

**MINE HILL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**MINUTES**  
**CONFERENCE/ACTION MEETING**  
**November 8, 2010**

Opening Statement:

The Conference/Action Meeting of the Mine Hill Township Board of Education was called to order at 7:30 PM on November 8, 2010, by Board President Mary Jo Walilko. Adequate notice of the date and time for this meeting was advertised in the Daily Record on May 5, 2010, in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Mary Jo Walilko led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Present:**

Jill Del Rio, Patricia Hernandez, Steve Hoh, Denise Jiménez-Arias, Bridget Mauro and Mary Jo Walilko

**Absent:**

Caryn Battaglia

**Others Present:**

Julia Coyne, Nancy Gulley, Gregory Hobaugh, Tabitha Hertz, Jeanne Kraemer, Sam Morris, Cindy Pyrzynski and Ernest Palestis

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Patricia Hernandez, the Board accepted the **closed session minutes of the Regular monthly meeting** held on October 18, 2010.

Roll Call Vote-All Present Voting Yes-Motion Carried

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Patricia Hernandez, the Board accepted the **minutes of the Regular monthly meeting** held on October 18, 2010.

Roll Call Vote-All Present Voting Yes-Motion Carried

Mary Jo Walilko referenced the following correspondence:

- Achieve3000 KidBiz letter that went out to parents
- Correspondence to Congressman Frelinghuysen and Assemblyman Bucco regarding funding for the mine shaft remediation

- Letter from Katine Slunt sent to facilities users regarding Bio Hazard regulations

#### Superintendent's Report

- Dr. Palestis welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- Dr. Palestis indicated that the ASSA report has been submitted and the number of students that the Mine Hill Township school district is responsible for has increased to 620.
- Dr. Palestis informed the Board that the Buildings and Grounds Committee met and discussed the all-purpose room window repair. Pending the approval of the resolution on tonight's agenda the project will begin as soon as possible. The committee also discussed having the second boiler repaired and wants to initiate having both boilers serviced on a regular basis.
- The ongoing problem with the water bill continues to be investigated.
- Dr. Palestis informed the Board that letters have been sent to Assemblyman Bucco and Congressman Frelinghuysen asking for funding to help with the remediation costs for the mine shaft collapse.
- Dr. Palestis indicated that there will be a meeting with the Township of Mine Hill and the town's engineering firm regarding the Safe Routes to Schools Grant. He will be attending and he encouraged Board members to attend as well. The meeting will take place on Tuesday, November 16, at 11:00 am.
- Dr. Palestis thanked the Mine Hill Township Board of Education teachers and support staff for attending an in service workshop on November 4, 2010. Their attendance demonstrated their dedication to the students and community of Mine Hill.
- Dr. Palestis discussed the possibility of conducting a meeting for parents and students to discuss the introduction of school uniforms. He would like the meeting to take place sometime in January. The Board unanimously agreed. Dr. Palestis will follow up

#### Board Discussion/Reports

- None

#### Presentations

- Gregory Hobaugh presented the NJASK scores to the Board.
- The Board requested the Cycle II breakdowns. Gregory Hobaugh will follow up.

#### Business Administrator's Report

- None

#### Public Discussion

- Sam Morris discussed the playground equipment. The additional apparatus would be purchased by the Mine Hill Educational Foundation. All installations fees would also be funded by the Foundation. Mr. Morris

indicated that this purchase would not affect the sponsoring of the field trips or any other contract issues between the Mine Hill Township Board of Education and the Mine Hill Educational Foundation. The Board unanimously agreed that they will wait to OK the purchasing of any additional equipment at this time.

