

KNOWLTON TOWNSHIP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

MEETING MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING – July 26, 2022

Notice of Meeting

The New Jersey 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 or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Knowlton Township Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted with The Express-Times and The Star Ledger and distributed to the Knowlton Township Elementary School, the Delaware Post Office, and the Knowlton Township Municipal Building.

Call to Order

Mrs. Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Flag Salute

Mrs. Smith invited everyone to join her in the flag salute.

Roll Call

Present: Mr. Matthew Baley, Mrs. Dawn Bates, Mr. Don Biery, Mrs. Rhonda Moritz (7:15 pm), Mrs. Tammy Smith, & Mrs. Ronni Wittreich.

Absent: Mrs. Alison Stiehl.

Others: Mrs. Jeannine DeFalco, Superintendent, Mr. Michael Brennan, Business Administrator, & Teacher.

Mission Statement

We are committed to provide an engaging, comprehensive education aligned with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards in a healthy, safe and nurturing environment in which all students are encouraged to be critical thinkers and self advocates. Instilling a passion for learning will inspire and guide students to become responsible and compassionate citizens in a constantly changing world. Students have the opportunity to achieve their maximum academic potential both here and in their future education while developing confidence, competence, and character.

Correspondence

Mr. Brennan read a resignation letter from Mrs. Monika Sempruch.

Public Participation

Public participation shall be governed by BOE Policy 1120.1 Public Participation in Board Meetings. Public comments are invited on all matters pertaining to the school district. All participants shall be given three (3) minutes to speak and shall state their name, place of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate. The Board uses the public comment period as an opportunity to listen to citizen concerns, but please be aware that not all issues brought to a board meeting will be resolved this evening; rather, the Board will, in appropriate cases, delegate the authority to investigate the matter to the Superintendent or his designee. Please let the record reflect that the BOE does not endorse your comments nor will the BOE be held liable for comments you make about a staff member, or other person, which the staff member, or other person, may consider defamatory and/or libelous, as that individual retains all rights to pursue any legal remedies against you.

None.

Superintendent's Report

Mrs. DeFalco gave the following report:

* Extended School Year Programming will end this Thursday, July 29. Thank you to all the staff that made these four weeks happen!

*On July 12, I attended the 2022 School Safety Summer Symposium being held on July 12. There will be several breakout sessions offered. Each session was one hour in duration. The breakout sessions I attended were: Legislative Updates, School Safety and Security Plans and Suggested Practices – Drilling for Students with Exceptionalities.

*On July 14, I participated in a webinar titled K-12 School Security: Enabling Best Practices with your Gentec System. This was hosted by Dynamic Security (our camera system). An outtake for me was the need to find funding for one additional camera so that we can see a current blind spot better.

* On July 19, 2022 an article was published in NJ Spotlight News that indicated that the Murphy administration confirmed that school districts will again be required to administer the state's Start Strong assessments in the fall. This is the third year of the streamlined exam that is meant to track potential learning loss from the COVID pandemic. The test is in language arts and math for grades 3-11. There are criticisms by the State Board of Education, who ultimately have the final say on the assessment. Districts were told earlier this year that 2022 would be optional.

*Districts have been alerted that NJQSAC User Manuals are now online. We will be scheduled for QSAC at some point in the 2022-2023 school year. We are Cohort 1.

*I am currently awaiting responses from both Alphabest and the YMCA on their ability to provide before and after care services on site. I created and distributed a survey to parents and we were able to meet the minimum number to host. YMCA has provided pricing and I am waiting on Alphabest.

Board Secretary's Report

Mr. Brennan gave the following report:

* An update was provided on the available Board of Education seats for the upcoming November election. Knowlton BOE has four seats available (3 3 year terms & 1 unexpired 2 year term).

* I submitted our SY 22-23 ESEA grant application.

* We submitted our HCESC fuel survey for fuel oil #2, so we can continue to buy our fuel oil at a discount through the consortium.

Facilities:

* RTK (2021) submission completed after RK Environmental updated our chemical inventory for hazardous materials.

* Paving of the main parking lot is scheduled for the beginning of August.

Board President's Report

Mrs. Smith gave the following report:

* NJSBA update regarding pending legislation that would impact NJ districts

MOTIONS

1. New Hires

A motion was made by Mrs. Smith seconded by Mr. Baley and carried unanimously to authorize Mrs. DeFalco, Superintendent, to hire new employees for the 2022-2023 school year, to be approved by the board at the next regular board meeting.

2. Accept Resignation

A motion was made by Mrs. Smith seconded by Mrs. Bates and carried unanimously to accept the resignation of Monika Sempruch, with regret effective July 29 as recommended by the Superintendent.

3. Summer Custodial Hire

A motion was made by Mrs. Smith seconded by Mrs. Bates and carried unanimously by roll call vote to offer summer custodial employment to Cori Stout at a rate of \$14 per hour for up to 20 hours per week through August 31, 2022, as recommended by Superintendent.

4. New Hire

A motion was made by Mrs. Smith seconded by Mr. Baley and carried unanimously by roll call vote to hire Torey Capano in the role of Paraprofessional for the 2022-2023 school year, pending the completion of required paperwork.

5. New Hire - Teacher

A motion was made by Mrs. Smith seconded by Mrs. Bates and carried unanimously by roll call vote to hire Courtney Rush in the role of teacher for the 2022-2023 school year, pending the completion of required paperwork.

6. Bus Aides

A motion was made by Mrs. Smith seconded by Mrs. Bates and carried unanimously by roll call vote to approve designated KTES aide or administrator to accompany student #1855, as needed, during both the AM and PM routes for the 2022-2023 school year.

7. Approval of Breakfast and Lunch Prices for 2022-2023

A motion was made by Mrs. Smith seconded by Mrs. Bates and carried unanimously by roll call vote to approve the lunch prices for 2022-2023 as follows:

Student breakfast	\$1.50
Staff breakfast	\$2.00
Student lunch	\$3.25
Adult lunch	\$3.75
Milk	\$.45
Reduced Lunch	\$.40

8. Accept Horizon Dental Renewal

A motion was made by Mrs. Smith seconded by Mr. Baley and carried unanimously by roll call vote to accept the Horizon dental renewal rates effective September 1, 2022 thru June 30, 2023 at a 0.0% increase in premium rates.

9. Approve Dual Use of Instructional Space

A motion was made by Mrs. Smith seconded by Mrs. Bates and carried unanimously to approve completed facility forms for dual use of educational space for Classroom 2 and submission to the County Office.

10. Approve Alternate Method of Compliance

A motion was made by Mrs. Smith seconded by Mr. Baley and carried unanimously to utilize the alternate method of compliance in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:26-6.3 for Kindergarten Room 134 restroom.

11. Request Full-Time Principal Waiver

A motion was made by Mrs. Smith seconded by Mrs. Bates and carried unanimously to request a waiver for a full-time, non-teaching Principal for the 2022-23 school year.

12. Approve K&A Paving Contract

A motion was made by Mrs. Smith seconded by Mr. Baley and carried unanimously by roll call vote to award K&A Paving the contract for the main parking lot (Projects A-1 & B-1) as recommended by the Facilities Committee.

13. Approve Budget Line-Item Transfers

A motion was made by Mrs. Smith seconded by Mr. Baley and carried unanimously by roll call vote to approve the attached 2021-2022 budget line-item transfers for the time period of June 29, 2022 through July 26, 2022 with a total of \$11,280.35 for Fund 11.

14. Approve Combined Bill List for June and July

A motion was made by Mrs. Smith seconded by Mrs. Bates and carried unanimously by roll call vote to approve the combined bill lists for payment as follows: Combined bill lists for June 29, 2022 through July 26, 2022 with a total of \$191,263.93.

15. Approve Minutes

A motion was made by Mrs. Smith seconded by Mrs. Bates and carried unanimously to approve the Regular Session Minutes of June 28, 2022.

AYES: 6

NOES: 0

ABST: 0

Motion carried.

Monthly Certification

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c)3, I certify that no budgetary line item account has been overexpended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(a) as of June 30, 2022 (Policy 6820).

Board Secretary

Date

16. Accept Report of the Secretary and Report of the Treasurer

A motion was made by Mrs. Smith seconded by Mr. Baley and carried unanimously to accept the monthly A-148 Secretary's Report for the month ended June 30, 2022 and the A-149 Treasurer of School Monies Report for the month ended June 30, 2022 in compliance with the N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c). The Board of Education, after review of the Secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, certifies that no major account or fund has been overexpended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c).

Old Business

None.

New Business

Mr. Biery asked Mrs. DeFalco two questions. The first was about the school safety measures currently in place at our district. The second question was: Do we have a plan to address discipline issues that may arise in the classroom?

Upcoming Meetings

Committee Meeting, None.

Regular Board Meeting, Tuesday, August 23, 2022 7 pm

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mrs. Smith seconded by Mr. Baley and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Brennan, MBA
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Approved: