

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

January 21, 2021

The Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Stafford Township Board of Education was held on January 21, 2021 at 6:30pm at the Stafford Township Arts Center (STAC) and was open to 150 people only to not exceed the governor's indoor gathering Executive Order 183.

CALL TO ORDER

The Stafford Township 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. Notice has been posted in the office of the Stafford Township Clerk, all school buildings and the district website.

ROLL CALL

Kevin Cooney	Member
Patricia Formica	Member (Absent)
Christopher Fritz	Member
Deborah Lyons	Member (Late – Remote)
Brett Novick	Member (Absent)
Erin Sharkey	Member (Absent)
Mark Zoladz	Member
Joseph Mangino	Vice President (Remote)
Tammy Wagner	President

ALSO PRESENT

George J. Chidiac	Superintendent
Lourdes LaGuardia	Business Administrator/Board of Education Secretary
Martin J. Buckley, Esq.	Board of Education Attorney (via remote)

FLAG SALUTE

A. RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS

- Safe Routes to School coordinators (Great Mercer TMA), along with the Township Administrator presented the Safe Routes to School Project, which is a project in conjunction with Southern Regional School District, Stafford Township School District and the Township of Stafford. The project encourages more walking and biking to school.

B. CLOSED SESSION

None

C. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

None

D. PERSONNEL/POLICY

Chairperson Deborah Lyons – Update (Policy Only)

Mr. Chidiac reported that there are 11 substitutes on the agenda for teacher aides, teachers and custodians.

E. SPECIAL EDUCATION/CURRICULUM

Chairperson Brett Novick (Absent) – Update

Mr. Chidiac reported that the committee had an introductory overview of the special education, as well as the regular education curriculum. Mr. Chidiac indicated that there will be more discussions along the way. Mr. Zoladz requested extra time for the overview and Mr. Chidiac indicated that that would not be a problem.

F. FINANCE/BUILDINGS&GROUNDS

Chairperson Tammy Wagner – Update

Mrs. Wagner provided an update on the new bus garage and indicated that the project is on track and should be completed by the spring of 2022. The continued maintenance and intense cleaning for COVID was discussed. There was a preliminary discussion on budget, readying the 2021-2022 budget for county approval in March and the Public Budget Hearing in April. There was a discussion on the soil clean-up testing.

Mr. Chidiac provided some additional updates, which included the following:

- There will be a special student video for Board Recognition at the February 8th meeting.
- Budget and other items are on the agenda for the Board Retreat, scheduled for February 8th.
- Read Across America is scheduled for March 2nd and 3rd.
- Good News! We are able to again submit for the Preschool Grant for the 2021-2022 school year, there is no guarantee but we will be sure it is fully funded.

G. CLOSED SESSION –STUDENT MATTERS, SPECIFICALLY HIB MATTERS

Whereas Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting under certain circumstances; and

Whereas, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Stafford Township Board of Education, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, as follows:

The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action of the hereinafter specified subject matters.

The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

STUDENT MATTERS, SPECIFICALLY HIB MATTERS

It is anticipated at this time that the above-stated subject matters shall be made public at such time as the reasons for non-disclosure no longer exists.

A motion was made by Tammy Wagner and seconded by Brett Novick to move on the above Resolution. Voice vote: All members present voted yes (8-0); motion passed.

TIME IN: 7:03pm

TIME AT CONCLUSION OF CLOSED SESSION: 7:35pm

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mark Zoladz and seconded by Kevin Cooney to adjourn the meeting at 7:35pm. Voice voice: All members present voted yes (4-0); 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).

Lourdes LaGuardia
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

LL/km/1-26-2021