

**GREEN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES
Regular Meeting
December 15, 2021**

Time: 7:00p.m.

Place: Green Hills School Library

I. CALL TO ORDER at 7:00p.m.

A. FLAG SALUTE lead by President Bilik

B. MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT 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
Mrs.	Marie Bilik	2023	Present
Mrs.	Ann Marie Cooke	2021	Present
Mr.	Scott Guzzo	2022	Present
Dr.	Noah Haiduc-Dale	2022	Present
Ms.	Kristin Post	2021	Present
Mr.	Rob Strasser	2022	Present
Dr.	Melissa Van Blarcom	2023	Present
Ms.	Holly Roller	2021	Present
Dr.	Jennifer Cenatiempo, Superintendent		Present
Mrs.	Karen Constantino, SBA/Bd. Secretary		Present

D. MISSION STATEMENT read by Dr. Haiduc-Dale

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. INTERVIEW BOARD CANDIDATES –President Bilik stated that the appointment for the open seat will be made in January at the reorganization meeting.

A. INTERVIEW BOARD CANDIDATES

Mrs. Cooke excused Ms. Roller from the Board Table. The applicants were interviewed in the order their applications were received.

Ms. Roller

Question #1-Can you tell us a little about yourself? Why are you interested in joining the Board of Education? Response-I have lived in Green for 15 years; I have 3 children in the school district. My background is in investigating fraud, I'm a CPA who has worked for the department of defense doing forensic audits . My business/professional background will help the Board.

Question#2-Is there a particular issue that motivates you to serve on the Board of Education? Response-Certainly special education, basic skills intervention, some political things and the environment.

Question#3-What key qualities and specific skills do you feel a school board member should have to enable him/her to address the challenges of today's education system? Response-ability to negotiate, seeing both sides, having a heart for the community and the children.

Question#4-Tell us what qualities and specific skills you possess that will enhance our board operations? Response-background in fraud, audit and compliance, and making controls better.

Question#5-What is the best way to address differences of opinion on the Board or between the Board and the Administration? Response-Hear everyone out, bring opinions to the table, evidence and facts to support conversation, information from case studies.

Question#6-What do you see as some of the major challenges facing public education? Response-Policy in the media, vaccinations, masks, bridging the gap and bringing people together.

Question#7-How does a Board of Education balance the need to provide a quality education with the need to respond to the local taxpayer? Response-As a parent, you want to see the best; offer the children the best with bringing community into that conversation.

Question#8-What issues or concerns do you have regarding the operations of the school district? Response-There's always room for improvement, things can always be looked at in a different way, we're growing with communication, a huge step forward.

Question#9-Could you support a Board decision you did not vote in favor of? Why or why not? Response-We all get a vote, at the end of the day consensus rules, but we're working as a team.

Question#10-How would you handle the requests, if approached, by an individual? Special interest groups? Response-I would go to the Board President to see how to handle...trainings, etc.

Ms. Cramer was interviewed following Ms. Roller.

Question #1-Can you tell us a little about yourself? Why are you interested in joining the Board of Education? I'm a lifelong resident of Fredon and moved to Green about 8 years ago. Interested in serving as a parent/taxpayer and resident. Looking forward to being involved.

Question#2-Is there a particular issue that motivates you to serve on the Board of Education? Sussex County Schools are facing challenges-enrollment decline, programming, collaboration

Question#3-What key qualities and specific skills do you feel a school board member should have to enable him/her to address the challenges of today's education system? BOE members need to be open-minded, how do policies and state law play a part, being ready to listen.

Question#4-Tell us what qualities and specific skills you possess that will enhance our board operations? Open-minded, see all things from every side. I have been in administration for 10 years in Stillwater, and a part of QSAC, budgeting, bring the parent perspective and supportive of children.

Question#5-What is the best way to address differences of opinion on the Board or between the Board and the Administration? Keep an open mind, different facts play into things, take in other perspectives, see the whole picture.

Question#6-What do you see as some of the major challenges facing public education? Financial challenges and working through issues facing small towns.

Question#7-How does a Board of Education balance the need to provide a quality education with the need to respond to the local taxpayer? Becoming creative in programming, sharing services, know talents of building and who to utilize, be responsible to taxpayers.

Question#8-What issues or concerns do you have regarding the operations of the school district? No concerns of operations, quality leadership is in place, seen a positive move forward.

Question#9-Could you support a Board decision you did not vote in favor of? Why or why not? Yes, it's part of working as a team; I would stand behind and use facts.

Question#10-How would you handle the requests, if approached, by an individual? Special interest groups? As an administrator, direct to the teacher. As a board member, direct to the Superintendent and then share with the Board President.

Ms. Roller returned to the board table at 7:25pm.

III. CORRESPONDENCE -None

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA TOPICS at 7:26pm, nothing on agenda items.

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.

V. VARIOUS REPORTS

- A. NEWTON BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATE – Mrs. Cooke
Presentations: Audit presentation by Nisivoccia. No Findings
Board Business: All motions approved
Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 21, 2021 at 7:00pm in the NHS Cafeteria
- B. PTA UPDATE – Mrs. Post
-As of 11/23 book fair generated revenue of approx. \$2,800
-Upcoming events-calendar raffle in January
-Holiday Shop was a huge success
-Executive committee meeting 12/16 via Webex
- C. BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT – Mrs. Bilik
-Congratulations to our teacher of the year and our education support staff member
-On 11/19 attended School Board’s Directors meeting-Board of Directors, at which restructuring was approved with a 3 year strategic plan. The focus will be on strategies for 1 year periods at a time.
-On 12/6 SCESC had a negotiations team meeting
-On 12/8 Sussex County had a School Board’s meeting at which Anne Marie Cooke was recognized for 20 years of service
- D. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – Dr. Cenatiempo
Drills: Fire Drill 11/11/21
HIB Report – There is no HIB to report for the month of December.
-Its been a great month with amazing staff
-Finishing observations
-January-start working on a draft schedule
-Changing some office spaces and classrooms
-Meeting with First Student regarding bus times
-Students had a book swap and attended the Holiday Shop
-“Stuff the Stocking” brought in over 400 gifts
-Some discussion on 14 day quarantine and concerns about academic loss

Public Comment opened for the purpose of continuing the discussion of quarantining.

Catherine Cooper, 22 Fieldview Road commented on the following:

- It’s valuable to stream from classes
- Her student is losing more than 1/10 of year because of quarantining rules
- Mentioned PCR tests are not available
- Asked if school could get a PCR machine and test here
- Asked if we could randomly test
- 14 days is difficult

Annmarie Vena, 20 Green Farms Road

- Can we use at-home tests?
- For vaccinated students coming back-there are concerns
- Can we test vaccinated students because of breakthrough cases

Rob Agnoli 65 Forest Road

- Policy is hard to enforce when it's hard to identify who is a "real" close contact

Brittani Devore 94 Shore Road

- Consider giving everyone a fresh start and choose to pivot in advance
- We could be in for a long haul

Dr. Cenatiempo commented that we have to stay open. In order to pivot to virtual learning, the school has to be closed for three days.

President Bilik summarized the discussion:

- Need to ramp up virtual classes
- Dr. Cenatiempo is going to get County input
- Next time action can be taken will be at the 1/3 meeting

Mr. Guzzo asked about grant money for tutoring, and Dr. Cenatiempo stated that we are waiting for grant approval

President Bilik stated that we are not open to discussion on this topic during the second public comment.

- E. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT– Mrs.Constantino
- Completed Payroll Verification on the 11/30 payroll
 - ASSA was submitted
 - Planters arrived for the front of the building
 - Email sent to staff for budget planning

VI. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- A. Motion to accept the HIB report from October 2021.
- B. Motion to accept the HIB report from November 2021.
- Motion-Mrs. Cooke Second-Dr. Haiduc-Dale

Roll Call:

	Mr. Guzzo	Dr. Haiduc-Dale	Ms. Post	Mrs. Roller	Mr. Strasser	Dr. VanBlarcom	Mrs. Cooke	Mrs. Bilik	All in Favor
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
No									
Abstain									
Absent									

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS –President Bilik discussed the LEAP grant, the need for population reports, and that the data can be collected by an outside service.

-Noted that the Board is in favor of local control, but we don’t have recent data. The data that we have is from approximately 13 years ago.

-Dr. Haiduc-Dale asked about data collection

-Mrs. Cooke-Noted data from last study was unusable

-Mrs Post-Concerned about asking for funding

-Mr. Guzzo-Asked about the type of data we get.

-Mrs. Bilik-Population changes, birth data, wealth change, tax base

-Mr. Strasser-Mentioned we just did a census

-Mrs Cooke-We have a tax table in our audit

Motion made to proceed and move forward with the LEAP Grant.

Motion-Mr. Strasser Second: Ms. Roller

Roll Call:

	Dr. Haiduc-Dale	Mrs. Roller	Ms. Post	Mr. Strasser	Mr. Guzzo	Dr. VanBlarcom	Mrs. Cooke	Mrs. Bilik	All in Favor
Yes		X		X	X			X	
No	X		X			X	X		
Abstain									
Absent									

Motion does not pass.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS-None

IX. BOARD BUSINESS – Mrs. Ann Marie Cooke

A. Motion to accept minutes of the following meetings:

1. Regular Meeting of November 17, 2021. **(attachment)**
2. Executive Session of November 17, 2021.

Motion-Mrs. Cooke

Second-Dr. Haiduc-Dale

Roll Call:

	Mr.	Dr.	Ms.	Mrs.	Mr.	Dr.	Mrs.	Mrs.	All in
	Guzzo	Haiduc-Dale	Post	Roller	Strasser	VanBlarcom	Cooke	Bilik	Favor
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
No									
Abstain									
Absent									

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. CURRICULUM – Dr. Noah Haiduc-Dale, Chairperson-Discussed standards based reports cards in committee meeting

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

<u>Staff Member</u>	<u>Conference Name</u>	<u>Provider/Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Costs</u>
Beth Voris	Sharing & Planning G&T Events	NJCGTP / Virtual	2/18/22	\$100 to the Board of Education
Karen Constantino	School Law and Legislation Update	NJASBO	2/22/22	\$100 to the Board of Education
Karen Constantino	Purchasing Issues and Federal Procurement Update	NJASBO	3/17/22	\$100 to the Board of Education
Karen Constantino	Payroll Administrators Program	NJASBO	5/17/22	\$100 to the Board of Education

2.) Motion to approve the following field trips:

Grade	Trip	Location	Date(s)	Cost
Grades K - 8	SOAR virtual “NJCGTP Poster Design Challenge” Competition	Remote	12/15/2021 -1/15/2022	\$100 to the Board of Education

3.) Motion to approve participation in the 41st Annual Hardyston Basketball Tournament, to take place from January 31, 2022 – February 4, 2022, at a cost to the Board of Education of \$320.00 for the boys and girls varsity basketball teams.

Dates	Team	Location	Cost
1/31/22 – 2/4/22	Boys Varsity Basketball	Hardyston School District 185 Wheatsworth Road Hamburg, NJ 07419	\$160
1/31/22 – 2/4/22	Girls Varsity Basketball	Hardyston School District 185 Wheatsworth Road Hamburg, NJ 07419	\$160

Roll Call:

	Dr. VanBlarcom	Dr. Haiduc-Dale	Mr. Strasser	Ms. Post	Mr. Guzzo	Mrs. Roller	Mrs. Cooke	Mrs. Bilik	All in Favor
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
No									
Abstain									
Absent									

B. FINANCE – Mr. Scott Guzzo, Chairperson-Reported that we are tracking well YTD. Discussed the option and cost of a generator.

1. Motion to approve the General Fund bills list for November 18, 2021 through December 15, 2021 for a total of \$888,917.62. **(attachment)**

Motion to approve the attached disbursements for December 2021 from the Student Activities Account in the amount of \$7,790.00, and the Business Office Petty Cash Account in the amount of \$0. **(attachment)**

2. Rescind the motion to accept the Corrective Action Plan for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021. **(attachment – audit synopsis/summary)**
3. Motion to approve the Corrective Action Plan for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021**(attachment – audit synopsis/summary)**.
5. Motion to authorize the execution of an agreement with the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council to renew membership therein for the period of October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2026.

WHEREAS, the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council (“MCCPC”) was created in 1974 to conduct a voluntary cooperative pricing system with municipalities, boards of education, and other public bodies located in the County of Morris and adjoining counties; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the MCCPC is to provide substantial savings on various goods and services to its members through the cooperative public bidding process; and

WHEREAS, Green Township BOE desires to enter into an Agreement with the MCCPC, which is administered by Randolph Township as Lead Agency, to **renew** its membership in the MCCPC for the period of October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2026.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Green Township BOE, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. Karen Constantino of the Green Township BOE hereby authorizes the execution of an Agreement with the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council by the Township of Randolph as Lead Agency dated October 1, 2021, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5). Said Agreement is for **renewal** of membership in the MCCPC for a five (5) year period from October 1, 2021, through September 20, 2026.
 2. The Green Township BOE Clerk is hereby directed to submit a copy of this Resolution, along with an executed Agreement, to Randolph Township as Lead Agency of the MCCPC.
 3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon final passage according to law.
 4. All appropriate Green Township BOE officials are authorized and directed to perform all required acts to affect the purpose of this resolution.
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6. Motion to approve payout to Susan D'Amato for 10 remaining vacation days at \$320.42/day, for a total of \$3,204.20 as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.
 7. Motion to accept the funds through the FY20 Securing Our Children's Future: School Security Grant in the amount of \$22,339.00
 8. Motion to retroactively approve Kerry Burneyko as the School Nurse for the 7th grade extended day trip to Camp Mason on October 15, 2021 at the rate of \$150 per day.
 9. Motion to approve the following Out-of-District Placements:

Student ID ending in # 2759: Florence M. Burd, Andover, NJ. Preschool Disabled Program (half-day). Tuition is \$13, 717.00, effective September 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. Transportation is needed.

Student ID ending in # 4573: Florence M. Burd, Andover, NJ. Preschool Disabled Program (half-day). Tuition is \$13, 717.00, effective September 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. Transportation is not needed.

Student ID ending in #4415: Florence M. Burd, Andover, NJ. Preschool Disabled Program (full-day). Tuition is \$21,619.00, effective September 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. Other services cost is \$3,500.00. Transportation is not needed.

Student ID ending in # 4595: Florence M. Burd, Andover, NJ. Preschool Disabled Program (half-day) for 9 months. Tuition is \$12,399.30, effective October 6, 2021 through June 30, 2022. Transportation is not needed.
 10. Motion to approve disbursement from the Student Activities account in an amount up to \$900.00, payable to Jersey Shirts and Designs for the Basketball Spirit Wear Shirt Sale. Shirts will be funded by parent purchase sold at cost to parents.

Motion-Mr. Guzzo Second-Ms. Post

Roll Call:

	Mr. Guzzo	Dr. Haiduc-Dale	Ms. Post	Mrs. Roller	Mr. Strasser	Dr. VanBlarcom	Mrs. Cooke	Mrs. Bilik
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
No								
Abstain								
Absent								

C. **OPERATIONS** – Mr. Strasser, Chairperson-Reported the discussion of busing, HVAC, generator (not a lot of support because of fuel), replacement of doors, security audit

1. Updates as applicable.

D. **PERSONNEL** – Mrs. Ann Marie Cooke, Chairperson-Discussed the substitute shortage and a medical leave

1. Motion to approve Debra Ronsini as mentor to Jeffrey Herring as per the NJDOE Provisional Teacher Process requirements, with the mentoring fee of \$1,200.00 to be paid through the Green Hills Board of Education, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.
2. Motion to approve the maternity leave for Tara Lavalley on or about March 7, 2022 – June 22, 2022.

Dates:

Designation:

3/7/22 – 4/1/22	20 Sick Days
4/4/22 – 6/22/22	FMLA/NJFLA

Motion-Mrs. Cooke Second: Dr. VanBlarcom

Roll Call:

	Dr. Haiduc-Dale	Mrs. Roller	Ms. Post	Mr. Strasser	Mr. Guzzo	Dr. VanBlarcom	Mrs. Cooke	Mrs. Bilik	All in Favor
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
No									
Abstain									
Absent									

E. **POLICY** – Ms. Kristin Post, Chairperson-Reported they had a meeting on 12/9

Removed Motion 1, amend and revisit.

2. Motion to approve the following policies and regulations for second reading and approval:

P 5116 Education of Homeless Children (Revised)
R 7432 Eye Protection (M) (Revised)
P 8600 Student Transportation (M) (Revised)

Roll Call :

	Ms. Post	Mr. Guzzo	Dr. Haiduc-Dal	Mrs. Roller	Mr. Strasser	Dr. VanBlarcom	Mrs. Cooke	Mrs. Bilik	All in Favor
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
No									
Abstain									
Absent									

F. NEGOTIATIONS – Ann Marie Cooke, Chairperson

1. Updates as applicable.
- First face-to-face meeting is scheduled for January 26th, 2022.

XI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NEW BUSINESS TOPICS

This remote 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. That recognition will be made in the order names appear in the chat box of the digital platform. 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.

Open and closed at 8:43pm, nothing to report.

XII. CLOSED MEETING at 8:44pm.

Closed Meeting Motion was read by President Bilik.

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)-individual privacy.

Motion-Mrs. Cooke Second-Mr. Guzzo

Roll Call:

	Ms.	Mr.	Dr.	Mrs.	Mr.	Dr.	Mrs.	Mrs.	All in
	Post	Guzzo	Haiduc-Dal	Roller	Strasser	VanBlarcom	Cooke	Bilik	Favor
Yes									X
No									
Abstain									
Absent									

XIII. RECONVENE at 9:24pm

Motion to reconvene into public session.

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

Roll Call:

	Ms.	Mr.	Dr.	Mrs.	Mr.	Dr.	Mrs.	Mrs.	All in
	Post	Guzzo	Haiduc-Dal	Roller	Strasser	VanBlarcom	Cooke	Bilik	Favor
Yes									X
No									
Abstain									
Absent									

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion-Dr. Haiduc-Dale

Roll Call:

	Ms.	Mr.	Dr.	Mrs.	Mr.	Dr.	Mrs.	Mrs.	All in
	Post	Guzzo	Haiduc-Dal	Roller	Strasser	VanBlarcom	Cooke	Bilik	Favor
Yes									X
No									
Abstain									
Absent									