

The Public Budget Hearing of the Stafford Township Board of Education was held on April 27, 2017 at 7:00pm at the Stafford Township Arts Center (STAC).

CALL TO ORDER

The Stafford Township's Board of Education is called to order in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act Law - 1975 Chapter 231 (P.L. 1975-231C). This meeting was advertised in the Atlantic City Press, Asbury Park Press, and the Beacon. Notice has been posted in the office of the Stafford Township Clerk and all school buildings.

ROLL CALL

Michael Benson	Member
Wendy Cotter	Member
Walter Jauch	Member
Deborah Lyons	Member (Absent)
Joseph Mangino	Member
Tammy Nicolini	Member
Beth Sicoli	Member
Richard Czajkowski	Vice President
Michael Hemenway	President

ALSO PRESENT

George J. Chidiac	Superintendent
Daniel Smith	Business Administrator/Board of Education Secretary
Laura Benson, Esq.	Board of Education Attorney

FLAG SALUTE

A. PRESENTATION

1. The 2017–2018 Budget as presented by George J. Chidiac, Superintendent.

B. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

- The president of the STEA asked about copies of the budget, salary increases, student furniture, teacher desks, lease purchases, maintaining class size and the bus garage.
- A parent questioned the money budgeted for teacher salary increases.

C. BOARD BUSINESS

1. To adopt the following resolution “Adoption of the Final Budget 2017-2018”:

**ADOPTION OF THE FINAL BUDGET
2017-2018**

**Adjustment
Enrollment**

RESOLVED that the Stafford Township Board of Education includes in the proposed budget the adjustment for enrollment in the amount of \$0. The district intends to utilize this adjustment for supplies and materials necessary for the additional students.

**Adjustment
Health Benefits**

RESOLVED that the Stafford Township Board of Education includes in the proposed budget the adjustment for increased cost of health benefits in the amount of \$0. The additional funds are included in the base budget and will be used to pay for the additional increases in health benefits.

**Adjustment
PERS Pension**

RESOLVED that the Stafford Township Board of Education includes in the proposed budget the adjustment for deferral of the PERS pension cost and the additional interest incurred in the amount of \$0. The district intends to utilize this adjustment for the purpose of paying the additional interest charges.

**Adjustment
Responsibility Transferred**

RESOLVED that the Stafford Township Board of Education includes in the proposed budget the adjustment for increase (decrease) of costs associated with the transfer of responsibilities in the amount of \$0. The district intends to utilize this adjustment for increase (decrease) for the costs.

**Adjustment
Banked Cap**

N/A

The district intends to complete said purposes by June 2018.

**Capital Reserve Account Withdrawal
Other**

RESOLVED that the Stafford Township Board of Education requests the approval of a capital reserve withdrawal in the amount of \$743,750 for Primary Learning Center Site Drainage Corrections, Ocean Acres School Hot Water Heater Upgrade, McKinley and Intermediate Schools Water Fountain Replacement Project, and an expansion to the Bus Garage.

**Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement
2017-2018**

WHEREAS, the Stafford Township Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq. requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

WHEREAS, a Board of Education may establish, for regular district business travel only, an annual school year threshold of \$150 per staff member where prior Board approval shall not be required unless this annual threshold for a staff member is exceeded in a given school year (July 1 through June 30); and

WHEREAS, travel and related expenses not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq, but deemed by the Board of Education to be necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq as being necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.2(b), to a maximum expenditure of \$50,000 for all staff and board members.

**Adoption of Final Budget
2017-2018**

BE IT RESOLVED that the final budget be approved for the 2017-2018 school year using the 2017-2018 state aid figures and the Secretary to the Board of Education be authorized to submit the following tentative budget to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval in accordance with the statutory deadline:

	<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	<u>SPECIAL REVENUES</u>	<u>DEBT SERVICE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
2017-18 Total Expenditures	37,960,730	1,156,026	2,619,305	41,736,061
Less: Anticipated Revenues	10,871,553	1,156,026	418,809	12,446,388
Taxes to be Raised	<u>27,089,177</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,200,496</u>	<u>29,289,673</u>

2. To approve the attached tuition rates for the 2017-2018 school year.
3. BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford Township Board of Education to accept and approve the attached bid proposal from Gaudelli Brothers, Inc. of Millville, NJ in the total amount not to exceed \$1,195,500, representing Base Bid Items 1 through 4 plus Alternate Add A1 and A2 for the Ocean Acres Chiller and McKinley RTU Replacement Projects. This was one of three bids received and was selected on lowest amount. This project is part of the Referendum Projects.

4. BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford Township Board of Education to accept and approve the attached bid proposal from DEC Electrical Contractors, Inc. of Berlin, NJ in the total amount not to exceed \$1,260,400, representing Base Bid Items 1 through 10 plus Alternate Add A1, A2, A3, A4, A6 and Alternate Deduct D1 for the Specialty Systems Electrical Improvements (Rebid) district-wide. This was one of two bids received and was selected on lowest amount. This project is part of the Referendum Projects.
5. To affirm the determination of the Superintendent regarding harassment, intimidation, and bullying incident investigation – Intermediate #3.
6. To approve the revised 2016-2017 School Calendar to include early dismissal for students on June 12, 2017.
7. To reject all bids received on March 30, 2017 for the Door Replacement Project at McKinley Avenue Elementary School and for the Media Center Ceiling Repair & Replacement Project at Stafford Intermediate School and McKinley Avenue Elementary School (part of Referendum projects); as the district is reducing the scope of these projects.

A motion was made by Tammy Nicolini and seconded by Michael Benson to approve Board Business item(s) #1,2,5,6,7. Roll call vote: eight (8) members present voted yes; motion passed. A motion was made by Tammy Nicolini and seconded by Michael Benson to approve Board Business item(s) #3-4. Roll call vote: seven (7) members present voted yes; motion passed. Richard Czajkowski voted NO on items #3-4.

D. CURRICULUM/INSTRUCTION/TECHNOLOGY

The Committee of the Whole has reviewed the following action items, has consulted with the superintendent and other appropriate district officials, and hereby certifies that the actions being approved are consistent with the 2015-2018 board/district goals. In addition, we further certify that we have reviewed the attached professional development request list and are satisfied that each professional development event is directly related to the employee’s duties, each event is fiscally prudent (consistent with N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12), that teaching staff requests are aligned to the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards, and that administrator requests are aligned to the Professional Standards for School Leaders.

1. To approve the attached new Gifted and Talented Program, beginning May 1, 2017.

A motion was made by Wendy Cotter and seconded by Walter Jauch to approve Curriculum/Instruction/Technology item(s) #1. Roll call vote: eight (8) members present voted yes; motion passed.

E. CLOSED SESSION

None

F. PUBLIC COMMENT

- A community member asked why copies of the budget were not handed out.
- The president of the STEA asked if the board members had copies of the budget with them. She also asked about salaries and renewals, if the board has to approve raises during the year, and if the approval is different for affiliated versus non-affiliated.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Tammy Nicolini and seconded by Wendy Cotter to adjourn the meeting at 7:45pm. Voice vote: All members present voted yes (8-0); motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT NOTICE - STAFFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

The Stafford Township Board of Education welcomes the opportunity to hear what members of the public have to say about matters of public interest. However, we do have specific procedures in place for you to bring your concerns to the proper personnel. We refer to this as the chain of command. For example, if you have a concern involving something within the classroom, we would ask that you first speak to the teacher, and if necessary, the principal. If you have not utilized the chain of command, we would ask that you please do so prior to addressing your concerns in this meeting so that the district personnel are given the opportunity to resolve these matters to your satisfaction. If, after utilizing the chain of command, you feel your concerns have not been addressed, we welcome you to return to the next Board meeting to voice your concern. If you have any questions about the chain of command (or the appropriate person to whom you should address your concern), please feel free to ask any member of the Board at the break or when this meeting concludes. We would also like to make you aware that there are certain matters that the Board can only discuss in closed session. Thus, if your comments touch upon an issue that is only to be discussed in closed session or one where certain notices must be provided prior to the Board conducting any discussions, the Board will not be able to respond to your comments at this time. We will inform you if this is the case when you have finished speaking. Specifically, this situation may arise if you are discussing a particular employee (or employees) of the district or a particular student (or students).

Daniel Smith
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

DS/km/5-3-2017