- The Board indicated that curtains need to be acquired for the all-purpose room windows. Mr. Morris indicated that the Mine Hill Educational Foundation would be happy to fund the purchase. He also indicated that the pavilion that was discussed previously between the Board and the Foundation would also be a possibility for the Foundation to sponsor.
- Dr. Palestis and Mary Jo Walilko thanked Mr. Morris for his playground proposal and continued support. Dr. Palestis indicated that a meeting between the Mine Hill Educational Foundation and the Board would be beneficial after receiving input from the staff about future projects. Dr. Palestis will follow up.
- Sam Morris updated the Board on the status of the Safe Routes to Schools Grant. Although funding has been procured, it might not be sufficient once the problems with retaining walls and tree issues are addressed. The meeting on November 16 will shed further light on the issues.
- Mr. Morris indicated that the Shop Rite fundraiser as of now has raised \$520.00 for the Mine Hill Township Food Pantry.
- Jeanne Kraemer asked about the status of the computer repairs. Dr. Palestis will follow up. He thanked the Mine Hill Educational Foundation for undertaking some of the problems reporting by the staff.
- Cindy Pyrzynski commented that the computer lab is open every morning, from 8:00 am to 8:30 am, for Jump Ahead and a good place for students to take AR tests if the computer in their classroom is not available.

FINANCE

Steve Hoh, Patricia Hernandez

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Steve Hoh, the Board approved the **workshop travel requests** for the following:

Name of Attendee	Workshop	Date(s)	Cost	Mileage	Total Cost
Gregory Hobaugh	CHOICE	Nov 8, 2010	N/A	162 miles at .31 per mile	\$50.22
Gina Naclerio	I &RS	Nov 16, 2010	N/A	39.91 miles at .31 per mile	\$12.37

Roll Call Vote-All Present Voting Yes-Motion Carried

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Steve Hoh, the Board approved the **Second Reading** of the following policies and regulations: (Attachment 1)

- **0713 Duties of Public School Accountant**
- **6112 Reimbursement of Federal and Other Grant Expenditures**
- **6830 Audit and Comprehensive Annual Financial Report**

Roll Call Vote-All Present Voting Yes-Motion Carried

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Steve Hoh, the Board approved the **check and wire transfers for the first part of the month of November in the amount of \$162,741.29.** (Attachment 2)

Roll Call Vote-All Present Voting Yes-Motion Carried

#### CURRICULUM AND STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Denise Jiménez-Arias, Jill Del Rio

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Steve Hoh, the Board approved the **Second Reading** of the following policies and regulations: (Attachment 3)

- **2431.3 Practice and Pre-Season Heat-Acclimation for Interscholastic Athletics**
- **2431.4 Concussion Testing and Return-to-Play**
- **5516 Use of Electronic Communication and Recording Devices (ECRD)**

Roll Call Vote-All Present Voting Yes-Motion Carried

#### OPERATIONS

Jill Del Rio, Mary Jo Walilko

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Steve Hoh, the Board approved the **Second Reading** of the following policies and regulations: (Attachment 4)

- **0146 Board Member Authority**
- **0171 Duties of Board President and Vice President**
- **3144 Certification of Tenure Charges (policy and regulation)**
- **4159 Support Staff Member/School District Reporting Responsibilities**
- **8310 Public Records (policy and regulation)**

Roll Call Vote-All Present Voting Yes-Motion Carried

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Steve Hoh, the Board approved the **2010-2011 Comprehensive Maintenance Plan and the M1 form** that is attached and made part of this resolution by reference.

Roll Call Vote-All Present Voting Yes-Motion Carried

PERSONNEL

Patricia Hernandez, Steve Hoh

New personnel employment appointments are contingent upon the required state and federal criminal history background checks in accordance with N.J.S.A. 116, P.L. 1986.

And be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board submit to the County Superintendent, as required, applications for emergency hiring and the applicant's attestations that they have not been convicted of any disqualifying crime pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et.seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:39-17 et. seq., or N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4.13 et.seq., on the recommendation of the Superintendent.

