

Minutes Meeting March 24, 2022

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 PM

FLAG SALUTE

NOTICE OF MEETING:

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided as follows: by having the time, date and place of the meeting posted on the bulletin board in the Administration Building January 6, 2022; by sending a copy of the meeting notice to the Star Ledger Newspaper on January 6, 2022; and by filing a copy with the Township of Hillside and Hillside Public Library January 6, 2022.

ROLL CALL:

Allende	Absent		Simmons	6:30 p.m.	9:05 p.m.
Best	6:30 p.m.	9:05 p.m.	Shapiro	6:30 p.m.	9:05 p.m.
Cillo	6:30 p.m.	9:05 p.m.	Cook	6:30 p.m.	9:05 p.m.
Horton-Givens	6:30 p.m.	9:05 p.m.	Glover	6:30 p.m.	9:05 p.m.
Howard	Absent		Hamlin	6:30 p.m.	9:05 p.m.
Lofton	6:30 p.m.	9:05 p.m.	Eichenholtz	6:30 p.m.	9:05 p.m.

Announcements

Superintendent's Report - See attached.

Motion to open public comments at 7:32 p.m.

Motion: Shapiro Second: Best

Motion carried. Unanimous voice vote.

Public Comments – Agenda and Non-Agenda Items

Angela Lawler asked about money budgeted for Special Education classroom upgrades.

Mr. Glover replied that Summer Programs would be funded through CARES ACT.

Angela Lawler also asked how the Board could have a 0% increase in the budget with the cost of everything up. She said contracts need to be settled and the Board needed to have funds to sustain raises for members.

Aruna Mathura announced the WOK Diversity Celebration Program on Wednesday, March 30, 2022.

Motion to close public comments at 7:39 p.m.

Motion: Lofton Second: Shapiro

Motion carried. Unanimous voice vote.

Committee Reports

Ms. Best stated that the Finance Committee met on 3/22/2022 to discuss the agenda items and tentative budget.

Ms. Best stated that the Building & Grounds Committee met on 3/22/2022 to discuss improvement to the schools.

Ms. Horton-Givens stated that the Education Committee met on 3/22/2022 to discuss agenda items.

Ms. Cook stated that the Labor Relations Committee met on 3/22/2022 to discuss labor and personnel issues.

Motion to go into Executive Session at 7:42 p.m.

Motion: Shapiro Second: Lofton

Motion carried. Unanimous voice vote.

Executive Session

- Hearing – Student Matter

Motion to go into public session at 9:00 p.m.

Motion: Best Second: Simmons

Motion carried. Unanimous voice vote.

FINANCE – Shapiro/Best

1. Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on February 24, 2022.
2. Motion to approve line item transfers.
3. Motion to approve the payment of bills subject to the availability of funds.
4. Motion to approve the August 2021 Board Secretary Report.
5. Motion to approve the August 2021 Cash Report.
6. Motion to receive the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the year ended June 30, 2021 along with the accompanying Auditors' Management Report on Administrative Findings – Financial Compliance and Performance June 30, 2021. (FI#1-03/22)
7. Motion to approve the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) in response to the Auditors' Management Report on Administrative Findings – Financial Compliance and Performance June 30, 2021. (FI#2-03/22)

FINANCE – Best/Shapiro – (continued)

8. BE IT RESOLVED that the tentative budget be approved for the 2022-2023 school year using the 2022-2023 state aid figures and the Secretary to the Board of Education be authorized to submit to the Executive County Superintendent for approval in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-5 and 18A:7F-6:

	General Fund	Special Revenues	Debt Service	Total
2022-2023 Total Expenditures	\$65,953,378	5,034,214	0	\$70,987,592
Less: Anticipated Revenues	\$35,426,883	5,034,214	0	\$40,461,097
Taxes to be Raised <u>(0%)</u>	<u>\$30,526,495</u>	0	0	<u>\$30,526,495</u>

And, to advertise said tentative budget in the Star Ledger or Local Source in accordance with the form suggested by the New Jersey Department of Education and according to law;

AND a public hearing on the budget for the 2022-2023 school year will be held at Hillside Innovation Academy (Board Room), 1100 Woodruff Avenue, Hillside, NJ on April 28, 2022.

9. BE IT RESOLVED that the Hillside Board of Education requests a capital reserve withdrawal in the amount of \$2,778,588 and such action be made a part of the tentative budget for the 2022-23 School Year to be submitted to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval. The district intends to utilize these funds for:

4 classroom/multipurpose rooms – Modular Addition to Deanna Taylor Academy

10. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3, a board of education must establish a maximum dollar limit for travel expenditure, as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et seq.,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Hillside Board of Education includes in the tentative budget a maximum travel expenditure in the amount of \$34,150 for the 2022-2023 school year. The maximum travel expenditure amount for the 2021-2022 school year is \$4,000 and \$900 is encumbered to date.

FINANCE – Best/Shapiro – (continued)

11. WHEREAS, the Hillside Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3 et seq. requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

WHEREAS, the Hillside Board of Education established \$4,000 as the maximum travel amount for the current school year and has expended \$900 as of this date; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3, to a maximum expenditure of 34,150 for the 2022-2023 school year.

Motion: Shapiro

Second: Howard

	Yes	No	Ab.		Yes	No	Ab.
Allende	Absent			Lofton	X		
Best	X		#8	Simmons	X		
Cillo	X			Shapiro	X		#8
Horton-Givens	X			Cook	X		
Howard	Absent						

Motions 1 to 11 carried.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Lofton/Best

1. Motion to approve the attached settlement resolution between the Hillside Board of Education and Essex Regional Educational Services Commission. (Supporting documentation will be handed to BOE Members in closed session.)
2. Motion to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Hillside Board of Education ("Board") previously advertised for bids and awarded a contract for Solar Power & Services Agreement at Hurden Looker School as part of the ESCO Energy Savings Improvement Plan and entered into a Contract with Greenskies Clean Energy LLC. dated June 3, 2021 for a solar PPA, and

WHEREAS, roof restoration at Hurden Looker School was unavoidably delayed due to weather conditions and supply chain issues caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, delaying the start of the solar panel installation; and

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Lofton/Best (continued)

WHEREAS, such delay may impact the full completion and final certification of the solar system for participation in NJ Board of Public Utilities Transition Incentive Program (TREC) and may require that if be certified for the NJ Board of Public Utilities Successor Solar Incentive Program (SuSI), requiring an adjustment to the applicable kWh rate for each year;

WHEREAS the Solar PPA and the ESCO Energy Savings Improvement Plan project as a whole is still cash flow positive each year with the reduced solar savings;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby the amendment of the Appendix Schedule 4 of the Solar Power & Services Agreement at Hurden Looker School to add a schedule for the SuSI kWh Rate to take effect if the system is not certified for inclusion in the TREC program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board President and the Board Secretary are hereby authorized to execute such agreements and any other documents necessary to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

3. Motion to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Hillside Board of Education ("Board") previously advertised for bids and awarded a contract for Solar Power & Services Agreement at A. P. Morris Early Childhood Center as part of the ESCO Energy Savings Improvement Plan and entered into a Contract with Greenskies Clean Energy LLC. dated June 3, 2021 for a solar PPA, and

WHEREAS, roof restoration at A. P. Morris Early Childhood Center was unavoidably delayed due to weather conditions and supply chain issues caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, delaying the start of the solar panel installation; and

WHEREAS, such delay may impact the full completion and final certification of the solar system for participation in NJ Board of Public Utilities Transition Incentive Program (TREC) and may require that if be certified for the NJ Board of Public Utilities Successor Solar Incentive Program (SuSI), requiring an adjustment to the applicable kWh rate for each year;

WHEREAS the Solar PPA and the ESCO Energy Savings Improvement Plan project as a whole is still cash flow positive each year with the reduced solar savings;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby the amendment of the Appendix Schedule 4 of the Solar Power & Services Agreement at A. P. Morris Early Childhood Center to add a schedule for the SuSI kWh Rate to take effect if the system is not certified for inclusion in the TREC program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board President and the Board Secretary are hereby authorized to execute such agreements and any other documents necessary to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

4. Motion to accept the donation of a whiteboard by Paul Reia for use at Ola Edwards Community School.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Lofton/Best

Motion: Lofton

Second: Shapiro

	Yes	No	Ab.		Yes	No	Ab.
Allende	Absent			Lofton	X		
Best	X			Simmons	X		
Cillo	X			*Shapiro	X		
Horton-Givens	X			Cook	X		
Howards	Absent						

*added thank you to motion 4.

Motions 1 to 4 carried. 7 Yes 0 No 0 Abstentions

EDUCATION- Howard/Best

1. Motion to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and approve the Training and Seminars, Conventions and Conferences for the district. The board has determined that the travel is directly related to and within the scope of the employees' duties or responsibilities; that participation in the program or event is critical to the instructional needs of the district or furthers the efficient operation of the district; and that the travel is in compliance with the district policy on travel. (Attachment ED#1-3/22)
2. Motion to accept the Superintendent's Report of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB): twelve (12) cases for February 24, 2022 through March 24, 2022.
3. Motion to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and approve the submission of a Sustainable Jersey Grant Program grant application to support Hillside High School Garden Initiatives and SEL. The funding cycle will award Four (4) \$10,000 project grants and Thirty (30) \$2,000 project or green team support grants. (Attachment ED#3-3/22)
4. Motion to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and approve the 2022-2023 Student School Calendar. (Attachment ED#4-3/22)
5. Motion to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and approve the 2022-2023 Custodial School Calendar. (Attachment ED#5-3/22)
6. Motion to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and approve the 2022-2023 Administrative School Calendar. (Attachment ED#6-3/22)
7. Motion to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and approve a The Jersey 4 Pass 2 Assist Foundation presentation on April 14, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. for students at Hillside High School at a total cost of \$1500.00 (Attachment ED#7-3/22)

EDUCATION- Howard/Best (continued)

8. Motion to approve the Virtual NJSBA Spring Symposium training which provides training in public relations, school law, STEAM opportunities, advocacy & professional development for staff commencing April 26 and April 27, 2022. Registration is \$150.00 per person at a total cost of \$450.00 for the following Board Members:
- a) Kimberly Cook
 - b) Joyce Simmons
 - c) Donald Howard
 - d) Jo-Ann Horton-Givens
9. Motion to approve twelve (12) HHS students in the Ready, Set, Grow Program in grades 9-12 to visit the National Museum of African American History and Culture (a Smithsonian Institution Museum) on April 1, 2022. The trip will be a social-emotional experience in understanding African American history and current social implications on society as a whole. (Attachment ED#2-3/22)
10. Motion to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and approve the Hillside Athletic Department's Summer Supplemental Athletic Programs to assist with skill development of students in Hillside during the Summer of 2022. The programs will be offered from July 6 through August 4, 2022. (Attachment ED#8-3/22)
11. Motion to approve ten (10) HHS Dance Ensemble students to visit East Orange Campus High School to perform in the East Orange Campus High School Dance Concert on April 7, 2022. (Attachment ED#9-3/22)
12. Motion to approve seventy-five or more (75+) HHS students to visit the Woodbridge Community Center in Woodridge, NJ for a Roller-Skating Party for group bonding and reward School Spirit on April 7, 2022. (Attachment ED#10-3/22)

Motion: Best

Second: Shapiro

	Yes	No	Ab.		Yes	No	Ab.
Allende	Absent			Lofton	X		
Best	X			Simmons	X		8b
Cillo	X			Shapiro	X		
Horton-Givens	X			Cook	X		8a
Howard	Absent						

Motions 1 to 12 carried.

