

I. CALL TO ORDER/FLAG SALUTE

The April 16, 2014 Special Public Meeting of the Edison Board of Education was called to order by Board President, Mr. Gene I. Maeroff, at 7:00 P.M. at the Education Center, 312 Pierson Avenue, Edison, NJ.

II. ROLL CALL

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

Mr. Gene I. Maeroff, President, Mrs. Veena Iyer, Vice President, Mrs. Deborah A. Anes, Mrs. Theresa E. Ward, Mrs. Lori A. Bonderowitz, Dr. Frank Heelan, Mrs. Margot Harris and Mr. Jingwei (Jerry) Shi. Mrs. Lora L. Fong, was absent.

Also in attendance were Richard O'Malley, Ed.D, Superintendent, Mr. Daniel P. Michaud, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, and Mr. Jonathan Busch, Board Attorney.

III. OPENING STATEMENT

Mr. Maeroff 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 April 8, 2014.

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

IV. ADJOURN TO PRIVILEGED SESSION

Mr. Michaud read the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231 PL 1975 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE,
BE IT RESOLVED:

by the Board of Education of the Township of Edison, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter-specified subject matters.

The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
Attorney/Client Privileged Discussion Regarding:

- Property Contract Negotiations

It is anticipated at this time that the above-stated subject matter shall be made public at such time as the need for non-disclosure no longer exists.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Mr. Maeroff asked for a motion to approve the privileged session resolution at 7:04 P.M. Mrs. Bonderowitz made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Iyer. Mr. Michaud took a roll call vote, and the result was as follows:

AYES: Mr. Shi, Mrs. Harris, Dr. Heelan, Mrs. Bonderowitz,
Mrs. Ward, Mrs. Anes, Mrs. Iyer, Mr. Maeroff

NAYS: None

The motion was carried.

V. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Mr. Maeroff asked for a motion to reconvene to open session at 7:36 P.M. Mrs. Harris made the motion, seconded by Mr. Shi. Mr. Michaud took a roll call vote, and the result was as follows:

AYES: Mr. Shi, Mrs. Harris, Dr. Heelan, Mrs. Bonderowitz,
Mrs. Ward, Mrs. Anes, Mrs. Iyer, Mr. Maeroff

NAYS: None

The motion was carried.

VI. DISCUSSION OF LEASE AGREEMENT

Woodbridge Mayor McCormick stated that he was happy to help secure St. Cecelia’s School with the lease being approved tonight. He said that he would help any way he could, including getting permits issued for necessary repairs. When the two year lease is over, Mayor McCormick informed the Board that he would try to obtain St. Cecelia’s School to be used as an additional public school in Woodbridge Township.

Mr. Busch, Board Attorney, discussed the terms of the lease for the public.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS – RESOLUTION ONLY

Several parents questioned the terms of the Lease Agreement.

VIII. APPROVAL OF LEASE AGREEMENT WITH ST. CECELIA’S SCHOOL

WHEREAS, on March 22, 2014, the James Monroe Elementary School (“James Monroe”) was severely and permanently damaged as a result of a fire in the building; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education, with the assistance of the New Jersey Department of Education and several other community stakeholders, has engaged in the process of finding a long-term, non-permanent location for the students and staff of James Monroe; and

WHEREAS, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Metuchen (“Arch Diocese”) has graciously offered for the Board to lease the St. Cecelia’s School, located at 45 Wilus Way, Iselin, NJ (“St. Cecelia’s”), without charge through June 30, 2016 for the students and staff of James Monroe; and

WHEREAS, in exchange for the Board's use of St. Cecelia's, the Arch Diocese has requested that the Board make all necessary improvements to the property and agree to such other terms as agreed to between the parties; and

WHEREAS, the Board and the Arch Diocese have negotiated a draft Lease Agreement for the Board's use of St. Cecelia's ("Agreement").

NOW, THEREFORE,
BE IT RESOLVED: that the Edison Township Board of Education hereby:

1. Approves the draft Agreement, subject to its review and finalization by the Superintendent of Schools, Board Attorney and approval by the Department of Education and all other applicable State and local agencies; and
2. Authorizes the Board's administration, Board Attorney and Board Architect to take all necessary and appropriate steps to carry out this action of the Board.

Mr. Maeroff asked for a motion to approve the resolution for the approval of the lease agreement with St. Cecelia's School. Dr. Heelan made the motion, seconded by Mr. Shi. Mr. Michaud took a roll call vote, and the result was as follows:

AYES: Mr. Shi, Mrs. Harris, Dr. Heelan, Mrs. Bonderowitz,
Mrs. Ward, Mrs. Anes, Mrs. Iyer, Mr. Maeroff

NAYS: None The motion was carried.

IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Dr. O'Malley reported that he was happy to get the students into Middlesex County College, only missing two days of school. He commended Mayor McCormick for all he did to obtain St. Cecelia's School for the students of James Monroe.

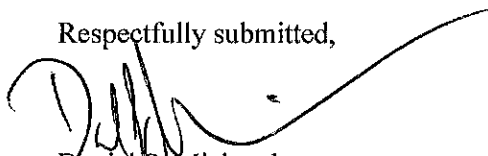
X. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Carol Zimmerman, resident, questioned the bidding process and use of union contractors for the upcoming project.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further questions or comments forthcoming, Mr. Maeroff asked for a motion to adjourn this April 16, 2014 public meeting of the Edison Board of Education at 7:59 P.M. Mrs. Harris made the motion, seconded by Mr. Shi and approved by all members present.

Respectfully submitted,



Daniel P. Michaud
Secretary
DPM:jmc