 2020-2021 tentative budget to offset state aid reductions;
 and the Secretary to the Board of Education be authorized to submit the following tentative budget to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval in accordance with the statutory deadline and to advertise said tentative budget in the Asbury Park Press in accordance with the form suggested by the State Department of Education and according to law as follows:

General Fund	\$167,724,693
General Fund Tax Levy	\$147,549,892
Special Revenue Fund (<i>no tax levy – grant funds</i>)	\$ 4,100,746
Debt Service	\$ 7,056,218
Debt Service Tax Levy	\$ 5,642,206

Capital Reserve Account Withdrawal

WHEREAS the Middletown Township Board of Education requests the approval of a capital reserve withdrawal in the amount of \$667,653. The District intends to utilize these funds for the following projects:

Project	Total
Roofing repairs	\$127,000
Classroom clock/PA replacements	\$182,897
HS Gym Dividers	\$ 36,000
Classroom upgrades-blinds/shelving	\$ 61,800
Sidewalk/Concrete repairs/install	\$ 74,400
Flooring	\$ 67,000
HSS Media Center improvements	\$ 80,056
Fencing improvements	\$ 11,000
Ceiling/Door/Wall repairs	<u>\$ 27,500</u>
TOTAL	\$667,653

Maintenance Reserve Account Withdrawal

WHEREAS the Middletown Township Board of Education requests the approval of a maintenance reserve withdrawal in the amount of \$250,000. The District intends to utilize these funds to offset required maintenance activities for the 2020-2021 school year.

Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement 2020-2021

WHEREAS, the Middletown Township Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.2 et seq. requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

WHEREAS, a Board of Education may establish, for regular district business travel as defined in NJAC 6A:23A-1.2, which includes attendance at regularly scheduled in-State county meetings, Department or Association sponsored events or in-State professional development activities for which the registration fee does not exceed \$150.00 per employee or board member, where prior Board approval shall not be required unless the annual threshold for a staff member exceeds \$1,500 in a given school year (July 1 through June 30); and

WHEREAS, the Middletown Township Board of Education established \$200,000 as the maximum travel amount for the current school year (2019-2020) and has expended \$115,473 as of this date; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A-7.3, to a maximum expenditure of **\$200,000** for all staff and board members for the 2020-2021 school year.

Motion made by Mr. DiFranco seconded by Mrs. Stella for approval of **item #11C4**. Motion carried on a roll call vote:

Ayes: (6) Mrs. Caminiti, Mr. DiFranco, Mr. Giaimo, Mr. Little, Mrs. Minnuies, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Stella and Mrs. Rogers

Noes: (3) Mrs. Caminiti, Mr. Donlon and Mrs. Minnuies

12. Recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools

A. Technology (David Siwiak)

B. Student Services (Michele Tiedemann)

1. Recommend approval for home instruction:

<u>Student ID</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
309653	1/22/2020	4/28/2020
311700	2/24/2020	3/24/2020
14249	2/14/2020	4/14/2020
14104	2/25/2020	4/10/2020
308340	2/25/2020	6/30/2020
13488	2/25/2020	3/26/2020
13726	2/22/2020	3/22/2020
20267	2/6/2020	2/16/2020
17425	1/16/2020	6/19/2020
22593	12/2/2019	6/18/2020
12427	2/3/2020	3/2/2020
11834	1/27/2020	3/27/2020
311732	2/4/2020	4/4/2020
312427	2/25/2020	3/25/2020
305016	3/2/2020	5/2/2020
10579	1/31/2020	3/31/2020
12339	1/4/2020	5/4/2020
15897	3/5/2020	5/5/2020
19047	2/13/2020	4/13/2020
10579	2/27/2020	4/3/2020
309993	2/27/2020	4/27/2020
311713	1/24/2020	3/24/2020
21885	3/5/2020	5/5/2020
14308	2/15/2020	4/15/2020

2. Approval for new Out of District Placement:

<u>Student</u>	<u>Placement</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>Cost per diem</u>
22954	MOESC-Alt Interim Program	2/5/20	\$300.00

3. Approval of Extended School Year Program to be established from July 1, 2020 through August 6, 2020, as follows:
 - Primary students - Harmony Elementary School
 - Secondary students - Thorne Middle School

Motion made by Mr. Donlon seconded by Mr. DiFranco for approval of **item #12B1-3**. Motion carried on a voice vote:
Ayes: (9) Mrs. Caminiti, Mr. DiFranco, Mr. Donlon, Mr. Giaimo, Mr. Little, Mrs. Minnuies, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Stella and Mrs. Rogers
Noes: (0)

C. Facilities (Amy Doherty)

D. Policy (Amy Doherty)

E. Curriculum (Kim Pickus) WITHDRAWN

- ~~1. Recommend approval of staff to attend conferences, workshops, in-services and seminars, as per Attachment Curriculum 1 Professional Development (Strategic Planning Student Success)~~

F. Finance (Amy Doherty)

1. Request approval pursuant to 18A:18A-4.1 et seq. and 40A:11-4.5 of RFP 20-02 Before/After Care School Program to the vendor who met the evaluation criteria (five RFPs received 1/31/20) to The Community YMCA.
2. Approval of the following Athletic Transportation Quotation:
 - a) Irvin Raphael, Inc.
 - o Middletown HS South – Spring Outdoor Track
Total season cost: \$15,000
 - o Thompson Middle School – Spring Outdoor Track
Total season cost: \$2,600
 - o Middletown HS South – Softball
Total season cost: \$3,250
Account#: 11-000-270-512-00-000
 - b) St. George Bus Company
 - o Middletown HS South Track to Ocean Breeze Athletic Complex, Staten Island on Sunday, March 8, 2020 in the amount of \$284.
3. Approval of Agreement for Participation in Coordinated Transportation Services with Somerset County Educational Services Commission for the 2020-2021 school year, as per *Attachment Finance-1 ESC*

Motion made by Mrs. Stella seconded by Mr. DiFranco for approval of **item #12F1-3**. Motion carried on a voice vote:
Ayes: (9) Mrs. Caminiti, Mr. DiFranco, Mr. Donlon, Mr. Giaimo, Mr. Little, Mrs. Minnuies, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Stella and Mrs. Rogers
Noes: (0)

G. Student Activities (Mary Ellen Walker)

1. Approval of suspension report, as per *Attachment Student Activities-1*
2. Approval of agreement between Middletown Township Board of Education and Volleyball in Middletown, as per *Attachment Student Activities-2 VIM*

Motion made by Mr. DiFranco seconded by Mr. Donlon for approval of **item #12G1-2**. Motion carried on a voice vote:
Ayes: (9) Mrs. Caminiti, Mr. DiFranco, Mr. Donlon, Mr. Giaimo, Mr. Little, Mrs. Minnuies, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Stella and Mrs. Rogers
Noes: (0)

H. Negotiations (Dr. George / Amy Doherty)

I. Personnel (Kim Pickus) Note: All appointments of District staff are contingent upon satisfying the requirements of the Criminal History Review Unit

1. Approval of Retirements:

- a. Anna Aversano – Confidential Secretary, Business Office effective 8/1/20
- b. Sonia Leal – Spanish, New Monmouth/Nut Swamp/River Plaza effective 7/1/20

2. Approval of Resignations:

- a. Danielle Fehlhaber – Guidance Counselor, HS South effective 4/4/20
- b. Margaret Mercantante – Paraprofessional, Bayview effective 3/7/20
- c. Justine Tumulty – English, HS South effective 7/1/20

3. Approval of Leave of Absence:

- a. Susan Calabro – Student Info Systems and Enrollment Manager, District effective:
3/12/20 – 9/1/20 – unpaid by District, NJ Family Leave Act (Intermittent)
- b. Diane Jones – French, HS North effective:
5/18/20 – 6/30/20 – paid leave
9/1/20 – 11/20/20 – unpaid by District, NJ Family Leave Act
Acct #: 11-140-100-101-01-000
- c. Nicole Kelly – Co-Teacher, Bayview effective:
5/27/20 – 6/30/20 – paid leave
9/1/20 – 11/30/20 – unpaid by District, NJ Family Leave Act
Acct #: 11-213-100-101-00-000, 11-120-100-101-20-035
- d. Joan Muso – Paraprofessional, HS South effective:
2/20/20 – 3/15/20 – unpaid leave
- e. Jennifer Pennington – Co-Teacher, Middletown Village effective:
4/22/20 – 5/29/20 – paid leave
5/30/20 – 6/12/20 – unpaid by District, Federal Leave Act
Acct #: 11-213-100-101-00-000, 11-120-100-101-20-035
- f. Briana Sarapochillo-Duffy – Grade 2, Nut Swamp effective:
4/27/20 – 6/30/20 – paid leave
9/1/20 – 11/30/20 – unpaid by District, NJ Family Leave Act
Acct #: 11-120-100-101-20-000
- g. Bree Twill – LDTC, Harmony effective:
6/1/20 – 6/30/20 – paid leave
9/1/20 – 10/29/20 – unpaid by District, NJ Family Leave Act
Acct #: 11-000-219-104-00-000

4. Approval to Adjustment of Leave of Absence:

- a. Eric Draesel – Science, HS North effective:
3/16/20 – 3/20/20 – paid leave
3/21/20 – 3/31/20 – unpaid by District, NJ Family Leave Act
Acct #: 11-140-100-101-01-000
- b. Kimberly MacKenzie – Special Education, Thorne effective:
9/1/19 – 10/16/19 – paid leave
10/17/19 – 1/23/20 – unpaid by District, NJ Family Leave Act
1/24/20 – 6/30/20 – unpaid leave
Acct #: 11-213-100-101-00-000, 11-130-100-101-05-000
- c. Alexis Petite – Co-Teacher, Harmony effective:
3/2/20 – 4/13/20 – paid leave
4/14/20 – 5/31/20 – unpaid by District, NJ Family Leave Act
Acct #: 11-213-100-101-00-000, 11-120-100-101-20-035

- 5. Approval of New Hires:
 - a. Richard Cobb – Night Custodian, District
Salary: \$27,826 (pro-rated)(Night Differential)
Effective: Pending Fingerprints – 6/30/20
Acct #: TBD
 - b. Christopher Gulizio – Night Custodian, District
Salary: \$27,826 (pro-rated)(Night Differential)
Effective: Pending Fingerprints – 6/30/20
Acct #: TBD
 - c. Vincent Sexton – Night Custodian, District
Salary: \$27,826 (pro-rated)(Night Differential)
Effective: Pending Fingerprints – 6/30/20
Acct #: TBD
 - d. Robert VanNest – Night Custodian, Bayshore
Salary: \$28,826 (pro-rated)(Night Differential)
Effective: 3/19/20 – 6/30/20
Acct #: 11-000-262-100-03-023
 - e. Nicole Wilson – Guidance Counselor, HS South
Certification(s): School Counselor (Standard)
Salary: MA – Step 3 - \$67,883 (pro-rated)
Effective: 4/13/20 – 6/30/20
Acct #: 11-000-218-104-00-000

- 6. Approval to add the following to the approved substitute personnel effective for the 2019-20 school year:
Substitute Custodian
James Sweeney

- 7. Approval of pre-service teachers to complete fieldwork and internship/student teaching – *Attachment HR 1 Student Teaching*

- 8. Approval of Curriculum Committees – *Attachment HR 2 Curriculum Committees*
ADDENDUM:
 - c. Approval for staff members to plan and instruct **AP Exam Preparatory Courses** and to be compensated at \$45.75/hour (curriculum rate) for up to 3 total hours per teacher per exam prep session (2 hours instruction, 1 hour prep per session)(Strategic Planning Student Success)

Sarah Boyce	Doloris DeMaio	Kelly Matri
Thomas Ballard	Kristen Haar	Jennifer Connelly
Karen Wessel	Teresa Vande Creek	Jennifer Shafer
Thomas Smith	Darren Keenan	Steven Koumoulis
Jacqueline Fischer	Ellen Hill	Andrew Rosenbloom
Kevin Hickey	Dawn Resnick	Julia Fielding
Kara Teehan		

Acct #: 20-280-100-100-20-000

 - d. Approval for **Thompson Mentor Program Steering Committee** for up to 15 hours total per teacher between March 19, 2020 and June 30, 2020 at \$45.75/hour (curriculum rate); Total \$2745.00 (Strategic Planning Student Success)

Danielle Duffy	Pamela Felder	Cara Guglielmo
Thomas Nicholes		

Acct #: 11-421-100-100-00-000

9. Approval of Paraprofessional Assignments (*All paraprofessional appointments subject to budgetary constraints, enrollments, and IEP requirements and may be changed or eliminated during the term of this agreement*) – Attachment HR 3 Paraprofessional Assignments
10. Approval of Coaching – Attachment HR 4 Coaching
11. Approval of Rescission of Leave of Absence:
 - a. Eric Draesel – Science, HS North effective:
3/16/20 – 3/20/20 – paid leave
3/21/20 – 3/31/20 – unpaid by District, NJ Family Leave Act
Acct #: 11-140-100-101-01-000
 - b. Briana Sarapochillo-Duffy – Grade 2, Nut Swamp effective:
4/27/20 – 6/30/20 – paid leave
9/1/20 – 11/30/20 – unpaid by District, NJ Family Leave Act
Acct #: 11-120-100-101-20-000

Motion made by Mr. DiFranco seconded by Mrs. Stella for approval of **item #1211-11**. Motion carried on a voice vote:

Ayes: (9) Mrs. Caminiti, Mr. DiFranco, Mr. Donlon, Mr. Giaimo, Mr. Little, Mrs. Minnuies, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Stella and Mrs. Rogers

Noes: (0)

13. Old Business – none

14. New Business – Mrs. Minnuies commented on teachers, staff and virtual leaning, and the 12 month employee calendars. Dr. George announced that there is a plan to return to a regular educational program on April 13th, following Spring Break.

15. Motion to Adjourn – at 8:15 p.m. motion made by Mrs. Stella, seconded by Mr. DiFranco to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted



Amy P. Doherty

/vrn March 19, 2020