

**HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 12, 2023
7:00 PM**

I. Call to Order

Board President David Van Ginneken called the Workshop Meeting of the Hardyston Board of Education to order on December 12, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., from the Library of the Hardyston Middle School, 183 Wheatsworth Road, Hamburg, NJ 07419. President David Van Ginneken read the Open Public Meetings Act statement:

This is to advise the general public and to instruct that it be recorded in the Minutes that in compliance with Chapter 231 of the Public Law 1975, entitled, “Open Public Meetings Act,” Hardyston Township Board of Education posted a meeting notice setting forth the time, date, and location of this meeting at the Office of Hardyston Township Board of Education and on the district’s web site and mailed to the New Jersey Herald and to the Office of the Municipal Clerk of Hardyston Township.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

Mr. Anthony Alfano	present
Mrs. Jean Barrett	absent
Mrs. Donna Carey	present
Mr. Nick Demsak	present
Mr. Ron Hoffman	present
Mrs. Susan Lucarelli	present
Mrs. Catherine Maksymiuk	present
Mr. Edward Reinle	absent
Mr. David Van Ginneken	present

Mr. Michael Ryder	present
Ms. Carolyn Joseph	present

Quorum confirmed: Yes No

Special Guest(s) Present: Mr. Joseph Roselle, Esq. Schenk, Price, Smith & King

Staff Member(s) Present: M. O’Mara, Middle School Principal
 J. Cimaglia, Elementary School Principal

Community Member(s) Present: 17
Other:

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. Updates to Agenda
2. Committee Reports:
Curriculum, Programs, Educational Technology & Community Relations (R. Hoffman)
Finance, Facilities and Operations & Technology Infrastructure (D. Carey)
Personnel, Negotiations, Grievance & Policy (N. Demsak)
3. Superintendent Report – District Goals Update
4. Board Member Recognition – **Catherine Maksmyiuk**

***WHEREAS**, Mrs. Catherine Maksmyiuk has served as a member of the Hardyston Township Board of Education since January 2021 through December 2023, and has served as the Committee Member of Personnel, Negotiations, Grievance, and Policy and Finance, Facilities and Operations & Technology, and*

***WHEREAS**, Mrs. Catherine Maksmyiuk has served the students and residents of Hardyston Township with dedication, commitment, and integrity.*

***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Hardyston Township Board of Education extends its sincerest thanks and deepest appreciation for her contributions, and wishes her the best of health and happiness in her future endeavors.*

V. Public Comment (Board Policy #0167) (please limit comments to action agenda items only)

“All regular and special meetings of the Hardyston Township Board of Education shall be open to the public. Because the Board desires to hear the viewpoints of citizens throughout the district, and also needs to conduct its business in an orderly and efficient manner, it shall schedule one or more periods during each meeting for public participation. Each speaker will be given a maximum of three (3) minutes per subject with a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes for all speakers on that subject. Additional segments in two-minute increments must be approved by a majority vote of the Board quorum present.

The Board President shall be responsible for recognizing all speakers, who shall properly identify themselves” (please provide name and municipality of residence).

VI. Executive Session if needed

Motion is presented by D. Van Ginneken and seconded by R. Hoffman that the Hardyston Township Board of Education enters private session at 7:24 p.m. to discuss HIB, which is exempt from public participation pursuant to New Jersey Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, “Open Public Meetings Act.” Any discussion held by the Board which need not remain confidential will be made public when appropriate. Minutes of the private session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists. The Board will reconvene in public session at the conclusion of the closed session.

VII. Return to Public Session

Motion to the Board of Education will return to public session at 8:36 p.m.

Roll Call

Mr. Anthony Alfano	<u> X </u>
Mrs. Jean Barrett	<u> </u>
Mrs. Donna Carey	<u> X </u>
Mr. Nick Demsak	<u> X </u>
Mr. Ron Hoffman	<u> X </u>
Mrs. Susan Lucarelli	<u> X </u>
Mrs. Catherine Maksymiuk	<u> X </u>
Mr. Edward Reinle	<u> </u>
Mr. David Van Ginneken	<u> X </u>
Mr. Michael Ryder	<u> X </u>
Ms. Carolyn Joseph	<u> X </u>

Action following Executive Session if needed:

VIII. Old Business

O/B-1

Meeting Dates for 2023- 2024:

- January 2 – Annual Reorg and Regular Meeting
- January 23 – Budget Workshop
- February 13 – Regular Meeting
- February 27 – Budget Workshop

IX. New Business

NB-1

Resolved, that, after consideration of the information presented by the parents during this evening’s HIB appeal #2023/24-2, as heard in executive session, the Board of Education hereby affirms the administration’s H.I.B. determination because the specific definition of HIB pursuant to Board Policy and applicable law has been met; and

Be it further resolved, that the Superintendent is hereby directed to provide written notification to the parent of the Board’s decision and their right to appeal.

Motion to adopt: D. Van Ginneken Seconded By: A. Alfano

<u>MOTION</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Alfano	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Barrett	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
Carey	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Demsak	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Hoffman	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Lucarelli	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Maksymiuk	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Reinle	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
Van Ginneken	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

X. Agenda Items:

MEETING MINUTES

1. November 14 – Regular Meeting

Motion to adopt: D. Van Ginneken Seconded By: R. Hoffman

<u>MOTION</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Alfano	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Barrett	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
Carey	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Demsak	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Hoffman	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Lucarelli	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Maksymiuk	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Reinle	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
Van Ginneken	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

HIB REPORT *All policies and procedures have been followed and met; the December report is based on the recommendation of the Superintendent.*

Background: HIB report for 12-12-23 is located in the Executive Session folder and will be voted on at the January 2, 2024 BOE meeting (if necessary).

Motion to approve the HIB report as presented by the superintendent on 11-14-23.

Motion to adopt: D. Van Ginneken Seconded By: A. Alfano

<u>MOTION</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Alfano	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Barrett	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
Carey	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Demsak	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Hoffman	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Lucarelli	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Maksymiuk	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Reinle	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
Van Ginneken	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

FINANCE

F-1

Motion to approve \$34,394.55 in transfers for the month of November 2023.

F-2

Motion to approve the Bills List for the month of November 2023 in the amount of \$1,808,577.62.

F-3

Motion to approve the revised Bills List for October, 2023, in the amount of \$1,483,121.15.

<u>MOTION</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Alfano	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Barrett	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
Carey	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Demsak	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Hoffman	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Lucarelli	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Maksymiuk	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Reinle	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
Van Ginneken	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

CURRICULUM/PROGRAMS

C/P-1

Motion to approve the listed travel events in agreement with Chapter 53, Public Law 2007, Title 18A, and Board Policy 9250:

EVENT	DATE	REGISTRATION FEE	MILEAGE & OTHER EXPENSES	EMPLOYEE/BOARD MEMBER
Autism: Deescalate Meltdowns	Virtual	-0-	Test: \$29.99	C. Carrigan
Updates in Assessment and Identification of SLD, Forsgate Country Club, Monroe	1/19/24	\$199.00	-0-	G. Maffia
Semi-Annual Delegates Meeting, Trenton	12/2/23	-0-	\$77.93	R. Hoffman

C/P-2

Motion to approve a revision to the 2023-2024 school year calendar to designate March 11, 2024 as an early dismissal day for elementary students only to make up for the missed day on Friday, September 8, due to sewer issues.

ACTION ITEM(S): C/P-1 – C/P-2

Motion to adopt: R. Hoffman Seconded By: A. Alfano

<u>MOTION</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Alfano	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Barrett	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
Carey	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Demsak	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Hoffman	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Lucarelli	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Maksymiuk	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Reinle	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
Van Ginneken	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

PERSONNEL

(All Personnel resolutions are based on the recommendation of the Superintendent.)

P-1

Motion to approve the 2024 increase in the state minimum wage rate as indicated for substitute coverage effective January 1, 2024:

- 1. Substitute Secretary: \$15.13/hour (121.04 / 8 hour day)
- 2. Substitute Paraprofessional: \$15.13/hour (90.78 / 6 hour day)
- 3. Substitute Custodian: \$15.13/hour (60.52 / 4 hour day)

P-2

Motion to compensate the following two new full time preschool paraprofessionals for training prior to the start date of January 2, 2024, for the new preschool expansion.

Lynn Ernst Iman Ahmed

P-3

Motion to approve movement on the salary guide to MA for Whitney Dugan, as per Article XXXIII of the negotiated HTEA contract, upon submission of completion of course work and submission of official transcripts to the School Business Administrator, effective September 1, 2024.

P-4

Motion to appoint/re-appoint the extra-curricular coaches and advisors for the 2023/2024 school year (step amount as per negotiated agreement):

The Board of Education shall determine the requirements of and qualifications for all extracurricular positions in the district as dictated by the nature of the activity in accordance with N.J.S.A. 34:13A-23. Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board shall appoint to all extracurricular assignments, those individuals who have the proper qualifications for the position and can meet the requirements of the position. In the event a qualified candidate cannot be found within the district, the Board may employ a qualified person from outside the district.

Lisa Garofano Board Game and Strategy Club \$526/15 hours

P-5

Motion to approve the following staff member for miscellaneous non-certified activities as needed for the 2023-2024 school year, at an hourly rate of \$25.00, as per the negotiated agreement:

Deborah Coltenback Anthony Korn Deborah Smedley Elizabeth Kelly

P-6

Motion to approve movement on the salary guide to MA for McKenzie Cuccia, as per Article XXXIII of the negotiated HTEA contract, upon submission of completion of course work and submission of official transcripts to the School Business Administrator, effective September 1, 2024.

P-7

Motion to compensate the following full time preschool paraprofessionals for training on the January 15, 2024 teacher-in-service day.

Lynn Ernst Marianne Monahan Danielle Romeo Iman Ahmed

P-8

Motion to employ the following special education paraprofessional(s) for the 2023-2024 school year in accordance with the needs of the classified students and in conjunction with the ratified HTEA and with the condition that employment is terminated when the need for assigned services no longer exists.

Name	Rate per Hour
Ashley Williams	17.12

P-9

Motion to approve a change of pay for Denise Kelly, Long Term Substitute Teacher - Grade 5 Language Arts, from \$150.00 per day to \$175.00 per day, retroactive to October 16 through December 22, 2023.

ACTION ITEM(S): P-1 – P-9

Motion to adopt: N. Demsak Seconded By: R. Hoffman

MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Alfano	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Barrett	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
Carey	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Demsak	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Hoffman	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Lucarelli	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Maksymiuk	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Reinle	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
Van Ginneken	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

POLICY

POL-1

Motion to approve a second reading and adopt the following policies and regulations:

- P 2270 Religion in the Schools
- P&R 5111 Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students

ACTION ITEM(S): POL-1

Motion to adopt: N. Demsak Seconded By: A. Alfano

MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Alfano	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Barrett	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
Carey	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Demsak	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Hoffman	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Lucarelli	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Maksymiuk	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Reinle	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
Van Ginneken	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

XI. Written Communication

XII. Public Comment (Board Policy #0167)

Four members of the public spoke.

XIII. Executive Session *if needed*

None

XIV. Return to Public Session

n/a

Action following Executive Session if needed:

n/a

XV. Adjournment

With no further action or discussion required of the Hardyston Township Board of Education as this time, a motion was presented by D. Van Ginneken, and seconded by C. Maksymiuk, to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 p.m.