

**MINE HILL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
February 23, 2015**

1. Call to Order

2. Statement of Compliance

3. In compliance with the Open Public meetings Act, Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, adequate notice of the date, time and location for this meeting has been properly advertised in the Daily Record on January 14, 2015 and copies of the agenda have been posted on the district web site and locations designated by the Board, and mailed to the Clerk of the Township of Mine Hill.

4. Flag Salute

5. Roll Call

Peter Bruseo	Yes	Denise Jiménez-Arias	Yes
Jill Del Rio	Yes- 7:30PM	Bridget Mauro	Yes
Joseph Heredia	Yes	Mary Jo Walilko	Yes

6. Executive Session

On the motion of Mary Jo Walilko seconded by Denise Jimenez-Arias at 6:35 PM, the Board approves the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A.10:4-11, permits the Board of Education to meet in closed session to discuss certain matters, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Board of Education adjourns to closed session to discuss: (select one or more)

- 1) *a matter rendered confidential by federal or state law*
- 2) *a matter in which release of information would impair the right to receive government funds*
- 3) *material the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy*
- 4) *a collective bargaining agreement and/or negotiations related to it*
- 5) *a matter involving the purchase, lease, or acquisition of real property with public funds*
- 6) *protection of public safety and property and/or investigations of possible violations or violations of law*
- 7) *pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation and/or matters of attorney-client privilege*
- 8) *specific prospective or current employees unless all who could be adversely affected request an open session*
- 9) *deliberation after a public hearing that could result in a civil penalty or other loss;*

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the minutes of this closed session be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

Note: This closed session will include items in categories 7. It may be adjourned while business is conducted in public then reconvened after public business has been completed.

7. Return to Regular Session

On the motion of Mary Jo Walilko seconded by Bridget Mauro at 7:04 PM, the Board returns to the regular session meeting.

Roll Call Vote	Peter Bruseo	Jill Del Rio	Joseph Heredia	Denise Jiménez-Arias	Bridget Mauro	Mary Jo Walilko
5-0	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

8. Approval of Minutes

- a. RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the **closed session minutes** of the meeting held on **January 29, 2015**.
- b. RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the **regular meeting minutes** of the meeting held on **January 29, 2015**.

Motion to table 8a and 8b by Mary Jo Walilko and Seconded by Denise Jimenez-Arias

Roll Call Vote	Peter Bruseo	Jill Del Rio	Joseph Heredia	Denise Jiménez-Arias	Bridget Mauro	Mary Jo Walilko
5-0	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

9. Correspondence

- Letter of Resignation of Gary Tillett, Board Member.

WHEREAS, Mr. **Gary Tillett has resigned** from his 3-year term board position with 10 months remaining in his term;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has accepted his resignation with regret;

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the Board Secretary to advertise in the official legal paper and on the website that a vacancy in the 3rd year of a 3 year term, position exists and the Board is seeking letter(s) of interest from candidates to fill the vacancy and/or nominations from board members. All letters of interest and nominations are due in the board office, to the board secretary by March 10, 2015, 4:00 p.m.

Motion of: Mary Jo Walilko Seconded by: Bridget Mauro

Roll Call Vote	Peter Bruseo	Jill Del Rio	Joseph Heredia	Denise Jiménez-Arias	Bridget Mauro	Mary Jo Walilko
5-0	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

10. Interim Superintendent's Report

- Dr. Calabro discussed the recent QSAC visit from the State of New Jersey Department of Education. She noted that the visit went well and that the district should be hearing from them soon regarding the final QSAC scores.

11. Presentation / Reports

- Academic Support; Mr. Zygmunt discussed the program and answered questions accordingly.
- Roxbury Lottery: Selected were Elizabeth Knudson, John Knudson, Jennifer Lopez (Mother of Ailee Andino) and Margaret McDonald accordingly.

12. Business Administrator's Report

None

13. Public Discussion

Ms. Gully noted that Founders Day honored Mrs. Lois Rehling for being with the district for 20 years.

Mayor Sam Morris – Noted that the financial climate at the State level that may affect the local level was not promising. He also invited the board to attend the budget meeting at the township on the upcoming Thursday. He also requested to be part of the district budget discussions.

14. FINANCE

Denise Jiménez-Arias, Bridget Mauro, Mary Jo Walilko

- a. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Business Administrator and approves the **payment of bills** (including state health and dental benefits) from the General Operating Account, in the amount of \$969,5450.34 plus \$309,513.18 for the **January, 2015** payrolls (including gross payroll amounts, district share of DCRP pension benefits, the state and district's share of FICA); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the payment of bills from other funds as delineated below:

Unemployment Trust Fund (SUI Account)	\$0.00
Food Service Fund	\$11,224.85
Student Activity Fund (Canfield School Account)	\$1,387.43

- b. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Business Administrator and approves **appropriation transfers for the month of January**, which is attached and made part of this resolution by reference.
- c. WHEREAS, in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c)3, the secretary has certified that, as of the date of the report, no budgetary line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(a), and that the financial reports for the **month of January** are in agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education accepts the **Board Secretary and Treasurer Reports** above referenced reports and certifications subject to reconciliation of the secretary's report with the statements of cash position and reconciliation report when received, and orders that it be attached to and made part of the record of this meeting; and be it

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c)4, the board of Education certifies that, after review of the board secretary's and statements of cash position and reconciliation monthly financial reports (appropriation section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of its knowledge, no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(b), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the year.

- d. RESOLVED, that the Board that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Business Administrator and approves authorizing **AFLAC to present voluntary benefits to employees**; and

WHEREAS, voluntary benefits is a developing area of benefit provisions offering employees the ability to choose the coverage most beneficial to their specific need as at a group rate, at no direct cost to Mine Hill Township Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, American Family Life Assurance Company (AFLAC), a leader provider of voluntary benefits nationwide, as the firm best suited to present these voluntary benefit offerings to the Mine Hill Township Board of Education employees; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the NJ Public Contracts Law, these services and programs are deemed extraordinary, and therefore exempt from bidding requirements.

WHEREAS, American Family Life Assurance Company (AFLAC) has fully explained the benefits of introducing a Section 125 Plan to satisfy compliance, and allow pre tax deductions through payroll. It is understood that, Section 125 Cafeteria Plan is of no direct cost to the Mine Hill Township Board of Education as this a free service provided by AFLAC.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mine Hill Township Board of Education that American Family Life Assurance Company (AFLAC) is hereby authorized to present their array of voluntary benefits to the Employees; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Lenin Rodriguez & Christine White shall coordinate the offerings and possible implementation of insurance products with the Business Administrator and/or Principal Contacts and appropriate representatives of AFLAC, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Mine Hill Township Board of Education Business Administrator.

- e. **WHEREAS**, Mine Hill Township has been providing certain landscaping, snow plowing and property maintenance services to the Board on an informal basis and has been utilizing certain Board property for its recreational programs also on an informal basis; and **WHEREAS**, Mine Hill Township needs to purchase a commercial grade mower for its use in providing landscaping service throughout Mine Hill including the services it provides to the Board and has requested a contribution in the amount of \$10,796.00 from the Board for the purchase of this mower; and

WHEREAS, Mine Hill Township and the Board wish to memorialize the informal agreement they have had to clarify the rights and responsibilities of each; and

WHEREAS, the governing bodies of Mine Hill and the Board have adopted resolutions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq., the Uniform Shared Services Act, authorizing the adoption of this agreement.

Resolved, that the **Board of Education accepts and approves the Shared Services Agreement with the Mine Hill Township** for a three (3) year period ending December 31, 2017. (Agreement available for review in the Board office).

- f. **WHEREAS**, the Mine Hill Township school district is the current owner in fee of a certain lot of land on the Tax Map of Mine Hill Township known as Lot 1, Block 1401 ("Lot"); and

WHEREAS, the Mine Hill Township Board of Education (the "Board") has determined that it no longer needs the entire Lot for school purposes and desires to sell to the Mine Hill Township ("Township") the portion of the Lot as more fully described as Tract III in the surveyor report provided by Maser Consulting P.A., dated December 29, 2014 ("Property"), and attached hereto as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:20-2 the Board is permitted to dispose of its real estate by sale, if such property is no longer needed for school purposes N.J.S.A. 18A:20-5; and

WHEREAS, the Board may transfer property to a municipality for a nominal amount without public bidding as provided by N.J.S.A. 18A:20-9; and

WHEREAS, prior to the disposal of the Property, the Board is required, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-7.4, to file for approval with the Division of Finance of the Department of Education ("Division"); and

WHEREAS, upon Division approval, and prior to the disposal of the Property, the Board is required to file for subdivision approval with the Mine Hill Township Planning Board ("Planning Board");

WHEREAS, upon Division and Planning Board approvals, the Board and the Township shall execute a contract of sale thereby transferring such Property ownership to the Township;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the majority of the full membership of the Board hereby authorizes the sale of the Property subject to both Division and Planning Board approvals of such sale and subject to the execution of a contract of sale by the Board and the Township.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board's counsel is authorized to prepare any and all documents necessary in order to effectuate the intent of both parties and the purposes of this resolution.

- g. RESOLVED, that by the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that the Board accepts the Charlie Lovett Fund for Elementary Drama for the production of Pirates: The Musical, in the amount of \$300.00.

Motion of Mary Jo Walilko to table 14.f until after Executive Session and seconded by Bridget Mauro.

Roll Call Vote	Peter Bruseo	Jill Del Rio	Joseph Heredia	Denise Jiménez-Arias	Bridget Mauro	Mary Jo Walilko
5-0	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Motion of Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Denise Jimenez-Arias.

Roll Call Vote	Peter Bruseo	Jill Del Rio	Joseph Heredia	Denise Jiménez-Arias	Bridget Mauro	Mary Jo Walilko
14.a-c 6-0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

15. INSTRUCTION / CURRICULUM & OPERATIONS

Peter Bruseo, Mary Jo Walilko

- a. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the attendance and reimbursement of expenses for attending the annual **Governmental Purchasing Conference**, April 15, 2015 to April 17, 2015, at the Tropicana, Atlantic City.

Employee	Registration	Meals	Lodging	Mileage/Tolls	Parking	Total Cost
Melissa Simmons	\$475.00	\$181.50	\$130.00	\$126.96	\$40.00	\$953.46

- b. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent and approves pursuant to the Mine Hill Township Board of Education Policy 5199, **the following students to attend Roxbury High School as Mine Hill Township Board of Education paid tuition students**, September 2015 through 2019, as per the results of the Roxbury Lottery to be held this evening:

Name	Lottery Position	Results
Elizabeth Knudson	First	attending
John Knudson	Second	attending
Jennifer Lopez (Mother of student, Ailee Andino)	Third	attending
Margaret McDonald	Fourth	waiting list

Motion of Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Denise Jimenez-Arias

Roll Call Vote	Peter Bruseo	Jill Del Rio	Joseph Heredia	Denise Jiménez-Arias	Bridget Mauro	Mary Jo Walilko
6-0	Yes	Yes	Yea	Yes	Yes	Yes

16. PERSONNEL *Denise Jiménez-Arias, Bridget Mauro, Mary Jo Walilko*

- a. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent and approves the **Family Leave for Janice Bochicchio as follows:**

May 18, 2015 through June 22, 2015 (or last day of school), paid accumulated personal and sick days (totaling 25 days), September 1, 2015 through October 9, 2015, unpaid leave (with benefits, paid by employee) pursuant to the Federal Family Leave Act and the NJ Family Leave Act.

- b. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent and accepts the appointment of **Stephanie Alfieri, Substitute Teacher** for the 2014-2015 school year.
- c. WHEREAS, the MHTA provides for **tuition reimbursement;**

WHEREAS, **Ms. Susan Day** has completed 3 credits of an approved class.

RESOLVED, by the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that Ms. Day be reimbursed \$1,458.00 for the successful completion of the approved courses in line with the MHTA.

Motion of Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro

Roll Call Vote	Peter Bruseo	Jill Del Rio	Joseph Heredia	Denise Jiménez-Arias	Bridget Mauro	Mary Jo Walilko
6-0	Yes	Yes	Yea	Yes	Yes	Yes

17. POLICY / COMMUNITY & PUBLIC RELATIONS *Jill Del Rio, Mary Jo Walilko*
None

18. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS *Denise Jiménez-Arias Bridget Mauro, Mary Jo Walilko*

- a. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent and approves the **Use of Facilities** as follows:

Organization	Purpose	Room Needed	Dates
Mine Hill First Aid Squad	King of the Hill Car Show	Parking lot, gym, bathrooms and copy machine room (for sink)	5-16-15 (Rain date: 5-17-15) (pending final forms)
Mine Hill Soccer Club	Soccer drills/instruction	Gym (when available)	March - April

Motion of Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro

Roll Call Vote	Peter Bruseo	Jill Del Rio	Joseph Heredia	Denise Jiménez-Arias	Bridget Mauro	Mary Jo Walilko
6-0	Yes	Yes	Yea	Yes	Yes	Yes

19. Dover Report

Peter Bruseo

None

20. MHEF Report

Jill Del Rio, Denise Jiménez-Arias

None

21. Old Business

Board Goals were discussed.

22. New Business

Ms. Simmons discussed the possible bankruptcy of Sun Light General (Solar Panels). She indicated that the agreement with the Morris County Improvement Authority puts the commission in charge of the agreement if Sunlight goes bankrupt. There shouldn't be any major impact to Mine Hill since the solar panels are currently operational. Most of the issues are with the districts that have not completed the installation of the solar panels to date.

23. Public Discussion

Joanne Cirella – Indicated to the Board that she was very uncomfortable and had never felt this uncomfortable about the tone and discussions that the board was having amongst themselves. It was unprofessional and issues should have been deliberated through committee and asked prior and then come to the public as a united board of education.

Mr. Bret Coronato – Agreed with the previous comments and noted that he had discussed with Mr. Heredia to work more with the board and not be so combative at meetings.

Ms. Lilly Conroy – Noted that she was disgusted at the behavior exhibited and board meetings. Mr. Heredia commented on her and her husband's vote for him in the election for board member. Ms. Walilko halted the unfavorable discussions.

24. Executive Session

On the motion of Mary Jo Walilko seconded by Denise Jimenez-Arias at 8:42 p.m. the Board approves the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A.10:4-11, permits the Board of Education to meet in closed session to discuss certain matters, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Board of Education adjourns to closed session to discuss: (select one or more)

- 1) *a matter rendered confidential by federal or state law*
- 2) *a matter in which release of information would impair the right to receive government funds*
- 3) *material the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy*
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- 7) *pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation and/or matters of attorney-client privilege*
- 8) *specific prospective or current employees unless all who could be adversely affected request an open session*
- 9) *deliberation after a public hearing that could result in a civil penalty or other loss;*

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the minutes of this closed session be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

Note: This closed session will include items in categories 5. It may be adjourned while business is conducted in public then reconvened after public business has been completed.

Roll Call Vote	Peter Bruseo	Jill Del Rio	Joseph Heredia	Denise Jiménez-Arias	Bridget Mauro	Mary Jo Walilko
6-0	Yes	Yes	Yea	Yes	Yes	Yes

25. Return to Public Session

On the motion of Mary Jo Walilko seconded by Bridget Mauro at 8:47 p.m. the Board returns to the regular session meeting.

Roll Call Vote	Peter Bruseo	Jill Del Rio	Joseph Heredia	Denise Jiménez-Arias	Bridget Mauro	Mary Jo Walilko
6-0	Yes	Yes	Yea	Yes	Yes	Yes

On the motion of Mary Jo Walilko seconded by Bridget Mauro the Board approves item 14.f for the **Sale of Land** which requires a majority vote of the board in order to pass.

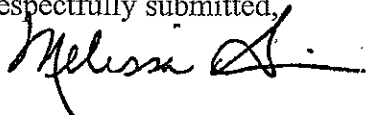
Roll Call Vote	Peter Bruseo	Jill Del Rio	Joseph Heredia	Denise Jiménez-Arias	Bridget Mauro	Mary Jo Walilko
5-1	No	Yes	Yea	Yes	Yes	Yes

26. Adjournment

On the motion of Mary Jo Walilko seconded by Bridget Mauro at 8:48 p.m. the Board returns to the regular session meeting.

Roll Call Vote	Peter Bruseo	Jill Del Rio	Joseph Heredia	Denise Jiménez-Arias	Bridget Mauro	Mary Jo Walilko
6-0	Yes	Yes	Yea	Yes	Yes	Yes

Respectfully submitted,



Melissa Simmons
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

— D. Engel