WHARTON BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES –WORK SESSION MEETING
TECHNOLOGY LIBRARY CENTER - MACKINNON MIDDLE SCHOOL
May 14, 2020 - 7PM

I. CALL TO ORDER – Mrs. Ghebreal presided and voiced the call to order at 7:07 p.m. of the Work Session Meeting.

II. OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT – Mrs. Ghebreal read the following:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed and acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this act and Board of Education Bylaw 0160, the Wharton Borough Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be sent to the Daily Record, posted on the bulletin board in the Wharton Public School, filed with the Wharton Borough Clerk, and mailed to all those people who have requested individual notice and paid the required fee.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. ROLL CALL

Roll Call	Anthony Astrologo	Gilbert Bahr	Paul Breda	Jennifer Hobbs	Robin Ghebreal	John McCusker	Wayne Schiele
Roll Call	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Also present, Mr. Christopher Herdman, Superintendent, and Mrs. Sandy Cammarata, Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

V. DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT – Mr. Schiele read the following:

Learn to thrive in a dynamic world.

VI. COMMUNICATION RECEIVED: None

VII. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS
A. Superintendent's Report
Mr. Herdman stated:

- **he shared with all the information regarding the Wharton Health Related Closure Plans and the importance of having it completed prior to tonight's meeting.**
  The plan needed to cover equity, demographics, access to technology, digital divide, nutrition, differentiation, special needs, services, meetings, evaluations, ESL, ELL, translation, attendance, grading, building maintenance, and an outline of summer services etc.
- **in a virtual meeting held yesterday, Superintendents asked for guidance on Extended School Year; should districts plan for "virtual" or "in-person" instruction? The State provided the following guidance: "At the moment, you should plan for "in-person" instruction. You should also plan for "virtual" instruction. Also, you should prepare for a combination of the two."**
- **districts were informed that the Commissioner of Education has resigned to take a position at a University.**
- **he would like to commend Dr. Angelica Allen-McMillan. She has been a great support for the Morris County Superintendents.**
- **information regarding graduation ceremonies and/or celebrations. A directive in writing received this week stated that any celebration by the school must and ONLY be done virtually. This message has been shared with the town and several letters have been mailed to the community to keep them informed. While we received this directive in writing this week, the Governor announced yesterday that graduation events were allowable in cars, with all cars a minimum of 6 feet apart and all windows and sunroofs MUST be closed.**
- **the county Superintendent was asked to get clarity from Trenton, as Superintendents, including me, have become living pinatas on this issue. Shortly before this meeting, the following message was received: "As a result of the conversation today, specific guidance is being sought from the Governor's Office regarding what is permissible in conjunction with asking for finality on this matter."**
- **the "Return to Work Committee" has begun to create a framework for this daunting task. This will make the job easier when the State issues their guidance and requirements; the district will be able to modify rather than starting from scratch.**
- **due to the lack of guidance from the State, the Morris County Superintendents have established a few groups to work/research reopening plans. In addition to this group, Morris, Somerset and Union counties will work together under the leadership of Mr. Jinks to work on the same task.**
- **he was happy to announce that the district received the Interim Review Placement for QSAC and has passed all five domains: Instruction and Program, Fiscal Management, Governance, Operations and Personnel. This**

is the State evaluation of district performance between in-person visits, and uses the same requirements.

B. Presentations: None

C. Business Administrator Report
Mrs. Cammarata stated:

- **The State of NJ stated they will provide guidance within a few weeks regarding the payment to the Cooperative who handles transporting our Out of District students. The District Attorney has advised me to wait for that guidance before issuing any payments.**
- **The District will continue to serve the Grab and Go meals under the emergency waiver through June 30th. Prior to the COVID event happening, the District was required to participate in the Summer Feed Program by the US Department of Agriculture since we have over 50% free and reduced students. Districts could either participate as a School Sponsor where they would be responsible for everything involved in the organization, preparation, and distribution of the meals. It would include all paperwork and supervision of the staff. The second option is to be a feeding site under another School Sponsor. Chris and I met with the Dover Superintendent and Business Administrator and our District will be a feeding site under their sponsorship. Dover's food service program will deliver the meals and hand them out in the same way we have been doing during this school closure.**
- **The amount the District will be receiving for IDEA funds in 2020-2021 will be $224,335 which will be used to offset the transportation for Out of District students.**
- **The portion of funds the District can receive under the CARES Act, which is the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act, is $188,074 dollars. We will also manage $28,651 for the American Christian School. The Act is meant to provide a measure of federal support in the wake of the public health crises and economic downturn brought about by the COVID-19. The grant period is 3/13/20 – 9/30/22 and the state provided specific guidelines the funds could be used on.**
- **Summer cleaning has begun in the school. Exhaust fans/duct work will be cleaned by outside vendors and I have met with a contractor for the installation of plexiglass in some areas.**

D. New Business

- Mr. Breda requested a collective answer be available for Board Members when questioned about the 8th grade graduation. Mr. Breda suggested the board create a subcommittee to work with the administration on an appropriate ceremony for the 8th grade class. Mr. Herdman stated a letter was recently sent home to the parents, one of the sections stated the District will hold a virtual graduation.
- Mrs. Ghebreal stated the town is discussing a parade to honor graduates with participation from the Police, Fire Department, and members of the Public Works.
  She stated tax collections were being received regularly. Asked if the members wanted a virtual board retreat or socially distant. The CSA evaluation is due in June and will let the members know when the link is available for the Board self-evaluation.

