

**HIGH BRIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION
WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
Monday, February 7, 2022**

1. OPENING OF MEETING - 6:30 PM *Meeting began at 6:30 pm virtual*

Required Notice of Open Public Meeting

Being duly posted at the following locations: High Bridge Middle School and Elementary School main offices, High Bridge Borough Hall Office; and advertised, in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act, in the following newspaper: Hunterdon County Democrat, this meeting will convene in the Library of the High Bridge Elementary School, 40 Fairview Avenue, High Bridge, NJ 08829, alternatively the meeting will be available on Google Meet. Email comments directly to Cindy Sharkey: csharkey@hbschools.org. Please mute your microphone to reduce feedback and notify the board if you intend to record this meeting.

Date: Monday February 7, 2022

Time: 6:30 pm

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL by John Jennings, SBA / Board Secretary

Benjamin Bolger <i>Present</i>	Erin Delgado <i>Present</i>
Robert Imhoff <i>Present</i>	Colleen Poles <i>Present</i>
Karyn Gove <i>Present</i>	Cindy Sharkey <i>Present</i>

Additional Members Present: Dr. Gregory Hobaugh, Superintendent *Present*
John Jennings, SBA / Board Secretary *Present*

4. NJSBA Training Session - Gwen Thornton *Gwen Thornton NJSBA representative presented Governance through Policy with the High Bridge Board of Education. Erin Delgado thanked Gwen and stated the presentation was a good reinforcement of what the Board's role is. The Board thanked Gwen for her presentation.*

5. PRESENTATION & RECOGNITION ITEMS

5.1. Resolution in honor of Digby, Canine Companions service dog in training. (*Attachment: Digby Resolution*) Greg Hobaugh read the Digby Resolution and noted it would be up for Board Vote at next week's meeting. He thanked Chris Roling for her work with the Dogs and noted they are a big part of the Elementary School. Cindy Sharkey relayed Christi's gratitude to the District for allowing her to train the Dogs at the Elementary School.

5.2. Superintendent's Report

5.2.1. Superintendent Update *Greg updated the Board on the following:*

- NJ mask mandate at schools is set to expire per Governor's announcement on March 7th.
- Greg noted that the County moved out of Red into Orange (Covid)
- Basketball and Volleyball have resumed (use of school facilities)

- *Ceiling tile fell in the middle school gym. No one was hurt and the Gym was immediately closed for safety reasons. The tile was tested for asbestos which came back negative. District will examine and repair ceiling tiles and will reopen the gym as soon as it is safe to do so.*

- *District Goal Update Greg noted he would review this with the Board at the next meeting.*

5.2.2. Business Administrator’s Update

- *Security Upgrade John Jennings noted the security project was completed and funding from the State was received.*
- *Technology Upgrade John Jennings noted that the new web access points that were ordered back in July have still not been delivered. He also noted that after consulting with our IT Department, a new Server and Battery Backup were needed at the Middle School given the age and lack of service on the existing equipment.*
- *Grant Update John Jennings noted the District received \$8,202 from the Emergent Capital and Maintenance Grant and the District was in process of using the funds to replace 3 old water fountains with new Bottle Fillers with filters. He also noted our second round of funding from the emergency connectivity funding was approved which will fund the purchase of 25 chromebooks and partially fund the purchase of 30 laptops.*

6. REVIEW OF OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject</u>
Mia Baldwin	1/18/2022	Resignation from BOE

(Attachment: Baldwin Resignation)

7. REPORTS TO THE BOARD

7.1. Board President’s Report

- 7.1.1. *Discussion of cannabis position statement (Attachment HBBOE Cannabis Position Statement)*
- 7.1.2. *Open High Bridge Board of Education seat (Attachment: HBBOE Election Results Nov, 2021)*
- 7.1.3. *Hunterdon County School Boards Association Meeting Update - Robert Imhoff*

Cindy Sharkey noted the resignation of Mia Baldwin which resulted in a vacant seat on the Board. She asked for the Board’s input in filling the vacancy referencing the election results and the write-ins. The Board discussed if they should reach out to the top write-in vote getters to gauge their interest in serving on the Board. The Board agreed they would reach out to the leading write-ins from the recent election but they would also advertise to the Public as well. Cindy noted that the Board has 60 days to find a new Board member, after that the County Superintendent would reach out to locate a candidate for the Board.

The Board discussed the merits of a Cannabis Position Statement by the District given the recent ordinance approved by High Bridge Borough. She referenced the Letter that was included in the attachments. The Board discussed the Letter attachment. There was discussion on whether it was appropriate in the position statement to seek a portion of funds from the Borough that they collect from Cannabis businesses to be given to the District to be used for Drug Education. The Board agreed to work on the position statement at the next Board Meeting.

Cindy Sharkey noted the Feb 9th NJSBA webinar at 11:00 am on Best procedures for Board Vacancies. She noted that the Board would be discussing the Board Goals at next week's meeting. Robert Imhoff stated he would give the Board an update at next week's meeting.

8. ACTION ITEMS

8.1. Student Achievement - Curriculum, Instruction, Technology & Policy

8.1.1. 2022-2023 School Calendar (Attachment: Proposed 2022-2023 School Calendar)

8.2. Human Resources - Personnel, Management & Community Relations

8.2.1. Resignation of school psychologist Melissa Ozaria effective March 25, 2022.
(Attachment: Ozaria Resignation)

8.2.2. Resignation of part time special education teacher Amy Miller effective March 10, 2022.
(Attachment: Miller A Resignation)

8.2.3. Redistribution of the Cheerleading Coach stipend as follows. Carley Marookian to receive \$969.50 and Coleen Conroy to receive \$294.50.

8.2.4. Patricia Beard and Jennifer Zuluaga as Spanish speaking interpreters on an as needed basis, at the contracted hourly rate of \$19.00 per hour.

8.2.5. Maria Monaco to be a home instructor for the 2021-2022 school year at a rate of \$35.42 per hour.

8.2.6. Resignation of Emma Alparone from the co-curricular position of ES BSI Math Teacher effective March 1, 2022.

8.2.7. Samantha Richards as the replacement co-curricular ES BSI Math Teacher effective March 1, 2022 for the remaining 62 hours to be compensated at \$1,984.00 to be paid with Title funds.

8.2.8. Mimi Powers as interim replacement MS Unified Club advisor for the February 10 and 24, 2022 meeting dates to be compensated at the contracted ESS hourly rate of \$19.00 for a total of 1.5 hours.

8.2.9. Samantha Richards as replacement MS Unified Club advisor for the remaining meeting dates for a total of 3.75 hours to be compensated at \$32.00 per hour.

8.3. Educational Resources - Finance and Facilities

8.3.1. Travel Expenditures for Workshops:

Staff/Bd Member	Workshop	Date	Registration Fee	Mileage	Other	Total
Steve Weber	Rutgers: Combating Mold (Virtual)	2/9 & 2/10, 2022	\$285.00	N/A	N/A	\$285.00

Judy LaGreca	Dyslexia Foundation Virtual Conference	2/11/22	\$169.00	N/A	N/A	\$169.00
Marisa Monaco	Handle with Care*	2/4/22*	\$450.00	\$36.54	\$32 (1 Hour)	\$518.54
Heidi Miller	Handle with Care*	2/4/22*	\$450.00	N/A	\$32 (1 Hour)	\$482.00
Lynn Gresko	NJSSNA Virtual Conference	3/19/22	\$99.00	N/A	N/A	\$99.00

* Handle With Care training was rescheduled by the sponsoring organization. Training was originally approved at the 11/15/21 board meeting.

8.3.2. Payment of Bills

8.3.3. Financial Reports

8.3.4. Line Item Transfers for January 2022 (*Attachment: January 2022 Transfer Report-Signed*)

8.3.5. Extended School Year (ESY) to begin July 5, 2022 through August 4, 2022 for a total of 19 days. (Monday - Thursday).

8.3.6. Findings of the New Jersey Department of Agriculture Procurement Review of our Food Service Authority (SFA) completed by PKF O'Connor Davies for the Fiscal Year 2019-2020. (*Attachments: HB Board of Education Final Report FY20 and Closeout report no CAP needed*).

8.3.7. Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program Waiver

The following resolution waiving participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program.

Whereas, NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district's participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2022-2023 school year, and

Whereas, the High Bridge Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having fewer than 40 Medicaid eligible classified students.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the High Bridge Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Hunterdon an appropriate waiver of the requirements of NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 for the 2022-2023 school year.

8.3.8. Use of Facilities

Motion to approve the following use of facilities request:

Organization	Dates	Times	Location
HBEA - Optical Academy	03/02/2022	12:30 - 6:30	ES Library

John Jennings and Greg Hobaugh reviewed the action items above with the Board.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS

This period of time provides an opportunity for the public to speak on any topic related to the High Bridge Public Schools. It is the policy of the Board of Education (Policy #0164) that all public comments on an issue shall be limited to three (3) minutes per person and no person may make more than one (1) comment per subject. Comments may be made on any subject pertaining to High Bridge

Public Schools. Comments pertaining to Public Hearings should be saved for that section of the agenda. Comments should be addressed to the Board. *Stacey Dimeo thanked the Board for speaking out regarding the Cannabis Ordinance and thinking about the Kids.*

10. EXECUTIVE/CLOSED SESSION

Board President calls for a motion at 7:55 pm Karyn Gove and a second **Erin Delgado, unanimously approved**, in accordance with the Sunshine Law, Chapter 321, P.L. 1975, to discuss:

- Executive Session Minutes The matters discussed will be made public if and when the circumstances requiring confidentiality no longer exist; however, it is not presently known when such circumstances will exist.

11. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION

Board President calls for a motion at 8:05 pm Erin Delgado and a second **Robert Imhoff, unanimously approved**, to reconvene public session.

Greg Hobough noted that the District has used 3 snow days that will be added to the end calendar in June. He noted the District does not plan on taking away days from Spring Break. The Board discussed the status of next week's meeting given Covid quarantine and decided that next weeks Board meeting would be virtual.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Board President calls for a motion at 8:10 pm Collen Poles and a second **Benjamin Bolger, unanimously approved**, to adjourn the meeting.

Respectively Submitted,



John Jennings

Business Administrator/Board Secretary