

EAST WINDSOR REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, HIGHTSTOWN, NJ 08520

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

DATE: MAY 10, 2010 7:30 p.m.

The Board of Education of the East Windsor Regional School District held a Regular meeting on MONDAY, MAY 10, 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: Bruce Ettman, Suzann Fallon, Bonnie Fayer, Christine Harrington, Bob Laverty (arrived 7:38 p.m.), Susan Lloyd, Kennedy Paul and Alice Weisman

Members Absent: Paul Connolly (with advance notice)

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

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

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

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

Motion to approve was carried unanimously.

ITEM 3.B RESOLUTION FOR CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Ettman moved, seconded by Ms. Lloyd 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 May 10, 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 of the Board, Motion to approve was carried unanimously.

ITEM 4. PROCLAMATION: SPECIAL EDUCATION WEEK

Ms. Weisman read the Proclamation for Special Education Week.

WHEREAS, the public school districts and the private schools of New Jersey make a major contribution to the public welfare by preparing thousands of exceptional persons to participate as citizens of this state and as members of society; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's special education programs produce success stories every day as children with the guidance and support of dedicated teachers and parents, overcome obstacles to achieve to their fullest potential; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey has been a nationwide leader in providing services to students with physical and learning disabilities; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's schools annually serve over 244,000 special education students; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey School Boards Association and the Association of Schools and Agencies for the Handicapped have sponsored Special Education Week in New Jersey since 1985; and

WHEREAS, the theme of this year's state celebration is "Painting a Better Tomorrow"; and

WHEREAS, our school district is fortunate to have dedicated teachers, child study team members, support staff and parents who work together for the benefit of our community's special education children.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Alice Weisman, President of the Board of Education, do hereby proclaim May 9 through May 15, 2010, as Special Education Week in New Jersey and in the East Windsor Regional School District.

Action: Mr. Ettman moved, seconded by Ms. Fallon to approve the proclamation for Special Education Week. On a roll call vote of the Board, motion to approve was carried unanimously.

ITEM 5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Dzwonar gave an update of the budget process. 37 positions representing \$2.9 million dollars are on the agenda tonight for elimination. It is important to preserve what we can. The East Windsor Management Association agrees to a salary freeze. In addition, non bargaining employees are freezing their salaries. The EWMA and non-bargaining staff salary freeze represents approximately \$200,000.

There is no commitment from EWEA for a salary freeze.

The Race to the Top application status was presented.

Ms. Weisman seconded that many of the initiatives of Race to the Top have been performed by the EWRSD in the prior six years. We have been doing these items with limited budget increases. Now we will lose resources for these and other activities due to budget cuts.

Mr. Ettman agreed that cutting budgets across the board penalizes districts for their initiatives. It is mean spirited. Mr. Ettman expressed frustration at the Governor.

ITEM 6. FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Stephen Bryant of East Windsor gave an update on the Community Unity day for Hightstown and East Windsor. Mr. Bryant extended an invitation to their next meeting on May 12, 2010. The Board expressed their gratitude.

Mario Ribeca of East Windsor is an employee of the district and a 15 year resident. He commented on the RIF (Reduction in Force) letter that he received. He read from a letter highlighting the commitment of the entire maintenance staff and requests reconsideration of his own and his fellow workers termination.

ITEM 7. FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBERS COMMENTS

Ms. Fallon commented on the progress of the past 5 years including maintenance and custodial staff. Their efforts are appreciated.

Mr. Laverty commented on the upcoming NJSBA Delegate Assembly meeting on May 15, 2010.

The agenda items for this meeting will include enrichment program costs, for economically disadvantaged and school harassment, intimidation and bullying policies.

Ms. Weisman announced that the Governors Teacher's Awards Ceremony is Thursday June 3, 2010.

The teacher's names were read.

