

MINUTES – Board Meeting - 1

October 19, 2021

Westfield Board of Education

Westfield, New Jersey

Office of the Secretary

MINUTES – Board Meeting

October 19, 2021

Mrs. Root opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and read the following statement:

October 14, 2021

Notice is hereby given of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Town of Westfield, in the County of Union, New Jersey, at 7:00 p.m. on the evening of Tuesday, October 19, 2021 in Cafeteria B of Westfield High School, 550 Dorian Road, Westfield, New Jersey. Please be advised, all attendees must wear masks. The purpose of the meeting is to transact the regular business of the Board and to transact any other business to come properly before the Board.

This is to advise the general public and to instruct that it be recorded in the Minutes that in compliance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, entitled the “Open Public Meetings Act,” the Westfield School Board on Thursday, October 14, 2021 caused to be posted at the Office of the Board of Education located at 302 Elm Street, Westfield, New Jersey, and delivered to The Westfield Leader, The Star-Ledger, the Westfield Library, Town Clerk of Westfield, TAP into Westfield and Patch.com, a meeting notice setting forth the time, date and location of this meeting.

Mrs. Sullivan called the roll with the following members present:

Mr. Bielen, Mr. Galligan,
Mr. Garrison, Mrs. Morrelli, Ms. Ohlig,
Mrs. Oporto, Mrs. Patel, Mrs. Root

Absent: Mrs. Aziz

Also Present: Dr. Raymond González, Superintendent
Mrs. Dana Sullivan, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Dr. Michael Weissman, Assistant Superintendent of Pupil Personnel Services
Mr. Paul Pineiro, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction

- **FLAG SALUTE**

The flag salute was led by Mr. Garrison

- **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Eight Westfield High School students have received special honors from the College Board National Recognition Programs. Senior Celia Frank has been named a 2021-2022 National African American Scholar. Seniors Taylor Addis, Blake Baretz, Mateo Beltran, John González, Manuel González, Amira Lee, and Victoria Vaca have been named 2021-2022

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National Hispanic Scholars. We look forward to welcoming these student scholars to a future Board meeting for in-person recognition. Congratulations to the following Westfield High School students who earned perfect scores on recent ACT and SAT subject area tests. They are:

May 2021 - SAT

- Phoebe Chadowitz - Math
- Amy Xiao - Evidence-Based Reading and Writing

June 2021 - ACT

- Taylor Addis, 12th grade - English
- Eric Harnisher, 12th grade - English
- David Maimon, 10th grade - English
- Lindsey Pietrewicz, 12th grade - English
- Mackenzie Wilson, 11th grade - English
- Jessica Zdep, 12th grade - Reading

July 2021 - ACT

- Sofia Regencia, 12th grade - Reading

Summer 2021 - SAT

- Roan Baker (June), 12th grade - Math
- James Kaprowski (June), 12th grade - Math
- Kaity Bai (August), 12th grade - Math

• SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. González presented two state-mandated reports on the Student Safety Data System (SSDS) for January 1 to June 20, 2021 and the School Self-Assessment for Determining HIB Grade for the 2019-2020 School Year. Annually, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) requires school districts to provide Boards of Education and the public with updates regarding efforts to keep schools safe and secure for our students. The reports reflect the data the school district gathers on an annual basis and reports out to the NJDOE in the areas of violence, vandalism, and harassment, intimidation and bullying.

• RECOGNIZE PUBLIC for agenda items only.

Mrs. Root recognized the public on agenda items only. Several members of the public spoke about agenda items.

• MINUTES

Upon motion of Mrs. Root, seconded by Mr. Galligan, it was moved to approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting held on October 5, 2021. The motion passed with a vote of 7-0-1.

• PERSONNEL

The following items relative to personnel are recommended to the Board of Education by the Superintendent of Schools in accordance with Policy 3125 and state guidelines, pending school employee criminal history review.

Upon motion of Mrs. Root, seconded by Mr. Galligan, it was moved to approve the following Personnel motions:

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Accept, with regret, the retirement of the following staff member, with her last day of employment, being 12/31/21:

Teresa Whitehead Franklin Elementary School, Head secretary

Accept the resignation of the following staff member, prior to her 10/6/21 start date:

Justine Fruzzetti Westfield Public Schools, Paraprofessional

Accept the resignation of the following staff member, with her last day of employment being 12/10/21.

Faith Qualshie Westfield High School, Guidance Counselor

Approve disability, family and child rearing leave for Janice Colbert, Lincoln School Full-day Kindergarten teacher of autism, beginning 4/4/22 through 6/30/22 (medical benefits in accordance with the WEA Agreement).

