

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The September 22, 2008, meeting of the Alexandria Township Board of Education was called to order by President Patrick D. McGuinness at 7:30 PM.

2. NOTIFICATION OF MEETING

This meeting was properly advertised according to the Open Public Meeting Act (P.L. 1975:31) in the Delaware Valley News on September 11, 2008, to begin at 7:30 PM.

3. ROLL CALL

Francis L. Guenther - P
Steven Hill - P
Thomas W. Hlasney - P
Bernice M. Keizer - A

Douglas E. Linden, Jr. - P
Susan F. Luthringer - P
Patrick D. McGuinness - P
Scott A. Saccal - P

4. BOARD STATEMENT

The mission of the Alexandria Township School District is to achieve academic excellence through high quality instruction, a positive learning environment, and a strong partnership among staff members, family and community. We are committed to an inclusive educational program that recognizes individual differences and encourages each child to reach his or her potential. We believe that the desire for life-long learning, the development of positive character, and the development of a positive self-concept are essential outcomes of the school experience.

5. FLAG SALUTE

6. CORRESPONDENCE

The Board received a thank you note from Susan Matthews, thanking them for the flower arrangement sent during her recent surgery.

7. BOARD PRESIDENT

President McGuinness discussed the policy review process, saying that committees would be meeting often to review the draft policies as presented by Strauss Esmay and reviewed/revise by administration.

President McGuinness advised that the District's auditor would be attending the October 16th Board Meeting to review the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).

President McGuinness asked Barbara Prowker to put Review Of The Board's Self-Evaluation under New Business for the October Board Meeting.

President McGuinness asked for Board Member volunteers for Alexandria Township's Community Day on September 27, 2008.

President McGuinness encouraged everyone to become a member of the Alexandria Township PTA.

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Jennings thanked everyone for a great Back to School Night.

David Pawlowski introduced peer leaders Lilly Pearce, Alexis Armstrong, and Ryan Metz. While Mr. Pawlowski presented a power point presentation on peer leadership, the peer leaders described what they do. They said that they make connections with the younger students. Seventh and eighth grade students volunteer to read, teach, and connect with the younger students.

Mrs. Lukatch said that the peer leaders are wonderful and that her students look forward to time with them.

9. SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BD SECRETARY'S REPORT

Ms. Barbara E. Prowker, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, reported the following:

1. Ms. Prowker advised that Delaware Valley Regional High School is polling the sending districts to see what polling hours everyone would like for the April election. The Board decided 7:00 AM - 9:00 PM if those hours are the same as the general elections. In the past the Board has provided refreshments for the poll workers. Ms. Prowker was directed to let the judge of elections know that refreshments will no longer be provided.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Thomas Hlasney - Buildings and Grounds
Susan Luthringer - Personnel

Susan Luthringer - Policy
Susan Luthringer - Parent Partnership

11. PUBLIC INPUT

Mrs. Patty Cavazza explained to the Board that her son's bus stop was moved this year from their driveway. Mrs. Cavazza explained that the section of road that her son now must walk along is dangerous and that her son has some special circumstances that render it unsafe for him to walk to another location. Dr. Jennings asked Mrs. Cavazza if she had requested an I.E.P. meeting with Jennifer Bills to review her son's case. Mrs. Cavazza said that she had not. Dr. Jennings advised that she needs to meet with Mrs. Bills to discuss the matter and that Mrs. Bills will make a recommendation.

12. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

After review of Counsel's legal opinion on sending flowers to Staff/Board Members in recognition of births, deaths, illnesses, etc., the Board determined that they could no longer legally continue this practice.

13. **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Hill said that the feedback that he heard regarding the Superintendent's chat on September 18 was positive. Mr. Hill asked if a session could be conducted one evening to give people who were not able to attend an opportunity to do so.

