

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

FEBRUARY 22, 2021

5:30 pm. (Administration Building Room 41– Open the meeting and enter Executive Session)

7:00 p.m. Live & Virtual

1. CALL TO ORDER

Time: 7:00 pm

2. FLAG SALUTE

3. OPENING 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 email that this Board of Education Regular meeting will take place in the Hopatcong Board of Education Board Room, Hopatcong, NJ at 7:00 p.m. on February 22, 2021.

4. ROLL CALL

Present	Alex McLean	Present	Scott Francis	Present	Warren Gallagher
Absent	Dr.Schindelar	Present	Candice Smith	Present	Michelle Perrotti
Present	Jackie Turkington	Present	Nicole Falconi-Shubert		

5. SWEARING IN OF NEW BOARD MEMBER

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of the following meetings, as reported by the Board Secretary reviewed by the Board President and members of the Board:

- a. January 4, 2021 – Regular Meeting
- b. January 4, 2021 – Executive Session
- c. January 25, 2021 – Special Meeting

Motion to approve 6a – 6c:

(ACTION)Motion by Smith, seconded by Francis

Yes	McLean	Yes	Francis	Yes	Gallagher
Absent	Schindelar	Yes	Smith	Yes	Perrotti
Yes	Turkington	Yes	Falconi-Shubert	Abstain	Gulan

7. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Congratulations to Hopatcong Middle School Students who made High Honor Roll and Honor Roll for the second marking period of the 2020 – 2021 school year.

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

FEBRUARY 22, 2021

5:30 pm. (Administration Building Room 41– Open the meeting and enter Executive Session)

7:00 p.m. Live & Virtual

- b. Congratulations to Hopatcong High School Students who made High Honor Roll and Honor Roll for the second marking period of the 2020 – 2021 school year.

(Names will be posted when the minutes are approved/posted)

Motion to approve 7a – 7b:

(ACTION) Motion by Smith, seconded by Francis

Yes	McLean	Yes	Francis	Yes	Gallagher
Absent	Schindelar	Yes	Smith	Yes	Perrotti
Yes	Turkington	Yes	Falconi-Shubert	Yes	Gulan

8. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT AND HIB REPORT

- a. Superintendent’s Report – **Art DiBenedetto, Superintendent of Schools**

- 1. Updates and agenda review

- b. Whereas there have been no HIBs reported for the month of January 2021, acceptance of the report indicating no findings.

Motion to approve 8a – 8b:

(ACTION) Motion by Smith, seconded by Francis

Yes	McLean	Yes	Francis	Yes	Gallagher
Yes	Schindelar	Yes	Smith	Yes	Perrotti
Yes	Turkington	Yes	Falconi-Shubert	Yes	Gulan

9. PARENT/TEACHER

- a. Parent/Teacher Organization Representatives.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT – GENERAL DISCUSSION

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

FEBRUARY 22, 2021

5:30 pm. (Administration Building Room 41– Open the meeting and enter Executive Session)

7:00 p.m. Live & Virtual

11. FINANCE

It is recommended by the Superintendent that bills for the General Fund and Special Revenues (Grants) account, January 25, 2021 through February 22, 2021 be approved in the following amounts:

General Fund and Special Revenue (Grants) account - \$ 745,690.01
 Cafeteria account - \$ 21,200.43

- a. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the board approve the Board Secretary’s Report for the month of December 2020.
- b. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the board approve the Transfer Report for the month of December 2020.
- d. Approval of the designation of Jeff Hallenbeck, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, as the Public Agency Compliance Officer (P.A.C.O.).

**Motion to approve 11a – Addendum (a-d)
 (ACTION) Motion by Smith, seconded by Perrotti**

Yes	McLean	Yes	Francis	Yes	Gallagher
Absent	Schindelar	Yes	Smith	Yes	Perrotti
Yes	Turkington	Yes	Falconi-Shubert	Abstain	Gulan

Mr. McLean abstains on items #11, 12, and Addendum C.

12. PERSONNEL

Approval of the following personnel items, **12a – 12d**, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools and the Student Achievement Committee of the Board:

- a. Approval of the employment of Kimberly Zeier as a Paraprofessional in Durban Ave effective February 3, 2021.
- b. Approval of the following staff mentoring partnership in accordance with the provisions and requirements of TEACH NJ and the Hopatcong District Mentoring Program:

New Staff	Mentor	School	Mentoring Dates
Carolyn Olsen	Jonathan Rishawy	HHS	2020-2021 School Year
Brian Vuurens	Jim McDonald	HHS	2020-2021 School Year

- c. Approval of the following staff to receive tuition reimbursements, as per contract, upon successful completion of the course and submission of paperwork:

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

FEBRUARY 22, 2021

5:30 pm. (Administration Building Room 41– Open the meeting and enter Executive Session)

7:00 p.m. Live & Virtual

Course Approval

Name	Course Title	Credit(s)	Cost
Joseph Piccirillo	Leading Adult Learners EDU856	3	\$2,190
Joseph Piccirillo	Supervision of Differentiated Instruction EDU876	3	\$2,190
Heather DelBagno	Motivating Student Who Don't Care	3	\$375

- d. Approval of substitutes, teachers, paraprofessionals, custodians, and van drivers.

13. STUDENTS AND SERVICES

Approval of the following item, 13a-13c as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools and Student Achievement Committee of the Board:

- a. Approval for an out of district placement for student ID No, 14742 who has been placed at Lake Drive School, Mountain Lakes, NJ for the 2020/2021 school year. The effective date is February 1, 2021. The cost is \$7,020.00 per month for 5 months totaling \$35,100.00
- b. Approval for an out of placement for student ID No, 413068 who has been placed at The Craig School, Mountain Lakes, NJ for the 2020/2021 school year. The effective date is February 2, 2021. The tuition cost is \$5,599.47 per month for a total of \$27,997.35. There is an addition cost of approximately \$2,70.00 for speech services and \$1404.00 for occupational services.
- c. Approval for home instruction services for student no. 14475 for three hours per week. Instruction will be provided by Hopatcong certificated staff at the rate of \$35.00 per hour effective February 16, 2019 through the remainder of the 2020/2021 school year.

14. TRAVEL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Resolved, that the Hopatcong Board of Education approve travel costs as related in this resolution which are educationally necessary and fiscally prudent and are related to and within the scope of the employee's current responsibilities and promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district. The reimbursement listed in this resolution are in compliance with the state travel reimbursement guidelines as established by the Department of Treasury and Board of Education policy in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1. seq

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

FEBRUARY 22, 2021

5:30 pm. (Administration Building Room 41– Open the meeting and enter Executive Session)

7:00 p.m. Live & Virtual

Conferences/Professional Development

Name	Conference/PD	Date	Location	Cost including travel
Joseph Piccirillo	Final Doctoral Residency	June 5, 2021- June 18-2021	University of Mary-Bismarck, ND	\$2,389.71

Course Reimbursements*

Name	Course Title	Credit(s)	Cost
Nancy Duffy	Motivating Students Who Don't Care	3	\$375
Gregory Smyth	Structural and Mechanical Systems	-	\$483

15. RESOLUTIONS

- a. Whereas employee #81530 had a contract terminated on 12/24/20, and whereas the employee asked if he could remain employed until a replacement was hired, and whereas that arrangement was acceptable for continuity of employment, employee #81530 worked additional days until February 3, 2021 at the same daily rate.
- b. Whereas the Hopatcong Board of Education has completed its annual financial report presented by Nisivoccia Associates this evening to the Board and public. The Board accepts the 2019-2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and Auditor's Management Report (AMR) as presented including all financial summaries; and The Hopatcong Board of Education agrees to develop and implement a corrective action plan for all audit recommendations which shall be submitted to the NJDOE.

16. SUSSEX COUNTY REGIONAL COOPERATIVE

- a. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **approval of bills** for the Sussex County Regional Cooperative Operating account for January 26, 2021 through February 22, 2021 in the amount of \$32, 546.72 for Regular bills and \$2,140,983.56 for Bus Contractors.
- b. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **approval to extend the school vehicle service contract 2019-01-01 with Byram Bus, Inc.** for an additional one year term starting on March 1, 2021. In accordance with 18A:18A-42 and the CPI as listed in US Bureau of Labor Statistics (Table 1) dated 12/10/2020 current pricing will be extended at an increase of 1.2%.

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

FEBRUARY 22, 2021

5:30 pm. (Administration Building Room 41– Open the meeting and enter Executive Session)

7:00 p.m. Live & Virtual

- c. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **approval of a Joint Transportation Agreement** for the 2020-21 school year with **Educational Services Commission of Morris County** in consideration of transporting public, nonpublic and/or special education students on established routes at pro-rated contract costs plus a 2% administrative fee.
- d.
1. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **acceptance** of student transportation **quotations for Special Education Routes** for the 2020-21 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
 2. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **award** of student transportation **quotations for Special Education Routes** for the 2020-21 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
 3. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **acceptance** of student transportation **quotations for Athletic/Class/Field Trips** for the 2020-21 School Year as listed on Exhibit A (Required 3 bids not received for trip #'s QAT-0205, QAT-0206, QAT-0208, QAT-0209, DWClark & Sons, INC No Quote Received).
 4. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **award** of student transportation **contracts for quoted Athletic/Class/Field Trips** to the lowest, responsible and responsive bus contractor companies for the 2020-21 School Year as listed on Exhibit A. (Required 3 bids not received for trip #'s QAT-0205, QAT-0206, QAT-0208, QAT-0209, DWClark & Sons, INC No Quote Received).
 5. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **acceptance of contract addendums** for the 2020-21 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
 6. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **acceptance** of a **correction** to a **contract addendum** for the 2020-21 School Year as listed on Exhibit A. (The correction is necessary due to a clerical error to correct the board minutes for county approval of the contract.)
 7. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **acceptance of bids** submitted from the **January 19, 2021** bid for the 2020-21 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
 8. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **award of bids** submitted from the **January 19, 2021** bid to the lowest, responsible and responsive bus contractor company for the 2020-21 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

FEBRUARY 22, 2021

5:30 pm. (Administration Building Room 41– Open the meeting and enter Executive Session)

7:00 p.m. Live & Virtual

9. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **rejection** of **student transportation bids** for non-compliance issues or route terminations submitted on **January 19, 2021** for the 2019-20 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.

17. BOARD OF EDUCATION – MEMBER COMMENTS

ADDENDUM

February 22, 2021

Regular Meeting

- a. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Hopatcong Board of Education approval to submit Amendment #1 of the CARES Act Emergency Relief Grant to the NJDOE in the amount of \$8877 due to an increase in the original award amount provided to the District.
- b. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Hopatcong Board of Education approve the return of Jill Mortenson to a PE/Health position replacing a retiring teacher, effective March 1, 2021. Mrs. Mortenson returns from a child care leave and a Reduction in Force situation. Her placement on the salary guide needs to be researched because of the time of her leave and the new HEA contract which puts forth a new guide. This will be reviewed with the HEA and Mrs. Mortenson and be recommended at the March meeting. However, this will be finalized as soon as possible, before her first paycheck.
- c. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Hopatcong Board of Education approve travel costs as related in this resolution which are educationally necessary and fiscally prudent and are related to and within the scope of the employee's current responsibilities and promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district. The reimbursement listed in this resolution are in compliance with the state travel reimbursement guidelines as established by the Department of Treasury and Board of Education policy in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1. seq

Course Reimbursements*

Name	Course Title	Credit(s)	Cost
Alexa McLean	Differentiated Instruction – English Language	3	\$2,585.18

- d. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Hopatcong Board of Education approve of the following staff to receive tuition reimbursements, as per contract, upon successful completion of the course and submission of paperwork:

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

FEBRUARY 22, 2021

5:30 pm. (Administration Building Room 41– Open the meeting and enter Executive Session)

7:00 p.m. Live & Virtual

Course Approval

Name	Course Title	Credit(s)	Cost
Pamela Brennan	Meeting the Needs of the ELL in Your Classroom EDU 620	3	\$374

18. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn:

(ACTION) Motion by Smith, seconded by Francis

All in favor Yes Time: 8:44 pm

Respectfully submitted by:

Jeff Hallenbeck, Board Secretary