

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

DENVILLE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
February 10, 2020
Work Session - 7:00 p.m.
(Public Portion of the Meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m.)
Township of Denville - Council Chambers

I. CALLED TO ORDER BY MRS. WAGNER AT 7:00 P.M.

A. OPENING STATEMENT

"This meeting of the Denville Township Board of Education is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice of this meeting was provided to the Daily Record and/or the Star Ledger of Morris County; has been delivered to the Township Clerk and has been posted on the bulletin board of the Board of Education Office, and at each of the school buildings in the District".

B. ROLL CALL

Mr. Kim - P, Mr. Casse - P, Mr. Cappello - P, Mr. Andersen – P, Mr. Luer - P, Mrs. Gould - A, Mrs. Wagner – P.

C. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Kim moved, seconded by Mr. Cappello, to convene in executive session in accordance with Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act. The purpose of this closed session will be to discuss negotiations and legal issues. Minutes of this session will be made available to the public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

ACTION ON MOTION:

Yeas 6 Nays 0 Abstentions 0 Time: 7:01 p.m.

The Board returned to open session at 7:32 p.m.

D. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board President opened the meeting for the Open Public Discussion at 7:33 p.m. and closed at 7:54 p.m.

Mayor, Tom Andes, Mr. Nick Panetta, and several members of the public came to the Board and asked for support to continue the ski club program for the Valleyview students. The students are transported to Mountain Creek for several weeks over the winter and consist of approximately 60+ Valleyview participants.

Susan Priori in charge of running the program, explained that this popular club consists of approximately 60+ Valleyview participants. She asked that the Township assumes the responsibility of running the ski club program and that the Board of Education help by storing the equipment at the school facility.

The Board agreed to work with the Township and expressed that they support the program but cannot take full responsibility for the program.

E. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- 2020-2021 Preliminary Budget Presentation, Ref 1-4
 - Dr. Cullis and Mrs. Gurowsky presented the 2020-2021 Preliminary Budget. Topic discussed were as follows:
 - School District Strategic Plan 2022 – The Denville School District's mission is to educate and empower all students to excel.
 - School District Goals – 2019-2020
 - Budget Calendar and updates
 - Questions and Answers:
 - What are our biggest accomplishments?
 - What is our biggest challenges for 20-21?
 - What's included in this budget for students?

- Where does the money come from?
- Are there any cuts/reduction for 20-21?
- What is the tax impact?

- 2020-2021 Preliminary Budget provides funding for Technology, Security personnel (additional Class III officers), Facilities, Curriculum, Mental Health Services, and other miscellaneous items.
- Projects utilizing Capital Reserves Funds.
- Preliminary Tax Impact for Denville K-8 School District
- Budget Categories
- Cost Drivers including Salary, special education cost, mental and health service programs, & RV Annex project.
- Did you know information.....?
 - The District completed many projects (vestibules, security bollards, parking lot, electrical work, other) without the need for referendum – all paid out of reserve funds.
 - The Athletic Field at Valleyview will have a new face-lift.
 - Upgrade/Repair the electrical panel at Lakeview and Riverview.
 - Leased the St. Mary's Building to house RV 4th and 5th grades.
 - This Budget continues the clinical service program with St. Clare's.
 - Continues to budget funds for lunches for economically disadvantaged students.

Discussions on 2020-2021 Preliminary Budget:

The Board commented and had questions about the 20/21 budget. They expressed concerns on the timing to have the RV annex project finished before September. They also questioned other projects and the 20/21 tax impact to the taxpayers.

F. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS – No Comments

G. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS – Dr. Cullis discussed the following:

- BREC Public presentation, Dr. Singer at Riverview on March 10th 7:00PM

- Kindergarten 2020-2021 registration:
Registration as of 2/10/20:
21 Unassigned Flex
63 Lakeview
59 Riverview
21 Unassigned Pre-K

Total: 164

H. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS – No Comments

II. OPEN TO PUBLIC DISCUSSION (Agenda Items Only)

III. OLD BUSINESS (NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN)

Superintendent of Schools to the Board of Education for approval.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13€, we certify that as of **February 2020** after review of the secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) 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. 6:20-2.13(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

To approve the following Resolutions under Old Business:

A. RESOLVED that the Board approve the following REPORTS from **January 2020**:

1. Treasurer of School Monies
2. Board Secretary

B. EDUCATION REPORTS

1. Report of Student Enrollment – **January 2020**
2. Report of Health Office – **January 2020**
3. HIB Case VV-05
4. HIB Case LV-05
5. HIB Case RV-01

C. MINUTES - RESOLVED that the Board approve the following Minutes:

1. Reorganization Meeting - January 6, 2020
2. Work Session Meeting & Executive Sessions 1 & 2 – January 6, 2020
3. Regular Session Meeting & Executive Session - January 27, 2020

IV. NEW BUSINESS (ACTION TO BE TAKEN) – The following resolutions have been recommended by the Superintendent of Schools to the Board of Education for approval.

