

**WESTWOOD REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 15, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m. in the Board of Education conference room, Jr./Sr. High School, by President Swietkowski.

Present: President Swietkowski, Trustees Blundo, Hanlon, Kalish, Liddy, Mandeville, McCallister, Miller, Superintendent Raymond Gonzalez, Assistant Superinten and Business Administrator/ Board Secretary Keith Rosado.

Absent: Trustee Straight.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Hanlon, that the Board recess to meet in Private Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel and legal matters. The Board will reconvene in Public Session at approximately 7:30 p.m. The decisions which emanate from these discussions will be disclosed to the public when action is taken by the Board.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: 8-0

The Board reconvened at 7:53 p.m. in the Hurley Theater, Jr./Sr. High School, by President Swietkowski who lead the salute to the flag and read the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law statement.

Present: President Swietkowski, Trustees Blundo, Hanlon, Kalish, Liddy, Mandeville, McCallister, Miller, Straight, Superintendent Raymond Gonzalez, and Business Administrator/Board Secretary Keith Rosado.

Absent: Trustee Straight.

**Superintendent's Report**

- Dr. Gonzalez spoke on the emails from parents in regards to Before and After Care for the District. The inquiries were what transpired causing a change, requested the documents that the Board will use to make the decision and parents praised the current staff members of the WYCA. In the past 15 years no one has looked into different options so Dr. Gonzalez expored other options. This was for the best interest of the families and future families to ensure safety and security along with enrichment and academic support for the children. Through the fall, apprised the committee of his findings. Then in December shared with the full Board but not available to the Public. The feedback from the Survey the WYCA conducted with their existing customers help facilitate what the needs of the familes were.

**Board President's Report**

- Mrs. Swietkowski read the following statement: I would first like to commend our students for their appropriate assembly regarding school violence. The entire student population comported themselves in a manner that was fitting for the event. I would also like to thank the administration, faculty, staff and police departments who supported their effort and ensured the safety of the participants.
- Earlier this month many of the BOE members took part in the annual Read-Across-America events at our elementary schools. Speaking for myself, and I believe other board members feel the same- it's great going into the schools and seeing the amazing work and enthusiasm everyone has. I look forward to these days every year.
- Finally I would just like to emphasize that decisions made by this board have always followed a consistent process. While the public is always welcome to comment during our public forum or contact the district via email, phone call or letter, the administration responsibilities of the district are left to the superintendent and his staff. The Board of Education's responsibilities lie in acting on recommendations made by the superintendent after the careful consideration and investigation into what is in the best interests of all the families in our district.

**Business Administrator's Report**

- Mr. Rosado reported that the preliminary budget will be sent to the County office for review and approval. State Aid was released today and received an additional \$227,494 of State Aid over the prior year. He will go into more detail during this meeting.

**Committee Reports**

- Policy & Governance: No report.

- Finance & Facilities: Mrs. Hanlon reported that it will be covered under the budget discussion. The committee has a signed Memorandum of Agreement with the WAA.
- Curriculum & Instruction: Mr. Miller reported the K-5 program will be updated for our students. The parents survey for the G&T program has been returned and will be responding after reviewing. They are looking forward to improving the G&T program to best fit the students needs. The Atlas program is growing and can be viewed on the website.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Opened: 8:27 p.m.

Closed: 9:09 p.m.

- Mrs. A. LaZaro, Fern Street, Westwood, is concerned about the Before and After Care program change. She would like the motion for Champions tabled. She would like the families to be part of the process.
- Mrs. D. Dineen, Westwood Blvd., Westwood, emailed the full Board praising the WYCA program. Her child adjusted well in the past three years. The parents write a check and would like to be part of the process.
- Mrs. A. DesRoches, Fourth Avenue, Westwood, is pleased with the WYCA and as a paying parent wants to know the details of Champions.
- Ms. H. Archuto, CEO, WYCA of Bergen County, she is grateful to the District to be able to serve the past 15 years. An enhance proposal was sent to Dr. Gonzalez after the last Board Meeting which he forwarded to the Board. She spoke about the WYCA highlights to their program and what they offer. She thanked the parents for their kind emails and she is proud of her staff. She would personally sit with Superintendent if this matter is still open for discussion.
- Ms. D. Pinto, Oak Street, Ridgewood, Brookside Teacher’s Aide and works for WYCA, spoke about the positive attributes of the WYCA and their well-rounded program. She has worked for the WYCA as a site supervisor for 13 years. One example is the Anti-Bullying program. She thanked the parents for their support.
- Mrs. C. Brown-O’Neill, Westwood Middle School teacher, spoke on the denial of her request to attend a Professional Development Program in India.
- Mr. M. McGregor, Fourth Avenue, Westwood, sent an email requesting information and documents about Before and After Care. Parents are looking for information on Champions program and why it is better than WYCA.
- Mrs. S. Krawczyk, Washington Avenue, Westwood, requested the number for incoming Kindergarten for the upcoming school year. She praised the WYCA. She was concerned that the front door at Brookside was open at 5:15 pm when she picked up and asked when other groups use the facility what measure of security is there.
- Mr. A. Gerstmayr, Kinderkamack Road, Westwood, requested the number of incoming Kindergarteners there will be next year. He had a question about when Berkeley 5th graders move up, what will the extra classroom be used for.
- Dr. Gonzalez stated that the current Kindergarten registration is at 196.

**PERSONNEL**

Mr. Liddy, seconded by Mrs. Hanlon, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approval be given to the following motions:

- that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approval be given for the appointment of Aides and salaries, not to exceed 28.5 hours per week, for the **2017-18** school year, pending criminal history and health examination clearance:

NAME	POSITION	BUILDING	RATE OF PAY	SOURCE OF FUNDS
1. Anita Briamonte	ABA Aide	Preschool	\$20.25 (up to 28.5 hrs)	11-000-217-106
2. Bryan Goble	1:1 Aide	Washington	\$15.25/hr. (up to 16.5 hrs)	11-000-217-106
3. Andrea Vallario	1:1 Aide	Washington	\$15.25/hr. (up to 11.5 hrs)	11-000-217-106

- that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approval be given for the appointment of the following substitute aide/substitute bus aide, at \$15.25 per hour, pending criminal history and health examination clearance:

Catherine Keefe
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- that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approval be given for additional sixth periods for the following staff for the **2017-18** school year:

NAME	POSITION	BUILDING	STIPEND
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Emilio Prisco	Language Arts Lab	Jr. Sr. High School	\$12,156.00 - to be prorated 02/09/18-06/30/18
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- that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approval be given for staff to attend out-of-district conferences for the **2017-2018** school year:

NAME/SCHOOL	CONFERENCE ATTENDING	CONFERENCE SPONSOR	DATES ATTENDING	COSTS NOT TO EXCEED
1. Peter DePeri/Jr. Sr. HS	AP Computer Science Conference	College Board	8/6/18-8/9/18	\$1,205.20
2. Jessica Gluck/Special Services	One Vision-Our Voice: Mindful Leadership	NJASA/NJAPSA	5/16/18-5/18/18	\$962.44
3. Jonathan Miller/Central Office	1st Area Security Council Meeting	NYPD Lower Manhattan Security Coordination Center	5/9/18	\$5.50
4. Jonathan Miller/Central Office	ASIS Security Conference and Expo	ASIS	5/16/18	\$25.00
5. Amanda Reber/Special Services	Advances in Applied Behavior Analysis Conference	Caldwell University	4/20/18	\$80.00
6. Amanda Reber/Special Services	Mental Health Issues in the Classroom: Practical Strategies for Helping Children Succeed	PESI	5/7/18	\$99.99
7. Ray Renshaw/Special Services	One Vision-Our Voice: Mindful Leadership	NJASA/NJAPSA	5/16/18-5/18/18	\$962.44
8. Danielle Sheridan/Special Services	Advances in Applied Behavior Analysis Conference	Caldwell University	4/20/18	\$100.00

BOARD POLLED AND MOTIONS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: 8-0

**CURRICULUM / PROGRAMS**

Mr. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Hanlon, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approval be given to the following motion:

- that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approval be given for the out-of-state field trips listed below:

Teacher(s)	Grade(s)	School	Date	Purpose	Destination	Out-of-pocket student cost
Jen Grochowski, James O'Connor	11-12	Jr./Sr. HS	4/13/18	Expose students to new experiences that increase interest and engagement in anatomy and human physiology. Students will answer inquiry-based questions on their experience.	Museum of Natural History, NYC	\$40

BOARD POLLED AND MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: 8-0

**FINANCE / FACILITIES**

Mrs. Hanlon, seconded by Mrs. Mandeville, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approval be given to the following motions:

- that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approval be given to the 2016-2017 Annual Audit Report in conjunction with the District Audit presentation on January 18, 2018.
- that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approval be given for the Ed-Data Bid #8521 titled Asbestos

Abatement and Removal for Academy Construction, Inc., Totowa, New Jersey for the Removal of TSI Pipe Insulation in Tunnel #2 and #7 at Westwood Regional Middle School, contract cost not to exceed \$110,000.

BOARD POLLED AND MOTIONS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: 8-0

Mrs. Hanlon, seconded by Mrs. Mandeville, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approval be given to the following motion:

- that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approval be given to the Agreement with KCE Champions, LLC for the purpose of providing Before and After Care program and the following Use of Facilities applications:

Organization	Purpose	Facility Requested	Date	Time	Cost
KCE Champions, LLC	Before and After Care	Berkeley School	2018 - 2019 School Year	7:00 AM - Start of School School Dismissal - 7:00 PM	Rental - \$2,000 annually
KCE Champions, LLC	Before and After Care	Brookside School	2018 - 2019 School Year	7:00 AM - Start of School School Dismissal - 7:00 PM	Rental - \$2,000 annually
KCE Champions, LLC	Before and After Care	George School	2018 - 2019 School Year	7:00 AM - Start of School School Dismissal - 7:00 PM	Rental - \$2,000 annually
KCE Champions, LLC	Before and After Care	Washington School	2018 - 2019 School Year	7:00 AM - Start of School School Dismissal - 7:00 PM	Rental - \$2,000 annually
KCE Champions, LLC	Before and After Care	Middle School	2018 - 2019 School Year	School Dismissal - 7:00 PM	Rental - \$2,000 annually

- The Board members request more time to review both documents in regards to WYCA and KCE Champions, LLC. The Board requested to table the motion until the March 29, 2018 meeting.

BOARD POLLED AND MOTION TO BE TABLED UNTIL MARCH 29, 2018 MEETING UNANIMOUSLY: 8-0

Mrs. Hanlon, seconded by Mrs. Mandeville, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approval be given to the following motions:

- that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approval be given to the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-A-10.3(b), a district can request use of banked cap only after it has fully exhausted all eligible statutory spending authority in the budget year;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the 2018-2019 school year budget includes allowable health care adjustments in the amount of \$276,204, in accordance with N.J.S.A 18A:7F-39(e); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the 2018-2019 school year budget includes banked cap, in the amount of \$361,565 in accordance with N.J.S.A 18A:7F-39(e) to fund district security related enhancements district wide; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Westwood Regional Board of Education, County of Bergen, approves the school district preliminary budget for the fiscal 2018-2019 school year for submission to the Executive County Superintendent as follows:

	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>LOCAL TAX LEVY</u>
General Fund	\$ 56,451,001	\$ 52,679,699
Special Revenue Fund	\$ 1,276,744	\$ -0-
Debt Service Fund	<u>\$ 17,328,650</u>	<u>\$ 1,182,146</u>
TOTAL BASE BUDGET	<u>\$ 75,056,395</u>	<u>\$ 53,861,845</u>

- that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approval be given to the Westwood Regional School District's participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) program for the 2018-2019 school year.

- that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following resolution be adopted:

**WHEREAS**, school district policy 6471 School District Travel and N.J.A.C. 18A:11-12(4)p provides that the Board of Education shall establish in the annual school budget a maximum expenditure amount that may be allotted for such travel and expense reimbursement for the 2018-2019 school year; and

**WHEREAS**, the Westwood Regional Board of Education established the school district travel maximum for the 2017-2018 school year at the sum of \$227,369; and

**WHEREAS**, the Westwood Regional Board of Education has appropriated through February 28, 2018 travel expenses of \$101,179 for the 2017-2018 school year.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Westwood Regional Board of Education hereby establishes the school district travel maximum for the 2018-2019 school year at the sum of \$199,400; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the School Business Administrator shall track and record these costs to ensure that the maximum amount is not exceeded.

- Dr. Gonzalez, Mr. Rosado and the Board discussed the budget and the utilization of budget waivers and bank cap.

BOARD POLLED AND MOTIONS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: 7 -0

New Business

- Dr. Gonzalez stated that the Before and Aftercare resolution will be on the March 29, 2018 Board meeting and asked the Board what other information they need to make a decision. He spoke on the differences of the two program in regards to both the fiscal impact and program comparisons. Some of the District Administrators had accompanied Dr. Gonzalez on a site visit to Paramus where Champions is currently running an after-care program. The Paramus Principals spoke highly of the Champions program. They also visited our own facility where YCWA was in progress.
- The Board discussed both the YWCA and Champions Before and Aftercare Programs. The board discussed pricing, State requirements and whether programs were recreational and/or academic. The Board responded that they would let Dr. Gonzalez know what else they may require to move forward to make a decision.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Blundo, seconded by Mr. Hanlon, that this meeting be adjourned.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: 7-0

Meeting adjourned at 11:17 p.m.

The preceding is a concise statement interpreted by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary and may not indicate the precise intent of the Board Members. The minutes of the meeting are taped and are available at the office of the Board Secretary for a period of thirty (30) days.

Respectfully submitted,

KEITH A. ROSADO  
BOARD SECRETARY



