

**HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION
REORGANIZATION MEETING - MINUTES
January 2, 2018**

A Special meeting of the Board of Education of the Hopatcong Borough School District was held on January 02, 2018 in the Board Meeting Room, 2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, New Jersey.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.
2. **FLAG SALUTE**
3. Mr. Fasano, Board President, read the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act Statement:

In accordance with Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, this public body, the Hopatcong Board of Education hereby announces that The New Jersey Herald and the Daily Record have been notified by mail that this Board of Education Regular meeting will take place in the Hopatcong Board of Education meeting room, 2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ, at 7:00 p.m. on January 02, 2018.

4. **REPORT OF THE 2017 SCHOOL ELECTION RESULTS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF BOARD MEMBERS**

Acknowledgment of the results of the November 2017 Board of Education Election as reported and certified by the Sussex County Board of Elections as follows:

Elected to Hopatcong Board of Education: 3 Year Term

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Total Votes</u>
Dr. Sarah Schindelar.....	1,884
Ms. Erin Jacobus.....	1,644
Mr. Scott Francis.....	1,611

5. **ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE TO NEWLY ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS**

Ms. Carolyn B. Joseph administers the Oath of Office to Dr. Sarah Schindelar, Ms. Erin Jacobus and Mr. Scott Francis.

6. **ROLL CALL:**

Mr. Philip DiStefano
Mr. Scott Francis
Ms. Erin Jacobus
Mr. Warren Gallagher
Mr. Alex McLean
Dr. Sarah Schindelar
Mrs. Candice Smith
Mr. Anthony Fasano, President
Mrs. Carol Trumpore, Vice President

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Also Present: Mr. Paul Saxton, Superintendent, Ms. Carolyn B. Joseph, Board Secretary, Ms. Kerri Wright, Esq.

7. **ELECTION OF BOARD PRESIDENT**

Ms. Joseph entertained motions for nominations for Hopatcong Board of Education President for the 2017/2018 school year and 2018/2019 school year through December 31, 2018.

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Mrs. Smith nominated Anthony Fasano to continue as Board President. The motion was seconded by Mr. DiStefano. No other nominations were made.

Philip DiStefano	Yes	Scott Francis	Yes	Warren Gallagher	Yes
Erin Jacobus	Yes	Alex McLean	Yes	Sarah Schindelar	Yes
Candice Smith	Yes	Carol Trumpore	Yes	Anthony Fasano	Yes

Motion passed. Mr. Anthony Fasano will continue as Board of Education President.

8. ELECTION BOARD VICE-PRESIDENT

Mr. Fasano entertained motions for nominations for **Hopatcong Board of Education Vice-President** for the 2017/2018 school year and 2018/2019 school year through December 31, 2018.

Mr. Fasano nominated Ms. Carol Trumpore as Vice-President. The motion was seconded by Mr. DiStefano. Ms. Trumpore declined the nomination.

Mr. Fasano then nominated Mr. Alex McLean as Vice-President. The motion was seconded by Ms. Carol Trumpore.

Ms. Erin Jacobus nominated Mrs. Candice Smith as Vice-President. Mrs. Smith declined

Motion to approve Alex McLean as Vice President was put to vote:

Philip DiStefano	Yes	Scott Francis	Yes	Warren Gallagher	Yes
Erin Jacobus	Abstain	Alex McLean	Yes	Sarah Schindelar	Yes
Candice Smith	Yes	Carol Trumpore	Yes	Anthony Fasano	Yes

Motion passed. Mr. Alexander McLean elected as Hopatcong Board of Education Vice-President.

9. ESTABLISHMENT OF BOARD OF EDUCATION ANNUAL MEETING CALENDAR

Approval of the attached list of **Board Meeting dates for the 2017/2018 and 2018/2019 school year** through the Reorganization Meeting in **January 2019** and notification of such dates to the official newspapers of the Hopatcong Board of Education.

Mr. DiStefano made a motion to modify the calendar and schedule Board Goals meeting in January; this motion was seconded by Dr. Schindelar. Mr. Gallagher offered that Board Goals should be kept in August. Mr. DiStefano asked Mr. Saxton for his thoughts and Mr. Saxton agreed that the goals meeting should be kept in August and that our goals for this year have already been established. Mr. DiStefano withdraws motion; Dr. Schindelar seconds.

Mr. McLean moves to approve Item 9; Mrs. Smith seconds the motion.

Philip DiStefano	Yes	Scott Francis	Yes	Warren Gallagher	Yes
Erin Jacobus	Yes	Alex McLean	Yes	Sarah Schindelar	Yes
Candice Smith	Yes	Carol Trumpore	Yes	Anthony Fasano	Yes

Motion to approve the Board meeting dates passed.

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10. APPOINTMENT OF NEWSPAPERS

Appointment of the *New Jersey Herald*, the *Daily Record* and the *Star Ledger* as the official newspapers used by the Board of Education at the Board Secretary's discretion.

11. APPOINTMENT OF FINANCIAL DEPOSITORIES

Approval of **Fulton Bank of New Jersey, Santander, and Valley National Bank** as bank depositories for the Board of Education and authorization for the President to be the signatory and have signature plates made.

12. ADOPTION OF CODE OF ETHICS

Approval of the adoption of the Code of Ethics for Board members as required by law, N.J.S.A. 18A:12-2.1 and N.J.S.A. 41:1-1 and 1-3.

Motion was made by Mrs. Smith to approve Items 10, 11, 12 which was seconded by Ms. Jacobus.

Mr. McLean questions the Star Ledger expense and it was explained that the Star Ledger is only used for employment advertising.

Philip DiStefano	Yes	Scott Francis	Yes	Warren Gallagher	Yes
Erin Jacobus	Yes	Alex McLean	Yes	Sarah Schindelar	Yes
Candice Smith	Yes	Carol Trumpore	Yes	Anthony Fasano	Yes

13. PUBLIC COMMENT – GENERAL DISCUSSION

Public welcomed Paul Saxton, Erin Jacobus and Scott Francis; a member of the public expressed concern since Mr. McLean was just elected Vice President and he will need to recuse himself from votes involving personnel even when he is running the meeting in the Board President's absence. HEPTO coordinator reported on HEPTO events. Questions regarding the criteria used to determine a delayed opening as had occurred this morning. Parents were upset since it was the first day back after the holiday break. Anthony Fasano responded that it is always determined for the best interest and safety of the students and since the buses had not been run in a week, there was concern that they would not start due to the extreme cold.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Erin Jacobus - Happy, honored and excited to be hear. Thanks to Gina Buongiorno, Rob Nicholson and Scott Francis for the support; everyone has been so kind and welcoming. Not here to make friends or enemies – will do her best to listen always, hope all will do the same. Hopes to see district grow in new capacities. Thank you for support.

Scott Francis – Thank you to everyone for being here; there is a lot going on up here, a lot of different personalities on a board are a good thing. The Superintendent will guide us. Let's build a community through the school system.

Candice Smith – Start of third year, looks forward to working with Mr. Saxton and the new and former board members. Look forward to a productive year.

Warren Gallagher – Welcome to Erin & Scott. We are happy to listen. Pleased that we now have a top flight BA & Superintendent. Look forward to 2018 and getting things done for the children of the district.

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Alex McLean – Welcomes both Scott and Erin and looks forward to working with them. Thanks the board for the vote of confidence in him as Vice President. Welcome Mr. Saxton. Personally thanks Carol Trumpore for providing tremendous amount of guidance and counsel; she very quickly moved from Board member to friend. Thank you for your service as Vice President. Thank you to the public and Happy New Year.

Carol Trumpore – Welcome and thank you to everyone for support, appreciate kind words and opportunity to know the administrators. Cares very deeply about the district; Thanks Joanne Mullane for stepping in and managing this district. Thanks to Paul and looks forward to his leadership.

Sarah Schindelar – Looking forward to this year. Is very excited that Paul is here. Thinks he will do great things for this district. Happy New Year.

Phil DiStefano – Welcome and good luck to Scott and Erin. Pleased that Mr. Saxton is here. Lot of interesting things on our agenda. We are all trying to make the school system better. Happy New Year.

Anthony Fasano – Believes this board is very open and communicative. Welcomes Scott & Erin. To the team. Thanks to the Board for allowing him to remain Board President. Could not have asked for a better person than Carol as VP for last 2 years. Congratulations & welcome to Mr. McLean as new VP. Successes in 2017 due in large part to Joanne Mullane. 2018 is going to be tremendous year. Thank you. Happy New Year

14. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Smith, seconded by
Dr. Schindelar.**

All in favor

Time: 8:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn B. Joseph,
Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary