

If you did not have a chance to attend the Board of Education Business Meeting held on Tuesday, January 24th, here is what you missed:

Dr. Labbe began the presentation portion of the meeting by asking the principals of each school in the district to present their proposed 2017-18 discretionary supply budgets. According to their presentation, the high school is proposing a \$48,803 decrease ([See presentation](#)), the middle school is proposing a \$38,725 increase ([See presentation](#)), and the combined K-5 elementary school budget is proposing a \$79,934 decrease ([See presentation](#)). To see these and all previous 2017-18 proposed budget presentations, click [here](#).

If you would like to view the meeting PowerPoint presentation, click [here](#). Likewise, to see the video of this meeting, click [here](#).

The Board then moved action items from the Superintendent's Report onto the Board Agenda.

Among other motions, on the Vision 2030 Finance and Infrastructure portion of the agenda, the Board approved an amendment to the Jem Rehabilitation contract from previously approved amount of \$40,000.00 to \$52,240.00 for the remainder of the 2016-17 school year. It also approved the auditor's Annual Report and the recommendations furnished by Samuel Klein & Co, along with the Corrective Action Plan for the 2015-16 school year audit recommendations as submitted by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary. Likewise, the Board of Education approved the Consolidated Monitoring Report for the IDEA Basic and IDEA Preschool and Corrective Action Plan for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. Additionally, the BOE approved a resolution to sell surplus property online through GovDeals pursuant to State Contract A-83453/T2581 and in accordance with the terms and conditions of that state contract. Furthermore, it approved several building permits, some for a fee in accordance with the district Use of Facilities Fee Schedule; several student trips with transportation costs; the use of Board buses to transport students from the high school's Tomorrow's Teachers class to district schools for classroom observations; and the cancellation of a bus route to the Montgomery Academy for the 2016-17 school year. Finally, the Board of Education approved tuition contracts to a private out of district school and the Interim Alternative Education Program at the Monmouth Ocean Educational Services Commission, as well as bedside tutoring for three students who were recently hospitalized.

On the Vision 2030 Student Achievement portion of the agenda, the Board approved of students from the middle school and high school to participate in the 2016-17 Middlesex County High School and Middle School Arts Programs. In addition, it approved several co-curricular activities.

On the Vision 2030 Governance portion of the agenda, the BOE approved the December 2016/January 2017 HIB Report, including any investigations and/or recommendations for action provided by the Superintendent. It also approved a resolution expressing extreme concern over charter schools.

On the Vision 2030 Personnel portion of the agenda, as well as other motions, the Board of Education accepted the retirement of Betty Clarke, a 4th Grade Math/Science Teacher at the

Samsel Upper Elementary School, effective July 1, 2017; along with the resignation of a cafeteria worker at the middle school and a part-time paraprofessional in the Project Before preschool program. In addition, it approved several leave of absences (LOA), and the hiring of three tenure track and three replacement teachers, one custodian, and two part-time paraprofessional for the 2016-17 school year. It also approved advisors from the middle school and spring volunteer or unpaid coaches at the high school for the 2016-17 school year. Finally, it promoted a cafeteria worker from the Arleth School to the position of Manager/Cook at the high school, appointed a substitute teacher and custodian, and approved several professional days for the 2016-17 school year.

During the public comment portion of the agenda, several French Honor Society students from the high school expressed disappointment because the Superintendent did not approve their recent field trip request to New York City and asked the Board to reconsider that decision. A community member also spoke in support of those students.

During open discussion, Mr. Balka reviewed what was discussed during the most recent BOE Finance Committee Meeting. Mr. Biesiada did the same with regard to the last BOE Infrastructure Meeting, and Mr. Esposito reviewed what transpired during the first BOE School Security Meeting on January 19th. Mr. Ciak reviewed New Jersey School Boards Association news, which included his recent trip to Constanza in the Dominican Republic, where he and other members of the National School Boards Association, as well as several other educational organizations, physically built a new school. Finally, Mrs. Bloom discussed New Jersey public school legislative news, particularly the “Fair Share Funding Formula” currently being proposed by several NJ legislators, and the fiscal burden that charter schools are causing for public school districts.

The next meeting will be a Workshop Meeting. It is scheduled to take place on **Tuesday, February 7, 2017**. During it the District will present the Proposed 2017-18 Technology, Curriculum & Instruction, and Athletics and Co-Curricular Budgets. If you would like to see the agenda for this meeting, please visit the BOE Agenda page on our website when it is posted in the evening on Friday, February 3rd. In addition, a complete copy of the January 24th meeting minutes will be posted on the BOE Meeting Minutes page of the website once they are approved by the BOE during the next Business Meeting on February 7, 2017.