

**GREEN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**MINUTES**  
**September 16, 2020**

**Time: 7:30p.m.**

**Place: Green Hills School**  
**Small Gym**

**I. CALL TO ORDER** – 7:30pm

A. FLAG SALUTE

B. MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT – Mrs. Bilik

“This is a regular meeting of the Green Township Board of Education held for the purpose of transacting appropriate Board business. In compliance with Chapter 31, Laws of 1975, the New Jersey Herald was properly notified and copies of the agenda of this meeting were appropriately posted and made available for the public.”

C. ROLL CALL

	<u>Term</u> <u>Expires</u>	<u>Roll Call</u>
Mrs. Marie Bilik- President	2020	<b><i>Present</i></b>
Mrs. Ann Marie Cooke – Vice-President	2021	<b><i>Present</i></b>
Mr. Matthew Fox	2020	<i>Arrived 7:42</i>
Mr. Scott Guzzo	2022	<b><i>Present</i></b>
Mr. Noah Haiduc-Dale	2022	<i>PresentRemote</i>
Mrs. Denise Kelly-Jones	2020	<b><i>Present</i></b>
Ms. Kristin Post	2021	<b><i>Present</i></b>
Mr. Michael Rose	2021	<b><i>Present</i></b>
Mr. Robert Strasser	2022	<b><i>Present</i></b>
Dr. Lydia E. Furnari, Interim Superintendent		<b><i>Present</i></b>
Dr. Tina Palecek, SBA /Board Secretary		<b><i>Present</i></b>

D. MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission at Green is to educate every student in a safe and secure environment to become a confident and caring life-long learner, who can communicate and contribute positively to the changing needs of society. The district, in cooperation with the community, will provide an academic environment that values excellence, initiative, and diversity of our students and community, while supporting a program of studies that is congruent with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

Mrs. Cooke proposed a motion to amend the agenda to include Personnel item #20, to approve contract for the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent. The motion was moved by Mrs. Kelly-Jones and was seconded by Mrs. Cooke.

	Fox	Guzzo	Haiduc-Dale	Kelly-Jones	Post	Rose	Strasser	Cooke	Bilik	All in Favor
Yes										9
No										0
Abstain										0
Absent										0

**II. CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA TOPICS**

This public session is designed for members of the public to speak on this evening’s agenda topics. By law, the Board of Education is under no obligation to respond to public comment. If the Board of Education chooses to respond, it does not waive its right thereafter not to respond. Length of comments may be limited to three minutes to the individual who has been recognized by the board president. Each individual may be limited to one opportunity to speak per topic. Members of the public are asked to state their name and address for the record.

None

**IV. VARIOUS REPORTS**

**A. NEWTON BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATE – Mrs. Cooke**

Mrs. Cooke provided an update from the Newton Board of Education meetings held on August 25<sup>th</sup> and September 8<sup>th</sup>. The update included action concerning the approval of the District Goals and action plan, the Restart and Recovery Plan and related policies, as well as the fact that the investigation into the modular building project was complete. The next meeting takes place on September 22, 2020.

**B. PTA UPDATE – Mrs. Kelly-Jones**

Mrs. Kelly-Jones reported that the date of the first meeting was yet to be determined. She indicated that the PTA is truly appreciative of the teachers and that they want to do something for the teaching staff to show that appreciation in the near future.

**C. BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT – Mrs. Bilik**

Mrs. Bilik talked about her attendance at the Opening Day meeting for staff held on September 1, 2020, during which she brought greetings from the Board of Education. Ms. Bilik commented on the positive demeanor and dedication of administration and staff as they began the new school year. Mrs. Bilik also shared that she attended meetings with the Sussex County SBA, the SCES, and other virtual events.

**D. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – Dr. Furnari**

- Opening of school 2020-2021 – Dr. Furnari & Mr. Bollette  
Dr. Furnari and Mr. Bollette informed the Board about the opening days of school including staff development, implementation of the Restart and Recovery Plan (room design, cleaning, directional signs, entrance procedures, and a description of the hybrid and remote learning environments. Mrs. Bilik asked Mr. Bollette about morning announcements and he shared that while morning announcements as they were done in the spring are not in place, the new remote instructional schedule provides a definitive start to the school day. Members of the Board voiced their appreciation of the teachers and the redesign of the remote learning experience for students.

E. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY’S REPORT – Ms. Palecek  
Ms. Palecek and Dr. Furnari provided information concerning the National School Lunch Program and the fact that the State of NJ has approved free lunch to all students through the month of December, regardless of eligibility for free or reduced pricing. Ms. Palecek also described the interview process for the Business Office Secretary opening. It is anticipated that a successful candidate will be recommended at the October Board of Education meeting.

**V. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

A. New Jersey School Boards Association Virtual Conference

Mrs. Bilik asked that Ms. Palecek register all Board members, administrators and appropriate staff since the NJSBA has instituted a flat price of \$900.00 for up to 25 participants from each district.

Mrs. Bilik asked the Board to consider moving the date of the October meeting from the 28<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup>. The approved date was set due to the scheduling of the NJSBA Workshop, prior to the event being changed to a virtual platform. It was agreed and Ms. Palecek was asked to advertise the change in date of the October Board of Education meeting accordingly.

**VI. SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH**

Mrs. Bilik indicated that the Board would likely wait until after the November election to reinstate the Superintendent search, beginning with a planning session in December. She also indicated that there would be a discussion concerning a request to the Executive County Superintendent to address an extension of Dr. Furnari’s contract. Such an extension requires the approval of the Interim Commissioner of Education.

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

None

**IX. BOARD BUSINESS – Mrs. Ann Marie Cooke  
Consent Agenda A1-4, B (re-written) –E**

Motion...Mrs. Cooke      Second.....Mr. Guzzo

A. Motion to accept minutes of the following meetings:

1. Special Meeting of August 6, 2020. **(attachment)**

2. Executive Session of August 6, 2020.

3. Regular meeting of August 19, 2020. **(attachment)**

4. Executive Session of August 19, 2020.

B. New Jersey School Boards Association Virtual Workshop

Re-written Motion:

Motion to approve the registration for up to 25 Board Members, Administrators and appropriate staff to attend the NJSBA Virtual Workshop 2020, from October 20-22, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent.

C. Motion to review and approve the Green Township School District Code of Conduct for the 2020-2021 school year. **(attachment)**

D. Motion to review and adopt the Green Township School District Mentoring Plan for the 2020-2021 school year.

E. Motion to review and adopt the Green Township School District Professional Development Plan for the 2020-2021 school year.

**/Roll Call/**

	<b>Fox</b>	<b>Guzzo</b>	<b>Haiduc-Dale</b>	<b>Kelly-Jones</b>	<b>Post</b>	<b>Rose</b>	<b>Strasser</b>	<b>Cooke</b>	<b>Bilik</b>	<b>All in Favor</b>
<b>Yes</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
<b>No</b>										
<b>Abstain</b>	X A1&2			X A3&4					X A1&2	
<b>Absent</b>										

F. Discussion of Green Township School District Goals for the 2020-2021 school year. Dr. Furnari read the draft language for three District Goals for the 2020-2021 school year. Goal1 centered on respectful communication and collaboration. Goal 2 involved the



**July 2020 Financial Reports (attachment)**

3. Motion to accept the preliminary Board Secretary’s monthly certification, as attached, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.12(d) that as of July 31, 2020 no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.S.A. 18A-22-8 and 18A-22-8.1.
  
4. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 the Green Township School District Board of Education, after review of the Board Secretary’s and Treasurer’s monthly financial reports certify that as of July 31, 2020 and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.2. and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.
  
5. Motion to accept the financial reports from the Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of July 2020.
  
6. Motion to approve transfers for July 2020.
  
7. Motion to retroactively approve the submission and acceptance of funds through the Green Township School District’s Digital Divide application, with an anticipated award of \$5,543.00. The funds will be used to purchase devices to support remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**/Roll Call/**

	<b>Fox</b>	<b>Guzzo</b>	<b>Haiduc-Dale</b>	<b>Kelly-Jones</b>	<b>Post</b>	<b>Rose</b>	<b>Strasser</b>	<b>Cooke</b>	<b>Bilik</b>	<b>All in Favor</b>
<b>Yes</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>No</b>										
<b>Abstain</b>										
<b>Absent</b>										

**C. OPERATIONS** – Mr. Matthew Fox, Chairperson

Mr. Fox asked about the status of the Security Camera Project. Dr. Furnari indicated that the building of the server and installation of the wiring and interior cameras was well underway. The project status will be updated with the Operations Committee at their October meeting.

