

**MENDHAM TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BROOKSIDE, NEW JERSEY
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GYMNASIUM
REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2022, 7:30 PM**

I. Call to Order - The meeting was called to order at 7:32 pm.

II. Flag Salute - Mrs. Holquist led the flag salute.

III. Roll Call of the Board of Education

Mrs. Gretchen Holquist	President	Present
Mrs. Joan Mody	Vice President	Present
Mr. Andrew Christmann		Present
Mr. Adam Dubeck		Present
Mr. Peter Dumovic		Present
Mr. Thomas Keeling		Present
Dr. Rekha Mandel		Present – arrived at 7:36 pm

Also, present: Dr. Salvatore Constantino, Superintendent
Mrs. Donna Mosner, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary
General Public – One.

IV. Sunshine Law - Mrs. Holquist read the following statement -

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this act, Mendham Township Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof posted in the Mendham Township Board of Education Office and sent to the Clerk of Mendham Township, and the Observer Tribune and the Daily Record. This is an official meeting.

V. Superintendent's Report

➤ District Updates, News, and Events

Budget Open House Meetings:

Held on Apr 21, 2022, at 12 PM and 7:30 PM. Light attendance, though the information was well received and the people in attendance thanked the Board for their work on the budget. The 12 PM meeting was recorded and is being posted on our budget website for anyone that would like to view it.

Upcoming Budget Presentations/Information:

On May 3, 2022, Mrs. Mosner and I will present the final budget information to the Board and the public. The Board will be asked to give final approval to the 22-23 budget at that time. I will be visiting the Township Committee to give them a short update on the budget at one of their upcoming meetings.

TTS Protocols:

The MTSD has been working toward implementing a Test to Stay strategy in our schools. Test to Stay (TTS) is a practice that allows close contact of individuals with COVID-19 to remain in the classroom instead of quarantining at home. It requires close contacts to take a COVID-19 test every day for 5 days after the exposure. If the test is negative, they are allowed to stay in school. They must also wear a mask and remain without symptoms for 5 days after the exposure.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends that schools consider using Test to Stay to reduce the impact of quarantine and limit school absences. Test to Stay will be open to unvaccinated or not yet fully vaccinated students. Teachers, staff, parents, and fully vaccinated students are not eligible to participate at this time, as the NJDOE and CDC rules do not allow for that. Participating students may benefit from COVID-19 testing and early identification of COVID-19, and will benefit from being able to continue to attend in-person school and certain school-based extracurricular activities.

All testing will be voluntary and only students with a signed consent form on file will be tested. We are excited to add Test to Stay as another mitigation strategy for our school community as we continue to work together to keep students and staff safe and in school.

Health and PE Standards - related to LGBTQIA and Human Development

In June of 2020, the NJ Board of Education adopted new Health and PE Standards. It was the charge of each school district to write a specific curriculum in support of the standards and implement it in the fall of 2021. (BOE Approved in February of 2021) The standards were said to be based on research making clear that receiving age-appropriate information about health education is essential for students' physical and emotional well-being. Material adoption is a local LEA decision, based on the local curriculum development and review process. See N.J.A.C. 6A:8-3.1.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.7, any child whose parent or guardian presents to the school a signed statement that any part of instruction in health, family life education or sex education is in conflict with his or her conscience or sincerely held moral or religious beliefs shall be excused from that portion of the course. Curriculum information can be found on our website for each grade level and school. Opt-out information for "Human Sexuality", along with specific content information for each grade level can be found on the MTMS website. I will be sending the completed version of our guidance document for grade levels K-8 in the coming weeks and posting it on our website for review at any time.

Join the HSA for an evening of glamour, glitz, and fun to benefit the Mendham Township School District!

