

# Allamuchy Board of Education

## Special Meeting Minutes

April 22, 2020

The special meeting of the Allamuchy Township Board of Education held on April 22, 2020 is called to order at 7:30p.m. *via teleconference* by Lisa Strutin. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of the meeting was provided 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 on April 15, 2020 to the New Jersey Herald and Township Clerk. Notice was posted in the school office.

### I. ROLL CALL

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Stephen Bienko	X	
James Britt		X
William Cramer	X	
Giovanni Cusmano	X	
Harriett Gaddy	X	
Craig Green	X	
Venita Prudenti	X	
Mary Renaud	X	
Lisa Strutin, President	X	

ALSO PRESENT: Joseph Flynn, Superintendent  
 James Schlessinger, School Business Administrator  
 Donna Trainello, Board Secretary

### II. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

### III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Green and seconded by Mr. Bienko:

- A. BE IT RESOLVED, that the minutes of the regular board meeting held on March 18, 2020, be approved. (Appendix 1A)

CARRIED: 7-0-1 in a roll call vote (Dr. Cusmano)

### IV. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

- None

### V. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- None

# **Allamuchy Board of Education**

## **Special Meeting Minutes**

**April 22, 2020**

### **VI. PRESENTATIONS**

- None

### **VII. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

- Updated the Board on the Superintendent Evaluation Process

### **VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **A. Operations (J. Britt, Chair)**

- No report

#### **B. Human Resources (M. Renaud, Chair)**

- No report

#### **C. Education (C. Green, Chair)**

- Thanks to the teachers for all of the hard work

#### **D. Governance (V. Prudenti, Chair)**

- No report

#### **E. Town Council Liaison (S. Bienko & M. Renaud)**

- Acknowledged good job being done by the Town to communicate information related to the crisis

#### **F. Rutherford Hall Liaison (L. Strutin and M. Renaud)**

- No report

#### **G. Hackettstown Board of Education Representative (H. Gaddy)**

- No report

### **IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- District budget will be presented at the next regular meeting on May 4 (rescheduled from April 27)
- Explained the changes to the meeting schedule in April, May and June
- Discussed the new requirement for the Pandemic Plan to be approved by the Board (previously only required and received County review)
- Acknowledged efforts and successes of the teachers and paraprofessionals
- Discussed the knowns and unknowns about the remainder of the school year
- Reminded those in attendance that **all school grounds are closed to the public as a result of the Governor's order**
- Refunds of certain fees paid by parents for events that don't take place in full or at all are being discussed and will be communicated as soon as possible

# Allamuchy Board of Education

## Special Meeting Minutes

April 22, 2020

- Reminded public that if they are having any challenges with any aspect of the state order, that they are welcome and encouraged to reach out to the school for guidance
- Discussed QSAC results

### X. PUBLIC COMMENTS 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, but please be aware that not all issues brought to a board meeting will be resolved this evening; rather, the Board will, in appropriate cases, delegate the authority to investigate the matter to the Superintendent or his designee.*

*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.*

- Lisa Moyer, resident - asked about safety grant money and accountability for its usage.

### XI. BOARD COMMITTEE ACTION REPORTS

#### A. Operations:

Moved by Ms. Renaud and seconded by Mr. Cramer, on the recommendation of the Superintendent and School Business Administrator, to approve the following resolution(s):

1. Budget Adjustments (Appendix 2)
  - N/A - will be available in regular April meeting rescheduled to May 4
2. Bills List (Appendix 3)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the general account bills list check #31199 through #31263 for a total amount of \$1,932,845.14 be approved for payment. *(Note that bond principal and interest as well as annual pension contributions were due during this period)*

# **Allamuchy Board of Education**

## **Special Meeting Minutes**

**April 22, 2020**

3. Student Activity (Appendix 4)

BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the Student Activity Account in the amount of \$63,722.23 at Investors Bank as of 3/31/2020.

4. Monthly Certification of Budget (Appendix 5)

- N/A - will be available in regular April meeting rescheduled to May 4

5. Hunterdon Preparatory School

BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the tuition contract with Hunterdon Preparatory School, for student #2002, effective 03-04-2020, at a daily rate of \$259.15 for a total of \$17,363.05 the 2019-2020 school year.

6. NJSIG Safety Grant

BE IT RESOLVED, the Allamuchy Twp. Board of Education hereby accepts the Safety Grant awarded by the New Jersey School Boards Association Insurance Group's ERIC WEST Subfund in the amount of \$4,300.00 for the period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

7. Pandemic Plan (Appendix 6)

BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the District's Pandemic Plan as revised March 2020 and approved by the Warren County Office of the Department of Education.

8. NJ Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) Review (Appendix 7)

BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the results of the Department of Education's QSAC Review, designating the District as 'high performing'.

CARRIED: 7-0-1 in a roll call vote (Dr. Gaddy)

**B. Human Resources**

No action items

**C. Education**

No action items

**D. Governance**

No action items

**XII. OLD BUSINESS**

- None.

# **Allamuchy Board of Education**

## **Special Meeting Minutes**

**April 22, 2020**

### **XIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- Lisa Moyer, resident - asked for more information about fees, fundraising and plans for 8th grade events for the rest of the year

### **XIV. BOARD DISCUSSION**

- None

### **XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Enter Executive Session at 8:20 pm:

Moved by Dr. Gaddy and seconded by Ms. Prudenti,

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

- Challenges related to COVID-19

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.

CARRIED: 8-0 in a roll call vote

#### ***Executive Session***

Exit Executive Session at 9:20 pm:

Moved by Mr. Green and seconded by Ms. Prudenti,

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

CARRIED: 7-0 in a roll call vote (Dr. Cusmano had left meeting during executive session)

# **Allamuchy Board of Education**

## **Special Meeting Minutes**

**April 22, 2020**

### **XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Mr. Cramer and seconded by Mr. Green,

BE IT RESOLVED, to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

CARRIED: 8-0 in a roll call vote.