
***Official Minutes of the
Holland Township Board of Education
Milford, NJ 08848***

Regular February Board Meeting: February 22, 2011 7:30 P.M.

Time and Place

The Regular Board Meeting was held on February 22, 2011 by the Board of Education of the Holland Township School District, Hunterdon County, in the Auditorium of the Holland Township Elementary School, 714 Milford-Warren Glen Road, Milford, New Jersey 08848

Sunshine Notice

In accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231 Laws of 1975, adequate notice of this meeting was provided through the public notice on May 6, 2010 by:

- A. Faxing to the Express-Times and the Hunterdon Democrat
- B. Posting on the District Website and the bulletin board in the main hallway of the school
- C. Filing with the Clerk of the Township of Holland

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Scheibener.

Roll Call

Board Members Present:	McDowall, Moebus, Schneider, Scott (7:34pm), Somers, Soucie, Vandenburg, Geissler, Scheibener
Absent:	None
School Personnel Present:	Mr. Suarez, Superintendent, Mrs. Postma, SBA/Brd Sec.; Nancy Yard, Principal; Kathy Stannard, Supv. of Special Services
Public Present:	8 Visitors

Correspondence/Presentations

Parent Letter from Ms. Acebedo

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

MOTION by Mr. Schneider, seconded by Mr. McDowall to approve the following Minutes from the previous meeting(s):

January 25, 2011 Special Board Meeting: Public Forum for Budget

January 25, 2011 Regular Board Meeting and Executive Session

February 8, 2011 Special Meeting: Budget Work Session

AYES: *McDowall, Moebus, Schneider, Scott, Somers, Soucie, Vandenburg, Geissler Scheibener*

ABSTENTION: *Scott: February 3rd only*

MOTION APPROVED

Comments: Board President/Board Members

- o Board President Scheibener announced the statement from the Governor's Office that state funds for school districts should increase for every school.
- o Board President Scheibener reminded the board of the annual self-evaluation
- o Board Vice-President Geissler announced the PTO Casino Night scheduled for Saturday and welcomed everyone to attend

Comments: Superintendent

- o *Superintendent/BOE Update:*
 - a) Enrollment Update: 657
 - b) Reviewed Governor Christie's Budget Address and highlighted the areas for school districts
 - c) Technology Update: Meeting with County Superintendent and Business Administrator regarding internet services
 - d) NJQSAC visit will be Monday, February 28th
 - e) Third Grade Book Club: 19 participants in the second book club of the year
 - f) Educational Issues/Updates

Comments: Principal

- Dr. Yard updated the BOE the 100th Day Celebration activities
- High School Visitations for high school placements and future planning will be conducted in the near future
- Announced the current results of the Star Reader Program in which 3,082 hours of reading have been recorded through the program
- Announced the Middle School Spelling Bee Contest Winners: Christopher McCormick, Michael Shigo, Marc Angelo Acebedo, Dylan Machado
President Scheibener stated that the BOE and School District should recognize the winners; Dr. Yard stated that they are recognized during the end of the year ceremony program.

Comments: Public – Agenda Items Only

- None

Superintendent Action Items

Education

MOTION by Mr. McDowall, seconded by Mr. Geissler to approve the following Action Items as recommended by the Superintendent;

1. Approve School Calendar for Make Up Snow Days

RESOLVED that the Holland Township Board of Education approve the following changes to the 2010-2011 school calendar:

- a. Monday, March 21, 2011 - full day of school for students
 - b. Additional snow days to be made up in the following order:
 - 1) Monday, April 25, 2011
 - 2) Added to the end of the school year
 - c. Staff in service - the day after the last day for students
 - d. Last day for staff – day after in service
2. Approve Resolution Opposing Opportunity Scholarship Program
Whereas, The Opportunity Scholarship Act would grant corporations tax credits for contributing to a program that issues education vouchers to certain students for use at any public or non-public school of their choice; and

Whereas, During a five-year pilot program, any child residing in one of 13 targeted districts, which operate one or more persistently underperforming schools, may apply for the vouchers, even if the student currently attends a school that is performing satisfactorily; and

Whereas, One-quarter of the funds would be reserved for students who already attend private schools; and

Whereas, Public school districts have experienced reduced state funding and are operating under state-imposed restrictions on local tax levy growth; and

Whereas, The five-year pilot program would divert from \$360 million to \$1 billion in public funds to private schools; and

Whereas, The State of New Jersey is currently experiencing a fiscal emergency during which its revenues are insufficient to provide adequate funding for public education through the School Funding Reform Act, and

Whereas, The Holland Township Board of Education opposes any government policy that would divert funds from the State's revenue stream to private schools when sufficient revenue is not available for New Jersey's public school finance law; and

Whereas, The Holland Township Board of Education believes in school choice within the public education sector upon the mutual agreement of the school boards involved; and

Whereas, The Holland Township Board of Education believes that public funds should not be used to support private schools; and

Whereas, The Opportunity Scholarship Act would fail to address the needs of those students in targeted districts who do not participate in the program; and

Whereas, The Holland Township Board of Education believes that the State should target improvement efforts within the public school system, ensuring that they reach all students. Now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Holland Township Board of Education petitions the New Jersey State Senate and General Assembly to reject the Opportunity Scholarship Act (S-1872 and A-2810); and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be delivered to Governor Chris Christie, Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney, Assembly Speaker Sheila Y. Oliver, Senator Michael J. Doherty, Assemblyman John DiMaio, and Assemblyman Erik C. Peterson; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to Acting Commissioner of Education Christopher D. Cerf, the New Jersey School Boards Association and the Hunterdon County School Boards Association.

DISCUSSION: *The BOE commented that the school calendar should harmonize with the high school calendar.*

AYES: *McDowall, Moebus, Schneider, Scott, Somers, Soucie, Vandenburg, Geissler, Scheibener*

MOTION PASSES

Personnel

MOTION by Mr. Geissler, seconded by Mr. McDowall to approve the following Action Items as recommended by the Superintendent;

1. Approve Staff Attendance at Conferences/Workshops L-1
RESOLVED that the Holland Township Board of Education approves staff attendance at conferences.
2. Approve Staff Summaries of Approved Conferences/Workshops L-2
RESOLVED that the Holland Township Board of Education accepts the staff summary sheets for BOE approved workshops.

AYES: *McDowall, Moebus, Schneider, Scott, Somers, Soucie, Vandenburg, Geissler, Scheibener*

MOTION PASSES

Policy

MOTION by Mr. Moebus, seconded by Mr. Schneider to approve the following Action Items as recommended by the Superintendent;

1. Approve Second Reading of Policy 9181
RESOLVED that the Holland Township Board of Education approves the second reading of Policy 9181 (Volunteer Athletic Coaches).
2. Approve Second Reading of Policy 1550
RESOLVED that the Holland Township Board of Education approves the second reading of Policy 1550 (Affirmative Action Program for Employment and Contract Practices).

3. Approve Second Reading of Policy 2260
RESOLVED that the Holland Township Board of Education approves the second reading of Policy 2260 (Affirmative Action Program for School and Classroom Practices).
4. Approve Second Reading of Policy 2423
RESOLVED that the Holland Township Board of Education approves the second reading of Policy 2423 (Bilingual and ESL Education).
5. Approve Second Reading of Policy 8740
RESOLVED that the Holland Township Board of Education approves the second reading of Policy 8740 (Bonding).
6. Approve Second Reading of Bylaw 0155
RESOLVED that the Holland Township Board of Education approves the second reading of Bylaw 0155 (Committees).
7. Approve First Reading of Policy 2415.01
RESOLVED that the Holland Township Board of Education approves the first reading of Policy 2415.01 (Academic Standards, Academic Assessments and Accountability).
8. Approve First Reading of Bylaw 0151
RESOLVED that the Holland Township Board of Education approves the first reading of Bylaw 0151 (Organization Meeting).
9. Approve First Reading of Bylaw 0153
RESOLVED that the Holland Township Board of Education approves the first reading of Bylaw 0153 (Annual Appointments).
10. Approve First Reading of Bylaw 0154
RESOLVED that the Holland Township Board of Education approves the first reading of Bylaw 0154 (Annual Motions and Designations).

11. Approve First Reading of Bylaw 0164

RESOLVED that the Holland Township Board of Education approves the first reading of Bylaw 0164 (Conduct of Board Meetings).

12. Approve First Reading of Bylaw 0165

RESOLVED that the Holland Township Board of Education approves the first reading of Bylaw 0165 (Voting).

