BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
280 ASBURY-WEST PORTAL ROAD
ASBURY, NEW JERSEY 08802
908-479-6336

WORK SESSION MEETING
MINUTES
May 12, 2021

For the Work Session Meeting of the Bethlehem Township Board of Education
being held by video conference call and
video conference on Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER – President Roosen called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE:
In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Law of New Jersey, adequate notice of this meeting was provided by sending notice to: The Hunterdon County Democrat, Bethlehem Township Clerk, email sent to school community and township residents, by posting on the bulletin boards in the Ethel Hoppock Middle School and Thomas B. Conley Schools and by posting notice on the Board of Education website at http://btschools.org/

You are invited to a Zoom webinar -
When: May 12, 2021 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Topic: Bethlehem Township Schools - BOE Work Session Meeting

Pre-register in advance for this webinar:
https://btschools-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_fgDq110AQNe1qrkPNiKs3g

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

IV. ROLL CALL

Mr. Gregory Glazar	*Absent*	*Mr. Travis Roop*	*Present*	*Ms. Rainie Roncoroni, Interim CSA*	*Present*
Mr. Kyle Harris	*Absent*	*Mrs. Debra D. Roosen*	*Present*	*Mrs. Beverly Vlietstra, Interim SBA/BS*	*Present*
Mr. John Logar	*Present*	*Mr. Ryan Caughey*	*Present*	*Ms. Teresa Moore, Attorney*	*Present*
Dr. Alyce Hunter	*Absent*				

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS
Public participation at board meetings is intended to allow individual members of the public to address the Board of Education on issues of public concern. The public comment period is an opportunity for the Board to listen to citizen concerns, but not to debate issues or enter into a question-and-answer session or a "cross examination" between the public and individual members. While all comments made by the public will be taken under advisement, the Board will not respond to comments made by the public.

- Pursuant to Board Policy #0167:
  - all statements from the public must be directed to the President or other presiding officer; no participant may address or question board members individually.

- members of the public who wish to make a statement during the Public Comments portion of the meeting may speak for no more than three (3) minutes.
- members of the public must identify themselves prior to speaking. Please state your name and address, and group affiliation, if appropriate.

- Since this meeting is being held by video conference due to the coronavirus pandemic, if the public wishes to attend, they may do so in these ways:
  - by pre-registering via the link provided on the District website or through the School Messenger email to the educational community, or the link and meeting information immediately before the start or by phone using the numbers provided. **Note:** you must "raise your hand" to speak during the Public Session. To raise your hand, (1) on your computer, click the "Raise Hand" button; once it is your turn and you are given access to speak, click 'unmute' or (2) by phone, on your keypad hit *9; once it is your turn and you are given access to speak, hit *6 to unmute.

  - by sending an email to Mrs. Debra D. Roosen, Board President, at droosen@btschools.org prior to 3:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. In the subject line, please write "public comment" if you wish for your email to be read verbatim during the public comments section of the meeting. The Board will not read comments that identify students in order to protect students' privacy.

- Mayor Baumgarten commented that the committee approved the shared services fuel and they are here to help out in any way with assistance concerning construction or excavation work.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE - None

VII. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Reminder to Board members to complete the CSA evaluation and the Board self-evaluation for the 2021-22 board goals by the end of May. Deadline is June 30, 2021. Mr. Logar inquired about the requirements when a minimal amount of information is known. President Roosen commented it is a QSAC requirement or points are lost and that all Board members will be more familiar with the process next year.
- NJSBA School Board Election will be held on November 2, 2021. Four seats are on the ballet. Deadline to fill out the election kit is July 26, 2021.
- May 15, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. NJSBA will have a virtual delegate assembly regarding policies and a wealth of other information. Deadline to register is May 13, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. Please refer to the NJSBA website. An alternate board member is recommended to keep our voice and vote heard.
- School consolidation survey available on the school and municipal websites for all residents to fill out.

VIII. INTERIM CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

- Great dialog and attendance at our community forum with follow up questions and answers about moving forward with Hoppock and the survey review resulting in 45%. A refined, open-ended survey will be posted on the school website targeting the Prek through sixth grade families and residents without children. Mr. Roop and the community appreciates and thanks Mrs. Roncoroni for all of her elevated communication and follow through.
- Hoppock closure savings due to Covid-19 from mid March-June 2020 and Nov. 29-Jan. 1, 2021 is estimated to be $34,000.
- Question if a Conley Stage was included in the addition needs more research and a consult with the architect.
- Capacity number of Students with the Conley addition is estimated to be approximately 625 students.
- Thank you President Roosen for the 2012 proud honor of Board President and your dedication.
- May 21, 2021 - Eighth Grade Dinner Dance at the Mountain View Chalet.

