

# **Delaware Township School Monthly Board of Education Meeting**

**October 19, 2021 – 7:00 pm**

**A. Call to Order** – Mrs. Catherine Pouria, President

**B. Open Public Meeting Act Statement**

Welcome to a meeting of the Delaware Township School Board of Education. Please be advised that this and all meetings of the Board are open to the public and media, consistent with the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975) and that advance notice required therein has been provided. Meeting notice was also posted in the entrance hallway of Delaware Township School; sent to the Trenton Times and the Hunterdon County Democrat newspapers; posted on the school website and sent to the Clerk of Delaware Township. The public will have the opportunity to be heard as shown on the Agenda.

**C. Flag Salute**

**D. Roll Call**

**Present:** Hoffman, Hornby, Lyons, May, Ponzo, Pouria

**Absent:** Burns, Opdyke

**Also Present:** Dr. Richard Wiener, Superintendent and Mrs. Susan Joyce, Business Administrator / Board Secretary

**E. Board Candidate Interviews.** The board interviewed Maegan Harrington and Adam Pate for the open seat on the Board.

Motion by Mrs. Hornby, seconded by Mr. Ponzo to go into Executive Session at 7:26 pm.  
Motion pass by unanimous roll call vote.

Motion by Mrs. Lyons, seconded by Mr. Hoffman to leave executive session at 7:40.  
Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Motion by Mrs. May, seconded by Mr. Hoffman to appoint Maegan Harrington to the position on Board. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**F. Audience Participation – Agenda Items** – None.

**G. Correspondence** - None

**H. Presentations** - None

**I. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Richard Wiener****1. Student Enrollment (10-14-21) - (Exhibit I.1)**

| GRADE            | ENROLLMENT | SECTIONS | AVERAGE CLASS SIZE |
|------------------|------------|----------|--------------------|
| Kindergarten     | 48         | 3        | 15                 |
| Grade 1          | 48         | 3        | 16                 |
| Grade 2          | 23         | 2        | 13                 |
| Grade 3          | 38         | 3        | 13                 |
| Grade 4          | 38         | 2        | 18                 |
| Grade 5          | 44         | 3        | 14                 |
| Grade 6          | 36         | 3        | 13                 |
| Grade 7          | 47         | 3        | 15                 |
| Grade 8          | 40         | 3        | 13                 |
| Pre School       | 23         | 2        | 12                 |
| Tuition Sent     | 2          |          |                    |
| Home Instruction | 1          |          |                    |
| Self-Contained   | 5          |          |                    |
| TOTAL            | 393        | 27       | 13                 |

**2. Evacuation Drills –**

| Date of Drill | Time of Drill | Duration of Drill | Type of Drill    | Weather Conditions | Participants of Drill               | Pull Station/Notes   |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 7/21/21       | 9:32am        | 5 minutes         | Hold             | 77 & Sunny         | 60 students;<br>15 staff            | ESY & Summer School students/staff present.  |
| 7/21/21       | 9:40am        | 7 minutes         | Fire Drill       | 77 & Sunny         | 60 students;<br>15 staff            | *Main Fire Panel   |
| 8/11/21       | 11:22am       | 12 minutes        | Fire Drill       | 92 & Sunny         | 17 staff                            | *Elementary Hall near boys' bathroom. The alarm went off due to renovations in the bathroom. |
| 8/16/21       | 1:30pm        | 5 minutes         | Shelter in Place | 84 & Sunny         | 22 staff                            | *Just staff in the building  |
| 9/13/21       | 9:35am        | 5 minutes         | Fire Drill       | 71 & sunny         | 70 staff &<br>390 students          | *Fire Panel M97M028  |
| 9/20/21       | 2:31pm        | 5 minutes         | Lockdown         | 69 & Sunny         | 70 staff &<br>390 students          |  |
| 10/14/21      | 2:05pm        | 10 minutes        | Fire Drill       | 75 & sunny         | 70 staff, 10 parents & 390 students | *Fire Panel M12M015  |

### 3. Suspensions –

| MONTH OF                                       | IN SCHOOL | OUT OF SCHOOL |
|--|-----------|---------------|
| September                                      | 0         | 0             |
| October  | 0         | 0             |
| November                                       | 0         | 0             |
| December                                       | 0         | 0             |
| January  | 0         | 0             |
| February                                       | 0         | 0             |
| March  | 0         | 0             |
| April  | 0         | 0             |
| May  | 0         | 0             |
| June   | 0         | 0             |
| <b>TOTAL FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2021-2022 TO DATE</b> | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>      |

### 4. HIB Incidents –

| MONTH OF                                       | INCIDENTS REPORTED | NUMBER CLASSIFIED AS HIB |
|--|--------------------|--------------------------|
| September                                      | 0                  | 0                        |
| October  | 0                  | 0                        |
| November                                       | 0                  | 0                        |
| December                                       | 0                  | 0                        |
| January  | 0                  | 0                        |
| February                                       | 0                  | 0                        |
| March  | 0                  | 0                        |
| April  | 0                  | 0                        |
| May  | 0                  | 0                        |
| June   | 0                  | 0                        |
| <b>TOTAL FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2021-2022 TO DATE</b> | <b>0</b>           | <b>0</b>                 |

5. Mandated State Testing Program for Unvaccinated Staff is being required by the state, beginning mid-October.

#### J. President's Report – Mrs. Catherine Pouria

Results of Start Strong test scores were a bit concerning. Last year was challenging for students with disruptions to education. Board will be following and confident any learning loss will be addressed and education is the priority.

Covid Update-No cases of in-school transmission which we're thankful for.

Policy options 1 and 2 will be discussed under P/P. The board can choose to have the unvaccinated staff obtain their own testing or have the district provide testing. The State vendor program is tied to a specific student screening program and there are concerns with future funding liabilities if state funds are expended.

Strategic Planning-Thank you to all those who participated.

**K. School Business Administrator's Report – Mrs. Susan Joyce**

1. Audit Exit Interview went very well. They will be meeting with the Finance Committee in either December or January.
2. September 2021 shared services status

**L.** Moved by Mrs. Lyons seconded by Mrs. Hornby to approve the regular session minutes of the September 21, 2021 board meeting with edits. Discussion followed. Motion passed 6-0-0.

**M. Committee Reports and Action**

**Curriculum/Instruction/Technology - Mrs. May** reported on the CIT committee meeting.

Motion by Mr. Hoffman, seconded by Mrs. May to approve items 1.1 – 1.6. Discussion followed. Mrs. Pouria noted that the last 18 months showed us that while some students thrived, virtual learning was detrimental to many student's education and mental health. It's not an equivalent substitute to in-person school and we shouldn't say that it is.

Items 1.1-1.3 and 1.5 passed by unanimous roll call vote 6-0-0.

Items 1.4 and 1.6 passed by roll call vote 5-1-0 (Pouria voted no)

1.1 MOVE to accept the HIB incidents per I.4 of the Superintendent's Report.  
(N/A)

1.2 MOVE to approve the following field trips for the 2021-2022 school year.

| ACTIVITY                    | DATE    | GRADE LEVEL         | LOCATION           |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Walking Tour Sergeantsville | 10/6/21 | 5 <sup>th</sup> G&T | Sergeantsville, NJ |

1.3 MOVE to approve the Nursing Services Plan for 2021-2022 school year.  
(Exhibit 1.3)

1.4 MOVE to accept Local Educational Agency Guidance for Chapter 27 Emergency Virtual or Remote Instructional Programs Checklist. (Exhibit 1.4)

1.5 MOTION to approve a New Multiple Disabilities Classroom. (Contract on file in BOE office)

1.6 Revised LEA Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service. (Exhibit 1.6)

1. **Finance/Facilities** – Mrs. Lyons reported on the F/ F Committee Meeting.

Motion by Mrs. Lyons, seconded by Mrs. Hornby to approve items 2.1 – 2.10.  
Discussion followed. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote 6-0-0.

2.1 MOVE that the financial reports of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary and the Reconciler for the month ended June, July and August 2021 be accepted and placed on file. The Board of Education, after review of the Board Secretary and Reconciler's monthly financial report and consultations with the Board Secretary, hereby certifies that no major account has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C.6A:23A-16.10(b). (Exhibit 2.1)

2.2 MOVE to approve the attached line account transfers for August (Exhibit 2.2)

2.3 MOVE to approve District invoices presented for payment 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021 bills list in the amount of \$344,479.83 and October 2021 bills in the amount of \$65,017.35. (Exhibit 2.3)

2.4 MOVE to approve the following payroll amounts:

September 30, 2021 - \$163,947.67  
October 15, 2021 - \$167,674.22

2.5 MOVE to approve the following travel expenditures for staff members to attend professional development conferences/workshops. This travel is deemed educationally necessary and fiscally prudent and all travel expenditures shall be directly related to and with the scope of the staff member's current responsibilities and the district's professional development plan.

| ATTENDEE        | WORKSHOP/CONFERENCE                          | DATES                  | INCLUDE<br>(see below) | MAXIMUM AMOUNT     |
|-----------------|--|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| Kathleen Racile | NJ Branch International Dyslexia Association | 10/1/21 & 10/2/21      | R<br>M                 | \$150<br>(webinar) |
| Kathleen Racile | NJALC  | 10/21/21 &<br>10/22/21 | R<br>M                 | \$50<br>(webinar)  |
| Dan Chojnowski  | 2021 NJ Science Convention                   | 10/19/21               | R<br>M                 | \$180              |
| Noelle Laurita  | Conference for School Based SLP              | 11/30/21 & 12/1/21     | R<br>M                 | \$489              |

2.6 MOVE to approve the following Use of Facilities/Buses.

| APPLICANT          | GROUP                                   | ACTIVITY  | DATE   | TIME                                   | LOCATION                |
|--------------------|---|---|--|--|-------------------------|
| Elizabeth Hermoso  | Girl Scouts                             | Girl Scouts Meeting                             | Various  | 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM                      | Art or Science Room     |
| Kathleen E. Klink  | Girl Scouts Troop 81400                 | Girl Scouts Meeting                             | Various  | 3:10 PM – 4:30 PM                      | Kindergarten Room       |
| Judith Allen       | Delaware Township Recreation Commission | Halloween Activity in Case of Inclement Weather | October 31, 2021   | 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM                      | Cafeteria or Gymnasium  |
| Jessica HB Roethel | DTAA                                    | DTAA Basketball                                 | Weeknights<br>Saturdays<br>November 15, 2021 to March 27, 2022 | 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM<br>8:00 AM - 4:00 PM | Gymnasium and Cafeteria |
| Kyla Glassner      | PIE                                     | Prismatic Magic                                 | November 1, 2021   | 8:00 AM – 11:30 AM                     | Gymnasium               |
| Jamie Clarke       | Girl Scouts                             | Thanksgiving Turkey Box Event                   | November 3, 2021   | 12:50 PM – 3:00 PM                     | Cafeteria               |

2.7 MOVE to approve the M-1 Annual Maintenance Budget Amount Worksheet and Detailed Actual Expenditures for the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 and approve the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan (CMP). (Exhibit 2.7)

2.8 MOVE to approve IDEA Basic Grant in the amount of \$84,957 and IDEA Preschool Grant in the amount of \$6,252.

2.9 MOVE to approve the Boys and Girls 2021-22 Basketball Schedule. (Exhibit 2.9)

2.10 MOTION to approve settlement agreement for student ID #2710 (Contract on file in BOE office)

3. **Personnel/Policy** – Mr. Ponzo reported on the committee meeting.

Motion by Mr. Ponzo, seconded by Mrs. Hornby to approve items 3.1 – 3.5a and 3.6. Discussion followed. Mrs. Pouria noted that the mask policy doesn't have nuance or take into consideration potential developmental impacts of masking young children in school. There are no recommended metrics for removal. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote 6-0-0.

Motion by Mrs., Hornby, seconded by Mr. Ponzo to approve item 3.5b. Discussion followed. Motion passed by roll call vote 5-1-0 (Pouria voted no).

- 3.1 MOVE to approve the following candidates for the positions, contractual salaries and starting dates indicated for the 2021-2022 school year, pending fingerprint clearance if necessary, per the recommendation of the Superintendent.

| NAME            | POSITION             | SALARY  | DATES                                  |
|-----------------|----------------------|---|--|
| Erin Cronic     | Substitute Teacher   | \$105/per day   | 2021-22 School Year                    |
| Grace Nerwinski | Substitute Custodian | \$12.00/hour  | 2021-22 School Year                    |
| Robert Goodwin  | Paraprofessional     | revised Step 1 .56 FTE Revised salary \$11,585.84 Annual salary \$13,557.38 | October 16, 2021 through June 30, 2022 |

- 3.2 MOVE to approve Gail McGuire as a substitute for the 2021-2022 school year at the substitute rate and as an office substitute for the 2021-2022 school year at \$14.00 per hour.
- 3.3 MOVE to approve Scott Lipson – Principal/Interim CST Supervisor a monthly stipend of \$500 from September 1 to December 31, 2021.
- 3.4 MOVE to approve leave for employee#96260922 through February 8, 2022.
- 3.5 MOVE to approve the following policy updates, per the recommendation of the Superintendent. (Exhibit 3.5a and 3.5b)

| POLICY                   | NUMBER  | REVISION ONLY | READING |
|--------------------------|---------|---------------|---------|
| Face Coverings           | 5141.10 |               | 1st     |
| *Vaccination and Testing | 5141.11 |               | 1st     |

\*Passed with Option 1

- 3.6 MOVE to approve the chart of advisor(s) for extra-curricular activities for the 2021-2022 school year. Payment for all will be as per the agreement, per the recommendation of the Superintendent.

| ACTIVITY          | ADVISOR(S)          |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Cynthia Terranova | Cross Country Coach |

**N. Additional Business - None**

**O. Audience Participation**

Caine Fowler, candidate for the Delaware Township representative on the Hunterdon Central Board of Education, introduced himself to the board and public. He spoke about his word of mouth campaign.

Ms. Stahl asked whether the solar panels could only go on the roof or if putting them on the ground is a possibility. Mrs. Lyons said that either could be done but they needed to be located as close to the meter as possible in order to reduce costs. She also didn't think the community would be interested in covering our beautiful fields.

**P. Board Representatives Liaison Reports**

1. Recreation – Ms. Stahl gave an update. The block party and plant swap went well. Teen basketball on Friday nights has begun and the holiday decorating party is the next activity.
2. PiE – This year they've done the bookfair, the assembly on Nov 1st, the spirit wear sale is upcoming as is family night at the roller rink. Shop Rite Cards continues to be a success.
3. Township – They established a Green Team and the clean-up for Ida is done.
4. ESC – They are having transportation headaches and raising salaries to alleviate the stress. An electric bus demonstration is being held. Non-public schools who are getting CARES money can go through the ESC and others.  
A possible sports solution for us is to keep our little bus shuttle runs with multiple teams.
5. Planning Board – Nothing to report except that they are starting their Master Plan.
6. HCSBA – A speaker gave a presentation on communication, don't overreact and to be calm and consistent.
7. NJSBA Legislature – Parents are expected to request grade retention in 2021-2022. Civic instruction and climate change curriculum start next year. Schools are looking to update water and ventilation systems – we already did this. A school nurse can come out of retirement and work in the schools for up to two years. New mental health screening starts next year.
8. Community Relations - None
9. HCRHS - None
10. DTAA – Soccer and softball are in full swing and they are figuring out baseball for the spring.

The turkey box project is going on in the school. Donations are being made by grade level and the collection is going to the food pantry.



**R. Adjourn**

Motion by Mr. Ponzo, seconded by Mrs. Hornby to adjourn at 9:21 pm. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote 6-0-0.

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Mrs. Susan Joyce, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

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Mrs. Cathy Pouria, Board President