

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

DENVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
WORK SESSION MEETING
IN-PERSON BOARD MEETING
Denville Town Hall - Council Chambers

1 St. Mary's Place
Or VIRTUAL (see details below)
FEBRUARY 8, 2021; 7:00 p.m.
(Public Portion of the Meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m.)

The following information was provided for access to the Virtual Meeting:

Due to the state of emergency declared by the Governments of the State of New Jersey and the United States regarding COVID-19, the **February 8, 2021** Board Meeting is being held via video conference and in-person. **The Board Meeting may be viewed live via the video conference – or attended in-person see link below for virtual log on information.**

Members of the public may remotely access and provide written or verbal public comments at this Board Meeting through Hangouts Meet, a remote video conferencing system. Specific instructions for accessing the Board Meeting and providing public comments will be posted to the home page of the Denville Board of Educations' website. All public written or verbal comments must include the sender's full name and address and will be read aloud at the Board Meeting. Please visit the District.

Governor Murphy's Executive Order 173 requires that the maximum occupancy of the room (including Board members and staff) is 42 people.

Website for more information: www.denville.org

Free direct access is available by copying and pasting the URL or via telephone

Join: <https://meet.google.com/vuy-uxtp-ioy>

Or call

Phone +1 661-527-2932 PIN: 612287474#

(The meeting line will open at 7:30pm. Callers will be placed in a queue and calls will be answered in the order in which they were received once public comment begins.)

For questions in reference to this meeting, for technical assistance and/or to report difficulty with accessing the virtual meeting, please email sforte@denville.org and/or ccostanza@denville.org. Please note the following in the "Re" portion of your email: "Virtual Meeting Assistance Requested." Emails will be checked during the public meeting as well.

BY ORDER OF THE DENVILLE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

1 St. Mary's Place – 2nd Floor, Denville, NJ 07834

Damaris Gurowsky, Board Secretary.

Google Meet/Hangout Directions for Public

1. When you enter the Meeting/Hangout, mute yourself (If you are already not muted.)
2. During the open public comments section of the meeting please contribute by:
 - a. Typing your question or comments in the textbox
 - b. By unmuting and asking the question or comment
 - c. State your name and address for the record

I. CALLED TO ORDER BY MR. CAPPELLO AT 7:38 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. Due to the state of emergency declared by the Governments of the State of New Jersey and the United States regarding COVID-19, this Board Meeting is being held via video conference and in-person. Electronic and regular 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, 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. Cappello - P, Mr. Casse - P, Mr. Andersen - P, Mr. Luer - P, Mr. Kim - P, Mrs. Gould - A, Mrs. Wagner – A.

C. EXECUTIVE SESSION - No Executive Session was needed

D. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

E. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

F. SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS - Dr. Forte discussed the following:

- Valleyview is on virtual instruction for February 8th and 9th and it may be longer depending on the situation.
- Thursday, February 11th is virtual in the morning only for staff professional development.
- Schools will be closed February 12th and February 15th for the Presidents’ Day holiday.
- School opening delays cannot be used because of the schedule; tomorrow may be a virtual day due to the impending snow.
- This evening, Committee recommendations will be needed from the Finance, Operations and Personnel Committees.

G. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS - Dr. Cullis discussed the following:

- Kindergarten pre-registration is open for the 21/22 SY. See the website for information.
- A poster contest is being held for Black History Month for grades 3-8.
- Information will be sent regarding standardized testing.

H. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR’S COMMENTS - Mrs. Gurowsky discussed the following:

- The binders for the 21/22 SY Budget are available.
- Thank you to the Finance Committee for the work done in the budget preparation process.
- The budget will be presented on March 8th.
- The Public Hearing will be held on April 26th.

II. OPEN TO PUBLIC DISCUSSION (Agenda Items Only)

Opened: 7:48 p.m. Closed: 7:49 p.m.

No comments were made.

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 2021** 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.

The Board discussed the following Resolutions, action will be taken on February 22nd.

To approve the following Resolutions under Old Business:

A. RESOLVED that the Board approve the following REPORTS from **January 2021**:

1. Treasurer of School Monies
2. Board Secretary

B. EDUCATION REPORTS

1. Report of Student Enrollment - **January 2021**
2. Report of Health Office - **January 2021**

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

1. Organization Meeting - January 4, 2021
2. Work Session Meeting & Executive Session - January 4, 2021
3. Regular Session - January 25, 2021

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. Casse, to approve the following Resolutions under Personnel:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve the following resignations, retirements, salary adjustments, payments, employee leave requests, reassignments, appointments *(pending approval from the State Department of Education Office of Student Protection and subject to the New Jersey Criminal Background Check, "Pass the Trash" Employment Verification and Pre-Employment Drug Testing)*, etc.:

1. BE IT RESOLVED - NEW HIRES / RESIGNATIONS / RETIREMENTS / EMPLOYEE LEAVES / EXTRA PAY / SALARY / ADJUSTMENT - that the Board approve the following pertaining to staff members' new hire, resignation, retirement, placement on paid/unpaid leave*, payment for the performance of duties or extra duties**, and/or a deduction in pay:

	Name	Position	School	Description	Ref	Amount
a.	Rozycki-Lowell, Christine	Instr. Aide/ Teacher	RV	Provide virtual tutoring to Denville students. Not to exceed 267 hrs for all tutors (previously approved list) Funded through Title 1.	2A	\$41.21/hr
b.	Iannuzzi, Matthew	Teacher	LV	Leave Replacement Teacher for employee #551. Effective 2/17/2021 - 6/25/2021		\$290/day
c.	Romano, Michelle	Instr. Aide	LV	New Hire - FTE 0.61, effective date TBD		\$15,705.06 Step-10 ABA
d.	Scott, Charlene	Instr. Aide	VV	Resignation, effective 2/26/2021		
e.	Stanford, Alana	Teacher	VV	Retroactively approve: Resignation, effective 12/24/2020		

*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.