Thursday, May 5th, 2022; 7-10 pm

1776 by David Burke, Morristown

Black & White Cocktail Attire/Luxury raffles and more

Each ticket includes:

-Open Bar (Beer & Wine) 7-9 pm

-Passed Hors d'ouerves

VI. Board Secretary's Report

➤ 2022-2023 Budget

Advertised Budget was in the Daily Record today

Public Hearing – May 3, 2022, @ 7:30 pm - MTES

➤ Bonding/Referendum

Opened a new bank account with Lakeland Bank to keep the funds separate

Going out for RFP to solicit proposals to invest some of the funding

VII. Board President's Report – None.

VIII. Correspondence – None.

IX. Committee Reports – None.

X. Consent Items

Approval of Minutes

Work Session Minutes: March 15, 2022

Regular Session Minutes: March 22, 2022

Approval of Executive Minutes: March 22, 2022

Curriculum and Instruction

1. **New - Middle School Curriculum** (Attachment)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the adoption of the new Middle School Social-Emotional Learning Curriculum for Grades 5th - 8th for the 2022-2023 school year.

2. **New - Middle School Field Trip**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the following field trip for the 2021-2022 school year:

Date	Grade	Activity	Cost to Transportation	Cost to Student	Chaperones
06/01/22	5th	Fairview Lake YMCA	District Bus	\$62.00	Craig Clausen Erica Hays Elizabeth Hollman Jessica Mallonee Megan Ryan Hannah Tapia Kelly Wilce Nurse - TBD

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves payment at the contractual rate of \$120.00 for field trips which extend the day by more than two (2) hours to the above 5th Grade chaperones attending the Fairview Lakes YMCA field trip.

3. **Bring Your Child to Work Day**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves April 28, 2022, as “Bring Your Child to Work Day” in the Mendham Township Schools.

4. **2019-2021 Comprehensive Equity Plan Extension Statement of Assurance for the 2022-2023 School Year** (Attachment)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the submission for the extension of its current Comprehensive Equity Plan for the 2022-2023 school year.

Operations and Finance

1. **Certification Reports**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education certify pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:19-4, does certify that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures which in total exceed the line item appropriation, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-9 and N.J.S.A. 18A:17-36, after review of the Board Secretary’s and Treasurer’s monthly financial reports for the month of April 2022 that no major accounts and fund balances in the 2021/2022 budget have been over expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

2. **Board Secretary’s Report**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the March 2022 Board Secretary’s Reports.

3. **Treasurer’s Report**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the March 2022 Treasurer’s Reports.

4. **April 2022 Transfer Reports**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the April 2022 transfer report.

5. **April 2022 Bills List**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the final April 2022 Bills List. This includes payroll checks N0372 through N0374 and N0377 through N0379.

Fund 10	\$ 53,343.39
Fund 11	\$2,334,582.38
Fund 20	\$ 12,356.20
Fund 40	\$ 753,900.00
Fund 60	\$ 24,508.54
Fund 95	<u>\$ 670.00</u>
Total:	<u>\$3,179,360.51</u>

6. **District Travel**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Board of Education approves the listed travel events in agreement with Chapter 53, Public Law 2007, NJSA 18A:11-12, NJAC 6A:23A-1. All mileage will be reimbursed at the maximum NJ Circular 08-19-OMB rate (currently \$0.35 per mile).

Program Name	Date	Employee	Event Cost	Total Cost
CORE Reading Academy “Science of Reading” (Online)	04/21/22 thru 06/29/22	Amanda Fullem Erica Parke	\$600.00	\$1,200.00
Examining and Understanding Diversity	05/03/22	Michele Casse-Ippolito Elyse Greenbaum	\$60.00	\$120.00

of Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation (Online)				
Complex Trauma in Children (Online)	05/10/22 05/11/22	Elyse Greenbaum	\$120.00	\$120.00
Social Media's Influence on Self-harm Behaviors and Self-regulation (Online)	05/19/22	Michele Casse-Ippolito	\$60.00	\$60.00
Understand the Trans/ Nonbinary Experience and Providing Affirming Care (Online)	06/23/22	Michele Casse-Ippolito	\$60.00	\$60.00

7. **2022-2023 Joint Transportation Agreement with Educational Services Commission of Morris County**
(Attachment)
BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the 2022-2023 Joint Transportation Agreement between the Mendham Township Board of Education and the Educational Services Commission of Morris County.

8. **2022-2023 Professional Support/Non-Public Service Agreement with Educational Services Commission of Morris County** (Attachment)
BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the 2022-2023 Professional Support/Non-Public Service Agreement between the Mendham Township Board of Education and the Educational Services Commission of Morris County.

9. **Transportation 2022 Summer Trip Rates**
BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the 2022 Summer Transportation rates as follows:

School Bus: \$65.00/hourly rate Van: 55.00/hourly rate

Personnel and Human Resources

1. **Staff Retirement - Margaret Hogan** (Attachment)
BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education, accepts with regret, the letter of retirement from Margaret Hogan, Transportation Supervisor, dated March 22, 2022, effective June 30, 2022.

2. **Staff Retirement - Domingo Mercado** (Attachment)
BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education, accepts with regret, the letter of retirement from Domingo Mercado, Transportation Driver, dated April 12, 2022, effective June 30, 2022.

3. **Staff Resignation - Ignacio Angulo-Pizarro** (*Attachment*)
BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education, accepts the letter of resignation from Ignacio Angulo-Pizarro, Middle School Music/Chorus Teacher, dated April 8, 2022, effective June 10, 2022.
4. **Unpaid Absence - Susan Romero** (*Attachment*)
BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves Susan Romero to take April 28, 2022, through May 2, 2022 (2.5 days) as unpaid absences.
5. **Elementary School Activity Chaperones - Talent Show (April 27, 2022)**
BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves payment to the following two (2) chaperones at the contractual rate of \$100.00 each for events that start after contractual hours for the Co-Curricular Activity.

Sara Bresky, Lauren Johnson
6. **Elementary School Activity Chaperones - Festival of the Arts (May 26, 2022)**
BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves payment to the following four (4) chaperones at the contractual rate of \$100.00 each for events that start after contractual hours for the Co-Curricular Activity.

Dawn Cullinan, Hannah Dunlevy, Katelyn Jones, Tracy Newton

Mr. Christmann moved to approve the Committee Reports and the Consent Items for April 26, 2022; Acceptance of Committee Reports as presented, Approval Work Session and Regular Sessions Minutes, Curriculum & Instruction items 1-4, Operations & Finance items 1 – 9, Personnel & Human Resources items 1 – 6, Policy item 0, seconded by Mrs. Mody and the motion was CARRIED in a roll call vote: Mr. Christmann; yes, Mr. Dubeck; yes, Mr. Dumovic; yes, Mr. Keeling; yes, Dr. Mandel; yes, Mrs. Mody; yes, and Mrs. Holquist; yes – motions carry.

XI. ACTION ITEM

Curriculum and Instruction

1. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the Contract for Home Instruction for one (1) student (ID#14038286) for ten (10) hours per week of instruction at a rate of \$75.00 per hour commencing April 21, 2022.

Mr. Christmann moved to approve the Action Items from April 26, 2022, as presented; Curriculum & Instruction item 1, seconded by Mrs. Mody, and the motion was CARRIED in a roll call vote: Mr. Dubeck; yes, Mr. Dumovic; yes, Mr. Keeling; yes, Dr. Mandel; yes, Mrs. Mody; yes, Mr. Christmann; yes, and Mrs. Holquist; yes – motion carries.

XII. Verbal Communications from the Public –

Mrs. Spataro – one disconnect in regards to curriculum that I see is that what is posted online is not what is said or used in the classroom. It would be nice to know the words that will be used by a teacher ahead of time. So if and when it comes home, parents don't need to backtrack.

Dr. Constantino – I completely understand and I will bring this information back to the schools.

Mrs. Spataro – I understand that a portion of the new curriculum there will be more about sex?

Dr. Constantino – that is correct but it can all be opted out of by the parent.

Public comment is closed for April 26, 2022, at 8:00 pm.

XII. Discussion

Mr. Dumovic – I wanted to provide the BOE with some brief feedback on the WMRHS BOE meeting from last night. 150+ in attendance, no questions on the budget, even with an increase of over 3.00%. Many spoke on LGBTQ group support. It struck me how many students actually spoke, young adults with the courage and ability to do that are worth noting.

Mrs. Mody – I was also in attendance and I completely agree, struck by the students as well. That is why I am so glad that as a BOE and school district we are being transparent.

Dr. Mandel – I am proud of what we are doing as a district.

Mr. Keeling – Rob Stroble set the stage appropriately, communication is key.

XIV. Adjournment

Moved by Mr. Christmann second by Mrs. Mody adjourn the regular monthly meeting on April 26, 2022. The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Donna Mosner
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary