

I. CALL TO ORDER/FLAG SALUTE

The March 31, 2010 Special Public Meeting - 2010-2011 Budget Hearing - of the Edison Board of Education was called to order by Board President, David J. Dickinson, at 7:00 PM at John P. Stevens High School, 855 Grove Avenue, Edison, NJ.

II. ROLL CALL

Mr. Michaud took the roll, and the following members were present:

Mr. David J. Dickinson, President, Mr. Joseph Romano, Vice President, Mrs. Susan C. Scerbo, Mr. William H. Van Pelt, Mrs. Deborah A. Anes, Mr. Gene I. Maeroff, Ms. Aimee Szilagyi and Mr. Ralph Errico. Mrs. Rosemary Meade, arrived at 7:38 PM.

Also in attendance were Mr. John A. DiMuzio, Acting Superintendent, Mr. Daniel P. Michaud, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Mr. John Fenimore, Director of Curriculum, Ms. Kathleen French, Director of Pupil/ Special Services, Dr. Michael Quinn, Director of Instruction, Ms. Deborah Bredahl, No Child Left Behind Coordinator, Mr. Salvatore Frisina, Director of Technology/Related Arts and Mr. Joseph J. Jankowski, Board Attorney.

III. OPENING STATEMENT

Mr. Dickinson read the following opening statement:

"The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon.

In accordance with the provisions of this act, the Edison Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted in the Board of Education Administrative Offices. Copies of these notices were sent to The Home News and Tribune and the Star Ledger on March 5, 2010.

The Public may participate at regular meetings in accordance with the By-Laws and the applicable State regulations.

IV. MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE EDISON FACILITIES, MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED

BE IT RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent of Schools, the Board: (1) approve the previously submitted Sidebar Agreement Between the Edison Township Board of Education and the Edison Facilities, Maintenance and Management Association, Incorporated; and (2) authorize the Board President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary to take all necessary and appropriate steps to implement the aforesaid Sidebar Agreement.

V. MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE EDISON PUBLIC SCHOOLS CUSTODIANS & MAINTENANCE ASSOCIATION

BE IT RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent of Schools, the Board: (1) approve the previously submitted Sidebar Agreement Between the Edison Township Board of Education and the Edison Public Schools Custodians and Maintenance Association; and (2) authorize the Board President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary to take all necessary and appropriate steps to implement the aforesaid Sidebar Agreement.



5. PROPOSED BUDGET CUTS 2010-2011

Item Number	Staff Reduction	Position	Total
1	2	Administration	\$320,000.00
		Personnel Director	
		Acting Superintendent	
		Raises	
2	8	Middle School CCL's	\$400,000.00
3	5	Child Study Team Members	\$280,000.00
4	29	Elementary Teachers	\$1,520,000.00
		-4 -- Grades 1 thru 5	
		-25 Single Session Kindergarten	
5	2	Inclusion Facilitators	\$150,000.00
6	15	Lunch Aides (Single Session Kindergarten)	\$37,500.00
7	8	Middle School Staffing	\$440,000.00
8	8	High School Staffing	\$440,000.00
9	1	NCLB Program Manager	\$95,000.00
10	11	Special Education Teachers (Read 180)	\$600,000.00
11	13	Spanish Teachers (Elementary)	\$650,000.00
12	12	Literacy Enrichment Teachers	\$600,000.00
13	17	Guidance Counselors (K-12)	\$1,275,000.00
14	9	Secretaries	\$330,000.00
15	4	Custodians	\$140,000.00
16	7.7	Elementary Strings/Instrumental	\$400,000.00
17	3.0	A.T. Teachers (Elementary)	\$150,000.00
18	7.0	Literacy Development Teachers	\$380,000.00
19	6	Security Guards	\$250,000.00
20	1	District Nurse	\$50,000.00
	Total Reduction 168.7		
21		Paraprofessionals to part-time teacher aides	\$2,632,000.00
22		Elementary Field Trips	\$11,000.00
23		Middle School Field Trips	\$8,000.00
24		High School Field Trips	\$16,000.00
25		Summer School	\$175,000.00
26		Textbooks	\$110,000.00
27		Capital Projects	\$2,600,000.00
28		Second Election	\$50,000.00
29		Co-Curricular Special Events (\$250.) Nat'l Events	\$10,000.00
30		Co-Curricular Clubs K-12 1/2 A/B	\$64,000.00
31		Technology Maintenance MS/HS	\$16,800.00
32		Technology Distribution K-12	\$47,600.00
33		Camp Bernie	\$125,000.00
34		Camp Bernie Transportation	\$15,000.00
35		Health Benefits (Change Carrier)	\$700,000.00
36		Middle School Athletics	\$113,000.00
37		Middle School Athletics Transportation	\$50,000.00
38		High School Assistant Coaches (-13)	\$52,000.00
39		Crisis Counselors	\$200,000.00
40		Band Transportation (away football)	\$18,000.00
41		Extended School year Child Study Teams	\$50,000.00
42		Saturday Morning Detention	\$18,000.00
43		Curriculum Development Stipends	\$35,000.00
44		Special Education Related Services	\$500,000.00
45		Tuition Reimbursement	\$50,000.00
46		Media Supplies	\$25,000.00
47		Instructional Equipment Technology	\$250,000.00
		Additional Revenue	
48		Hazardous Bussing	+\$250,000.00
49		Latchkey Before & After Care	+\$400,000.00
	TOTAL		\$17,098,900.00

XI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Many parents and staff members expressed their concerns about the elimination of programs.

XII. RESOLUTION – RESTORATION OF PROPOSED BUDGET CUTS 2010-2011

Mr. DiMuzio and Mr. Dickinson recommended that the following budget cuts be restored into the 2010-2011 school budget. Mr. Michaud read the following resolutions, and the Board took the following action:

RESTORATION OF BUDGET REDUCTION – ITEM NO. 13 (Recommended by Mr. DiMuzio)

BE IT

RESOLVED: that the Edison Board of Education restores Item No. 13 for Guidance Counselors – seventeen (17) positions in the amount of \$1,275,000. (\$15.43 would be added to the tax rate).

Mr. Dickinson asked for a motion to approve the restoration of Budget Item No. 13. Mr. Romano made a motion to restore nine (9) counselors, seconded by Mrs. Meade. Mrs. Scerbo made a motion to restore all seventeen (17) counselors, seconded by Mr. Romano. Mr. Romano and Mrs. Meade withdrew their original motion. Mr. Michaud took roll call vote, and the result was as follows:

AYES: Mr. Errico, Mrs. Meade, Mrs. Anes,  
Mrs. Scerbo, Mr. Romano, Mr. Dickinson  
ABSTAINED: Mr. Van Pelt  
NAYS: Ms. Szilagyi, Mr. Maeroff The motion was carried.

RESTORATION OF BUDGET REDUCTION – ITEM NO. 14 (Recommended by Mr. DiMuzio)

BE IT

RESOLVED: that the Edison Board of Education restores Item No. 14 for Secretaries – restore six (6) of nine (9) in the amount of \$225,000. (\$2.72 would be added to the tax rate).

Mr. Dickinson asked for a motion to approve the restoration of Budget Item No. 14. Mr. Romano made a motion to restore six of the nine secretaries, seconded by Mrs. Scerbo. Mr. Michaud took roll call vote, and the result was as follows:

AYES: Mr. Van Pelt, Mr. Romano, Mr. Dickinson  
NAYS: Mr. Errico, Ms. Szilagyi, Mr. Maeroff,  
Mrs. Meade, Mrs. Anes, Mrs. Scerbo The motion was not carried.

RESTORATION OF BUDGET REDUCTION – ITEM NO. 16 (Recommended by Mr. DiMuzio)

BE IT

RESOLVED: that the Edison Board of Education restores Item No. 16 for Elementary Strings and Instrumental– seven point seven (7.7) teaching positions in the amount of \$400,000. (\$4.84 would be added to the tax rate).

Mr. Dickinson asked for a motion to approve the restoration of Budget Item No. 16. Mrs. Anes made a motion to restore 7.7 Elementary Strings and Instrumental positions, seconded by Mr. Romano. Mr. Michaud took roll call vote, and the result was as follows:

AYES: Mr. Errico, Mrs. Meade, Mrs. Anes,  
Mr. Van Pelt, Mrs. Scerbo, Mr. Romano, Mr. Dickinson  
NAYS: Ms. Szilagyi, Mr. Maeroff The motion was carried.

