

EAST WINDSOR REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, HIGHTSTOWN, NJ 08520

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Date: FEBRURY 22, 2010 7:30 p.m.

The Board of Education of the East Windsor Regional School District held a Regular meeting on MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. in the Hightstown High School Cafeteria, located at 25 Leshin Lane, Hightstown, NJ.

ITEM 1. WELCOME

Board President Alice Weisman called the meeting to order at 7:30 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: Paul Connolly, Stu Dolgon, Suzann Fallon, Bonnie Fayer, Bob Laverty, and Alice Weisman

Members Absent: Bruce Ettman, Susan Lloyd, Kennedy Paul

Also Present: Kurt Stumbaugh, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
David Coates, Board legal counsel
Michael Dzwonar, Assistant Superintendent

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 3.A APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Laverty moved to approve the agenda with the following revisions: the addition of a second executive session; an addendum to staffing item 10.A and the addition of item 10.J.

Mr. Connolly seconded the motion to approve the agenda.

On a roll call vote, motion to approve was carried unanimously.

ITEM 3.B RESOLUTION FOR CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Laverty 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 two closed sessions during its regular meeting on February 22, 2010. These closed sessions concern: Personnel matters, Litigation, Contract matters, and Attorney /Client Privilege. Minutes will be available in accordance with Board policy when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

On a roll call vote, Motion to approve was carried unanimously.

ITEM 4. SECOND READING OF BOARD POLICIES

The following policies are being submitted for second reading by the Board:

Policy 2415.03 – Highly Qualified Teachers (Revised)

Policy 2423 – Bilingual and ESL Education (Revised)

Policy 3126 – Provisional Teacher Program (Revised)

Policy 3240 – Professional Development (Revised)

Policy 3431.3/4431.3 – New Jersey’s Family Leave Insurance Program (New)

Policy 2415.03 – Highly Qualified Teachers (Revised)

The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) of 2001 required all teachers to be or become highly qualified in the core academic content area(s) they teach. Strauss Esmay’s Policy Guide 2415.03 was very specific as to the initial process for a teacher to demonstrate their “highly qualified” status. Many of the original timelines for teachers to become highly qualified have passed; therefore, a new Policy Guide 2415.03 has been developed removing the initial qualification procedures and timelines. This new Policy Guide 2415.03 should replace the existing Policy Guide 2415.03. The new Policy Guide does not include all the detailed requirements as we expect requirements will be revised again when NCLB is reauthorized.

Policy Guide 2415.03 is **MANDATED**

Policy 2423 – Bilingual and ESL Education (Revised)

Policy and Regulation Guides 2423 have been updated and revised to be consistent with the updated Administrative Code - N.J.A.C. 6A:15-1.1 through 6A:15-1.16. These minor revisions include updated terminology and several new standards and practices. The Regulation Guide includes a new definition section in the beginning of the Guide. This Policy is not required by statute or code; however, a district is mandated to offer bilingual education programs. The Policy and Regulation Guides provide guidance to the school administration on requirements in implementing the district’s bilingual education programs.

Policy Guide 2423 is **MANDATED**

Regulation Guide 2423 is **MANDATED**

Policy 3126 – Induction Program for Provisional Teachers (Revised)

The entire chapter, N.J.A.C. 6A:9-8 – Requirements for Instructional Certificates, and specifically the requirements for the provisional certificate, the state-approved district training program, and the local mentor plan have been revised. New Policy and Regulation Guides 3126 have been developed and should replace the district’s existing Policy and Regulation 3126 as the new Guides are more detailed and aligned with the current Administrative Code.

Policy Guide 3126 is **RECOMMENDED**

Regulation Guide 3126 is **RECOMMENDED**

Policy 3240 – Professional Development (Revised)

Policy and Regulation Guides 3240 have been revised to incorporate the professional development requirements of recently adopted N.J.A.C. 6A:13-2 – Standards-Based Instructional Priorities, specifically the requirements outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:13-2.1(b). In addition, these Guides were revised to include the approval and reporting requirements of the new travel regulations outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7 – School District Travel Policies and Procedures.

Policy Guide 3240 is **MANDATED**

Regulation Guide 3240 is **RECOMMENDED**

Policy 3431.3/4431.3 – New Jersey’s Family Leave Insurance Program (New)

New Jersey’s Family Leave Insurance program is a new state program where employees on an approved New Jersey Family Leave may be eligible for up to six weeks of family leave paid insurance benefits from the state of New Jersey. School districts’ obligations under this program are limited to notifying employees of the program, posting notice of the program, and complying with the state’s requirement for information upon an employee’s application for benefits. Policy Guides 3431.3 and 4431.3 have been developed outlining the employee’s and the district’s responsibilities regarding this state program. The only option in the policy is whether the Board will require an employee to use up to ten workdays of earned time, excluding sick time, in connection with a period of paid leave from the New Jersey Family Leave Insurance Program. This option does not relieve the Board of any time-off provisions of a collective bargaining agreement. A district considering this option should have their Board Attorney review the option and determine whether the option needs to be negotiated with local associations. This state-paid leave program may have a significant impact on the amount of New Jersey Family Leave requested by school district employees.