14. **MOTIONS**

Personnel

1. Motion made by Mr. Saccal, seconded by Mrs. Luthringer, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board accept the letter of retirement from Kim L. Eberstein, effective June 30, 2009.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

2. Motion made by Mr. Saccal seconded by Mrs. Luthringer, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve an employment contract for Sara Sciarrello as a full-time preschool classroom aide at a salary of \$18,500, prorated, effective September 23, 2008, contingent upon the successful completion of the criminal history background check required by law.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

3. Motion made by Mr. Saccal, seconded by Mrs. Luthringer, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve the following addition to the 2008-09 Substitute List, upon the successful completion of the criminal history background check required by law.

Alan Kares - Teacher

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Emergent Hiring

4. Motion made by Mr. Saccal, seconded by Mrs. Luthringer, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve the following resolution:

Resolved, that the Alexandria Township Board of Education approve application of the emergent hiring of the following:

Sara Sciarello - Classroom Aide
Alan Kares - Substitute Teacher

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present - Guenther, Hill, Hlasney, Linden, Jr.,
Luthringer, McGuinness, Saccal

Travel and Related Expenses Reimbursement

5. Motion made by Mr. Hlasney, seconded by Mr. Linden, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve work-related and related expenses reimbursement for the following staff members that is directly related to and within the scope of their current work responsibilities, promotes the delivery of instruction, and is critical to the instructional needs of the School District or furthers the efficient operation of the School District, and is educationally necessary and fiscally prudent.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>City</u>
Bierly	10/06-10/08/08	Newton
Bills	9/23/08 9/25/08	New Brunswick Monroe Township
Blessing	10/07/08	Princeton
Carothers	10/07/08	Princeton
Cobb	10/07/08	Princeton
Dominic	10/07/08	Newton
Myers	10/10/08	Hackettstown
Prowker	9/24/08 10/07/08	East Brunswick Robbinsville
Sousa	10/06-10/08/08	Newton
Winchatz	10/08/08	Somerset

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

6. Motion made by Mr. Hlasney, seconded by Mr. Linden, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve work-related and related expenses reimbursement for the following staff members that is directly related to and within the scope of their current work responsibilities, promotes the delivery of instruction, and is critical to the instructional needs of the School District or furthers the efficient operation of the School District, and is educationally necessary and fiscally prudent. The information for this workshop was not available at the August 28, 2008 meeting.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>City</u>
Bierly	9/22/08	Kingwood Township
Kacedon	9/10/08	Flemington
Myers	9/17/08	Washington
Prowker	9/17/08	Washington

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

7. Motion made by Mr. Hlasney, seconded by Mr. Linden, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve work-related and related expenses reimbursement for the following staff members that is directly related to and within the scope of their current work responsibilities, promotes the delivery of instruction, and is critical to the instructional needs of the School District or furthers the efficient operation of the School District, and is educationally necessary and fiscally prudent.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>City</u>
Blazure	10/06-10/08/08	Newton
Galante	9/23/08	New Brunswick
McGowan	10/06-10/08/08	Newton
Meyer	10/07/08	Newton
Milford	10/06-10/08/08	Newton
Stoskus	9/23/08	Piscataway

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Job Description

8. Motion made by Mr. Guenther, seconded by Mr. Hill, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve the job description for the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary as presented.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Approval of Minutes

9. Motion made by Mrs. Luthringer, seconded by Mr. Linden, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve the Minutes of the August 28, 2008 meeting as presented.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Finance

10. Motion made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Linden, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve the transfers for the month ending August 31, 2008, as submitted by the Superintendent, as authorized by N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.1.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

11. Motion made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Linden, to accept the Alexandria Township Board of Education's certification that the Superintendent, Dr. Matthew J. Jennings, recommends that the Board of Education accept the monthly financial reports of the Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Moneys for the month ending August 31, 2008, and he further recommends in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(3) that the Board of Education certify that no major account or fund has been overexpended and that as of this report sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

12. Motion made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Linden, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board accept the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary's Barbara E. Prowker, certification as required by N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(d), that no line item account has been overexpended as of August 31, 2008, and that as of this date sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Donation of Sign

13. Motion made by Mr. Linden, seconded by Mr. Saccal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve the donation of a sign depicting a tractor with the name Wilson on it from a relative of Lester D. Wilson. The sign is to be returned to the Wilson family in the event that we no longer wish to use it.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Bill List

14. Motion made by Mr. Linden, seconded by Mr. Saccal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve the Bill List dated 8/19/08 - 9/17/08, check numbers 5936-6050, in the amount of \$634,206.79.

Roll Call Vote: YES: Guenther, Hill, Linden, Luthringer, McGuinness, Saccal

NO: None

ABSTAIN: Hlasney

Increase the 2008-09 General Fund Budget

15. Motion made by Mr. Saccal, seconded by Mrs. Luthringer, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve increasing the 2008-09 General Fund Budget in the amount of \$33,000 due to the receipt of preschool tuition. Funds to be applied to 11-105-100-101 Preschool Salary.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

IDEIA FY 2009 Grant Application

16. Motion made by Mr. Hlasney, seconded by Mr. Linden, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve submission of the IDEIA FY 2009 grant application as follows:

Basic	\$122,658
Preschool	5,177

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Education Foundation Grant

17. Motion made by Mr. Hlasney, seconded by Mr. Linden, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve the acceptance of Education Foundation funds in the amount of \$6,055 for approval of the following grant:

Sherry Becker/Joanne McCluskey Smart Boards

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

No Child Left Behind Grant

18. Motion made by Mr. Hlasney, seconded by Mr. Linden, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve the submission of the No Child Left Behind 2009 Grant as follows:

Title I - \$16,133
Title IIA - 11,843
Title IID - 124
Title IV - 1,178

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Preschool Tuition

19. Motion made by Mr. Guenther, seconded by Mr. Hill, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board accept two tuition students whose names are on file in the Business Office, in the Preschool Program at a fee of \$4,500 each for the 2008-09 school year.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

20. Motion made by Mr. Guenther, seconded by Mr. Hill, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board accept a tuition student whose name is on file in the Business Office, in the Preschool Program at a fee of \$2,500 for the 2008-09 school year.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Board Goals

21. Motion made by Mrs. Luthringer, seconded by Mr. Linden, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve the second reading and adoption of Board Goals for the 2008-09 School Year as follows:

The Board will:

1. research requirements for and determine if the Board desires to pursue recognition by a third party organization (e.g. Star Schools, Blue Ribbon Schools).
2. continue to explore ways to increase the fiscal and operating efficiency of the District.
3. facilitate an effective forum for communication including a published annual schedule, quarterly work session, and in other ways to be determined.
4. review and adopt the policy book
5. prepare for NJQSAC monitoring.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Use of Facilities

22. Motion made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mrs. Luthringer, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve use of the Lester D. Wilson School art room by Brownie Troop 546 for the 2008-09 school year, the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month from 3:40-5:00PM.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

23. Motion made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mrs. Luthringer, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve use of the Alexandria Middle School art room by Junior Troop 1144 for the 2008-09 school year, the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 3:40-5:00PM.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

24. Motion made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mrs. Luthringer, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve use of the Lester D. Wilson School art room for the 2008-09 school year by Girl Scout Troop 385, the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month from 3:40-5:00PM.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

25. Motion made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mrs. Luthringer, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve use of the Lester D. Wilson School art room for the 2008-09 school year by Girl Scout Troop 353, the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 3:40-5:00PM.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

26. Motion made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mrs. Luthringer, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve use of the Lester D. Wilson School art room for the 2008-09 school year by Brownie Troop 799, the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from 3:40-5:00PM.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

15. BOARD GOALS

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Mr. Linden, seconded by Mrs. Luthringer, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board go into Executive Session at 9:33 PM to discuss personnel matters.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

17. OPEN SESSION

Motion made by Mr. Saccal, seconded by Mr. Guenther, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board return to Open Session at 10:01 PM.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

18. ADJOURN

Motion made by Mr. Linden, seconded by Mrs. Luthringer, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board adjourn the meeting at 10:02 PM.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Respectfully Submitted By,

Barbara E. Prowker
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary