



**Lopatcong Township Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Minutes May 9, 2017**

**A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, OPENING STATEMENT:
7:00PM**

Adequate notice of this regular meeting of the Lopatcong Township Board of Education has been provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by publication of the annual notice in the Star Gazette. A copy of the agenda has been filed with the Township Clerk and posted at both school locations.

- B. ROLL CALL** by Donna Tolley, Business Administrator
Present: Ernest Gallant, Bob McFarlane, Pam Thomas, Gena James, Debbie Hille,
Barbara Lance, Stephen Ruane, Matthew Herzer, and William Taggart
Absent: None

C. READING OF MISSION STATEMENT Mrs. Roncoroni, Superintendent

The Lopatcong School District is committed to provide a safe, secure and supportive learning environment that challenges all students to meet or exceed developmentally appropriate expectations based on New Jersey Core Curriculum Content and Common Core State Standards through interactions with highly qualified and dedicated staff.

With community collaboration, the district will promote a positive atmosphere that acknowledges diversity and encourages students to be self-reflective and civically responsible.

By providing a comprehensive educational program using varied instructional strategies, recognizing individual differences, incorporating technology and digital literacy and encouraging critical thinking, the district will prepare students for college and careers in the 21st century.

D. PRESENTATIONS:

1). Art Presentation: Ms. Nicole Schuitema

Mrs. Schuitema, District Art Teacher, did a presentation of the recent Art Show that was held at the Elementary School. Over 414 students and parents attended the show. It was a great success. The students and parents all loved the various displays from each of the different grade levels. She had many motivational quotes about creativity from many famous people posted all over the hallways for parents and students to see. The students enjoyed the photo booth as well as the ice cream party.

Mr. Gallant stated that he attended the show and his favorite part was watching the excited students showing their works to their parents and friends.

2). School Board Ethics Training: NJSBA Mrs. Kathleen Helewa

Mrs. Helewa from NJSBA was here tonight to present a school board ethics training to the board members as part of their board member training requirements. The School Ethics Act was enacted in April of 1992. There are specific Ethics Laws that the board members must uphold. The individual board member was to hold the trust and confidence of the people you serve by upholding these laws. Board members must avoid or giving the impression of not acting in line with the Ethics Act. The Ethics Commission oversees all complaints or concerns brought before them if violations of these laws are believed. The commission is a 9 member board with 2 school board members, 2 school administrators, and 5 non-school members. There must be a 6 member majority vote to publish any advisory opinion.

Mrs. Helewa reviewed the complaint process and the penalties for violating any ethics laws. There was a review of each of the laws individually with explanations of each. There was a question and answer period. She then provided a small list of scenario's to review, determine if they were valid complaints and if so, what laws did it violate.

(Mrs. Helewa was asked to take a short break from the training to let the Board members complete the evenings agenda items and then return to the training so that if the public wanted to go home after the board business, we could expedite the business portion of the meeting.)

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

F. REVIEW OF OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1). Thank you card from Lisa Zittis to the Board members for the fruit and cheese platter that was sent to the staff last week during Teacher Appreciation week.
- 2). Invitations to all Board members from Phillipsburg High School to attend the High School Honors Nigh on June 8th as well as Graduation on June 16th.
- 3). Invitations to all Board members from the Lopatcong Middle School to attend the 8th Grade Graduation/Promotion Ceremony on June 15th.

G. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS (Attachment)

April 25, 2017 – Regular Meeting Minutes
April 25, 2017 – Executive Session Minutes

Voice Vote:

Motion: by Mrs. Pam Thomas, second by Mr. Matthew Herzer, motion carried, **Vote: 9-0**

H. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Ad-hoc: - **None**
- b. Education: - **None**
- c. Facilities and Technology: - **None**
- d. Finance: - **None**
- e. Negotiations: - **None**
- f. Policy: - **None**

- g. Teacher/Administrator Liasion:
 Mr. Herzer stated that the Committee met on Monday, May 8th with the Teacher representatives for an informal meeting to introduce themselves to the staff. Mrs. Thomas stated that their main goal was to improve the communication between staff, school and the community. The Committee proposed the Board award two \$25 gift certificates from Barnes and Nobles (one from the Elementary and one from the Middle school) for the highest class attendance at the Barnes and Nobles Book Fair to be held on May 17, 2017 from 6:00 to 8:00pm. The gift certificates will be used to add to those homeroom literacy libraries.

I. FINANCE

Resolutions R-323-17 through R-326-17 will be moved in one roll call

R-323-17 Authorization for Payment of Bills (Attachment)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, approve the bill’s list as submitted for the period April 26, 2017 through May 9, 2017 be approved as recommended by the Superintendent and School Business Administrator.

Fund 10 – Current Expense	\$ 951,721.91
Fund 20 – Special Revenue	5,962.50
Fund 30 – Capital Outlay	0.00
Fund 40 - Debt Service	0.00
Fund 60 – Food Service	1,622.68
Fund 62 - Enterprise Fund (After Care)	\$ 1,906.77
Grand Total	\$ 961,213.86

R-324-17 Line Item Transfers for May 2017 for the Aftercare Maint.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the budget transfers to cover 1 hour a day for the aftercare program for the maintenance cost of cleaning after the program’s conclusion. Transfer of \$51.67 x 21 days in the amount of \$ 1,085.07.

R-325-17 Increase in Student Lunch Costs for 2017-2018 School Year

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, increase the price of student lunch by \$.10 to \$2.85 for the 2017-2018 school year. This is to comply with Federal Law concerning lunch pricing.

R-326-17 Approve Renewal of Contract Maschios Food Service, Inc (FSMC) 2017-2018:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the renewal of the Maschio's Food Service, Inc. (FSMC original awarded bid submitted on April 21, 2016) for the Food Service Program for the 2017-2018 School Year. The renewal contract to Maschio's with a management fee in the amount of \$ 8,636.00. Maschio's guarantees a return to the LEA(School Food Authority) in the amount of \$6,000.00. In the event the actual bottom line of the operational report (total revenue from all sources less program costs, including the management fee) is below this amount. Maschio's shall be responsible for any shortfall with the stated guarantee conditions.

Roll Call: by Donna Tolley, Business Administrator

Motion: by Mr. Stephen Ruane, second by Mr. Matthew Herzer, all motions carried, **Vote: 9-0**

J. EDUCATION

Resolutions R-327-17 through R-349-17

R-327-17 Permission to Hire Staff

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent to take appropriate action to effectuate any necessary emergent hires in order to address any unfilled summer positions, unanticipated resignations and/or retirements that may occur between today and the date of the next Board meeting so that the District's schools are appropriately staffed to provide support and instruction during the 2016-2017 school year. Any such emergent hires are subject to ratification and approval by the Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

R- 328-17 Approve Hiring Middle School Principal:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, approve the hiring of Richard Bonney as Middle School Principal at a salary of \$85,000.00 effective July 1, 2017 (replaces Jeanene Dutt) for the 2017-2018 school year.

Roll Call: by Donna Tolley, Business Administrator

Motion: by Mr. Matthew Herzer, second by Mrs.Barbara Lance, all motions carried, **Vote: 7-0-2**
(Mrs. Barbara Lance and Mr. Stephen Ruane Abstained from the Vote)

R-329-17 Approve Field Trips for 2016-2017

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, approve the following field trips for the 2016-2017 school year.

Class	Date	Destination	Location
MS Track & Field Meet	May 25 th 2017	Maloney Stadium	Phillipsburg, NJ

R-330-17 Approve Substitutes for 2016-2017

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, Approve the following substitutes for the 2016-2017 school year.

Kelsey Nemeth as Substitute Teacher / Aide

R-331-17 Approve Volunteers for 2016-2017

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, approve the list of Volunteers for the 2016-2017 school year as follows:

- Crystal Cortes School Activities
- Melech Hernandez School Activities
- Sharon Mertes School Activities
- Edward Muir School Activities
- Jorge Navarro School Activities
- Dana Redondo School Activities
- Keith O'Hare School Activities
- Renee Newcombe School Activities
- Jason Coe School Activities

R-332-17 Approve Student Volunteer Hours: PHS:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, approve Skylar Burt, a Phillipsburg High School student, to receive volunteer hours for AP Biology for the 2016-2017 school year.

R-333-17 Approve Re-Employment of Tenured Certified Staff for 2017-2018

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, Approve the re-employment of the following Tenured Certified Staff for the 2017-2018 school year.

LAST	FIRST	DEGREE	LOCATOR
Allmer	Jennifer	MA+30	UU
Alvino	Michael	BA+30	KK
Arnold	Janine	BA	KK
Balogh	Michelle	MA	OO
Barna	Maria	BA	CC
Beenders	Lisa	MA	LL
Behme	Stacie	BA+30	OO
Bellfy	Donna	MA	QQ
Bertsch	Ann	MA	HH
Bower	Diane	BA	VV
Boylan	Rene	BA+15	VV
Burke	Heather	BA+30	KK
Cherry	Kelli	BA	UU
Chew	Susanne	MA+15	MM
Conner	Stacy	MA	PP
Crevani	Rodolfo	BA+30	LL
Duaine	Theresa	MA+15	MM
Duffy	Julie	BA	DD
Fania	Betsy	BA+15	JJ
Fehnel	Margaret	BA+15	QQ
Fernandez	Renee	BA+15	RR
Gable	Jennifer	MA	II
Gotimer-			
Mahoney	Susan	MA	KK
Hall	Sonnie	MA	PP
Hank	Gary	BA	G
Harman	Amy	BA	II
Hayes	Jocelyn	MA	JJ (0.6)
Highet	Deborah	BA+15	RR
Knarr	Kathleen	MA	CC
Lee	Jessica	MA	RR
Ludlow	Susanna	MA+30	II
Maisto	Richard	MA+30	MM
Mansfield	Elizabeth	MA	RR
Mazza-			
Spigner	Lauren	BA+15	HH
Mehlman	Benjamin	MA+15	II
Nassi	Angela	MA	LL
Normile	Margaret	MA	F (0.4)
Osifchin	Kevin	MA	SS

Piccolo	Cortney	MA+30	PP
Pogirnicky	Alison	MA	KK
Raniszewski	Patricia	BA	EE
Roberts	Lisa	BA+15	NN
Ruane	Traci	BA	QQ
Ruesch	Bonnie	BA+15	LL
Sherwood	Jessica	MA	KK
Stansberry	Noreen	MA+30	UU
Steele	Patricia	MA+15	LL
Stone	Lynette	BA+15	NN
Thompson	James	MA+15	KK
Thompson	Kimberly	MA	NN
Turker	Valerie	BA+15	VV
Umholtz	Lauren	MA+15	VV
Verrelli	Jessica	MA	KK (0.6)
Wayne	Amanda	MA+15	UU
Wayne	Krista	MA+30	RR
Weidlick	Heather	MA	GG
White	Juanita	MA+30	RR
Zittis	Lisa	MA	JJ

Roll Call: by Donna Tolley, Business Administrator

Motion: by Mr. Matthew Herzer, second by Mrs. Barbara Lance, all motions carried, **Vote: 8-0-1**
(Mr. Stephen Ruane Abstained from the Vote)

R-334-17 Approve the Re-Employment of Non-Tenured Certificated Staff for 2017-2018

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, Approve the re-employment of the following non-tenured certified staff for the 2017-2018 school year.

LAST	FIRST	DEGREE	LOCATOR
Hernandez	Patricia	BA	Z
Schutima	Nicole	BA	ZZ
Sessions	Kelsey	MA	ZZ (0.64)
Sodtalbers	Angela	MA	Z (0.5)

R-335-17 Approve the Re-Employment of Non-Certified Aide Staff for 2017-2018

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, Approve the re-employment of the following non-certified staff for the 2017-2018 school year.

LAST	FIRST	POSITION	FTE	SALARY
Andransky	Alexis	Aide	0.5	\$10,651.52
Burd	Eleni	Aide	0.83	\$17,681.51
Doerfer	Cheryl	Aide	0.5	\$10,427.34
Franklin	Barbara	Aide	0.83	\$18,904.23
Horsch	Kathleen	Aide	0.5	\$10427.34
Loukas- Yeisley	Melissa	Aide	0.5	\$11,388.09
Lazorchak	Annie	Aide	0.5	\$10,651.52
McGann	JoAnn	Aide	0.83	\$18,085.54
Moustakas	Emma	Aide	0.83	\$18,904.23
Olah	Gwen	Aide	0.5	\$11,388.09
Orth	Sharon	Aide	0.5	\$11,388.09
Owen	Jennifer	Aide	0.83	\$31,460.98
Schappert	Angela	Aide	0.5	\$10,651.52
Smart	Melissa	Aide	0.83	\$17,309.38
Stucker	Tami	Aide	0.5	\$10,427.34
Stumpf	Mary	Aide	0.5	\$10,651.52
Tietjen	Krista	Aide	0.83	\$18,085.54
Yount	Sue	Aide	0.83	\$31,460.98
Buckley	JoAnn	Lunchroom Supervisor	2 hrs/ day	\$8,963.50
Gritz	Jackie	Lunchroom Supervisor	2 hrs/ day	\$5,953.50
Koslowski	Kimberly	Lunchroom Supervisor	2 hrs/ day	\$5,953.50
McQuade	Linda	Lunchroom Supervisor	2 hrs/ day	\$8,963.50

R-336-17 Approve the Re-Employment of Custodial and Maintenance Staff for 2017-2018

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, Approve the re-employment of the following custodial staff for the 2017-2018 school year.

Custodians/Maintenance

LAST	FIRST	POSITION	SALARY
Feleppo	Giovanni	Head Custodian	\$63,211.00
Hassan	Stephen	Custodian	\$62,483.00
Hooper	Henry	Custodian	\$62,483.00
Marinelli	Robert	Custodian/Maint	\$62,483.00
Maslonka	Matthew	Custodian	\$35,381.00
Reeves	Maynard	Custodian/Maint	\$62,483.00
Whitehead	Benjamin	Custodian/Maint	\$62,48300

R-337-17 Approve the Re-Employment of Aftercare Staff for 2017-2018

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, Approve the re-employment of the following aftercare staff for the 2017-2018 school year.

LAST	FIRST	POSITION	FTE	RATE
Eriksen	Judith	Supervisor	4 Hr/Day	\$20/hr
Tedesco	Donna	Aide(4 days a wk)	3.5 Hrs/Day	\$12/hr
Sessions	Kelsey	Aide(1 day a wk)	3.5 Hrs /Day	\$12/hr

R-338-17 Approve Non-Association Support Staff Contracts for the 2017-2018 School Year

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, Offer re-employment to the following non-certified staff for the 2017-2018 school year as per their individual terms and conditions of their respective contracts:

Christine Ferri - Assistant to the Business Administrator	\$42,844.00
Lorraine Rossetti - Treasurer of School Monies	\$ 3,570.00
Debra Winters - PT Payroll /PT HR Assistant	\$37,124.00
Terry Lynch - Administrative Assistant MS	\$44,334.00
Virginia Remetta, - Admin Assist ES/CST Admin Assist	\$42,736.00
Laura Ruggiero - Administrative Assistant ES	\$42,736.00

R-339-17 Non-Association Administrator Contracts for the 2017-2018 School Year

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, offer the re-employment to the following non-union administrative staff effective July 1, 2017- June 30, 2018 as per individual terms and conditions of their respective contracts.

Noelle Kondikoff, Principal	\$94,446.00
Brian Fleming, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds	\$77,697.00
Adam Boyer, Technology Coordinator	\$71,450.00

R-340-17 Approve Unpaid Days:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, approve the unpaid days for Alexis Andransky for May 11 and May 12th 2017 for the 2016-2017 school year.

R-341-17 Approve Danielson Framework for 2016-2017:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, approve the Danielson Framework Model and the MPPR Evaluation Model for the 2016-2017 School Year.

R-342-17 Approve Summer ESY Programs 2017-2018

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, approve the following in-district Summer ESY Programs 5 weeks 4 days/wk from July 3, 2017 ending August 3, 2017 Monday thru Thursday excluding July 4th for the 2017-2018 school year

ESY Preschool Program 8:30am to 11:15am

ESY MD Program – Elementary 8:30am to 12:30pm

ESY MD Program – Middle 8:45am to 12:45pm

R-343-17 Approve Summer ESY Staff

Staff Member	Position	Hours	Pro-rated for days worked
Annie Kish	Preschool Teacher	17 hrs/wk	Hrly Sub Rate
Elizabeth Mansfield	MD Elem Teacher	17 hrs/wk	\$40/ per hour as per the CBA*
Maria Barna	MD Middle Teacher	17 hrs/wk	\$40/ per hour as per the CBA*
Cheryl Doerfer	Preschool Aide	16 hrs/wk	Hrly Rate
Jenn Owen	MD ES Aide	16 hrs/wk	Hrly Rate
Kathleen Horsch	MD ES Aide	16 hrs/wk	Hrly Rate
Melissa Loukas-Yeasley	MD ES Aide	16 hrs/wk	Hrly Rate
Alexis Andransky	MD MS Aide	16 hrs/wk	Hrly Rate
Barbara Franklin	MD MS Aide	16 hrs/wk	Hrly Rate
Jessica Verrelli	Speech	As per IEP	\$40/ per hour as per the CBA*
Jocellyn Hayes	Speech	As per IEP	\$40/ per hour as per the CBA*
Betsey Fania	Nurse	20 hrs/wk	\$40/ per hour as per the CBA*

Lisa Zittis	Soc Wkr	As needed	*(not to exceed 35 hrs)
Kelsey Sessions	Soc Wkr	As needed	*(not to exceed 35 hrs)
Amanda Wayne	Reg Ed	Per IEP**	\$40/ per hour as per the CBA*
Stacy Behme	Reg Ed	**	\$40/ per hour as per the CBA*
Lauren Umholtz	Reg Ed	**	\$40/ per hour as per the CBA*
Pattie Raniszewski	Reg Ed	**	\$40/ per hour as per the CBA*
Amy Harmon	Reg Ed	**	\$40/ per hour as per the CBA*
Rene Boylan	Reg Ed	**	\$40/ per hour as per the CBA*
Theresa Duaima	Reg Ed	**	\$40/ per hour as per the CBA*
Sonnie Hall	Reg Ed	**	\$40/ per hour as per the CBA*
Valerie Turker	Sp Ed	**	\$40/ per hour as per the CBA*
Heather Weidlick	Sub	As needed	Sub Rate
Sue Yount	Sub	As needed	Sub Rate
Angela Shappart	Sub	As needed	Sub Rate

R-344-17 Approve Non-Public Nursing Contract with ESC of Morris Cty for 2017-2018
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, Approve the Non-Public Nursing contract ESC of Morris County for the 2017-2018 School Year.

R-345-17 Approve 192/193 Non-Public Contract with ESC of Morris Cty for 2017-2018
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, Approve the 192/193 Non-Public contract ESC of Morris County for the 2017-2018 School Year.

R-346-17 Approve Non-Public Security Contract with ESC of Morris Cty for 2017-2018
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, Approve the Non-Public Security contract ESC of Morris County for the 2017-2018 School Year.

R-347-17 Approve Coordinated Transportation Contract with WCSSSD for 2017-2018.
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, approve the contract for Coordinated Transportation with Warren County Special Services School District and agree that in consideration of pro-rated contract costs, plus a 4% administrative fee for the 2017-2018 school year.

R-348-17 Employee Travel and Expense Reimbursement:
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, approve employee travel and expense reimbursement as follows:

M. Barna	6/2/17	Teacher of the Year Luncheon	Washington, NJ
A Wayne	6/2/17	Teacher of the Year Luncheon	Washington, NJ
R Roncoroni	6/2/17	Teacher of the Year Luncheon	Washington, NJ
J. Verrelli	5/22/17	Executive Functioning Skills	Hackettstown, NJ

R-349-17 Approve HIB Report (Attachment):
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, approve the HIB Report from April 24, 2017 thru May 5, 2017 for the 2016-2017 school year.

Roll Call: by Donna Tolley, Business Administrator
Motion: by Mr. Matthew Herzer, second by Mrs.Barbara Lance, all motions carried, **Vote: 9-0**
(Mrs. Barbara Lance Abstained from the Vote on R-328-17)
(Mr. Stephen Ruane Abstained from the Vote on R-328-17 and R-333-17)

R-351-17 Approve Board Gift Certificates:
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, approve the Board award two \$25 gift certificates from Barnes and Nobles (one from the Elementary and one from the Middle school) for the highest class attendance at the Barnes and Nobles Book Fair to be held on May 17, 2017.

Roll Call: by Donna Tolley, Business Administrator
Motion: by Mrs. Gena James, second by Mrs.Pam Thomas, all motions carried, **Vote: 9-0**

K. FACILITIES & TECHNOLOGY

Resolutions R-350-17

R-350-17 Approve Facilities Use Request

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon recommendation by the Superintendent, approve facilities use requests as follows:

<i>Organization</i>		<i>Date</i>	<i>Building</i>	<i>Fees</i>		
<i>Kenny Lutz</i>	<i>LAA Impact Testing</i>	<i>May 30, 31st 2017</i>	<i>MS Media Ctr & Comp Lab</i>	<i>None</i>		

Roll Call: by Donna Tolley, Business Administrator

Motion: by Mr. Matthew Herzer, second by Mr. Stephen Ruane, all motions carried, **Vote: 9-0**

L. POLICY

M. ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:

Mrs. Roncoroni started her report by welcoming Mr. Bonney to the Administrative Team as Middle School Principal for the 2017-2108 school year. We look forward to a great working relationship. We want to thank Mrs. Dutt for all she has done for the District and will greatly miss her, and we wish Mrs. Dutt much success in her new position.

Mrs. Roncoroni stated that 1) last week was Teacher Appreciation week and she wanted to thank the board members for their thoughtful fruit and cheese platter for the staff. It was much appreciated by all. 2) May 23rd is the Health and Wellness Fair at the Middle School. We have 32 vendors that will have signed up to have a booth during the event. We welcome all students, parents and community members to come and participate in the event. 3) On May 23rd at 7:00 in the evening there will be a parent presentation called “Hidden in Plain Sight” for all middle and high school parents to be aware of what might be hidden in their own child’s bedroom. 4) Announced that 30% of the honors students graduating this year are from Lopatcong as well as this year’s valedictorian.

Elementary School:

Mrs. Kondikoff stated that 1) the Art Show held at the Elementary School was a huge success. There was over 400 students and parents in attendance. 2) the year end summative conferences are full swing. 3) PARCC has started this week with Math and next week will be Language Arts 4) Spirit Week has daily activities to motivate the students during testing 4) May 17th from 6:00 – 8:00 will be the Barnes and Nobles Book Fair 5) 3rd and 4th Grade play held at the middle

school is May 24th. 6) the Kindergarten show is held for June 7th at the elementary school. 7) 4th graders will be taking the NJASK Science testing May 31st.

Middle School:

Mrs. Dutt stated that the middle school has completed the PARCC testing and it was time to celebrate. It is Spirit Week this week with many daily activities planned. Mrs. Dutt is still working with Mrs. Mahoney to schedule the student / staff volleyball game.

N. LEGISLATIVE UPDATES:

Mrs. Thomas stated that there had be several topics discussed during the month. 1). Continued discussion about the School Funding Formula still has not been resolved. Districts are continuing to feel the effects of the years of flat state aid and the continued increases in the cost to supply the education required. 2). May 2017 was designated as Physical Fitness and Sport Month. 3). Discussion on the teach evaluation systems showing increases in improvement levels of the educational staff. 4). Published 2017-2018 Religious Holiday Calendar of permitted pupil absences.

O. REPORT From Phillipsburg Board of Education Representative:

Mr. Gallant stated that the Phillipsburg Board of Education met last Monday, and passed their 2017-2018 budget without changes. The Board met last night and hired Mr. Troxell as the new Superintendent for the District effective July 1, 2017.

P. ITEMS OF EMERGENT NATURE

Comments by Board of Education members

1). Student Achievement:

Q. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, the Board has set aside two portions of this meeting for public comment. Specifically, during both the "Public Comment on Agenda Items" and the "Other Public Comments" sections noted on the agenda, this meeting will be open to members of the public who wish to speak or make comment on agenda items or a school district issue that may be of concern to the residents of the Township of Lopatcong. In that respect, please limit your comments or questions during the "Public Comment on Agenda Items" to agenda items only, and save any other questions or comments that you may have for the "Other Public Comments" portion of the meeting.

During both portions of the meeting, the Board requests that the following procedures be observed:

1. Any person who wishes to speak must wait until they have been recognized by the presiding Board Officer;
2. Before beginning, each speaker must state their name and address and, if speaking on behalf of an organization, the name of that organization;
3. Each speaker is limited to one (1) opportunity to speak during each of the two (2) portions that have been set aside;
4. Each speaker is limited to three (3) minutes in length so that other members of the public who wish to speak may have an opportunity to do so. Additional time may be afforded to a speaker at the sole discretion of the presiding Board Officer;
5. The presiding Board Officer will advise each speaker when the three (3) minute period has expired;

6. Out of respect for other members of the public that may wish to speak, the Board requests that each speaker cede the floor to the next member of the public as soon as they finished making their respective comment(s) and/or when their allotted time has expired; and
7. If your questions or comments pertain to litigation, student or personnel matters, the Board asks that you see the Superintendent after the meeting since the Board does not, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, discuss or respond to these items in public.

Comments:

Mrs. Donna Schneider thanked Mrs. Dutt for all she has done for the families, students and the community here at Lopatcong. She wished her the best in her new position. She also wished Mr. Bonney congratulations on his new position. She also wanted to thank the Board, Mrs. Roncoroni, and all the wonderful Aides in the District that have helped her son over the years.

Mrs. Traci Ruane thanked the Administration, Board, and PTA for all their thoughtfulness during Teacher Appreciation Week last week. The breakfast, lunches, and fruit/cheese platters were very much appreciated from the entire staff.

Mrs. Debbie Hille left the meeting at 8:24 pm.

Ethics Training Presentation (Continued)

The Board members were give a short quiz based on real life scenarios of ethics complaints. They were to identify the violation that was identified and whether or not it was a true violation of the Ethics Code.

Mrs. Kathleen Helewa covered several areas of the Ethics Code that Board members should be aware of: to Recuse and/ or Abstain from a discussion or vote based on personal relationship with topic. The discussion that Board members should not be Volunteers in the school as their role as volunteer and board member may be misinterpreted. Board members should never be placed on personnel or interview committees of any kind with staff members. The definitions of immediate family and relatives in conjunction with Board member conflict of interest was also discussed.

R. EXECUTIVE SESSION: 8:54PM

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act authorizes Boards of Education to meet in executive session under certain circumstances

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act requires the Board to adopt a resolution at a public meeting to go into private session; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Lopatcong Township Board of Education, that it is necessary to meet in executive session to discuss certain items involving:

- **HIB**, Student Matters

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any discussion held by the Board which need not remain confidential will be made public as soon as feasible. The minutes of the executive session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education will return to open session to conduct business at the conclusion of the executive session.

Voice Vote:

Motion by Mrs., Pam Thomas, and second by Mr. Matthew Herzer, to go into executive session at **8:54 p.m. Vote: 8 – 0.**

S. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION: 8:55PM

Voice Vote:

Motion by Mr. Robert McFarlane, and second by Mr. Stephen Ruane, to leave executive session at **8:55 p.m. Vote: 8 – 0.**

T. ADJOURNMENT: 8:56 PM

Voice Vote:

Motion by Mr. Stephen Ruane, and second by Mr. Robert McFarlane to adjourn the meeting **8:56 p.m. Vote: 8 – 0.**

Respectfully Submitted:

Donna Tolley, Board Secretary