

**HIGH BRIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION
WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
Monday, February 13, 2023**

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

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 for listening purposes only on Google Meet. The Board will only accept public participation from those who are physically in attendance, as per Policy 0168. Please notify the board if you intend to record this meeting.

Date: Monday, February 13, 2023

Time: 6:30 pm

No formal action will be taken.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL by Karolina Cywa, SBA / Board Secretary

Benjamin Bolger - *Present*

Erin Delgado - *Present*

Karyn Gove - *Present*

Robert Imhoff - *Present*

Michael McCasland - *Present*

Colleen Poles - *Present*

Cynthia Sharkey - *Present*

Additional Members Present:

Dr. Gregory Hobaugh, Superintendent - *Present*

Karolina Cywa, SBA / Board Secretary - *Present*

4. REVIEW OF OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Name **Date** **Subject**

None

5. REPORTS TO THE BOARD

5.1. Board President’s Report

5.1.1. Hunterdon County School Boards Association Meeting Update - Robert Imhoff

5.1.2. Sustainability Committee Update.

“Hunterdon County had a meeting with the leaders of the school districts. Wednesday, March 1, 2023, is, the due date to elect a new Country leader. March 16, 2023, will be a recognition meeting on the county level and it will be held in person.

Moving forward, meetings with districts and superintendents will be held quarterly, unlike before monthly. During these meetings, superintendents are sharing with other districts their needs (books, staff, shared services). NJ boards are offering an updated system for negotiations now. Karyn Gove says that March 9, 2023, is the due date to submit resolutions to the NJSBA.”

6. HIB REPORTS

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15(e) requires that at the next board of education meeting following its receipt of a HIB report, the board shall issue a decision, in writing, to affirm, reject, or modify the superintendent’s decision.

The Superintendent shall inform the parties of the Board’s determination in writing, as well as their right to appeal the determination to the Commissioner of Education, in accordance with the procedures set forth in law and regulation, no later than 90 days after the issuance of the board’s decision; or to file a complaint with the Division on Civil Rights within 180 days of the occurrence of any incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying based on membership in a protected group as enumerated in the “Law Against Discrimination,” P.L.1945, c.169 (C.10:5-1 et seq.).

“All board members agreed that bullying is a hot topic. Schools need to make sure the students are educated about wellness. Dr. Hobaugh noted that staff and students interact nicely and the schools have a great staff and a great group of students.

Cindy Sharkey noted that more and more parents are trying to reach schools with different matters. Michael McCasland asked if he could see more HIB data (multiyear). Robert Imhoff pointed out that we have not seen an increase in the number of incidents for several years. Cynthia Sharkey said that she is confident in what the school is doing and the school needs to put more attention on the parents. She also noted that it will be helpful to talk to parents that the incidents might not be considered a HIB. Erin Delgado suggested that parents might need to be re-educated. Robert Imhoff noted that based on the numbers the district is doing very well. Dr. Hobaugh said that the guidance counselor is very reliable and is going over each situation very well. He also said that philosophy is to build a good curricular connection. He noted that the State is changing the HIB policy and the forms. Dr. Hobaugh noted that the nice thing is that we are a small district and no matter what we will need to work together.

Karyn Gove noted that in 2010 we had 10 investigations and in 2022 there were only 5 investigations.”

- 6.1.** Affirm, reject, or modify, by voice vote, the superintendent’s decision in HIB Report 2022-23 MS05 (*Attachment: 22-23 MS05 Redacted*).

7. ACTION ITEMS

- 7.1. Student Achievement** - Curriculum, Instruction, Technology & Policy

7.1.1. Revise 2023-2024 School Calendar (*Attachment: Revised Proposed 2023-2024 School Calendar*)

7.1.2. Class trips and transportation:

Location	Grade	Cost	Cost Incurred By
RVCC Planetarium	6	\$29.00	Parents/Guardians
YMCA Camp Bernie	5	\$40.00	Parents/Guardians

7.2. Human Resources - Personnel, Management & Community Relations

7.2.1. Lisa Kerr as a chaperone for the Drama Club performances March 23-25, 2023, at the contracted rate of \$72.53 per performance for a total not to exceed \$217.59.

7.2.2. Lisa Kerr as a chaperone for the Drama Club rehearsals on March 18 and March - March 20-22, 2023, at the contracted rate of \$72.53 per performance for a total not to exceed \$290.12.

7.2.3. Arianne Grosky as Drama Club Assistant Director for up to twenty-five (25) hours at the contracted rates of \$19 per hour for a total not to exceed \$475.00.

7.2.4. Soma Das as a 1:1 paraprofessional, in accordance with student IEPs, for the Drama Club at the contracted hourly rate of \$19.00 for up to twenty-five (25) hours, not to exceed \$475.00.

7.2.5. Bhavna Sharma as a 1:1 paraprofessional, in accordance with student IEPs, for the Drama Club at the contracted hourly rate of \$19.00 for up to forty (40) hours, not to exceed \$760.00.

7.2.6. Sowmya Kumar, Brooke McAllister, and Heidi Johnston as substitute 1:1 paraprofessionals, in accordance with student IEPs, for the Drama Club at the contracted hourly rate of \$19.0, on an as-needed basis.

7.2.7. Centenary University student, Cora Hill, is to complete her clinical internship for no less than fifteen (15) weeks with Tricia Morris and Carley Marookian beginning on or about January 16, 2023.

7.3. Educational Resources - Finance and Facilities

7.3.1. Travel Expenditures for Workshops:

Staff/Bd Member	Workshop	Date	Registration Fee	Mileage	Other	Total
Janis Clark	Basic Life Support CPR Recertification	05/12/23	\$99.99	\$18.52	N/A	\$118.52
Melissa Volturo	Basic Life Support CPR Recertification	05/12/23	\$99.99	\$20.40	N/A	\$120.39
CST Member TBD	HCASE Preparing for Due Process	05/23/23	\$100.00	N/A	N/A	\$100.00
CST Member TBD	HCASE Preparing for Due Process	05/23/23	\$100.00	N/A	N/A	\$100.00
CST Member TBD	HCASE Preparing for Due Process	05/23/23	\$100.00	N/A	N/A	\$100.00
Emma Alparone	HCASE Preparing	05/23/23	Free	N/A	N/A	N/A

	for Due Process					
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- 7.3.2. Payment of Bills
- 7.3.3. Financial Reports
- 7.3.4. Line Item Transfers for January 2022
- 7.3.5. Extended School Year (ESY) to begin July 5, 2023 through August 10, 2023 for a total of 22 days. (Monday - Thursday).
- 7.3.6. Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program Waiver 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 2023-2024 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 2023-2024 school year.
- 7.3.7. Use of Facilities

Organization	Dates	Day / Times	Location
High Bridge PTO	3/10 & 3/17/23	3/10, Friday, Book Fair Family Night-6 pm-8 pm 3/17, Friday, Kno Bingo-6 pm-8 pm	ES - Library/Gym
HBYB	3/18/23	Saturday, 3/18 8:00 am-4:00 pm	ES Gym
*Hope for All Learners, LLC Inclusive Skateboarding Class	March 25, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20, June 3, 2023	Saturday, 9 am-12 pm	MS Blacktop

*Pending receipt of the insurance certificate.

“Dr. Hobaugh has announced that there will be a new calendar for the board to approve after spring break. He noted that changes in the Voorhees High School’s calendar will reflect changes in our calendar.

Dr. Hobaugh reviewed the remaining action items with the board.

- *High Bridge School District will be advertising ESY vacancies soon*
- *Attending workshops is necessary to keep the staff expanding their knowledge*
- *The class trips have modified hours because of driver shortages*
- *RVCC planetarium is offering teachers discount on tickets”*

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

This period of time provides an opportunity for the public to comment on any topic related to the High

Bridge Public School. 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. While all comments will be considered and a response will be forthcoming if and when appropriate, School Board members will not respond to the speakers during the public comment portion of the meeting. Speakers with questions are encouraged to contact the Superintendent directly before or after the meeting.

No public comments.

9. EXECUTIVE/CLOSED SESSION

Board President calls for a motion at 7:08 p.m. Erin Delgado moved, and a second Benjamin Bolger, unanimously approved, in accordance with the Sunshine Law, Chapter 321, P.L. 1975, to discuss:

- Executive Session Minutes
- Shared Services Contracts
- Personnel
- Negotiations

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.

10. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION

Board President calls for a motion at 8:50 p.m. Karyn Gove moved, and a second Erin Delgado, unanimously approved, to reconvene the public session.

“Dr. Hobaugh noted that parents - teacher conferences are coming in March and they will be held virtually for parents.”

11. ACTION ITEM

11.1. January 17, 2023 Executive Session Minutes

12. ADJOURNMENT

Board President calls for a motion at 8:58 p.m. Colleen Poles moved, and a second Michael McCasland, unanimously approved, to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted



Karolina Cywa

School Business Administrator/Board Secretary