

**CLINTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES
Work Session - April 6, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.*Revised
Virtual Access**



CALL TO ORDER: Lana Brennan called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE:

In accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Laws of 1975, adequate notice of this meeting was provided through public notice on January 8, 2020.

- a. Sent to three newspapers designated by the Board – Hunterdon County Democrat, Hunterdon Review and Express Times.
- b. Posting on the District Website

2019/2020 DISTRICT GOALS:

1. To implement and integrate Social-Emotional Learning programs in grades Pre-K to eight by June of 2020.
2. To assess our current special services programs and services to identify strengths and needs and to create an action plan based on the results of the assessment.
3. To implement facilities upgrades and programming for safety and security in all buildings district wide to ensure the safety and security of students and staff.
4. To establish greater transparency and build trust by identifying and implementing strategies including expansion of the utility of our website, possible 2-way communication on the site, and branding of our district.

ROLL CALL:

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Time of arrival after the meeting has been called to order.</i>
Ms. Lana Brennan	X		
Dr. Laura Brasher	X		
Ms. Mary Beth Brooks	X		
Ms. Catherine Mary Emery	X		
Ms. Maria Grant	X		
Dr. Alison Grantham	X		
Mr. Scott Hornick	X		
Mrs. Jennifer Kaltenbach	X		
Dr. Catherine Riihimaki	X		

Present: District Administrators:

Dr. Michele Cone, Superintendent of Schools
Kelly Morris, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Also Present: David Hespe, Esq., Board Attorney

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Dr. Brasher led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROCESS GUARDIAN: Dr. Riihimaki was appointed Process Guardian.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS/REPORT:

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

- April 9, 2020 - Teacher PD Day
- District donation of masks and PPE

FIRST RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC:

- A community member commented recommending Google Meet over Zoom.
- Dawn Chioda asked questions and commented about the proposed budget.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY:

1. Opposition to N.J. Bill A-3902 to delay tax payments to schools - resolution from NJSBA
 2. Joanne Hinkle to present on Curriculum/Instruction and Technology lines
 3. Alexa Ingram to present on Special Education Budget lines
 4. Review of Budget Booklet / Board Q&A
- Discussion about the January 13th work session where a vote occurred; attending attorney David Hespe was consulted.
 - Several Board members asked Ms. Hinkle questions on her presentation.
 - Several Board members asked Ms. Ingram questions on her presentation.
 - Several Board members asked Ms. Morris questions about the budget.

Item 20-BA-028:

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 3902, currently pending in the State Legislature, would authorize the Department of Community Affairs to permit municipalities to delay the quarterly transmission of property tax revenues to school districts during gubernatorial-declared emergencies; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's public schools are highly dependent on property tax revenue to support education programs; and

WHEREAS, on average, local property taxes constitute close to 60% of public school revenue, with the percentage even greater in a significant number of districts; and

WHEREAS, a delay in payments from municipalities would result in a financial crisis for school districts, seriously disrupting the educational process—and bringing it to a halt; and

WHEREAS, although public school buildings are closed during the current health emergency, the education of our students is taking place through remote learning and home instruction; and

WHEREAS, continued timely transmission of school property taxes is critical for the education process to continue without interruption; and

WHEREAS, even though municipalities are designated as the authorities to collect property taxes, these taxes are levied for specific purposes—e.g., municipal, school, county, fire district—and these obligations must continue to be met; and

WHEREAS, as currently written, A-3902, which is intended to ease a financial burden on municipalities, would place a severe strain on school districts and the students and families that they serve; and

WHEREAS, the Clinton Township Board of Education recognizes the impact of the current public health emergency on the state and local governments, as well as local school districts, but believes this legislation would worsen the situation for our communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Clinton Township Board of Education urges the State Senate and the Governor to oppose A-3902; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution be delivered to Governor Phil Murphy, State Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney, Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin; and the local Legislative District representatives in the state Senate and General Assembly; and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to the New Jersey School Boards Association.

Board of Education Roll Call Vote

	<u>Dr.</u> <u>Brasher</u>	<u>Ms.</u> <u>Brooks</u>	<u>Ms.</u> <u>Emery</u>	<u>Ms.</u> <u>Grant</u>	<u>Dr.</u> <u>Grantham</u>	<u>Mr.</u> <u>Hornick</u>	<u>Ms.</u> <u>Kaltenbach</u>	<u>Dr.</u> <u>Riihimaki</u>	<u>Ms.</u> <u>Brennan</u>
Motion									
Aye									
Nay									
Abstain									
Absent									

Vote tabled.

Item 20-BA-030:

Board Meeting minutes:

- March 9, 2020 - Work Session
- March 16, 2020 - Regular Business Meeting

Next Meeting Dates:

- April 27, 2020 - Public Hearing for 2020-2021 Budget Adoption
- May 4, 2020 - Work Session

- May 11, 2020 - Regular Meeting

FACILITIES/FINANCE:

FF-A

SID #1712408145 to attend ECLC Extended School Year beginning July 6, 2020 until July 31, 2020 at a tuition rate of \$6,202.20.

FF-B

Dr. Theodore Petti to administer a Psychiatric assessment for SID #3173452750 during the 2019-2020 school year for a fee of \$950.00.

FF-C

SID #18291912759 to attend Limitless Extended School Year beginning July 8, 2020 until August 7, 2020 at a tuition rate of \$5,645.00.

FF-D

Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care to provide Home Instruction to SID #9962518998 beginning March 12, 2020 until April 30, 2020 at an hourly rate of \$28.62, not to exceed 10 hours per week.

FF-E

SID #2244583968 to attend Midland School 2020 Extended School Year beginning July 6, 2020 until August 14, 2020 at a tuition rate of \$11,355.30.

FF-F

Limitless to provide a Teaching Assistant to SID #18291912759 during Extended School Year beginning July 8, 2020 until August 7, 2020 at a rate of \$2,300.00.

FF-G

ECLC to provide a Teaching Assistant to SID #1712408145 during the Extended School Year beginning July 6, 2020 until July 31, 2020 at a tuition rate of \$3,100.00.

FF-H

Annual parent-paid Preschool tuition rate of \$4,000.00 for students received by the Clinton Township School District for the 2020-2021 school year.

FF-I

Amend prior motion FF-116, approved on February 24, 2020, to reflect that Kristin McRae will attend the Wilson Reading System Introductory Training in Conshohocken, PA on September 22-24, 2020 instead of March 17-19, 2020.

FF-J

Approve the reimbursement of an amount not to exceed \$50.00 for each teaching staff or instructional staff member for subscription purchases to address remote learning opportunities for district students during the 2019-2020 COVID-19 closure. Resources must be approved by Special Projects prior to purchase, and receipts must be submitted no later than June 19, 2020, to be eligible for reimbursement.

20-FF-142

Motion to approve a Settlement Agreement and Release in Full ("Agreement") between the Clinton Township Board of Education and former Employee No. 45178894; to authorize the Board President to execute said Agreement on its behalf; and to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to take all such actions required to effectuate its terms, including but not limited to directing the School Business Administrator to make and deliver all payments required under the Agreement once the Agreement is effective and enforceable by its terms.

Board of Education Roll Call Vote

	<u>Dr. Brasher</u>	<u>Ms. Brooks</u>	<u>Ms. Emery</u>	<u>Ms. Grant</u>	<u>Dr. Grantham</u>	<u>Mr. Hornick</u>	<u>Ms. Kaltenbach</u>	<u>Dr. Riihimaki</u>	<u>Ms. Brennan</u>
Motion									
Aye									
Nay									
Abstain									
Absent									

Vote tabled.

PERSONNEL:

P-A
Amend prior motion 20-P-197 dated February 24, 2020 to an FMLA return date on or about April 20, 2020 for Employee #498884489.

P-B
Amend prior motion 20-P-218 dated March 16, 2020 for Employee #58996729 FMLA paid leave to May 11, 2020 through May 26, 2020.

P-C
Amend prior motion 20-P-181 dated February 24, 2020 to an FMLA return date on or about April 9, 2020 for Employee #49894116.

P-D
Amend prior motion 20-P-220 dated March 16, 2020 to cancel the FMLA dates for Employee #49933575.

P-E
Amend prior motion 20-P-221 dated March 16, 2020 to an NJFLA return date on or about March 30, 2020 for Employee #49854078.

P-F
Approve intermittent unpaid leave as needed for **Employee #49793060.**

P-G
Approve intermittent FMLA leave of absence as needed for **Employee #51872059.**

POLICY:

Items: NONE

CURRICULUM:

CUR-A

The following curricula for the 2019-2020 school year to align with the current state standards:

- World Language, Grades K-8

NEGOTIATIONS-CTAA/CTEA:

Lana Brennan, Catherine Riihimaki, Alison Grantham, Laura Brasher

CTAA - update

CTEA - update

Ad-hoc Committee for Superintendent Search:

Laura Brasher, Lana Brennan, Catherine Riihimaki, Jennifer Kaltenbach

NJSBA (Gwen Thorton)

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

SECOND RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC:

- Ms. Damanakis recommended adding another counselor at CTMS.
- Rachel McLaughlin asked whether Clinton Township intends to delay payments to the school district.
- Ad-hoc Committee for Superintendent Search
 - Dr. Brasher updated that the committee recommended hiring NJSBA to conduct a permanent Superintendent search, to be led by Gwen Thornton, at a cost of \$7000.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion made by Dr. Grantham, seconded by Dr. Riihimaki, to move to Executive Session at 10:53 p.m.

(9 Ayes;0 Nays;0 Abstain 0 Absent)

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**RECONVENE TO PUBLIC SESSION:**

*Motion made by Dr. Grantham, seconded by Dr. Riihimaki, to reconvene to Public Session at 11:34 p.m.*

(9 Ayes;0 Nays;0 Abstain 0 Absent)

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Action 20-AJ-014:**

MINUTES

4/6/20

*Motion made by Dr. Grantham, seconded by Dr. Riihimaki, to adjourn the meeting of the Clinton Township Board of Education at 11:34 p.m.*

(9 Ayes;0 Nays;0 Abstain 0 Absent)

Respectfully Submitted,



Mark Kramer  
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Board of Education Approved: 10/19/2020