

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the East Windsor Regional School District Board of Education March 20, 2008

The Board of Education of the East Windsor Regional School District held a regular meeting on Monday, March 20, 2008 at the Hightstown High School cafeteria.

Board Vice President Robert Laverty 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.”

Mr. Laverty 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 (arrived 7:40 p.m.) Robert Laverty, Susan Lloyd, Kennedy Paul.

Members Absent: Alice Weisman, James Hauck

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

COMPLIANCE WITH FIRE CODE

The Board Vice 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.....” (Mr. Laverty pointed to the emergency exit.)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board Vice 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. Ettman moved, seconded by Ms. Fallon to approve the revised agenda.

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

ITEM 3B: RESOLUTION FOR CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Ettman moved, seconded by Ms. Fallon, 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 March 20, 2008. This closed session concerns:

1. Personnel Matters

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, Ms. Lloyd, Mr. Laverty, Mr. Paul, Members voting no: none.
Members abstaining: none. Motion was carried unanimously.

ITEM 4: PRESENTATION OF 2008-09 BUDGET

The Superintendent gave a detailed presentation of the 2008-09 budget including:

- State aid profits
- State aid formula revisions including adequacy budget
- Local fair share
- Tax levy cap
- Budgetary reductions to arrive at Cap (while accommodating staffing realignments)
- Details of the Budget Expense categories
- An analysis of the general fund budget and tax levy
- A detailed explanation of the general fund and debt service tax calculation
- Comparative spending of our group (K-12 district with more than 3500 students)
- Vote tallies for the past 5 years

ITEM 5. PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED 08-09 BUDGET

The Superintendent concluded the presentation by opening the public comment portion to invite any questions on the budget. Mr. Dolgon pointed out our total over 3 years is just over 2% cumulative. One public member asked about HS scheduling change. The Superintendent responded that for 08-09 there is planning for a middle school schedule change. The HS will be planned and implemented independently of the budget.

Another member of the public asked if East Windsor passes the budget, and Hightstown does not, what happens.? The Superintendent responded that votes are aggregated and the total vote tally will either pass or fail.

Mr. Laverty, Board Vice President closed the public session.

ITEM 6. APPROVAL OF 08-09 BUDGET & RELATED BALLOT QUESTIONS

Mr. Ettman moved, seconded by Mr. Dolgon to approve the submitted 2008-09 budget and authorize the Chief School Administrator and the School Business Administrator to submit to the Mercer County Superintendent of School the attached budget (which includes):

Total General Fund Budget of \$75,209,360 and a
Local Tax Levy of \$53,719,279,
Total special revenue Fund budget of \$1,568,330,
Total Debt Service Fund budget of \$3,671,658 and a
Local Debt Service fund Tax Levy of \$3,487,972

RESOLVED, that there should be raised for General Funds \$53,719,279.00 for the ensuing school year 2008-09

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

Mr. Dolgon pointed out that last year 1,200 voted no to a tax increase. Ms. Fallon noted the change to the polling location.

ITEM 7. EXECUTIVE SESSION: PERSONNEL

ITEM 8. OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP – HHS ROBOTICS TEAM

ITEM 9. DISCUSSION – AFFORDABLE HOUSING REGULATIONS

The NJ Council on Affordable Housing Regulations (COAH) were discussed.
Mr. Ettman moved, seconded by Ms. Fayer to approve the resolution as submitted.
(Full copy of Resolution is on file in Board Secretary's office.)

BE IT RESOLVED: The East Windsor Regional School District supports Resolution R2008-51.

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

ITEM 10. FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ITEM 11. FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Mr. Ettman - commented on the efforts by administration to reduce and re-allocate expenses. Particularly transportation and special services reorganization The plan is a very good one.

Ms. Fallon – thanked the Superintendent for his detailed presentations.

Mr. Laverty – commented that the budget supports instructional mission.

Ms. Fallon – referred to the Middle States assessment; issues are being worked on by the Superintendent and his team.

Mr. Dolgon – encouraged greater public participation by the public at budget hearings.

ITEM 12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next scheduled meeting is April 14, 2008. HS Band Meeting April 8, '08.

The CSA shared the Transportation Department efficiency rating.

1. 557 - bottom tier 3 years ago
2. 432 - top 20 in NJ, and top in County.

The Superintendent announced several other 4 year colleges that HHS students will attend.

ITEM 13. MOTION TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEMS BY EXCEPTION

Mr. Ettman moved, seconded by Mr. Dolgon to approve the following routine agenda items by exception:

- A. Staffing with addendum
- B. Authorization for Emergent Hiring Pending Completion of Criminal History Check
- C. Employee Travel & Related Expenses
- D. Tuition Contract: Non-Resident Students
- E. Approval of Minutes – March 10, 2008
- F. Treasurer’s Report: January, 2008
- G. Board Secretary’s Report: January, 2008
- H. Bill List

(Above items are on file and available for review in the Board Secretary’s office)

On a roll call vote, members voting yes: Mr. Dolgon, Mr. Ettman, Ms. Fallon, Ms. Fayer, Ms. Lloyd, Mr. Laverty, Mr. Paul, Members voting no: none. Members abstaining: none.

Motion was carried unanimously.

Certified Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the EWRSB Board of Education March 20, 2008

13B. AUTHORIZATION FOR EMERGENT HIRING PENDING COMPLETION OF CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECK

Mr. Ettman moved, seconded by Mr. Dolgon, 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):

Kimberly Gordon Guidance Counselor

On a roll call vote, members voting yes: Mr. Dolgon, Mr. Ettman, Ms. Fallon, Ms. Fayer, Ms. Lloyd, Mr. Laverty, Mr. Paul, 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 March 20, 2008.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the corporate seal of said Board of Education this 21st day of March, 2008.

Kurt Stumbaugh, Board Secretary
East Windsor Regional School District

ITEM 14. SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ITEM 15. SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBERS’ COMMENTS

Mr. Dolgon – wished all a happy Easter and a happy Passover.

Mr. Coates, Board Attorney - read the COAH resolution. The SBA will type and mail/fax.

ITEM 16. Ms. Fayer moved to adjourn meeting.

Kurt Stumbaugh, Board Secretary

