

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the East Windsor Regional School District Board of Education April 14, 2008

The Board of Education of the East Windsor Regional School District held a regular meeting on Monday, April 14, 2008 at the Hightstown High School cafeteria.

ITEM 1: WELCOME / SUNSHINE NOTICE & FIRE CODE

Board President Alice Weisman called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. and read the Open Public Meeting Act Statement as follows:

“Written advance notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with law. Minutes of this meeting are being kept by the Board Secretary and will be made available promptly to any member of the public requesting them from the Board Secretary at the Administration building located at 25A Leshin Lane, Hightstown, NJ. Minutes will be provided at cost and in accordance with Board policy.”

Ms. Weisman asked “Are there any Board members present who believe this meeting to be in violation of the Open Public Meeting Act?” No one objected. “There being none, we may proceed.”

Members Present: Stuart Dolgon, Bruce Ettman, Suzann Fallon, Bonnie Fayer James Hauck, Robert Laverty, Kennedy Paul Alice Weisman

Members Absent: Susan Lloyd

Also Present: Ronald Bolandi, Chief School Administrator;
Kurt Stumbaugh, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
David Coates, Board Legal Counsel.

Compliance with Fire Code:

The Board President made the following announcement: “In compliance with the fire code of the State of New Jersey, I call your attention to the emergency exit for this room, which is located.....” (Ms. Weisman pointed to the emergency exit.)

ITEM 2: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board President asked those present to join in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ITEM 3A: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Having read the material received Mr. Laverty moved, seconded by Ms. Fallon to approve the agenda.

On a roll call vote, members voting yes: Mr. Dolgon, Mr. Etman, Ms. Fallon, Ms. Fayer, Mr. Hauck, Mr. Laverty, Mr. Paul, Ms. Weisman. Members voting no: none. Members abstaining: none. Motion was carried: unanimously.

ITEM 3B: RESOLUTION FOR CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Lavery moved, seconded by Mr. Hauck to approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the East Windsor Regional School District will hold a closed session during its regular meeting on April 14, 2008. This closed session concerns:

1. Personnel Matters
2. Litigation
3. Contract Litigation

Minutes of this closed session will be available in accordance with Board policy when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

On a roll call vote, members voting yes: Mr. Dolgon, Mr. Ettman, Ms. Fallon, Ms. Fayer, Mr. Hauck, Mr. Lavery, Mr. Paul, Ms. Weisman. Members voting no: none.
Members abstaining: none. Motion was carried unanimously.

ITEM 3C: RESOLUTION: SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS GRANT APPLICATION

Mr. Lavery moved, seconded by Mr. Hauck to approve the following resolution to support the Safe Routes to School Grant Application.

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Education is offering a grant through the New Jersey Safe Routes to Schools Program and,

WHEREAS, the East Windsor Regional School District and the Township of East Windsor and Borough of Hightstown, would like to apply for this grant which would enable these municipalities to install sidewalks on some of the streets where a need has been determined,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the East Windsor Regional School District Board of Education endorses and supports the application for a grant offered by the New Jersey Safe Routes to Schools Program to enable the Township of East Windsor and Borough of Hightstown to install needed sidewalks.

*I, Kurt Stumbaugh, Secretary of the East Windsor Regional School District Board of Education, **HEREBY CERTIFY** that this is a certified copy of the unapproved minutes of its regular meeting held on April 14, 2008.*

***IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the corporate seal of the East Windsor Regional School District Board of Education, this 15th day of April 2008.*

Kurt Stumbaugh, Board Secretary

On a roll call vote, members voting yes: Mr. Dolgon, Mr. Ettman, Ms. Fallon, Ms. Fayer, Mr. Hauck, Mr. Lavery, Mr. Paul, Ms. Weisman. Members voting no: none.
Members abstaining: none. Motion was carried unanimously.

ITEM 3D: RESOLUTION: RESTORE PRINCIPLE OF MAJORITY RULE IN NJ FOR SPECIAL BUDGET QUESTIONS IN ANNUAL SCHOL BOARD ELECTIONS

Mr. Laverty moved, seconded by Ms. Fayer to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, New Jersey Public School Districts face increasing budgetary challenges to maintain effective an high quality educational programs, and

WHEREAS, greater budgetary constraints (caps) imposed by recent legislation (Assembly Bill A1 and formally known as P.L. 2007, c.62) force many school districts to present high quality educational programs to district voters by means of special questions, and

WHEREAS, P.L. 2007, c.62 imposed an unprecedented 60% majority vote requirement for a special question to be successful and further declares that school districts have **no** right of appeal to the local municipality or to the Commissioner of Education should such questions fail, and

WHEREAS, low voter turnout (often less that 15%) for school budgetary questions often means that success or failure is often based on very low margins, and

WHEREAS, this requirement violates all principles of majority rule and gives those persons who vote in the negative, greater voice and control in their respective communities,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the East Windsor Regional Board of Education requests its legislative representatives and Governor Jon Corzine to amend Chapter 62 to eliminate the provision of a super-majority (60%) vote for school district special questions and restore the principle of “one person, one vote” in the State of New Jersey, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be sent to our local legislative representatives in the General Assembly and Senate, the Governor of the State of New Jersey and to the New Jersey School Board’s Association.

Alice Weisman, President
EWRSD Board of Education

Kurt Stumbaugh, Board Secretary
School Business Administrator

On a roll call vote, members voting yes: Mr. Dolgon, Mr. Ettman, Ms. Fallon, Ms. Fayer, Mr. Hauck, Mr. Laverty, Mr. Paul, Ms. Weisman. Members voting no: none.
Members abstaining: none. Motion to approve was carried unanimously.

ITEM 4: RECOGNITION: STUDENT STAFF & FACULTY ADVISOR FOR MHK AWARD WINNING ISSUE OF RED INK MAGAZINE

The Superintendent introduced RED INK Magazine. Richard Christiano gave a report on the background of the magazine. The Board President and the Superintendent presented the certificates.

ITEM 5: HHS STUDENT GOVERNMENT PRESENTATION

The High School student government presentation was introduced by the Superintendent. The advisors introduced the students from the National Honor Society and Student Government. Their Public Service projects include : Soup Kitchen, Senior Center Dinner, Thanksgiving, Peer Tutoring, Jeans for Teens, Meals for Senior Center, Next Level, School Dance, Senior Service Day, and hours at various community groups. The Board thanked all involved for their fine service.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (moved from item 8)

Calendar for 07-08 & new calendar for 08-09 was discussed. Returned to open meeting at 8:15.

ITEM 6. BOARD POLICY SECOND READING

- A. #6422 – Budget Transfers, Emergency Purchases & Over Expenditure of Funds
- B. # 5200 - Attendance

Mr. Laverty moved, seconded by Ms. Fayer to approve the above policies as submitted
On a roll call vote, members voting yes: Mr. Dolgon, Mr. Ettman, Ms. Fallon, Ms. Fayer, Mr. Hauck, Mr. Laverty, Mr. Paul, Ms. Weisman. Members voting no: none.
Members abstaining: none. Motion to approve was carried unanimously.

ITEM 7. CLUB APPLICATION FROM HHS

The Superintendent shared information on the Vision Check Club.

ITEM 8: (Exective Session – occurred earlier in meeting)

ITEM 9: DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- A. 2008-09 Calendar – The Superintendent walked through the 08-09 calendar
- B. 2007-08 Calendar was revised for unused snow days May 23 and 27. School is closed for 10 month employees and students and 12 month employees are to report to work.

ITEM 10: FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ITEM 11. FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBERS COMMENTS

Mr. Dolgon – asked about results of the scheduling meeting. The Superintendent gave an update on the meeting, and commented that press coverage of event was an accurate sentiment of those at the meeting who were opposed to change if elective was lost. Another meeting will occur on April 30, 08. A survey will be taken.

Ms. Fayer – Asked if college admission counselors would be invited. The Superintendent indicated no. Detailed support was presented at meetings. Admission office’s comments were rigor vs. quantity issue. Rigor is a more important factor in admissions.

Mr. Laverty – caution is advised when labeling “over achieving groups. The school as a whole is the focus. A GPA from a high performing district is the most valuable factor. The proposed changes will benefit all students and not a select group.

Ms. Weisman – reported on the music parents meeting. It was a congenial and beneficial discussion of the music program. Another meeting is scheduled. The Superintendent and Administration will give serious consideration to all input from all stakeholders.

Ms. Fallon - commented on the long history of success of our music programs as well as all our programs.

The graffiti downtown issue was discussed and various efforts to prevent racism was commented on.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Superintendent announced a long list of top level colleges to which HHS students were admitted. Teacher of the Year and Governor Teacher Award Winners will be honored in a June meeting and luncheon.

ITEM 12: MOTION TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEMS BY EXCEPTION

- A. Staffing
- B. Approval of Governor's Teacher Award Winners
- C. Approval of the Teacher of the Year Winner
- D. Authorization for Emergent Hiring Pending Criminal History Check
- E. Out of District Placement
- F. Professional Services
- G. Pre-School Changes at Grace N. Rogers School
 - 1. Approve Closing of One Preschool Disabilities Program Effective September 1, 2007
 - 2. Approve Opening of One Preschool Disabilities Program Effective April 7, 2008
- H. Approval of Travel & Related Expenses
- I. Approval of Amendment to NCLB FY08 Application
- J. Rider to Cigna Policy
- K. DEP Diesel Retrofit Program
- L. Approval to Make Application for the 2008 FLAP Grant
- M. Volunteers – GNR
- N. Donations
 - 1. High School Robotics Team from CONAIR
 - 2. Walter C. Black School from STAPLES
 - 3. Used Textbooks from HS to a School in Namibia
- O. Indoor Air Quality Program
- P. Bill List
- Q. Board Secretary's Report
- R. Treasurer's Report
- S. Transfer Report

Mr. Lavery moved, seconded by Mr. Hauck, to approve the above the submitted routine agenda items as listed above. On a roll call vote, members voting yes: Mr. Dolgon, Mr. Ettman, Ms. Fallon, Ms. Fayer, Mr. Hauck, Mr. Lavery, Mr. Paul, Ms. Weisman. Members voting no: none. Members abstaining: none. Motion to approve was carried unanimously.

NOTE: All copies of the above routine agenda items are on file and available for review in the Board Secretary's Office

12A. Staffing & Addendum
As submitted

12B. EWRSD/Governor's Teacher Recognition Award
The Board approved submittal to the County Superintendent of Schools the teachers listed below as recipients of the Governor's Teacher Recognition Award.

Barbara Klapsogearge - WCB
Patricia Goncalves - PLD
Linda Katz - McKnight
Thomas Mahoney - MHK
Phyllis Vannozzi - HHS
MaryAnn Wherley - GNR

12C. Teacher of the Year

The EWRSD 08-09 Teacher of the Year is Maureen Dynarski, of Perry L. Drew School

ITEM 12 D - AUTHORIZATION FOR EMERGENT HIRING PENDING COMPLETION OF CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECK

Mr. Laverty moved, seconded by Mr. Hauck, that the Board of Education approve the submission of applications for emergent hiring pending completion of the criminal history background check to the County Superintendent for the following individual(s):

Judy Goldstein	Speech language Specialist
Kimberly Gordon	Guidance Counselor
Jacqueline Herrera	Cafeteria Monitor

On a roll call vote members voting yes: Mr. Dolgon, Mr. Ettman, Ms. Fallon, Ms. Fayer, Mr. Hauck, Mr. Laverty, Mr. Paul, Ms. Weisman.

Members voting no: None. Members abstaining: None.

Motion was carried: Unanimously.

I, Kurt Stumbaugh, Board Secretary of the Board of Education of the East Windsor Regional School District, **HEREBY CERTIFY** that this is a certified copy of the unapproved minutes of the regular Board meeting of April 14, 2008.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the corporate seal of said Board of Education this 15th day of April, 2008.

Kurt Stumbaugh, Board Secretary
East Windsor Regional School District

12.E. Out of District Placements – as submitted

12.F. Professional Services for Students

Name: EDEN Type of Service: Functional Behavior Assessment Rate: \$550 - as submitted.

12 G1. Closing of One Preschool disabilities Program Effective September 1, 2007 and

12 G2. Opening of One Preschool Disabilites Program Effective April 7, 2008 as submitted

12 H. Employee Travel and Related Expenses - as submitted

12 I. Approve Amendment for FY08 No Child Left Behind Grant - as submitted

12.J Cigna Insurance Policy Rider – as submitted

12 K. DEP Diesel Retrofit Program

Approval of the District’s participation in the Department of Environmental Protection Early Compliance Diesel Emissions Program as submitted..

12 L. Approval to Make Application for the 2008-2011 Foreign Language Assistance Program Grant.
- as submitted

12 M. Volunteers – as submitted.

12 N. Donations - 1. Conair Corporation 2. Staples 3. Textbooks to Namibia - as submitted

12 O. Indoor Air Quality Program – Model Written Indoor Air Quality Program as submitted.

12 P. Orders of Payment/Bill List for \$2,049,366.98 as submitted.

12 Q. Board Secretary’s Report – February, 2008 as submitted.

12 R. Treasurers Report – February, 2008 as submitted.

12 S. Transfer Report - February, 2008 as submitted.

13. SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT – None

14. SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBERS’ COMMENTS

Mrs. Weisman asked for the CSA evaluation and BOE self evaluations.

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION

16. OPEN SESSION

17. ADJOURN

Ms. Fayer moved to adjourn meeting.

Kurt Stumbaugh, Board Secretary