



HOLMDEL TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

AGENDA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
HOLMDEL HIGH SCHOOL
MAY 22, 2024 6:00 P.M.
PUBLIC MEETING APPROXIMATELY 7:00 P.M.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Holmdel Township School District is to provide a well-rounded and inclusive education that empowers all students to reach their full potential and thrive. We believe that excellence comes from building strong relationships, embracing a positive attitude toward growth, overcoming challenges with determination, and celebrating our unique differences. Through teamwork and cooperation, we aim to create an environment where students can succeed academically as life-long learners and responsible global citizens.

A. Call to Order

The Board of Education, Township of Holmdel, met in a Committee of the Whole Meeting on Wednesday, May 22, 2024 at Holmdel High School, 36 Crawfords Corner Road, Holmdel, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mr. Wall, Board President.

B. Open Public Meetings Act

Statement is hereby made that adequate notice of this meeting was given by:

- Posting written notice prominently on the bulletin board in the Office of the Board of Education, 65 McCampbell Road, Holmdel, New Jersey, the District's website and sent to the four district schools.
- The mailing and/or hand delivery of said notice to the designated newspapers, Asbury Park Press, Star Ledger, the PLG, PSG, PSA, PTSO, SAB presidents and student representatives to the Board.
- Filing with the Clerk of Holmdel Township, Police Headquarters and Public Library.

C. Roll Call

The following Board members were present: Mesdames: Dr. Collur (at 6:10 p.m.) Tuccillo and LoPresti. Messrs: Wall, DiMare, Reddy, Buckley, Mann and Libecchi. Also present, Dr. J. Scott Cascone, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Michael R. Petrizzo, CPA, Business Administrator/Board Secretary and Mr. Kyle Trent, Board Attorney. Student Representatives to the Board, Ms. Anugna Parvateneni and Mr. Jack Powers were absent.

D. Resolution for Executive Session

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, specifically N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b, permits a public body to go into an Executive (Closed) Session during a public meeting to discuss certain matters specified in the statute; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined that it is necessary to go into an Executive Closed Session to discuss matters relating to certain items as permitted by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Township of Holmdel that it shall adjourn into Closed Session at this time to discuss the following subject matter(s) without the presence of the public in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b and 10:4-13:

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1. Student matters
2. Personnel matters
3. Matters falling within the attorney-client privilege

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, it is not yet possible to determine when the matters discussed in Closed Session will be made public; the matter(s) discussed will be made known to the public at such time as appropriate action is taken on said matter(s), and when disclosure will not result in unwarranted invasion of individual privacy or prejudice to the best interests of the Board of Education, provided such disclosures will not violate Federal, State, or local statutes or regulations and do not fall within the attorney-client privilege.

MOTION: Mrs. Tuccillo SECOND: Mr. Reddy VOTE: 8-0
Absent: Dr. Collur

At 6:02 p.m., the meeting moved to Executive Session.

E. Motion to Return to Public Session

MOTION: Mrs. Tuccillo SECOND: Mrs. LoPresti VOTE: 9-0

At 7:00 p.m., the meeting returned to public session.

F. Call to Order

The Board of Education, Township of Holmdel, met in a Committee of the Whole Meeting on Wednesday, May 22, 2024 at Holmdel High School, 36 Crawfords Corner Road, Holmdel, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mr. Wall, Board President.

G. Opening Statement

Meetings of the Board are open to the public and all members of the community should feel free to participate:

- There is one opportunity for the public to speak.
- Any individual desiring to speak shall give his or her name, address, and the group, if any, that is represented.
- The presentation shall be as brief as possible but no more than three (3) minutes per individual.
- There are certain matters that may be brought before the board that cannot be immediately addressed in public. Such matters may be referred by the president to a board committee and/or to the Superintendent for consideration and/or resolution.
- The board vests in its president, or other presiding officer, authority to terminate the remarks of any individual if he/she deems it in the best interest of those present to do so.

H. Flag Salute

After the Flag Salute, there was a Moment of Silence in memory of Mr. Jay Demarest. At the conclusion, Mr. Wall asked Mr. Bill Loughran to say a few words in Mr. Demarest's honor.

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Mr. Loughran provided the history of Mr. Demarest’s career in the District and the High School and requested the Board consider naming the new turf field after him.

I. Presentations(s)/Public Hearing(s):

- Board Member Code of Ethics Training – Mr. Tim Teehan, New Jersey School Boards Association Field Service Representative

Mr. Teehan provided the training and facilitated Q&A session with the Board.

J. Questions or Comments from the Public on Action items Only – None

K. Action Items

- Policy:

1. Approval of Board Member “Code of Ethics” Training Session

The Board of Education Members have discussed the School Ethics Act and the Board Member Code of Ethics as required under N.J.A.C. 6A:32-3.2.

Resolved: That the “Code of Ethics” as set forth in N.J.S.A. 18A:12-24.1 shall be considered the official Code of Ethics of the Holmdel Township Board of Education:

CODE OF ETHICS

1. I will uphold and enforce all laws, rules and regulations of the State Board of Education, and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes shall be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.
2. I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain public schools that meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex, or social standing.
3. I will confine my board action to policy making, planning, and appraisal, and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the board has consulted those who will be affected by them.
4. I will carry out my responsibility, not to administer the schools, but, together with my fellow board members, to see that they are well run.
5. I will recognize that authority rests with the board of education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action that may compromise the board.
6. I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.

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7. I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals or the schools. In all other matters, I will provide accurate information and, in concert with my fellow board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its school.
8. I will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief administrative officer.
9. I will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.
10. I will refer all complaints to the chief administrative officer and will act on the complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.

MOTION: Mr. Buckley SECOND: Mr. Mann VOTE: 9-0

L. BOE Liaison Reports - None

M. Board Sub Committee Reports

1. C&I Committee Meeting – 5/1/24 – Mr. DiMare reported out on the Committee Meeting.
2. Policy Committee Meeting – 5/7/24 – Mr. DiMare reported out on the Committee Meeting.
3. Budget & Finance Committee – Mrs. LoPresti thanked the team for providing the historical data analysis that is currently being completed.

N. Old Business

1. High School Grading Scales & Course Weights – Dr. Cascone provided an overview on this matter and how the district will be moving forward.
2. Mr. Wall provided an update regarding the Township Committee applying for a \$3.5 million grant for traffic work on Crawfords Corner Road and thanked the Board for moving this matter forward.

O. New Business

1. Review of Agenda Action Items for May 29, 2024 Public Meeting
 - Dr. Collur asked about the addition and disposal of library books on the agenda and she wanted to know who was making the decision. Dr. Cascone advised that it is the Media Specialist to recommend, then Supervisor who reviews/recommends, then it goes to Central Office/Superintendent and then to the Board.
 - Mr. Reddy referenced the resolution for the TSA National Competition in Florida and asked for additional information. Dr. Cascone provided the background information regarding this matter.

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2. Central Office Department Updates

- Dr. Cascone provided an overview of all the things going on in the district, which was included in the Department Updates.
- Mr. Wall asked Mr. Howard to elaborate on Mental Health matters. Mr. Howard provided information on the SAVE Program (Students Against Violence Everywhere), a program he is hoping to incorporate here in Holmdel.
- Mr. DiMare referenced the Second Annual Transition Fair that was held recently at Bell Works. Ms. Lamoglia provided follow up comments and referenced the Unified Sports program.
- Mr. Reddy inquired about the NJSIG Safety Grant and Mr. Petrizzo responded accordingly.
- Mr. Reddy asked about the High School Principal Search. Mr. Wall provided follow-up comments and Dr. Cascone shared the search process timeline.

P. Questions or Comments from the Public

- Mr. Matt Weisfeld, Parent, spoke about the wonderful things reported out tonight. He then referenced the end of the second session of the Karate class. He asked the Board to consider adding a Karate curriculum program. He offered his help/services to assist in writing the curriculum. He also requested the Board to address concerns from parents about Administrators/Staff members leaving the district and parents feeling they are not being heard. Mr. Wall and Mr. DiMare responded accordingly.

Mr. DiMare referenced a discussion from Friday's Leadership Meeting and read a statement regarding collaboration between the Board and School District Administration. Following Mr. DiMare's statement, there was a brief discussion amongst the Board.

Q. Executive Session (if required) - None

R. Adjournment

Board President Wall called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Tuccillo motioned, Mr. Reddy seconded and by a unanimous voice vote, the meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mr. Michael R. Petrizzo, CPA
Business Administrator/Board Secretary