

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION MEETING OF THE WOODSTOWN-PILESGROVE BOARD OF EDUCATION HELD ON THURSDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 19, 2019 AT THE WILLIAM ROPER SCHOOL, 211 EAST LAKE ROAD, PILESGROVE, AT 6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Miller, President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

READING OF STATEMENT OF NOTICE

Mrs. Miller read aloud the following: The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the rights of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of the public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Woodstown-Pilesgrove Regional Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof posted in the South Jersey Times, Elmer Times, Borough of Woodstown Municipal Hall, Township of Pilesgrove Municipal Hall, general offices and faculty rooms of the district's four schools, the school district's central office, and with the Borough of Woodstown Clerk and the Township of Pilesgrove Clerk.

FLAG SALUTE

Mrs. Miller then led the group in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Mr. Carney, Mrs. Chiarelli, Mr. Kinney, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Morris, Mr. Pennal, Dr. Stanton, Ms. Wojciechowski and Mr. Zigo.

Members absent: Dr. Nielsen.

Also Present: Mrs. Virginia M. Grossman, Superintendent of Schools and Mrs. Deborah Lake, Acting Board Secretary.

Administrators Present: None.

Superintendent's Report

- Mrs. Grossman gave a presentation on the School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades Under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights (ABR) and the steps that take place once the Board approves the report.

Presentations

- Mrs. Grossman shared a minimum wage rate chart and shared how it will affect the cafeteria workers, substitute custodian/maintenance workers and substitute secretarial workers. She requested that a motion be placed on the September Board agenda to increase rates as per the state minimum wage requirements.
- Mrs. Grossman discussed the substitute teacher pay rates. She shared a letter from Mrs. Porter which stated she would not cover Mrs. Micheletti's leave (which is less than 60 days) unless she was put on guide in order to receive the step per diem as she is expected to do lesson plans. Currently subs under 60 days receive \$90/day. Mrs. Grossman shared a cost analysis comparing the \$90 day sub rate to the guide rate which indicated a large pay difference. The Board discussed:
 - Adding a new sub rate of 40 days or more at \$120/day
 - Writing lesson plans after hours at \$32/hour

Mrs. Grossman requested that the Board offer Mrs. Porter \$120/day as a compromise.

Instruction/Curriculum – Items were clarified as needed.

- As a result of the construction on Route 40 the district could not open on the first day of school and a snow day was declared. Mr. Pennal asked if the district could petition the state to reduce the school calendar from 180 to 179. Mrs. Grossman will reach out to the state.
- Dr. Stanton suggested that the district monitor facebook to be more proactive in protecting the district's image.

Administration/Personnel – Items were clarified as needed.

- The sick day bank committee needs to meet to discuss two requests.

Operations/Finance – Items were clarified as needed.

- Textbooks disposal – Dr. Stanton asked that the district try to donate books that are too old to be placed on the states sharing website rather than throwing them out.

Mrs. Wojciechowski left the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Policy

- Mrs. Grossman conducted an exercise in policy construction. She shared new policies from Strauss Esmay and went over the options they provide in order to alien the policy with district views. Mrs. Grossman also discussed the regulations that accompany policy and stated it is her responsibility to marry the regulation to the policy.
- Security - The Board discussed the locking of school doors. Some concerns:
 - Mary Shoemaker and the high school do not have double locks in the vestibule.
 - Students let people in, probably due to not wanting to be rude.
 - More signage is needed to encourage everyone to not allow strangers to enter the building with them.
- Fundraiser Policy – Mrs. Miller shared her thoughts concerning the Boards struggle to set this policy. Mrs. Grossman shared a new fundraiser request form that requires detailed information on the proposed fundraiser. The Board reviewed the policy and the form and made suggested changes:
 - Policy - Adding the right to deny any fundraiser verbiage.
 - Fundraiser Form - State the percentage the company keeps.
 - Mrs. Chiarelli stated that people don't want stuff. They want raffles and technology based fundraisers where you can send electronic payments to the school.

- Solicitation asking for phone numbers and emails that get forwarded to a company for their use should be prohibited.
- The policies will be presented at the September Board Meeting for first reading.

New Business

- Mr. Pennal stated that high school students now have free range during lunch and asked if an incident happened how would they be alerted. Mrs. Grossman stated that lockdown procedures have been shared in all locations.
- Mrs. Stanton requested that the Programs of Studies booklet be presented to the Board earlier in the year so that they have more time to review.

Reports

- Business Administrator – In Mrs. Chin’s absence, Mrs. Grossman reported that the business office has created a grant approval request form which can be found on the district’s website so that grant approval will flow better.

Audience Participation – None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn this meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Motion made by: Michael Kinney
Motion seconded by: Floyd Pennal
Voting
Nelson Carney – Yes
Maricia Chiarelli – Yes
Michael Kinney – Yes
Eileen C. Miller – Yes
Richard C. Morris Jr. – Yes
Floyd Pennal – Yes
Julie Stanton – Yes
Travis Zigo – Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Deborah S. Lake
Acting Board Secretary

Approved by Motion of the Board

Date

Signature /SBA