

**WANAQUE BOARD OF EDUCATION – SPECIAL MEETING AUGUST 10, 2020**

The Special Meeting of the Wanaque Board of Education was held via a virtual platform on Monday, August 10, 2020 at 7:00 pm.

**Minutes**

**I. Call To Order/Sunshine Statement**

In accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, P.L. 1975, c.231, s.1; amended 2006, c.70, s.2, the Wanaque Board of Education has provided adequate notice of this meeting by sending a notice of the time, date, location, and to the extent known, the agenda of this meeting to Suburban Trends on July 29, 2020 via email and the Herald News on July 29, 2020 via email. Copies of this notice have also been placed in the Borough Hall and in the Main Office of both Wanaque and Haskell Schools and filed with the Wanaque Borough Clerk on July 29, 2020.

**ADDENDUM TO THE ADEQUATE NOTICE PUBLIC STATEMENT  
DUE TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

In view of the COVID-19-19 public health emergency, the emergency orders and directives at the federal, State and local levels, and consistent with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., as amended by P.L.2020, c.11, ("OPMA") the Wanaque Board of Education is conducting this meeting, originally designated to take place at the Haskell Elementary School, remotely using video and/or telephone conferencing technology. The public has been advised of this venue and format change and instructions have been provided in order to access the meeting and to participate during the public comment section(s) of the meeting.

You will need to dial-in/login to the remote meeting platform(s) in order to attend the remote meeting. P.L. 2020, c.11, which permits remote conduct of meetings, was signed into law by Governor Murphy on Friday, March 20, 2020, effective immediately. The Board recognizes the importance of open transparency and public access and participation in its work. In view of the current crisis and the brave new world in which we live, the Board asks all citizens to bear with us as we work to meet the health, safety, welfare, and educational needs of our students, staff and all members of the Wanaque community.

**Flag Salute/Public Participation Statement/Roll Call**

<b>BOARD MEMBER</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
Mr. Barnhardt (Robert)	X	
Ms. Bruenjes (Carolyn)	X	
Mr. Camisa (Nicholas)		X
Ms. Demetriou (Angela)	X	
Mr. Hain (Barry)	X	
Ms. Henderson (Suzanne)	X	
Mr. McFarlane (Richard)	X	
Ms. Reid (Erika)	X	
Mr. Velante (Jason)	X	

## WANAQUE BOARD OF EDUCATION – SPECIAL MEETING AUGUST 10, 2020

### Attendance

Mr. Mooney, Interim Superintendent of Schools  
Ms. Nash, Curriculum Director  
Mr. Hache, Technology Specialist  
Ms. Molly Rieth, Confidential Secretary  
Public 38

### II. Statement to the Public

Often times it may appear to members of our audience that the Board of Education takes action with very little comment and in many cases by unanimous vote. Before a matter is placed on the agenda at a public meeting, the administration has thoroughly reviewed the matter with the Superintendent of Schools. The members of the board work with the administration and Superintendent to assure that the members fully understand the matter. Only then is it placed on the agenda for action at a public meeting. In rare instances, matters are presented to the Board of Education for discussion at the same meeting that final action may be taken.

Ms. Demetriou thanked everyone for joining.

### III. Superintendent's Report

- **District Physician – Dr. Deborah Steinbaum**

Dr. Steinbaum introduced herself, gave her background and explained the Covid-19 virus, how it is spread and the best way to keep yourself and others healthy.

Ms. Demetriou thanked Dr. Steinbaum.

### IV. Public Comment

Mr. Interian – Haskell – asked if parents will be notified of positive Covid-19 cases?

Ms. Demetriou stated the health department would be notified but no names will be given due to HIPAA laws and privacy. Individual classes would be notified.

Dr. Steinbaum said notification needs to be done as soon as possible to be effective.

Mr. Mooney explained he has been speaking with the Wanaque Borough nurse, Bernie McDavitt, to possibly have a forum with parents. We do need to be careful of the HIPAA law and the FERPA law which is protecting student privacy.

Pauline Vargas (unknown)– had questions regarding small children who may be virtual who can't sit still very long and if they attend school but won't keep the mask on what will be done about that?

Mr. Mooney stated he understands little ones struggle but the Governor has been very clear about the masks and the teachers are in favor. Do your best to encourage your child to keep the mask on. I am asking every parent to start getting their children comfortable with wearing the masks now so they are prepared when they return to school.

Dr. Steinbaum said the patients have been very good wearing their masks when they come into the office.

Patricia Sullivan – Haskell Teacher – asked if the Governor requires face masks how can the students eat lunch?

Mr. Mooney explained he is still trying to figure that out.

## WANAQUE BOARD OF EDUCATION – SPECIAL MEETING AUGUST 10, 2020

Ms. Lofgren – Wanaque – asked if the virtual teaching will be live or recorded videos?

