

BOARD RETREAT

August 20, 2020

The Board Retreat of the Stafford Township Board of Education was held on August 20, 2020 at 5:00pm at the Stafford Township Arts Center (STAC) and was live streamed for the public over the web as a consequence of the state of emergency and health officials' recommendations regarding public gatherings.

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

Patricia Formica	Member
Deborah Lyons	Member
Brett Novick	Member
Kathleen Pierson	Member
Gerald Simonelli	Member
Tammy Wagner	Member
Mark Zoladz	Member
Joseph Mangino	Vice President
Walter Jauch	President

ALSO PRESENT

George J. Chidiac	Superintendent
Lourdes LaGuardia	Business Administrator/Board of Education Secretary
Jonathan Busch, Esq.	Board Counsel

FLAG SALUTE

A. RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS

Ms. Mary Ann Friedman from NJ School Boards Association presented on "Foundations of Board Governance" via Zoom presentation, as attached.

B. CLOSED SESSION

None

C. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

None

D. FINANCE/BUILDINGS&GROUNDS

Chairperson Brett Novick – Update

Mrs. LaGuardia updated the board members on the bus garage project and provided a timeline for the start of the project. She presented building layout plans and current deficiencies through slide picture presentation.

E. PERSONNEL/POLICY

Chairperson Tammy Wagner – Update (Policy Only)

Mr. Chidiac introduced possible temporary revisions to Policy 5111 Eligibility of Resident / Nonresident Students. Due to the current worldwide pandemic, Mr. Chidiac is proposing a Teacher Tuition Waiver, whereas district teachers/staff may opt to have their own children attend the district schools free of charge for the 2020-2021 school year.

F. SPECIAL EDUCATION/CURRICULUM

Chairperson Gerald Simonelli – Update

Mr. Chidiac addressed the CARES Fund Assessments.

G. CLOSED SESSION – Tort Claim and Potential Litigation

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:

Tort Claim and Potential Litigation

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 Walter Jauch and seconded by Patricia Formica to move on the above Resolution. Voice vote: All members present voted yes (9-0); motion passed.

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TIME IN: 6:26pm

TIME AT CONCLUSION OF CLOSED SESSION: 7:56pm

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Tammy Wagner and seconded by Brett Novick to adjourn the meeting at 7:56pm. Voice vote: All members present voted yes (9-0); 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/8-26-2020