E. Open Items

VIII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: None

IX. BOARD ACTION

A. MINUTES

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the *Work Session/Regular Business Meeting/Public Budget Hearing* Minutes from the April 30, 2020 meeting.

Motion to move Minutes A1 Mr. Breda Second Mr. McCusker

Roll Call:

Ayes: Mr. Astrologo: X Mr. Bahr: X Mr. Breda: X
Ms. Hobbs: X Mrs. Ghebreal: X Mr. McCusker: X
and Mr. Schiele: X

Nay: None

X. B. PERSONNEL

New personnel employment appointments are contingent upon the required state and federal criminal history background checks in accordance with N.J.S.A. 116, P.L. 1986.

The Board authorizes the submission to the County Superintendent, as required, applications for emergency hiring and the applicants' attestations that they have not been convicted of any disqualifying crime pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et. seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:39-17 et. seq., or N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4.13 et. Seq

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following leave of absence:

Name	Position	Action	Effective Date(s)
Jill Moran	Elementary School Teacher	FMLA	3/26/20 - ~~6/17/20~~ 5/12/20

Motion to move Personnel B1 Mr. Astrologo **Second** Mr. Bahr

Roll Call:

Ayes: Mr. Astrologo: X **Mr. Bahr:** X **Mr. Breda:** X
Ms. Hobbs: X **Mrs. Ghebreal:** X **Mr. McCusker:** X
and Mr. Schiele: X

Nay: None

XI. C. OPERATIONS

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following renewal contract for 2020-2021: District Goal 3

Type of Contract	Company/Person	Purpose	Cost	Other Quotes
Food Service Management Fee	Maschio's Food Service	Provide management services for district food service program with a guarantee profit of $11,000. Maschio's will subsidize for any amount less than the guarantee. (7/1/20-6/30/21)	$10,200.00/ year Management Fee	N/A

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board Secretary to act on its behalf and execute the terms of the contract.

2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves the School Health-Related Closure Plans.

Motion to move Operations C1-C2 Mr. Breda Second Mr. Schiele

Roll Call:

Ayes: Mr. Astrologo: X Mr. Bahr: X Mr. Breda: X
Ms. Hobbs: X Mrs. Ghebreal: X Mr. McCusker: X
and Mr. Schiele: X

Nay: None

XII. D. FINANCE

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves staff members' professional development and travel related expenses as attached. District Goal 3

Board of Education Approval of Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement Form

Board of Education Meeting Date: 5/14/20

NOTES:
1. All reimbursable expenses listed below are in compliance with NJOMB Circular letter 06-02 or OMB Circular A-87 unless noted otherwise.
2. Any reimbursable expenses not in compliance with the Circulars as indicated in 1. above, but deemed necessary, and unavoidable as per N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.2(i)2 have reason(s) for such exception(s) clearly set forth and noted below.
3. Any "Other Expenses" listed under reimbursable Expenses below will be explained under Explanation of "Other Expenses."

Types of Travel	Code
Staff Training & Seminar	1
Convention/Conference	2
Regular District Business	3
Retreat	4

Reimbursable Expenses

Staff/BOE Member	Type of Travel	Location Of Travel	Occur.	Date(s) of Travel	*Travel/ Mileage*	*Other Expenses*	Necessary & Unavoidable Expenses	Explanation of "Other Expenses"

Sandy Cammarata	1	N/A (webinar)	1	5/18/20 5/20/20 5/27/20	$0	$0	$100	NJDOE Audit Updates
Bianca Blomberg	1	N/A (online)	5	August 2020	$0	*$0*	TBD	TCRWP Reading Institute

Motion to move Finance D1 Mr. Bahr **Second** Mr. Astrologo

Roll Call:

Ayes: Mr. Astrologo: X **Mr. Bahr:** X **Mr. Breda:** X
Ms. Hobbs: X **Mrs. Ghebreal:** X **Mr. McCusker:** X
and Mr. Schiele: X

Nay: None

Per direction of Board President, discussion items XIV-XVII were to be reviewed by the Board and questioned prior to action at the May 28 meeting.

XIII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR DISCUSSION: None

XIV. CLOSED SESSION: The Board did not convene a closed session.

XV. ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Mr. McCusker seconded by Mr. Breda, at 7:54 p.m.

Attachments are available for review in the Board of Education Office.

Respectfully yours,

Sandy Cammarata

Sandy Cammarata
Approved at the 5/28/20 ***board meeting***