

**NORTHERN HIGHLANDS REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Workshop Meeting**

**April 13, 2015**

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**AGENDA**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:** The Board President will call the meeting to order.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT:**

The Board Secretary will read the following: The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies, at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Secretary has transmitted notice of this meeting by having the date, time and place sent to the North Jersey Media Group (Ridgewood News, The Record), the Boroughs of Allendale and Upper Saddle River and published on January 9, 2015 in the Ridgewood News and The Record and posted in the Board of Education Office at Northern Highlands Regional High School. Our agenda allows two opportunities for public comments; at the beginning of the meeting for agenda items only and at the conclusion of our meeting for general comments. We ask members of the public to state their name and address and limit their comments to a three to five minute time period.

**3. ROLL CALL**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
Mrs. Barbara Garand		
Mrs. Anne Goddard		
Dr. Robert Hands		
Mr. James Mulanaphy		
Mrs. Ann Pagano		
Mrs. Gail Trumbetti		
Ms. Ellen Marie Walsh		
Mrs. Lisa Jill Webb		
Mr. Robert C. Wei		
Dr. Sheila Yallowitz		
Mr. Henry Senger (Saddle River Liaison)		
Julia Corrison (Student Representative)		
Josh Greenberg (Student Representative)		
Mr. John J. Petrelli, Interim Superintendent		
Mr. James Davis, Business Administrator/Board Secretary		

**4. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** that the Northern Highlands Regional High School Board of Education shall go into executive session for the purposes of discussing:

- Personnel – non-tenured staff

The minutes of this executive session will be released when the need for confidentiality no longer exists. There are some topics (such as student matters) for which the need for confidentiality may never cease to exist.

\_\_\_\_\_ moved, and \_\_\_\_\_ seconded that the Board move into executive session.

TIME: All in Favor: \_\_\_\_\_ Opposed: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ moved, and \_\_\_\_\_ seconded that the Board moves into public session.

TIME: All in Favor: \_\_\_\_\_ Opposed: \_\_\_\_\_

## 5. APPOINTMENT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

\_\_\_\_\_ moved, and \_\_\_\_\_ seconded:

RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Dr. Scot Beckerman as Superintendent of Schools for 2015- 2020, per the attached contract, effective July 1, 2015.

Roll Call:

## 6. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

## 7. COMMITTEE & LIAISON REPORTS

## 8. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

## 9. ACTION ITEMS FOR Business Agenda for April 13, 2015, BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING:

\_\_\_\_\_ moved, and \_\_\_\_\_ seconded:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education approves/accepts the following business item(s) **B-1** through **B-8** in accordance with NJSA 18A and NJAC Title 6, et. sec., including NJAC 6A:23-2.11 reporting no over-expenditure of funds and upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent and Business Administrator:

- B-1.** Approval of current bills list (check register) from March 18, 2015 through April 7, 2015, per attachment.
- B-2.** Approval of minutes for the following March 9 and March 23, 2015 meetings and executive sessions, per attachments:
- B-3.** *Approval of the following staff travel (accommodations note room rate only; occupancy taxes & Fees associated therein and other costs on trips presently unknown, meals for overnight trips and Mileage, tolls, parking will be reimbursed in accordance with policy and law).*
- Who: Caryn Schanstine, Carly Orden, Marcie Schlanger  
 What: AMTNJ Technology & Mathematics Conference  
 Where: Fair Lawn High School, NJ  
 When: Saturday, April 18, 2015  
 Costs: Registration: \$80 each, total \$240  
 Mileage: as per NJ OMB Guidelines

Who: Jessica Verdicchio  
What: IEP Meetings  
Where: Boston, MA  
When: Thursday April 2 – Friday, April 3, 2015  
Costs: Hotel: Crowne Plaza - \$101 including hotel tax  
Mileage: as per NJ OMB Guidelines

Who: Ann Karpinecz  
What: School Law for Administrative Assistants  
Where: MUJC, New Providence, NJ  
When: Wednesday, April 22, 2015  
Costs: Registration: \$100  
Mileage: as per NJ OMB Guidelines

Who: Kelly Peterfriend  
What: NACAC Conference & College Tours  
Where: Los Angeles and San Diego, CA  
When: Monday, September 28 – Saturday, October 3, 2015  
Costs: Registration: \$260  
Airfare: Approx. \$550 round trip  
Hotel: \$276 inc. tax for 4 nights totaling approx. \$1,104  
Rental car: \$168 for 2 days, driving from LA to SD  
Mileage: as per NJ OMB Guidelines

Who: Matthew Krzysik  
What: Share the Keys Facilitator Training  
Where: Morris County Public Safety Academy, Parsippany, NJ  
When: Friday, May 8, 2015  
Costs: Registration: no cost  
Mileage: as per NJ OMB Guidelines

Who: Jennifer Ferentz  
What: NJACAC Annual Conference  
Where: Atlantic City, NJ  
When: Monday, June 1 - Tuesday, June 2, 2015  
Costs: Registration: \$225  
Hotel: \$94 (DOE waiver granted)  
Mileage: as per NJ OMB Guidelines

- B-4.** Approval of settlement agreement for placement of a student (ID 5371) per attachment:
- B-5.** The Northern Highlands Regional High School Board of Education approves the submission of Room 100 HVAC upgrade project at the Northern Highlands High School (**State Project #3700-050-15-1000**) by LAN Associates to the State of New Jersey, Department of Education. The Board will not be seeking an SDA Grant for this project as part of the submission. This project is not in the current Long Range Facility Plan and the plan needs to be amended.
- B-6.** The Northern Highlands Regional High School Board of Education approves the submission a project application including repairs to exterior wall panels at the Northern Highlands High

School (**State Project #3700-050-15-2000**) by LAN Associates to the State of New Jersey, Department of Education. The Board will not be seeking an SDA Grant for this project as part of the submission. This project is not in the current Long Range Facility Plan and the plan needs to be amended.

- B-7.** The Northern Highlands Regional High School Board of Education approves the submission a project application including additional electrical panels at the Northern Highlands High School (**State Project #3700-050-15-3000**) by LAN Associates to the State of New Jersey, Department of Education. The Board will not be seeking an SDA Grant for this project as part of the submission. This project is not in the current Long Range Facility Plan and the plan needs to be amended.
- B-8.** The Northern Highlands Regional High School Board of Education approves the submission of a project that includes a new emergency generator for the boilers at the science wing at the Northern Highlands High School (**State Project #3700-050-15-4000**) by LAN Associates to the State of New Jersey, Department of Education. The Board will not be seeking an SDA Grant for this project as part of the submission. This project is not in the current Long Range Facility Plan and the plan needs to be amended.

Roll Call:

**10. ACTION ITEMS FOR the Education Agenda for April 13, 2015 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING:**

\_\_\_\_\_ moved and \_\_\_\_\_ seconded:

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Education approve/accept the following Education items, **E-1** through **E-15**, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, effective immediately following the completion of required certification and documentation:

- E-1.** Accept and affirm the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying investigation report, per attachment.
- E-2.** Approve the second reading of the following Board of Education Policies, Regulations and By-Laws:
1. Policy / By-Laws 0000  
0110, 0120, 0131, 0132, 0133, 0134, 0135, 0141.2, 0142, 0142.1, 0143, 0143.2, 0144, 0144.1, 0145, 0146, 0148, 0151, 0152, 0153, 0154, 0155, 0157, 0161, 0162, 0163, 0164, 0165, 0166, 0167, 0168, 0169, 0171, 0172, 0173, 0174, 0175, 0177, 0210, 0230
  2. Policy / Administration 1000  
1100, 1110, 1120, 1140, 1210, 1220, 1230, 1240, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1400, 1510, 1523, 1530, 1540, 1550, 1570, 1581, 1620, 1631
  3. Policy / Program 2000  
2110, 2132, 2200, 2201, 2210, 2220, 2230, 2240, 2260, 2270, 2310, 2312, 2320, 2321, 2330, 2340, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2411, 2412, 2415, 2415.01, 2415.02, 2415.03, 2415.05, 2415.06, 2415.20, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2422, 2423, 2425, 2428.1, 2430, 2431, 2431.3, 2431.4, 2435, 2460, 2464, 2467, 2481, 2510, 2520, 2530, 2537, 2560, 2610, 2622, 2624, 2631, 2700

