

**WATCHUNG HILLS REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MONDAY, JULY 20, 2009  
7:00 P.M.**

**REVISED**

**I. CONVENE**

**A. Public Notice**

This is the Board of Education Regular Business Meeting for which adequate notice under the Open Public Meetings Law was provided by written notice on May 5, 2009, to the Courier-News, the Echoes Sentinel, the Reporter, the Star Ledger, and the Clerks of the Borough of Watchung and the Townships of Long Hill and Warren.

**B. Roll Call**

**C. Pledge of Allegiance**

**II. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

- A. Superintendent's Comments** *Dr. Frances C. Stromsland*
- B. Board President's Comments** *Dr. Paul Seelig*
- C. Business Administrator's Comments** *Mr. Timothy M. Stys*
- D. Aaron Flanzbaum Democratic Heritage Award** *Ms. Jamie Lott-Jones*
- E. Committee Reports** *Committee Chairpersons*  
\*Finance & Operations  
Personnel  
Negotiations  
\*Buildings & Grounds  
Curriculum  
Co-Curricular  
Policy & Regulation Review  
\*Community/Business Relations  
Representative Reports  
Principal's Report *Dr. Thomas DiGanci*

**III. FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

**NOTE: The first public comment period will be limited to agenda items for the July 20, 2009 meeting only. The second public comment period will be open to any topic. All comments are limited to five minutes.**

**IV. BOARD DISCUSSION**

- **2009/2010 Revised Board Meeting Schedule**

**V. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. ADMINISTRATION**

**THE SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDS THAT IT BE:**

**A1** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the minutes of June 1, 15, 22 and 29, 2009.

**A2** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the following policy for first reading: **AA**

7510	Facilities Use
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**A3** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the following policies for second reading: **AB**

6423	Expenditures for Non-Employee Activities, Meals and Refreshments
6830	Audit and Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (M)

**A4** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves student #127075 to receive bedside instruction from UMDNJ, effective June 6, 2009 through June 12, 2009 at a cost of \$55.00 per hour, 10 hours per week, for a total cost not to exceed \$550.00 (10 hrs. x \$55.00).

**A5** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves student #2294 to attend Hunterdon County Polytech for the 2009/2010 school year at a tuition rate of \$6,300.00. Transportation to be provided by Watchung Hills Regional High School using the lowest cost alternative.

**A6** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves student #2347 to attend Montgomery Academy for the 2009/2010 school year at a tuition rate of \$46,110.60. Transportation to be provided by Watchung Hills Regional High School using the lowest cost alternative.

**A7** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves out of district student #2260 to attend Watchung Hills Regional High School's Learning and Language Disabilities 2009 Extended School Year Program, effective July 6, 2009 through August 14, 2009 at a tuition rate of \$5,145.00. Transportation to be provided by the New Providence Public Schools.

- A8** RESOLVED, the Board of Education rescinds the May 18, 2009 approval of the following 2009/2010 school year out of district placements and tuitions:

<u>Student #</u>	<u>Placement</u>	<u>Tuition</u>
136145-G	Morris County School of Tech.	\$11,267.00
2316	The Newmark School	\$46,971.00
2404	Calais School	\$44,010.00
2211	Somerset Alternative High School	\$38,790.00

Three students will attend in district programs at WHRHS rather than utilizing out of district programs. The student intended for the Somerset Alternative High School Program graduated and exited the program June, 2009.

- A9** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves student #2406 to receive additional occupational therapy services from Therapeutic Rehabilitative Services at the Midland School for the 2009 extended school year and the 2009/2010 school year. The student will receive one 20 minute session and one 40 minute session per week at a rate of \$34.00 per 20 minute session and \$68.00 per 40 minute session during the extended school year. The rates for the 2009/2010 school year are \$36.00 per 20 minute session and \$72.00 per 40 minute session. The total cost for these services will not exceed \$5,148.00.
- A10** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves student #2425 to attend the Lakeview School of Edison for the 2009 extended school year effective July 9, 2009 at a tuition rate of \$9,615.50 and for the 2009/2010 school year at a tuition rate of \$69,231.60, for a total tuition not to exceed \$78,847.10. Transportation to be provided by Watchung Hills Regional High School using the lowest cost alternative.