Policy Guide 3431.3 is **RECOMMENDED**

Policy Guide 4431.3 is **RECOMMENDED**

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approves the policies as attached.

Action: Mr. Laverty moved seconded by Ms. Fayer to approve on second reading the policies as submitted. On a roll call vote, motion to approve was carried unanimously.

ITEM 5. ELECTION / BUDGET DISCUSSION

The school election and budget calendar was discussed. Mr. Stumbaugh indicated that as March 25th, is an eligible date, the Board will hold a public hearing on the 2010-11 District budget on March 25, 2010.

ITEM 6. RESOLUTION: REQUEST ADDITIONAL FEDERAL AID TO THE STATES

It is in the best interest of the East Windsor Regional School District to submit the following/attached resolution requesting the enactment of legislation to secure federal funding for the 2010-11 school year similar to the American Recovery Reinvestment Act of 2009 that funded the 2009-10 education budgets.

RESOLUTION REQUESTING ADDITIONAL FEDERAL AID TO THE STATES

WHEREAS, the Federal Government passed the American Recovery Reinvestment Act of 2009, which included domestic spending for education; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey benefited from this legislation with over \$1 billion being directly utilized for funding the education budget for 2009-2010 school year; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey, as all states in the union, are amidst a fiscal crisis that could potentially and negatively affect the educational system; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey’s educational system has made great strides in increasing the improvement of student achievement, and has been recently recognized by the Education Trust as one to the top states in closing the achievement gap between low-income or minority students and their peers; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey Department of Education has focused on implementing an accountability system for the spending of taxpayers resources; and

WHEREAS, the future of all the states and the nation as a whole are dependent upon the education of our children; in the words of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy: “Our progress as a nation can be no swifter than our progress in education. The human mind is our fundamental resource;” and

WHEREAS, without the infusion of federal aid, education in the State of New Jersey is destined to go backwards;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the East Windsor Regional School District Board of Education, Mercer County, New Jersey to respectfully request the enactment of federal legislation that would secure funding for the 2010-2011 school year similar to the American Recovery Reinvestment Act of 2009 that funded the 2009- 2010 education budgets.

Mr. Lavery moved, seconded by Ms. Fayer to approve the submittal of the resolution requesting legislation for federal funding to school districts. On a roll call vote, motion to approve was carried unanimously.

ITEM 7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Stumbaugh - reported on the excellent job done by the Building and Grounds staff on the district snow removal.

Mr. Dzwonar - gave a summary on some points regarding the NJ School Report Card.

Ms. Fallon - congratulated Kreps school for its excellent job and achievement with its literary magazine, and for achieving number one status in the state.

Ms. Weisman - commented on the changes at the middle school. The changes are noticeable and are an all around success.

ITEM 8. FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

No one spoke.

ITEM 9. FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBER'S COMMENTS

No one spoke.

ITEM 9.A FIRST EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board went into its first closed session.

ITEM 10. MOTION TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEMS BY EXCEPTION

Board approval is recommended for the following items:

- A. Staffing (with addendum)
- B. Approval of District Teacher of the Year
- C. Out of District Placement
- D. Travel Related Expenses
- E. Volunteers / Chaperones
- F. Field Trips
- G. HHS Overnight Field Trip
- H. Sale of Vehicles to Robbinsville School District
- I. Bill List: February 22, 2010
- J. Budget Calendar

10. A STAFFING – as submitted with (amended) addendum.

10. B APPROVAL OF DISTRICT TEACHER OF THE YEAR

On February 9, 2010, a committee consisting of teachers, administrators, parents, and a Board member met to review applications for East Windsor Regional School District's 2010-11 Teacher of the Year. After careful consideration, the committee selected Lisa Tanikawa-Brown, a teacher at the Perry L. Drew School to receive this recognition.

10. C OUT OF DISTRICT PLACEMENT

Approval is requested from the Board of Education for the following placements in Private & Public Schools
 MCSSSD-High School Tuition February 17, 2010 through June 30, 2010

1. Student: #720025 Reg. \$20,234.00

10. D TRAVEL RELATED EXPENSES

ATTENDEE	LOCATION	DATE	CONFERENCE ATTENDING	TOTAL	YTD TOTAL : \$24,217
D. Buchwald I. Wolfson R. Emison M.Gonzalez E. Reyes Sandra Shafi Megan Peterson	World Language Department	May 18 & 19, 2010	NJTESOL/NJBE 2010 Spring Conference, Double Tree & Garden State Exhibit Center	1,568.00	
Debbie Feaster Darlene Nemeth Gayle Parker	Admin	March 9, 2010	Quest Education System: Improving NJ Ask Scores Workshop, Cherry Hill, NJ	537.00	
D. Feaster D. Nemeth G. Parker D. Turner E.Rabinowitz S. Stringfellow S. Harris S. Flynn P. Caputo E. Ogintz N. Devlin M.Falter C. McCabe C. Pukel M. Christensen L. Jaskowski L. Katz K. McMena K.D'Ambrosio K. Mulleavey J.Hart G. Siggelakis R. Lee B. Feliciano N. Haeuptle J. Grover L.Handel P. Terlecki C. Boccanfuso	Admin & Various Elementary Schools	Mar. 20, 2010	Charter Bus for Literacy Workshop Trip # 100320-03 to Columbia University, New York	\$1,025.00	
R. Tomkins - Byock	Kreps School	March 4 & 5, 2010	NJAGC/NJ Association for Gifted Children Annual Conference@ MCCC West Windsor	\$280.00	
Debra Bryant-Sexton	Transp.	Feb. 20,2010 * Approved by Dr. Butler	STS - 2010 School Bus Driver Safety Seminar @ Northern Burlington Reg. Middle School	\$25.00	

10. E VOLUNTEERS/CHAPERONES

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

The following individuals have offered to volunteer and /or chaperone.

At Hightstown High School: Gail Washington

At Walter C. Black School: Mrs. Cordero; Felipe Ibarra; Mr. Kraemer; Mrs. Rajesh; Amy Ubica

10. F FIELD TRIPS

Field Trip planned for Ethel McKnight School:

6/4/10 Fifth Grade Class to Adventure Aquarium, Camden, NJ

Field Trips planned for Hightstown High School:

3/11/10 Future Business Leaders of America – State Competition Raritan Exposition Center
97 Sunfield Ave. Edison, NJ

3/17/10 Future Business Leaders of America – Mercer Co. Consumer Bowl
Roman Hall
100 Whitaker Ave., Trenton, NJ

10. G HHS OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP

The Family, Career and Community Leaders of America Club of Hightstown High School would like to do an overnight field trip to the Crown Plaza Hotel in Cherry Hill, NJ from March 18 – 19, 2010 to attend the 2010 NJ FCLLA State Leadership Conference.

10. H SALE OF VEHICLES TO ROBBINSVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT

As it is the intention of the Robbinsville Public School District to purchase surplus vehicles from the East Windsor Regional School District, the School Business Administrator requests approval by the Board of Education to sell the following vehicles to the Robbinsville Public School District
Formal sale/auction is not required when selling to other State agencies as per NJ statute.

2002 GMC Bluebird-Diesel – W/C & A/C – 68,853 miles (VIN#1GDHG31F111176646)

Purchase Price: \$13,500.00

2000 GMC MID BUS – 122,262 miles (VIN #1GDHG31F8Y1226646)

Purchase Price: \$8,500.00

10. I BILL LIST: FEBRUARY 22, 2010

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 \$630,184.23 as submitted in the attached report.

10. J BUDGET CALENDAR

The District is required to conduct a Public Hearing on the 2010-2011 proposed budget. The County Superintendent of Schools has authorized Thursday, March 25, 2010 as an eligible date to conduct the Public Hearing.

It is recommended to the Board to establish March 25, 2010 at 7:30 pm in the Hightstown High School cafeteria as the date for the Public Hearing on the proposed 2010-11 school budget and to conduct a special meeting on this date and time.

ACTION: Mr. Laverty moved, seconded Mr. Dolgon, to approve the Routine Agenda Items by Exception as submitted. On a roll call vote, motion to approve was carried unanimously.

Ms. Weisman commented that she was one of the individuals to have had the honor of being on the committee to choose the District teacher of the year award. The selection of Lisa Tanikawa-Brown is an excellent choice.

Ms. Weisman also, on behalf of the Board, accepted the resignation of Dr. Butler and wished him well. Ms. Weisman welcomed Mr. Dzwonar as our new interim Superintendent and looks forward to working well together.

11. SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

No one spoke.

12. SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

It was noted there is a pasta dinner for the music department on Friday night. Also, there is a Robotics Club competition that will take place next weekend at Sun National Bank arena. All are encouraged to attend.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board went into its second closed session.

14. OPEN SESSION

15. ADJOURN

Ms. Fallon moved to adjourn at 8:55 p.m.

Kurt Stumbaugh, Board Secretary