

NEW HOPE-SOLEBURY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
*Engaging, Enriching, and Empowering All Students  
through a World-Class Education*

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**Board of School Directors Meeting**  
August 24, 2017  
Upper Elementary School LGI Room, 6:30 PM

<b>New Hope-Solebury Board of School Directors</b>		
<b>Mr. Neale Dougherty</b> <i>President</i>	<b>Mrs. Adrienne Deussing</b> <i>Vice President</i>	<b>Mr. John Capriotti</b> <i>Member</i>
<b>Mr. Mark Cowell</b> <i>Member</i>	<b>Mrs. Jennifer Gormley</b> <i>Member</i>	<b>Mrs. Tracy Keyes</b> <i>Member</i>
<b>Mr. Douglas McDonough</b> <i>Member</i>	<b>Mrs. Maria Povacz</b> <i>Member</i>	<b>Mrs. Sandra Weisbrot</b> <i>Member</i>
<b>Non-Voting Members</b>		
<b>Dr. Steven Yanni</b> <i>Superintendent</i>	<b>Mr. Andrew Lechman</b> <i>Board Secretary</i>	<b>Mr. John Cook</b> <i>Treasurer</i>

**Our Mission**

The New Hope-Solebury School District takes pride in our commitment to excellence. We strive to inspire and empower our students to become passionate, confident, life-long learners, with the strength of character to contribute to a diverse and ever-changing world.

**Executive Session**  
5:45 pm  
Legal & Personnel Matters

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**Board of School Directors Meeting Agenda**

August 24, 2017

*Per Board Operating Guidelines 006.2, all Board of School Directors meetings  
are audio recorded.*

**I. Call to Order and Announcement of Executive Session**

A meeting of the New Hope-Solebury School District Board of Directors was held in the Upper Elementary School LGI on Thursday August 24, 2017. Mrs. Deussing, Board Vice President, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

An Executive Session was held prior to the Board meeting to discuss legal issues and personnel matters.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mrs. Deussing led members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. Roll Call**

The Secretary called roll:

Members present: Mr. Capriotti, Mr. Cowell, Mrs. Deussing, Mrs. Gormley, Mrs. Keyes, Mr. McDonough, Mrs. Povacz, Mrs. Weisbrot

Members absent: Mr. Dougherty

Administrators present: Dr. Yanni, Mrs. Candido, Dr. Cortellessa, Mrs. Frantz, Mr. Lechman, Mr. Malone, Mrs. Marton, Dr. McKenna, Mr. Pedersen, Mr. Radaszkiewicz, Mr. Seier

**IV. Additional, Deletions, and/or Modifications to the Agenda**

None

**V. Acceptance of Minutes**

a. Upon a motion made by Mr. Cowell, seconded by Mrs. Wesibrot, the Board voted unanimously to accept the June 26, 2017 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors.

Mr. Capriotti	Yes
Mr. Cowell	Yes
Mrs. Deussing	Yes
Mrs. Gormley	Yes
Mrs. Keyes	Yes

Mr. McDonough Yes  
Mrs. Povacz Abstain  
Mrs. Weisbrot Yes  
Mr. Dougherty Absent

Voice Motion passed 7 – 0 with 1 absent and 1 abstentions

## **VI. Reports to the Board of Directors**

### **a. Superintendent’s Report—Dr. Yann**

Dr. Yann reported on the following items

- i. Introduced LES principal – Jennifer Frantz
- ii. Opportunity for recognizing EITC funds into the Ed Fund
- iii. Demographic Study – Currently rely on projections from prior business administrator and PDE which are less than accurate. We need good data to start to a long range plan for facility usage.
- iv. Anticipating smooth opening to the school year with the construction project.

### **b. Committee Reports**

Committee chairs reported on meetings; minutes are posted to the district website.

- i. Athletics and Activities—Mrs. Weisbrot – No Meeting
- ii. Curriculum—Mrs. Keyes – No Meeting
- iii. Facilities Committee—Mr. Capriotti
- iv. Finance Committee—Mr. Dougherty – No Meeting
- v. Policy and Personnel Committee—Mr. McDonough – No Meeting
- vi. Special Education Committee—Mrs. Gormley – No Meeting

### **c. Liaison Reports**

- i. Bucks County Intermediate Unit—Mrs. Weisbrot – No Meeting
- ii. Middle Bucks Institute of Technology—Mr. Capriotti
  1. Committee meetings occurred
  2. The roofing issue is still being reviewed and there may be an assessment to all sending districts. The amounts are not yet known.
  3. Board meeting – ready for upcoming school year.
- iii. Pennsylvania School Boards Association—Mr. Dougherty
  1. No updates to provide.

## **VII. Old Business**

None

## **VIII. New Business**

- a. Discussion/Presentation Items
    - i. Dr. Yanni reviewed district enrollment data and stated that the document will be posted online.
  
  - b. Comments/Discussion (Agenda Items Only)
    - i. Board Discussion
      - Board Discussion occurred around the following agenda item topics:
        - Mr. Cowell – Acknowledged the donation of \$50,000 for athletics. Mr. Capriotti discussed the need for a priority list to determine spending needs.
        - Mrs. Deussing – Confirmed cafeteria would be available for opening of school. Mrs. Deussing also inquired as to who uses the MS gym in the winter. Mr. Pedersen responded. It was noted that the facility is too small for varsity basketball.
        - Mrs. Povacz – Proposal for the demographic study
          - i. Compensation – Mrs. Povacz asked for clarity on the compensation. Dr. Yanni confirmed that the cost is fixed and included in the proposal.
  
    - ii. Public Comment
      - Public Comment occurred around the following agenda item topics:
        - Mr. Band discussed the following items:
          - i. Athletic EDR stipend and number of sessions
          - ii. Enrollment and Class Guidelines
  
    - iii. Board Comment
      - None
  
    - iv. Superintendent’s Comments
      - Superintendent commented on the following agenda item topics:
        - Dr. Yanni addressed Mr. Band’s comments regarding EDR’s and class size guidelines.
  
  - c. Action Items (Consent Agenda)
    - i. Athletics and Activities
      - Upon a motion made by Mrs. Keyes, seconded by Mrs. Weisbrot, the Board voted as follows to accept donation of \$50,000 from an Anonymous Donor to be used at the discretion of the Superintendent and Director of Athletics.
- |               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| Mr. Capriotti | Yes |
| Mr. Cowell    | Yes |
| Mrs. Deussing | Yes |
| Mrs. Gormley  | Yes |

Mrs. Keyes	Yes
Mr. McDonough	Yes
Mrs. Povacz	Yes
Mrs. Weisbrot	Yes
Mr. Dougherty	Absent

Motion passed 8 – 0 with 1 absent and 0 abstentions

ii. Facilities

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Weisbrot, seconded by Mrs. Gormley, the Board voted as follows on Facilities Items 1-3:

Mr. Capriotti	Yes
Mr. Cowell	Yes
Mrs. Deussing	Yes
Mrs. Gormley	Yes
Mrs. Keyes	Yes
Mr. McDonough	Yes
Mrs. Povacz	Yes
Mrs. Weisbrot	Yes
Mr. Dougherty	Absent

Motion passed 8 – 0 with 1 absent and 0 abstentions

1. Approve a change order in the amount of \$29,000 for the replacement of the ceiling grids in the High School and Middle School Cafeterias.
2. Approve a deduct change order in the amount of \$4,000 for lighting fixtures in the High School and Middle School Cafeterias.
3. Approve a deduct change order from the conversion of side walk to a concrete pad adjacent to the enclosed link between the Middle and High Schools. The final dollar amount (credit) will be shared at the next meeting.

iii. Finance

Upon a motion made by Mr. Cowell, seconded by Mrs. Weisbrot, the Board voted as follows on Finance Items 1-3:

Mr. Capriotti	Yes
Mr. Cowell	Yes
Mrs. Deussing	Yes
Mrs. Gormley	Yes
Mrs. Keyes	Yes
Mr. McDonough	Yes
Mrs. Povacz	Yes
Mrs. Weisbrot	Yes

Mr. Dougherty          Absent

Motion passed 8 – 0 with 1 absent and 0 abstentions

1. Approve the Treasurer’s Report for June, 2017 as presented in **Attachment B.\***
2. Approve and ratify the list of bills totaling \$8,652,830.45 as presented in **Attachment C.\***
3. Approve the Proposal for Demographic Study by Sundance Associates in the amount of \$7,000 for basic services and \$500 for optional additional services as presented in **Attachment D.\***

iv. Personnel

Upon a motion made by Mr. Cowell, seconded by Mrs. Gormley, the Board voted as follows on Personnel Items 1-3.

Mr. Capriotti	Yes
Mr. Cowell	Yes
Mrs. Deussing	Yes
Mrs. Gormley	Yes
Mrs. Keyes	Yes
Mr. McDonough	Yes
Mrs. Povacz	Yes
Mrs. Weisbrot	Yes
Mr. Dougherty	Absent

Motion passed 8 – 0 with 1 absent and 0 abstentions

1. Approve the personnel report as presented in **Attachment E.\***
2. Appoint Dr. James Rigney as School Physician for the 2017-2018 school year at an annual fee of \$4,000 with no per student charge.
3. Appoint Dr. Steven Covino as School Dentist for the 2017-2018 school year at a \$5 per student charge with no annual fee to the school district.

v. Special Education

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Weisbrot, seconded by Mrs. Keyes, the Board voted as follows on Special Education Item 1:

Mr. Capriotti	Yes
Mr. Cowell	Yes
Mrs. Deussing	Yes
Mrs. Gormley	Yes
Mrs. Keyes	Yes
Mr. McDonough	Yes
Mrs. Povacz	Yes

Mrs. Weisbrot            Yes  
Mr. Dougherty           Absent

Motion passed 8 – 0 with 1 absent and 0 abstentions

1. Approve the following special services agreements in the form presented to the Board:
  - a. Settlement Agreement and Release, Student No. 4980012159, for the 2017-2018 school year in the amount of \$25,000.
  - b. Lakeside Education Network, Student No. 5234420825, 2017 Summer Session and the 2017-2018 school year in the amount of \$56,246.40.
  - c. New Hope Academy, Student No. 506923183, for the 2017-2018 school year in the amount of \$34,900.
  - d. New Hope Academy, Student No. 9787682207, for the 2017-2018 school year in the amount of \$14,175.
  - e. Settlement Agreement and Release, Student No. 1292909773, for the 2017-2018 school year in the amount of \$51,921.
  - f. Settlement Agreement and Release, Student No. 003170, for the 2017-2018 school year in the amount of \$67,785.90.

**IX.** Comments/Discussion (Non-Agenda Items Only)

- a. Public Comment
  - i. Mr. Band commented on a listserv that was sent August 17, 2017 regarding the STAR program (Science, Technology and Arts at Rensselaer) for academically talented seniors who are underrepresented minorities or young women.
- b. Board Discussion
  - i. Mr. Capriotti commented that he would like to know more about Mr. Band's comments. Dr. Yanni indicated that EDR holds submit timesheets for payments, and later in the year, we can share that information with the Board.
  - ii. Mr. Deussing thanked Mr. Capriotti for the long term planning of the facilities committee.
- c. Superintendent's Comments
  - i. Mr. Odonoghue indicated that he did not see an issue with the listserv, as Mr. Band suggested. Dr. Yanni commented on Mr. Band's comments and agreed to follow up with the Solicitor for clarification.
  - ii. Dr. Yanni thanked the anonymous donor for the \$50,000 gift for athletics.

**X.** Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at 7:16pm