A. PERSONNEL (Includes Technology) – Chair, Michael Andersen

Mr. Andersen moved, seconded by Mr. Luer, to approve the following Resolutions under Personnel:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve the following resignations, retirements, salary adjustments, reassignments, appointments, etc. (**pending approval from the State Department of Education and subject to the New Jersey Criminal Background Check and Pre-Employment Drug Testing**); **any staff member approved for leave will pay their portion of their health benefits while on leave and upon their return the Superintendent will assign them to a position:**

1. BE IT RESOLVED – NEW HIRES / RESIGNATIONS / RETIREMENTS / EXTRA PAY / SALARY ADJUSTMENT – that the Board approve the following staff members for new hire, resignation, retirement, extra pay for extra duty, sick, and/or vacation pay, and/or a deduction in pay:

	Name	Position	School	Reason/Time	Ref	Amount
a.	Smith, Laurie - 1 pd 4x wk Foth, Leanne - 1 pd 1x wk Marino, Katherine - 1 pd 5x wk	Teacher Teacher Teacher	RV VV VV	Extra teaching duties per DEA agreement. Commence on 2/11/20. All prorated for 2019-20 SY		\$11,632.93 \$3,265.17 \$9,653.67
b.	Navarro, Ana	Instr. Aide	LV	New Hire, FTE 0.69, 19/20 SY, replacing employee #206		\$16,615.89 Step-4Cert
c.	Harris, Kristin	Instr. Aide	LV	Rescind from 1/27/20 meeting: Personnel #1, n. New Hire, FTE 0.69 <hr/> New Hire, FTE 1.0, 19/20 SY		\$17,816.00 Step-11 <hr/> \$25,851.00 Step-11 prorated
d.	Kenah, Paula	Bus Aide	BUS	19/20 SY, retroactive to 12/14/19		\$16.16/hr Step-6

2. BE IT RESOLVED – SUBSTITUTES - that the Board approve the following new hire substitute(s) for the district:

	Name	Position	Effective Date	Per Diem Rate
a.	Bell, Jessica	Teacher	2/11/20	\$110/day
b.	Rozanski, Rachel	Teacher	2/11/20	\$90/day

c.	Kleiman, Rachael	Teacher	2/11/20	\$90/day
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ROLL CALL (Motions 1-2)

Mr. Kim-Y, Mr. Casse-Y, Mr. Cappello-Y, Mr. Andersen-Y, Mr. Luer-Y, Mrs. Wagner-Y.

V. NEW BUSINESS (NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN) – The following resolutions have been recommended by the Superintendent of Schools to the Board of Education for approval.

A. PERSONNEL (Includes Technology) – Chair, Michael Andersen

To approve the following Resolutions under Personnel:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve the following resignations, retirements, salary adjustments, reassignments, appointments, etc. (***pending approval from the State Department of Education and subject to the New Jersey Criminal Background Check and Pre-Employment Drug Testing***); any staff member approved for leave will pay their portion of their health benefits while on leave and upon their return the Superintendent will assign them to a position:

1. BE IT RESOLVED – NEW HIRES / RESIGNATIONS / RETIREMENTS / EXTRA PAY / SALARY ADJUSTMENT – that the Board approve the following staff members for new hire, resignation, retirement, extra pay for extra duty, sick, and/or vacation pay, and/or a deduction in pay:

	Name	Position	School	Reason/Time	Ref	Amount
a.	Nojiri, Patricia	Speech Therapist	LV	Complete additional hours for Speech-Language evaluations, as needed		\$41.21/hr
b.	Morgan, Christine	Teacher	RV	Teach after school enrichment class. Paid by registration fees.	1C	
c.	Knudsen, Cheryl	Instr. Aide	LV	Pay-out sick days (2/1/20 retirement)		\$3,115.04

2. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby approve Employee #662, for a leave of absence, having received doctor's certification, commencing May 1, 2020 under the Federal Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), ending on May 29, 2020, while utilizing twenty-six (26) sick days. Anticipates to return to work on June 17, 2020.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board hereby approve the leave under the NJ Family Leave Act (FLA) for employee #662, commencing on September 2, 2020 through November 20, 2020.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board hereby approve the leave for Employee #662 and anticipate a return to work on February 8, 2021.

3. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board approve employee #663, under the Federal Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), commencing February 7, 2020 ending on February 14, 2020, while utilizing one (1) available sick day and five (5) unpaid days.

4. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board retroactively approve employee #774, under the Federal Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), commencing February 3 2020, while utilizing available sick days. Anticipated return to work is undetermined.

5. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board approve the attached job description for Battle of the Books Coordinator. Ref. 2

6. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board approve the following students to observe in Denville Schools:

	Student	School/College/University	Experience	Dates	School	Ref
a.	Hendersen, Alexandeer	County College of Morris	Observe	19/20 SY	LV	1C

B. INSTRUCTION AND PROGRAM (Includes Technology) – Chair, Katie Gould

To approve the following Resolutions under Instruction and Program:

1. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board approve the attached list of field trip requests.
2. **BE IT RESOLVED – WORKSHOPS with EXPENSES** – that the Board approve the following professional development workshops with expenses for staff members and/or Board members’ payable through the professional development account. Travel may include mileage reimbursement specified below per Chapter 53, Public Law 2007, NJSA 18A:11-12, NJAC 6A:23A-1 that all mileage will be reimbursed at the maximum NJ Circular 08-19-OMB rate currently at \$0.35 per mile.