RESTORATION OF BUDGET REDUCTION – ITEM NO. 18 (Recommended by Mr. DiMuzio)

BE IT

RESOLVED: that the Edison Board of Education restores Item No. 13 for Literacy Development Teachers – seven (7) positions in the amount of \$380,000. (\$4.60 would be added to the tax rate).

Mr. Dickinson asked for a motion to approve the restoration of Budget Item No. 18. Mrs. Scerbo made a motion to restore seven (7) Literacy Development Teacher positions, seconded by Mr. Romano. Mr. Michaud took roll call vote, and the result was as follows:

AYES: Mrs. Meade, Mrs. Anes, Mr. Van Pelt,  
Mrs. Scerbo, Mr. Romano, Mr. Dickinson

NAYS: Mr. Errico, Ms. Szilagyi, Mr. Maeroff

The motion was carried.

RESTORATION OF BUDGET REDUCTION – ITEM NO. 19 (Recommended by Mr. DiMuzio)

BE IT

RESOLVED: that the Edison Board of Education restores Item No. 19 for Security Guards – six (6) positions in the amount of \$250,000. (\$3.03 would be added to the tax rate).

Mr. Dickinson asked for a motion to approve the restoration of Budget Item No. 19. Mr. Romano made a motion to restore four (4) counselors, seconded by Mrs. Scerbo. Mr. Romano and Mrs. Scerbo withdrew that motion and Mr. Romano made a motion to restore all six (6) security guards, seconded by Mrs. Scerbo. Mr. Michaud took roll call vote, and the result was as follows:

AYES: Mr. Errico, Ms. Szilagyi, Mrs. Meade, Mrs. Anes,  
Mr. Van Pelt, Mrs. Scerbo, Mr. Romano, Mr. Dickinson

NAYS: Mr. Maeroff

The motion was carried.

RESTORATION OF BUDGET REDUCTION – ITEM NO. 21 (Recommended by Mr. DiMuzio)

BE IT

RESOLVED: that the Edison Board of Education restores Item No. 21 for Paraprofessionals to Part-time Teacher Aides – in the amount of \$2,632,000. (\$31.85 would be added to the tax rate).

Mr. Dickinson asked for a motion to approve the restoration of Budget Item No. 21. Mr. Romano made a motion to restore the tenured paraprofessionals, seconded by Mr. Van Pelt. Mr. Romano made a motion to restore all paraprofessionals back to full-time paraprofessionals, seconded by Mr. Van Pelt. Mr. Romano and Mr. Van Pelt withdrew their original motion. Mr. Michaud took roll call vote, and the result was as follows:

AYES: Mr. Errico, Ms. Szilagyi, Mrs. Meade, Mrs. Anes,  
Mr. Van Pelt, Mrs. Scerbo, Mr. Romano, Mr. Dickinson

NAYS: Mr. Maeroff

The motion was carried.

RESTORATION OF BUDGET REDUCTION – ITEM NO. 30 (Recommended by Mr. DiMuzio)

BE IT

RESOLVED: that the Edison Board of Education restores Item No. 30 for Co-Curricular Clubs – in the amount of \$64,000. (\$.77 would be added to the tax rate).

Mr. Dickinson asked for a motion to approve the restoration of Budget Item No. 30. Mr. Romano made a motion to the Co-Curricular Clubs, seconded by Mrs. Meade. Mr. Michaud took roll call vote, and the result was as follows:

AYES: Ms. Szilagyi, Mrs. Meade, Mrs. Anes, Mr. Van Pelt,  
Mrs. Scerbo, Mr. Romano, Mr. Dickinson  
NAYS: Mr. Errico, Mr. Maeroff The motion was carried.

RESTORATION OF BUDGET REDUCTION – ITEMS NO. 33 & 34 (Recommended by Mr. DiMuzio)

BE IT

RESOLVED:

that the Edison Board of Education restores Item No. 33 for Camp Bernie – in the amount of \$125,000, and Camp Bernie Transportation in the amount of \$15,000. (\$1.51 would be added to the tax rate for Camp Bernie and \$.18 would be added to the tax rate for Camp Bernie Transportation).

Mr. Dickinson asked for a motion to approve the restoration of Budget Items No. 33 and 34. Mr. Romano made a motion to restore Camp Bernie and Camp Bernie Transportation, seconded by Mrs. Anes. Mr. Michaud took roll call vote, and the result was as follows:

AYES: Mrs. Anes, Mr. Romano, Mr. Dickinson  
NAYS: Mr. Errico, Ms. Szilagyi, Mr. Maeroff  
Mrs. Meade, Mr. Van Pelt, Mrs. Scerbo The motion was not carried.

RESTORATION OF BUDGET REDUCTION – ITEM NO. 38 (Recommended by Mr. DiMuzio)

BE IT

RESOLVED:

that the Edison Board of Education restores Item No. 38 for High School Assistant Coaches – thirteen (13) positions – in the amount of \$52,000. .63 would be added to the tax rate.

Mr. Dickinson asked for a motion to approve the restoration of Budget Item No. 38. Mrs. Scerbo made a motion to restore High School Assistant Coaches, seconded by Mrs. Anes. Mr. Michaud took roll call vote, and the result was as follows:

AYES: Mr. Errico, Ms. Szilagyi, Mrs. Meade, Mrs. Anes,  
Mr. Van Pelt, Mrs. Scerbo, Mr. Romano, Mr. Dickinson  
NAYS: Mr. Maeroff The motion was carried.

RESTORATION OF BUDGET REDUCTION – ITEMS NO. 27 (Recommended by Mr. Dickinson)

BE IT

RESOLVED:

that the Edison Board of Education restores Item No. 27 for Capital Outlay – Edison High School Science Room Addition, in the amount of \$1,000,000. (\$12.10 would be added to the tax rate).

Mr. Dickinson asked for a motion to approve the restoration of Budget Item No. 27. Mr. Romano made a motion to restore the Capital Outlay – Edison High School Science Room Addition, seconded by Mr. Van Pelt. Mr. Michaud took roll call vote, and the result was as follows:

AYES: Mr. Van Pelt, Mr. Romano, Mr. Dickinson  
NAYS: Mr. Errico, Ms. Szilagyi, Mr. Maeroff  
Mrs. Meade, Mrs. Anes, Mrs. Scerbo The motion was not carried.

RESTORATION OF BUDGET REDUCTION – ITEM NO. 36 & 37 (Recommended by Mr. Dickinson)

BE IT

RESOLVED:

that the Edison Board of Education restores Item No. 36 for Middle School Athletics – in the amount of \$113,000. (\$1.37 would be added to the tax rate) and for Item No. 37 for Middle School Athletics Transportation in the amount of \$50,000. (\$.61 would be added to the tax rate).

Mr. Dickinson asked for a motion to approve the restoration of Budget Items No. 36 and 37. Mr. Romano made a motion to restore Middle School Athletics and Middle School Athletics Transportation, seconded by Mrs. Anes. Mr. Michaud took roll call vote, and the result was as follows:

AYES: Mrs. Anes, Mr. Romano, Mr. Dickinson

NAYS: Mr. Errico, Ms. Szilagyi, Mr. Maeroff  
Mrs. Meade, Mr. Van Pelt, Mrs. Scerbo

The motion was not carried.

RESTORATION OF BUDGET REDUCTION – ITEM NO. 48 (Recommended by Mr. Dickinson)

BE IT

RESOLVED:

that the Edison Board of Education restores Item No. 48 for Hazardous Bussing to Cancel Charge of \$475 Fee Per Student – reduced revenue in the amount of \$250,000. (\$3.03 would be added to the tax rate).

Mr. Dickinson asked for a motion to approve the restoration of Budget Item No. 48. Mr. Romano made a motion to restore Hazardous Bussing, seconded by Mrs. Anes. Mr. Michaud took roll call vote, and the result was as follows:

AYES: Mr. Errico, Ms. Szilagyi, Mrs. Meade, Mrs. Anes,

Mr. Van Pelt, Mrs. Scerbo, Mr. Romano, Mr. Dickinson

NAYS: Mr. Maeroff

The motion was not carried.

