

NEPTUNE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION  
NEPTUNE, NEW JERSEY 07753  
Administrative Offices  
February 22, 2022 7:00 PM

**MINUTES – WORK SESSION**

- I. CALL TO ORDER – 7:00 p.m. – The meeting was called to order by Board President Chanta L. Jackson.

This is a public work session of the Neptune Township Board of Education. In accordance with Chapter 231, Public Laws of 1975, adequate advance written notice of the meeting was made by posting the Schedule of Meetings in the main floor lobby of the Board of Education / Administrative Offices, the main entrance of each school building, and by delivery to the Asbury Park Press, the Coaster and the Neptune Township Municipal Clerk. Advance electronic notice has been made on the district's website consistent with Bylaw 0164.6.

Fire Exits are located in the direction indicated. In case of fire, you will be signaled by bell and/or public address system. If so alerted, please move in a calm, orderly fashion to the nearest exit.

Pursuant to State Statute N.J.S.A. 26:3D-17 and Neptune Township Board of Education Policy/Regulation 7434, no smoking is permitted on Board of Education property.

Neptune Township School District is a community for ALL learners, where we value opportunity, diversity, and accountability.

II. ROLL CALL

Board Members:

Fernandez	<u>P</u>	Harris	<u>P</u>	Howe	<u>P</u>
Hubbard	<u>P</u>	Jones	<u>P</u>	Puryear	<u>P</u>
Thompson	<u>P</u>	Wells	<u>P</u>	Flynn (BB)	<u>P</u>
Lashley (NC)	<u>P</u>	Jackson	<u>P</u>		

Others Present:

Dr. Crader	<u>P</u>	Dr. Gristina	<u>P</u>
Mr. Leonard	<u>P</u>	Mr. Bartlett	<u>Excused</u>

III. PUBLIC FORUM - None

- IV. PRESENTATION - Reverend Dr. Ahmad Van Zant informed the Board about the Launch Center, a workforce development arm of the Interfaith Neighbors located at 1201 Springwood Avenue in Asbury Park. He discussed the many aspects of the organization and spoke specifically about the "Alliance For Success" program that he hopes will take root in Neptune High School with the assistance of district administration. Following a brief Q&A, the Board thanked him for his commitment and time.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Superintendent's Report - The Superintendent recapped the week's events as noted in her FYI. She commented on several of today's Professional Development day events. She reminded the Board of the upcoming HS musical on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Crader shared a thank you card with Ms. Jackson from the Midtown Community Elementary School for her generous donation of an electric piano.
- B. Operations - Mr. Hubbard reviewed the minutes of the Operations Committee meeting and items proposed for the agenda.
- C. Curriculum - Ms. Puryear reviewed the minutes of the Education Committee meeting and items proposed for the agenda. The Board was updated on a proposal from Dr. Tonya Breland who will conduct an environmental equity audit of the district and then work with administration accordingly.
- D. Personnel - Mr. Howe reviewed the minutes of the recent Personnel Committee meeting and noted that there was a negotiations / mediation session on the 17<sup>th</sup> and additional meetings are scheduled for March 14<sup>th</sup> and possibly June 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Board discussed the parental communications pertaining to the March 7<sup>th</sup> mask mandate relief. It was noted that the option to wear masks or not is a parental choice. Federal regulations that control pupil transportation have not lifted this mandate while riding on school buses. It was also pointed out that, while COVID numbers are quite low, should the exposure rate rebound – particularly after spring recess – there is the possibility of reinstating existing protocols.

- VI. OLD BUSINESS - President Jackson took a brief survey of the Board's position on mask wearing and the consensus seemed to align with the parental choice option.

Mr. Hubbard inquired about midyear resignations and minimizing the impact on the academic program. Dr. Gristina addressed the ongoing efforts to recruit replacements with minimal disruption.

- VII. NEW BUSINESS - President Jackson informed the Board members of the need for an Executive Session in order to discuss the extension of the Superintendent's employment contract.

## VIII. MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION PRIOR TO ADJOURNMENT

WHEREAS, Chapter 231 of the Public laws of 1975, known as the "Open Meetings Law," authorizes a public body to meet in executive or private session under certain limited circumstances; and

WHEREAS, said law requires the Board to adopt a resolution at a public meeting before it can meet in such executive or private session; now,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Neptune Township Board of Education does hereby determine that:

1. It is necessary to meet in Executive Session prior to adjournment of this public meeting to discuss personnel matters.
2. The matters to be discussed are excluded from public discussion under the law and will be made public at a time when the public's interest in disclosure is greater than any privacy or governmental interest being protected from disclosure.

Motion: Jackson

Second: Fernandez

Fernandez	<u>Y</u>	Harris	<u>Y</u>	Howe	<u>Y</u>
Hubbard	<u>Y</u>	Jones	<u>Y</u>	Puryear	<u>Y</u>
Thompson	<u>Y</u>	Wells	<u>Y</u>	Flynn (BB)	<u>Y</u>
Lashley (NC)	<u>Y</u>	Jackson	<u>Y</u>		

Time: 7:40 p.m.

Dr. Crader explained the formal process to follow with regard to DOE level approval, public advertisement and ultimately Board approval. She noted that the contract is a 5-year renewal with existing terms and 2% salary increase for each year of the contract. While the contract contains standard language for merit pay adjustment, the Superintendent made it clear that she does not ascribe to this philosophy.

Administration was excused at this time.

## IX. MOTION TO RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION PRIOR TO ADJOURNMENT

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve returning from Executive Session.

Motion: Puryear

Second: Lashley

Fernandez	<u>Y</u>	Harris	<u>Y</u>	Howe	<u>Y</u>
Hubbard	<u>Y</u>	Jones	<u>Y</u>	Puryear	<u>Y</u>
Thompson	<u>Y</u>	Wells	<u>Y</u>	Flynn (BB)	<u>Y</u>
Lashley (NC)	<u>Y</u>	Jackson	<u>Y</u>		

Time: 8:38 p.m.

X. MOTION TO ADJOURN

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting.


Motion: Lashley

Second: Fernandez

Fernandez	<u>Y</u>	Harris	<u>Y</u>	Howe	<u>Y</u>
Hubbard	<u>Y</u>	Jones	<u>Y</u>	Puryear	<u>Y</u>
Thompson	<u>Y</u>	Wells	<u>Y</u>	Flynn (BB)	<u>Y</u>
Lashley (NC)	<u>Y</u>	Jackson	<u>Y</u>		

Time: 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Peter J. Leonard  
Board Secretary