

**HANOVER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING - BUDGET
MINUTES
March 15, 2022**

I. OPENING

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Vanessa Wolsky, Board Secretary at 6:30 p.m. in the Auditorium at Memorial Junior School, 61 Highland Avenue, Whippany, NJ 07981.

Mrs. Wolsky read the following statement:

In accordance with P.L. 1975, Chapter 231, notice of this meeting was provided to the newspaper of record, appropriately posted and sent to the Township Clerk on February 28, 2022.

- B. Present: Board Members:**
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| Mr. Stephen Furda |
| Mrs. Marcella Wilson |
| Mr. Jeffrey Basile |
| Mrs. Kathryn McSorley |
| Mr. Marc Amoresano |
| Mrs. Lisa Bomengo |
| Mrs. Patricia Mattia |
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- | | |
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| Superintendent | Mr. Michael J. Wasko |
| Business Administrator/
Board Secretary | Mrs. Vanessa M. Wolsky |
-
- Absent: Board Members:
- | |
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| Mrs. Gina Marie Winkler |
| Dr. Lynda Wright |

II. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION - 2022-2023 Preliminary Budget

Mr. Wasko began the discussion with a review of projected enrollments for the 2022-23 school year at each school in the District. Bee Meadow School is expected to have an enrollment of 320 students. Mountview Road School is expected to have an enrollment of 246 students. Salem Drive School is expected to have an enrollment of 248 students. Memorial Junior School is expected to have an enrollment of 488 students.

Staffing highlights include an additional 0.54 FTE Special Education Teacher, additional 0.40 FTE Coordinated Services Teacher and an increase in mental health contracted services to 5 days per week. Mr. Wasko also shared various enhancements in the area of Curriculum & Instruction.

Mrs. Wolsky reviewed capital improvements in the proposed budget including asphalt and concrete repairs, roof replacement, fencing replacement, HVAC system upgrades, 54 passenger bus and replacement bus cameras.

Mrs. Wolsky continued with a review of the preliminary 2022-23 appropriations. She highlighted the larger variances to the preliminary budget summary from the prior year. The 2022-23 preliminary budget that was reviewed is an overall budget increase of \$594,997 or 1.94% and a tax rate increase of 2.0%.

The tax implication of this increase per \$100,000 assessed valuation is projected to be an increase of \$20.06 over the previous year.

Mr. Amoresano asked about areas of spending in budget to address pandemic related learning loss. Mr. Wasko said we do not currently have the data to show the impact but we added a full time coordinated services position for the current year and are adding additional FTE next year. He also noted that with the proposed housing development, we may also have more students coming in with additional needs.

Mrs. Bomengo asked about the Care Plus mental health services currently being funded through ESSER, how the needs are being met and what will happen when ESSER funds are no longer available. Mr. Wasko said the current part time arrangement allows for a half day per week at each school and is a challenge to meet the needs of the District. The case load is 10 students at a time. An additional benefit of the provider is that they are able to do an immediate assessment and complete a referral to clear a student to return to school without the student having to go to the emergency room.

Mr. Furda inquired about back up power. Mrs. Wolsky said that is something we would look to include in a future referendum. He also asked about roof repairs and looking into pitched rooves.

Mrs. Bomengo inquired about the full implementation of Fountas and Pinnell which was also listed in last year's presentation and asked how much of the budget had been allocated. Mr. Wasserman said it is a phase-in for different grade levels. K-2 was fully implemented this year and 3-5 is scheduled to be fully implemented next year. He noted that within the budget funds are set aside for professional development to train teachers.

Mrs. McSorley asked where HTSACC was included. Mrs. Wolsky noted that HTSACC is a separate fund and not included in this budget. Mr. Basile thanked Mr. Wasko and Mrs. Wolsky. Mr. Amoresano and Mrs. Bomengo brought up the topic of recording meetings. Mr. Wasko said the topic could be explored at Committee level.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items Only - None

IV. BOARD ACTIONS

C. FINANCE, TRANSPORTATION, PHYSICAL PLANT

I. FINANCE

Upon recommendation of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, move

to:

1. Adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the tentative budget be approved for the 2022-2023 School Year and the Secretary to the Board of Education be authorized to submit the following tentative budget to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval in accordance with the statutory deadline:

General Fund	\$ 31,282,094
Special Revenue	\$ 469,873

And to advertise said tentative budget in the Daily Record in accordance with the form suggested by the State Department of Education and according to law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a public hearing be held in the Memorial Junior School Library/Media Center, on April 26, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the budget for the 2022-2023 School Year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Preliminary Budget is subject to amendments and/or modifications by the Morris County Office of the New Jersey Department of Education and the Board of Education at the April 26, 2022 Public Hearing of the budget.

Motion: Mr. Basile **Second:** Mrs. Wilson **Roll Call:** 7 yes, 0 no

2. Approve a General Fund Tax Levy for the 2022-2023 budget, in the amount of \$28,317,686.

Motion: Mr. Basile **Second:** Mrs. Wilson **Roll Call:** 7 yes, 0 no

3. Authorize appropriating \$400,000 Additional Fund Balance to reduce the General Fund Tax Levy for the 2022-2023 school budget.

Motion: Mr. Basile **Second:** Mrs. Wilson **Roll Call:** 7 yes, 0 no

4. Authorize appropriating \$500,000 Capital Reserve to reduce the General Fund Tax Levy for the 2022-2023 school year.

Motion: Mr. Basile **Second:** Mrs. Wilson **Roll Call:** 7 yes, 0 no

5. Establish the following maximum annual expenditures for the 2022-2023 school year:

Public Relations	\$ 20,000
Auditor	\$ 44,000
Attorney	\$ 35,000
School Doctor	\$ 21,000

Motion: Mr. Basile **Second:** Mrs. Wilson **Roll Call:** 7 yes, 0 no

6. Adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Hanover Township Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et seq requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

WHEREAS, a Board of Education may establish, for regular district business travel only, an annual school year threshold of \$150 per staff member where prior Board approval shall not be required unless this annual threshold for a staff member is exceeded in a given school year (July 1 through June 30); and

WHEREAS, travel and related expenses not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et seq., but deemed by the Board of Education to be necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et seq. as being necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et seq., to a maximum expenditure of \$72,835 for all staff and board members.

Motion: Mr. Basile

Second: Mrs. Wilson

Roll Call: 7 yes, 0 no

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

VII. ADJOURNMENT: 7:24

Moved by: Mr. Furda

Seconded: Mrs. McSorley

Approved: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,



Vanessa M. Wolsky
Business Administrator/Board Secretary