

**HIGH BRIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION
WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
Monday, April 12, 2021**

1. OPENING OF MEETING - 6:30 PM *(meeting began at 6:30 pm)*

Required Notice of Open Public Meeting

Being duly posted at the following locations: High Bridge Middle School and Elementary School main offices, High Bridge Borough Hall Office; and advertised, in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act, in the following newspaper: Hunterdon County Democrat, this meeting will convene on Google Meet due to current restrictions for COVID-19. There will be public comments towards the end of the meeting. Please note that you can email comments directly to Cindy Sharkey: csharkey@hbschools.org. Please mute your microphone to reduce feedback.

Date: Monday April 12, 2021

Time: 6:30 pm

No Formal action will be taken.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL by John Jennings, SBA / Board Secretary

Erin Delgado *Present*

Robert Imhoff *Present*

Tori Thomsen *Present*

Colleen Poles *Present*

James Garner *Absent*

Cindy Sharkey *Present*

Karyn Gove *Present*

Additional Members Present: Dr. Gregory Hobaugh, Superintendent
John Jennings, SBA / Board Secretary *(both present)*

4. PRESENTATION & RECOGNITION ITEM

4.1. Superintendent's Report

4.1.1. Superintendent Update

Greg Hobaugh reviewed the following with the Board:

- *1st Day back with new schedule*
- *If County moves from Orange to Yellow, will provide District with more flexibility on school schedule*
- *Next Board meeting he will provide an update on District Goals*
- *Noted new student sensory trails, thanked PTO for their efforts on this*
- *No SLA assessments this year, will use NJ Strong assessments*
- *Town recycling will provide District opportunity to recycle old items*
- *Sports update, nurse collecting student physicals. Monday April 19th, first practice, April 30th 1st XC meet, May 3rd, 1st BB and SB games.*
- *Parents can drive own child to games at no risk to District*
- *Mentioned new Basketball Backboards at middle school*
- *Mentioned new tile floor replacing carpet at ES*

Cindy Sharkey asked the superintendent to extend an invitation to the Town/Mayor to the Budget Meeting on April 26th.

4.1.2. Business Administrator Report

John Jennings discussed the following with the Board:

- *County approved District's Tentative Budget, no changes*
- *New middle school basketball backboards*
- *Noted new sensory trails and thanked Steven Weber for coming in over the weekend to put extra wax on the sensory trail for additional protection*
- *Reviewed tentative timeline for middle school boiler replacement project*
- *District received \$11,870.72 in FEMA funds for reimbursement of 2019-2020 Covid-related expenses*

5. REVIEW OF OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject</u>
Monique & John Patti	3/16/21	Reopening of School Plan <i>(Attachment: Patti Correspondence 3 16 21)</i>
Christina Bell	3/17/21	School Sessions <i>(Attachment: Bell Correspondence 3 17 21)</i>

6. REPORTS TO THE BOARD

6.1. Board President's Report

Cindy Sharkey reviewed the following with the Board:

- *April 26th CSA pre-conference evaluation discussion*
- *Reminded Board to complete their financial disclosure forms*

Robert Imhoff updated the Board on the State of NJ Plan to provide Districts funds to study regionalization. Robert discussed the implications of accepting funds and the timeline.

6.2. Resolution requesting the Governor and Commissioner of Education of the State of New Jersey to revise the state's COVID-19 physical distance recommendation for public schools from six feet to three feet.

Cindy Sharkey read the resolution at the meeting

WHEREAS, full in-person education is essential to provide a quality education to the children of our community; and

WHEREAS, the 6-foot physical distancing recommendation in the Department of Education's Road Back Plan prevents our school from bringing all student's back in-person full time; and

WHEREAS, a recent study of 251 Massachusetts school districts found "no significant difference in K-12 student and staff SARS-CoV-2 case rates in Massachusetts public school districts that implemented ≥ 3 feet versus ≥ 6 feet of physical distancing between students, provided other mitigation measures, such as universal masking, are implemented."; and

WHEREAS, the Hunterdon County Health Department's weekly School & Sports Data report to school superintendents continues to show little in-school transmission in Hunterdon County; and

WHEREAS, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the World Health Organization both recommend permitting physical distance in schools of less than 6 feet; and

WHEREAS, many other states including Massachusetts, Colorado, Indiana and Ohio have allowed schools to operate with physical distance of 3 feet.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the High Bridge Board of Education requests New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy and New Jersey Commissioner of Education Angelical

Allen-McMillan amend the NJDOE's COVID-19 guidance to recommend physical distance of 3 feet when universal masking is in place.

7. HIB REPORTS

None to report

8. ACTION ITEMS

8.1. Human Resources - Personnel, Management & Community Relations

- 8.1.1. Nate Eifler and Justin Baranek as summer custodians at \$14 per hour starting July 1, 2021.
- 8.1.2. Mike Doerwang as a summer custodian at \$14 per hour starting the last day of the contracted school year.
- 8.1.3. Jack Cahill as a summer custodian at \$14.00 per hour starting June 21, 2020, pending a criminal background check.
- 8.1.4. Kimberly Sandorff as replacement ES BSI Math Instructor for the remaining 62 hours at a rate of \$29.11 for a total of \$1,804.82 to be paid from Title I funds.
- 8.1.5. Courtney Shiffman and Jeff Thompson as co-advisors for a Drama Activities Club at a rate of \$29.11 per hour not to exceed a total of 20 hours for a total of \$582.20 to be divided equally between co-advisors, dependent on state and health department guidelines. (*Attachment: Drama Activities Proposal*)
- 8.1.6. Carl Katzenberger as Middle School Girls Softball Coach at the contractual rate of \$1,517.00.
- 8.1.7. Christian Bollin as Middle School Boys Baseball Coach at the stipend rate of \$1,264.00.
- 8.1.8. Connor Gleeson as a volunteer assistant baseball coach, pending criminal background check.
- 8.1.9. The College of New Jersey student Leah Posella to intern with Elementary School Guidance Counselor, Melissa Patane, for the fall 2021 semester. (*Attachment: Posella Guidance Intern*)

8.2. Educational Resources - Finance and Facilities

8.2.1. Travel Expenditure for Workshops

Staff/Bd Member	Workshop	Date	Registration Fee	Mileage	Total
Melissa Ozoria	NJASP Spring Conference	05/14/2021	\$155.00	N/A	\$155.00

- 8.2.2. Recycling of unserviceable technology
- 8.2.3. Payment of Bills
- 8.2.4. Line Item Transfers
- 8.2.5. Financial Reports

Greg Hobaugh and John Jennings reviewed the items above with the Board

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS

This period of time provides an opportunity for the public to speak on any topic related to the High Bridge Public Schools. It is the policy of the Board of Education (Policy #0164) that all public

comments on an issue shall be limited to three (3) minutes per person and no person may make more than one (1) comment per subject. Comments may be made on any subject pertaining to High Bridge Public Schools. Comments pertaining to Public Hearings should be saved for that section of the agenda. Comments should be addressed to the Board. *No public comments or emails*

10. EXECUTIVE/CLOSED SESSION

Board President calls for a motion at 7:05 pm Karyn Gove and a second **Erin Delgado, unanimously approved**, in accordance with the Sunshine Law, Chapter 321, P.L. 1975, to discuss:

- Negotiations
- Shared services agreement between High Bridge Board of Education and Bethlehem Township Board of Education. (Attachments:

The matters discussed will be made public if and when the circumstances requiring confidentiality no longer exist; however, it is not presently known when such circumstances will exist.

11. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION

Board President calls for a motion at 7:40 pm Erin Delgado and a second **Karyn Gove, unanimously approved**, to reconvene public session.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Board President calls for a motion at 7:45 pm Tori Thomsen and a second **Karyn Gove, unanimously approved**, to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,



John Jennings
Business Administrator/Board Secretary