RESTORATION OF BUDGET REDUCTION – ITEM NO. 49 (Recommended by Mr. Dickinson)

BE IT

RESOLVED:

that the Edison Board of Education restores Item No. 49 for Latchkey to Cancel \$50 AM and \$50 PM Fees – reduced revenue in the amount of \$400,000. (\$4.84 would be added to the tax rate).

Mr. Dickinson asked for a motion to approve the restoration of Budget Item No. 49. Mr. Romano made a motion to restore Latchkey, seconded by Mrs. Scerbo. Mr. Michaud took roll call vote, and the result was as follows:

AYES: Mr. Romano, Mr. Dickinson

NAYS: Mr. Errico, Ms. Szilagyi, Mr. Maeroff, Mrs. Meade,  
Mrs. Anes, Mr. Van Pelt, Mrs. Scerbo,

The motion was not carried.

There were over 700 people in attendance at this Budget Hearing. Many parents were concerned about the elimination of the Paraprofessionals. Some parents were concerned about the elimination of full-day kindergarten and many staff members were concerned about losing their jobs.

XIII. ADOPTION OF 2010-2011 SCHOOL BUDGET

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Edison, New Jersey, (Middlesex County), met at the work-session on March 23, 2010; and having worked out a budget to cover the cost of operation of the Public Schools of Edison, New Jersey, (Middlesex County), for the school year beginning July 1, 2010, showing the total amount estimated to be:

\$ 204,837,780

and;  
WHEREAS, the total state funds and federal funds etc., for the school year 2010-2011 are estimated to be:

\$13,256,749

and;  
WHEREAS, the school budget must be submitted to Dr. Patrick Piegari, County Superintendent, for his approval to advertise.

NOW, THEREFORE,  
BE IT RESOLVED: that the amount of money estimated to be necessary for the operation of the Public Schools of Edison, New Jersey, (Middlesex County), for the school year beginning July 1, 2010, exclusive of state, county, federal and other funds is:

\$191,581,031

as per Summary as follows:

<u>Total Budget</u>	\$204,837,780
Less State Aid	\$ 7,876,175
Less Tuition (Other Districts)	60,000
Less Other State Aid	683,899
Less Miscellaneous Revenue	1,216,849
Less Special Federal Programs	3,419,826
Less Appropriated Free Balance	-0-
Total Local Tax Levy	\$191,581,031
For Current Expense	\$197,019,221
For Capital Outlay	1,725,048
For Debt Service	1,989,786
For Federal/State Projects	4,103,725
and;	

BE IT FURTHER  
RESOLVED: that the Edison Board of Education hereby, in accordance with the N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.2(b), establishes the school district travel maximum for the 2010-2011 school year at the sum of \$133,025; and

BE IT FURTHER  
RESOLVED: that the School Business Administrator shall track and record these costs to insure that that the maximum amount is not exceeded.

Mr. Dickinson asked for a motion to approve the resolution for the Adoption of the 2010-2011 School Budget. Mr. Romano made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Scerbo. Mr. Michaud took roll call vote, and the result was as follows:

AYES: Mr. Errico, Ms. Szilagyi, Mrs. Meade, Mrs. Anes,  
Mr. Van Pelt, Mrs. Scerbo, Mr. Romano, Mr. Dickinson

NAYS: Mr. Maeroff

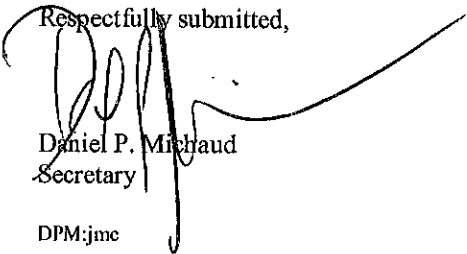
The motion was carried.



XIV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further questions or comments forthcoming, Mr. Dickinson asked for a motion to adjourn this March 31, 2010 special public meeting - 2010-2011 Budget Hearing - of the Edison Board of Education at 3:59 AM on April 1, 2010. Mr. Romano made the motion, seconded by Mr. Van Pelt and approved by all members present.

Respectfully submitted,



Daniel P. Michaud  
Secretary

DPM:jmc