

**MINUTES OF THE REORGANIZATION/REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
HELD ON JANUARY 6, 2015
HAMILTON TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Mays Landing, New Jersey
William Davies Middle School Library**

The Reorganization/Regular Meeting of the Hamilton Township Board of Education was called to order at 7:01 p.m. in the Michael H. Duberson Memorial Library at the Davies Middle School by Mr. Daniel Smith, Board Secretary. **Call To Order**

Daniel Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance. **Pledge of Allegiance**

ANNUAL NOTICE OF MEETING

This meeting is being held in compliance with the Sunshine Law, having been advertised in the Press of Atlantic City and the Atlantic County Record and its affiliates and a notice posted with the Township Clerk on the Bulletin Board at the following locations: Mizpah Social Services Center, Mizpah Post Office, Mays Landing Post Office, Atlantic County Library as well as all the schools of the district. A mechanical device is being used to both audio-tape and video-tape this meeting.

At this time the Board Secretary administered the oath of office to the newly elected Board Members:

Eric Aiken	3 year term
Derek Haye	3 year term
Barbara Kupp	3 year term

ROLL CALL

The following members answered roll call: Mr. Eric Aiken, Mrs. Stephanie Buchanan, Mr. Greg Cassidy, Mr. Greg Ciambrone, Mrs. Amelia Francis, Mr. Derek Haye, Mrs. Barbara Kupp, Mrs. Kimberly Melton, and Mr. John Sacchinelli. Quorum present. **Roll Call**

Members Absent: None

Also present were: Dr. Michelle Cappelluti, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Daniel Smith, Board Secretary
Mr. Eric Goldstein, Solicitor

ELECTION OF NEW PRESIDENT

Motion by Mr. Cassidy, seconded by Mrs. Francis, to nominate John Sacchinelli for the position of President.

Motion by Mrs. Melton, seconded by Mr. Haye to nominate Eric Aiken for the position of President.

There were no other nominations for the position of President.

Motion by Mr. Sacchinelli, seconded by Mr. Aiken to close the nominations for President.

Roll Call Vote: All in favor: Mr. Aiken, Mrs. Buchanan, Mr. Cassidy, Mr. Ciambrone, Mrs. Francis, Mr. Haye, Mrs. Kupp, Mrs. Melton, and Mr. Sacchinelli. (9-0-0)

Roll Call Vote for Mr. Sacchinelli: In favor: Mrs. Buchanan, Mr. Cassidy, Mrs. Francis, and Mr. Sacchinelli. Nay: Mr. Aiken, Mr. Ciambrone, Mr. Haye, Mrs. Kupp, and Mrs. Melton. (4-5-0)

Roll Call Vote for Mr. Aiken; In favor: Mr. Aiken, Mr. Ciambrone, Mr. Haye, Mrs. Kupp, and Mrs. Melton. Nay: Mrs. Buchanan, Mr. Cassidy, Mrs. Francis and Mr. Sacchinelli. (5-4-0)

Mr. Aiken received the majority of votes and is elected as President.

Mr. Aiken assumed the President's chair at this time and asked for nominations for the position of Vice President.

ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT:

Motion by Mr. Cassidy, seconded by Mrs. Buchanan to nominate Amelia Francis for the position of Vice President.

Motion by Mrs. Melton, seconded by Mrs. Kupp, to nominate John Sacchinelli for the position of Vice President.

There were no other nominations for the position of Vice President.

Motion by Mr. Sacchinelli, seconded by Mr. Ciambrone to close the nominations

for the position of Vice President.

Roll Call Vote: All in favor: Mr. Aiken, Mrs. Buchanan, Mr. Cassidy, Mr. Ciambrone, Mrs. Francis, Mr. Haye, Mrs. Kupp, Mrs. Melton, and Mr. Sacchinelli. (9-0-0)

Roll Call Vote for Mrs. Francis: In favor: Mr. Ciambrone. Nay: Mr. Aiken, Mrs. Buchanan, Mr. Cassidy, Mr. Haye, Mrs. Kupp, and Mrs. Melton. Abstained: Mrs. Francis and Mr. Sacchinelli. (1-6-2)

Roll Call Vote for Mr. Sacchinelli: In favor: Mr. Aiken, Mrs. Buchanan, Mr. Cassidy, Mr. Ciambrone, Mrs. Francis, Mr. Haye, Mrs. Kupp, and Mrs. Melton. Abstained: Mr. Sacchinelli. (8-0-1)

Mr. Sacchinelli received the majority of votes and is elected as Vice President.

A. Reorganization

Mr. Aiken asked to have item A tabled and discussed during New Business.

Motion by Mr. Aiken, seconded by Mr. Sacchinelli to table Item A.

Roll Call Vote: All in favor: Mr. Aiken, Mrs. Buchanan, Mr. Cassidy, Mr. Ciambrone, Mrs. Francis, Mr. Haye, Mrs. Kupp, Mrs. Melton, and Mr. Sacchinelli. (9-0-0)

B. New Jersey School Board Member Code of Ethics

Motion by Mr. Sacchinelli, seconded by Mrs. Melton, to approve the New Jersey School Board Member Code of Ethics, as per attachment IX-B.

Roll Call Vote: All in favor: Mr. Aiken, Mrs. Buchanan, Mrs. Capone, Mr. Cassidy, Mr. Ciambrone, Mrs. Francis, Mrs. Melton, Mr. Sacchinelli, and Dr. Erickson. (9-0-0)

C. Committee Assignments

Committee Assignments were deferred to the January 20, 2014 Board meeting.

D. Election Results

The official election results of the Annual School Board Election held on November 4, 2014 have been provided, as per Attachment IX-C.

	<u>Name</u>	<u># of Votes</u>
Three Year Term:	Eric Aiken	1,900
	Derek Haye	1,890
	Barbara Kupp	2,308

XI. Approval of Minutes

1. Motion by Mr. Sacchinelli, seconded by Mrs. Melton, to approve the Regular and Executive session minutes of the meeting of November 18, 2014, as per revised attachment Minutes-1.

Roll Call Vote: Seven in favor: Mr. Aiken, Mrs. Buchanan, Mr. Cassidy, Mr. Ciambrone, Mrs. Francis, Mrs. Melton, and Mr. Sacchinelli. Abstained Mr. Haye and Mrs. Kupp (7-0-2)

2. Motion by Mr. Sacchinelli, seconded by Mrs. Melton, to approve the Regular and Executive session minutes of the meeting of December 2, 2014, as per attachment Minutes-2.

Roll Call Vote: Six in favor: Mr. Aiken, Mrs. Buchanan, Mr. Cassidy, Mrs. Francis, Mrs. Melton, and Mr. Sacchinelli. Abstained: Mr. Ciambrone, Mr. Haye and Mrs. Kupp. (6-0-3)

CORRESPONDENCE

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mrs. Capone spoke regarding correspondence from December 23, 2014. She stated she sent an e-mail to Dr. Cappelluti asking why the photographer was changed from the requested one of the PTA to Bassetti Photo. She also asked why there were items listed on tonight's agenda in Personnel that were not discussed at a committee meeting. Mrs. Capone noted that the Finance and Facilities Committees did not meet before tonight's meeting.

Mrs. Capone would like to know why Bassetti Photo was chosen.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Sacchinelli congratulated Mr. Aiken on his election to the position of President. He also thanked everyone for their support in electing him to the position of Vice President.

Mr. Aiken thanked the Board members for their support. He also congratulated Mr. Sacchinelli on the election to the position of Vice President. Mr. Aiken noted that he looks forward to working with the Board as a whole and also working with Mr. Sacchinelli to help move the Board forward. He also thanked

his wife for all of her support.

Mr. Aiken noted information he received in October from the NJSBA Conference regarding building a good governance team. He read an excerpt from the training program regarding building and maintaining an effective governance team.

SUPERINTENDENT/STAFF REPORTS

(A) Information Items

1. **Dates to Remember**

- a. **January 6, 2015** – Regular and Re-Organization Meeting – Davies School – 7:00 p.m.
- b. **January 19, 2015** – Schools Closed – Martin Luther King Day
- c. **January 20, 2015** – Board of Education Meeting – Davies School – 7:00 p.m.
- d. **February 3, 2015** – Board of Education Meeting – Davies School – 7:00 p.m.
- e. **February 11, 2015** – Board Retreat – Board Office – 6:00 p.m.
- f. **February 12, 2015** – Early Dismissal for Students – Staff PD
- g. **February 13, 2015** – Schools Closed for Students – Staff PD
- h. **February 16, 2015** – Schools Closed – President's Day
- i. **February 17, 2015** – Board of Education Meeting – Davies School – 7:00 p.m.
- j. **February 21, 2015** (*Tentative*) – Budget Workshop – Davies School – 10:00 a.m.

(B) Report on Violence, Vandalism, Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying, Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse:

Presented by: Russell Clark, Affirmative Action Officer and
Anti-Bullying Coordinator

COMMITTEES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Aiken asked the Board members to e-mail him regarding their committee choices as soon as possible.

BUILDING/FACILITIES COMMITTEE

None

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

None

FINANCE/SUPPLY COMMITTEE

None

PERSONNEL/NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

All personnel actions are being taken by the recommendation of the Superintendent in accordance with 18A.

Motioned by Mr. Sacchinelli, seconded by Mrs. Melton, to approve the following Motions as presented:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------------|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| District substitutes | 1. | To approve district substitutes for the 2014-2015 school year, as per attachment Personnel-1. |
| Elizabeth Connell, full time teacher | 2. | To approve Elizabeth Connell as a full-time, 10 month Davies School teacher for the period February 23, 2015 through June 30, 2015, M.A., Step 1, with a total annual salary of \$53,275.00, pro-rated, as per attachment Personnel-2. |

Miss Connell is a replacement for Christy Morrison who will be on a maternity leave of absence.

Roll Call Vote: Eight in favor #1: Mr. Aiken, Mrs. Buchanan, Mr. Cassidy, Mr. Ciambrone, Mr. Haye, Mrs. Kupp, Mrs. Melton, and Mr. Sacchinelli. Nay: Mrs. Francis. (8-1-0)

Seven in favor #2: Mr. Aiken, Mrs. Buchanan, Mr. Ciambrone, Mr. Haye, Mrs. Kupp, Mrs. Melton, and Mr. Sacchinelli. Nay: Mr. Cassidy and Mrs. Francis. (7-2-0)

Motion by Mr. Sacchinelli, seconded by Mrs. Melton, to approve the following motions, as presented:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Homebound instruction | 3. | To approve homebound instruction for the 2014-2015 school year, as per attachment Personnel-3. |
| Mentors | 4. | To approve the following Mentors for the 2014-2015 school year: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Charlotte Hopkins for Elizabeth Connell at Davies |

- Ann Marie Benson for Christine Johnson at Davies

Roll Call Vote: All in favor #3: Mr. Aiken, Mrs. Buchanan, Mr. Cassidy, Mr. Ciambrone, Mrs. Francis, Mr. Haye, Mrs. Kupp, Mrs. Melton, and Mr. Sacchinelli.
(9-0-0)

Eight in favor #4: Mr. Aiken, Mrs. Buchanan, Mr. Cassidy, Mr. Ciambrone, Mr. Haye, Mrs. Kupp, Mrs. Melton, and Mr. Sacchinelli.
Nay: Mrs. Francis (8-1-0)

POLICY COMMITTEE

None

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

None

RESOLUTIONS

None

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Goldstein noted that he did reach out to the Baxter Group regarding the purchase of the Duberson School and asked for additional information from them. Mr. Goldstein noted that he has not received a response from the group.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mrs. Francis asked if there were any plans regarding the mental health training. Dr. Cappelluti noted that it is in the planning stages and she has a meeting scheduled to review the program.

Mrs. Francis also asked if the district has received the refund from Sheppard Bus Co. for the recent trip that was cancelled. Mr. Smith stated that he will follow up on this with Mr. Hinkeldey.

Mrs. Francis asked if there was any follow up done regarding the Advisory Opinion based on the e-mail sent in December from the previous Board President, Dr. Erickson. Mr. Goldstein noted that the email did not need any additional follow up.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Aiken wanted to discuss making changes to the Board meeting dates. He would like to change the meetings to the first and third Monday of the month due to a work conflict. Mr. Aiken noted a concern for holidays falling on a Monday, but he noted the meeting could be held on Tuesday evening of that week.

Mrs. Francis asked if this would be permanent or temporary. Mr. Aiken noted it would be permanent.

Mr. Ciambrone noted that Mondays are better for his schedule. Mrs. Francis and Mr. Cassidy noted that Monday's conflict with other commitments that they have.

The Board discussed concerns and support of changing the meeting dates, and a straw poll was taken which showed 6 Board Members in favor of Monday.

Motion by Mr. Aiken, seconded by Mr. Ciambrone to change the Board meeting dates from the first and third Tuesday to the first and third Monday of each month, unless otherwise noted:

Roll Call Vote: Five in favor: Mr. Aiken, Mr. Ciambrone, Mr. Haye, Mrs. Kupp, and Mrs. Melton.
Nay: Mrs. Buchanan, Mr. Cassidy, and Mrs. Francis.
Abstained: Mr. Sacchinelli. (5-3-1)

Motion by Mr. Sacchinelli, seconded by Mrs. Melton, to approve the following motion, as presented:

NJQSAC Reviews

1. To approve the NJQSAC District Performance Reviews for the 2014-2015 school year for submission to the State of New Jersey by January 15, 2015, as per attachment XIX-1.

Roll Call Vote: All in favor: Mr. Aiken, Mrs. Buchanan, Mr. Cassidy, Mr. Ciambrone, Mrs. Francis, Mr. Haye, Mrs. Kupp, Mrs. Melton, and Mr. Sacchinelli. (9-0-0)

Motion by Mr. Sacchinelli, seconded by Mrs. Kupp, to approve the following motion, as presented:

2. To approve the September to December, 2014 Report on Violence and Vandalism, Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying, Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse as presented. **Violence and Vandalism**

Roll Call Vote: Six in favor: Mr. Aiken, Mr. Ciambrone, Mr. Haye, Mrs. Kupp, Mrs. Melton, and Mr. Sacchinelli. Nay: Mrs. Buchanan, Mrs. Cassidy, and Mrs. Francis. (6-3-0)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Anne Erickson stated that she had questions regarding the HIB Report. She noted that the rate of HIB incidences was going down, but the rate of suicide was going up in our district. Dr. Erickson wanted to know the ratio of HIB incidences of our school related to other districts. She also wanted to know how many children are presently being home schooled after reported cases of HIB. Dr. Erickson noted that she feels the information she is requesting is relevant information. She does not feel the district is doing anything about the problem.

Margaret Erickson feels that changing the meeting dates to Monday evening will conflict with other activities in the Township. She noted that residents work their schedules around the board meetings.

Amy Hassa spoke regarding changing the meeting dates. She feels that parents who have children in the GEHRHSD will not be able to attend both meetings, if necessary. Mrs. Hassa does not feel it is fair to some of the members on the Board either.

Mrs. Hassa also spoke regarding the bullying issue. She is concerned that the issue is not being addressed properly, and parents from the Shaner School have approached her with concerns of bullying. Mrs. Hassa noted she is concerned with all students in the district and thinks the district can do more to help the students.

Mr. Aiken noted that the Board meetings are videotaped and posted on the district website.

Mrs. Capone noted that the minutes were approved for the December 2, 2014 meeting and she does not feel they accurately reflected Dr. Cappelluti's statement regarding Board performance and test scores. She also does not feel that the minutes of November 18, 2014 accurately reflected test scores across the State. Mrs. Capone noted that our district is scoring lower than 800 schools in the State.

Mrs. Capone noted that the Board changing the meeting dates is not showing that the President is willing to work with all of the Board Members. She also stated how important the Personnel Committee meetings are in choosing candidates for a position. Mrs. Capone suggested opening all of the committee meetings to the public.

Robert Campbell noted that his son attended the school district and he is proud of his accomplishments and the education he received. Mr. Campbell also congratulated the new Board members and stated that anything the township or the Veterans can do to help will be given.

Mr. Campbell spoke regarding the South Jersey Transportation Group set up by the Federal Government. This program monitors money being spent for highway and road improvements, and can assist the district where needed. He noted the website that can be accessed to download an application if any assistance is needed.

Judy Link who is a Committee Woman in the Township congratulated the elected Board members. She would like to see the Board work closely together.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Mr. Sacchinelli, seconded by Mr. Ciambrone, to enter into executive session.

Resolved that pursuant to Sections 7 and 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, the public shall be excluded from that portion of the meeting involving discussion of:

- Matters rendered confidential by operation of law
- H.T.E.A Negotiations
- Personnel Items

Further resolved that the discussion of such subject matters in executive session can be disclosed to the public when formal action is taken on such subject matter or at any other appropriate time. Further resolved the Board may take action on items discussed in executive session. Further resolved that the Board will be in executive session for approximately 30 minutes.

Roll Call Vote: All in favor: Mr. Aiken, Mrs. Buchanan, Mr. Cassidy, Mr. Ciambrone, Mrs. Francis, Mr. Haye, Mrs. Kupp, Mrs. Melton, and Mr. Sacchinelli. (9-0-0)

The Board entered into executive session at 8:10 p.m.

The Board resumed the regular meeting at 9:14 p.m.

Mr. Ciambrone and Mr. Haye exited the meeting during executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

Motioned by Mr. Sacchinelli, seconded by Mr. Aiken, to adjourn the meeting.

Voice Vote: All in favor: (7-0-0)

The Hamilton Township Board of Education meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Daniel Smith
Board Secretary