13. Approve Reviewed Bylaws

RESOLVED that the Holland Township Board of Education approves the following reviewed but unchanged bylaws:

Bylaw 0152 – Board Officers

Bylaw 0161 – Call, Adjournment and Cancellation

Bylaw 0162 – Notice of Board Meetings

Bylaw 0163 – Quorum

Bylaw 0166 – Executive Sessions

Bylaw 0167 – Public Participation in Board Meetings

DISCUSSION: *President Scheibener commented for clarification on #13 and Mr. Somers commented on the consideration of a future policy encompassing multiple jurisdictions on sharing services and purchasing through jointures.*

AYES: *McDowall, Moebus, Schneider, Scott, Somers, Soucie, Vandenburg, Geissler, Scheibener*

MOTION PASSES

Finance & Facilities

MOTION by Mr. Somers, seconded by Mr. Moebus to approve the following Action Items as recommended by the Superintendent;

1. Approve Transfer of Funds for the 2010-2011 School Budget N-1

RESOLVED that the Holland Township Board of Education approves the report of line item transfers within the 2010-2011 school budget, pursuant to Policy # 3160.

2. Accept Monthly Financial Report

N-2

RESOLVED that the Holland Township Board of Education accepts the monthly financial reports of the Board Secretary, Form A148, and the Treasurer, Form A149 for the month ending January 2011;

WHEREAS the Board of Education has received the Reports of the Secretary and Treasurer for the month of January 2011; and

WHEREAS these reports show the following balances on January 2011

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Board Secretary Cash Balance</u>	<u>Treasurer Cash Balance</u>
(10) General Fund	\$ 367,448.65	\$ 367,448.65
(10) Capital Reserve	\$ 445,821.50	\$ 445,821.50
(20) Special Revenue Fund	-\$ 91,252.06	-\$ 91,252.06
(30) Capital Projects Fund	\$ 0	\$ 0
(40) Debt Service Fund	\$ 1.36	\$ 1.36
TOTAL	\$ 722,019.45	\$ 722,019.45

And, WHEREAS in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6:20-2A.10(d), the Secretary has certified that, as of the date in the report(s) no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district board of education; NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the Holland Township Board of Education accepts the above referenced reports and certifications and orders that they be attached to and made part of the record of this meeting; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6:20-2A.10(e), the Holland Township Board of Education certifies that after review of the Secretary's monthly financial reports (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of its knowledge, no major account for

fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-2A.10(a)(1), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the year.

3. Approve Payment of the Payroll Bill List

N-3

WHEREAS the Board Secretary has presented payroll check registers for January 14 and January 31, 2011 in the amount of \$623,559.98.

With the recommendation that it be paid; Now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following bills be paid and an itemized list be filed with the minutes of this meeting.

<u>Fund Expense</u>	<u>Bill List Amount</u>
(10) General Fund	\$ 616,769.84
(20) Special Revenue Fund	\$ 6,790.14
(30) Capital Projects Fund	\$ 0
(40) Debt Service Fund	\$ 0
TOTAL	\$ 623,559.98

4. Approve Payment of the Bill List

N-4

WHEREAS the Board Secretary has presented check register for February 22, 2011 in the amount of \$300,898.00.

With the recommendation that it be paid; Now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following bills be paid and an itemized list be filed with the minutes of this meeting.

<u>Fund Expense</u>	<u>Bill List Amount</u>
(10) General Fund	\$ 286,465.54
(20) Special Revenue Fund	\$ 14,432.46
(30) Capital Projects Fund	\$ 0
(40) Debt Service Fund	\$ 0

TOTAL	\$ 300,898.00
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5. Approve Parent Paid Tuition Contract for the 2010-11 School Year: Regular PS
RESOLVED that the Holland Township Board of Education approves the following parent paid tuition contract and accept the following student for the 2010-11 school year, prorated to February 1, 2011.

Parent: M/M William MacNiven, Regular Preschool Tuition Parent Paid \$2,000, prorated beginning February 1, 2011.

6. Approve Increase in Legal Expenditure Budget Line Item
RESOLVED that the Holland Township Board of Education approves the increase in the legal professional services budgetary expense line (11-000-230 -331) from the original budget amount of \$10,000 increased to \$17,000.

7. Approve Payroll Services Contract: R&L Data Services
RESOLVED that the Holland Township Board of Education approves the contract of payroll services with R&L Data Services for the continuation of payroll services to be paid direct from the school district from February 1, 2011 through June 30, 2011;
WHEREAS all current level of services will be continued and provided at a direct cost the Holland Township Board of Education;
WHEREAS services include per pay period checks and direct deposits electronically filed, Payroll, Check and Deposit Registers; Social Security, Wage by Department, and Group Term Life Reports, Budgetary Departmental Reporting and School GAAP Journal Entry; Voluntary Deduction Reporting; 403B Reporting and Contribution Schedules; File maintenance, New Hiring Reporting to the State of NJ, as well as delivery of payroll to the school district;
WHEREAS services will also include NACHA filing, initiation of direct deposit transfers, response to direct deposit inquiries and all direct deposit filing maintenance; Monthly PERS and TPAF Pension reporting as well as Quarterly Employee Summary and State Pension Reporting; Automatic Tax Services and tax agency inquiries; Quarterly Tax Mag Media Filing of NJWR30, 941, NJ927 and PA State Withholdings; Payroll Report Managing On-Line System; Fiscal Year End Wage and Pension Reporting; Preparation and Filing of W-2, Employer/Employee Copies, Year to Date Check Listing and Insurance Reporting;

FURTHER RESOLVED fees are \$440 per payroll and W-2 Preparation will be \$100 with an additional \$4 per W2 prepared.

8. Approve Out of District Student Transportation to Celebrate the Children

RESOLVED that the Holland Township School District approves the transportation route and joint transportation agreement with the Delaware Valley Regional High School to transport student #73 to *Celebrate the Children*, private school for special education from 9/16/10 through 6/30/2011;

WHEREAS the route cost agreement from 9/16/10 through 12/23/10 is \$18,304.44 and from 1/3/2011 through 6/30/11 are \$10,129.36 for a total route cost for the 2010/11 school year of \$28,433.80.

9. Approve Internet Services Resolution

Whereas, Since 1995 the Holland Internet Consortium with the Holland Township School District as the lead agency has been providing internet service through a shared services partnership; and

Whereas, This shared services consortium has provided member districts with service with little or no interruption of internet access; and

Whereas, The Holland Township School District was willing to continue to act as the lead agency and requested and received a proposal from Pen Tele Data internet service provider on January 17, 2011; and

Whereas, The Del Val Regional School District and other districts decided to form a new consortium known as the Del Val Internet Consortium with Del Val Regional as the lead agency instead of continuing the Holland Internet Consortium; and

Whereas, The Del Val Internet Consortium proposed to change the configuration of the delivery of internet service by having the fiber line from Pen Tele Data, first go through an outer firewall, bandwidth distributing shape ware, internet use monitoring software, through a second internal firewall and then distributed to member districts; and

Whereas, The Holland Township Board of Education believes that the delivery of internet service through the proposed configuration of the Del Val Internet Consortium will have an impact on the available bandwidth,

speed of internet service, and the ability of the district to manage its network; and

Whereas, This possible loss of bandwidth, speed of internet service, and ability to manage the network would have a negative effect on access to information, educational technology and classroom instruction; and

Whereas, The Holland Township Board of Education found it prudent to investigate the possibility of continuing our current levels of internet and technology services by posting an e-rate application in hopes maintaining the current level of internet and technology services to its students, teachers and staff; and

Whereas, Pen Tele Data submitted a proposal for providing internet service to the district through fiber lines with a bandwidth of 10 megs at a monthly cost of \$622.42 which is \$81.09 less than the current monthly charge; and

Whereas, By entering into an internet service agreement on our own will lower our monthly expense and ensure that our current level of service is maintained;

Now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Holland Township Board of Education will not become a participating member of the Del Val Internet Consortium and the Holland Township Board of Education will enter into an internet service agreement on its own.

10. Approve the Internet Provider Pen Tele Data for Internet Services

RESOLVED that the Holland Township Board of Education approves the three-year contract of services with Pen Tele Data to provide internet connection services for the Holland Township School District from 7/1/2011 through 6/30/2014;

WHEREAS the internet services contract will provide a base Ethernet internet access rate of 10Mbps and equipment rental and maintenance of a Cisco 1841 Modular router w/2 FE, Wan, SLOT, IT Base, 32 FL, 128 DR at a monthly recurring fee of \$1,037.37 for three years;

WHEREAS the Cisco 1841 Modular router w/2 FE, Wan, SLOT, IT Base, 32 FL, 128 DR will be installed at a one-time charge of \$360;
RESOLVED that the contract will be discounted through the Federal E-Rate program at a current discount reduction rate of 40%, filed yearly through the E-Rate process;
FURTHER RESOLVED the contract will be authorized with a signature of acceptance as of February 28, 2011.

DISCUSSION: *Mr. Somers stated how actions 9&10 are comprehensive actions in that our internet will be controlled by HTSD and maintained by HTSD while maintaining cost effectiveness.*

AYES: *McDowall, Moebus, Schneider, Scott, Somers, Soucie, Vandenburg, Geissler, Scheibener*

MOTION PASSES

Communications Committee

Reviewed meeting report.

Board Goals/Timelines

Reviewed Goals and Timelines

Supplementary Matters

MOTION by Mr. Geissler, seconded by Mr. Moebus to approve the following resolution of support:

Approve Resolution in Support of Eliminating the Annual Vote on School Budgets within Cap

Whereas, Under state law, over 90 percent of New Jersey local boards of education must submit their proposed base budgets to voters each year; and

Whereas, Effective with the 2011-2012 school year, proposed school budgets are controlled by a strict 2 percent tax-levy cap, and

Whereas, The state's Executive County Superintendents must thoroughly review and must approve proposed school district base budgets, and

Whereas, State Department of Education officials have the authority to make line-item cuts to local school budgets, and

- Whereas, The tax-levy cap and advance state approval of base budgets ensures the efficient and responsible use of taxpayer funds; and
- Whereas, Forty-one states do not require that school districts place proposed operating budgets on the ballot; and
- Whereas, Neither municipalities, nor counties nor the state government are required to submit their annual operating budgets for voter approval; and
- Whereas, In New Jersey, the school budget is the only government spending plan requiring voter referendum and, as a result, is often subject to citizen dissatisfaction with non-education government spending. Now therefore be it
- Resolved, That the Holland Township Board of Education petitions the New Jersey State Senate and General Assembly to advance legislation eliminating the annual referendum on proposed school budgets that are within the tax levy cap; and be it further
- Resolved, That this resolution be delivered to Governor Chris Christie, Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney, Assembly Speaker Sheila Y. Oliver, Senator Michael J. Doherty, Assemblyman John DiMaio, Assemblyman Erik C. Peterson, and the members of the Senate and Assembly Education Committees; and be it further
- Resolved, That copies of this resolution be sent to Acting Commissioner of Education Christopher D. Cerf, the New Jersey School Boards Association and the Hunterdon County School Boards Association.

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Comments: Public – General:

Mr. Stausa – introduced himself and stated his interest in volunteering as assistant coach for baseball

Executive Session

MOTION by Mr. Moebus, seconded by Mr. Somers to approve Entering into ***Executive Session at 8:27 pm;***

WHEREAS the "Open Public Meetings Act" (Chapter 231 Laws of 1975) authorizes a public body to exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which specified topics are to be discussed under circumstances where the public consideration of such topics will clearly endanger the public or where the personal privacy or guaranteed rights of individuals whose activities or affairs are to be discussed would clearly in danger of unwarranted invasion; be it

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Township of Holland now adjourns its public session to reconvene in Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the following: ***Negotiations Update: HTEA***

And be it further RESOLVED that the discussion in Executive Session be disclosed in the minutes to be released at the next regular meeting of the Board, provided the Board's consideration of the subject matter has been closed, or that such matters that adversely affect the rights of prospective, current, or past public officers or personnel of the board, such individuals have in writing requested the disclosure of such discussion at a public meeting and provided such a public disclosure will no longer clearly endanger the public interest.

AYES: *McDowall, Moebus, Schneider, Scott, Somers, Soucie, Vandenburg, Geissler, Scheibener*

MOTION PASSES

MOTION by Mr. Moebus, seconded by Mr. Somers to move to ***Public Session*** at 9:23 p.m.

AYES: *McDowall, Moebus, Schneider, Scott, Somers, Soucie, Vandenburg, Geissler, Scheibener*

MOTION PASSES

MOTION by Mr. Geissler, seconded by Mr. Somers to approve the Preliminary Budget meeting to be held on March 2nd at 7pm.

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION by Mr. Geissler, seconded by Mr. Moebus to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 p.m.

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully Submitted,

Abigail Postma, RSBA/Board Secretary