

**WHITE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION  
565 COUNTY ROAD 519  
BELVIDERE, NEW JERSEY 07823  
908-475-4773**



**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
December 16, 2024**

For the Regular Meeting of the White Township Board of Education  
Monday, December 16, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the White Township Consolidated School Media Center.

*“White Township Consolidated School is committed to inspire, engage and educate our students by providing innovative, personalized opportunities for growth and learning. With a foundation based on academic excellence and a focus on social emotional learning, our students will achieve their full potential and become productive, responsible, resilient members of the community and contributing members of society.”*

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

President Panetta called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

**II. STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE**

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is either discussed or acted upon. In accordance with this provision of the act, the White Township Board of Education has sent notice of this meeting to the New Jersey Herald and the Express Times stating date, time, and place and posted the same in the White Township School and Municipal Building.

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**IV. ROLL CALL**

Mrs. Robyn Gardella	<i>Present</i>	Mrs. Catherine Lensi	<i>Absent</i>	Mr. Frank Panetta	<i>Present</i>
Mr. Tim Havlusch	<i>Present</i>	Mr. Kevin Murray	<i>Absent</i>	Mrs. Natalie Pinkerton	<i>Absent</i>
Mr. George Jonkoski	<i>Absent</i>	Ms. Michelle Nusser-Meany	<i>Present</i>	Mrs. Elizabeth Vesper	<i>Present</i>

Also present, Mr. William Thompson and Mrs. Lori Tirone.

## **V. CSA REPORT**

### **Mr. Thompson Presented the Student of the Month for December - Erin Kabert**

Mr. Thompson reported:

- Recognized Mrs. Cassandra Baker, Governor's Educator of the Year.
- Recognized Mrs. Michelle Rivera, Educational Service Professional of the Year.
- Feasibility Study - No new information.
- Strategic Planning Community Participation dates 1/30/25, 2/27/25, and 3/27/25.

## **VI. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**MOTION** by Mr. Havlusch, seconded by Mrs. Vesper to approve Administrative Report 1.

### **1. NJDOE QSAC Equivalency Application**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve the New Jersey Department of Education QSAC Equivalency Application.

On a voice vote, all present were in favor. The motion passed.

## **VII. CORRESPONDENCE**

Mrs. Tirone reported:

- Board of Education Election Results - Official
  - Three Year Terms
    - Robyn Gardella
    - Michelle Nusser-Meany
    - Natalie Pinkerton
- John Nittolo, CSA Oxford Central Observation Thank you
- White Township to Belvidere for Send/Receive

## **VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS - Privilege of the Floor**

President Panetta opened the public hearing for public comment. No one from the public made any comments.

## **IX. MINUTES**

**MOTION** by Mr. Havlusch, seconded by Ms. Nusser-Meany to approve the following meeting minutes.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Board of Education meeting, held on the dates indicated as transcribed, be approved and filed.

November 25, 2024 - Regular Meeting Minutes  
November 25, 2024 - Executive Meeting Minutes

On a voice vote, all present were in favor. The motion passed.

**X. PERSONNEL** - Mr. Panetta, Mr. Havlusch, Mr. Murray, Mrs. Vesper

No committee meeting this month.

**MOTION** by Mr. Havlusch, seconded by Mr. Panetta to approve Personnel items 1 and 2.

**1. Approve Substitute Nurse**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve Genevieve Lennox as a substitute nurse at \$175 per day, pending criminal history check and Chapter 5 paperwork.

**2. Approve Substitute Teacher**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve Madison Barofski as a substitute teacher at \$115 per day, pending criminal history check and Chapter 5 paperwork.

On a roll call vote, all present were in favor. The motion passed.

**XI. CURRICULUM** - Ms. Nusser-Meany, Mrs. Gardella, Mr. Jonkoski, Mrs. Pinkerton

No committee meeting this month.

**MOTION** by Mr. Panetta, seconded by Mrs. Vesper to approve Curriculum item 1.

**1. Approve Professional Development**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve Erika Puskas to attend the NJASC Winter Convention on January 8, 2025 at The College of New Jersey. The registration cost is \$39.00 each. It will be paid with Title II funding. She will receive \$.47 per mile for travel.

On a roll call vote, all present were in favor. The motion passed.

**XII. OPERATIONS** - Mrs. Vesper, Mr. Havlusch, Mr. Murray, Mr. Panetta

No committee meeting this month.

**MOTION** by Ms. Nusser-Meany, seconded by Mr. Havlusch to approve Operations items 1 through 3.

**1. Acceptance of the Financial Report November 2024**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 requires the Board Secretary and the White Township Board of Education to certify that no budgetary line-item account has been over-expended and that the sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligation, and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.A.C.6A:23A-16.10 further requires the White Township Board of Education receive and accept the monthly financial statements, the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's reports; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's reports for the month ending November 30, 2024 is presented for the Board to accept and are on file in the Office of the School Business Administrator;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the White Township Board of Education acknowledges receipt of and accepts the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Report for the month ending November 30, 2024; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board Secretary and White Township Board of Education certify that no budgetary line-item account has been over-expended and that there are sufficient funds available to meet the district's financial obligation.

## **2. Approval of Budget Transfers for November 2024**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.A.C.6A:23A-16.10-(c)1 states that a report shall be presented to the Board showing all transfers between line-item accounts for each line-item account shown on the budget prepared in accordance with N.J.S.A.18A:22-8; and

**WHEREAS**, transfers in the report "Budget Transfers" for the time period of November 2024 were necessary to maintain the needs of the district and are on file in the Office of the School Business Administrator,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, that White Township Board of Education ratifies and approves the transfers in the report "Budget Transfers" for November in fiscal year 2024-2025, approved by the Chief School Administrator, so that no budgetary line-item account has been over-expended and that sufficient funds would be available to meet the district's financial obligations.

## **3. Approval of December Bill List**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 18A:19, Expenditure of Funds; Audit and Payment of Claims, provides Boards of Education to make payments on claims for goods received and services rendered payable to the order of the person entitled to receive the amount after approval by the board; or in accordance with payrolls duly certified; or debt service or when provided by resolution approval by a person designated by the board; and

**WHEREAS**, a list of bills for the month of December 2024 are being presented to the board with the recommendation that they be ratified, approved and paid; and

**WHEREAS**, each claim or demand has been fully itemized, verified and audited as required by law in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:19-2;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the White Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, ratifies and approves the list of bills for payment in the sum of \$893,395.28 for December 2024; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the list of bills is on file in the Office of the School Business Administrator, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the White Township Board of Education authorizes the School Business Administrator to pay bills if it is determined that a need arises prior to the next board meeting.

On a roll call vote, all present were in favor. The motion passed.

**XIII. GOVERNANCE** - Mrs. Pinkerton, Mrs. Gardella, Mr. Jonkoski, Ms. Nusser-Meany

No committee meeting this month.

**XIV. BHS BOARD MEMBER UPDATE** - Mrs. Gardella

Mrs. Gardella reported she did not attend the BHS meeting due to the winter concert conflict, and winter sports have started.

**XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION** by Mr. Havlusch, seconded by Mr. Panetta for the Board to enter into Executive Session at 6:57 p.m.

On a voice vote, all present were in favor. The motion passed.

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act authorizes a public body to exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which the Board of Education discusses topics falling within certain specified exceptions to the requirement for public meetings;(N.J.S.A. 10:4-13) and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education wishes to discuss matters that fall within statutory exceptions to open public meetings

**BE IT RESOLVED** pursuant to Section 7 of the Open Public Meetings Act(N.J.S.A. 10:4-12), that the Board adjourn from public session and enter into executive session at this time to discuss confidential matters pertaining to legal matters and personnel, specifically the Chief School Administrator annual evaluation.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the matters discussed in executive session should be made public as soon as the need for confidentiality no longer exists, but it is not known at this time when that may be. The Board expects to reconvene into public session in approximately 15 minutes. Action may be taken.

**BE IT RESOLVED** to return to Open Public Session at 7:01 p.m.

**MOTION** by Mr. Havlusch, seconded by Mrs. Vesperfor the Board to reconvene public session.

On a voice vote, all present were in favor. The motion passed.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF HIB INCIDENTS**

**MOTION** by Ms. Nusser-Meany, seconded by Mrs. Vesper to acknowledge receipt of 1 HIB investigation deemed a HIB incident.

On a roll call vote, all present were in favor. The motion passed.

#### **XVI. OLD BUSINESS**

No old business.

#### **XVII. NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Panetta congratulated Mrs. Vesper on Educational Service Professional of the Year at Hope Township.

#### **XVIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS - Privilege of the Floor**

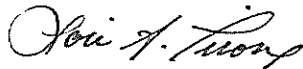
President Panetta opened the public hearing for public comment. No one from the public made any comments.

#### **XIX. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN** by Mr. Havlusch, seconded by Mr. Panetta.

On a voice vote, all present were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lori A. Tirone".

Lori A. Tirone  
Board Secretary