

Toms River, New Jersey, November 21, 2023

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Toms River Regional Schools took place at Intermediate East, 1519 Hooper Avenue, Toms River, on Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.

Board Vice President Ms. Kathy Eagan read the following Opening Statement:

“Good Evening, Welcome to a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Toms River Regional Schools.”

“This meeting was announced to the public through a notice published in The Star Ledger and the Asbury Park Press on November 1, 2023, which constituted at least 48 hours notice as required by law under the Open Public Meetings Act.”

A roll call of attendance indicated the following Board Members were present: Mrs. Lisa Contessa, Mrs. Melissa Morrison, Mr. Joseph Nardini, Mrs. Anna Polozzo, Mrs. Michele Williams and Ms. Kathy Eagan.

Mrs. Jennifer Howe arrived at 6:04 p.m.

Mrs. Ashley Lamb arrived at 6:19 p.m.

Mr. Kevin Kidney was absent.

Also in attendance were Superintendent Citta, Assistant Superintendents DiMeo, Ricotta, Thomas, Business Administrator Doering, Board Secretary Saxton, and Board Attorney Burns.

EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION- 6:01 P.M.

A motion was made by Mrs. Contessa, seconded by Mrs. Polozzo and carried that the following Executive Session Resolution be approved:

Resolved, that the Board of Education, at this time, move to a closed session to be held in Intermediate East Executive Session Meeting Room, 1519 Hooper Avenue, Toms River, New Jersey, for the purpose of:

Executive Session – To *Include* – Personnel RICE # 17008; Legal/Litigation Update; Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Report; Fire & Security Drill Report; Suspension Report; Other. Subject to change.

as outlined under the Open public Meetings Act.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION – 7:30 P.M.

A motion was made by Mr. Nardini, seconded by Mrs. Polozzo and carried that the Board return to Regular Session at 7:30 P.M.

All members present voting Aye.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board Vice President Ms. Kathy Eagan led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Superintendent Michael Citta thanked our Toms River Schools Family and gave them a “thanks” to those who are near and dear to all of us, professionally and personally...

Superintendent Citta stated it is with great sadness we share the passing of Mr. Fred Paccione. He was a dedicated paraprofessional at Toms River High School East since 2017. Fred previously served our country in the United States Army as a member of the 82nd Airborne Division. He had many other successful careers prior to coming into education but will always be known for singing Frank Sinatra in the hallways. He loved his students and came to work every day with a smile and willingness to help others. Thank you Fred! Our thoughts and prayers will remain with you and your family.

Superintendent Citta shared how thankful we are of our school community and all of our families in it. Our school family’s unwritten commitment to support one another is both a blessing and inspiring. Our students have come together time and time again to support those less fortunate with the essential needs they desire, and the love and support everyone deserves. Thousands of families will be receiving support from our students, staff and community partners this holiday season. Together you all continue to make a difference.

Superintendent Citta stated the commitment to our education and shared mind blowing data from marking period one where we had over 10,000 less absences than one year ago today and over a 20% reduction in chronic absenteeism and close to a 10% increase in perfect attendance district wide in this marking period alone. This commitment has led to

greater performance in and out of the classroom including our extra-curricular and athletic activities.

Superintendent Citta stated he could not be more proud of our community or humbled by the comparison that surrounds us. He wished everyone an amazing Thanksgiving celebration that brings everyone closer to the ones you love the most!

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Student Representatives from all three high schools updated Board on the academic and athletic successes taking place at their respective schools, as well as events taking place and fund raising activities.

Charles Blajda, High School East
Brialis Phan, High School North
Jordyn Lynch, High School South

STUDENT/STAFF AWARDS

The list of student, staff and volunteer award recipients is attached to the minutes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget & Finance Committee – Mrs. Lamb

The Budget and Finance Committee of the Board of Education of the Toms River Regional Schools met on November 15, 2023 at High School North Media Center, Toms River, New Jersey from 6:00 P.M. to 6:06 P.M. The meeting was streamed for public viewing. Committee Chair, Ashley Lamb, read the following opening statement:

“Good evening, welcome to the Budget and Finance Committee Meeting of the Board of Education of the Toms River Regional Schools. Notice of this meeting was published in the Asbury Park Press and the Star Ledger on November 1, 2023, which constituted at least 48 hours notice as required by law under the Open Public Meetings Act.”

In addition to the Committee Chair, in attendance were Board members- Lisa Contessa, Kathy Eagan, Kevin Kidney, Melissa Morrison, Joe Nardini, Anna Polozzo and Michele Williams, Superintendent- Mike Citta, Assistant Superintendents- Jim Ricotta, Cara DiMeo and Pat Thomas, Business Administrator- Bill Doering, Board Secretary- Wendy Saxton and Board Attorney- William Burns. The meeting was open to the public and an opportunity for in-person public comment was provided after the last committee meeting of the evening.

As we do every month, the committee reviewed the expenditures listed in the Purchasing Agenda, which was emailed to the Board, and posted in the Board's Google Docs folder, prior to the Budget and Finance Committee meeting. The Purchasing Agenda also included items of zero value, bids, change orders and resolutions. Purchasing Agenda questions by various individual Board members were answered by Mr. Doering and other members of the administration. The Purchasing Agenda for this month is in the amount of \$5,406,254.84 for the 2023-24 school year. The Budget & Finance Committee is recommending the approval of the Purchasing Agenda by the full Board.

The committee was then presented with District lease, sponsorship and other rental agreements totaling \$71,720 for the month of November 2023 (2023-24 cumulative total is \$344,675) and these are also recommended for approval at the regular board meeting.

The committee was advised that the re-organization meeting will be scheduled for January 3, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Finally, the committee was advised that we are still awaiting a response to our application for \$8,536,146 in 2023-24 Stabilization Aid funds, which was submitted September 29, 2023.

Building & Grounds Committee – Mr. Nardini

The ESIP & Building Initiative Committee of the Board of Education of Toms River Regional Schools met on November 15, 2023, within a live meeting that started directly after the curriculum committee meeting.

Mr. Nardini read the following opening statement: "Good evening and welcome to the ESIP & Building Initiative Committee Meeting of the Board of Education of Toms

River Regional Schools. Notice of this meeting was announced to the public through a notice published in the Asbury Park Press and the Star-Ledger on November 1, 2023 which constituted at least 48 hours notice as required by law under the Open Public Meetings Act.”

In attendance were board members Kevin Kidney, Joe Nardini, Melissa Morrison, Anna Polozzo, Lisa Contessa, Ashley Lamb, Michele Williams, and Kathy Eagan, Superintendent Michael Citta, Business Administrator William Doering, Assistant Superintendents James Ricotta, Cara DiMeo, and Pat Thomas; Manager of Capital Projects- Mark Wagner, Manager of Facilities- Sam Pepe and Max Ritner of Colliers Engineering. The meeting was open to the public and an opportunity for public comment was provided.

ESIP PROJECTS

The Intermediate South and Citta Elementary energy management projects are ongoing and on schedule. Mr. Ritner stated the projects should be completed by the end of the calendar year.

BUILDING INITIATIVES PROJECTS

Project recently completed were reviewed including:

Site 181 -Group 2 (HS North, Intermediate South, Early Learning Center) Newport is nearing completion of this project and punch list and close out is in progress.

Site 172A - District Wide Security project with JCT Solutions. Minor punch list items are being completed. Closeout documents have been received, are being reviewed and closeout is anticipated by the end of the year.

Projects currently under construction were reviewed including:

Site 186A - Group 4 (HSS, PBE, WSE) Much progress continues to be made as our contractor, Newport, continues with the upgrades throughout the facilities. Final HVAC items are in the process of being completed.

Site 188 - Group 6 (HSE, EDE, SBE) Much progress continues to be made as our contractor, Newport, continues with the upgrades throughout the facilities. Final HVAC items are in the process of being completed.

PROJECTS-NEW

Mr. Wagner explained that Intermediate South has a problem near the walking track where the ground has settled. This is being reviewed so we can make the needed repair with our grounds department. Our grounds crew and district tree vendor have been removing branches and trees as needed for safety reasons at various locations. Mr. Wagner and Mr. Ricotta discussed the fabric replacement and floor resurfacing for the JBAC. The discussion also included turf options for the center of JBAC that the Board of Education has previously requested to be investigated. The fabric replacement and resurfacing of the track and surrounding areas with other work has a rough estimate of 2.9M for full renovation. A leak with the fire suppression system at Partnership Health Center was repaired by our vendor. Ground outlets for lights in the JBAC have been replaced and/or repaired. Quotes are being received to replace a section of curbing and walkway near the entrance of Beachwood Elementary.

PROJECTS-OLD

Mr. Wagner has been working with Becht B.T. to zero in on their report for a timeline and phasing plan for the needed work at Intermediate South. One plan is to start with roof replacement of the classroom wing with associated courtyard repairs and rehabilitation of the canopies at the exit doors for an estimated \$5M+ for phase 1. Phase 2 would consist of additional roof repairs, repairs to the outer skin of the building, and repairs to the parapet walls for an estimate of \$6M. Remaining roof replacement projects would follow.

Mr. Pepe discussed the completion of the Walnut Street Elementary playground that is now being enjoyed by our students. Site 196 bids have been received and reviewed for limited window replacement at Washington Street and West Dover Elementary Schools. This work is grant funded and will substantially complete the window replacement at both buildings. A ROD grant has been awarded to the district for use with the East Dover coping repair. We are currently in the process of document preparation so this can go to bid. The HS East foyer epoxy floor project has been completed.

COMMUNICATION

Toms River Fire Company #1 contacted us for use of our crowd barriers for the annual Halloween Parade. Our facilities department delivered and picked up the barriers as requested by the township. Notification of CAFRA application has been received for a multi pad development across from 1144 Hooper Avenue.

Curriculum Committee – Ms. Eagan

The Curriculum Committee of the Board of Education of Toms River Regional Schools met on November 15, 2023, within a virtual live-streamed meeting on the internet, beginning at 6:10 PM.

Kathy Eagan, read the following opening statement: “Good evening and welcome to the Curriculum Committee Meeting of the Board of Education of Toms River Regional Schools. Notice of this meeting was announced to the public through a notice published in the Asbury Park Press and The Star Ledger on November 1, 2023 which constituted at least 48 hours notice as required by law under the Open Public Meetings Act.”

In addition Kathy Eagan, in attendance were Board members Melissa Morrison, President Kevin Kidney, Ashley Lamb, Michele Williams and Joe Nardini. Assistant Superintendents- James Ricotta, Cara DiMeo and Pat Thomas, were in attendance, as well as Curriculum Directors Rachel Cicala & Adrienne Gold, Director of Testing and Funded Programs, Richard Fastnacht, and Director of Guidance, John Green. The meeting was live streamed to the public and an opportunity for public comment was provided.

Mr. Thomas opened the meeting and provided a quick overview of the one item on the agenda, the SPEAR-It and North Star programs. Mr. O’Leary, from the Toms River HS South program, and Mr. Ainley, of the HS North program, were present to provide specific details about the general history of the program and shared sample projects the students has worked on, including the giant Adirondack chair downtown and over 40 planter boxes created at the Toms River Field of Dreams.

The board, the central administration and the public then moved to the North Star program classroom to see the space as it evolves and Mr. Ainley gave some details about the development.

Insurance Committee – Mrs. Williams

The Insurance Committee of the Board of Education of the Toms River Regional Schools met November 20, 2023 at 2:30 PM via Google Meets. This quarterly meeting is not publicly advertised as the committee reviews insurance information, including workers compensation and liability claims, which may include items in litigation or names and case information for individuals, including staff members.

In attendance were Committee Chair- Michele Williams, and committee member Kevin Kidney (until 2:45) as well as Business Administrator- William Doering. Also in attendance was Stuart Migdon with the district health insurance broker, Business and Governmental Insurance Agency (BGIA) and John Forrester and Ron Gillaspie with the district property and casualty insurance broker, Alliant/Boynton.

For the health insurance program, Mr. Migdon with BGIA reviewed a health plan quarterly report that was provided to the committee which covered 3 years of claims from June 2020 through May 2023. Mr. Migdon discussed the plan costs and trends, including the medical claim costs and prescription drug costs in the most recent period. These costs on a net basis are trending down by 1.13% on a per member per month basis, which still defies trend in the market. Other key plan statistics and metrics were also discussed, including PHC visits, care coordination encounters, prescription drug utilization and prescription drug generic dispensing ratios. It was noted that a current driver in increasing our prescription costs is the growing prevalence of diabetes/anti-obesity drugs.

Regarding property/casualty insurance, Mr. Forrester with Alliant/Boynton reviewed the quarterly report provided to the committee for the property/casualty insurance program. This document showed claim costs for the current year to date as well as the prior 5 years. The document also included Inservco Loss Reports for workers compensation and the other lines of insurance. After reviewing some key points about the claims data, the committee discussed further breakdowns of the claim information such that individual position categories can be analyzed, notably for each individual location. Finally, the broker and district administration discussed maintaining a continued focus on training efforts, and will be setting up semi-annual

meetings (at a minimum) to review all claims over \$50,000 and all claims that have triggered the excess policy.

Personnel Committee – Mrs. Contessa

A Personnel Committee Meeting of the Board of Education of the Toms River Regional Schools took place at the Administrative Offices, 1144 Hooper Avenue, Conference Room, Toms River, New Jersey on November 15, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. This meeting is not publicly advertised as the committee reviews personnel information which includes names of individual staff members as well as possible new staff members.

In attendance were committee members, Kathy Eagan, Board Vice President, Kevin Kidney, Board President, Lisa Contessa. Also in attendance were Michael Citta, Superintendent, James Ricotta, Assistant Superintendent, Cara DiMeo, Assistant Superintendent, Patrick Thomas Assistant Superintendent, William Burns Esq. Board Attorney.

The meeting was opened at 5:30 p.m. by Lisa Contessa, Michael Citta, Superintendent, discussed with the members, recommendations for new hires, extra-curricular and job descriptions at the board meeting on Wednesday, November 21, 2023.

The committee adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Policy Committee – Mrs. Polozzo

The Policy Committee of the Board of Education of the Toms River Regional Schools took place at High School North Guidance Office on Wednesday, November 15, 2023.

In attendance were Anna Polozzo, Ashley Lamb, Melissa Morrison, Lisa Contessa, Kevin Kidney and Kathy Eagan, Superintendent, Michael Citta, Assistant Superintendents, James Ricotta Jr., Cara DiMeo, Patrick Thomas and Board Attorney William Burns. Committee Chair, Anna Polozzo presented the following polices for review and deliberation:

- 1523 - Comprehensive Equity
- 1530 - Equal employment opportunity

- 2210 - Curriculum Development
- 2230 - Course Guides
- 2260 - Affirm action and Classroom Practices
- 2361- Acceptable use of technology

Members of Central Administration answered questions regarding the policies and regulations.

Super Safe Committee – Mrs. Morrison

The Super Safe & Drug Free Schools Committee met on November 6, 2023, within a virtual live-streamed meeting on the internet, beginning at 6:00 PM.

In attendance were Board members Melissa Morrison, Ashley Lamb, Michele Williams Joe Nardini and Anna Polozzo. Superintendent Mike Citta, Assistant Superintendents- James Ricotta, Cara DiMeo and Pat Thomas. The meeting was live streamed to the public and committee participants and guests had the opportunity to ask questions and make comments.

Mrs. DiMeo opened the meeting, providing a general overview of the history of the committee. She commented on the critical nature of the topic of student safety, specifically in the current climate with the rise in school related violence.

The meeting shifted to Mr. Ricotta, who provided the group with details regarding our district wide safety and security implementations, including our building updates and technology-based programs. He complimented our community partnerships with local law enforcement agencies and provided general details on our school security program. He introduced Ralph Solomone, School Safety Specialist, who provided additional details about our school based officer program.

After, Thomas Gambino and Jeff Gale, both from the NJ Department of Education Office of School Preparedness and Emergency Planning, provided a detailed overview of state regulations as they related to school safety actions and the background behind the word that both of them do with schools across the state.

Assistant Chief Prosecutor Sergeant Taryn Ritacco then spoke about the OC Prosecutor's partnerships with school districts throughout the county, providing details of specific activities that she and her team do with students, staff and families.

On behalf of the Toms River Police Department, Deputy Chief Patrick Dellane addressed the group and provided details related to the work that his team does in partnership with schools, including our school resource officer program.

Student representatives and parents made some commentary and asked questions to close out the meeting.

COMMENTS FROM GUESTS AND PRESS – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY *(limited to 3 minutes as per Board Policy # 0167 – Public Participation in Board Meetings, the first public session will be limited to a total of 30 minutes)*

There were none.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT, PATRICK THOMAS PRESENTS THE SSDS REPORT

**TOMS RIVER REGIONAL SCHOOLS
SEMI-ANNUAL DISTRICT STUDENT SAFETY DATA SYSTEM (SSDS)
REPORT**

**Presented to the Toms River Regional Schools Board of Education
November 21, 2023**

By law, all New Jersey public school districts use the Student Safety Data System (SSDS) to report incidents of violence, vandalism, weapons, and substance abuse, as well as harassment, intimidation, and bullying (HIB). These reports fulfill state and federal requirements and are presented semi-annually for the periods of July 1-December 31 and January 1-June 30. The following information has been collated for the reporting period of January 1 to June 30, 2023. Comparing this year's SSDS Report to our November 2022 Report, we observed an eighteen (18) percent increase in the number of reportable offenses. In the beginning half of this school year, there were reported:

116	Acts of violence (fight, assault, threat)
49	Damage to Property (arson, theft, trespass, false public alarm)
16	Weapons
81	Substance abuse
88	HIB confirmed*
350	TOTAL

*HIB alleged: 265

As per research, these types of behaviors have a strong correlation with a significant decrease in a child's academic achievement, an increase in concerning behaviors outside school, and their subsequent future growth and success. Reducing incidents and addressing the issues behind them will continue to be a priority for all of our school stakeholders.

Toms River Regional Schools has fostered several community partnerships to address the impact of addiction, support mental health and well-being, and promote overall school safety through organizations such as the Health and Wellness Coalition (Communities that Care and Bright Harbor), YMCA, Effective School Solutions, and the Toms River Police Department. We offer various character based and social and emotional educational platforms to promote self and social awareness and citizenship as an expectation of a Toms River student.

Each month the Board reviews SSDS data and district staff analyze the relationships among student performance, demographics, and school climate survey data in comparison to student safety, conduct, and social emotional indicators. Wellness, character building, and HIB-reduction have always been part of our health curriculum, but have more recently become a standard curricular component for all content areas. Schools have put intervention programs in place like Responsive Classrooms and Positive Behavioral Support systems. These efforts are highlighted district wide through dozens of activities during the Week of Respect, Red Ribbon Week, School Violence Awareness Week, and Child Assault Prevention Week. And we are effectively engaging students to be a part of the solution, through elementary leadership training and

secondary student organizations like TEAM, Impact, Interact, LEADERS, Character Club, Captain's Crew, Tribe Vibe, DART and peer mentors.

APPROVAL OF THE DISTRICT STUDENT SAFETY DATA SYSTEM (SSDS) REPORT FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2023 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2023

A motion was made by Mrs. Polozzo, seconded by Mr. Nardini and carried that the Approval of the District Student Safety Data System (SSDS) Report for the Period of January 1, 2023 Through June 30, 2023 be approved.

On roll call following the vote:

Ayes: Contessa, Howe, Lamb, Morrison, Nardini, Polozzo, Williams, Eagan

Noes: None

Recused: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Kidney

APPROVAL OF THE 2023-24 SCHOOL BUS EMERGENCY EVACUATION DRILL REPORTS

A motion was made by Mrs. Howe, seconded by Mrs. Williams and carried that the Approval of the 2023-24 School Bus Emergency Evacuation Drill Reports be approved.

On roll call following the vote:

Ayes: Contessa, Howe, Lamb, Morrison, Nardini, Polozzo, Williams, Eagan

Noes: None

Recused: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Kidney

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA ITEMS #13 THROUGH #18 AS LISTED IN THE AGENDA

A motion was made by Mrs. Polozzo, seconded by Mrs. Williams and carried that the Approval of the Agenda Items #13 through #18 as listed in the Agenda be approved.

- 13. Approval of the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Report
- 14. Approval of District Facility Lease, Sponsorship and other Rental Agreements (attached)
- 15. Approval of the Fire & Security Drill Report
- 16. Approval of Minutes: (Regular and/or Executive, where applicable)

October 18, 2023

- 17. Approval of Bills:

General	\$ 10,539,427.13
Cafeteria	\$ 243,349.36
Payroll (Gross) October 6, 2023	\$ 6,140,892.06
(Gross) October 20, 2023	\$ 6,107,545.27

- 18. Board Secretary's Agenda

School Year 2023-2024

Purchases – Pages 1 through 44 - \$ 5,406,254.84

Zero Values	Award of Bids
Student Transportation	Contract Extensions
Jointures	Resolutions

On roll call following the vote:

Ayes: Contessa, Howe, Lamb, Morrison, Nardini, Polozzo, Williams, Eagan

Noes: None

Recused: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Kidney

APPROVAL AND CERTIFICATION OF THE BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2023

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22.1.11(c), I, Wendy Saxton, Board Secretary, certify that as of September 2023 no budgetary line items account has obligations and payments (contracted orders) which exceed the amount appropriated by the District Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8-1, that the district's accounts have been reconciled and are in balance.

Through the adoption of this resolution, we the Toms River Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22-2.11(c), certify that as of September 2023 after a review of the Secretary's monthly report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the Business Administrator and other appropriate district officials, that to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:22-2.11 (c) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's needs.

A motion was made by Mr. Nardini, seconded by Mrs. Howe and carried that the Approval and Certification of the September 2023 Secretary's Monthly Financial Reports be approved:

On roll call following the vote:

Ayes: Contessa, Howe, Lamb, Morrison, Nardini, Polozzo, Williams, Eagan

Noes: None

Recused: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Kidney

PERSONNEL AGENDA (# 1-22) + Addendum (#23)

A motion was made by Mrs. Williams, seconded by Mrs. Contessa and carried that the following Personnel Agenda (#1-22) + Addendum (#23) be approved:

PERSONNEL ITEMS #1-22 + ADDENDUM ITEM #23

CERTIFICATED STAFF 1-10:

1. Recommended for Employment:

{Code = (R) Replacement; (TR) Temporary Replacement; (New) New Position}

A.	<u>Lori Lozito-Koman</u> JAC Preschool	(New) 11/27/2023 - 6/30/2024	\$ 65,725.00 (Prorated) (Re-Hire)
B.	<u>Kelly A. Radcliffe</u> ELC Sped PSH Aut	(R) 11/27/2023 - 6/30/2024	56,225.00 (Prorated)

2. Recommended for Continued Change of Employment:

A.	<u>Matthew D. Smith</u> IS Supervisor of Instruction	(TR) 12/23/2023 - 6/30/2024
----	---	--------------------------------

3. Recommended Change of Contract Start Date:

A.	<u>Erik J. Niciewski</u> ND Health/Phys Ed	12/19/2023
----	---	------------

4. Recommended Salary Adjustments:

A.	<u>Lisa A. Dowd</u> HSN Sped RR	11/6/2023 - 6/30/2024 (teaching one extra period per day)	\$ +12,158.75 (Prorated)
B.	<u>William T. Dowd</u>	11/6/2023 - 6/30/2024	+10,615.00

Toms River, New Jersey, November 21, 2023

	IN Math Gr. 6	(teaching one extra period per day)	(Prorated)
			\$
C.	<u>Veronica J. Maier</u> HSN Sped RR	11/6/2023 - 6/30/2024 (teaching one extra period per day)	+10,627.50 (Prorated)
D.	<u>John E. Miller</u> HSS Math	11/6/2023 - 6/30/2024 (teaching one extra period per day)	+11,915.00 (Prorated)
E.	<u>Ronald S. Signorino</u> HSS Sped RR	11/6/2023 - 6/30/2024 (teaching one extra period per day)	+12,652.50 (Prorated)
F.	<u>Richard Malek</u> HSS Sped RR	11/27/2023 - 6/30/2024 (teaching one extra period per day)	+12,221.25 (Prorated)

5. Recommended Degree Changes/Salary Adjustments effective 9/1/2023 - 6/30/2024:

		<u>From:</u>	<u>To:</u>	<u>\$</u>
A.	<u>Michael L. Roskey</u> IE Sped RR	BA	MA	+3,200.00

6. Recommended Leave of Absence Requests:

A.	<u>Employee #14400</u> IE Science Gr. 6	Family	2/14/2024 - 5/17/2024
B.	<u>Employee #16900</u> ED Guidance	Maternity	11/23/2023 - 12/22/2023
C.	<u>Employee #15306</u> HSS Student Assistance	Family Ext.	12/23/2023 - 1/18/2024
D.	<u>Employee #17000</u>	Family	1/2/2024 - 2/29/2024

IN Sped RR

E.	<u>Employee #10947</u> WAL Grade 4	Medical Ext.	10/20/2023
F.	<u>Employee #14205</u> STR Sped RR	Maternity	11/25/2023 - 12/22/2023
G.	<u>Employee #11234</u> IS Supervisor of Instruction	Personal Ext.	12/22/2023 - 3/1/2024
H.	<u>Employee #14147</u> HSS Guidance	Family	3/12/2024 - 6/30/2024
I.	<u>Employee #14413</u> ED Kindergarten	Family	11/13/2023 - 12/1/2023
J.	<u>Employee #10345</u> HA Grade 4	Family Ext.	11/2/2023 - 11/3/2023
K.	<u>Employee #15339</u> STR+ World Language	Maternity Ext.	12/23/2023 - 6/30/2024
L.	<u>Employee #14329</u> HSE Nurse Assistant	Medical	11/13/2023 - 12/22/2023
M.	<u>Employee #12874</u> JAC+ Art	Medical Ext.	12/1/2023 - 12/22/2023
N.	<u>Employee #14492</u> IN Guidance	Family	2/28/2024 - 5/31/2024

7. Resignations:

A.	<u>Kendall M. Culver</u> HSE Athletic Trainer	1/13/2024
B.	<u>Jennifer M. Nicholson</u> SB Sped PSD	11/21/2023

8. Retirements:

- A. Julie L. Heise 7/1/2024
ED Art

9. Rescind Employment Offer (Not Accepting Position):

- A. Linda C. Trapani 12/4/2023
JAC+ BCBA

10. Transfers Effective for the 2023-2024 SY: (Attached)

STAFF FOR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS 11-13:

11. Title I SIA Approvals: (Attached)

- A. Recommend approval for the attached list of employees to receive payment under Title I SIA Funds for the school year commencing 9/1/2023 - 6/30/2024.

12. Title I Approvals: (Attached)

- A. Recommend approval for the attached list of employees to receive payment under Title I Funds for the school year commencing 9/1/2023 - 6/30/2024.

13. ESL Basic Skills - Title III Approvals: (Attached)

- A. Recommend approval for the attached list of Basic Skills Instructors to receive payment under Title III Funds for the school year commencing 9/1/2023 - 6/30/2024.

SUPPORT STAFF 14-19:

14. Day Care Paraprofessionals:

- A. Recommended for placement on the substitute list t a rate of \$15.00 per hour effective 11/27/2023:

Skylar R. Boschetti

15. Special Education Paraprofessionals:

A. Recommended for Employment:
{ Code = (R) Replacement }

<u>Amanda M. Dziminski</u>	(R)	\$19,581.00
IS Tier II Paraprofessional	11/27/2023 – 6/30/2024	(Prorated)
<u>John Fegan</u>	(R)	\$19,581.00
ND Tier II Paraprofessional	11/27/2023 – 6/30/2024	(Prorated)
<u>Beckett Garcia</u>	(R)	\$22,560.00
ELC Tier I Paraprofessional	11/27/2023 – 6/30/2024	(Prorated)
<u>Yamillet M. Whitledge</u>	(R)	\$19,581.00
STRE Tier II Paraprofessional	11/27/2023 – 6/30/2024	(Prorated) (Re-Hire)

B. Rescind Employment Offer (Not Accepting Position):

<u>Tiffany Hibberd</u>	(R)	\$19,581.00
WD Tier II Paraprofessional	10/23/2023 – 6/30/2024	(Prorated)

C. Recommended Change of Contract Start Date:

<u>Maricela Valcarcel-Hidalgo</u>	10/26/2023
WD Tier II Paraprofessional	

D. Recommended Salary Adjustments:

<u>Scott M. Smith</u>	9/1/2023 – 6/30/2024	+\$1,000.00
HSE Tier I Paraprofessional	(MA Degree Stipend)	

E. Recommended Leave of Absence Requests:

<u>Employee #14880</u>	Family	11/6/2023 – 11/13/2023
ELC Tier II Paraprofessional		

Toms River, New Jersey, November 21, 2023

<u>Employee #15199</u> SB Tier II Paraprofessional	Family	10/23/2023 – 12/1/2023
---	--------	------------------------

<u>Employee #17268</u> ND Tier II Paraprofessional	Family	10/30/2023 – 12/14/2023
---	--------	-------------------------

F. Resignations:

<u>Maria I. Amoresano</u> CG Tier II Paraprofessional	10/28/2023
--	------------

<u>Shannon A. Fenton</u> HA Tier II Paraprofessional	11/14/2023
---	------------

G. Deceased:

<u>Frederick J. Paccione</u> HSE Tier I Paraprofessional	11/12/2023
---	------------

H. Termination:

<u>Employee #17008</u>	11/21/2023
------------------------	------------

16. Cafeteria/Playground Aides:

A. Recommended for Employment:

{ Code = (R) Replacement }

<u>Breyanna J. Griffin</u> Walnut Street	(R) 11/27/2023 – 6/30/2024	\$5,961.11 (Prorated)
---	-------------------------------	--------------------------

<u>Cherish R. Moore</u> South Toms River	(R) 11/27/2023 – 6/30/2024	\$5,961.11 (Prorated)
---	-------------------------------	--------------------------

<u>Devon N. Purdom</u> Pine Beach	(R) 11/27/2023 – 6/30/2024	\$5,961.11 (Prorated)
--------------------------------------	-------------------------------	--------------------------

Toms River, New Jersey, November 21, 2023

<u>Jeffrey A. Roth</u> Walnut Street	(R) 11/27/2023 – 6/30/2024	\$5,961.11 (Prorated)
<u>Cassandra O. Socha</u> Silver Bay	(R) 11/27/2023 – 6/30/2024	\$5,961.11 (Prorated)
<u>Christine L. Warkola</u> Cedar Grove	(R) 11/27/2023 – 6/30/2024	\$5,961.11 (Prorated)

B. Recommended Leave of Absence Requests:

<u>Employee #13564</u> Silver Bay	Medical Ext.	11/14/2023 – 1/2/2024
--------------------------------------	-----------------	-----------------------

C. Recommended for placement on the substitute list at a rate of \$15.00 per hour effective 11/27/2023:

Kerri-Ann Hehner
Lauren E. Koba

D. Resignations:

<u>Nancy A. Robbins</u> Walnut Street	11/3/2023
--	-----------

17. Custodial Department:

A. Recommended for employment and approval to attend training to receive Black Seal/Low Pressure License to be reimbursed upon issuance of license at a cost of no greater than \$465.00.

<u>Mario R. Lopez</u> Roving Night Custodian	(R) 11/27/2023 – 5/28/2024	\$35,000.00 (Prorated)
<u>Roy R. Nichols</u> CG Night Custodian	(R) 11/22/2023 – 5/23/2024	\$35,000.00 (Prorated)

<u>Scott F. Wylie</u>	(R)	\$35,000.00
HSS Night Custodian	11/27/2023 – 5/28/2024	(Prorated)

- B. Recommended for placement on the substitute list at a rate of \$16.64 per hour effective 11/27/2023:

Jason E. Celentano
Theodore Humphries
Matthew H. King

18. Food Services Department:

- A. Recommended for Employment:
{Code = (R) Replacement}

<u>Rosemarie Doviak</u>	(R)	\$10,803.98
HSN Cafeteria Worker	12/4/2023 – 6/30/2024	(Prorated)

<u>Gia M. Kerico</u>	(R)	\$10,803.98
IN Cafeteria Worker	11/27/2023 – 6/30/2024	(Prorated)

- B. Recommended for placement on the substitute list at a rate of \$15.00 per hour effective 11/27/2023:

Christine DeMaio

- C. Recommended Leave of Absence Requests:

<u>Employee #17099</u>	Medical	10/24/2023 – 3/29/2024
HSN Cafeteria Worker		

- D. Resignations:

<u>Jennifer M. Delman</u>	10/31/2023
ED Cafeteria Worker	

<u>Lisa M. Hluchy</u>	11/22/2023
IN Cafeteria Worker	

Victoria A. Skyler 10/10/2023
IE Cafeteria Worker

19. Transportation Department:

- A. Recommended for Employment:
{ Code = (R) Replacement }

<u>Charles DeLuca</u>	(R)	\$25,318.80
Sped Bus Attendant	11/22/2023 – 6/30/2024	(Prorated)

- B. Transfers Effective 10/30/2023:

	<u>From:</u>	<u>To:</u>
<u>Alyson Crannell</u>	Regular Bus Driver	Sped Bus Driver
	11-000-270-160-054-0100	11-000-270-161-054-0100

- C. Recommended Leave of Absence Requests:

<u>Employee #17059</u>	Medical	11/21/2023 – 11/28/2023
Regular Bus Driver	Ext.	

<u>Employee #17110</u>	Personal	11/1/2023 – 2/6/2024
Sped Bus Attendant		

- D. Recommended for placement on the Bus Driver substitute list at a rate of \$27.00 per hour effective 11/22/2023:

Ingrid D. Reitano
Hector L. Merced

- E. Recommended for placement on the Bus Attendant substitute list at a rate of \$16.00 per hour effective 11/22/2023:

Sally A. Cimino
Stephanie Iacopino

20. Extracurricular:

A. Extracurricular New Club Recommendations:

HSE Pickleball

B. Half Year Extracurricular Recommendations & Payments Updates and Additions (2023 – 2024):

<u>Mary A. Berman</u>	IE Art Club	-\$195.40
<u>Jessica M. Kurtz</u>	IS Science Fair Advisor	+\$589.20
	IS Science Club Advisor	+\$589.20
<u>Amanda K. Lodato</u>	IE Tutoring Club	+\$589.20
<u>Jonna L. Meyers</u>	IE Tutoring Club	+\$589.20
<u>Katelyn J. Richerts</u>	IS Science Fair Advisor	-\$589.20
	IS Science Club Advisor	-\$589.20
<u>Lillian E. Stulich</u>	IE Homework Club	+\$392.80
<u>Elisa M. Waller</u>	IE Art Club	-\$195.40

C. **REVISED** Winter 2023 – 2024 Coaching Recommendations & Payments:

<u>Zachary Martin*</u>	HSS Asst. Boys’ Wrestling	\$6,101.00; Step 3
<u>Damien Singleton*</u>	HSS Boys’ Basketball	Volunteer

D. Winter 2023 – 2024 Coaching Recommendations & Payments:

<u>Will Atkinson*</u>	HSN Asst. Boys’ Basketball	Volunteer
<u>Candy Blake*</u>	HSS Asst. Wrestling	Volunteer
<u>Ryan Caswell*</u>	HSN Boys’ Basketball	Volunteer
<u>Robert Dietlmeier*</u>	HSE Girls’ Track	\$3,512.00; Step 1
<u>Frank Giannetti*</u>	HSE/HSS Asst. Ice Hockey	\$5,401.00; Step 3
<u>Timothy Hudak*</u>	HSE/HSS Asst. Ice Hockey	\$5,401.00; Step 3
<u>Charlie Olsen*</u>	HSE Boys’ Basketball	Volunteer
<u>Conor Panzarella*</u>	HSE Asst. Wrestling	Volunteer
<u>Ashley Tutzauer*</u>	HSN Girls’ Basketball	Volunteer

E. Winter 2023 – 2024 Coaching Resignations:

<u>Robert K. Heisler</u>	HSN Head Boys' Bowling	-\$4,317.00; Step 3
<u>Michael Inteso*</u>	HSE/HSS Asst. Ice Hockey	-\$5,401.00; Step 3

F. School Musical Recommendations & Payments (Attached):

High Schools East, North & South
Intermediate East, North & South

**On Approved Sub List*

21. Off Payroll Report (Attached)

22. Substitute Nurses/Athletic Trainer/Secretaries/Administrators (Attached)

PERSONNEL ITEM 23

CERTIFICATED STAFF 23:

23. Recommended Salary Adjustments:

C.	<u>Veronica J. Maier</u>	11/22/2023 - 6/30/2024	\$
	HSN Sped RR	(DLM Facilitator Stipend)	+5,165.00 (Prorated)

On roll call following the vote:

Ayes: Contessa, Howe, Lamb, Morrison, Nardini, Polozzo, Williams, Eagan

Noes: None

Recused: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Kidney

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM AGENDA (#1-9)

A motion was made by Mrs. Polozzo, seconded by Mrs. Contessa and carried that the following Educational Program Agenda (#1-9) be approved:

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS ITEMS #1-9

1. **Application for Reimbursement of Professional Graduate Courses (Attached)**
2. **Donations:**
 - A. Recommend the attached be accepted with thanks.
3. **Educational Activity Requests (Attached)**
4. **Extracurricular:**
 - A. Recommended approval for the annual Toms River High School South Roll with the Indians Invitational Bowling Tournament on Saturday, December 16, 2023. The event will take place at the Ocean Lanes in Lakewood, NJ. The event will be at no cost to the Board of Education.
 - B. Winter Sports Schedules 2023 – 2024: (Attached)

Intermediate East, North & South
5. **Funded Programs:**
 - A. Recommend approval for High School East and High School South to participate in services through NJ4S (which is grant funded through the State of NJ and Preferred Behavioral Health) and the DART coalition of Ocean County. Both are to provide mental health and social and emotional services for our students at no cost to the Board of Education.
6. **Graduate Reimbursement (Attached)**
7. **Student Services:**
 - A. Out-of-District Day Placement Requests (Attached)
 - B. Tuition Pupils Received Requests (Attached)

- C. Tuition Pupils Sent Requests (Attached)
- D. Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired Requests (Attached)
- 8. Recommend approval of the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2025 (Attached)**
- 9. Recommended Professional Leave Requests (Attached)**

On roll call following the vote:

Ayes: Contessa, Howe, Lamb, Morrison, Nardini, Polozzo, Williams, Eagan

Noes: None

Recused: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Kidney

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Joseph Nardini wished everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving. Mr. Nardini looks forward to the Jingle Bell Run, sponsored by the Toms River Police Department Foundation on December 3, 2023.

Mrs. Anna Polozzo wished everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving. Mrs. Polozzo discussed legislature will be meeting and are proposing legislation to include a new High School Graduation Requirement which will make parents fill out the FAFSA during their child's 11th grade year. Mrs. Polozzo announced that the Ocean County School Boards Association will be meeting on December 4, 2023 in Brick, which will entail a presentation from the former County Executive Superintendent/Business Administrator on school funding and finance.

Mrs. Melissa Morrison had the opportunity to see the play Our Town which was performed by the Toms River High School North Theatre Production. The kids did a

fantastic job, thanked all of the students, the cast and the crew, and the staff that helped make it a great production.

Mrs. Ashley Lamb thanked the community for their support in the recent election and congratulated the new oncoming board members Mrs. Paula Pascarella and Mr. James Capone. Mrs. Lamb attended the Veteran's Commission and was so happy to see all of the awards. Maggie Elsherif, who is a 10th grader from High School North won first place. The essays were amazing and it was nice to see how much the students appreciate the veterans. Mrs. Lamb was also at the ceremony for the Dedication of the Flag Retirement Box, where she saw how much our kids show up to their community, as much as the community shows up for them. Mrs. Lamb wished everyone a happy and safe holiday.

Mrs. Jennifer Howe wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. The Presbyterian Church in Toms River was going on their 4th Thanksgiving handing out 1,000 turkeys to the community. Mrs. Howe discussed the soccer banquet, great to see coaches and families involved and dedicated. Mrs. Howe thanked our entire administration for always working so tirelessly for our students and our staff and she is very excited about our attendance initiative. Mrs. Howe thanked Mr. Citta for working around the clock for our kids. Happy Thanksgiving everyone and enjoy this time with your friends and family.

COMMENTS FROM GUESTS AND PRESS – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY *(limited to 5 minutes as per Board Policy # 0167 – Public Participation in Board Meetings)*

Public Comments were heard by Stephanie Schneider.

Public Comments were heard by Kevin Butch.

Public Comments were heard by Maria Lauria.

Public Comments were heard by Krista Whittaker.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion was made by Mr. Nardini, seconded by Mrs. Contessa and carried that the meeting be adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

All members present voting Aye.

Wendy L. Saxton, Board Secretary