

Allamuchy Board of Education

Regular Meeting Minutes

November 25, 2019

The regular meeting of the Allamuchy Township Board of Education held on November 25, 2019 was called to order at 7:32 p.m. in the Media Center at the Allamuchy Township School by John Egan. 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 June 20, 2019 to the New Jersey Herald and Township Clerk. Notice was posted in the school office.

I. ROLL CALL

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
James Britt		X
Eniale Beachem		7:35
William Cramer	X	
Giovanni Cusmano	X	
Craig Green	X	
Venita Prudenti		X
Mary Renaud	X	
Lisa Strutin	X	
John Egan, President	X	

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

II. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Executive Session #1 (anticipated duration of 30-45 minutes):

Enter Executive Session (7:35 pm):

Moved by John Egan and seconded by William Cramer,

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

- AEA Grievance Hearing

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: 6-0

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Exit Executive Session (8:25 pm):

Moved by William Cramerand seconded by Giovanni Cusmano,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education has been in executive session for the past 47 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: 5-0 (C.Green not present for exec session)

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by L. Strutin and seconded by C. Green

- A. BE IT RESOLVED, that the minutes of the regular board meeting held on October 28, 2019, be approved. (Appendix 1)
- B. BE IT RESOLVED, that the minutes of the executive session held on October 28, 2019 be approved. (Appendix 1A)

CARRIED: 4-0-2 (abstentions: J.Egan & G. Cusmano)

IV. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

None

V. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

GRADE	NAME	AWARD
K	Austin Kubie	Caring
1	Dashaun Reaves	Caring
2	Adeline Yankoski	Respect
3	Jacob Dell	Responsibility
4	Gary M. Sherman III	Respect
5	Ethan Thomas	Caring
6	Amelia Hornung	Respect
7	Jacob Marengo	Caring
8	Hailey Yudichak	Caring

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VI. PRESENTATIONS

None.

VII. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Report of Election Results (Appendix 7)

<u>3 Year Term:</u>	Mary Renaud	676 Votes
	Stephen Bienko	650 Votes
	Giovanni Cusmano	639 Votes
<u>Unexpired Term:</u>	Harriett Gaddy	561 Votes

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Operations (J. Britt - Chair)

- No report

B. Human Resources (G. Cusmano - Chair)

- No meeting

C. Education (C. Green - Chair)

- Thanked Drama Club and community for participation in fundraiser at Applebees
- Discussed extracurricular activities - bowling, nature, coding & robotics, astronomy, indoor games, outdoor activities, cooking, chess, woodworking
- Chromebooks - considering another cart at middle school level
- Looking at furniture and classroom redesigns
- Discussed enrollment and class sizes

D. Governance (V. Prudenti - Chair)

- Did not meet

E. Town Council Liaison (J. Egan and J. Britt)

- No report

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

- Friends met Nov 7; planning Gala on Dec 6
 - Successful bus tour on Nov 2.
 - Will not be a Friends meeting in Dec
- Foundation meeting on Nov 14
 - Capital campaign update

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- Raffle tickets still available
- Kentucky Derby will be held again in January
- Will have a cornhole tournament as part of July 4

G. Hackettstown Board of Education Representative (G. Cusmano)

- Discussed pre-K expansion
- Auditorium is complete
- Referendum passed - \$49mm project - will get 40% of project paid for through state aid - Allamuchy will only be impacted by the cost of the project related to the HS

IX. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

A. HIB - Monthly Update (if applicable, resolution to follow executive session)

Current Month: November
0 Investigations; 0 HIB
0 Out-of-School Suspensions; 0 In-School Suspensions
Previous Month: October
3 Investigations; 1 HIB
0 Out-of-School Suspensions; 0 In-School Suspensions

B. Enrollment by Grade

	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
K	25	26	26	26						
1	49	50	50	49						
2	57	57	57	57						
3	47	48	48	49						
4	54	55	55	55						
5	37	35	34	35						
6	45	46	45	45						
7	57	57	57	57						
8	44	45	44	44						
PSD	9	9	9	10						
Total	424	428	425	427						
9	40	41	42	42						
10	39	42	40	40						
11	31	30	31	31						
12	30	31	31	31						
Total	140	144	144	144						
GT	564	572	569	571						

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Mr. Flynn also discussed:

- In conjunction with the NJSBA, scheduled a mock board meeting and open town hall for Feb 4, snow day Feb 5
- Discussed after school activities
- Purpose of attorney at last meeting
- Attachments now on website - agenda will be posted by Thursday ahead of a meeting, attachments with redactions by Monday
- Chromebook usage - additional initiatives to bring down to MVS
- Spanish teacher slated to start 12/16
- Carrying to next and future months:
 - State-mandated curriculum and possibility of opt-out
 - Potential to bring back the Board Report on a more regular (quarterly) basis
- Discussed NJ Sustainability Workshop held at Rutherford Hall
- Will have a Warren County NJSBA meeting at RH
- Veterans Day celebration was a success
- Received grant for \$20,000 to put towards bathroom renovations at RH
- Did not receive grant from COPS for security upgrades

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.

- Ms. Moyer, resident, requested clarification re chess club
 - Mr. Green discussed that it will happen through larger enrichment initiative, more information to come

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XI. BOARD COMMITTEE ACTION REPORTS

A. Operations:

Moved by J. Egan and seconded by C.Green, on the recommendation of the Superintendent and School Business Administrator, to approve the following resolution(s):

1. Budget Adjustments (Appendix 2)

BE IT RESOLVED to approve the following budget adjustment(s) for October, 2019:

Appropriation from Maintenance Reserve	Fund 10	\$ 10,822.00
Expense Budget Transfers	Fund 10	\$ 13,711.39

2. Bills List (Appendix 3)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the general account bills list check #30741 through #30837 for a total amount of \$730,986.59 be approved for payment.