Approve unpaid family leave for Kimberly Palumbo, McKinley Elementary School paraprofessional, beginning 10/11/21 through 11/19/21 (in accordance with the New Jersey Family Leave Act).

Approve extension of unpaid child-rearing leave for Kimberly Acosta, Edison Intermediate School Social Studies teacher, beginning 11/18/21 through 2/2/22 (medical benefits in accordance with the WEA Agreement).

Approve extension of unpaid family leave for Ronella Hill-Wharton, Westfield High School secretary, beginning 10/2/21 through 10/29/21 (in accordance with the New Jersey Family Leave Act).

Approve extension of unpaid child-rearing leave for Tiffany Winters, Jefferson Elementary School Second Grade teacher, beginning 12/14/21 through 6/30/22 (medical benefits in accordance with the WEA Agreement).

Approve unpaid medical leave for employee 2323, beginning 9/30/21 through 11/8/21 (medical benefits in accordance with the WEA agreement).

Approve a change in maternity leave start date for Allison Friedman, Edison Intermediate School Science teacher, from 1/3/22 to 12/6/21.

Approve appointment of the following teachers for the 2021-2022 school year, being as follows:

Matthew Chretien
(replacing Acosta, on leave)
(non-tenure track)

Edison Intermediate School
Social Studies teacher
\$75,450
(9/1/21 through 2/2/22)

Colleen Kelly
(replacing Winters, on leave)
(non-tenure track)

Jefferson Elementary School
Second Grade teacher
\$74,450

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(9/1/21 through 6/30/22)

Approve appointment of the following paraprofessionals to work during their probationary period, being as follows:

Karla Morales	Washington Elementary School Half-time, student-assigned \$8,206 (10/26/21 through 12/26/21)
Luljeta Sylaj	Lincoln School Half-time, classroom-assigned \$8,856 (includes ed. stipend) (10/20/21 through 12/20/21)

Approve the following paraprofessionals at Westfield High School for working additional hours for AM security during the 2021-2022 school year. They will be paid at their hourly rate.

Faye Partsinevelos
Vanessa Johnson

Approve the following substitutes for the 2021-2022 school year:

Substitute Teacher
Erin Hornberger
AnnaMaria Maris
Theresa Trinkle

Approve the change in start dates for the following paraprofessionals. They will work during their probationary period, as follows:

	<u>Change From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Through</u>
Renata Niemczyk	10/6/21	10/20/21	12/20/21
Janine Pereira	10/6/21	10/21/21	12/21/21

Approve the change of salary for the following staff member who earned additional degrees/post graduate credits for the 2021-2022 school year:

	SCHOOL	FROM	TO	SALARY
Esther VanRiper	Edison Intermediate School	Masters	Masters+30	\$92,282

Approve the following changes for Bus Duty for the 2021-2022 school year:

<u>From:</u>	<u>To:</u>	
TBD	<u>Lincoln School</u>	
Bus Duty- Self Contained	Kimberly Conklin	\$3,360
	Maryann D'Agostino	\$2,016
	Debra Posluszny	\$2,352
	Holly Smith	\$2,352

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McKinley Elementary School

Nicole Giles \$3,360

Tamaques Elementary School

Debra DeNicola \$1,680

Eileen DiFabio \$1,680

Wilson Elementary School

Maria Auricchio \$ 560

Beatrice Barreiros \$ 560

Janine Dayson \$ 560

Joshua Everett \$ 53

Adriana Guerra \$ 560

Ann Marie Heard \$ 507

Brittany Ingrassia \$ 560

Approve the following winter and spring coaching volunteers for the 2021-2022 school year (pending state and district clearances for non-district employees):

Michael Ionta	Baseball
Joseph DiMattina	Baseball
Donald MacDonald	Wrestling
John Preston	Boys Winter Track and Field
Christopher Rinaldi	Baseball

Approve compensation to Eileen Moran for working two additional preparation days for health services for students and parents in preparation for the 2021-2022 school year. She will be paid her per diem rate.

Approve compensation to the following paraprofessional for the 2021-2022 school year who worked an additional period to meet the needs of students. She will be paid at her hourly rate.

Westfield High School

Vanessa Johnson

Approve compensation to the following Lincoln School paraprofessionals for working bus duty to meet student needs, effective 9/9/21 through 6/30/22. They will be paid at their hourly rate.

Eileen DiGiacomo
Afshan Owais

Approve compensation to the district nurses for working extra hours for contact tracing for the 2021-2022 school year. They will be paid their per diem hourly rate.

ROLL CALL:	Yes:	Mr. Bielen, Mr. Galligan, Mr. Garrison, Mrs. Morrelli, Ms. Ohlig, Mrs. Oporto, Mrs. Patel, Mrs. Root
	Absent:	Mrs. Aziz

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- **FACILITIES**

- **LONG RANGE PLANNING**

Long Range Planning Committee Chair, Gretchan Ohlig, reported on a renewed discussion of a possible referendum to allow voters the chance to decide on implementing full day kindergarten in the Westfield Public School District. Earlier discussions on full day kindergarten were put on hold during the 2020-2021 school year due to COVID-19.

- **POLICIES**

Upon motion of Mr. Galligan, seconded by Mrs. Patel, it was moved to approve the following Policy motion:

Approve revised District Public Health-Related School Closure Preparedness Plan for 2021-2022, as attached. ATTACHMENT

ROLL CALL:	Yes:	Mr. Bielen, Mr. Galligan, Mr. Garrison, Mrs. Morrelli, Ms. Ohlig, Mrs. Oporto, Mrs. Patel, Mrs. Root
	Absent:	Mrs. Aziz

- **CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION & PROGRAMS**

Upon motion of Mrs. Root, seconded by Mr. Galligan, it was moved to approve the following Curriculum motion:

Approve the following District field trips for the 2021-2022 school year, as attached.
ATTACHMENT

ROLL CALL:	Yes:	Mr. Bielen, Mr. Galligan, Mr. Garrison, Mrs. Morrelli, Ms. Ohlig, Mrs. Oporto, Mrs. Patel, Mrs. Root
	Absent:	Mrs. Aziz

- **FINANCE**

Upon motion of Mr. Garrison, seconded by Mr. Galligan, it was moved to approve the following Finance motions:

Approve withdrawal of \$774 from the capital reserve account for architectural expenses related to HVAC-upgrade projects at various schools.

Approve and award contract for 56-passenger coach buses to Coach USA Suburban Transit for Athletics and School Related Activities for the 2021-2022 school year, as attached.
ATTACHMENT

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Approve and award contract to Fraytak Veisz Hopkins Duthie, P.C., in the amount of \$55,800 for HVAC-upgrade project (phase 2) at various schools, as attached.

ATTACHMENT

Approve withdrawal of \$55,800 from the capital reserve account for architectural services related to HVAC-upgrade project (phase 2) at various schools.

Approve withdrawal of \$7,400 from the capital reserve account to install cabling needed for air-conditioning controls.

Approve withdrawal of \$19,461 from the maintenance reserve account to repair steam pipes, flooring and tiling to room 14 at Washington Elementary School.

Approve the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
WESTFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY**

**AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF OTHER CAPITAL PROJECT
DOCUMENTS**

TO THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

RESOLVED that the Westfield School District Board of Education approve the following project:

- **HVAC Renovations at Roosevelt IS-Phase 2 – FVHD #5331i/DOE #39-5730-060**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District's Architects, Fraytak Veisz Hopkins Duthie, P.C., be authorized to submit the above project to the NJ Department of Education for approval on the District's behalf.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above project be approved as Other Capital projects as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:26. The District will not seek State funding for the above project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that amendments to the Long-Range Facilities Plan by Fraytak Veisz Hopkins Duthie, P.C. to incorporate the above project be approved.

Approve the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
WESTFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY**

**AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF OTHER CAPITAL PROJECT
DOCUMENTS**

TO THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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RESOLVED that the Westfield School District Board of Education approve the following project:

Roofing Replacement and Related Work at Franklin Elementary School – FVHD #5351

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District’s Architects, Fraytak Veisz Hopkins Duthie, P.C., be authorized to submit the above project to the NJ Department of Education for approval on the District’s behalf.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above project be approved as Other Capital projects as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:26. The District will not seek State funding for the above project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that amendments to the Long-Range Facilities Plan by Fraytak Veisz Hopkins Duthie, P.C. to incorporate the above project be approved.

Approve the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACTS
WITH VENDORS THROUGH COOPERATIVE PURCHASING AGREEMENT
FOR BOARDS OF EDUCATION
PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-11 & 12**

WHEREAS, the Westfield Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-11 & 12 and N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5), may, by resolution and without advertising for bids, award contracts for the purchase of any goods or services and that were procured through cooperative purchasing agreements; and

WHEREAS, the Westfield Board of Education authorized participation in the Morris County, Union County, the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey, Somerset County, Hunterdon County, and the Educational Data Service Cooperative Programs, and

WHEREAS, the Westfield Board of Education has the need on a timely basis to purchase goods or services utilizing these; and

WHEREAS, the Westfield Board of Education intends to enter into contracts with the attached Vendors through this resolutions, which shall be subject to all the conditions applicable to the current Cooperative contracts;

NOW BE IT RESOLVED, the Westfield Board of Education authorizes the Purchasing Agent to purchase certain goods or services from the Vendor listed below for the 2020-2021 school years pursuant to all conditions of the individual contracts; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the duration of the contracts between the Westfield Board of Education and the Vendors shall be from 7/1/2021 – 6/30/2022.

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VENDORS	SERVICE/SUPPLY	COOPERATIVE	BID NUMBER
Staples	Copy Duplicator Supplies	ED DATA	11112

Approve Payment of Bill lists for October, September Payroll and September hand checks for a total amount of \$ 16,741,470.21. ATTACHMENT

Approve the following Budget Transfers for the month ending 9/30/21, as attached. ATTACHMENT

Approve Board Secretary's Reports for the month ending 9/30/21, as attached. ATTACHMENT

Approve the following Treasurer's Reports for the month ending 9/30/21, as attached. ATTACHMENT

Approve the Monthly Budgetary Line Item Status Certification:

RESOLVED, that the Board Secretary for the Westfield Board of Education certifies that pursuant to NJAC 6A:23A-16.10(c)3, as of September 30, 2021 that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of NJAC 6A:23A-16.10(a); and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Westfield Board of Education certifies that pursuant to NJAC 6A:23A-16.10(c)4 that after review of the board secretary's and treasurer's monthly financial reports and the advice of district officials, we have no reason to doubt that no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of NJAC 6A:23A-16.10(b).

Approve in accordance with Policy 6471, School District Travel Expenses for Board Members, Administrators and Teachers; travel request, as per attached. ATTACHMENT

Approve the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, a dispute existed between the parents of student 2213001 and the Westfield Board of Education with regard to the provision of the Special Education Services, and

WHEREAS, said dispute has been resolved by entry of an Order entered by the Court on September 29, 2021

NOWHEREFORE, be it resolved that the Westfield Board of Education shall make a Court ordered payment in the amount of \$5,000 to Manes & Weinberg, LLC within 30 days of the date of this resolution.

Approve submission of a grant from the Westfield Coalition for the Arts for the amount of \$577 to purchase two (2) speakers with stands for outdoor events benefiting Wilson Elementary School's music department.

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Approve submission of a grant from the Westfield Coalition for the Arts for the amount of \$577 to purchase two (2) speakers with stands for outdoor events benefiting Jefferson Elementary School’s music department.

Approve submission of a grant from the Westfield Coalition for the Arts for the amount of \$603.99 to purchase new music folders benefiting Westfield High School’s orchestra students.

Accept a donation of 3,240 bottles of hand sanitizer from the Act of Humanity charity for the District.

Accept a donation from Mr. & Mrs. Jacobs, grandparents of two Franklin Elementary School students, in the amount of \$500, to purchase items for Mr. Pask and Mrs. Vaglio’s classrooms.

Accept a donation of \$650 from friends of Susan Snauffer, to purchase books in her memory, for the Wilson Elementary School library. Susan Snauffer was a long-time teacher at Wilson Elementary School.

Accept an anonymous donation of school supplies worth \$868 for the classrooms of Ms. Palmer and Ms. Gazzillo at Lincoln School.

Accept a donation of \$6,659 from the Westfield School Boosters Association for the Westfield High School baseball team to purchase a baseball batting turtle and safety-L screens.

ROLL CALL:	Yes:	Mr. Bielen, Mr. Galligan, Mr. Garrison, Mrs. Morrelli, Ms. Ohlig, Mrs. Oporto, Mrs. Patel, Mrs. Root
	Absent:	Mrs. Aziz

- **LEGISLATION**
- **TECHNOLOGY**
- **NOTES FOR THE RECORD**
- **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
- **NEW BUSINESS**
- **LIAISON REPORTS**

Board Vice President, Brendan Galligan, reported on a recent meeting of the Union County School Boards Association at which Westfield Public Schools Coordinator of School and Community Relations, Mary Ann McGann, presented communication tips. Mrs. Root attended a meeting of the WHS PTSO at which parents discussed how to safely manage various high school PTSO activities.

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- **RECOGNIZE PUBLIC** (for comments)

Mrs. Root recognized the public for questions and/or comments. The Board heard from members of the public regarding various topics.

- **PRIVATE SESSION**

At 9:15 p.m., upon motion of Mrs. Root, seconded by Mrs. Patel and approved by a vote of 8-0, moved to approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education move into Private Session for the purpose of discussing matters rendered confidential by state and federal law, including Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying incidents, and be it further.

RESOLVED, that any discussion held by the Board which need not remain confidential and the results of the discussion will be made public as soon as practicable.

- **ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:31 p.m., Ms. Ohlig, seconded by Mr. Galligan, moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed by a vote of 8-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Dana Sullivan
Board Secretary