**B. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

**C. PERSONNEL**

**THE SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDS THAT IT BE:**

- C1** RESOLVED, the Board of Education accepts with regret the resignation of Amanda Peers, Teacher of Physics, effective June 30, 2009.
- C2** RESOLVED, the Board of Education accepts with regret the resignation of Mr. Michael Waluk, Vice-Principal, effective date to be determined.
- C3** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the following staff members to remediate and grade the Performance Assessment Tasks in the SRA process for student #108845 (homebound student) for a total of four hours each at a rate of \$35.00 per hour. SRA Remediation is for one (1) student and Scoring/Grading is for 66 students in Math.

Alexis McGowan – grader	4 hours x 35 = \$140
Chrissie Parziale – grader	4 hours x 35 = \$140

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Laurie Shoemaker – instructor 4 hours x 35 = \$140

- C4** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves Sophia Gershman for an adjustment on the Teacher's Guide from MA+60 Step 18 (\$97,200) to PhD Step 18 (\$99,020) for reasons of degree advancement in accordance with Article XI of the Teacher's Contract, effective and retroactive to February 1, 2009.
- C5** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Sophia Gershman, Teacher of Science, at step 18 of the PhD guide for the 2009/2010 school year at an annual salary of \$101,010.
- C6** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Carin Sankus for an additional 0.40 teaching schedule in the Fine and Performing Arts Department for the 2009/2010 school year making her a full-time, second year tenure track Teacher of Art. She will be placed on the salary guide at BA/Step 2, for an annual salary of \$49,929.
- C7** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Anita Falvo as the first year, tenure track History/Social Studies Department Supervisor for the 2009/2010 school year. Ms. Falvo shall be placed on the Supervisors' Guide in the PSA Contract at MA+60/Step 1, for an annual salary of \$102,940.
- C8** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Gregory Krueger as a first year, tenure-track Teacher of Social Studies for the 2009/2010 school year. Mr. Krueger shall be placed on the salary guide at BA/Step 2, for an annual salary of \$49,929. **CA**
- C9** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Christine Taylor as a first year, tenure track Teacher of English for the 2009/2010 school year. Ms. Taylor shall be placed on the salary guide MA/Step 8, for an annual salary of \$60,696. **CB**
- C10** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Shupin Taihsu (Sue Tai) as a 0.20 part-time first year, tenure track Teacher of Chinese for the 2009/2010 school year. Ms. Tai shall receive a pro-rated salary on the BA+15/Step 1 salary guide, for an annual salary of \$10,162 (i.e., \$50,810 X 0.20). **CC**
- C11** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Elizabeth Eibling as a first year, tenure track Teacher of Physics for the 2009/2010 school year. Ms. Eibling shall be placed on the MA/Step 1 salary guide, for an annual salary of \$52,700. **CD**
- C12** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Sean Canada as an Instructional Aide for the 2009/2010 school year. Mr. Canada shall be placed on Step 4 of the Salary Guide, for an annual salary of \$36,694. **CE**

- C13** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Rosanne Klink as a long-term substitute teacher in the Special Services Department at per diem rate of \$110.00 pending receipt of her State certification. **CF**
- C14** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Brittany Notari as a leave replacement Special Education Teacher during leave of absence of Ms. Tara Aldrich. Ms. Notari shall be paid at a per diem rate of \$110.00 with no other benefits. Ms. Notari's period of service is anticipated to be from September 8, 2009 through January 3, 2010 according to Ms. Aldrich's return. **CG**
- C15** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Michael Gillen, Jeffery Frank, and Tiffany North as substitute teachers for the 2009/2010 school year. **CH**
- C16** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the appointment of student, Brandon Lee as a mail clerk at an hourly rate of \$7.25 for a total of ten (10) hours per week for the 2009/2010 school year, commencing July 1, 2009.
- C17** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves Gail Condon as a home instructor for Science for the 2008/2009 school year at a rate of \$35.00 per hour. Ms. Condon will be compensated for seven (7) hours of instruction provided to a homebound WHRHS student for a total cost not to exceed \$245.00.
- C18** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Tiffany North as the Head Coach of Gymnastics for the 2009/2010 school year. Ms. North shall be compensated at the rate of \$5,460 (14 units X \$390 per unit).
- C19** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the following Buildings & Grounds staff members for a salary stipend of \$500.00 for the 2009/2010 school year based on their holding a current Black Seal License: Glen Braxton, Kristian Byk, Steven Cannon, Steven Davies, Mark Koehler, James Lyons, Michael Pisani, Gregory Ross, Christopher Scherer, Alan Speziale, Russell Teller, and Richard Trimmer.
- C20** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the following staff members for a salary stipend of \$200.00 for the 2009/2010 school year based on the Night Shift Differential: James Lyons and Alan Speziale.

**D. FINANCE**

**THE SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDS THAT IT BE:**

- D1** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves payment of the following checks for the month of June:

Fund 10	General Fund – checks	\$3,372,045.31
Fund 20	Special Revenue Fund	\$54,372.67
Fund 30	Capital Projects Fund	\$455,279.69
Fund 40	Debt Service Fund	\$0.00
	Total	\$3,881,697.67

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AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a complete list of these bills be attached to and made part of this resolution.

**D2** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the list of bills for the month of June, 2009 in the amount of \$33,996.82 from the Cafeteria Account as per the attached list. **DA**

**D3** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the list of bills for the month of June, 2009 in the amount of \$12,566.63 from the Adult School Account as per the attached list. **DB**

**D4** RESOLVED, that the Board of Education cancels the following outstanding checks issued through TD Bank in the Current Operating Account written from June 29, 2007 through February 29, 2008 on the recommendation of the Treasurer of School Moneys totaling \$2,872.50.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Amount</u>
6/29/07	78038	\$826.00	11/30/07	79349	\$100.00
6/29/07	78253	\$413.00	2/29/08	80101	\$419.50
9/25/07	78955	\$245.00	2/29/08	80231	\$859.00

**D5** RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorize the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to void the following outstanding checks from the Adult School account as recommended by the Adult School Supervisor:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Amount</u>
3/18/08	2477	\$50.00
5/2/08	2551	\$45.00

**D6** RESOLVED, the Board of Education accepts Non-Public Entitlement Aid for the 2009/2010 school year as follows:

Non Public Nursing	\$29,259.00
Non Public Textbook Program	\$24,673.00

**D7** RESOLVED, the Board of Education accepts the 2008/2009 Extraordinary Aid Allocation of \$177,364 based on their application submitted in March 2009. (The budgeted revenue amount for 2008/2009 was \$152,087).

**D8** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves travel related reimbursement and attendance to various seminars and workshops for the 2009/2010 school years as per the attached. **DC**

**D9** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves an Inter-Local Transportation Agreement between WHRHS and Middlesex County Educational Services Commission for coordinated transportation services for special education, non-public and vocational students from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010. Transportation will be provided on an as needed basis with an administrative fee of 4%.

**D10** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves a joint transportation agreement between Watchung Hills Regional High School District Board of Education and Green Brook Township Board of Education to transport one (1) student to/from Lakeview School, Edison, for the 2009/2010 Extended School year, effective July 1, 2009 through August 12, 2009, in the amount not to exceed \$1,904.00. Watchung Hills Regional High School Board of Education will pay the full cost of transportation.

**D11** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves a joint transportation agreement between the Watchung Hills Regional High School District and Watchung Borough Board of Education, effective September 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010, in the amount of \$143,100.97. Watchung Borough Board of Education will pay the full cost of transportation.

**D12** RESOLVED, the Board of Education renews the transportation contract with Dealaman Enterprises, Inc., for transportation to/from Watchung Hills Regional High School for the 2009/2010 school year at the CPI increase of 3.34% and a total cost of \$262,166.95 as per the attached.

**DD**

**D13** RESOLVED, the Board of Education renews the transportation contract with Fred Dealaman Bus Service, LTD for transportation to/from Watchung Hills Regional High School for the 2009/2010 school year at a CPI increase of 3.34% and a total cost of \$362,555.28 as per the attached.

**DE**

**D14** RESOLVED, the Board of Education accepts the bids received for school supplies for the 2009/2010 school year and awards the bid to the lowest responsible bidders as per the attached.

**DF**

**D15** RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorize a revision to the 2008/2009 Lease/Purchase agreement with TD Equipment Finance (Agreement number 40048064) to purchase the following additional items:

Cisco 4400 Controller – Networking Equipment	\$50,402.50
14 Cafeteria Tables (12 Seat)	\$19,692.96

**D16** RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve purchases with the vendors listed below using State Contract pricing in accordance with NJSA 18A:18A-10:

Vendor	State Contract #	Service/Supply	Amount
Dyntek	AR-233/73979	4400 Series WLAN Controller and Cisco Secure ACS	\$50,402.50
Dell Computer Corp.	N326AAH	120 Mini Latitude Laptop Computers	\$57,454.80
Dell Computer Corp.	N326AAH	70 Latitude Laptop Computers	\$67,410.00

Dell Computer Corp.	N326AAH	15 Opti 360 Celeron Desktop Computers	\$ 6,342.30
Nickerson NJ, Inc.	A67824	14 – 12 Seat Cafeteria Tables	\$19,692.96
Apple Inc.	A70259	174 MacBooks	\$193,560.81
<u>Dell Computer Corp.</u>	<u>N326AAH</u>	<u>One Year Extended Service Agreement</u>	<u>\$32,926.61</u>

**D17 Letter Agreement with Torcon Construction and Nickerson Corporation**

WHEREAS, the Nickerson Corporation (Nickerson) served as a subcontractor to Torcon, Inc. for the Additions and Alterations construction project at the high school (hereinafter referred to as the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, Nickerson claims a contract balance due from Torcon, Inc. and/or the Watchung Hills Regional Board of Education in the amount of \$3,658.50 (hereinafter referred to as the “Contract Balance”), which represents Nickerson’s retainage for services allegedly rendered by Nickerson in connection with the Project through a subcontract agreement with Torcon, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, there also remains to be corrected certain unsatisfactory or non-conforming work performed on the Project by Nickerson related to the student lockers; and

WHEREAS, Nickerson agrees to return to the Project to complete and/or correct the necessary work to the student lockers; and

WHEREAS, with the consent of Torcon, the Board agrees to pay the amount of \$3,658.50 directly to Nickerson in exchange for Nickerson completing the necessary work to the student lockers; and

WHEREAS, upon completion of the necessary work to the student lockers, Nickerson agrees to accept the \$3,658.50 as payment in full settlement, accord, and satisfaction of all claims, demands, rights, and liens that it has, may have or may ever have against Torcon and the Board related to its subcontract; and

WHEREAS, the Board agrees to release any and all causes of action, suits, damages and claims that it has, may have or may ever have against Torcon relating to the student lockers only; however, the Board expressly retains all potential claims against Nickerson related to the student lockers; and

WHEREAS, Torcon agrees to reduce its contract claim against the Board by the sum of \$3,658.50 and agrees to release any and all causes of action, suits, damages and claims that it has, may have or may ever have against the Board relating in any way to the student lockers; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding anything to the contrary, the Board and Torcon expressly retain the right of contribution and indemnification against each other in response to any timely filed third-party claims for personal injury or property damage.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Watchung Hills Regional High School Board of Education authorizes the Board President and School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to execute a Letter Agreement with Torcon and Nickerson, upon the advice and counsel of the Board's Construction Attorney and School Architect, memorializing the foregoing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Watchung Hills Regional High School Board of Education authorizes payment to Nickerson of \$3,658.50 following completion by Nickerson of the necessary work to the student lockers and upon certification by the School Architect the work is complete and satisfactory.

**D18 Resolution to Supplement Budgeted Travel Expenses**

WHEREAS, the Watchung Hills Regional High School Board of Education adopted its FY2009/10 budget and included, as required by NJAC 6A:23A – 7.3, a maximum travel expenditure for board members and district employees, and

WHEREAS, the maximum amount adopted included all local, state and federal funds, and

WHEREAS, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) will provide additional federal funding which may be used for staff training and development, and

WHEREAS,, these funds were not expected or anticipated when the district adopted its maximum travel expenditures for the FY 2009/10 school year, and

WHEREAS, school districts have been given the authority to amend their adopted maximum travel expenditures by the Department of Education for the purpose of using additional ARRA funds to support professional development activities for the 2009/10 school year,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Watchung Hills Regional High School Board of Education hereby approves a supplemental travel budget for ARRA Funds in the amount of \$19,000 which will support the improvement and development of professional and curricular activities during the FY2009/2010 school year.

**VI. OTHER BUSINESS**

**VII. SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

**VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

In accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, be it hereby resolved that the Board move into closed session to discuss confidential personnel and/or legal matters governed by attorney-client privilege, after which action may be taken. It is expected that the matters discussed in closed session will be made public as soon as the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**