3. Student Activity (Appendix 4)

BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the Student Activity Account in the amount of \$64,328.43 at Investors Bank as of 10/31/2019.

4. Monthly Certification of Budget (Appendix 5)

- a. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Allamuchy Board of Education accepts the Board Secretary's monthly certification, as attached, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.12(c) 3 that as of 10/31/2019 no line item account has encumbrances and Expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11 (a).
- b. BE IT RESOLVED, that Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.12 (c) 4, the Allamuchy Township School District Board of Education, after review of the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's monthly financial reports certify that as of 10/31/2019 and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.
- c. BE IT RESOLVED, that the motion to accept the financial reports from the Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of October 31, 2019 with a total Governmental Funds Account cash balance of \$1,337,527.23.

5. Comprehensive Maintenance Plan and M-1 Report (Appendix 6)

BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan and the M-1 Report as mandated by statute.

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6. Buildings and Grounds Consultant Shared Service Agreement
BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the pursuit of a Shared Services agreement with North Warren to share the Buildings and Grounds Supervisor through August 31, 2020.

CARRIED: 6-0 roll call vote

B. Human Resources

Moved by G. Cusmano and seconded by W.Cramer, on the recommendation of the Superintendent and School Business Administrator, to approve the following resolution(s):

1. Resignation
BE IT RESOLVED, to accept, with regrets, the resignation of Sandra Bystrak, bus driver, effective 12/13/2019.
2. Resignation
BE IT RESOLVED, to accept, with regrets, the resignation of Joanne Carducci, paraprofessional, effective 10/30/2019.
3. New Hire - Bus Driver
BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the employment of Jovanah DiGilio as a bus driver, effective 10/11/2019 at a rate of \$21.40 for a minimum of 4.5 hours daily.
4. New Hire - Substitute Teacher
BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the employment of Rosangela Franco as a substitute teacher effective 12/1/19, at a rate of \$120/day.
5. New Hire - Paraprofessional
BE IT RESOLVED, approve the employment of Melissa Stavros as a paraprofessional, effective 12/2/19, on step 1 of the paraprofessional salary guide (\$18,000 per annum, prorated).
6. Teacher Mentor
BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the assignment of Anna Thomas as a mentor for Brendan Poff for the 2019-20 school year.
7. Clinical Interns
BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the assignment of James Barttell and Laura Allen as clinical interns from Centenary University for the term of January 1 through June 30, 2020.

CARRIED: 6-0 via roll call vote

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C. Education

Moved by C. Green and seconded by W. Cramer, on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following resolution(s):

1. Class Trips

BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the following class trips for the 2019-2020 school year:

Teacher	Grd	Date	Brief Description of Trip	Location	Costs			
					Bus	Student	Board	Total
DeAngelis	5	12/16/2019	Science Field Trip	DaVinci Science Center	\$ 250	\$ 468	\$ -	\$ 718
Adams	6	2/26/2020	Band	North Warren RHS	\$ 125	\$ 105	\$ -	\$ 230
Ricci	7/8	3/31/2020	Holocaust Genocide Conference	Raritan Valley College	\$ 500	\$ 750	\$ -	\$ 1,250

2. Attendance at Professional Conferences

BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the following requests for attendance professional conferences with mileage reimbursed at the current rate:

Staff Member	Date	Workshop Name	Costs		
			Fee	Mileage	Total
Schmidt	12/5/19	Suicide Prevention & Social Media	\$ 95	\$ 27	\$ 122
Profito	12/10/19	Writing Effective HIB Reports	\$ 150	\$ 26	\$ 176
Greco	1/13/20	MUJC Dynamic Differentiation	\$ 135	\$ -	\$ 135
Constantino	1/13/20	MUJC Dynamic Differentiation	\$ 135	\$ 42	\$ 177
Patterson	1/23/20	Strengthening Student's Writing	\$ 279	\$ -	\$ 279
Ricci	1/23/20	Strengthening Student's Writing	\$ 279	\$ 6	\$ 285
Patterson	1/30/20	The Holocaust	\$ -	\$ 6	\$ 6
Ricci	1/30/20	The Holocaust	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

CARRIED: 6-0 via roll call vote

D. Governance

No items to move.

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XII. OLD BUSINESS

- L. Strutin reported on Delegates meeting
 - NJSBA passed resolution to allow >2% tax levy for districts that are losing funding or not fully funded, to include individual items (i.e ex-aid)
 - Per Sweeney: Extraordinary aid s/b funded at 100% in 3 years

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Ms. Tuohy asked how the public would vote on whether the Board were to increase the budget beyond the 2% and release of banked cap.
- G. Cusmano emphasized the need to get creative to raise revenue to accomplish educational and other district goals (taxes, bond issue, etc.) - to be discussed further in operations.
- Ms. Moyer raised concerns for 3rd grade boys bathroom - cleanliness and availability of soap and other supplies

XIV. BOARD DISCUSSION

None.

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Enter Executive Session:

Moved by G.Cusmano and seconded by W.Cramer,

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

- AEA contract negotiation
- Update on M.A. o/b/o K.A. vs. ABoE

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: 6-0

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Exit Executive Session:

Moved by John Egan and seconded by L. Strutin,

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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: 6-0

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by L. Strutin and seconded by W. Cramer,

BE IT RESOLVED, to adjourn the meeting at 9:19 p.m.

CARRIED: 6-0 via voice vote