

The Meeting of the Harding Township Board of Education held on Monday September 12, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., Harding Township School.

Mission Statement

The Harding Township School provides a strong educational foundation which inspires students to achieve academic excellence. Our dedicated faculty stimulates intellectual growth using a challenging curriculum within a supportive learning environment. We encourage students to become self-directed, lifelong learners who are well prepared for the academic and social challenges of the future.

The 2022-2023 Harding Township School District goals are inspired by and connected to the 2019-2024 Strategic Plan that was developed by key stakeholders.

District Goal 1: Strategic Plan Goal Area: Identify Needs/Personalized Learning

To identify learning gaps and measure the academic progress of our students through the administration of pre- and post-grade-level assessments in Reading, Math, and Writing that correlate with the NJSL standards and Reader's/Writer's Workshop.

District Goal 2: Strategic Plan Goal Areas: Future-Ready Instruction and Curriculum and Well-Rounded Student

Continue to expand student exploration opportunities, such as (examples) the Performing Arts, Husky TV, debate, a student newsletter, and other feasible collaborative projects that empower students to become active participants in their learning.

District Goal 3: Strategic Plan Goal Areas: Facilities and Safety

Work with the appropriate local, county, and state authorities to assess the safety/security of the district's buildings/grounds, protocols/guidelines/practices, and continue to foster a safe learning environment.

District Goal 4: Strategic Plan Goal Area: Identify Needs/Personalized Learning

To articulate student learning differentiation strategies currently utilized, and to further challenge and enhance learning for each student based on their individual needs, strengths, and interests.

- I. **Call to Order** – The regular session of the Harding Board of Education is called to order by Mr. Gjivoje at 7:00 p.m. in the Library of the Harding Township Middle School, 34 Lee's Hill Road, New Vernon, NJ 07976.
- II. **Presiding Officers Statement/Sunshine Statement:**
In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, *N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.*, adequate notification of this meeting has been provided to the Daily Record, Observer Tribune and posted on the bulletin boards of the New Vernon Post Office, Green Village Post Office, Harding Township Municipal Building, Harding Township Elementary School and Harding Township Middle School on January 6, 2022.
- III. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- IV. **Present:** *Mr. Davor Gjivoje, Dr. Alex Anastasiou, Mr. Abi Singh, Mr. Richard Bruno, Mrs. Krikos*
Also Present: *Superintendent, Dr. Matthew Spelker, Business Administrator, Mr. John Jennings*
Note: Mr. Gjivoje was present via teleconference.
- V. **PRESENTATIONS**
Welcome New Faculty and Principal – April Friedman, Principal welcomed and introduced the new staff to the Board. She also thanked the experienced staff for their help onboarding the new teachers. The meeting took a brief break from 7:07 p.m. to 7:20 p.m. for an informal reception of the new staff.
- VI. **HEARING OF PUBLIC REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS ONLY (Policy 0167) No comments**

VII. REPORTS/DISCUSSIONS

- a. Superintendent- Dr. Spelker noted that faculty and staff enjoyed two days of Professional Development on Aug. 31 and Sept. 1st. HTS had a wonderful first day of school and thanked the PTO for their donation of balloons and HTS letters at the schools. HTS barbeque will take place on Friday Sept. 16th from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. HTS back to school nights will take place on Tuesday Sept. 20th (MS) and Wednesday Sept. 21st (ES). He noted the upcoming dates to remember; Sept. 26th BOE Meeting Student Safety, Oct. 17th BOE Meeting NJSLA Assessments, Nov. 7th BOE Meeting Budget Guidelines and District Goals
- b. Business Administrator – John Jennings mentioned agenda item FF-035 noting that the Grant was utilized to purchase Stem Lab Computers and Smartboards. He noted agenda item CI-005 regarding the NJSBA workshop and that all the Board and the Superintendent were registered.
- c. Madison Board of Education – Mr. Bruno noted the next Madison BOE meeting was next Tuesday. He noted that Madison Schools opened but since they do not have air conditioning they started with split sessions. He mentioned that NJSBA representative Charlene Peterson was going to do a presentation on the rules of responsibilities of the BOE after the November election.

VIII. CORRESPONDENCE

HTS Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program, 2022-23 SY – Dr. Spelker mentioned the NJ DOE is mandating the schools have an emergency plan in place if something else similar to Covid pops up.

IX. BOARD BUSINESS

BB-005 Approve Regular Session Minutes

BB-006 Approve Second Reading of Policies/Regulations

BB-007 Approve HTS Emergency Virtual/Remote Instruction Program, 2022-23

MOTION presented by Mr. Bruno and seconded by Dr. Anastasiou to approve:

BB-002 RESOLVED, that the Harding Township Board of Education approve the following minutes:

- Regular Session, August 29, 2022
- Note no Executive Session held on August 29, 2022

BB-006 RESOLVED, that the Harding Township Board of Education approves the First Reading of the following Bylaws, Policies and Regulations:

P2415.05 Student Surveys, Analysis, Evaluations, Examinations, Testing or Treatment
P/R 2431.4 Prevention and Treatment of Sports –Related Concussions and Head injuries
R 2460.30 Additional/Compensatory Special Education and Related Services
P/R2622 Student Assessment
P 3233 Political Activities
P5541 Anti-Hazing
P7540 Joint Use of Facilities
P/R 8465 Bias Crimes and Bias Related Acts
P 9560 Administration of School Surveys
P1648.15 Recordkeeping for Healthcare Settings in School Buildings – COVID9
P2415.04 Title I District wide Parent and Family engagement
P2415.50 Title I School parent and Family Engagement

P2417 Student Intervention and Referral Services
P3161 Examination for Cause
P4161 Examination for Cause
P5512 Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying
P/R7410 Maintenance and Repair
P8420 Emergency and Crisis Situations
P/R9320 Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies
P1511 Board of Education Website Accessibility
P2415 Every Student Succeeds Act
P/R5513 Care of School Property

BB-007 RESOLVED, that the Harding Township Board of Education approves the Emergency Virtual and Remote Instruction Program for the 2022-23 school year.

Roll call vote:

AYES: *Mr. Davor Gjivoje, Dr. Alex Anastasiou, Mr. Abi Singh, Mr. Richard Bruno, Mrs. Melissa Krikos*

FACILITIES AND FINANCE

FF-031 Approve Bills List

FF-032 Approve Facility Use Applications

FF-033 Approve Revised Out-of-District Morris School District

FF-034 Approve Physical Therapy Services – P.G. Chambers School

FF-035 Approve Rural Education Achievement Grant

FF-036 Approve Occupational Therapy Services

MOTION presented by Dr. Anastasiou and seconded by Mr. Singh to approve:

FF-031 RESOLVED, that the Harding Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the attached bills list dated September 12, 2022 in the amount of \$432,584.93.

FF-032 RESOLVED, that the Harding Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves Facility Use Applications:

- Application submitted by Mr. Dave Fassett for use of the gymnasium for HTRA Youth Basketball grades K-8 per the attached rider.
- Application submitted by Ms. Nicole Lacz for use of field for HTRA Pre-K through 2nd grade soccer on Saturdays 9/10, 9/17, 9/24, 10/1, 10/8, 10/15, 10/22 and 10/29 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

FF-033 RESOLVED, that the Harding Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves a revised Out-of-District contract for the 2022-2023 school year with Morris School District for Student # 1463845909 to include Tuition at \$63,798, Extra Occupational Therapy at \$1,439.70, Extra Physical Therapy at \$463.50 and Extra Speech at \$2,518.50 for a total cost of \$68,219.70

FF-034 RESOLVED, that the Harding Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves P.G. Chambers School to provide Physical Therapy services for the 2022-2023 school year at a rate of \$98/hour for on-site and virtual services, \$81/half-hour session and \$545 for each therapy evaluation.

FF-035 RESOLVED, that the Harding Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approve the submission and acceptance of the Rural Education Achievement Program Grant Award # S358A222718 in the amount of \$25,456.

FF-036 RESOLVED, that the Harding Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves a contract with Jump Start Therapeutics, LLC to provide Occupational Therapy services for the 2022-2023 school year at the rate of \$80 per hour.

Roll call vote:

AYES: *Mr. Davor Gjivoje, Dr. Alex Anastasiou, Mr. Abi Singh, Mr. Richard Bruno, Mrs. Melissa Krikos*

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

CI-002 Approve Professional Development

CI-003 Approve Teacher Evaluation Model, 2022-23 SY

CI-004 Approve School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades, 2021-22 SY

CI-005 Approve Professional Development -NJSBA Workshop Registration and Travel

MOTION presented by Mrs. Krikos and seconded by Mr. Richard Bruno to approve:

CI-002 RESOLVED, that the Harding Township Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following professional development:
Ms. Joey Tsai, Association of Math Teachers annual conference, October 20, 2022, registration at \$209, mileage at \$0.47.

CI-003 RESOLVED, that the Harding Township Board of Education, approves the following teacher evaluation model:

The Marshall Rubrics Plan for teacher evaluations and summative ratings, based on ACHIEVENJ Teacher evaluation scoring guide.

CI-004 RESOLVED, that the Harding Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of schools approves the School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades Under the Anti-bullying Bill of Rights Act (ABR), with a grade 75 out of 78.

CI-005 RESOLVED, that the Harding Township Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following professional development:
Registration for the NJSBA Workshop, \$2,200 as well as lodging, meals, I&E at the GSA per diem rate and mileage at 47 cents for the following people;
Mr. Mathew Spelker, Mr. Davor Gjivoje, Dr. Alex Anastasiou, Mr. Abi Sing, Mr. Richard Bruno, Mrs Melissa Krikos.

Roll call vote:

AYES: *Mr. Davor Gjivoje, Dr. Alex Anastasiou, Mr. Abi Singh, Mr. Richard Bruno, Mrs. Melissa Krikos*

PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT

PM-014 Approve Leave Replacement Teacher

PM-015 Approve Faculty Stipend

PM-016 Approve Change in Contract

MOTION presented by Mr. Bruno and seconded by Mr. Singh to approve:

PM-014 RESOLVED, that the Harding Township Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following long-term replacement teacher:

Ms. Sara Verrone, Grade 2 long term replacement effective September 1, 2022 at a per diem rate \$130.

PM-015 RESOLVED, that the Harding Township Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following extracurricular stipend according to the HTEA agreement:

Ms. McKenzie Kapp, Soccer Coach, at a stipend of \$3,490.

Ms. Elizabeth Somelofske, Asst. Soccer Coach, at a stipend of \$3,390

Mrs. Cathy Larson, Asst. Field Hockey Coach, at a stipend of \$3,390

PM-016 RESOLVED, that the Harding Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of schools approves the following change in contract:

Ms. Jennifer Mele, movement on the guide, from BA+15/Step 4 to MA/Step 4 at an annual salary of \$62,550 effective September 1, 2022.

Roll call vote:

AYES: *Mr. Davor Gjivoje, Dr. Alex Anastasiou, Mr. Abi Singh, Mr. Richard Bruno, Mrs. Melissa Krikos*

X. HEARING OF PUBLIC REGARDING (Agenda and non-Agenda Items- Policy 0167)

MOTION presented by Dr. Anastasiou and seconded by Mr. Bruno to open public comment at 7:41 p.m.

Roll call vote:

AYES: *Mr. Davor Gjivoje, Dr. Alex Anastasiou, Mr. Abi Singh, Mr. Richard Bruno, Mrs. Melissa Krikos*

Dr. Piotrowsky asked what the District was planning on doing to support students who have experienced learning loss during the last few years? Dr. Spelker noted he would comment on this at the next board meeting after discussing his plans with the Board Committee.

Motion presented by Dr. Anastasiou and seconded by Mrs. Krikos, unanimously approved, to close the open public comment period at 7:51 p.m.

XI. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS – Mr. Gjivoje noted back to school night on September 20th and 21st. He also mentioned the HTS barbeque on September 16th to which Dr. Anastasiou mentioned to come to support the PTO. Mr. Gjivoje noted that the October 17th Board meeting would have a report on the NJSLA assessments.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION – No executive session

MOTION presented by _____ and seconded by _____ to enter Executive Session at _____.

Be It Resolved, that the Harding Township Board of Education convenes Executive Session in full compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.; and the minutes of the discussion of any of these items will be available to the public when such minutes have been approved by the Board pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1.1.

Roll call vote:

Mr. Davor Gjivoje _____ Dr. Alex Anastasiou _____ Mr. Abi Singh _____
Mr. Richard Bruno _____ Mrs. Melissa Krikos _____

XIII. RETURN to PUBLIC SESSION – No Executive Session.

MOTION presented by _____ and seconded by _____ to return to Public Session at _____.

Roll call vote:

Mr. Davor Gjivoje _____ Dr. Alex Anastasiou _____ Mr. Abi Singh _____
Mr. Richard Bruno _____ Mrs. Melissa Krikos _____

XIV. OTHER BOARD BUSINESS- None

XV. ADJOURN

MOTION presented by Mr. Bruno and seconded by Mrs. Krikos to adjourn at 7:55 p.m.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Mr. Davor Gjivoje, Dr. Alex Anastasiou, Mr. Abi Singh, Mr. Richard Bruno, Mrs. Melissa Krikos

Respectfully Submitted



Mr. John Jennings
Business Administrator/Board Secretary