4. Regulations / Administration R1000  
R1240, R1330, R1400, R1510, R1530, R1550, R1570
  5. Regulations / Program R2000  
R2200, R2210, R2220, R2230, R2260, R2330, R2340, R2360, R2361, R2411, R2412,  
R2415, R2415.2, R2417, R2423, R2423.1, R2430, R2431.1, R2431.2, R2431.4, R2460,  
R2460.1, R2460.8, R2460.16, R2464, R2481, R2510, R2530, R2531, R2560, R2624,  
R2624.1
- E-3.** Approve the first reading of the following Board of Education Policy and Regulation which has been revised:
1. Policy – 2432
  2. Regulation – R2432
- E-4.** Approve the second reading to abolish the following Board of Education Policies, Regulations and By Laws:
1. Policy - By-Law 0147,0147A, 0176
  2. Policy 1522
  3. Program 2421, 2440
  4. Regulation R2421, R2460.05, R2460.07, R2461- R2461.12
- E-5.** Approve the following new textbook, per attachment:
- *The Medium is the Message*, Author: Marshall McLuhan and Quentin Fiore, Publisher: Gingko Press, Copyright Date: August 2001 (9<sup>th</sup> ed), Course: Honors and CP Modern Fiction, Grade Levels: 11 – 12
  - *The Storytelling Animal: How Stories Make us Human*, Author: Jonathan Gottschall, Publisher: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Copyright Date: 2012, Course: Honors Humanities, Grade Levels: 11 – 12
- E-6.** Approve ALEXANDRA CAVALLO for Rutgers University Student Teaching Internship in English September 1, 2015 through December 18, 2015, per attachment.
- E-7.** Approve LLYSSA RABINOWITZ for Rutgers University Student Teaching Internship in Social Studies from September 1, 2015 to December 18, 2015, per attachment.
- E-8.** Approve KAYLA CONSALVO for Ramapo College Student Teaching Internship in English from September 8, 2015 to December 4, 2015, per attachment.
- E-9.** Approve DIANNE BONO, DAVID GOLD, DANIEL PORTANOVA and ROBERT SMILARI as Substitute Teachers for the 2014 – 2015 school year, per attachment.
- E-10.** Approve two (2) new out of district Tuition Students for the 2015- 2016 school year, per attachment.
- E-11.** Accept with regret, the resignation of BERNICE REESBECK for the purpose of retirement, effective July 1, 2015, per attachment.
- E-12.** Approve Job Descriptions, as follows, per attachment.
1. School Counselor

2. School Anti-Bullying Specialist
3. District Anti-Bullying Coordinator
4. Special Education Teacher
5. Teacher / Student Coordinator
6. Supervisor of School Counseling Services
7. Art Teacher
8. Speech – Language Specialist
9. Learning Disabilities Teacher – Consultant
10. School Psychologist
11. School Social Worker
12. Special Education Aide

- E-13.** Approve a revised family leave for DENISE TALOTTA, Guidance Counselor from February 20, 2015 to April 27, 2015 to a revised date of February 20, 2015 to June 30, 2015, per attachment.
- E-14.** Approve NICHOLAS SANTANGELO as Maternity Replacement Guidance Counselor, from February 20, 2015 or sooner, to April 27, 2015, to a revised date of February 20, 2015 or sooner, to June 30, 2015 at a salary of \$58,010 (MA, Step 2) pro-rated.
- E-15.** Approve the following Athletic / Co-Curricular assignment for the 2014- 2015 school year, per attachment.
1. Michael Milone as Volunteer Spring Track Coach

Roll Call:

11. **PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**
12. **INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**
13. **BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT**
14. **OLD BUSINESS**
15. **NEW BUSINESS**

**B-9. RESOLUTION RE PENSION AND HEALTH BENEFITS REFORM**

WHEREAS, the health of New Jersey’s public employee retirement systems affects the state’s economy and its citizens’ quality of life, and impacts critical functions, ranging from the state’s ability to borrow to finance public works projects to its annual budget including state aid to education and, consequently, the operation of the public schools; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Pension and Health Benefits Study Commission, appointed by Governor Chris Christie in 2014, has issued its final report, “A Roadmap to Resolution,” which proposes monumental changes in how public employee benefits, particularly the Teachers’ Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF) and the School Employees’ Health Benefits Program (SEHBP), are financed and administered; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Highlands Regional High School Board of Education believes that reform must balance the health of the state's retiree benefits programs with local school boards' responsibility to provide sound educational programming; and

WHEREAS, TPAF benefits are established by the state and not through local school board action; and

WHEREAS, post-retirement medical benefits are provided to TPAF retirees through state legislation, not local school board action; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Highlands Regional High School Board of Education believes that the TPAF and any new retirement program for certificated school district staff must be funded by the state government; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Highlands Regional High School Board of Education believes that transferring payment of the employer's contribution to the teacher retirement plan and post-retirement medical benefits from the state to local school districts would have a detrimental impact on the resources necessary to maintain educational programming; and

WHEREAS, to restore solvency to, and avert future default of, the state's retirement programs, the pension and benefits reform act of 2011 (*P.L. 2011, c.78*) includes a schedule of annual state payments designed to close the deficit of the plans that serve school district employees; and

WHEREAS, medical benefits for retired school employees, which will total over \$1 billion in 2015-2016, are a major cost-driver in the state budget; and

WHEREAS, the Northern Highlands Regional High School Board of Education supports the current statutorily required employee contributions toward health benefits, which reflect current practice in the private sector and in public employment in other states, and have provided significant financial relief for local school districts, thereby enabling them to direct resources toward educational programming, including teacher employment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northern Highlands Regional High School Board of Education urges the state Legislature and Governor to ensure that the employers' cost for teacher pensions and post-retirement medical benefits—financial obligations created by the state—are not transferred to local school districts; and be it further

RESOLVED, that to provide local school districts and local property taxpayers with financial relief, the Legislature should amend *P.L. 2011, c.78* to make the current employee contributions toward health coverage a permanent requirement and not a subject of labor negotiations; and be it further

RESOLVED, that to provide further control over the cost of health benefits, the Legislature should give local boards of education unilateral authority to enroll in the School Employee Health Benefits Program if the board determines that such action would generate financial savings; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Northern Highlands Regional High School Board of Education supports the goal of reducing the overall costs of public employee health and retirement benefits and

urges the state Legislature and Governor to take a studied and comprehensive approach that will ensure the long-term solvency of the state’s public employee retirement programs without unduly burdening local school district budgets and endangering educational programming; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution be delivered to Governor Chris Christie, State Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney, Assembly Speaker Vincent Prieto; and the Northern Highlands Regional High School Legislative District’s representatives in the state Senate and General Assembly; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the New Jersey School Boards Association.

**16. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**17. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** that the Northern Highlands Regional High School Board of Education shall go into executive session for the purposes of discussing:

- Personnel – employee disciplinary matter

The minutes of this executive session will be released when the need for confidentiality no longer exists. There are some topics (such as student matters) for which the need for confidentiality may never cease to exist.

\_\_\_\_\_ moved, and \_\_\_\_\_ seconded that the Board move into executive session.

TIME: All in Favor: \_\_\_\_\_ Opposed: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ moved, and \_\_\_\_\_ seconded that the Board moves into public session.

TIME: All in Favor: \_\_\_\_\_ Opposed: \_\_\_\_\_

**18. ADJOURNMENT**

\_\_\_\_\_ moved, and \_\_\_\_\_ seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

TIME: All in Favor: \_\_\_\_\_ Opposed: \_\_\_\_\_