**GREEN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**MINUTES**

**Regular Meeting**

**November 16, 2022**

**Time: 7:00 p.m. Place: Green Hills School - Library**

**I**. **CALL TO ORDER at 7pm by President Bilik**

**A. FLAG SALUTE**

**B. OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT-Read by President 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**

Term Roll Call

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mr. | CJ Bilik | 2024 | Present |
| Mrs. | Marie Bilik | 2023 | Present |
| Mrs. | Ann Marie Cooke | 2024 | Present |
| Mr. | Scott Guzzo | 2022 | Present, arrived at 7:10pm |
| Dr. | Noah Haiduc-Dale | 2022 | Present |
| Ms. | Kristin Post | 2024 | Present |
| Mr. | Rob Strasser | 2022 | Excused Absence |
| Ms. | Holly Roller | 2022 | Present |
| Dr. | Melissa Van Blarcom | 2023 | Present |
|  |  |  |  |
| Dr. | Jennifer Cenatiempo, Superintendent |  | Present |
| Mrs. | Karen Constantino, SBA |  | Present |

**D. MISSION STATEMENT –Read by Mr. Bilik**

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.

**II**.  **PRESENTATIONS**

1. Weekend Bag Program Presentation-Will be rescheduled.

2. Update on District Goals and Overview of the First Three Months of the Year - Presented

by Dr. Cenatiempo

Dr. Cenatiempo updated the Board on the district goals of the first three months of the year.

**Goal 1**-Create experiential learning opportunities to enhance student growth

**Update**-We are nearly at 100 experiential learning experiences throughout the district, 215 PLC Sessions per week and 41PD requests for this year.

**Goal 2**-Provide opportunities for excellent academic instruction to elevate student success

**Update**-Seek feedback from staff on what they need to elevate instruction, weekly union meetings, monthly climate and culture meetings, Superintendent and Principal led PLC Seessions, Assemblies for students, Bias Training , Mental Health Training, in addition to Staff Wellness and Security Surveys Provided.

**Goal 3-**Provide social and emotional supports to students and staff.

**Update-**Discussed the District Wellness Committee, Parent Advisory Climate and Culture Committee, Senior and Community Member Involvement Committee, District Farm to School Initiative, Staff Wellness Committee, Climate and Culture Committee, DEAC/ScIP Committee and the Monthly PLC with the Principal and Superintendent

**Goal 4-**Increase district communication to all stakeholders and provide opportunities for community involvement.

**Update-**Increased Communication and Use of website to preserve documents through the following: District Wellness Committee, Parent Advisory Climate and Culture Committee and various other committees.

Also provided were updates for Technology, Facility, Lunch/Recess, Interventions, Instructional updates, Athletics, Arts Programming, Character Education, and Feedback on the Revised Schedule.

Mrs. Roller asked if students are losing academic time for ILA or Math. Dr. Cenatiempo discussed that there’s no passing time between the two periods of ILA.

Dr. Haiduc-Dale appreciated the feedback regarding the schedule for the upper grades and that we’re making changes.

**III. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Correspondence from Mr. Thiel regarding school security.

All BOE members received this correspondence.

**IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA TOPICS at 7:40pm**

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 is 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.

# Amy Munoz, 17 Meadow Lane-Discussed her opinion regarding the Health Curriculum, and that the oversexualized content needs to be taken out. She believes that the material will cause more harm than good. Please vote for what’s best for the Green Hills students.

Heather Gamboa, 30 Phillips Road-Discussed that she had a petition with over 205 signatures regarding the Health Curriculum. The majority who signed the petition feel like the curriculum is not appropriate for a K-8 district, Green Hills. Also mentioned “Opting Out” of a lesson is not a solution, and that we should focus on academics.

Maureen McGuire-126 Wolfs Corner Road-Discussed her appreciation for the Veteran’s Day Program that she and her father attended, and how excellent and proud she was. She also expressed concerns regarding the changes that were made to the Health Curriculum, but they were not enough. She asked that we please consider that we can do better.