Motion to approve the following resolution:

Resolution to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to address the issues that were presented and discussed at the Student Hearing and ensure that all necessary remedial measures are taken to respond to the concerns and develop a plan.

EDUCATION- Howard/Best (continued)

Motion: Shapiro

Second: Lofton

	Yes	No	Ab.		Yes	No	Ab.
Allende	Absent			Lofton	X		
Best	X			Simmons	X		
Cillo	X			Shapiro	X		
Horton-Givens	X			Cook	X		
Howard	Absent						

Motion carried. 7 Yes 0 No 0 Abstentions

LABOR RELATIONS – Shapiro/Cook**Resignations/Retirements/Terminations**

1. Motion to accept the retirement of Lisa Dilts, Nurse at Hillside High School, effective July 1, 2022. (D.O.H. 9/1/08)
2. Motion to accept the resignation of Diana Benavides, Secretary for Special Services, effective May 14, 2022. (D.O.H. 3/19/18)
3. Motion to accept the resignation of Jerry Duran, Security Guard at Hillside High School, effective April 8, 2022. (D.O.H. 9/1/21)
4. Motion to accept the resignation of Brian Fenderson, Paraprofessional at A. P. Morris Early Childhood Center, effective May 9, 2022. (D.O.H. 10/2/17)
5. Motion to terminate Employee #3233 effective March 9, 2022.

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools:**Appointments – For all new hires, employment is conditioned upon completion of a criminal history background check pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1(b)**

6. **WHEREAS**, this Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, and approves the appointment of the listed personnel for the 2021-2022 School Year and that these appointments shall be charged to the appropriate line item account pursuant to the negotiated agreement with the Hillside Education Association; and

WHEREAS, these appointments are subject to criminal history background checks, effective as indicated, and subject to sixty (60) day termination notice; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.6 et seq., requires school districts to review the employment history of prospective employees to ascertain allegations of child abuse or sexual misconduct; and

WHEREAS, the following prospective employees in the Hillside School District have provided the necessary information regarding his/her employment history for review by the District in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.7; and

WHEREAS, the Hillside Board of Education has commenced, but not concluded, a review of these employees' employment history; and

WHEREAS, these employees have provided a written certification/statement concerning his/her employment history as required by N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.7; and

LABOR RELATIONS –Shapiro/Cook (continued)

WHEREAS, these employees have received notice that if he/she has willfully provided false information or willfully failed to disclose any information required by N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.7, et seq., he/she is subject to all penalties provided by law, including, but not limited to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.8.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Hillside Board of Education hereby appoints the following employees to their respective positions in the District, subject t/o the above enumerated conditions:

Certificated

- a) Shanavia Davis Mosley, Grade 2 Teacher for Deanna Taylor Academy, at an annual salary of *\$54,965 Step 1, BA Guide prorated for the period beginning April 1, 2022. (*Subject to negotiations – Replacing D. Nardone)
- b) Courtney Scott, Fourth Grade for Deanna Taylor Academy, at an annual salary of *\$54,965 Step 1, BA Guide prorated for the period beginning March 25, 2022. (*Subject to negotiations – Replacing R. Siegel)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Board hereby approves the extension of a provisional offer of employment to each of the aforementioned individuals for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days pending complete review of his/her employment history pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.10.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that notwithstanding the above provisions, no prospective employee shall begin work in the District without completion of the criminal history background check.

- 7. Motion to appoint Reginald Atkins as a Security Guard at an annual salary of *\$30,245 Step 1, Security-No Degree Guide prorated for the period to be determined pending receipt of fingerprints. (*Subject to negotiations – New Position)
- 8. Motion to appoint the following as Student Valet Escorts for APM/ECC during the 2021-2022 school year not to exceed 2 ½ hours per week:
 - a) Ashley Soares \$40 per hour
 - b) Namita Verma \$40 per hour
- 9. Motion to appoint Isabel Matos as a bus aide for Hurden Looker at a rate of \$13.00 per hour for the 2021-2022 school year.
- 10. Motion to appoint Marco Coimbra as a Write On Sports Teacher at a rate of \$43.00 per hour for the 2021-2022 school year.
- 11. Motion to appoint Thomas Weaver as a Write On Sports Teacher at a rate of \$43.00 per hour for the 2021-2022 school year.
- 12. Motion to appoint Rachel Therres as a Breakfast Monitor at a rate of \$43.00 per hour for the 2021-2022 school year.
- 13. Motion to appoint the following substitute teachers for the 2021-2022 school year at a rate of \$200.00 per day pending receipt of certification:
 - a) Lilliana Leonardis
 - b) Jonathan Alvarez
- 14. Motion to appoint Shakeema Wilson as Security Officer for Walter O. Krumbiegel Middle School at an annual salary of *\$40,060 Step 10a, Security – No Degree Guide prorated for the period to be determined pending receipt of fingerprints through June 30, 2022. (*Subject to negotiations – New Position)

LABOR RELATIONS –Shapiro/Cook (continued)

15. Motion to appoint Lilliana Leonardis as a Paraprofessional, Step 1, Para Guide prorated for the period to be determined pending receipt of fingerprints and certification. (*Subject to negotiations – New Position)
16. Motion to appoint Donna Patricia Woodley as a Paraprofessional, Step 1, Para Guide prorated for the period to be determined pending receipt of fingerprints and certification. (*Subject to negotiations – New Position)
17. Motion to appoint Jennifer S. Nunez-Rivas as a Paraprofessional, Step 1, Para Guide prorated for the period to be determined pending receipt of fingerprints and certification. (*Subject to negotiations – New Position)

Transfers/Amendments

18. Motion to amend the appointment of Hameen Johnson from Paraprofessional at WOK to Special Education Aide at Hurden Looker with a start date to be determined pending receipt of fingerprints and no change in salary. (2/24/22 board action – New Position)
19. Motion to amend the dates for medical leave extension of Employee #2326 from February 17, 2022 through March 4, 2022 to February 17, 2022 through March 7, 2022. (2/24/22 board action)

Leaves

20. Motion to approve an unpaid leave of absence for Employee #2110 effective January 28, 2022 through April 1, 2022.
21. Motion to approve maternity leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) for Employee #2739 effective May 10, 2022 through October 10, 2022 utilizing accumulated days.
22. Motion to approve a leave of absence under the Family and Medical Leave Act for Employee #2238 effective May 20, 2022 through June 23, 2022 utilizing accumulated days.
23. Motion to approve a leave of absence for Employee #0651 effective March 21, 2022 through April 1, 2022 utilizing accumulated days.
24. Motion to extend the medical leave for Employee #2326 effective March 4, 2022 through March 25, 2022.
25. Motion to extend the leave of absence under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) for Employee #2194 effective March 16, 2022 through April 14, 2022.
26. Motion to rescind the appointment of Michael Bynum as a custodian for Hillside High School effective March 1, 2022. (2/24/22 board action)

Other

Motion: Shapiro

Second: Best

	Yes	No	Ab.		Yes	No	Ab.
Allende	Absent			Lofton	X		
Best	X			Simmons	X		
Cillo	X			Shapiro	X		
Horton-Givens	X			Cook	X		
Howard	Absent						

Motions 1 to 26 carried. 7 Yes 0 No 0 Abstentions

Old/New Business – None

Board Representative Comment

Ms. Simmons thanked all for staying. She also thanked all for supporting the Board.

Motion to adjourn.

Motion: Shapiro

Second: Lofton

Motion carried.

Unanimous voice vote.

Time: 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. David Eichenholtz
Business Administrator/Board Secretary