	Name	Position	School	Cost	Event/Location	Ref	Date(s)

3. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board accept the performance from the Wick-Hegarty School of Irish Dance of Denville to perform at Riverview Elementary School on March 17, 2020. Ref 1C, 3D.

C. POLICY REVISIONS

To approve the following Resolutions under Policy Revisions:

1. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board adopt the following policies and/or regulations as first reading or second reading/adoption as indicated: Ref 1-4

Policy/ Reg #	Policy/Regulation Name	1 st Reading	2 nd Reading/ Adoption

D. FINANCE (Includes Technology) – Chair, James Kim

To approve the following Resolutions under Finance:

1. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board approve the enclosed check list(s) in the following amounts:

Amount	Description	Check Register

2. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board approve the renewal membership in the Pooled Insurance Program of New Jersey.

WHEREAS, a number of Boards of Education in various Counties have joined together to form a Joint Insurance Pool as permitted by N.J. Title 18A-.18B and;

WHEREAS, said Pool was approved effective July 1, 1984 by the New Jersey Commissioner of Insurance and has been in operation since that date and;

WHEREAS, the Bylaws and regulations governing the creation and operation of this Insurance Pool contain elaborate restrictions and safeguards concerning the safe and efficient administration of the public interest entrusted to such a Pool, and;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Denville has determined that membership in the Pooled Insurance Program of New Jersey is in the best interest of the District;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Education of Denville does hereby agree to join/renew membership in the Pooled Insurance Program of New Jersey and hereby accept the Bylaws as approved and adopted. The renewal term is from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2023.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Secretary/Business Administrator is authorized to execute the

application for membership and the accompanying certification on behalf of the District and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Secretary/Business Administrator is authorized and directed to execute the Indemnity and Trust Agreement and such other documents signifying membership in the Pool as are required by the Group's Bylaws and to deliver the same to the Executive Director.

3. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board approve Discovery Benefits to administer the Commuter Benefits plan at a fee of \$3.00 per enrolled participant per month.

E. OPERATIONS (Includes Technology) – Chair, Don Casse

To approve the following Resolutions under Operations:

1. TRANSPORTATION

2. BUILDING AND GROUNDS

- 2.1. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board approve the following programs to use school facilities pending completion of district policy requirements:

- Denville Twp Recreation Summer Camp: Riverview School June 22-August 10, 2020
- Headfirst Camps (NY Yankees) baseball camp: Riverview School July 27-31, 2020
- Pro Sports Experience Camps (NFL Football): Riverview School July 20-24, 2020

- 2.2. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Township of Denville continue an Ad Hoc Committee to Develop and Coordinate a Plan to Enhance the Security of the Denville Township School District:

WHEREAS, ensuring the safety of our students and staff is a critical component of our educational mission;

WHEREAS, the Board, Administrators, Denville Police, and Denville Fire Department are all integral parts of providing and maintaining a "safe" environment for students and staff;

WHEREAS, a coordinated effort is needed to review the various aspects of the security plan with the identified stakeholders.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that an Ad Hoc Committee be continued and charged with reviewing the current plans and identifying additional concerns and improvements for considerations as the Denville Township Schools enhance the security of students and staff; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that activity of this committee shall be reported out to the Board in executive session after each meeting; and will be reassessed in December 2020 for continuation as an Ad-Hoc committee.

VI. GOOD OF THE CAUSE

A. COMMITTEE REPORTS

B. CORRESPONDENCE

C. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Enrollment and Space, Ref 1-4
- BOE Highlights
- Ad Hoc Committee – Culture and Climate

The Board commented on the following Items:

- Transportation Ad Hoc Committee:
 - Transportation waiver
 - Outsource Routes

- Lack of Drivers
- Increase in student enrollment
- Dr. Forte briefly joined the Board meeting to hear the exciting news from Dr. Cullis.
 - Dr. Cullis informed the Board that Riverview Elementary School has been nominated to receive the National Blue Ribbon Award. This program recognizes public and private schools based on their overall academic excellence. The National Blue Ribbon Program is a widely recognized symbol of exemplary teaching and learning.
 - The Riverview school was one out of 9 schools selected in New Jersey that met several criteria based on the performance of its students on state assessments in reading and mathematics.
- Mr. Cappello attended the legislative meeting with assembly man Brian Berger and other Board members from nearby Districts. They discussed the school funding reform act, the 2% cap, unfunded mandates, and other topics that impact public school districts.
- Mr. Cappello also attended the Education Learning Academy presentation. The students inquired about the Board member's role, negotiation, salary guide, and school ethics among other questions.

D. OTHER

VII. OPEN TO COMMENTS

Time: 9:29 p.m. Closed: 9:29 p.m.

No comments were made.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Andersen moved, seconded by Mr. Luer to adjourn the meeting.

ACTION ON MOTION:

Yeas 6 Nays 0 Abstentions 0 Time: 9:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Damaris Gurowsky
Business Administrator/Board Secretary