

**SOUTH BRUNSWICK TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**P. O. Box 181**  
**Monmouth Junction, New Jersey**

**Minutes of the Board Meeting of January 9, 2017**

The South Brunswick Township Board of Education met on Monday, January 9, 2017 in the Auditorium at Crossroads North School. The meeting was chaired by Board Secretary/Business Administrator Thaddeus Thompson.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mr. Harry J Delgado, Dr. Stephen F. Parker, Mr. Martin Abschutz, Mrs. Azra Baig, Mr. Barry Nathanson, Mr. Deven M. Patel, Mr. Patrick Del Piano, Mr. Arthur Robinson and Mr. Peter St. Vincent

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**CALLED TO ORDER AND SALUTE FLAG** - Mr. Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and asked the audience to stand for the pledge of allegiance.

**STATEMENT OF ADVANCE NOTICE** - Mr. Thompson read a statement in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Mr. Thompson announced the following official election results from November 8, 2016:

Harry Delgado	8,037
Lisa Rodgers	7,218
Azra Baig	6,706
Anil Patel	5,637
Laszlo Nyitrai	4,303

At the November 21, 2016 board meeting, Dr. Parker announced Mrs. Rodgers was unable to fulfill her seat on the board. The board as per the guidelines of Policy 0143 sought a qualified candidate to fill the vacant seat for a one-year term. Candidates submitted letters of interest to the business administrator and were interviewed at a public meeting on December 15, 2016. After consideration of all of the candidates, the board selected Mr. Martin Abschutz.

Mr. Thompson asked for a motion for the nomination of Mr. Martin Abschutz to fill the vacant seat for a one-year term, there was a motion by Dr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Nathanson:

Yes: Dr. Stephen F. Parker, Mr. Barry Nathanson, Mr. Deven M. Patel, Mr. Patrick Del Piano, Mr. Arthur Robinson and Mr. Peter St. Vincent

No: None

Abstentions: None

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**ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE TO BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS -**

Mr. Thompson administered the oath of office to Board Members, Mr. Martin Abschutz, Mrs. Azra Baig and Mr. Harry J. Delgado.

**ELECTION OF PRESIDENT** - There was a motion by Mr. Nathanson, seconded by Mr. Patel to nominate Mr. Delgado as president:

Yes: Mr. Delgado, Dr. Stephen F. Parker, Mr. Martin Abschutz, Mrs. Azra Baig, Mr. Barry Nathanson, Mr. Deven M. Patel, Mr. Patrick Del Piano, Mr. Arthur Robinson and Mr. Peter St. Vincent

No: None

There were no other nominations and Mr. Delgado consented to having his name entered as board president.

There was a motion to close the nomination by Mr. Nathanson, seconded by Mr. Abschutz

Yes: Mr. Delgado, Dr. Stephen F. Parker, Mr. Martin Abschutz, Mrs. Azra Baig, Mr. Barry Nathanson, Mr. Deven M. Patel, Mr. Patrick Del Piano, Mr. Arthur Robinson and Mr. Peter St. Vincent

No: None

Mr. Delgado presided over the rest of the meeting.

**ELECTION OF VICE-PRESIDENT** - Mr. Delgado asked for motions for Vice-President. There was a motion by Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mrs. Baig to nominate Dr. Parker as Vice-President:

Yes: Mr. Harry J. Delgado, Dr. Stephen F. Parker, Mr. Martin Abschutz, Mrs. Azra Baig, Mr. Barry Nathanson, Mr. Deven M. Patel, Mr. Patrick Del Piano, Mr. Arthur Robinson and Mr. Peter St. Vincent

No: None

There were no other nominations.

There was a motion by Mr. St. Vincent, seconded by Mr. Robinson to close the reorganization meeting:

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### Regular Meeting of January 9, 2017

Mr. Delgado asked for a motion to approve the agenda for the January 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, there was a motion by Dr. Parker, seconded by Mrs. Baig:

Yes: Mr. Harry J. Delgado, Dr. Stephen F. Parker, Mr. Martin Abschutz, Mrs. Azra Baig, Mr. Barry Nathanson, Mr. Deven M. Patel, Mr. Patrick Del Piano, Mr. Arthur Robinson and Mr. Peter St. Vincent

No: None

### REPORT OF THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE - Sara Rubiano

Ms. Rubiano reported the following:

#### Guidance

- Counselors are in the process of starting registration for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and will be coming to Crossroads North and South to help these students learn more about the high school and the courses it offers. A meeting for 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents will take place at the high school.

#### Performing Arts

- *Madams Been Murdered, Tea Will Be Late* will be performed at the high school on January 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, and 21<sup>st</sup>. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$10.
- The Winter Guard will have their first competition on January 28<sup>th</sup> and they are prepared to start their season.

#### Athletics

- The Girls Track Team won GMC Relays on Sunday - for the 3<sup>rd</sup> straight year and Boys Track came in 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- In Bowling, Emily Alvarez bowled a perfect 300 game.
- Girls Basketball would like to recognize Amber Brown for scoring 1000 points throughout her high school career.
- Boys Basketball is 7-1 and they will be playing St. Joes at SBHS on Thursday at 6pm.
- The Dance Team's Viking Black Team took 1<sup>st</sup> place in Pom and Jazz at the North East championships. The Viking Gold Team took 1<sup>st</sup> place in Jazz and 2<sup>nd</sup> in Pom.

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- Girls and Boys Swim team beat Old Bridge last Thursday. Their senior night is this Friday at 3:30 at Dillon Pool.

### Activities

- The Prom Preview Fashion Show sponsored by Project Graduation will be held on Saturday, February 11, 2017 tickets will be available during lunch on Wednesday, January 11th, Thursday, January 12th and Friday, January 13th. Tickets in advance are \$8 and at the door \$10.
- The Blacklight Dance will be taking place on January 13th. Everyone is encouraged to come out for a night of dancing, prizes, and the opportunity to support Hugs for Brady.
- Time is running out to purchase the 2017 yearbook. If you would like to place an order, please visit [www.smart-pay.com](http://www.smart-pay.com) before January 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Amnesty International will be hosting an Art for Amnesty Competition where students will be able to exhibit their artistic skills through mediums such as poems or an actual painting.
- Junior Class is sponsoring a "Warm Wishes" fundraiser where they will be selling hot chocolate grams.
- The Sophomore Class will be having their class ring sale, more information is yet to come

### Student Spotlight

- One of our very own student council officers, Jenna Cohen, was nominated by a guidance counselor to serve as a national youth correspondent at the Washington Journalism and Media Conference held at George Mason University this summer. She will have the opportunity to interview guest speakers and further pursue her interest in media and journalism.

### **REPORT OF THE INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT** - Dr. Gary McCartney

Congratulations to the Mrs. Baig and Mr. Delgado on their re-election and Mr. Abschutz on his appointment. Dr. McCartney commended Dr. Parker on his leadership role during his tenure as President and he will continue his leadership role as Vice President.

The next Parent Academy entitled "Resistance to Change: Overcome It & Unlock Your Potential" will be held on January 10 at 7pm and is moved from Crossroads North to Crossroads South. Childcare will be provided for children over three years old and parents can register online at [www.sbschools.org](http://www.sbschools.org).

On January 16<sup>th</sup> schools will be closed in honor of Martin Luther King Day.

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Mrs. Bobbi Binder Vice President of the Education Foundation of South Brunswick reminded the community about the Foundation's upcoming event *Murder Mystery and Desert Show* on January 28 at Pierre's of South Brunswick from 7 pm to 11 pm. Tickets are \$35.00 and no guests allowed under 21.

### Superintendent Search Update

Dr. McCartney announced Tuesday and Thursday of this week and next week the board members and members of the community will engage in interviews for the new superintendent. The first round of interviews should be complete by January 19

### South Brunswick Reads 2017

Ms. Joanne Kerekes, Assistant Superintendent gave a brief presentation on this year's book selection *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*. She also discussed the partnership with the South Brunswick Pubic Library and Director Mr. Chris Carbone over the past seven years since the inception of South Brunswick Reads in 2011. Ms. Kerekes also thanked the librarians for all their help in selecting the books.

### PRESENTATION - Financial Audit Report - 2015 - 2016 School Year

Mr. Warren Korecky, of Suplee, Clooney & Company reviewed the District's Financial Audit Report for the year ending 2016. Mr. Korecky announced there are no recommendations to report all records audited were supported with documentation. Mr. Korecky thanked Dr. McCartney and Mr. Thompson for their support.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS -

Ms. Lois Jones of Deans congratulated Mr. Abschutz on his appointment. She asked about exit interviews moving forward and who would conduct them.

Dr. McCartney responded that there is a plan created and should be in place by the end of the school year and exit interviews would be conducted by the immediate supervisor.

Ms. Christine Romanack of Monmouth Junction asked about a lead testing update for Crossroads North.

### BOARD COMMITTEES -

Mr. Patel reported on the Homework Committee meeting held earlier in the evening with students, parents and teachers in attendance.

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Mrs. Baig announced the South Brunswick Commission on Women is currently accepting applications for scholarships. Applications are available at the South Brunswick Public Library and the South Brunswick High School SPS office and due by 2:30 pm on February 3, 2017.

### LEAD TESTING UPDATE

Mr. Thompson gave an update on the lead testing at South Brunswick High School, Crossroads North and Crossroads South schools:

- South Brunswick High School is completed – no negative results.

Of the forty three (43) samples taken at Crossroads North Middle School all but three tested below the lead action level established by the US Environmental Protection Agency and the following remedial action was taken:

- two kitchen sinks and kitchen spray hose not being used have been signed.

Of the thirty two (32) samples taken at Crossroads South Middle School all but three tested below the lead action level established by the US Environmental Protection Agency and the following remedial action was taken:

- Sink in trailer – not being used has been signed.
- Snack Shack and drinking fountain room F102 – immediately taken out of service.

All buildings (including BHL and B&G) have plumbing profiles. This Saturday January 14, 4 – 5 elementary schools are on deck to be tested. All testing will be done well before the June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline.

Dr. McCartney announced that the district will keep reporting the findings and be proactive to ensure the health and safety of the children and staff.

APPROVE ACTION ITEMS – There was a motion by Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Delgado to approve the Action Items of January 9, 2017:

### A. APPROVAL - CONSENT AGENDA – January 9, 2017

#### 1 BUSINESS/BOARD

Administration recommends that the following items be approved:

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**1.1 Approval of Expenditures** - That the warrant list dated January 9, 2017 as certified by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary be approved. It is further certified that there are no overexpenditures in the major accounts: Current Expense, Capital Outlay and Debt Service and that the monthly Financial Status Report indicates that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the 2016 – 2017 fiscal year (N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13).

<b>Warrants dated:</b>	<b>January 9, 2017</b>	<b>A. \$3,179,080.97</b>
		<b>B. <u>          \$28.50</u></b>
	<b>Total approved for payment</b>	<b><u>\$3,179,109.47</u></b>

**1.2 Approve Increase in Not-To-Exceed Amounts for Professional Contracted Services** – That the Board of Education approve an increase in the previously approved Not-to-Exceed amount for Cross County Clinical, LLC for Bilingual Child Study Evaluations from \$7,425.00 (approved on August 29, 2016) to \$14,850.00 for the 2016 – 2017 school year.

**1.3 Approve Settlement Agreement and General Release** – That the Board of Education approve the attached settlement agreement and general release between M.G., individually and on behalf of her child, S.G.

**1.4 Approve Acceptance of Funds** – That the Board of Education accept the following funds:

A. from the New Jersey department of Education for the 2016 – 2017 school year:

- Chapters 192/193 for Initial Exam & Classification                      \$1,260.00

B. from the Education Foundation of South Brunswick, Inc. in the amount of \$9,994.78 for the 2016 – 2017 school year grant awards.

**1.5 Approve Lease Purchase Authorization** – That the Board of Education approve the Hunterdon County ESC NJ State Approved Cooperative Pricing System #34HUNCCP to seek competitive Lease Purchase Financing for the procurement of five (5) Thomas Built 54 passenger school buses utilizing a Cooperative Pricing System Bid Award.

**1.6 Record and Award RFP's** –

A. That RFP 16-06, Community Education Summer Enrichment and Parent Academy, opened on December 20, 2016 be recorded as per the following:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Total Price</u>
AlphaBEST Education	Summer Stem Related Enrichment	

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Lewisville, NC	- 2 weeks	\$290.00
Fun 2 Learn Academy, Inc. dba Engineering for Kids Monmouth Junction, NJ	Summer Stem Related Enrichment - 30 hours	\$270.00
IncrediFlix Costa Mesa, CA	Summer Non-Stem Related Enrichment - 2 weeks	\$290.00
Innovations in Online Education Sparta, NJ	Summer Non-Stem Related Enrichment - 60 hours - 30 hours	\$300.00 \$175.00
Kidzart Atlantic Highlands, NJ	Summer Non-Stem Related Enrichment School Year Parent Workshops	\$150.00 \$30.00
Mad Science of West, NJ Pennington, NJ	Summer Stem Related Enrichment	\$304.00
Robokidz, LLC (Bricks 4 of South Bruns./Hillsborough)	Summer Stem Enrichment Grades K-5 Grades 6-8	\$240.00 \$280.00

**That RFP 16-06, Community Education Summer Enrichment and Parent Academy, opened on December 20, 2016 be awarded as per the following:**

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Total Price</u>
AlphaBEST Education Lewisville, NC	Summer Stem Related Enrichment - 2 weeks	\$290.00
Fun 2 Learn Academy, Inc. dba Engineering for Kids Monmouth Junction, NJ	Summer Stem Related Enrichment - 30 hours	\$270.00
IncrediFlix Costa Mesa, CA	Summer Non-Stem Related Enrichment - 2 weeks	\$290.00
Innovations in Online Education Sparta, NJ	Summer Non-Stem Related Enrichment - 60 hours - 30 hours	\$300.00 \$175.00



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Kidzart	Summer Non-Stem Related Enrichment	\$150.00
Atlantic Highlands, NJ	School Year Parent Workshops	\$30.00
Mad Science of West, NJ	Summer Stem Related Enrichment	\$304.00
Pennington, NJ		
Robokidz, LLC (Bricks 4 of South Bruns./Hillsborough)	Summer Stem Enrichment Grades K-5	\$240.00
	Grades 6-8	\$280.00

**B. That the RFP - 16-04 for Financial Database Management, opened on November 10, 2016 be recorded as per the following:**

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Installation</u>	<u>Annual Service</u>
Computer Solutions Inc. Branchburg, NJ	\$97,700.00	\$23,784.00
Genesis Educational Services Jamesburg, NJ	\$150,000.00	\$30,000.00
Systems 3000 Inc. Eatontown, NJ	\$92,950.00	\$51,064.00
Weidenhammer Systems Corp Wyomissing, PA	\$65,762.00	\$81,500.00

**That the RFP - 16-04 for Financial Database Management, opened on November 10, 2016 be awarded as per the following:**

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Installation</u>	<u>Annual Service</u>
Genesis Educational Services Jamesburg, NJ	\$150,000.00	\$30,000.00

**1.7 Record and Award Bids** -- That the Bids for 2016-16, Spring Athletic and School Related trip Transportation opened on January 4, 2017 be recorded as per the following:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>No. of Trips</u>	<u>Total Price</u>
Stout's Charter Service Trenton, NJ		93	\$134,685.00
	Canc. Fee w/24 hr. notice		\$0.00
	Canc. Fee w/out 24 notice		\$250.00

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Suburban Trails, Inc.		71	\$165,080.00
New Brunswick, NJ	Canc. Fee day of trip		\$200.00

**That the Bids for 2016-16, Spring Athletic and School Related trip Transportation opened on January 4, 2017 be awarded as per the following:**

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>No. of Trips</u>	<u>Total Price</u>
Stout's Charter Service		29	\$30,500.00
Trenton, NJ	Canc. Fee w/24 hr. notice		\$0.00
	Canc. Fee w/out 24 notice		\$250.00
Suburban Trails, Inc.		71	\$165,080.00
New Brunswick, NJ	Canc. Fee day of trip		\$200.00

**1.8 Approve Student Field Trip Destinations** – That the Board of Education approve the student field trip destinations as per the attached for the 2016 – 2017 school year.

**1.9 Approve Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Report** – That the Board of Education approve the determinations and recommendations submitted by the Superintendent, through the date of this meeting, regarding the disciplinary consequences and/or remedial actions as required by the State of New Jersey under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights.

**1.10 Approve Resolution for Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement** –

**WHEREAS**, the South Brunswick 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:23B-1.1 et seq. requires Board members to receive prior 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 as described in NJOMB Circular Letter 06-02, including amendments or revisions thereto, a threshold amount below which Board approval is not required; and

**WHEREAS**, travel and related expenses not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq., but deemed by the Board of Education to be necessary and unavoidable are excluded from the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq.; and

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**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq. as being necessary and unavoidable as per noted on the attached Board of Education Approval of Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement Form; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Board of Education approves the travel and related expense reimbursements as listed on the attached Board of Education Approval of Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement Form.

**1.11 Approve Settlement & General Release** -- That the Board of Education approve the attached Settlement Agreement and General Release between A.R. and the South Brunswick Board of Education.

Yes: Mr. Harry J. Delgado, Dr. Stephen F. Parker, Mr. Martin Abschutz, Mrs. Azra Baig, Mr. Barry Nathanson, Mr. Deven M. Patel, Mr. Patrick Del Piano, Mr. Arthur Robinson and Mr. Peter St. Vincent

No: None

Abstentions:

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** - None

**BOARD COMMENTS /COMMUNICATIONS** -

Mr. Nathanson commented on his sweater he was wearing due to his weight loss. He congratulated the newly sworn in board members.

Mrs. Baig expressed her appreciation on being re-elected. She also thanked god, her family and the community. She announced she is honored and humbled and will work hard to advocate for the students. Congratulations to Mr. Delgado and Mr. Abschutz.

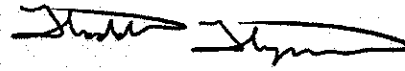
Mr. Abschutz thanked everyone and commented on his abstentions earlier in the evening, noting that he was reimbursed for fingerprinting, he also commented that he has his chromebook at meetings to review the agenda items which the board received paperless.

Mr. Delgado also congratulated Mr. Abschutz and Mrs. Baig and expressed his appreciation to all members of the board for their confidence in him.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN** - There was a motion by Mrs. Baig, seconded by Dr. Parker to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 pm.

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thaddeus Thompson', written in a cursive style.

Thaddeus Thompson  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary