



Board of Education
Regular Meeting Minutes
July 26, 2021 7:30pm

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. The regular meeting of the Allamuchy Township Board of Education held on July 26, 2021 is called to order at 7:40p.m. by Board President Mrs. Lisa Strutin. Meeting is being held in person and via live stream with board members present both in person and via teleconference.

- B. Statement of Compliance with Open Public Meetings Act
 - 1. The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act 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, The Allamuchy Township Board of Education has caused adequate and electronic notice of this meeting and, to the extent known at the time of advance publication, the agenda items to be considered. Written advance notification of the time, date and location was sent to the New Jersey Herald, Express Times, and Township Clerk. Notices were prominently posted on the bulletin board of the offices of each school, on the district website and on the district marquee. Please be advised that this meeting is being recorded; the recording will be made available on the District website as soon as possible, but no later than one week after the meeting has concluded.

II. ROLL CALL

Board Member	Present	Absent
Mr. Stephen Bienko	x	
Ms. Abigail Christmann	x	
Dr. Giovanni Cusmano	x	
Dr. Harriett Gaddy	x	
Mr. Craig Green		x
Mrs. Lisa Moyer	x	
Mrs. Venita Prudenti		x <i>arrived at 7:42pm</i>
Ms. Mary Renaud	x	
Mrs. Lisa Strutin, President	x	

Also Present: Dr. Melissa Sabol, Superintendent of Schools
Chrissie Aulenbach, Interim Board Secretary

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. MISSION AND VISION

- A. To Promote the Allamuchy Learner
- B. The vision of the Allamuchy educational program is to develop young people who are curious, well rounded, knowledgeable, caring, respectful and responsible so that they can evolve into self-sufficient and confident citizens and members of a diverse society.

V. APPROVAL OF INTERIM BOARD SECRETARY

- A. BE IT RESOLVED, to approve Chrissie Aulenbach as interim board secretary commencing July 1, 2021 at the rate of \$100 per meeting.

Motion Made By: Lisa Strutin

Seconded By: Dr. Gaddy

Board Member	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
DR. Bienko	x		
MS. Christmann	x		
DR. Cusmano	x		
DR. Gaddy	x		
MR. Green (absent)			
MRS. Moyer	x		
MRS. Prudenti	x		
MS. Renaud	x		
MRS. Strutin, President	x		

MOTION CARRIED

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion Made By: Ms. Renaud

Seconded By: Dr. Gaddy

Board Member	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MR. Bienko	X C		
MS. Christmann	C		x
DR. Cusmano		C	A and B

DR. Gaddy	X C		
MR. Green (absent)			
MRS. Moyer	X C		
MRS. Prudenti	X	C	
MS. Renaud	X C		
MRS. Strutin, President	X C		

MOTION CARRIED

- A. BE IT RESOLVED, that the minutes of the regular board meeting held on June 28, 2021, be approved. (Appendix 1A)
- B. BE IT RESOLVED, that the minutes of the executive session held on June 28, 2021, be approved. (Appendix 1B *confidential*)
- C. BE IT RESOLVED, that all action taken by the Board of Education between January 2021 and June 2021 shall hereby be reaffirmed.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

- One correspondence regarding inquiring about the Open Public Meetings Act postings

VIII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

- N/A

IX. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Dr. Sabol announced each Allamuchy All Star and Colin Gaffey and Marsha Koerner were present to accept their certificates.

GRADE	NAME	AWARD
CTG	Ian Ferreto-Marin	Kindness
CTG	Addie Yankoski,	Responsibility and Caring
CTG	Gabriella Barber	Responsibility and Citizenship
CTG	Kristian Martinez	Responsibility and Caring
CTG	Ella Graves	Responsibility and Caring
CC	Ginny Berges	Citizenship
CTG	Roberto Montes de Oca	Respect
CTG	Sahriah Lloyd	Responsibility

CC	Colin Gaffey	Citizenship
CTG	Leanalise Coballes	Responsibility and Citizenship
Staff Member of the Month: Marsha Koerner		

X. PRESENTATIONS

- Dr. Sabol - Section 18A:35-4.35/Section 18A:35-4.36a
PowerPoint Presentation discusses the ways the laws are incorporated into our school day. Details will be discussed during the forum which will take place mid-late August. Presentation will be posted on the website after the forum.

XI. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Congratulations to all students who are participating in Summer School and Preschool Camp
- With regret we are sorry to see Mrs. Van Haste leave, however congratulations to her on her new job.
- Board members - Reminder to complete board evaluations by Aug. 1st
- Appreciation of the boards' efforts and time, and please continue to give your time and commit to meetings and committees
- Review of the Superintendent Applicants and their Qualifications. Review of what the community was looking for as well as what the Board was looking for (Job Description/Qualifications) In review of all these aspects, Mrs. Strutin speaks to the clarity of how qualified Dr. Sabol is for this position. The decision was unanimous.

XII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Operations (M. Renaud)
 - Gutter project; bathroom project moving forward tonight
- B. Human Resources (L. Moyer, Chair)
 - Several appointments and one resignation tonight
- C. Education (C. Green, Chair)
 - Discussed different electives and activities that could be brought into the school as well as STEM
- D. Governance (G. Cusmano, Chair)
 - Policies related to sustainability
- E. Town Council Liaison (M. Renaud, A.Christmann)
 - TC Workshop - appropriated
 - Touhy shout-out to Dr. Sabol for improved communication
- F. Rutherford Hall Liaison (M. Renaud, A. Christmann)
 - Friends will resume in person meetings Aug. 5th at Rutherford Hall
- G. Hackettstown Board of Education Representative (L. Moyer)
 - Demographic study

XIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- A. HIB Report
 - N/A
- B. Enrollment By Grade
 - N/A
- C. Other Items
 - Teacher recognition for the Summer Program this year - about 120 students and the teachers are doing a great job
 - Summer camps at RH are packed - boating, archery and games
 - RH bathrooms are nearly complete and ready for ribbon cutting ceremony
 - RH gutters are making good progress
 - ATS - custodians are working on locker rooms
 - Resignation of A. Van Haste w/regret. We will greatly miss her

XIV. REVISIONS TO AGENDA ITEMS

Remove check 32583 for \$9000 to Warren County Special Services b/c we do not currently have a contract with them.

XV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Public comment shall be governed by the Board of Education Bylaw 0167. There are two public comment opportunities. The first public comment is reserved for Action Items only, those items on the agenda the Board is voting on this evening. The second public comment is set aside for public comment on any school or school district issue that the public feels may be of concern to the residents of the school district. The first public comment is limited to five (5) minutes per person. The second public comment length is determined by the board as per policy.

Before making a public comment, participants are to state their name, place of residence, and group affiliation if appropriate.

The Board uses the public comment period as an opportunity to listen to citizen concerns. Please understand that public comment portions of our agenda are not structured as question and answer sessions, but rather they are offered as opportunities to share your thoughts with the Board. The Board may or may not respond to public comments. However, all comments are considered and will be investigated and addressed as appropriate. The Board may respond to comments tonight, or at subsequent meetings under "Old Business". Please let the record reflect that the Board of Education does not endorse your comments nor will the Board of Education be held liable for comments you make about a staff member or other person which the staff member or other person may consider defamatory and/or libelous, as that individual retains all rights to pursue any legal remedies against you.

Parent: Suggested Created a Syllabus for the class so that the parent can opt out of certain parts of the curriculum/or books

Francis Gavin: Compliment Board on retreat and he assumes that is how the District Goals were developed: Specific Testable Achievable Relevant (STAR). He mentioned that letter C in minutes was never moved

Fran Muhlenbruch: all contracts should be made public; regards to Human Resources

XVI. BOARD COMMITTEE ACTION REPORTS

A. Operations

On Behalf of the Operations Committee, I hereby move resolutions 1-8

Motion Made By: Mary Renaud

Seconded By: Abigail Christmann

Board Member	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MR. Bienko	1-3,5,7,8	4,6	
MS. Christmann	X		
DR. Cusmano	1,4,5,7	2,3,8	
DR. Gaddy	X		
MR. Green (absent)			
MRS. Moyer	X		
MRS. Prudenti	X		
MS. Renaud	X		
MRS. Strutin, President	X		

MOTION CARRIED

1. Budget Adjustments (Appendix 2)
None
2. Bills List (Appendix 3)
approve for payment the general account bills list check #32489 through #32584, to include electronically-transferred funds ("N-checks") and voids of previously approved items, for a total amount of \$556,841.15
3. Student Activity Account Balance (Appendix 4)
approve the Student Activity Account balance in the amount of \$48,883.13 as of 6/30/2021.
4. Food Service Agreement (Appendix 5)

approve the renewal of the food service management contract for the 2021-2022 school year

5. Educational Polish Corp
approve the Educational Polish Corp. utilization of school facilities at the Mountain Villa School for the 2021-2022 school year at a rate of \$350.00 per day
6. Shared Service Agreement (Appendix 6)
approve the shared service agreement with Knowlton for the position of school psychologist at a 50% split for a .5 FTE at a net cost of \$41,870.50
7. Cro-International Contract (Appendix 7)
approve the contract for the Rutherford Hall gutter project from Cro-International.
8. Rutherford Hall Pay Rates
approve the following pay rates for Rutherford Hall Staff:

Rutherford Hall Pay Rates	
Instructional Event Staff	\$50/hour
Secondary Instructor - Certified	\$35/hour
Boat Program Supervisor	\$25/hour
Event Staff	\$15/hour
Lifeguard	\$17/hour

B. Human Resources

Pursuant to the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, and on behalf of the of the Human Resources Committee, I hereby move the following resolutions 1-3:

Motion Made By: MOYER

Seconded By:GADDY/RENAUD

Board Member	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MR. Bienko	Table M x		
MS. Christmann	Table M x		
DR. Cusmano	rest	3g,h,i	Table M

DR. Gaddy	Table M x		
MR. Green (absent)			
MRS. Moyer	Table M x		
MRS. Prudenti	Table M x		
MS. Renaud	Table M x		
MRS. Strutin, President	Table M x		

MOTION CARRIED

1. Contract Language Revisions (Appendix 8 *confidential*)
approve the language adjustments in the following employment contracts:
C. Aulenbach, P. Gardiner, D. Trainello, J. Gallegly, A. Longyshore.
2. Resignation
approve the resignation with regret of Ashley VanHaste effective
6/30/21
3. Personnel
approve/accept the following appointments as recommended by the
superintendent:

Item	Position	Name	Step	Salary	Eff. Date
a	Reading Specialist	Christine Wendel	Step 10 + MA	Prior \$56,206	8/30/21
b	3rd Grade	Shaye Clark	Step 1	Prior \$47,921	8/30/21
c	LDTC	Deb DeAngelis	Teacher Guide	Prior \$66071.	8/30/21
d	Part-time Para	Lauren Mela	Step 1 50%	Prior \$9,000	8/30/21
e	Rehire Psychologist	Gretchen Stephan kiewicz	Shared Service Contract	\$41870.50	
f	STEAM	Brendan Poff	Teacher Guide	Prior \$51,796	8/30/21
g	Part time Speech	TBD			

h	Part time Behaviorist	TBD			
i	MD Maternity Leave Replacement	TBD			
j	Part time custodian - retro to June	Jose Irzy	Prorated to June	\$17/hour	
k	Full time custodian - retro to June	Valentin Hunsicker	Prorated to June	\$35,000 to move to contract when signed	6/15/21
l	Rutherford Hall Event Staff (as needed)	Irene Niemiro w	Rate Scale	\$15/h	7/27/21
m	Project Manager (LRFP), Facilities Use Manager, Buildings/Grounds Compliance Communications	Pete DeMary		\$4000	7/1/21
n	Transportation Coordinator	Ann Longyho re	Contract Adjustment	\$2712 +	7/1/21

C. Education

On Behalf of The Education Committee I hereby move resolution 1:

Motion Made By: Moyer

Seconded By: Bienko

Board Member	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MR. Bienko	x		
MS. Christmann	x		
DR. Cusmano	x		
DR. Gaddy	x		
MR. Green (absent)			
MRS. Moyer	x		
MRS. Prudenti	x		
MS. Renaud	x		
MRS. Strutin, President	x		

MOTION CARRIED

1. Attendance at Professional Conferences
approve the following requests for attendance at professional conferences/certifications with mileage reimbursed at the current rate:

Staff Member	Date	Workshop Name	Costs		
			Fee	Miles	Total
Serraino	TBD	Open water lifeguard recertification	265	-	265
Serraino Delaney Cefaloni Sauter	9/11- 9/12	ACA Level 1 Canoe Instructor Course			1000 total
Serraino Delaney Cefaloni Sauter Mikalunas Baglio	10/2 - 10/3	ACA Level 1 Kayak Instructor Course			

D. Governance

On Behalf of The Governance Committee I hereby move resolutions 1-3

Motion Made By: Cusmano

Seconded By: Bienko

Board Member	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MR. Bienko	x		
MS. Christmann	x		
DR. Cusmano	x		
DR. Gaddy	x		
MR. Green (absent)			
MRS. Moyer	x		
MRS. Prudenti	x		
MS. Renaud	x		
MRS. Strutin, President	x		

MOTION CARRIED

1. Policy and Regulation Update (Appendix 9)

approve the following Policies for **First Reading** at the recommendation of the Governance Committee:

P. 7461	Environmentally Preferable Purchasing
P. 7461.01	Green Initiatives
P. 7461.02	District Sustainability
P. 7511	Rutherford Hall

2. Hold Harmless Agreement (Appendix 10)
adopt the Hold Harmless Agreement document for implementation in facilities usage by non school related functions.

3. District Goals (Appendix 11)
to adopt the Allamuchy Township School District Goals 1-4.
 - a) **Goal 1: The district will optimize the Curriculum to promote The Allamuchy Learner.**
 - (1) *To develop a comprehensive character education curriculum to promote social and self help skills.*
 - (2) *To increase critical thinking through 21st century teaching strategies ie: project based learning, learner becomes teacher, collaborative activities.*

 - b) **Goal 2: The district will foster a physically and emotionally safe and secure learning community where students can grow as learners and citizens while developing a sense of ownership within the community.**
 - (1) *Create a physical environment to ensure student and staff safety.*
 - (2) *Keep the students, parents, staff and community well informed of best practices in social and emotional development of the Allamuchy community.*
 - (3) *Create an atmosphere of community by providing opportunities and events to socialize within the extended community.*
 - (4) *Create awareness of current communication tools utilized by the district to promote community involvement.*

 - c) **Goal 3: The district will articulate District communications to all community stakeholders establishing ATSD as the “HUB”.**
 - (1) *To streamline information so all stakeholders have a point of reference.*

d) Goal 4: The district will enhance and maintain facilities, technologies, and classrooms to facilitate the growing needs of the school population and community.

- (1) Maintain and enhance student and teacher access to technology to meet the needs of a 21st Century Learner.*
- (2) Keep current with best practices for classroom instruction utilizing the classroom spaces to enhance learning.*
- (3) Explore ideas for exploration for additional school activities.*

XVII. OLD BUSINESS

- Cusmano: nice to be here in person

XVIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS GENERAL

- Francis Gavin: 1) TY for the explaining the new CSA process
 - 2) good to see District Goals; hopes to see Board Goals
 - 3) surmise that the reason for AVH departure is the current state of the contract negotiations. The salary guide is remarkably low. W/out compensation we are depreciating our staff and schools. Our priority should be to negotiate right now.
- *President Strutin replied and that during the retreat they discussed becoming a certified board*
- Mr. Rowe: glad to see the Open Public Meetings Act was resolved. Advised the board to get better legal counsel (riddled with typos)

XIX. FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Ms. Christmann - TY for the support during her sister's passing last month

XX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. BE IT RESOLVED, WHEREAS, the Board of Education must discuss subjects concerning legal, personnel, and negotiation issues

- Negotiations Update
- HIB (June)

and WHEREAS, the aforesaid subjects are not appropriate subjects to be discussed in public meeting; and WHEREAS, the aforesaid subjects to be discussed are within the exemptions pursuant to P.L.1975 Chapter 231, it is; therefore, RESOLVED, that the aforesaid subjects shall be discussed in private session by this board and administrative staff and information pertaining thereto will be made available to the public as soon thereafter as possible and once the reasons for nondisclosure no longer exists.

Moved by: Dr. Cusmano
Seconded by: Ms. Renaud

Board Member	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
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MR. Bienko	x		
MS. Christmann	x		
DR. Cusmano	x		
DR. Gaddy	x		
MR. Green (absent)			
MRS. Moyer	x		
MRS. Prudenti	x		
MS. Renaud	x		
MRS. Strutin, President	x		

CARRIED

Executive Session

B. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education has been in executive session for the past 30 minutes. The matters discussed will only be disclosed to the public once the reasons for nondisclosure no longer exist.

C. Action Item(s) from Executive Session Discussion:

1. HIB Finding

BE IT RESOLVED, to uphold the HIB finding as recommended by the Acting Superintendent.

Board Member	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MR. Bienko	x		
MS. Christmann			x
DR. Cusmano			x
DR. Gaddy	x		
MR. Green (absent)			
MRS. Moyer (absent)	x		
MRS. Prudenti (absent)			
MS. Renaud	x		
MRS. Strutin, President	x		

CARRIED

XXI. ADJOURNMENT

9:12pm