

**Bass River Township Board of Education
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 26, 2009**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Township of Bass River, County of Burlington, New Jersey was held at 7:11PM, Tuesday, May 26, 2009, at the Bass River Elementary School.

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Statement was read by Mr. McGeoch. Notice of the meeting was published in the official Board of Education newspaper, The Press of Atlantic City, as well as posted on the bulletin board at Bass River Elementary School, and was filed with the Municipal Clerk of Bass River Township.

2. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Mr. McGeoch led the group in the pledge to the flag.

3. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mrs. Allen (arrived at 7:45PM), Mrs. Cramer , Mr. McGeoch, Mr. Nutt

Members Absent: Mr. Hamilton

Administration Present: Mr. Larry Mathis, Superintendent
Mr. Stephen J. Brennan, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

4. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

5. MINUTES

Moved by Mrs. Cramer and seconded by Mr. McGeoch that the Board of Education approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 28, 2009 (Attachment #1) and the Reorganizational Meeting Minutes of April 28, 2009 (Attachment #1a).

Voice Vote

Ayes: Mrs. Cramer, Mr. McGeoch, Mr. Nutt

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

6. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. SUBSTITUTE CUSTODIANS

Moved by Mrs. Cramer and seconded by Mr. Nutt that the Board of Education approve the 2009-2010 school year substitute custodians as follows:

Joe Bononatta

Geary Steinhauer

Voice Vote

Ayes: Mrs. Cramer, Mr. McGeoch, Mr. Nutt

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

B. SCHOOL CALENDAR

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Moved by Mrs. Cramer and seconded by Mr. Nutt that the Board of Education approve the 2009-2010 school calendar (Attachment #2):

Discussion: The Board and Superintendent discussed the results of a recent survey that polled parents on their opinion of the structure of the school calendar. The Superintendent explained that the determination of the change in bell times will result from the added transportation costs. The district expects the results of a transportation bid in mid-June.

Voice Vote

Ayes: Mrs. Cramer, Mr. McGeoch, Mr. Nutt
Nays: 0
Abstain: 0

C. POLICY

Moved by Mrs. Cramer and seconded by Mr. Nutt that the Board of Education approve the revised special education policies effective immediately:

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Mrs. Cramer, Mr. McGeoch, Mr. Nutt
Nays: 0
Abstain: 0

D. ENROLLMENT/ATTENDANCE REPORT – APRIL (Attachment #4)

E. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

The Superintendent reported on the following issues:

- Mrs. Joan Wallis was named Teacher of the Year
- Mrs. Grace Forgach was named Support Person of the Year
- Updated the Board on a recent shared services meeting with ECS that included representatives from Eagleswood, Pinelands Regional School District, Tuckerton Borough and Bass River.
- New bell times for the 2009-2010 school year are as follows:
 - Full Day 8:15 AM to 2:30 PM
 - Half Day 8:15 AM to 12:45 PM
- Continued to explain that research proves the optimum learning time for young students is early in the day. Also, a time adjustment will facilitate shared professional development opportunities with the other Pinelands Regional sending districts.

7. BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS

A. OLD BUSINESS

None

B. NEW BUSINESS

- The Board selected Mrs. Cramer to serve on the QSAC District Performance Review Committee.
- First Reading – All Policies and Procedures (Numbered 0000-9999) – New and Updated for the 2009-2010 school year provided by Stauss-Esmay Associates.

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C. FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Legal Update

1. Delayed State Aid Payment

Business Administrator discussed the parameters behind recent notification that the state will withhold the final two state aid payments for 2008-2009 fiscal year.

2. Reduction in 2008-2009 State Aid

The Business Administrator informed the Board that Bass River will lose approximately \$5,000 from state aid reduction, equal to ½ of the district's PERS pension obligation.

Shared Service Update

1. Business Office Inter-Local Agreement

Business Administrator updated the board on the successful experiences thus far in the shared services arrangement with Pinelands Regional.

2. Food Service Inter-Local Agreement

The Business Administrator mentioned that Pinelands Regional is scheduled to award its food service contract at its May 28, 2009 Board of Education meeting. The Bass River Board of Education should expect a shared service agreement to provide food service at its June meeting.

D. CORRESPONDENCE

None

8. SECRETARY/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

A. BUDGET TRANSFERS

Moved by Mrs. Cramer and seconded by Mrs. Allen that the Board of Education approve the budgetary transfers (Attachment #5).

Voice Vote

Ayes: Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Cramer, Mr. McGeoch, Mr. Nutt

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

B. BOARD SECRETARY REPORT

Moved by Mrs. Allen and seconded by Mr. Nutt that the Board of Education approve the Board Secretary Report for April 30, 2009. (Attachment #6)

Voice Vote

Ayes: Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Cramer, Mr. McGeoch, Mr. Nutt

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

C. TREASURER OF SCHOOL FUNDS REPORT

Moved by Mrs. Cramer and seconded by Mrs. Allen that the Board of Education approve

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the Treasurer of School Funds Report for April 30, 2009. (Attachment 6a)

Voice Vote

Ayes: Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Cramer, Mr. McGeoch, Mr. Nutt

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

D. BOARD CERTIFICATION

Moved by Mrs. Cramer and seconded by Mrs. Allen that the Board of Education approve the Board Certification for April 30, 2009.

Voice Vote

Ayes: Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Cramer, Mr. McGeoch, Mr. Nutt

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

9. BILLS LIST

Moved by Mrs. Allen and seconded by Mr. McGeoch that the Board of Education approve the Bills list for May 26, 2009. (Attachment #7)

Voice Vote

Ayes: Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Cramer, Mr. McGeoch, Mr. Nutt

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

10. TRANSPORTATION

Moved by Mrs. Allen and seconded by Mr. Nutt that the Board of Education approve contract transfer from Murphy Bus to Durham School Services, effective July 1, 2009. The transfer shall impose no additional cost to the Board of Education. All terms of the original contract shall remain in effect.

Voice Vote

Ayes: Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Cramer, Mr. McGeoch, Mr. Nutt

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

11. OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SERVICE CONTRACTS

Moved by Mr. Nutt and seconded by Mrs. Allen that the Board of Education approve a contract with Therapeutic Learning for Children, Inc. to provide occupational therapy services at the following rates:

Therapy Services \$120.00

Initial Evaluation 60.00

Teacher Consultation 30.00

Voice Vote

Ayes: Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Cramer, Mr. McGeoch, Mr. Nutt

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

12. SPEECH THERAPY SERVICES

Moved by Mrs. Allen and seconded by Mr. McGeoch that the Board of Education approve a

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contract with Listen and Speak, LLC. To provide speech therapy services at the following rates:

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Initial Evaluation | \$120.00 |
| Therapy Services | 60.00/hour |

Voice Vote

Ayes: Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Cramer, Mr. McGeoch, Mr. Nutt
Nays: 0
Abstain: 0

13. BURLINGTON AND CAMDEN COUNTY EDUCATORS INSURANCE CONSORTIUM

Moved by Mrs. Allen and seconded by Mr. Nutt that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the New Jersey School Boards Act, Assembly 1373, enacted and signed by the governor in 1983, enables school districts to cooperate with each other to make the most efficient use of their powers and resources on a basis of mutual advantage in the areas of insurance and self-insurance and related services; and

WHEREAS, the Bass River Township Board of Education desires to secure protection, services and savings relating to insurance and self-insurance for itself and its departments and its employees; and

WHEREAS, the Bass River Township Board of Education finds that the best and most efficient way of securing this protection and services is by cooperating with other school districts across the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey School Boards Association Insurance Group and its bylaws provide a basis for securing this protection for member districts;

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, by the Bass River Township Board of Education joins with other school districts in organizing and becoming members of the subfund of the New Jersey School Boards Association Insurance Group (Burlington and Camden County Educators Insurance Consortium) effective May 26, 2009, and for the duration of July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2011 for the following coverage:

Property, Equipment, Breakdown, EDP, Crime Bonds, General Liability, Automobile Liability, Auto Physical Damage, Umbrella, Errors and Omissions, Workers Compensation

Voice Vote

Ayes: Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Cramer, Mr. McGeoch, Mr. Nutt
Nays: 0
Abstain: 0

14. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – N/A

15. ADJOURNMENT

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Moved by Mr. Nutt and seconded by Mrs. Cramer that the Board of Education adjourn the Board meeting at 8:05PM.

Voice Vote

Ayes: Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Cramer, Mr. McGeoch, Mr. Nutt

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephen J. Brennan, Board Secretary