

***EAST WINDSOR REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHTSTOWN, NJ 08520***

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**DATE: FEBRUARY 23, 2009**

The Board of Education of the East Windsor Regional School District held a regular meeting on Monday, February 23, 2009, at the Hightstown High School cafeteria.

**ITEM 1. WELCOME**

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 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: Stu Dolgon, Bruce Ettman, Suzann Fallon, Bonnie Fayer, Susan Lloyd, Kennedy Paul,  
Alice Weisman.

Also Present: Kurt Stumbaugh, Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
David Coates, Board Legal Counsel.

Members Absent: James Hauck (with advance notice), Robert Laverty (with advance notice)

Also Absent: Ronald Bolandi, Chief School Administrator (with advance notice)

Fire Code Compliance: Ms. Weisman 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. Ettman moved, seconded by Ms. Fallon to approve the agenda with the following changes:

Item 4a: Revised to read: Resolution Rejecting Lease Purchase Financing Bids opened on February 19, 2009.

Item 4b: Added at meeting: Resolution Authorizing Request for Proposals for Lease Purchase Financing.

Item 8A. Staffing – will have an addendum

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

**ITEM 3.B 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 an executive session during its regular meeting on February 23, 2009. This closed session concerns:

1. Personnel Matters
2. Contract Negotiations
3. 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, Ms. Lloyd, Mr. Paul and Ms. Weisman. Members voting no: none. Members abstaining: none. Motion was carried unanimously.

**ITEM 4. SECOND READING OF POLICY #5130 – WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL**

Mr. Ettman moved, seconded by Mr. Paul to approve the second reading of the Board Policy #5130 Withdrawal from School as submitted. (Board Policies are available for review on the EWRSD website)

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

**ITEM 4 (a): RESOLUTION TO REJECT LEASE PURCHASE FINANCING BIDS OPENED ON 2/19/09.**

As a result of formal bidding, there was an inconsistent response to the request. It is recommended to reject all bids and to proceed with a Request for Proposal process. It is also recommended that the Board authorize the following resolution for lease purchase financing for roof work that rejects the bids received on February 19, 2009.

***RESOLUTION REJECTING THE BIDS FOR LEASE PURCHASE FINANCING OF THE VARIOUS ROOFING PROJECTS***

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education of the East Windsor Regional School District in the County of Mercer, New Jersey (the "Board") has determined that it is necessary to undertake the major repair or replacement of all or a portion of the roof at Hightstown High School, Grace N. Rogers Elementary School, Melvin H. Kreps Middle School, Perry L. Drew Elementary School and W.C. Black Elementary School, including all incidental work (the "Project") through a lease purchase transaction; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board authorized Phoenix Advisors, as the Board’s financial advisor, to prepare bids and specifications for the selection of a lessor and to enter into a lease purchase agreement in order to finance a portion of the cost of the Project; and

**WHEREAS**, the financial advisor solicited bids on or about January 27, 2009 and January 30, 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary opened bids for the lease purchase financing of this Project on February 19, 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, the following bids were submitted for the lease purchase financing of the Project:

BIDDER	TOTAL
Sun Trust Equipment & Leasing Corp.	3.49%
Capital One Bank	4.24%
TD Equipment Finance	4.48%

and **WHEREAS**, the Board wants to reject all three bids because two of the bidders failed to conform with the bid's specifications, and the Board wants to revise the proposal's requirements by removing all pre-conditions from the financing that were being imposed by some of the bidders;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Education of the East Windsor Regional School District in the County of Mercer, State of New Jersey that the bids are hereby rejected because two of the three bidders failed to conform with the bids specifications, and the Board wants to revise the proposal's requirements by removing all pre-conditions from the financing that were being imposed by some of the bidders. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Mr. Ettman moved, seconded by Ms. Fayer to reject all bids for the lease purchase financing that were opened on Feb. 19, 2009, in accordance with above resolution.

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

**ITEM 4(B). RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: LEASE PURCHASE FINANCING**

As a result of formal bidding, there was an inconsistent response to the request. It is recommended to reject all bids and to proceed with a Request for Proposal process. It is also recommended that the Board authorize the resolution below for Request for Proposals for Lease Purchase Financing for roof work.

***RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE EAST WINDSOR REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY DETERMING TO FINANCE VARIOUS ROOFING PROJECTS THROUGH A FACILITIES LEASE CONTINGENT UPON RECEIVING APPROVAL OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION OF THE PROPOSED LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENT AUTHORIZING A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE SELECTION OF LESSOR AND UNDERWRITER.***

**WHEREAS**, The Board of Education of the East Windsor Regional School District in the County of Mercer, New Jersey (the "Board") has determined that it is necessary to undertake the major repair or replacement of all or a portion of the roof at Hightstown High School, Grace N. Rogers Elementary School, Melvin H. Kreps Middle School, Perry L. Drew Elementary School and W.C. Black Elementary School, including all incidental work (the "Project") through a lease purchase transaction; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has determined to pursue the lease purchase financing method in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:20-4.2(f) and the regulations promulgated thereunder consisting of N.J.A.C. 6A:26-10.1 et seq. (the "Regulations") to finance the Project; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has selected Phoenix Advisors to serve as financial advisor (the "Financial Advisor") and McManimon & Scotland, L.L.C., to serve as Special Counsel (the "Special Counsel") for the transaction contemplated herein; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board authorized the Financial Advisor to prepare bids and specifications for the selection of a lessor and to enter into a lease purchase agreement in order to finance a portion of the cost of the Project; and

**WHEREAS**, the financial advisor solicited bids on or about January 27, 2009 and January 30, 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary opened bids for the lease purchase financing of this Project on February 19, 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board rejected the three bids previously submitted at its February 23, 2009 meeting; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board now hereby authorizes the Financial Advisor and Special Counsel to solicit proposals for the financing of the Project pursuant to a lease purchase agreement to finance the Project for a term not to exceed five years and for an amount not to exceed \$8,053,098, of which \$3,221,239.20 is expected to be funded by a State grant, \$2,000,000 is expected to be funded by contributions from the Capital Reserve Account and the remaining local share will not exceed \$2,831,858.80;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE EAST WINDSOR REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. The Board hereby endorses the concept of the lease purchase financing of the proposed Project in a principal amount not to exceed \$8,053,098, of which \$3,221,239.20 is expected to be funded by a State grant, \$2,000,000 is expected to be funded by contributions from the Capital Reserve Account and the remaining local share will not exceed \$2,831,858.80, contingent upon the approval of the lease purchase agreement by the Commissioner of Education.

Section 2. The Superintendent of Schools, the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Special Counsel, and the Financial Advisor and other appropriate representatives of the Board (the "School District Professionals") are hereby authorized to advertise and to solicit proposals for the selection of a lessor and/or underwriter or investor in connection with the proposed lease purchase financing of the Project.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Mr. Ettman moved, seconded by Ms. Fayer to authorize the Financial Advisor and Special Counsel to solicit proposals for the lease purchase financing of the District Roofing Project in accordance with above resolution.

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

**ITEM 5. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Black History month event was held on Feb. 21, 2009 at the Hightstown High School

**ITEM 6. FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

No one spoke.

**ITEM 7. FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

Ms. Fallon – observed the passing of former Chief School Administrator, Dr. Edgar C. Thomas.

Mr. Ettman – noted the goal of improving the level of courteous and professional communications between members of the community and the District. Over the past year, there has been a deterioration of courtesy. Recent emails indicate a tone of animosity that is not in the best interest of the District; eg. HHS Fund Raiser email. In addition, a second communication regarding transportation issue. The negative and nasty communication needs to be addressed as an undesirable insult.

Ms. Weisman – asked that we please support our Robotics Team this week.

**ITEM 8. MOTION TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEMS BY EXCEPTION**

Board approval is requested for the following agenda items:

- A. Staffing
- B. Emergent Hiring
- C. Out of District Placement
- D. Travel Related Expenses
- E. Volunteers / Chaperones
- F. Field Trips
- G. Tuition Contract for Non Resident Student
- H. Non-Paid Extra-Curricular Club - HHS
- I. Bill List - Feb. 23, 2009

**8. A STAFFING with Addendum**

Board approval is requested as submitted.

**8. B. EMERGENT HIRING**

Board approval is requested for the submission of applications for emergent hiring pending completion of the criminal history background check to the county Superintendent for the following individual(s):

Christine Eldridge Teacher

**8. C OUT OF DISTRICT PLACEMENT**

Private Schools & Public Schools

**MCSSSD**

Tuition February 17, 2009 through June 30, 2009

1. Student: #832595 Reg. \$19,456.00

It is recommended that the Board approve the above student placement.

**8.D TRAVEL RELATED EXPENSES RECOMMENDED for BOARD APPROVAL**

Sue Camuto	EMK	Apr. 30, 2009	Libraries Unlimited, "Winners" Workshop, Edison , NJ	\$179.00	
B. Kanjo	GNR	April 30, 2009	Libraries Unlimited "Winners" Workshop, Edison, NJ	\$179.00	
D. Sandberg	WCB	April 30, 2009	Libraries Unlimited "Winners" Workshop, Edison, NJ	\$179.00	
Rita Olsen	HHS	April 23, 2009	NJSIAA: Athletic Director's Administrative Assistant Wkshp. , RWJ Center for Health & Wellness ,Mercerville, NJ	\$70.00	
W. Conley	Stu. Services	March 30, 2009	Staff Development Resources, "Behavior Interventions that Work", Philadelphia, PA	\$199.99	
D. Mazuerk	Stu. Services	May 11, 2009	Health Ed, "For Sensory Integration in Children" Edison, NJ	\$169.00	
P. Warshany	Stu. Services	May 11, 2009	Health Ed, "For Sensory Integration in Children" Edison, NJ	\$169.00	
D. Feaster	Personnel/Elem. Programs	April 20, 2009	Fred Pryor Seminars, Excel Seminar	\$79.00	
D. Nemeth	Personnel/Elem. Programs	April 20, 2009	Fred Pryor Seminars, Excel Seminar	\$79.00	
Pat Novak	Personnel/Elem. Programs	Apr. 20, 21, '09	Fred Pryor Seminars, Excel Seminar	\$128.00	
D. Pasternick	Kreps	Mar. 10, 2009	NJState Interscholastic Athletic Association, NJSCA Golf Coaches Clinic, Mercer Oaks Golf Course, W. Windsor ,NJ	\$70.00	
T. Katz	WCB	Apr. 24, 2009	MEDS - PN, "Helping Children with Auditory Processing Disorders (APDS)" , Edison, NJ	\$198.00	
J. Kesten	Kreps	Mar. 19 -24, '09	Middlesex Comm. College, Flash CS3	\$125.00	<b>YTD</b>
				<b>\$1,823.99</b>	<b>\$31,334.99</b>

**8.E VOLUNTEERS/CHAPERONES**

The Board of Education approves all volunteers/chaperones who serve in the East Windsor Regional School District

For the Walter C Black Elementary School: *Laura Gardner*

The following individuals have offered to chaperone the already approved HHS overnight music trip to Baltimore and Washington in April, 2009.

- Lori Juzwiak*    *Diane Ackerman*        *Beth Reddy*
- Caryn Cullen*   *Helene Nelson*        *Larry Nelson*
- Sue Evans*      *Cheryl Peebles*

It is recommended that the Board approve the above-named individuals to serve as volunteers in the EWRSD.

**8. F FIELD TRIPS FOR APPROVAL**

Field Trips planned for Hightstown High School:

- 3/13/09        Princeton Plasma Physics Lab – Young Woman’s Conference on Math, Science & Tech.  
Forrestal Campus Princeton, NJ
- 4/30/09        French Club    NYC/Broadway    “Lion King”    New York, NY
- 3/12/09        FBLA – State Competition, Raritan Exhibit Hall 97    Sunfield Avenue    Edison, NJ

Field trips planned for Ethel McKnight School:

- 4/3/09    First Grade Trip PSEG Green Fest Garden State Exhibit Center, 50 Atrium Drive, Somerset, NJ

**8.G NON PAID EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUB - HHS**

Hightstown High School would like to start a new club entitled “Waksman Student Scholars” which would fall under the category of non-paid extra curricular activity with a teacher advisor. The focus of the Club is for students who are interested in biology challenges as released by scientists from Rutgers. The advisor will be Mrs. Contreras one of their science teachers.

It is recommended that the Board approve and sanction the creation of the “Waksman Student Scholars” Club at Hightstown High School which is a non-paid extra curricular activity with a teacher advisor.

**8. H TUITION CONTRACT FOR NON RESIDENT STUDENT**

There is a non resident high school student who will attend the East Windsor Regional School District through the end of the school year. As this student is the child of one of our contracted teachers, as per EWEA agreement the tuition amount will be tabulated at one half of the Board approved 2008-09 tuition rate.

Board approval is recommended for the tuition contract agreement between the EWRSD and parents/guardians of a non resident student for remainder of the school year at the rate of \$6,235. to be paid monthly based upon a per diem rate for the actual number of school days the pupil is enrolled.

**8.I BILL LIST – February 23, 2009**

The Bill and Claims Report must be approved by the Board of Education before being submitted for payment.

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Education approves the payment of bills and claims in the amount of: \$660,865.53

Mr. Ettman moved seconded by Ms. Fayer to approve the agenda items by exception as submitted. On a roll call vote, members voting yes: Mr. Dolgon, Mr. Ettman, Ms. Fallon, Ms. Fayer, Ms. Lloyd, Mr. Paul, and Ms. Weisman. Members voting no: none Abstaining: none. Motion to approve was carried: unanimously.

**ITEM 9. SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

No one spoke.

**ITEM 10. SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

No one spoke.

**ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board went into closed session at this time.

**ITEM 12. OPEN SESSION**

**ITEM 13. ADJOURN**

Ms. Fallon moved to adjourn meeting.

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**Kurt Stumbaugh, Board Secretary**