

# White Township Board of Education Minutes

## January 26, 2009

### **Members Present**

The regular meeting of the White Township Board of Education was held on the above date with the following members in attendance: Mr. Gary Meddaugh, Mr. Steve Muscat, Mr. Dave Rader, Mr. Nelson Abrams, Mrs. Chanda Collom and Dr. John Fritz. Mrs. Anna Skoog arrived at 7:35 p.m. Mr. Frank Panetta and Mr. Ron Buckenmyer were absent. Mrs. Linda Heilman, CSA and Mrs. Donnamarie Palmiere, SBA were also present. There was one member of the public.

### **Open Public Meetings Act**

Mr. Meddaugh opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m. and stated that the meeting had been duly advertised and the public properly notified through notification to The Star Gazette, The Express-Times and the White Township Municipal Clerk in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

### **Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. Abrams and seconded by Mr. Muscat to approve the minutes of the December 22, 2008 Regular meeting.

Ayes – 6, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0 Motion Carried

### **Correspondence**

None

Mrs. Anna Skoog arrived at 7:35 pm.

### **Open Public Comment**

None

### **Committee Reports**

**Personnel Committee** – No report.

**Transportation** – No report.

**Policy** – No report.

**Finance** –No report. The following dates have been scheduled for budget workshop meetings:

Monday, February 9, 2009

Meetings will be held in the White Township Consolidated School at 7:30. The public is encouraged to attend.

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**Curriculum** – No report.

**Buildings & Grounds** – The DOE informed us via email that the White Township Window Project was approved at 40% state aid. Also, Coopersmith has submitted a letter stating that concrete repairs on the ramp will be made during Spring break.

**Public Relations** – No report.

**Special Services** -No report.

**Planning/Expansion** – No report.

**BHS** – Mr. Rader informed the Board that Belvidere has received a credit from New Jersey School Alliance Insurance Fund. Mrs. Palmiere also informed the Board that White Township received the same and it was taken in the form of a credit against the final insurance invoice.

**Planning Board** – No report.

### **Old Business**

Next month the Board will review Goals & Objectives.

### **New Business**

Mrs. Heilman asked the Board for volunteers for QSAC. She would like to hold the meetings during the day if possible. The committee will be made up of Board members, teachers, parents and community members. Mrs. Collom, Mr. Meddaugh and Mr. Muscat volunteered.

Mr. Abrams reported on the NJSBA training he attended. The session dealt with school finances and he reported that the district is well informed on the current issues.

### **CSA REPORT**

#### **ITEM #1 – DISTRICT ENROLLMENT (1/20/2009)**

Enrollment December 15, 2008	395
Transferred In	4
Transferred Out	0
Enrollment January 20, 2009	399

#### **ITEM #2 – CLASSROOM ENROLLMENT (1/20/2009)**

Kdg-AM – Williams	17 (1)
Kdg-PM – Williams	13
LLD K-2 – Werner	5
LLD 3-5 – Rosano	5
LLD 6-8 - Sypniewski	6
Grade 1 – May	16
Grade 1 – Rohaly	16 (1)

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Grade 2 – Barofski	19 (3)
Grade 2 – Marsh	24
Grade 3 – Bellfy	18
Grade 3 – Brundage	17
Grade 3 – Fleming	15 (2)
Grade 4 - DeCesare	19
Grade 4 – Giffels	19
Grade 5 - Bowers	19
Grade 5 – Hawk	16 (3)
Grade 6 - Hutchison	17 (3)
Grade 6 - Nobile	20
Grade 6 - Wheatley	19
Grade 7 - LaBar	22
Grade 7 - Mulligan	21 (2)
Grade 8 - Fraunfelter	19
Grade 8 - Skirbst	18 (1)
Grade 8 - White	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>399</b>

### ITEM #3 – DISTRICT ATTENDANCE (12/30/08)

Total Days Possible	6320.0
Total Days Present	6203.0
Total Days Absent	297.0
Average Daily Enrollment	395.0
Average Daily Attendance	376.4 4
Student Rate of Attendance	95.3%

### ITEM #4 – BELVIDERE HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT (12/30/08)

	General Ed	Special Education	
Grade 9	46	5	
Grade 10	35	11	
Grade 11	39	9	
Grade 12	34	7	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>154</b>	<b>32 (186)</b>

### ITEM #5 - SPECIAL SERVICES PLACEMENTS (1/15/09)

Belvidere Preschool	1
Allamuchy Township School	1
Greenwich Township Preschool	1
Harmony Township Preschool	5
Hope Township Preschool	6
Hunterdon Learning Center	1
Knowlton Twp. Pre-School	2
Midland School	1
Special Children’s School	1
Somerset Hills	1
Warren County Spec. Services	
Franklin Township	2

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Warren Tech	1
TOTAL	21

### ITEM #6 – WARREN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL (1/15/09)

Grade 12	4
Grade 11	8
Grade 10	6
Grade 9	13
Total	31

### ITEM #7 – APPROVAL OF KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION EVENTS

The Chief School Administrator recommended approval of the following events:

April 6, 7, 8, 2009	Registration for incoming kindergarten students
May 5, 2009 7:00 PM	Parent meeting for incoming kindergarten students
May 19 & 20, 2009	Incoming kindergarten student visit

A motion was made by Mr. Abrams and seconded by Mrs. Skoog to approve the following events:

April 6, 7, 8, 2009	Registration for incoming kindergarten students
May 5, 2009 7:00 PM	Parent meeting for incoming kindergarten students
May 19 & 20, 2009	Incoming kindergarten student visit

Ayes -7, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0 Motion carried

### ITEM #8 – APPROVAL OF SUBSTITUTES

The Chief School Administrator recommended approval of the following substitutes for the remainder of the 2009 school year:

Ms. Suzanne Brands - Oxford NJ  
Ms. Elizabeth Clark - White Township  
Ms. Sandra DeLorenzo - Columbia NJ  
Mrs. Regina Nehila - Oxford NJ  
Ms. Tori Piccione - East Stroudsburg PA  
Miss Amanda Sypniewski - White Township NJ  
Ms. Jill Willinger-Weiss - Martins Creek, PA

A motion was made by Mr. Muscat and seconded by Mr. Rader to approve the following substitutes for the remainder of the 2009 school year:

Ms. Suzanne Brands - Oxford NJ  
Ms. Elizabeth Clark - White Township  
Ms. Sandra DeLorenzo - Columbia NJ  
Mrs. Regina Nehila - Oxford NJ  
Ms. Tori Piccione - East Stroudsburg PA

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Miss Amanda Sypniewski - White Township NJ  
Ms. Jill Willinger-Weiss - Martins Creek, PA

### **ROLL CALL:**

Gary Meddaugh – Aye  
Nelson Abrams– Aye  
Steve Muscat – Aye  
Anne Skoog – Aye  
John Fritz – Aye  
Dave Rader - Aye  
Chanda Collom – Aye

Ayes -7, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0 Motion carried

### **ITEM #9 – APPROVAL TO HIRE PART TIME TEACHER**

The Chief School Administrator and Child Study Team recommended hiring Mrs. Kathleen Phillips for four hours per day at Step 1, BA (\$42,290 Annual) prorated at 4 hours per day for the remainder of the school year.

A motion was made by Mr. Abrams and seconded by Mrs. Collom to hire Mrs. Kathleen Phillips for four hours per day at Step 1, BA (\$42,290 Annual) prorated at 4 hours per day for the remainder of the school year.

### **ROLL CALL:**

Gary Meddaugh – Aye  
Nelson Abrams– Aye  
Steve Muscat – Aye  
Anne Skoog – Aye  
John Fritz – Aye  
Dave Rader - Aye  
Chanda Collom – Aye

Ayes -7, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0 Motion carried

### **ITEM #10 – APPROVAL OF DISABILITY & FMLA**

The Chief School Administrator recommended approval of a disability leave of absence in accordance with the Federal/State Family and Medical Leave Act for Mrs. Sherry Bellfy, effective December 11, 2008. This leave will use earned sick time (until exhausted) concurrently with the benefits provided by the Family Medical Leave Act.

A motion was made by Mr. Rader and seconded by Mr. Muscat to approve a disability leave of absence in accordance with the Federal/State Family and Medical Leave Act for Mrs. Sherry Bellfy, effective December 11, 2008. This leave will use earned sick time

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(until exhausted) concurrently with the benefits provided by the Family Medical Leave Act.

Ayes -7, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0 Motion carried

### **ITEM #11 – APPROVAL OF SHORTENED SESSION**

The Chief School Administrator recommended approval of a shortened session on Friday, February 13, 2009, with teacher in-service to follow dismissal. (This was originally a scheduled holiday, but in accordance with the approved calendar, a school closing was scheduled to be made up on this date.)

A motion was made by Mrs. Skoog and seconded by Mr. Muscat to approve a shortened session on Friday, February 13, 2009, with teacher in-service to follow dismissal. (This was originally a scheduled holiday, but in accordance with the approved calendar, a school closing was scheduled to be made up on this date.)

Ayes -7, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0 Motion carried

### **ITEM #12 – APPROVAL TO ATTEND WORKSHOP**

The Chief School Administrator and Child Study Team Supervisor requested approval to attend the following workshop:

March 25, 2009 from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM Allentown, PA  
Executive Dysfunction: The Disorganized, Defiant and Chaotic Child/Adolescent  
Cost: \$184/person

A motion was made by Mr. Muscat and seconded by Mr. Abrams to approve the following workshop:

March 25, 2009 from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM Allentown, PA  
Executive Dysfunction: The Disorganized, Defiant and Chaotic Child/Adolescent  
Cost: \$184/person

Ayes -7, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0 Motion carried

### **ITEM #13 – APPROVAL TO SUBMIT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

The Chief School Administrator and Professional Development Committee recommended approval to submit the 2009-2010 Professional Development Plan to the County Professional Development Board.

A motion was made by Mr. Abrams and seconded by Mrs. Collom to submit the 2009-2010 Professional Development Plan to the County Professional Development Board.

Ayes -7, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0 Motion carried

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### **ITEM #14 – APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR WAIVER FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION MEDICAID INITIATIVE (SEMI) PROGRAM**

The Chief School Administrator and Business Administrator recommended approval of a request for a waiver from participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2009-2010 school year due to the fact that the district has fewer than thirty Medicaid eligible classified students.

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 2009-10, and

Whereas, the White Township Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having fewer than 30 Medicaid eligible classified students based on the projection of the district's available SEMI reimbursement for the 2009-10 budget year

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the White Township Board of Education hereby authorizes the Chief School Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Warren an appropriate waiver of the requirements of NJAC 6A23A-5.3 for the 2009-10 school year.

A motion was made by Mr. Rader and seconded by Mr. Abrams to approve a request for a waiver from participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2009-2010 school year due to the fact that the district has fewer than thirty Medicaid eligible classified students.

Ayes -7, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0 Motion carried

### **ITEM #15 – APPROVAL OF SPECIAL EDUCATION CONTRACT**

The Chief School Administrator and Child Study Team recommended approval of a contract with the Hope Township Board of Education for preschool special education for six students commencing on January 5, 2009 and terminating on June 30, 2009, in the amount of \$26,400, including 2/30 minute sessions of Speech & Language Therapy sessions per week. (This contract was previously approved for five students. An additional student joined the program on January 5, 2009.)

A motion was made by Mr. Abrams and seconded by Dr. Fritz to approve a contract with the Hope Township Board of Education for preschool special education for six students commencing on January 5, 2009 and terminating on June 30, 2009, in the amount of \$26,400, including 2/30 minute sessions of Speech & Language Therapy sessions per week. (This contract was previously approved for five students. An additional student joined the program on January 5, 2009.)

Ayes -7, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0 Motion carried

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### **ITEM #16 – APPROVAL OF SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY PLAN**

The Chief School Administrator recommended approval of the updated School Safety and Security Plan.

A motion was made by Mr. Abrams and seconded by Mrs. Collom not to alter the School Safety and Security Plan until there is further discussion between the fire marshal and the state troopers. The Board of Education accepts the citation but is reluctant to change the plan at this time and will wait until the correct plan of action is determined by the authorities.

Ayes -7, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0 Motion carried

### **ADDENDUM TO THE CSA REPORT**

#### **1A. APPROVAL OF SPRING CONCERT AND MUSICAL DATES**

The Chief School Administrator recommended the following amendments to the school calendar:

Spring Concert	Thursday, April 23, 2009 (changed from May 21)
Musical	Friday, May 22, 2009
	Saturday, May 23, 2009

A motion was made by Mr. Muscat and seconded by Mrs. Collom to amend the school calendar as follows:

Spring Concert	Thursday, April 23, 2009 (changed from May 21)
Musical	Friday, May 22, 2009
	Saturday, May 23, 2009

Ayes -7, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0 Motion carried

#### **3A. APPROVAL OF JUMP START STAFF MEMBER**

The Chief School Administrator recommended approval of Mrs. Joan Williams as a Jump Start staff member with a stipend of \$1,619 (Year 1) as per the current negotiated contract between the Board of Education and the White Township Education Association. (Mrs. Williams will be replacing Miss Corin Melchior who resigned from the district in December 2008.)

A motion was made by Mrs. Skoog and seconded by Mrs. Collom to approve of Mrs. Joan Williams as a Jump Start staff member with a stipend of \$1,619 (Year 1) as per the current negotiated contract between the Board of Education and the White Township Education Association. (Mrs. Williams will be replacing Miss Corin Melchior who resigned from the district in December 2008.)

Ayes -7, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0 Motion carried

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### **4A. RESOLUTION TO CONSTRUCT SCHOOL FACILITIES PROJECT #5780-050-09-1001**

The Chief School Administrator, Business Administrator, and Building and Grounds Committee recommended a resolution authorizing the District to construct the school facilities project #5780-050-09-1001 Window Replacement, with State preliminary eligible costs in the amount of \$44,145.00 and to inform the Department of Education that the District elects to select State funding support through a grant by completing Attachment A of the January 15, 2009, project eligibility notification.

A motion was made by Mr. Abrams and seconded by Mrs. Skoog to approve a resolution authorizing the District to construct the school facilities project #5780-050-09-1001 Window Replacement, with State preliminary eligible costs in the amount of \$44,145.00 and to inform the Department of Education that the District elects to select State funding support through a grant by completing Attachment A of the January 15, 2009, project eligibility notification.

Ayes -7, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0 Motion carried

### **5A. AUTHORIZE WILLIS HRH TO OBTAIN BIDS**

The Chief School Administrator and Business Administrator recommended a motion to authorize Willis HRH to obtain competitive proposals for health benefits through a cluster of schools including North Warren, Frelinghuysen, Blairstown, Knowlton, and White Township.

A motion was made by Mr. Muscat and seconded by Mr. Abrams to authorize Willis HRH to obtain competitive proposals for health benefits through a cluster of schools including North Warren, Frelinghuysen, Blairstown, Knowlton, and White Township.

Ayes -7, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0 Motion carried

### **ACCEPTANCE OF CSA REPORT & ADDENDUM TO THE CSA REPORT**

Accept the report of the Chief School Administrator and the addendum to the CSA report into the Board Minutes.

A motion was made by Mr. Abrams and seconded by Mrs. Skoog to accept the report of the Chief School Administrator and the Addendum into the Board Minutes.

Ayes -7, Nays – 0, Abstentions – 0 Motion carried

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### Open Public Comment

There was no comment from the public.

### Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

### PAYMENT OF BILLS:

A motion was made by Mr. Abrams and seconded by Mrs. Collom to approve the payment of the bills for January 2009 in the amount of \$813,420.96.

Ayes –7 Nays – 0, Abstentions –0 Motion carried

### FINANCIAL REPORTS:

December, 2008

- A.) Board Secretary's Report
- B.) Treasurer's Report
- C.) Budget Certification
- D.) Budget Transfers – January 2009

A motion was made by Mr. Abrams and seconded by Mrs. Collom to approve the December, 2008 Treasurer's Report, the December, 2008 Board Secretary's Report, Budget Certification and January 2009 transfers.

Ayes –7 Nays – 0, Abstentions –0 Motion carried

### ADJOURNMENT:

A motion made by Mr. Abrams and seconded by Mrs. Collom to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Ayes –7, Nays – 0, Abstentions - 0

Respectfully submitted,

Board Secretary