- May 26, 2021 - Gwen Thornton from NJSBA will present at our next board meeting about governance responsibilities and ethnics.

IX. INTERIM SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY REPORT

A. Discussion - Update on Fire doors at Hoppock School – Quote was awarded. Project to be completed over the summer.

B. ESSER II Grant was filed last week.

C. NJASBO virtual conference in June for Professional Development.

X. FINANCE

MOTION by Mr. Roop, seconded by Mr. Logar to approve letter A.

A. Approval of Student Trips/Events

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board upon recommendation of the Interim Chief School Administrator approve the following student trips/events:

Spring 2021

Presentation to 6th Grade Class at Conley School - Sixth Grade Language Arts class, students are reading and learning about the Holocaust. The students will have the honor of listening to guest speaker, Mrs. Maude Dahme, a Holocaust survivor, tell her story through a virtual presentation on May 20, 2021.

8th Grades - Eighth Grade students to go to The Golf Range in Branchburg, NJ on June 4, 2021 with a rain date of June 7, 2021 as the end of the year graduating class activity. Bus transportation will be provided by Delaware Valley Regional Transportation Services for two buses for a total cost of $552. Eighth Grade students will also participate in Movie night that evening at Conley School. **- Att #1**

6th Grades – All Sixth Grade students from Conley School to visit Hoppock School for tour and orientation to 7th grade. Bus transportation to be arranged for two buses for a cost of $248 on June 3, 2021.

President Roosen is thrilled that the 6th graders are seeing this presentation because she had the honor herself and Mrs. Dahme is a fascinating speaker. Mr. Roop is grateful that Mrs. Dahme included the parents as well. Ms. Lee will inquire about the recording of the presentation for future curricular learning.

On a roll call vote, all present were in favor. Motion passes.

For your review - to be approved at the Regular Meeting on May 26, 2021:

B. Shared Services Agreement with Township of Bethlehem for fuel purchased for vehicles owned and operated by the board - Att #2 – Attorney Moore agrees that the township municipal pumping the gas with a scheduled date and time is a good work around for the provision of property damage.

C. Administrative Transportation Services and Vehicle Maintenance/Inspection Fueling Services for School Buses) from Delaware Valley Regional High School District Transportation Department (DVRHS) for the 2021-2022 School Year - Att #3

XI. POLICY

Second Reading of the following policies on May 26, 2021:

Policy & Regulation #5330.01 - Administration of Cannabis (M) (Revised)
Policy (M) (Revised) & Regulation (M) (New) #7425 - Lead Testing of Water in Schools
Policy #2415.05 - Student Surveys, Analysis, and/or Evaluations (M) (Revised)

Policy & Regulation #2415.20 - Every Student Succeeds Act Complaints (M) (Revised)

Second Reading to Abolish the following policy on May 26, 2021
Policy #2415.03 - Highly Qualified Teacher (M) (Abolished)

Attorney Moore will review Policy #5330.01 and return her recommendation to the Board. Mr. Logar has a few minor editorial comments he will share with Peggy Andrews. The Policy Committee will be happy to proactively look at any policies necessary.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Mayor Baumgarten welcomed Mrs. Roncoroni and looks forward to working together. The fuel agreement can be reworded. Any input from the Board regarding opting out and opting back in down the road.

XIII. OLD BUSINESS - None

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

- **June 8, 2021 - Board Work Session Meeting** – Changed from June 9 and 10, 2021 due to graduation.
- Mr. Logar requests subcommittees meet more often and to expand the agenda. If prior committee meeting minutes are stored, he recommends reading them to see if anything pertains to our current discussions.
- President Roosen commented work sessions are to have discussions before voting so board members are familiar with issues to facilitate a quicker action meeting and have the public aware. The Board should give our new CSA time to come up to speed.
- Mr. Roop commented about being personally concerned with the discontinuance of board experience and that we should be having more discussions on improving education for the children.
- Mr. Caughey agrees about putting more pressing topics on the agenda.
- Mrs. Roncoroni will put the topics on the agenda one week before the meeting and Board members with concerns can bring them to her to be added to the agenda.
- Mr. Logar inquired about the search for a new B.A. Attorney Moore recommends the Board start the process.
- Mr. Logar would like to start the discussion on any upcoming professional services going out to bid.

XV. NOTEWORTHY DATES:

A. May 26, 2021 - Virtual Regular Board of Ed. meeting with presentation from Gwen Thornton, NJSBA representative - 6:30 p.m.
B. May 31, 2021 - Schools closed in observance of Memorial Day
C. May 15, 2021 @ 9:00 a.m. – Virtual Delegates Assembly

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN by Mr. Logar, seconded by Mr. Roop.

On a voice vote, all present were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beverly Vlietstra

Beverly Vlietstra
Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary