HANOVER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING

Goal Setting and First Reading of Repeal and Replace Policy #8463

MINUTES June 6, 2023

I. OPENING

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Bomengo, Board President, at 6:07 p.m. in the IMC 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 June 2, 2023. Please be advised that this meeting is being recorded and will be made available to the public on the District website.

Present: Board Members:

Mrs. Gina Marie Winkler Mrs. Marcella Wilson Dr. Lynda Wright Mr. Jeffrey Basile Mr. Marc Amoresano Mrs. Christine Egbert Mrs. Gina Johnston Mr. Gregory Skiff Mrs. Lisa Bomengo

Superintendent
Business Administrator/

Mr. Michael J. Wasko Mrs. Vanessa M. Wolsky

Board Secretary

II. MOTION TO CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

Move to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Hanover Township Board of Education will convene in executive session immediately to undertake discussions concerning, legal advice re: pending litigation and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the nature of the discussion is expected to be disclosed to the public when the reasons for nondisclosure no longer exist.

Motion: Mrs. Bomengo Second: Mr. Amoresano Approved: Unanimous

MOTION TO RECONVENE 6:34 p.m.

Motion: Mrs. Bomengo Second: Mr. Amoresano Approved: Unanimous

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Policy Committee – Mr. Amoresano said the Committee met and looked at revisions to Policy 8463.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS - (Agenda Items Only)

Several members of the public spoke both in favor of and against Policy 8463 for various reasons.

Terri Baird, Resident – inquired about the short notice given for the meeting and talked about transparency. Mr. Giacobbe said notice was provided in accordance with OPMA.

Fern Wolken, Resident – Inquired if the Policy would be publicized and when the meeting would be posted. Mr. Giacobbe said the Policy is being adopted tonight, will be effective immediately and posted on the District website. Mr. Wasko said the meeting will be on the website within 2-3 days at most.

V. BOARD ACTIONS--POLICY

Move to adopt the following:

1. Resolution to Immediately Repeal and Replace Policy 8463 in accordance with Board Bylaw 0131

Whereas the Hanover Township Board of Education is involved in litigation challenging certain aspects of the current Policy 8463; and

Whereas, to address concerns that were raised during the oral argument on Tuesday, May 30, 2023 before the Honorable Stuart Minkowitz, A.J.S.C.; and

Whereas, to address any of the concerns raised by the Judge, the Hanover Township Board of Education Policy Committee substantially revised Policy 8463 and recommends the immediate repeal and replacement of Policy 8463 effective June 6, 2023 in accordance with Board Bylaw 0131; and

Whereas, the Hanover Township Board of Education will readopt the revised Policy 8463 at its next regular Board of Education meeting on June 13, 2023 in accordance with Board Bylaw 0131;

Now Therefore Be it Resolved that the Hanover Township Board of Education, based on the recommendation of the Hanover Township Board of Education's Policy Committee, immediately repeals and replaces Policy 8463 with the revised Policy 8463 in accordance with Board Bylaw 0131; and

Be it Further Resolved that the Hanover Township Board of Education will readopt the revised Policy 8463 at its next regular Board of Education meeting on June 13, 2023 in accordance with Board Bylaw 0131.

Motion: Mrs. Bomengo Second: Mr. Amoresano Approved: 8 Yes, 0 No

(Abstain: Basile)

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

VII. MOTION TO CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

Move to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Hanover Township Board of Education will convene in executive session immediately to undertake discussions concerning, negotiations update and Business Administrator's contract.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the nature of the discussion is expected to be disclosed to the public when the reasons for nondisclosure no longer exist.

It was noted that the session was expected to last approximately 20 minutes and action would not be taken after.

Motion: Mrs. Bomengo Second: Mr. Amoresano Approved: Unanimous

VIII. MOTION TO RECONVENE 8:05 p.m.

Motion: Mrs. Bomengo Second: Mr. Amoresano Approved: Unanimous

IX. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Goal Setting - Charlene Peterson, NJSBA Field Service Representative

Mrs. Peterson began by explaining the difference between District Goals and Board of Education Goals and the purpose of each. The Board of Education and administrative team discussed student achievement, benchmarks, diagnostic data, student growth and other items to be considered when developing goals. Below are goals that were developed for consideration:

District Goals for Consideration:

1. The district will continue to cultivate and showcase a positive school climate and culture that focuses on student/staff wellness and safety and promotes family and community engagement.

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2. Continue to improve our ability to utilize district benchmark and diagnostic data to inform instructional programming and implement strategies that target areas of growth for all students.

3. To implement the actionable items identified in the district facilities assessment, and to prepare for future needs through the updating of the long-range facilities plan and the consideration of a five-year strategic plan.

4. To upgrade and enhance the district's website to provide for information consistency across all grade levels and to illustrate the pride in our schools.

Board Goals for Consideration:

- 1. Continue the work toward earning NJSBA Board Certification again by engaging in at least four hours per year of full Board training workshops.
- 2. Continue to celebrate staff and student successes, with increased recognition of student accomplishments.
- 3. Add continued transparency to the work of the Board Committees. The next steps in the process were discussed. The Superintendent will develop Action Plans for each of the District Goals and will review them with the Board in July/August.

X. ADJOURNMENT -9:40 p.m.

Motion: Mrs. Bomengo Second: Mrs. Wilson Approved: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Vanessa M. Wolsky

Business Administrator/Board Secretary

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