

The Public Budget Hearing of the Stafford Township Board of Education was held on April 29, 2014 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**

Richard Czajkowski	Member
Michael Hemenway	Member
Kevin Leonard	Member
Deborah Lyons	Member
Tammy Nicolini	Member
Sean Wasacz	Member
Beth Sicoli	Member
Sharon Bialecki	Vice President
Wendy Cotter	President

**ALSO PRESENT**

George J. Chidiac	Superintendent
Margaret Hom	Business Administrator/Board of Education Secretary
Tracey Schneider, Esq.	Board of Education Attorney

**FLAG SALUTE**

**A. PRESENTATION**

1. The 2014 – 2015 Budget as presented by George J. Chidiac, Superintendent and Margaret Hom, School Business Administrator.

**B. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)**

- Various parents, teachers and community members voiced their concerns on the budget with regard to personnel cuts, STAC, special education, enrichment programs, etc.
- STEA president and vice president addressed the board with concerns on the budget.

**C. BOARD BUSINESS**

1. To adopt the following resolution “Adoption of the Final Budget 2014-2015” with the following change: Transferring \$125,000 from 11-190-100-610 to 10-604 (Increase in Capital Reserve for building security and other projects, as well as all other changes made in order to receive our preliminary approval from the county office.

ADOPTION OF THE FINAL BUDGET  
2014-2015

**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 increases costs 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**

RESOLVED that the Stafford Township Board of Education includes in the proposed budget the adjustment for banked cap in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A 10.3(b). The district has fully exhausted all eligible statutory spending authority and must increase the base budget in the amount of \$663,733 for the purposes of

- \$100,020 - Completing 3 of 10 ROD grants
- \$140,000 - Replacement of 6 retired buses (5 that were due, 1 retired early per state inspection) (We have 4 more buses of the same year/model of the one that was retired early per state inspection and an additional bus that is scheduled to retire next year)
- \$120,000 – New language arts series – To implement a new language arts series that is aligned to the new state-mandated common core state standards
- \$76,000 – Achieve 3000 –To prepare our students for the new state-mandated PARCC assessment
- \$38,779 – Purchase of interactive projectors, whiteboards and document cameras and supplies for one grade level – To prepare our students for the new state-mandated PARCC assessment and integrate our 21<sup>st</sup> century classrooms for our students
- \$57,120 – New outside placement – Regional Day School
- \$20,000 – Architect/engineer fees for security purposes – New entrance configurations at each school
- \$111,814 – Two new computer labs and balance (if any) for Chrome Books

---

The district intends to complete said purposes by June 2015.

**Capital Reserve Account Withdrawal  
ROD Grant – PLC HVAC Upgrade 5020-075-14-1017  
ROD GRANT – OA Window Replacement 5020-065-14-1011  
ROD GRANT – OA Roofing 5020-065-14-1010**

RESOLVED that the Stafford Township Board of Education requests the approval a capital reserve withdrawal in the amount of \$ 1,150,020. The district intends to utilize these funds for the purpose of local shares for 3 ROD grants at the Ocean Acres School and the Ronald L. Meinders Primary Learning Center.

**Capital Reserve Account Deposit  
ROD GRANT – PLC HVAC Upgrade 5020-075-14-1017  
ROD GRANT – OA Window Replacement 5020-065-14-1011  
ROD GRANT – OA Roofing 5020-065-14-1010**

RESOLVED that the Stafford Township Board of Education requests the approval a capital reserve deposit in the amount of \$100,020 for the balance of the Local Share. The district intends to utilize these funds for the balance of the first 3 ROD grants listed above at the Ocean Acres School and Ronald L. Meinders Primary Learning Center.

**Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement  
2014-2015**

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  
2014-2015**

BE IT RESOLVED that the tentative budget be approved for the 2014-2015 School Year using the 2014-2015 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:

	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>SPECIAL REVENUES</b>	<b>DEBT SERVICE</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>2014-2015 Total Expenditures</b>	35,646,278	1,141,664	2,837,180	39,625,122
<b>Less: Anticipated Revenues</b>	11,158,076	1,141,664	375,864	12,675,604
<b>Taxes to be Raised</b>	24,488,202		2,461,316	26,949,518

- 2. To approve the attached tuition rates for the 2014 – 2015 school year.

A motion was made by Kevin Leonard and seconded by Beth Sicoli to approve Board Business item(s) #1-2. Roll call vote: nine (9) members present voted yes; motion passed.

**D. CLOSED SESSION**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Tammy Nicolini and seconded by Sharon Bialecki to adjourn the meeting at 10:03pm. Roll call vote: nine (9) members present voted yes; 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).

---

Margaret Hom  
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

MH/km/4-30-2014