Mr. Mooney said the hybrid program will be doing core classes in person and specials will be virtual on days they are home. Recordings will be made due to the fact half of the students will be in daycare and won't be able to watch during school hours.

Ms. Lecca-Martinez – Wanaque – asked if all staff and students could be tested prior to school starting, as this would be a relief and more students might attend?

Dr. Steinbaum explained NJ is very low on cases and most schools don't have the ability to do that.

Mr. Mooney stated the CBC and NJ does not require testing and does not recommend it.

Mr. Interian – Haskell – asked if a lot of teachers are not coming back and will we be notified?

Mr. Mooney said he will be sending a survey out to the staff asking them to let us know their situation. Some may have medical issues or need family leave. Things change which is why we have waited. This will be an interactive process with administration meeting with faculty members to discuss. Accommodations may need to be made. We want people to feel comfortable. Parents have been asked to let us know by the 14<sup>th</sup> if they want their children to be virtual. Once we know this we will try to match virtual students with teachers who need medical accommodations. You will know when we do. The Plan will be a living document Parents can always call the principals or myself with questions. We don't know what September will look like. We are moving forward with the AB hybrid schedule and 100% virtual.

Ms. Hogan – Wanaque – stated Passaic County offers free testing for adults only one time.

Mr. Mooney explained we can't mandate testing but we are asking parents to take temperatures at home.

Mr. Mooney stated the nurses are present this evening and asked if they would like to say anything.

Ms. Kessler said she is ready roll.

Ms. Pricken thanked Dr. Steinbaum for joining us.

Renee (last name and municipality unknown)– Asked if the in-person classes will be recorded? If virtual, will videos be available to watch many times to reinforce the lesson? Clarification of core classes?

Ms. Nash explained videos can be watched as many times as they would like. If a student is 100% virtual they will still receive a schedule. Core classes will be at specific times.

Ms. Bruenjes asked if in-person video will be available later or is only virtual video available?

Ms. Demetriou asked if the in-person students have the same lesson as virtual students and will any recorded lesson be available for all students?

Mr. Mooney said we have to be careful about live recordings.

Ms. Nash stated all virtual classes are live at specific times.

Mr. Velante asked what the increased percentage is during lunch when the masks are off?

Dr. Steinbaum said yes, the risk is increased but it is hard to say how much. If the students eat outside the risk is much less, a 5-minute snack is less than a 20-minute lunch. Some schools are only doing a half day with no lunch but who's to say what is right or wrong.

## WANAQUE BOARD OF EDUCATION – SPECIAL MEETING AUGUST 10, 2020

Mr. Mooney thanked Dr. Steinbaum for her time.

Dr. Steinbaum said it was her pleasure and said the Wanaque Board of Education works well together.

Ms. Marte – Wanaque – asked how many days the children will go to school, what is the flex day is, and if the after care will be available?

Ms. Nash explained how the AB Flex schedule will work.

Mr. Mooney said the Boys & Girls Club After care program will be available for the in-person days. They are currently working on renting a portion of St. Francis school for the virtual days.

Ms. Brieva – Haskell – asked how the IEP's will be incorporated for 100% virtual students?

Mr. Mooney explained they are doing their best to make sure all guidelines are followed. Some special services will be in person and some will be virtual.

Ms. Lofgren – Wanaque – asked what time the teachers will be assigning homework and how curriculum will work with less time in the classroom?

Ms. Nash stated 100% virtual students and on the virtual days for hybrid homework will be assigned by 8:45. We are teaching the simplest way to learn and following up on virtual days.

Mr. Mooney said the key to the hybrid model is small classes.

Ms. Short – Wanaque – asked how arrival and dismissal will be handled?

Mr. Mooney explained approximately 40% of the student body will be in entering 2 doors.

Arrival will begin at 8:30am with temperatures being taken. If temperature is high the student will go to the cool down room. We are asking parents to leave once the student is in to have as few people present as possible. We have a machine that takes the temperature and turns red or green. If red the student will go to the cool down room.

Ms. Williams – Wanaque – asked about 8<sup>th</sup> grade algebra, if assignments will be virtual and does A or B start the first day? How will we know how to login to google classroom and will older students have recess?

Ms. Nash said Home Rooms will be changed and everyone will be able to login to Parent Portal on Friday to find out the cohort and codes will be on the website. Some assignments will be paper.

Mr. Mooney stated the first day is B day and everyone will get a 20-minute break. Please give us a call in September if you feel something can be done better.

Mr. Nathan – Wanaque – asked if it is possible to have an extended day for students that have pull out programs or a potential for bringing in on the virtual day?

Mr. Mooney explained we need to be careful with mixing students on off days.

Public Comment closed at 9:01pm.

Ms. Demetriou asked if the power point will be available on the website once approved?

Mr. Mooney said yes, it is already on the website but will be updated with the revised plan.

- **Power Point – Reopening Plan**
- **Policy Update**

**WANAQUE BOARD OF EDUCATION – SPECIAL MEETING AUGUST 10, 2020**

- **P1648 Restart and Recovery Plan**
- **P1648.02 Remote Learning Options for Families**

**V. Resolutions**  
**A. CURRICULUM/INSTRUCTION**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Wanaque Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools approves the following curriculum/instruction resolutions:

1. Approve the Restart and Recovery Plan.

**Curriculum #1**

MOTION: Ms. Reid		SECOND: Mr. Hain	
BOARD MEMBER	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Mr. Barnhardt (Robert)	X		
Ms. Bruenjes (Carolyn)	X		
Mr. Camisa (Nicholas)	Absent		
Mr. Hain (Barry)	X		
Ms. Henderson (Suzanne)	X		
Mr. McFarlane (Richard)	X		
Ms. Reid	X		
Mr. Velante (Jason)			X
Ms. Demetriou (Angela)	X		

- B. FINANCE/BUDGET**
- C. FACILITIES/TRANSPORTATION**
- D. PERSONNEL/MANAGEMENT**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Wanaque Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools approves the following personnel/management resolutions:

1. Approve the following teachers for Kindergarten screening at the WBEA contractual rate of \$54.00/hour not to exceed 15 hours each:
  - Kristen Bondarenko
  - Colleen Gaudreau
  - Nancy O'Donnell
  - Sandra Somohano

**WANAQUE BOARD OF EDUCATION – SPECIAL MEETING AUGUST 10, 2020**

**Personnel/Management #1**

<b>MOTION: Ms. Bruenjes</b>		<b>SECOND: Ms. Reid</b>	
<b>BOARD MEMBER</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>
Mr. Barnhardt (Robert)	X		
Ms. Bruenjes (Carolyn)	X		
Mr. Camisa (Nicholas)	Absent		
Mr. Hain (Barry)	X		
Ms. Henderson (Suzanne)	X		
Mr. McFarlane (Richard)	X		
Ms. Reid (Erika)	X		
Mr. Velante (Jason)	X		
Ms. Demetriou (Angela)	X		

**E. POLICY**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Wanaque Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, approves the following policy resolutions:

**1. First Reading**

P1648	Restart and Recovery Plan – New
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**Policy #1**

<b>MOTION: Mr. Barnhardt</b>		<b>SECOND: Mr. McFarlane</b>	
<b>BOARD MEMBER</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>
Mr. Barnhardt (Robert)	X		
Ms. Bruenjes (Carolyn)	X		
Mr. Camisa (Nicholas)	Absent		
Mr. Hain (Barry)	X		
Ms. Henderson (Suzanne)	X		
Mr. McFarlane (Richard)	X		
Ms. Reid (Erika)	X		
Mr. Velante (Jason)	X		

WANAQUE BOARD OF EDUCATION – SPECIAL MEETING AUGUST 10, 2020

Ms. Demetriou (Angela)	X		
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F. NEGOTIATIONS/EMPLOYEE RELATIONS

G. COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC RELATIONS

H. TRI-DISTRICT

I. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

VI. Public Comment

No questions or comments

VII. Executive Session

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CLOSED SESSION MEETING OF THE WANAQUE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO DISCUSS:**

WHEREAS, the Wanaque Board of Education is a public body that is subject to the requirements of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act requires that all meetings of public bodies be open to the public; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act further provides that a public body may exclude the public from a portion of a meeting at which the public body discusses items that require confidentiality, which includes those items that are enumerated in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b); and

WHEREAS, the Wanaque Board of Education has determined that it is necessary and appropriate to discuss certain matters in a closed session meeting, which is not open to the public, consistent with N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b).

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The Wanaque Board of Education shall convene a closed session meeting, from which the public shall be excluded, on August 10, 2020 at 9:34 PM;
2. The general nature of the matters to be discussed during the closed meeting includes:  
Contracts
3. It is anticipated that the closed session meeting will last 20 minutes;
4. Action may or may not be taken; and

The minutes of the closed session meeting shall be available for disclosure to the public when the items that are the subject of the closed session meeting are resolved and a reason for confidentiality no longer exists.

WANAQUE BOARD OF EDUCATION – SPECIAL MEETING AUGUST 10, 2020

A motion was made to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:34 PM by Ms. Reid and seconded by Mr. Velante. All in favor.

A motion was made at 9:58 PM by Mr. Barnhardt and seconded by Mr. McFarlane to close executive session and return to public session.

**XII. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn made at 10:06 PM by Mr. Hain and seconded by Mr. McFarlane. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert P. Mooney". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robert P. Mooney  
Superintendent