

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

March 14, 2022

5:30 pm. (Administration Building Room 41– Open the meeting and enter Executive Session)
7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Time: 5:35 pm

1. **FLAG SALUTE**

2. **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 at 5:30 p.m. on March 14, 2022.

3. **ROLL CALL**

Present	Scott Francis	Present	Nicole Falconi-Shubert	Present	Jayna Gulan 6:17 pm
Absent	Dr.Schindelar	Present	Gerard Gruenfelder	Present	Philip DiStefano 6:05 pm
Present	Jackie Turkington	Present	Jennifer Polowchena	Present	Alex McLean 5:45 pm

Mr. McLean arrived at 5:45pm; Ms. Gulan arrived at 6:17pm; Mr. DiStefano arrived at 6:05pm

4. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion will be made that the Hopatcong Board of Education will enter Executive Session to discuss personnel and attorney/client privilege, which are exempt from public participation pursuant to New Jersey Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, Open Public Meetings Act. Any discussions held by the Board which need not remain confidential will be made public when appropriate. Minutes of the Executive Session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists. The Board will reconvene in public session immediately following.

Motion to enter executive session:

(ACTION)Motion by Falconi-Shubert , seconded by Polowchena

Yes	Scott Francis	Yes	Nicole Falconi-Shubert	Absent	Jayna Gulan
Absent	Dr.Schindelar	Yes	Gerard Gruenfelder	Absent	Philip DiStefano
Yes	Jackie Turkington	Yes	Jennifer Polowchena	Present	Alex McLean 5:45pm

5. **RECONVENE**

Motion to Reconvene

(ACTION)Motion by Falconi-Shubert, seconded by Polowchena

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Absent	Dr.Schindelar	Yes	Gerard Gruenfelder	Absent	Philip DiStefano
Yes	Jackie Turkington	Yes	Jennifer Polowchena	Yes	Alex McLean

6. **COMMITTEE DISCUSSION**

Dr. Piccirillo presents committee discussions:

- a. Summer Programs (*Curriculum; Community Relations; Facilities*)
 1. Pods – *Dr. Piccirillo discusses success with program last summer and willingness to continue again this summer.*
 2. Alpha Best – *Summer Camp will be offered again. Town Rec not offering camp.*
 3. Orton-Gillingham – *More training provided this summer through Fairleigh Dickenson*
 4. Student Summer Camps led by Faculty Members – *Week long sessions may be offered by staff this summer if staff display interest.*
- b. Adult Recreation Program (*Community Relations; Facilities, Finance*) - *if it generates an income, we will investigate offering programs.*
- c. Use of the High School Weight Room (*Community Relations; Facilities, Finance*) – *looking into hours of operation and liability issues. Maybe offer just during summer.*
- d. Cosmetology Staffing Position (*Personnel*) – *to replace resigning teacher.*
- e. Cosmetology Night School (*Community Relations; Facilities, Finance*) – *development for a lesser cost than local companies to attract students and increase district revenue.*
- f. Policy/Regulations – *Discussion ensued regarding the following policies and regulations.*

Policies up for discussion:

- | | |
|--------|----------------------------------------|
| P 7435 | Alcoholic Beverages on School Premises |
| P 7510 | Use of School Facilities |
| P 2464 | Gifted and Talented Pupils |
| P 0168 | Recording Board Meetings |
| P 5536 | Random Drug Testing |
| P TBD | Students on Board of Education |

Policies for first reading:

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| P 2415.05 | Student Surveys, Analysis, Evaluations, Examinations, Testing, or Treatment (M) (Revised) |
| P & R 2431.4 | Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Concussions and Head Injuries (M) (Revised) |
| P&R 1642 | Earned Sick Leave |

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- g. Use of Schools as Event Spaces (*Community Relations; Facilities, Finance*) – *further discussion needed*
- h. Investing in Overnight Swaps (*Finance*) – *further discussion needed.*
- i. Drama Student Liaison (*Personnel*) – *Needed to help supervise students since the loss of Mr. Batche.*
- j. Transportation (*Transportation*) – *discussion regarding running our own fleet.*
- k. Facilities Updates (*Facilities*) – *and discussion regarding River Styx garage*
- l. High School Graduation Date (*Community Relations*)
- m. Next Year School Calendar (*Community Relations*) – *Looking to add 5 snow days to calendar*
- n. Income Generating Ideas (*Finance*)
- o. Public Speaking Student Requirement (*Curriculum*) – **Dr. Piccirillo asks to table o. until next meeting.**
- p. Letter to Governor Murphy Regarding State Aid Cuts (*Community Relations; Finance*) – *will be signed by all Board members and shared with the community.*
- q. Employee Hire Incentive (*Personnel*) – *Desperate need for paraprofessional to meet IEP requirements.*
- r. GSA (*Curriculum*)
- s. New Hires (*Personnel*)
 - 1. Custodian (March 28)
 - 2. Social Worker (2022-2023) – We are required by law to have a Social Worker; replacing one who is leaving.
- t. Budget Presentation/Final State Aid Figures (*Finance*)
- u. Governor Budget Update presented by Alex McLean (*Finance*)

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT – GENERAL DISCUSSION** – A member of the public, Susan Zinsley discussed the 3 month absence of Mrs. Barroquierro at Tulsa and the reduction of academic and challenging work being provided by substitute teachers.

8. **PERSONNEL**

Approval of the following personnel items, **8a-8b**, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools and the Student Achievement Committee of the Board:

- a. Approval of **Susan Pallotta** as the High School Drama Club Student Liaison at \$28/hour.
- b. Approval of **Sean Norton** as Head Football Coach, Class A, Level 4 salary of \$7,712 for the 2022-2023 school year.

Motion to approve 8a – 8b:

(ACTION) Motion by Falconi-Shubert, seconded by Turkington

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Yes	Jackie Turkington	Yes	Jennifer Polowchena	Yes	Alex McLean

9. RESOLUTIONS

- a. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Board of Education approve Approval of the agreement between Hopatcong Borough Schools and Employee #80231.
- b. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Board of Education approve the latest revision of the District’s COVID Safe Return Plan.
- c. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Board of Education approve the resignation of employee Candace Kouris effective August 31, 2022.

Motion to approve 9a-9c:

(ACTION)Motion by Turkington, seconded by Falconi-Shubert

Yes	Scott Francis	Yes	Nicole Falconi-Shubert	Yes	Jayna Gulan
Absent	Dr.Schindelar	Yes	Gerard Gruenfelder	Yes	Philip DiStefano
Yes	Jackie Turkington	Yes	Jennifer Polowchena	Yes	Alex McLean

6. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn:

(ACTION)Motion by Turkington, seconded by Falconi-Shubert

All in favor Yes Time: 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jeff Hallenbeck, Board Secretary