Crystal Bockbrader, 145 Creek Road-Discussed that the Health Curriculum does not belong in school…Only 2% identify as transgender, why are we teaching that to the other 98%. This is detrimental to our children…Reconsider how the curriculum will be implemented…The survey with 205 signatures should be taken into consideration.

Angie Lavery, 29 Henry Road-Let’s focus on spelling, catching up from COVID, etc. Certain things need to be taught as far as acceptance. Let’s use dollars for academics not theories…Disappointed with things and where they are headed.

# **V. VARIOUS REPORTS**

A. NEWTON BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATE - Mrs. Cooke

**Newton Board of Education Special Meeting November 1, 2022** Newton High School Cafeteria

**Board Business**: Approved the appointment of Dr. Joseph S. Piccirillo to serve as Superintendent for a term beginning on December 27, 2022 and ending on June 30, 2027 as approved by the Sussex County Executive County Superintendent.

**-**On 11/21, all are invited to meet the new Newton Superintendent, Dr. Joseph Piccirillo

**Next Meeting**: November 22, 2022 at 7 pm.

B. PTA UPDATE - Mrs. Post

Mrs. Post attended the Tri District Consortium Meeting and discussed school security upgrades, transportation issues. The next meeting is 1/30/23.

PTA currently has 190 members, trunk or treat was a success, Holiday shop is coming 12/5-12/9, discussed various assemblies that will take place

-Next meeting is 12/14

C. BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT - Mrs. Bilik

-Attended the NJSBA Workshop 2022, 10/24-10/26

-Requested copies of other district’s security policies

-Discussed if bus companies could negotiate their contract prior to the completion of the school budget

-Attended legislative forum, and there was no interest to exclude transportation, health insurance and security from the 2% cap

-Signed each page of the CBA with Mrs. Cooke

-Attended the School Boards Board of Directors meeting on 11/4

-Participated in Career Day as an Elected Official

-Attended the Veterans Day program on 11/9 and it was magnificent

-Attended the Tri District Consortium on 11/14, will be attenging the delegate assembly on 11/19 and on 11/28 will be attending the Bicentennial Committee Meeting for 2024.

D. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT - Dr. Cenatiempo

Update on School Security

HIB: There are 6 investigated HIB cases to report. 3 cases were founded as HIB. 3 cases were not founded as HIB.

1 Founded Case - Based on distinguishing characteristics of weight and mental health.

1 Founded Case - Based on the distinguishing characteristic of sexual orientation

1 Founded Case - Based on race

Drills: Fire Drill 10/25/22

Evacuation Drill 10/18/22

Bus Evacuation Drills:

10/25/22 Routes 10 & 11

10/26/22 Routes 7 & 12

10/27/22 Routes 14 & 17

10/28/22 Route 13

-Collecting job descriptions for security

-PTA meeting and BOE meeting are both on December 14th.

-December 15th is the Winter Concert.

-HIBs to be discussed in Executive Session

Marie Bilik mentioned there is a Sussex County School Boards Meeting on 11/29 with the topic of ”Budgeting During Difficult Times”. Also noted that Scott Guzzo asked for a financial update, and he mentioned that Karen Constantino gave one of the best financial updates that he has ever had.

E. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY’S REPORT - Mrs. Constantino

-We are just about done with our audit of the 21-22SY. Man Lee, Nisivoccia Partner will present the audit at the next BOE meeting. The exit interview is on 11/21/22.

**VI. DISCUSSION ACTION ITEMS-**None Reported

**VII. BOARD BUSINESS** - Mrs. Ann Marie Cooke

A. Motion to accept minutes of the following meetings:

1. Regular Meeting of October 19, 2022. (Attachment)

1. Executive Session of October 19, 2022.

B.. Motion to approve the 8th Grade vs Faculty Volleyball game on December 2, 2022 from 5:00 -

8:00 PM.

C. Motion to retroactively approve Green Township Adult Volleyball on Friday nights starting on

October 21, 2022 through June 30, 2023 from 7:00 - 9:30 PM, excluding blackout dates.

D. Motion to approve a December Donation Drive for Benny’s Bodega, to be organized and run by

Beth Voris and the Enrichment and SOAR students.

E. Motion to approve a fundraiser for the Seeing Eye Organization. Date: TBD.

/

F. Motion to approve the Inherent Bias Training presented by Vincent DeLucia from the New Jersey

School Boards Association as follows, at a cost of $0.

Staff Training - 9-10 am, 1/16/23

Board of Education Training - 6-7 pm, 2/15/23

G. Motion to approve Institutional Compliance Solutions, LLC to provide the district with Title IX

and Title VI training at the following costs.

Title IX - Platinum Community Partner - $2,500

Title VI - Diversity, Equity and Inclusion University - $1,500

H. Motion to approve Synergy Consulting and Training Group for a half day professional

development sessions for the staff on 1/16/23. The training will provide an interactive training experience on insights into implicit biases as well as a discussion on the protocols we developed and implemented in our local schools regarding the appropriate response to bias related incidents.

Total Cost for 2 Presenters - $2,000

Motion- Mrs. Cooke Second- Dr. VanBlarcom

/Roll Call/



**VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**-None

**IX. NEW BUSINESS**-None

**X. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. CURRICULUM** - Dr. Noah Haiduc-Dale, Chairperson

1. Motion to retroactively approve following professional development request(s):

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Staff Member** | **Conference Name** | **Provider/Location** | **Date(s)** | **Cost** |
| Jennifer Cenatiempo  Karen Smith | Mental Health Skills for Education Professionals:  Essential Knowledge, Practical Strategies and Must-Have Tools | Frank Kros Learning Group / Virtual | 11/2/22 | No Cost to the BOE |
| Jennifer Cenatiempo  Marybeth Stiles | EDGE NJ Practicing with Cultural Humility | Sussex County Youth Services Commission Education Partnership | 11/14/22 | No Cost to the BOE |

2. Motion to approve following professional development request(s):

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Staff Member** | **Conference Name** | **Provider/Location** | **Date(s)** | **Cost** |
| Jennifer Romano | NJ Assoc of School Librarians | Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Atlantic City | 12/4-6/22 | Conf: $250.00  Mileage: $141.00  Tolls/Park: $9.80  Hotel: $158.00  $558.80 |
| Justin Wynne  Cori Harrington | Esports and Education Conference & Expo | Virtual | 12/14/22 | No Cost to the BOE |
| Jennifer Cenatiempo,  Jon Paul Bollette | Gender 101: Expression, Identity, and Emergence in Children and Adolescents | Virtual  NJ Consortia for Excellence Through Equity | 11/17/22 | Consortium Membership |
| Jennifer Cenatiempo,  Jon Paul Bollette | Supporting Transgender and Gender Diverse Elementary/Secondary Students | Virtual  NJ Consortia for Excellence Through Equity | 12/14/22 | Consortium Membership |
| Jennifer Cenatiempo,  Jon Paul Bollette | Supporting the Need of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color in Schools | Virtual  NJ Consortia for Excellence Through Equity | 1/26/23 | Consortium Membership |
| Marybeth Stiles | School Based Behavioral Threat Assessment & Mgmt Training | NJ DOE - Virtual | 1/26/23 | No Cost to BOE |
| Jennifer Cenatiempo,  Jon Paul Bollette | Using Equity Inquiry Coaching Practices to Transform School Culture | Virtual  NJ Consortia for Excellence Through Equity | 2/10/23 | Consortium Membership |
| Jennifer Cenatiempo,  Jon Paul Bollette | Promoting Belonging through Literacy Instruction | Virtual  NJ Consortia for Excellence Through Equity | 2/15/23 | Consortium Membership |
| Jennifer Cenatiempo,  Jon Paul Bollette | Anxious and Depressed in the Classroom: Effective Student Support Strategies Every Educator Can Deliver | Virtual  NJ Consortia for Excellence Through Equity | 3/2/23 | Consortium Membership |
| Jennifer Cenatiempo | School Based Behavioral Threat Assessment & Mgmt Training | NJ DOE - Virtual | 3/23/23 | No Cost to BOE |

3. Motion to approve the following field trips:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Teacher** | **Grade** | **Trip** | **Location** | **Date(s)** | **Cost** |
| Kelly Mckeown  Brian Martin (previous TBD’s to join Beth Voris) | SOAR  7 & 8 | Jr. Model UN | Drew University | 2/3/23 | $100.00  Transportation TBD |
| Marybeth Stiles | 8th grade | Newton High School Visitation | 44 Ryerson Ave  Newton, NJ | 2/15/23 | Transportation TBD |
| Beth Holley  Kerstin Martinka  Dara Seminara | 3rd grade | Sussex County Fairgrounds | 37 Plains Road  Augusta, NJ | 3/21/23 | Admission: $159.00  Transportation: $613.60 |
| Kyle Mirena  Sue Stobie | Select 8th graders | Solar Cars Competition | New Providence Middle School  35 Pioneer Drive  New Providence NJ | 5/22/23 Rain Date:  5/23/23 | Transportation: $572.00 |
| Kim Scuderi  Jessica Giller  Karen Smith | 4th grade | Waterloo Village | Waterloo Road  Stanhope, NJ | 5/25/23 | $870.00  Transportation TBD |
| Beth Voris  Justin Wynne | SOAR 3 -8 | Spark Lab, Whitten Exhibition & Activity | Morris Museum  6 Normandy Heights Rd  Morristown, NJ | 5/26/23 | Admission $281.00  Transportation $327.60 |
| Kim Scuderi  Jessica Giller  Karen Smith | 4th grade | High Point State Park | 1480 State Route 23  Sussex, NJ | 6/2/23 | Transportation TBD |
| Beth Voris | SOAR 3 -8 | Floating Classroom | Hopatcong State Park  260 Landing Blvd  Landing, NJ | 6/5/23 | Admission $468.00  Transportation TBD |

4. Motion to approve The Seeing Eye Assembly on November 28, 2022, presented by Bud and

Kathy Litak, along with the puppy in training and possibly their own personal dog that also went through training, at no cost to the BOE.

5. Motion to approve Song Spun Production Assembly, hosted by Brian Chevalier on January 18,

2023, at a cost of $775 to be paid through ARP-ESSER Mental Health Grant.

6. Motion to approve Lead U Assembly by the Society for the Prevention of Teen Suicide, at a cost

of $1,400 to be paid through ARP-ESSER Mental Health Grant.

Motion-Dr. Haiduc-Dale Second-Ms. Post

/Roll Call/



7. Motion to approve the revised Comprehensive Health and Physical Education Curriculum as

attached. **(attachment)**

Discussion: Ms. Roller discussed why she is voting the way she is. Acknowledged that a lot of

time was spent hashing it out. Committed to working with community and staff. Don’t agree

with state, which is pushing this to the local level, it’s gone too far. It’s disappointing that we’re

spending so much time on this. “Opt out” vs. ‘Opt in” is segregating children. These things should be taught by parents.

Mr. Guzzo-Asked what’s the big takeaway? Dr. Haiduc-Dale-Curriculum that students needed to know-we bumped the ages up.

Motion – Dr. Haiduc-Dale Second- Mr. Bilik

/Roll Call/



**B. FINANCE** - Mr. Scott Guzzo, Chairperson

Had a meeting on 11/3. Discussed the update on the audit, grants, and an out of district placement that

left the district.

**October 2022 Financial Reports (attachment)**

1. Motion to approve the General Fund bills list for October 20, 2022 through November 16, 2022

for a total of $666,086.80 (attachment)

2. Motion to accept the Board Secretary’s monthly certification, as attached, pursuant to

N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.12(d) that as of October 31, 2022, 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.

3. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 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 October 31, 2022 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.

4. Motion to accept the financial reports from the Board Secretary and the Treasurer of

School Monies for the month of October, 2022.

5. Motion to approve transfers for October, 2022.

6. Motion to approve the disbursements from October 19, 2022 through November 16, 2022

for the Student Activities Account in the amount of $3,257.25 and the Business

Office Petty Cash Account in the amount of $80.00. **(attachment)**

7. Motion to approve mileage reimbursement in the amount of $35.81 to paraprofessional, Kathleen

Mull, for commuting to and from Camp Mason on October 26, 27, 28, 2022, to be present for her student.

8. Motion to withdraw $14,210.13 out of the maintenance reserve to pay for the upgrade from the

cost of carpet (covered by insurance) to tile to be replaced in the library and rooms within the

library due to the leak caused by a clogged roof drain.

Motion – Mr. Guzzo Second – Mrs. Post

/Roll Call/



**C. OPERATIONS** - Mr. Rob Strasser, Chairperson

Discussed the upgrade from carpet to LVT in the library being a cleaner and healthier choice.

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

` 1. Motion to approve Brian McKeown for the stipend position of Assistant Basketball Coach, at a

rate of $1,339.00, for the 2022-2023 basketball season,at the request of the Superintendent.

2. Motion to approve Tania Gallucci and Ana Velez as certified substitute teachers that can be

utilized outside of their paraprofessional hours, not to exceed 27.5 hours, as recommended by the

Superintendent.

3. Motion to approve the following Substitute School Nurse for the 2022-2023 school year, pending

required paperwork and criminal background clearance, as recommended by the Superintendent:

Caitlyn Schlesner, RN

4. Motion to retroactively approve Joanna D’Annibale as an “Activities Monitor” at the rate of

$41.20, per event; starting on November 1, 2022, for the 2022-2023 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent.

5. Motion to approve the following individuals as “Activities Monitors” at the rate of $41.20, per

event, for the 2022-2023 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent:

Lori Sanchez

Diane Parker

Alison Weatherwalks

6. Motion to approve movement on the salary guide from BA to BA +30 for Declan Carroll. This

movement on the guide is not precedent setting, as these credits date back to his hire date of

9/1/2020. Prior years are time barred.

7. Motion to approve Christine Decker as a paraprofessional at a rate of $14 an hour for 5 hours per

day, for the 2022-2023 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent.

Motion- Mrs. Cooke Second – Dr. VanBlarcom

/Roll Call/



**E. POLICY** - Ms. Kristin Post, Chairperson

1. Motion to approve the following policies and regulations for a second reading and

approval:

P 2425 Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program

R 2425 Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program

P 5512 Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying

Motion……………………………. Second……………………………

/Roll Call/



**XI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NEW BUSINESS TOPICS at 8:30pm**

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. Length of comments is 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.

Amy Munoz-17 Meadow Lane-Discussed the use of the school website, not user-friendly. Also mentioned “Friday emails” contain too much information and are hard to read through…mentioned the calendar and E-backpack… The second item discussed was some of the items that Trooper Popek identified in his presentation.

Nicole Menenga – 15 Spruce Drive-Confirmed the “pick up” process that is in place at the school.

Public Participation was closed at 8:40pm.

**XII. CLOSED MEETING**

The Closed Meeting Motion was read by President Bilik at 8:41pm. The Board took a 5 minute recess and began at 8:46pm.

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 “b” and “i”.

Motion- Dr. Haiduc-Dale Second – Dr. VanBlarcom

Roll Call/



**XIII. RECONVENE**

Motion to reconvene into public session at 10:10pm.

Motion – Mr. Bilik Second – Dr. Haiduc-Dale

/Roll Call/



AMotion was made to accept the HIB report.

Motion – Ms. Post Second – Dr. Haiduc-Dale



**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion that the Board of Education shall adjourn at 10:15pm.

Motion – Mrs. Cooke Second – Dr. Haiduc-Dale

/Roll Call/

