

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

Assistant Superintendent Contract Amendment - Public Hearing Minutes

February 26, 2024

5:45 pm. in the Board Meeting Room

2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

CALL TO ORDER

Time: 5:46 pm

1. **FLAG SALUTE**

2. **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 Public Hearing will take place at 5:45 p.m on February 26, 2024 at the Hopatcong Board of Education, Board meeting room in the Administration Building.

3. **ROLL CALL**

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

4. **Public Hearing**

Motion to open Public Hearing:

(ACTION) Motion by Cittrich. seconded by Polowchena

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

5. **AMMENDMENT TO ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT**

a. Discussion Acting Superintendent February 28, 2024 – June 30, 2024.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

7. **BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER COMMENTS**

8. **CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING**

Motion to close Public Hearing:

(ACTION) Motion by Cittrich. seconded by Polowchena

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

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9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn Public Hearing:

(ACTION) Motion by Cittrich seconded by Polowchena

All in favor YES. Time: 5:50

Respectfully submitted,



Jeff Hallenbeck, Board Secretary

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

February 26, 2024

6:00 pm. Open the Meeting and enter Executive Session in the Administration Building: Room 21

Public Portion will begin at 7:00 p.m in the Board Meeting Room

2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

CALL TO ORDER

Time: 6:00 pm

1. **FLAG SALUTE**

2. **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 February 26, 2024 at the Hopatcong Board of Education, Board meeting room in the Administration Building.

3. **ROLL CALL**

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

* Arrived 6:08 pm

^Arrived 7:00 pm

4. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion will be made that the Hopatcong Board of Education will enter Executive Session in room 21 to discuss personnel and attorney/client privilege, which are exempt from public participation pursuant to New Jersey Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, Open Public Meetings Act. Any discussions held by the Board which need not remain confidential will be made public when appropriate. Minutes of the Executive Session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists. The Board will reconvene in public session at 7:00 p.m. following the executive session.

Motion to enter executive session:

(ACTION) Motion by Cittrich. seconded by Polowchena

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

5. **RECONVENE**

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Motion to Reconvene

(ACTION) Motion by Cittrich seconded by Polowchena

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

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of the following meetings, as reported by the Board Secretary reviewed by the Board President and members of the Board:

- a. January 2, 2024 - Special Meeting
- b. January 25, 2023 - Executive Session
- c. January 25, 2024 - Special Meeting
- d. January 29, 2024 - Executive Session
- e. January 29, 202 - Public Meeting

Motion to approve 6a-6e:

(ACTION) Motion by Cittrich seconded by Polowchena

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

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT AND HIB REPORT

- a. Superintendent's Report – **Mr. Arthur DiBenedetto, Interim Superintendent of Schools**
 1. Superintendent Thank You
 2. **Student Representatives**, Lana Cocal - Thomas Galvez Perea
- b. Whereas Interim Superintendent Mr. DiBenedetto has concluded two years of service, and whereas that is the maximum time he is allowed to serve the District because he is retired be it resolved that Mr. [Jeff Hallenbeck](#) be named Acting Superintendent beginning February 29, 2024 through June 30, 2024. This resolution serves as a revision to Mr. Hallenbeck's Assistant Superintendent to Business contract. He will maintain the position as Business Administrator and receive a \$225/day stipend for being Acting Superintendent.
- c. A second reading and approval of the Superintendent's HIB Report for January 29, 2024 as presented to the Board at the January meeting on January 29, 2024.

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Motion to approve 7a – 7c:

((ACTION)Motion by Cappello. Seconded by Polowchena

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

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE

- a. The following students were chosen as **Hopatcong High School's Students of the Month** for their outstanding performance in January, 2024.
Grade 8 – Lacey Weber
Honorable Mention: Jeslynn Hoehl-Harmon, Talia Perrotti, Rocco Shubert
Grade 9 – Lilyanne Zinsli
Honorable Mention: Michael Kanaley
Grade 11 – Sadie Kester
Honorable Mention: Shayla Pichardo
Grade 12 – Jayla Elias
Honorable Mention: Kelvin Fernandez, David Green
- b. The following students were chosen as **Hopatcong High School's Scholar Athletes of the Month** for their outstanding performance in January of 2024:

Girls Basketball – Abigail Whritenour, Senior
Boys Basketball – Anthony Norelli, Junior
Esports – Olivia Sachse, Senior
- c. Congratulations to Hopatcong High School Student **Jayla Elias** on their nomination for **Sussex County Superintendents' Roundtable Student of the Year**.
- d. Congratulations to Hopatcong High School Student **Mackenzie Mower** on their nomination for **2024 Sussex County Unsung Hero**.
- e. Congratulations to **Hopatcong Middle School Students** who made High Honor Roll and Honor Roll for the second marking period of the 2023 – 2024 school year.
- f. Congratulations to **Hopatcong High School Students** who made High Honor Roll and Honor Roll for the second marking period of the 2023 – 2024 school year.

9. PARENT/TEACHER ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVES

10. PUBLIC COMMENT – GENERAL DISCUSSION

Thank you to Mr. DiBenedetto for his service to the district from several members of the community. Discussion on budget season and positions that may or may not be cut in the upcoming year.

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11. FINANCE

Approval of the following Finance items, 11a. – 11j., as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools and the Operations Committee of the Board:

- a. It is recommended by the Superintendent that bills for the General Fund and Special Revenues (Grants) account, January 29, 2024 through February 26, 2024 be approved in the following amounts:

General Fund and Special Revenue (Grants) account -	\$1,528,540.88
Cafeteria account	- \$75,421.29

- b. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the board approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of January, 2024.
- c. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the board approve the Board Secretary's Report for the month of January, 2024.
- d. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the board approve the Transfer Report for the month of January, 2024.
- e. Motion to approve the certification by the Board Secretary that the Account Balance Report, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-9, as of February 26, 2024, no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(a).
- f. Motion to certify, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c), as of February 26, 2024, after review of the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Monthly Financial Reports and upon consultation with the appropriate 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:23-2.11(b), and sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.
- g. It is recommended by the Superintendent that Jeff Hallenbeck, Assistant Superintendent for Business/Board Secretary be designated as the Public Agency Compliance Officer (P.A.C.O.)
- h. QUASI ENTITY RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the School Alliance Insurance Fund membership allows additional insured status for Booster Clubs, Foundations and other affiliated entities, and

WHEREAS, upon completion of the Quasi Entity General Application, and a formal Hopatcong Board of Education resolution recognizing the Entity as an additional insured receiving quasi entity status,

THEREFORE, be it resolved, the Hopatcong Board of Education formally recognizes the following, as Quasi Entities of the Hopatcong Board of Education:

- Project Graduation Class of 2024
- i. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the board approve the acceptance of the following donation to the Dale Salomone Memorial Scholarship account:

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DONOR	CHECK NUMBER	AMOUNT
Richard Mazell, PSY.D.	#3186	\$200.00

- j. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the board approve the acceptance of the music classroom grant from the CMA Foundation for our CMA Foundation Music Teacher of Excellence, Shawna Longo, in the amount of \$2,500.00 (check # 3200).

Motion to approve 11a – 11j

(ACTION) Motion by Cittrich. Seconded by Gulan

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

12. **PERSONNEL**

Approval of the following personnel items, **12a – 12j**, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools and the Student Achievement Committee of the Board:

- a. Approval to accept the resignation with regret, for the purpose of retirement, of **Linda Tappen** from her position as an Administrative Assistant effective July 1, 2024. Linda has worked for the Hopatcong School District for 11 years.
- b. Approval to accept the resignation with regret, for the purpose of retirement, of **Matt Handy** from his position as a Custodian effective April 18, 2024. Matt has worked for the Hopatcong School District for 20 years.
- c. Approval to accept the resignation with regret, for the purpose of retirement, of **Mary Ellen Fata** from her position as a School Social Worker effective June 30, 2024. Mary Ellen has worked for the Hopatcong School District for 32 years.
- d. Approval of **Sabina Orsi** as a Long-Term Leave Replacement at Durban Ave effective February 29, 2024. Sabina will be paid 19 days at the substitute per diem rate of \$110/per day then to be paid at a prorated annual salary of \$65,755 which represents Level BA/Step 1 of the 2023-2024 HEA Salary Guide until the end of the school year.

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- e. Approval of **Employee #81590** for 12 weeks of unpaid NJFLA leave beginning retroactively back to February 5, 2024 through May 3, 2024 with a return date of May 6, 2024.
- f. Approval for **Gillian Garriques**, Centenary student to observe eight hours at Hopatcong Middle School during the 2023-2024 school year.
- g. Approval of **Officer David Jacob** as a volunteer Baseball Coach for Spring 2024.
- h. Approval of **Lien Lai** and **Nicole Gricenko** to work as athletic event staff as needed for the 2023-2024 school year.
- i. Approval of the following staff to take and receive tuition reimbursements*, as per contract, upon successful completion of the course and submission of paperwork

Course Approval /Reimbursement Approval

Name	Course Title	Course Number	Credits	Cost
Robert Wade	ABA 605 Assessment and Strategic Design	ABA 605	3	\$1333.32
Melissa Kennedy	Literacy Instruction for School Leaders	GED 540	3	\$1333.32

****The maximum rate of reimbursement per credit for the 23-24 school year is \$444.44.***

- j. Approval of the following substitutes for the Hopatcong School District:
 1. Heather McMillan, Substitute Paraprofessional
 2. Matthew Andrews, Substitute Teacher
 3. Aubrey Modafferi, Substitute Teacher

13. **TRAVEL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Resolved, that the Hopatcong Board of Education approve travel costs as related in this resolution which are educationally necessary and fiscally prudent and are related to and within the scope of the employee's current responsibilities and promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district. The reimbursement listed in this resolution are in compliance with the state travel reimbursement guidelines as established by the Department of Treasury and Board of Education policy in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1. seq

Approval of the following staff to attend Professional Development/Conference*

Name	Title	Cost	Date
Aimee Landrud	New Jersey State School Nurses Association Spring Conference	\$249	3/15-3/16/24
Katherine McFadden Tammy Miller	Preschool Inclusion Leadership Conference	\$58+mileage	4/24/24
Emily lonni	OG Learning Stations; Embedding Reading Comprehension Strategies into Daily Practices; Changing Classroom	\$90	2/3/24

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	Practices to Reflect the Science of Reading		
Kristine Kester Siobhan Winkler Christi Murphy Gabrielle Cardosa-Schnabel	ADHD and The Internal Executive Function Skills	\$90+ mileage	5/20/24
Stephanie Martinez	NJPSA Legislative Conference and Membership Meeting	\$0+mileage	3/22/24
Carla Malatesta	Multilingual Learners Leadership Summit	\$100+mileage	3/1/24
Karen Cubberly	Learning & Teaching AP Biology III: Reproduction	\$432	2/16/24
Robert Wade	AP Calculus AB Online Workshop	\$125	1/25/24
Melissa Stein	PrideWorks 2024 - 20th Annual Conference for LGBTQ+ Youth and their Allies	\$95 + mileage	3/13/24
Martina Villani Alexa McLean	NJTESOL/NABE Spring conference, Systems of Support for Multilingual Learners	%515 + mileage	5/30-5/31/24

**Cost will be reimbursed upon completion of attendance and all documentation has been provided.*

14. STUDENTS AND SERVICES

Approval of the following items, 14a-14i as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools and Student Achievement Committee of the Board:

- a. Approval for 5 hours of home instruction services per week for student no. 13760. Instruction will be provided by Hopatcong certificated staff at the Board approved rate of \$40.00 per hour extended from 3/1/24 until approximately 5/1/24.
- b. Approval for 5 hours of home instruction services per week for student no. 15059. Instruction will be provided by Hopatcong certificated staff at the Board approved rate of \$40.00 per hour effective 2/5/24 until approximately 3/19/24.
- c. Approval for 2 additional hours of portfolio home instruction services per week for 6 weeks, student no. 15059. Instruction will be provided by Hopatcong certificated staff at the rate of \$35.00 per hour.
- d. Approval for 5 hours of home instruction services per week for student no. 13507. Instruction will be provided by Hopatcong certificated staff at the Board approved rate of \$40.00 per hour beginning 1/30/24 until 6/18/24.
- e. Approval for 5 hours of home instruction services per week beginning 1/30/24 until 2/23/24 and 2 ½ hours per week 2/26/24 until approximately 4/15/24 for student no. 13243. Instruction will be provided by Hopatcong certificated staff at the Board approved rate of \$40.00 per hour.
- f. Approval for educational instruction services for student no. 13245 for up to 10 hours per week beginning 2/8/24 for the anticipated duration of approximately 60 days. Instruction will be provided by Silvergate Prep at a rate of \$45.00 per hour.

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- g. Approval for 5 hours of home instruction services per week for student no. 13516. Instruction will be provided by Roxbury certificated staff at the rate of \$38.00 per hour and Hopatcong certificated staff at the Board approved rate of \$40.00 per hour beginning 1/30/24 until approximately 3/8/24.
- h. Approval for 5 hours of home instruction services per week for student no. 15413. 4 hours of instruction will be provided by Silvergate Prep at the rate of \$45.00 per hour. 1 hour of instruction per week will be provided by Hopatcong certificated staff at the Board approved rate of \$40.00 per hour beginning February 8, 2024 until approximately March 1, 2024.
- i. Approval of the following field trip requests:

SCHOOL	DATE	TRIP
High School	3/12/24	Teen Arts
Tulsa	5/20/24	Turtle Back Zoo

15. RESOLUTIONS

Approval of the following resolutions as per the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools.

- a. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Board of Education approve fifteen hours of extra work for Peter Oesen who completed these and other hours without approval of the board but which were for items that had to be completed for the Fall athletic season.
- b. Whereas the HEA filed a grievance in regard to a disputed stipend for employee 80390; and whereas that grievance was about to go to Arbitration; and whereas the Association has decided to drop this arbitration request, it is recommended that a settlement agreement regarding the issue be passed as the matter has been settled via a sidebar agreement with the Association. (regarding AR-2024-259)
- c. Whereas there is a state mandate that a certain number of employees be CPR certified; and whereas Athletic Trainer Bove is a certified CPR instructor; be it resolved that the Board approve payment of \$80 for the teaching of two CPR classes in the Winter of 2024.
- d. Whereas the HEA and Leanne Juliano filed a petition/suit against the Board of Education regarding the attendance of HHS students at Elite Prep Academy as part of an Option 2 program; and whereas the suit that was filed complained about the cost of transporting students to Elite Prep Academy; and whereas there were no students interested in the program and the suit was dropped, therefore be it resolved that the board accept the stipulation of dismissal.
- e. Whereas Maintenance Employee #81542 was hired with a stipend received for having a CDL license; and whereas the employee did not receive the stipend in the past two school years because the Hopatcong Board of Education no longer hires bus drivers;

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it is recommended that the board approve a settlement with the HEA which will pay the stipend of \$500 for the last two years and then be relieved of the stipend responsibility in future years.

f. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Board of Education approve the settlement agreement regarding OAL Docket No. EDS 13705-23.

g. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF THE GRANT AGREEMENT FOR SCHOOL FACILITIES PROJECT**

WHEREAS, based on prior New Jersey Department of Education approvals, by letter dated January 26, 2024, the New Jersey Schools Development Authority (“NJSDA”) has offered an Educational Facilities Construction and Financing Section 15 Grant (“the Grant”) to the Hopatcong Board of Education (“the Board”);

WHEREAS, the Grant is for certain funding of a School Facilities Project at the Hopatcong High School, including the replacement/restoration of approximately 36,150 sq. ft. of existing EDPM roofing system on multiple sections of the building roof;

WHEREAS, the Board has received all necessary New Jersey Department of Education (“DOE”) approvals, including approval by letter dated December 13, 2023 of the “Final Eligible Cost” (“FEC Letter”) for the School Facilities Project;

WHEREAS, the FEC Letter establishes a maximum dollar amount of eligible costs, meaning that if the local share of the costs of the School Facilities Project is less than the dollar amount stated in the DOE’s FEC Letter or if the total cost to complete said Project is less than the total amount in the FEC Letter, the Grant amount shall be decreased proportionally;

WHEREAS, if there are additional costs for the School Facilities Project resulting in an amount greater than the total FEC amount, said additional costs will be funded through the Board’s local share of the cost for said project; and

WHEREAS, in order to receive NJSDA funding, the Board must authorize the execution and delivery of the Grant Agreement.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board is hereby authorizing execution and delivery of the Grant Agreement for SDA Project # 2240-030-23-G5WJ, Grant # G5-6985, for NJSDA funding of its School Facilities Project at the Hopatcong High School.

h. **RESOLUTION: DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR FOR SUPERVISION OF THE SCHOOL FACILITIES PROJECT**

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WHEREAS, based on prior New Jersey Department of Education approvals, by letter dated January 26, 2024, the New Jersey Schools Development Authority (“NJSDA”) has offered an Educational Facilities Construction and Financing Section 15 Grant (“the Grant”) to the Hopatcong Board of Education (“the Board”);

WHEREAS, the Grant is for certain funding of a School Facilities Project at the Hopatcong High School, including the replacement/restoration of approximately 36,150 sq. ft. of existing EDPM roofing system on multiple sections of the building roof;

WHEREAS, the Board has received all necessary New Jersey Department of Education (“DOE”) approvals, including approval by letter dated December 13, 2023 of the “Final Eligible Cost” (“FEC Letter”) for the School Facilities Project;

WHEREAS, the FEC Letter establishes a maximum dollar amount of eligible costs, meaning that if the local share of the costs of the School Facilities Project is less than the dollar amount stated in the DOE’s FEC Letter or if the total cost to complete said Project is less than the total amount in the FEC Letter, the Grant amount shall be decreased proportionally;

WHEREAS, if there are additional costs for the School Facilities Project resulting in an amount greater than the total FEC amount, said additional costs will be funded through the Board’s local share of the cost for said project; and

WHEREAS, in order to receive NJSDA funding, the Board must delegate authority for supervision of the School Facilities Project to the School Business Administrator;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board is hereby approving the delegation of authority to the Board’s Assistant Superintendent for Business (School Business Administrator) for supervision of the School Facilities Project relating to SDA Project # 2240-030-23-G5WJ, Grant # G5-6985, for NJSDA funding of its School Facilities Project at the Hopatcong High School.

16. **SUSSEX COUNTY REGIONAL COOPERATIVE**

- a. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **approval of bills** for the Sussex County Regional Cooperative Operating account for January 30, 2024 through February 26, 2024 in the amount of \$45,671.46 for Regular bills and \$5,431,903.47 for Bus Contractors.

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b. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **approval to hire Laurie Giordano** as a school bus driver for the 2023-2024 school year at the hourly rate of \$28.85 beginning March 1, 2024, pending final CDL endorsements.

c. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the unpaid **suspension of Employee #80369** as a school bus driver for a period of six months due to loss of required CDL (S) endorsement, beginning March 1, 2024.

d.

1. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **approval of eighty-three (83) Member School Districts** for the 2024-2025 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.

2. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **acceptance** of student transportation **quotations for Special Education School Year Routes** for the 2023-2024 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.

3. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **award** of student transportation **quotations for Special Education School Year Routes** to the lowest, responsible and responsive bus contractor companies for the 2023-2024 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.

4. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **acceptance** of student transportation **quotations for Athletic/Class/Field Trips** for the 2023-2024 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.

5. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **award** of student transportation **contracts for quoted Athletic/Class/Field Trips** to the lowest, responsible and responsive bus contractor companies for the 2023-2024 School Year as listed on Exhibit A

6. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **route contract addendums for the 2023 -2024 School Year** as listed on Exhibit A.

7. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **renewal of 2022-2023 School Year Routes for the 2023 – 2024 School Year** at State issued CPI increase of 5.86% or less as listed on Exhibit A.

8. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend **the approval of Transportation Jointure Agreements** for transportation routes for the 2023-2024 school year as listed on Exhibit A.

17. **BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER COMMENTS**

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ADDENDUM

- a. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Hopatcong Board of Education approve the purchase of a 2014 Thomas Minotour Wheelchair Van (VIN13GB3G3BG1D1186236) from the West Milford Board of Education at a cost of \$40,000 with funding from account 12-000-270-733-01.
- b. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Hopatcong Board of Education approve the tuition contract with Passaic Public Schools (Sending District) and the Hopatcong Board of Education (Receiving District) for Student No. 15969 who has been determined Homeless and is being temporarily housed and educated within our district effective February 21, 2024 through June 30, 2024 at the tentative tuition charge of \$97.97 per day.
- c. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Hopatcong Board of Education approve that **Employee #81107** be suspended with pay, effective February 23, 2024, pending the outcome of legal circumstances.
- d. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Hopatcong Board of Education approve amendment to the TITLEIII ESEA application.
- e. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Hopatcong Board of Education approve the following due to emergency circumstances: **Mark Certo** be named coordinator of student discipline at Hopatcong High School. Whereas this position must be posted as per HEA contract. Mr. Certo will be named on an emergency basis from February 28, 2024 through the March 18th Board of Education meeting, when a final resolution will be put forward.
- f. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Hopatcong Board of Education approve transfer of **Mark Certo** from the Middle School to the High School effective February 28, 2024.
- g. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Hopatcong Board of Education approve **Employee #80399** be suspended with pay, effective February 9, 2024, pending the outcome of investigations that are ongoing.
- h. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Hopatcong Board of Education approve the attendance of Student #14064 and Student #14082 through the end of the school year. The family is moving in April and has requested to finish the school year in Hopatcong.
- i. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Hopatcong Board of Education approve the adjustment in extra curricular/pay whereas Esports is no longer an advisorship but an athletic team, Coach **James McKowen** will move to class B, level 2, \$3,666 for Winter and Spring E-Sports for the 2023-2024 school year.
- j. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Hopatcong Board of Education approve the following Fall coaches for the 2024-2025 school year:

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

February 26, 2024

6:00 pm. Open the Meeting and enter Executive Session in the Administration Building: Room 21

Public Portion will begin at 7:00 p.m in the Board Meeting Room

2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

SPORT / Activity	Name	Class	Salary	Level
Head Football Coach	Mark Certo	A	\$7,712.00	4
Asst. Football Coach	Gary Andolena	B	\$5,034.00	4
Asst. Football Coach	Austin Brown	B	\$5,034.00	4
Asst. Football Coach	TBD			
Asst. Football Coach	TBD			
Football Paraprofessional / aid	Roger White	-	-	-
Head Girls Soccer Coach	TBD	A	\$7,712.00	4
Assistant Girls Soccer Coach	TBD			
Head Boys Soccer Coach	TBD			
Asst. Boys Soccer coach	Eric Fajerman	B	\$5,034.00	4
Head Tennis Coach	Traci Duffy	B	\$5,034.00	4
Asst Tennis Coach	Heather DelBagno	B	\$3,287.00	4
Head Marching Band Director	Al Cerulo	A	\$7,712.00	4
Asst. Marching Band Director	TBD			
Color Guard Volunteer	Barb Parichuk	-	-	-
March Band Paraprofessional / aid	Wictotia Plewa	-	-	-
March Band Paraprofessional / aid	Torri Burghoffer	-	-	-
March Band Paraprofessional / aid	Nicco Galozza	-	-	-
Head Fall Cheerleading Coach	Izzy Yarosz	B	\$3,666.00	2
Asst. Fall Cheerleading Coach	Christina Gannon	B	\$2,403.00	2
Fall Cheerleading VOLUNTEER	Aimee Robertson	-	-	-
Head Cross Country Coach	Peter Oesen	A	\$7,712.00	4
Asst. Cross Country Coach	Jamie Douglas	B	\$5,034.00	4
Fall ESports	James McGowen	B	\$4,388.000	3

(ACTION) Motion to approve item 12 through addendum j: Cappello. seconded by Gulan

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

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

*Abstain item 14g.

18. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn:

(ACTION) Motion by Cittrich. seconded by Gulan

All in favor Yes. Time: 7:37pm

Respectfully submitted,



Jeff Hallenbeck, Board Secretary