**D. PERSONNEL** – Mrs. Ann Marie Cooke, Chairperson

Mrs. Cooke stated that the Personnel Committee met on 9/14/2020. Under discussion were revised job descriptions for Principal/Coordinator of Curriculum & Instruction, Assistant to the Business Administrator, summer work, the hiring of new teachers and the assignment of student teachers for the fall semester, 2020-2021.

An addendum to the agenda was added to approve the contract of Dr. Vincent Occhino as Interim Business Administrator from October 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. (see below)

Consent Agenda Items 1-19 with Addendum Item #20

Motion . . Mrs. Cooke      Second . . . . . Mr. Rose

1. Motion to approve the following staff members to serve on the SAT Team for the 2020-2021 school year at a stipend of \$900.00 each, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent:
  - Kerry Burneyko
  - Carroll Clark
  - Marybeth Stiles
  - Kristen Waters
  -
2. Motion to retroactively approve 35 hours of work for the summer of 2020 for Kerry Burneyko, School Nurse, at her 2020-2021 hourly rate, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent.
3. Motion to approve a request for placement as a Student Teacher (Clinical Practice II) from William Paterson University for student Rose Wolthoff for the fall of 2020, for four days per week from the first day of school in September 2020 through December 10, 2020, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent. Cooperating teacher will be Jennifer Richardson.
4. Motion to retroactively approve Declan Carroll as Middle School Mathematics Teacher for the 2020-2021 school year at the salary of \$60,477.00 (BA Step 2), pending approval of his criminal history background check, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent. Hiring is on a provisional basis for up to 90 days pending completion of requirements and review of information required under P.L. 2018, c. **(attachment)**
5. Motion to retroactively approve Amanda Di Santi as Elementary School Teacher Leave Replacement for the 2020-2021 school year at the salary of \$58,477.00 (BA Step 1), pending approval of her criminal history background check, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent. **(attachment)**
6. Motion to accept the resignation of Jolaine Moreland, Teacher Aide/ Paraprofessional, effective August 31, 2020, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent. **(attachment)**
7. Motion to accept the resignation of Amy Cole, Teacher Aide/Paraprofessional, effective August 31, 2020, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent. **(attachment)**

8. Motion to accept the resignation of Karen Duncan, Teacher Aide/Paraprofessional, effective August 31, 2020, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent. **(attachment)**
  
9. Motion to approve the following Aftercare Assistants for the 2020-2021 school year, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent.

<b>Hourly Rates</b>		
<b>Daily – Name</b>	<b>2019-2020</b>	<b>2020-2021</b>
Bene, Carol	\$15.51	\$15.82
Borgognoni, Abbi	\$16.86	\$17.20
Conklin, Chelsea	\$12.51	\$12.76
D'Annibale, Karen	\$23.00	\$23.46
Lach, Kim	\$16.09	\$16.42

<b>Hourly Rates</b>		
<b>Substitutes – Name</b>	<b>2019-2020</b>	<b>2020-2021</b>
Borgognoni, Robert	-	\$12.00
DeGraw, Linda	\$14.28	\$14.57
Roy, Sandy	\$17.17	\$17.52
Schumann, Denise	\$17.05	\$17.40

10. Motion to approve the following persons as members of the District Evaluation Advisory Committee (DEAC) for the 2020-2021 school year, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent:

Dr. Lydia Furnari, Jon Paul Bollette, Kelli McKeown, Brian Martin, Ann Marie VanSickle, Kristen Waters, Sandy Franciosi, Catherine Nowaczyk, and Carroll Clark.

11. Motion to approve the request for a medical leave of absence through November 2020 from Eileen Maffei, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent. Ms. Maffei will be using accumulated sick days. **(attachment)**
  
12. Motion to retroactively approve extra hours for the following individuals at their hourly rates for hybrid and remote preparation work to open school for the 2020-2021 school year, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent.

Cori Harrington – 10 hours  
 Agnes Amorosino - 46 hours



13. Motion to retroactively approve 10.5 hours of overtime for Janice Lawrey for work completed to ready the school for reopening for the 2020-2021 school year, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent.
  
14. Motion to approve payment of 9.5 unused earned vacation time for Christine Burnett in accordance with her contract, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent.
  
15. Motion to retroactively approve the following extra hours for Doris Friesen, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent.
  - 8 hours for front office work
  - 6.75 hours for summer Child Study Team office work
  
16. Motion to approve the attached job description for Principal/Coordinator of Instruction, as recommended by the Superintendent. **(attachment)**
  
17. Motion to approve the attached job description for Assistant to the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, as recommended by the Superintendent. **(attachment)**
  
18. Motion to approve request for placement as a Student Teacher (Clinical Practice II) from William Paterson University for student Kyle McKenna for the fall of 2020, five days per week beginning the first day of school in September 2020 through December 10, 2020, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent. Cooperating teacher will be Tara Lavalley.
  
19. Motion to approve request for placement as a Student Teacher (Clinical Practice II) from William Paterson University for student Justine Webb for the fall of 2020, five days per week beginning the first day of school in September 2020 through December 10, 2020, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent. Cooperating teacher will be Lori Homentosky.
  
20. Addendum: Motion to approve the contract of Dr. Vincent Occhino to serve as the Interim School Business Administrator / Board Secretary for the Green Township School District from October 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 at a rate of 625 per diem, not to exceed \$53125, as recommended by the Interim Superintendent. **(attachment)**

**/Roll Call**

	Fox	Guzzo	Haiduc-Dale	Kelly-Jones	Post	Rose	Strasser	Cooke	Bilik	All in Favor
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	

No										
Abstain										
Absent										

**E. POLICY** – Mrs. Denise Kelly Jones, Chairperson

Mrs. Kelly-Jones shared that the Policy Committee was working on Policy Alert 220 with remaining policies under advisement of the Board Attorney. Once that information is provided, the committee will bring the policies to the Board for a first reading. Clarification regarding the Families First Coronavirus Response Act is that it supersedes portions of the existing leave policy.

**F. NEGOTIATIONS** – Mr. Michael Rose, Chairperson

No report

**XI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NEW BUSINESS TOPICS**

This public session is designed for members of the public to speak on issues for Board consideration. By law, the Board of Education is under no obligation to respond to public comment. If the Board of Education chooses to respond, it does not waive its right thereafter not to respond. Members of the public are asked to state their name and address for the record.

**None**

**XII. CLOSED MEETING**

**There was no Executive Session**

Closed Meeting Motion was read by \_\_\_\_\_.

The Board of Education of the Green Township School District in the County of Sussex will adjourn into closed meeting to discuss item(s) which fall within an exception of our open meetings policy and permits the Board to have private discussion, since it deals with specific exceptions contained in

- a Matters rendered confidential by Federal Law, State Law, or Court Rule
- b Individual privacy
- c Collective bargaining agreements
- d Purchase or lease of real property if public interest could be adversely affected
- e Investment of public funds if public interest could be adversely affected
- f Tactics or techniques utilized in protecting public safety and property
- g Pending or anticipated litigation
- h Attorney-client privilege
- i Personnel – employment matters affecting a specific prospective or current employee

Be it resolved that the Board will now go into private session to discuss matters rendered confidential due to the nature of pending or anticipated litigation, attorney-client privilege and personnel – employment matters affecting a specific prospective or current employee privilege.

Any discussion held by the Board, which need not remain confidential, will be made public as soon as practical. Minutes of the private session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists. All appropriate persons, who may be discussed in private session, have been adequately notified.

Motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing \_\_\_None\_\_\_\_.

**XIII. RECONVENE**

**Not Applicable**

Motion to reconvene into public session.

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT – 8:48pm**

Motion . **Mrs. Post**      Second . . . . . **Mrs. Kelly-Jones**

**/Roll Call/**

	<b>Fox</b>	<b>Guzzo</b>	<b>Haiduc-Dale</b>	<b>Kelly-Jones</b>	<b>Post</b>	<b>Rose</b>	<b>Strasser</b>	<b>Cooke</b>	<b>Bilik</b>	<b>All in Favor</b>
<b>Yes</b>										<b>9</b>
<b>No</b>										<b>0</b>
<b>Abstain</b>										<b>0</b>
<b>Absent</b>										<b>0</b>