**The Board of Education's authorization to pay employees for the performance of duties or extra duties is contingent upon the occurrence of the actual event associated with service, and the employees' actual performance of services. In the situation where an event is canceled or the service is no longer required, the employee will not be eligible for payment and payment will not be issued

2. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board rescind from the November 23, 2020 meeting: Personnel #3, employee #1141, for a leave of absence.

3. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board retroactively approve employee #1141, for a leave of absence, having received doctor's certification, commencing January 25, 2021 under the Federal Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), ending on April 23, 2021, while utilizing fourteen (14) sick days.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board approve the leave under the NJ Family Leave Act (FLA) for employee #1141, commencing on March 29, 2021 through May 7, 2021.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board approve the leave for employee #1141 and anticipate a return to work on May 10, 2021.

ROLL CALL (Motions 1-3)

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

Mr. Andersen provided a report of the Personnel Committee:

- In support of the initiative to diversify the district, contracting with CJ Pride is being recommended. CJ Pride offers job fair programs and allows districts to collaborate with each other to discuss successes or issues. The cost is \$2,000 for the first year and \$100 each subsequent year.
- The Board discussed this recommendation.

B. FINANCE (Includes Technology) - Chair, James Kim

Mr. Kim moved, seconded by Mr. Luer, to approve the following Resolutions under Finance:

1. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Stipulation of Settlement regarding student #2024720.
2. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board approve the Addendum with The Uncommon Thread (TUT) to provide an ABA Paraprofessional for the 2020-2021 school year at a cost not to exceed \$18,900. Ref 2B

ROLL CALL

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

Mr. Kim provided a report of the Finance Committee:

- An upgrade of the Riverview HVAC system is needed. The Personnel Committee needs Board Member feedback on a heating only system at a cost of \$400,000 or a heating and air conditioning system at a cost of \$650,000. The Committee recommends the upgrade. The funds would come from Capital Reserves.
- El Associates needs to know so they can develop proposals.
- Dr. Grip's Demographic Study would cost approximately \$27,000, would be funded by Capital Reserve and would be added to next year's budget.
- The 1.44% tax levy was reviewed and Mr. Kim will discuss individually with Board Members.
- The Board discussed their different positions on all of these issues.

- 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, payments, employee leave requests, reassignments, appointments ***pending approval from the State Department of Education Office of Student Protection and subject to the New Jersey Criminal Background Check, "Pass the Trash" Employment Verification and Pre-Employment Drug Testing***, etc.:

1. **BE IT RESOLVED - NEW HIRES / RESIGNATIONS / RETIREMENTS / EMPLOYEE LEAVES / EXTRA PAY / SALARY / ADJUSTMENT** - that the Board approve the following pertaining to staff members' new hire, resignation, retirement, placement on paid/unpaid leave*, payment for the performance of duties or extra duties**, and/or a deduction in pay:

	Name	Position	School	Description	Ref	Amount
a.	Norris, Liz	Teacher	RV	Provide add'l reading instruction to student #20312676. Total prep & instruction time not to exceed 28.5 hrs (\$1,174.49)	2A	\$41.21/hr

*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.

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2. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board approve the revised job description for school physician.

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

To approve the following Resolutions under Instruction and Program:

1. **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)

2. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board approve the following Student Teachers for 20/21 SY:

	Student	School/College/University	Experience	Dates	School	Ref
a.	LoRe, Syrena	William Paterson University	Observe	20/21 SY	RV	2D

3. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board approve to extend employee #575, for an unpaid leave of absence and anticipate a return to work on February 22, 2021.

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
4150	Discipline	X	

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
		Milk Fund
		Current Expense

2. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Denville Township Board of Education enters into a one (1) year contract for school physician services for the 2021-2022 school year with Dr. Greenfield, in an amount not to exceed two thousand dollars, \$2,000.

3. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board accept the donation from Donors Choose for Lakeview School in the amount of \$330 for classroom books.

VI. GOOD OF THE CAUSE

A. COMMITTEE REPORTS

B. CORRESPONDENCE

C. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Budget 2021-2022
- Board Meeting Highlights, Ref 1-4
- Board of Education adopts Preliminary 2021-2022 - Budget March 8, 2021
- Public Hearing for 2021-2022 School Budget - April 26, 2021

D. OTHER

Mr. Casse discussed an email from Assemblyman Brian Berger regarding the Hayden family and their son whom they lost to suicide. A very moving video can be found at Haydenscorner.org. Mr. Casse expressed his concern over students' social and emotional health, especially with the isolation of virtual learning.

Mr. Andersen thanked the maintenance staff and said they did a great job with snow removal in addition to all of their other responsibilities. He also thanked the nursing staff for their extra hours and working above and beyond their regular duties.

Board Meeting Highlights:

- Budget Discussion
- Demographic Study Discussion
- Kindergarten Enrollment

VII. OPEN TO COMMENTS

Opened: 9:01 p.m. Closed: 9:01 p.m.

No comments were made.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

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

ACTION ON MOTION:

Yeas 5 Nays 0 Abstentions 0 Time: 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Damaris Gurowsky
Business Administrator/Board Secretary