

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

SPECIAL MEETING - PERSONNEL MINUTES

January 25, 2024

6:00 pm. Open the Meeting and enter Executive Session in the Administration Building: Room 21
2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

CALL TO ORDER

Time: 6:00pm

1. Flag salute and opening statement:

In accordance with Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, this public body, the Hopatcong Board of Education hereby announces that The New Jersey Herald and the Daily Record have been notified by email that this Board of Education Regular Meeting will take place at 7:00 p.m following the Executive Session (in room 21) which starts at 6:00 p.m. on January 25, 2024 at the Hopatcong Board of Education, Board meeting room in the Administration Building.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Present	Joseph Falconi	Present	Nicole Falconi-Shubert	Present	Philip DiStefano
Present	Natalia Cappello	Absent	Jayson Cittrich	Present	Jayna Gulan
Present	James Chaffee, Jr.	Absent	Alexander McLean	Present	Jennifer Polowchena

A motion was made to enter into Executive Session for matters of personnel only.

Motion to enter executive session:

(ACTION) Motion by Gulan. seconded by Polowchena

3. **RECONVENE**

Yes	Joseph Falconi	Yes	Nicole Falconi-Shubert	Yes	Philip DiStefano
Yes	Natalia Cappello	-----	Jayson Cittrich	Yes	Jayna Gulan
Yes	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----	Alexander McLean	Yes	Jennifer Polowchena

The board reviewed a packet prepared by Board President Shubert that included a Q and A on all aspects of the situation regarding the replacement of Mr. DiBenedetto as superintendent. The questions were provided by board members and the answers were accrued with the assistance of Board Attorney Wright. Mr. Jeff Hallenbeck was discussed as the replacement and details on contract proposals, contract comparisons with other districts and his experience were all discussed in detail.

The document provided options for the board and the one that was chosen centered on the following: Beginning on February 29, 2024, Mr. Hallenbeck will assume the position of Acting Superintendent. He will remain as Assistant Superintendent of Business and will receive a yet to be determined stipend per day for the Acting Superintendent duties.

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Motion to Reconvene

(ACTION) Motion by DiStefano seconded by Gulan

Yes	Joseph Falconi	Yes	Nicole Falconi-Shubert	Yes	Philip DiStefano
Yes	Natalia Cappello	-----	Jayson Cittrich	Yes	Jayna Gulan
No	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----	Alexander McLean	Yes	Jennifer Polowchena

4. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn:

(ACTION) Motion by Falconi. seconded by Gulan

Time: 8:00pm

Respectfully Submitted,

art dibenedetto, Interim Supt.