

HAWTHORNE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HAWTHORNE, NEW JERSEY
 Tuesday, July 24, 2018
 Special Meeting – 8:00 P.M
 Board of Education Meeting Room

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Time: 8:00 p.m.

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING BEGINS:

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to ensure the rights of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon.

In accordance with the provisions of this act, the Business Administrator/Board Secretary has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof posted on the bulletin board of the municipal building, communicated to The Hawthorne Press and filed with the Clerk of the Borough of Hawthorne.

ROLL CALL:	PRESENT	ABSENT	Time of arrival after meeting has been called to order.
Alex Clavijo	X		
Michael Doyle		X	
Abigail Goff		X	
Anthony Puluse	X		
Bruce Reicher	X		
Tania Sanford	X		
Victor Terraglia	X		
Louis B. Turco	X		
Mike Sciarra	X		

Also Present: Richard A. Spirito, Superintendent of Schools
 Trude Engle, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
 And approximately 4 members of the public.

FLAG SALUTE:

MEETING REGULATIONS:

During each regular meeting, two opportunities are provided for citizens to ask questions and to make comments. During the first opportunity, early on the agenda, the meeting is open to the public for the purpose of addressing items listed for approval on this agenda only. The second opportunity occurs just prior to adjournment, when citizens may address any subject matter that is pertinent to and/or directly related to the operation of the school district.

Persons wishing to speak must upon being recognized, rise, sign in, state their name, address and subject matter. Comments and questions shall be addressed to the Board President or the presiding officer and shall be limited to three minutes per person. The Board may (or may not) respond to issues raised by members of the public at the time they are raised, but will provide a response if and when appropriate.

The Board asks that members of the public be courteous and mindful of the rights of other individuals when speaking. Please note that the Board will not respond to comments regarding students or board employees in light of the privacy rights held by those individuals. Moreover, the Board discourages comments about such individuals, and will not be responsible for such comments. Members of the public who choose to speak during this public session should carefully consider their comments, since they could be held personally liable for any statements they make.

Finally, please note that in accordance with District Policy No. 0167, the Board will not officially comment or respond to any matter mentioned unless it can confirm that the matter has first been brought to the attention of the appropriate school personnel in an attempt to resolve the issue.

PUBLIC BE HEARD - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None

DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL STATE AID

1. District received additional state aid in the amount of \$574,165.00
2. Mr. Sciarra explained the Districts options with the additional state aid:
 - a. Return to the taxpayers in 2018/2019
 - b. Return to the taxpayers in 2019/2020
 - c. Expand our budget

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Mr. Reicher commented that student achievement is of the utmost importance and recommends utilizing all the funds for 1:1 initiative, technical support and supervisors. He commented that we have been underfunded for years.

Mr. Clavijo also stated that the District has been underfunded for years. He recommends we give relief back to taxpayers to get budget back to 2% and the balance to instructional items.

Mr. Puluse agreed with Mr. Clavijo and get budget back to 2%

Ms. Sanford commented that \$355,000 be returned to taxpayers and the balance be utilized in the general fund.

Mr. Sciarra suggested that the \$355,000 be returned to taxpayers and the balance used to fund strategic plan and maintenance projects.

Mr. Turco questioned the cost for 1:1 initiative and agreed with returning \$355,000 to tax payers.

Mr. Terraglia commented that Trenton short-changed the District for years and his initial reaction is to return 100% of the additional aid to the taxpayers.

Mr. Turco discussed returning the \$219,165 back to taxpayers in the 2019/2020 budget year.

Ms. Sanford asked the business administrator and superintendent their opinions for spending the additional state aid.

Mr. Terraglia commented that we have been expanding the budget for years and is in favor of returning 100% of the additional aid.

Mr. Sciarra stated that the District has used banked capital to increase budget to 2.99%; we will not get this amount back and suggested we use some of the extra aid for facility projects

Mr. Reicher commented that he has listened to all comments; remember student achievement is important.

Mr. Sciarra made motion to return \$355,000 and balance to be utilized.

Mr. Clavijo read the motion:

Discussion followed of whether \$219,165 should be deferred to 2019/2020 school year.

Mr. Richer asked if we can put entire sum in one place instead of two places; explained that it can be transferred.

Mr. Turco in favor of deferring \$219,165 to the 2019/2020 school year.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION:

Alex Clavijo, Chairperson

ACTION ITEMS:

Pursuant to the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Committee on Finance and

Administration recommends the following resolutions:

F-1. WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-13.3(d) provides that a district Board of Education may, at any time appropriate unbudgeted or under budgeted state aid for which budgetary approval was granted by the Commissioner, and

WHEREAS, the Hawthorne Board of Education has been advised that the District’s 2018-2019 state aid has been increased by \$574,165,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the increased state aid in the amount of \$574,165 be appropriated and utilized in the 2018-2019 budget as follows:

Revenue:

10-3121	Transportation Aid	\$219,165.00
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Appropriations:

11-190-100-340	Instructional, Other Purchased Services	\$109,582.00
11-000-262-420	Cleaning, Repair & Maintenance Services	\$109,583.00

The Board commits \$355,000.00, the balance of the additional state aid award, towards 2018-2019 local tax levy relief.

F-1 – Moved by Mr. Clavijo, seconded by Ms. Sanford

Ayes - None

**Nays - Ms. Sanford, Mr. Reicher, Mr. Terraglia, Mr. Turco
Mr. Clavijo, Mr. Sciarra, Mr. Puluse**

Abstain - None

Absent - Mr. Doyle, Ms. Goff

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION:

Louis Turco

ACTION ITEMS:

Pursuant to the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Committee on Finance and Administration recommends the following resolutions:

F-2. WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-13.3(d) provides that a district Board of Education may, at any time appropriate unbudgeted or under budgeted state aid for which budgetary approval was granted by the Commissioner, and

WHEREAS, the Hawthorne Board of Education has been advised that the District’s 2018-2019 state aid has been increased by \$574,165,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the increased state aid in the amount of \$574,165 be appropriated and utilized in the 2018-2019 budget as follows:

Revenue:

10-3121	Transportation Aid	\$307,905.00
10-3132	Special Education Aid	\$3,081.00
10-3177	Security Aid	\$263,179.00

The Board commits \$355,000.00, of the additional state aid award, towards 2018-2019 local tax levy relief.

The Board commits \$219,165.00, of the additional state aid award, towards 2019-2020 school budget.

F-2 – Moved by Mr. Turco, seconded by Mr. Clavijo

**Ayes - Ms. Sanford, Mr. Reicher, Mr. Turco
Mr. Clavijo, Mr. Sciarra, Mr. Puluse**
Nays - Mr. Terraglia
Abstain - None
Absent - Mr. Doyle, Ms. Goff

PUBLIC BE HEARD:

Ms. Missionelli from The Hawthorne Press questioned if the state aid numbers would be the same for next year. She also shared that PCTI is getting 3.5 million in additional state aide.

Ms. Tolomeo commented on the following:

- NJSBA holding workshop for meetings and transparency
- Extraordinary aid
- Change of policy for meetings
- Minutes reflect lack of discussion
- Some of the links not working on website for minutes

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

At 9:15 p.m. Mr. Turco moved the board adjourn, seconded by Mr. Terraglia

**Ayes - Mr. Turco, Ms. Sanford, Mr. Sciarra, Mr. Terraglia
Mr. Clavijo, Mr. Reicher, Mr. Puluse**
Nays - None
Abstain - None
Absent - Mr. Doyle, Ms. Goff

Respectfully submitted,

Trude Engle
Board Secretary