They are: Patricia Laudati –WCB, Toni Halsey –PLD, Susan Zibbe- GNR, Irene Taylor -MHK, and Catherine Anzuini -HHS

ITEM 8. FIRST EXECUTIVE SESSION

ITEM 9. MOTION TO APPROVE ROUTING ITEMS BY EXCEPTION

At each of the regular meetings of the Board of Education, the Board is requested to approve routine agenda items by exception. The following items are recommended for Board Approval:

- A. Staffing
- B. Out of District Placement
- C. IDEA FY 2010 Amendment Application
- D. Approval of Travel and Related Expenses
- E. Volunteers /Chaperones
- F. Field Trips
- G. Agreement to Participate in the Ewing Township, NJ Consortium, James Madison Seminar on Teaching American History
- H. Award of Gas Supply Contract to HESS Corporation
- I. Bill List for May 10, 2010

A. STAFFING – as submitted

B. OUT OF DISTRICT PLACEMENT - Private & Public Schools

Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf

Tuition April 14, 2010 through June 30, 2010 1. Student: #9800675 Reg. \$11,104.00

NEW HOPE ACADEMY

Tuition March 1, 2010 through June 30, 2010 1. Student: #600230 Reg. \$13,600.00

C. IDEA FY 2010 AMENDMENT APPLICATION

Board approval to amend the Basic IDEA FY 2010 is requested as follows:

IDEA FY 2010- Pre school

2008-2009 Carry-Over Fund of \$1,900 to instructional supplies and materials.

IDEA FY 2010 – Basic

2008-09 Overpayment of \$1,307 to instructional supplies and materials.

2008-2009 Carry-Over Funds of \$365 to instructional supplies and materials

D. APPROVAL OF TRAVEL AND RELATED EXPENSES

ATTENDEE	LOCATION	DATE	CONFERENCE ATTENDING	TOTAL	YTD TOTAL
					\$26,812
Jessica Cotignola	HHS Guidance	June 7 - 8, 2010	NJACAC 2010 Annual Conference - Ocean Place Resort & Spa, Long Branch, NJ	99.00	\$26,812

E. VOLUNTEERS AND CHAPERONES

The following have offered to volunteer/chaperone at Ethel McKnight School:

Anuradha Doreswamy	Gina Barzda	Susan Quinn
Tejal Shah	Stephanie Muller	Leigh Wood
Rolanda Lewis	Michele Paul	Gail Boate
Michelle Catana	Paul Regan	Stephanie Teeple
Kathy Patt	Michelle Roberts	Samantha Warmenhoven
Beth Ferst	Roger Lippman	Christine Fry
Kathy Bonacorda	Amy Tootleman	

The following have offered to volunteer/chaperone at Grace N. Rogers School:

Tyson Hoeflinger	Donna Lang	Irina Kaplich
Kelly Roman	Erin Brown	

F. FIELD TRIPS

Field Trips planned for Walter C. Black School:

5/17 & 18/10 Poricy Park; Middletown, N

5/19 & 20/10 Monmouth Museum, Monmouth University, West Long Branch, NJ

Field Trips planned for Hightstown High School:

5/20/10 Senior Class Picnic, Forest Lodge, Warren, NJ

5/29/10 HHS Marching Band to participate in the Hightstown Memorial Day Parade, Hightstown, NJ

5/31/10 HHS Marching Band to participate in the Princeton Memorial Day Parade, Nassau St., Princeton, NJ

Field Trips planned for Ethel McKnight School:

6/4/10 First Grade – Mother Goose Play

Kelsey Theater – Mercer County Community College, West Windsor, NJ

5/18/10 Kindergarten AM/PM

Etra Park, Disbrow Hill Road, East Windsor NJ

G. AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EWING TOWNSHIP, NJ CONSORTIUM, JAMES MADISON SEMINAR ON TEACHING AMERICAN HISTORY

It is in the best interest of the District, to join in a consortium of New Jersey school districts in applying for a Teaching American History grant for fiscal year 2010 whose purpose is the implementation of a project which will enhance the professional development of teachers of American history.

H. AWARD OF GAS SUPPLY CONTRACT TO HESS CORPORATION

On October 24, 2005 the East Windsor Regional School District approved a resolution binding the District to purchase natural gas supply services through **ACES**, (Alliance for Competitive Energy Services.) This Resolution authorized ACES to obtain bids for natural gas service on the District's behalf. The current gas supply contract expires on May 31, 2010. After a rigorous bidding process, ACES has awarded the winning bid and new contract to HESS Corporation to provide natural gas service to the East Windsor Regional School District for a term of 24 months, from June, 2010 through May, 2012.

I. BILL LIST FOR MAY 10, 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 \$876,959.52 as submitted in the attached report.

10. SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

No one spoke.

11. SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBER'S COMMENTS

No one spoke.

12. SECOND EXECUTIVE SESSION

13. OPEN SESSION

14. ADJOURN

Ms. Fallon moved to adjourn the meeting.

Kurt Stumbaugh, Board Secretary