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Steve Hoh, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approved the **appointed Lyndsee Olivo, maternity leave replacement in grade three**, BA Step 1, no benefits, effective December 20, 2010 (or earlier if needed) prorated. (Attachment 5)

Roll Call Vote-All Present Voting Yes-Motion Carried

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Steve Hoh, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board consider approved the **appointment of Alejandra Sarmiento, aide in grade one**, at the rate of \$10.71 per hour, 30 hours 55 minutes per week, no benefits, effective December 6, 2010, prorated. (Attachment 6)

Roll Call Vote-All Present Voting Yes-Motion Carried

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Steve Hoh, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approved the **appointment**

**of Carol Manger, breakfast aide**, at the rate of \$17.34 per hour, 2.5 hours per week, no benefits, effective September 2, 2010, prorated.

Roll Call Vote-All Present Voting Yes-Motion Carried

COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC RELATIONS Caryn Battaglia, Denise Jiménez-Arias

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS Bridget Mauro, Caryn Battaglia

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Steve Hoh, the Board **awarded the following construction contract** for the window repairs at Canfield Avenue School based on the low quotation and the architect's recommendation:

**Oradell Construction Company, Inc.**  
**37 Woodland Road**  
**Roseland NJ 07068**                      **Base Bid: \$9,860.00**

Roll Call Vote-All Present Voting Yes-Motion Carried

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Steve Hoh, the Board approved the **Use of Facilities for the Mine Hill Township Recreation Department sponsored Soup Sampler**, Friday, December 3, 2010, from 3:30 to 9:30, in accordance with all Board of Education and federal policies and regulations.

Roll Call Vote-All Present Voting Yes-Motion Carried

Dover Report                      Bridget Mauro

- Mrs. Mauro indicated that the Dover Board of Education would like to implement a policy to limit the number of Choice students that will be released by the district. The Board will follow up.
- Mrs. Mauro informed the Board that the Dover High School had a Time Management Workshop for the Learning Community students. It was very well received.
- The Board inquired about the requests made to the Dover Board of Education to present to the Mine Hill Township Board of Education. Mrs. Mauro responded that the Dover Board is not available during the month of November. The Mine Hill Township Board asked Mrs. Mauro to follow up with any time the Dover Board might have in December.

- Mrs. Mauro informed the Board that Mr. Taxiarchou is now the Vice Principal of Dover High School.

MHEF Report

Jill Del Rio

- None

Old Business

- None

New Business

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro, the Board approved the **appointment of Jill Del Rio as a Board member of the Educational Services Commission of Morris County.**

Roll Call Vote-All Present Voting Yes-Motion Carried

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro, the Board approved the **appointment of Caryn Battaglia as the liaison to the Mine Hill Educational Foundation.**

Roll Call Vote-All Present Voting Yes-Motion Carried

CLOSED SESSION

On the motion of Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro at 9:15PM, the Board approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A.10:4-11, permits the Board of Education to meet in closed session to discuss certain matters, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Board of Education adjourns to closed session to discuss: (select one or more)

- 1) *a matter rendered confidential by federal or state law*
- 2) *a matter in which release of information would impair the right to receive government funds*
- 3) *material the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy*
- 4) *a collective bargaining agreement and/or negotiations related to it*
- 5) *a matter involving the purchase, lease, or acquisition of real property with public funds*

- 6) *protection of public safety and property and/or investigations of possible violations or violations of law*
- 7) *pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation and/or matters of attorney-client privilege*
- 8) *specific prospective or current employees unless all who could be adversely affected request an open session*
- 9) *deliberation after a public hearing that could result in a civil penalty or other loss;*

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the minutes of this closed session be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

***Note: This closed session included items in category 1. It may be adjourned while business is conducted in public then reconvened after public business has been completed.***

#### RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

On the motion of Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Steve Hoh at 9:41PM, the Board returned to the regular session meeting.

Roll Call Vote-All Present Voting Yes-Motion Carried

#### Public Discussion

- Nancy Gulley asked if there had been any announcement of a Choice High School. The Board indicated the state had made no decisions yet.

#### ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Jill Del Rio, the Board adjourned the meeting at 9:44PM.

Roll Call Vote-All Present Voting Yes-Motion Carried