

**HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING & BUDGET WORKSHOP MINUTES
FEBRUARY 9, 2016
7:00 PM – Hardyston Township Elementary School Cafeteria**

I. Call to Order

Board President Dorothy Beltramine called the regular meeting of the Hardyston Board of Education to order on February 9, 2016 at 7:05 p.m. in the Cafeteria of the Hardyston Elementary School, 50 Route 23, Franklin, NJ 07416. President Dorothy Beltramine read the Open Public Meetings Act statement.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

| | |
|-------------------------|---------|
| Mrs. Donna Carey | present |
| Mr. Nick Demsak | present |
| Mr. Philip Giordano | present |
| Mr. Ron Hoffman | present |
| Mr. David Van Ginneken | present |
| Mr. Ed Blahut | absent |
| Mrs. Dorothy Beltramine | present |
| | |
| Dr. Richard R. Corbett | present |
| Mr. James Sekelsky | absent |
| Ms. Wendy Chandler | present |

Quorum confirmed: Yes No

Special Guest(s) Present: Mary Lyons, Pheonix Advisors
Robert Demeter, Vice Principal – Middle School
John Brennan, Principal – Elementary School

Staff Member(s) Present: 15 total including:
M. Rowan, HTEA President
E. Burdzy, Middle School ESP of the Year
S. Burke, Elementary School Teacher of the Year
D. Hontz, Middle School Teacher of the Year
A. Kohut, Elementary School Nurse ESP of the Year

Community Member(s) Present: 15

Other: Jen Knocha, Advertiser News

MISSION STATEMENT

The Hardyston School District together with our parents, families and community is dedicated to preparing our students for the 21st Century by providing each student with a quality education, in a safe and caring environment, which allows all students to achieve the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards and Common Core State Standards at all grade levels and includes the knowledge, confidence, and self-esteem to be successful life-long learners in a culturally diverse democracy.

IV. Workshop

1. Swearing In of New Board Members
2. Board Recognition of Teachers of the Year and Educational Support Personnel:
 - Sandra Burke Grade 3 Teacher – Hardyston Elementary School
 - David Hontz Grade 6 Social Studies Teacher – Hardyston Middle School
 - Amy Kohut Elementary School Nurse
 - Elizabeth Burdzy Middle School Nurse
3. Bond Refunding – Mary Lyons of Phoenix Advisors gave verbal presentation
4. Addendum Report
5. Committee Reports:
 - Personnel (Ron Hoffman) – change P-6 to P-5 on the addendum
 - Curriculum & Programs (Donna Carey)
 - Technology (David VanGinneken – now chair)
 - Facilities & Operations (Dot Beltramine – temporary chair)
 - Finance (Dot Beltramine)
 - Policy (Philip Giordano)
6. Sussex County Educational Services Commission Report (Nick Demsak)
7. Board President Update

V. Executive Session #1

None

VII. Public Comment (Board Policy #1200) – Agenda “Action” Items only

None

VIII. Approval of Minutes

1. January 5 – Annual Reorg Meeting Minutes
2. January 12 - Regular Meeting Minutes

** members were not able to see the minutes on the drive, and tabled the approval of these until the 3/8/16 meeting

IX. Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Corbett read his report

X. Old Business

1. Meeting Dates for 2015- 2016:
 - February 23 – Budget Workshop @ ES
 - March 8 – Regular Meeting
 - March 15 – Budget Workshop
 - April 12 – Regular Meeting @ ES
 - April 26 - Public Hearing and Adoption of 2016-2017 Budget
 - May 10 – Regular Meeting
 - May 24 – Annual Evaluation (*Board and CSA*)
 - June 14 – Regular Meeting
 - June 28 – Retreat (*District and Board Goals*)
 - July 12 – Regular Meeting
 - August 9 - Regular Meeting
 - September 13 - Regular Meeting

XI. New Business

XII. Agenda Items:

FINANCE

F-1

Motion to approve \$104,070.63 in transfers for the month of January 2016.

F-2

Motion to approve the attached Bills List for the month of January 2016 in the amount of \$984,569.73.

F-3

Motion to approve the Treasurer of School Monies Comparison Report for December 2015.

F-4

Motion to approve the Board Secretary’s Monthly Comparison Report for December 2015.

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Education regulation N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3 require local school districts to file a monthly certification of budgetary line item status,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education acknowledges that James R. Sekelsky, Board Secretary, certifies the following statement: Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3, I, James R. Sekelsky, Board Secretary, certify that no budgetary line items accounts are over-appropriated nor over-expended for the period ending December 31, 2015.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)4 the board of Education certifies that as of after review of the board secretary’s and treasurer’s monthly financial reports and upon consultation with the appropriate school district officials, to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

F-5

Motion to appoint McManimon & Scotland as special bond counsel for the Hardyston School District bond and debt refinancing, effective January 26, 2016 through June 30, 2016, and

WHEREAS, there exists a need for legal services, and

WHEREAS, the Public School Contracts Laws (N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5) requires that a resolution authorizing the contracting of "Professional Services" without competitive bids be adopted:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of Hardyston Township that McManimon & Scotland be contracted as special bond council for the Hardyston Board of Education for the 2015 - 2016 school year without competitive bidding as a "Professional Service" in accordance with 18A:18A-5 of the Public School Contracts Law and Chapter 271 political contribution disclosure form is on file with district.

F-6

Motion to appoint Phoenix Advisors, LLC as financial advisors for the Hardyston School District 2001 bond and debt refinancing, effective January 26, 2016 through June 30, 2016, and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education of Hardyston Township, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey ("School District"), has a need for a firm specializing in financial advisory services to assist it in matters relating to, inter alia, the issuance of refunding bonds; and

WHEREAS, Phoenix Advisors, LLC, Bordentown, New Jersey, specializes in providing financial advisory services and is able to assist the School District in such matters; and

WHEREAS, it has been projected that the District can save approximately \$954,000 on the refinancing of its 2006 bonds after expenses for professional services, and that the proposed agreement with Phoenix Advisors, LLC, constitutes an extraordinary and unspecifiable service pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2g and is therefore exempt from public advertisement for bid;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Hardyston Township , in the County of Sussex, New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1. Phoenix Advisors, LLC, Bordentown, New Jersey, is hereby appointed as Financial Advisor to the School District with respect to the issuance of said refunding bonds.

Section 2. The Business Administrator/Board Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to execute, on behalf of the School District, an agreement with Phoenix Advisors, LLC for the financial advisory services to be rendered.

Section 3. All resolutions, or parts thereof, inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed and rescinded to the extent of any such inconsistency.

Section 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption this 9th day of February, 2016.

ACTION ITEM(S): F-1 to F-6

Motion to adopt: D. Beltramine Seconded By: P. Giordano

| | | | | |
|---------------|------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|
| <u>MOTION</u> | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> | <u>ABSTAIN</u> | <u>ABSENT</u> |
| Carey | <u>X</u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |

| | | | | |
|--------------|----------|-----|-------|----------|
| Demsak | <u>X</u> | ___ | _____ | _____ |
| Giordano | <u>X</u> | ___ | _____ | _____ |
| Hoffman | <u>X</u> | ___ | _____ | _____ |
| Pohl | <u>X</u> | ___ | _____ | _____ |
| Restel | <u>X</u> | ___ | _____ | _____ |
| Van Ginneken | <u>X</u> | ___ | _____ | _____ |
| Blahut | ___ | ___ | _____ | <u>X</u> |
| Beltramine | <u>X</u> | ___ | _____ | _____ |

F-7

Motion to approve the following Bond Ordinance:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HARDYSTON IN THE COUNTY OF SUSSEX, NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Board of Education of the Township of Hardyston in the County of Sussex, New Jersey (the "School District") is hereby authorized to refund all or a portion of the outstanding callable refunding school bonds of the School District issued in the original principal amount of \$9,955,000 and dated November 1, 2006 (the "2006 Bonds"). The 2006 Bonds maturing on or after August 1, 2017 may be redeemed at the option of the School District in whole or in part on any date on or after August 1, 2016 (the "Redemption Date") at a redemption price equal to the par amount of the 2006 Bonds to be redeemed plus accrued interest, if any, to the Redemption Date.

Section 2. In order to finance the cost of the purpose described in Section 1 hereof, negotiable refunding bonds (the "Refunding Bonds") are hereby authorized to be issued in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$9,990,000 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:24-61 et seq.

Section 3. An aggregate amount not exceeding \$150,000 for items of expense listed in and permitted under N.J.S.A. 18A:24-61.4 has been included in the aggregate principal amount of Refunding Bonds authorized herein.

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|----------|-------------|
| Technology Conference | | | | |
| 20th Annual Expo/Conference - NJSBG | 3/14/16 – 3/16/16 | \$125.00 | \$315.20 | C. Platvoet |

C/P-2

Motion to approve the following parent-paid class trip(s) for the 2015-2016 school year:

| GRADE | DESTINATION | DATE | COST PER STUDENT |
|-------|--|----------|------------------|
| 4 | Winakung at Waterloo Village, Stanhope | 6/1/2016 | \$21.50 |
| 5 | West Point, NY | 5/13/16 | \$28.00 |

C/P-3

Motion to approve approximately 45 middle school students and 6 faculty members to attend the annual Sussex County Teen Arts Festival at the SCCC on March 15, 2016 (snow date of March 16). This trip was included in the budget.

C/P-4

Motion to approve an after school program for Hardyston Middle School students to be transported one way to the YMCA for a Hornet “Y” club held on the dates listed below from 2:55 to 5:00 PM (parent pick up) during February and March 2016. This program is funded through a grant with Hardyston Township and the YMCA. Hardyston Township will pay for all transportation costs. This program promotes healthy lifestyles through participation in physical activities and enrichment. The dates are:

- February 18, 25
- March 3, 10, 17, 24

ACTION ITEM(S): C/P-1 to C/P-4

Motion to adopt: P. Giordano

Seconded By: D. Beltramine

| MOTION | YES | NO | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|--------------|----------|-----|---------|----------|
| Carey | <u>X</u> | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| Demsak | <u>X</u> | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| Giordano | <u>X</u> | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| Hoffman | <u>X</u> | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| Pohl | <u>X</u> | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| Restel | <u>X</u> | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| Van Ginneken | <u>X</u> | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| Blahut | ___ | ___ | ___ | <u>X</u> |
| Beltramine | <u>X</u> | ___ | ___ | ___ |

POLICY

POL-1

Motion to approve a second reading and adopt the following policy:

Policy 6145 Student Performance Eligibility Procedure for Student Extra-Curricular Activities and Participation Contract

ACTION ITEM(S): POL-1

Motion to adopt: P. Giordano

Seconded By: D. Beltramine

| MOTION | YES | NO | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|--------------|----------|-----|---------|----------|
| Carey | <u>X</u> | ___ | _____ | _____ |
| Demsak | <u>X</u> | ___ | _____ | _____ |
| Giordano | <u>X</u> | ___ | _____ | _____ |
| Hoffman | <u>X</u> | ___ | _____ | _____ |
| Pohl | <u>X</u> | ___ | _____ | _____ |
| Restel | <u>X</u> | ___ | _____ | _____ |
| Van Ginneken | <u>X</u> | ___ | _____ | _____ |
| Blahut | ___ | ___ | _____ | <u>X</u> |
| Beltramine | <u>X</u> | ___ | _____ | _____ |

FACILITIES/OPERATIONS - No motions at this time

TECHNOLOGY - No motions at this time

XIII. Written Communication

XIV. Public Comments – Non-Action or Non-Agenda Items

1. Joe Italiano – 14 Campbell Drive, Hamburg, NJ 07419

- expressed concern about policy on table regarding no child left at bus stop without an 18 year old or older adult. Addressed financial hardship and possible loss of employment. Requested policy to be re-visited and amended.

2. Renee Krukovsky – 3017 Route 23, Franklin, NJ 07416

- expressed additional concern about policy referenced by Mr. Italiano. Addressed financial hardship and relevance to proximity of stop to house.

3. Amy Beck – 56 Deerfield Drive, Franklin, NJ 07416

- was seeking permission to hold a kick-off assembly for a PTA sponsored function – May 14, 2016 Color Run.

XV. Executive Session

None

XVII. Adjournment

With no further action or discussion required of the Hardyston Township Board of Education at this time, a motion was presented by D. Beltramine, and seconded by D. Carey, to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James R. Sekelsky". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, prominent initial "J".

James R. Sekelsky
School Board Administrator/Board Secretary