

If you did not have a chance to attend the Board of Education Business Meeting held on Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, here is what you missed:

Dr. Labbe began the presentation portion of the meeting by asking Mrs. Bloom and Ms. Lascala, Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS) Art Teacher, to assist him and the Board in recognizing and honoring SWMHS student Zaineb Naqvi for her outstanding artwork and for the manner in which she has represented the district. Next, the Board of Education recognized and honored the 2015-16 Teachers of the Year, Education Service Professionals of the Year, and Educational Support Professionals of the Year. After that, Dr. Labbe introduced Ms. Kimberly Jennings, from a company called Springboard Education. Ms. Jennings made a brief presentation on her companies before and after care services. Ms. Shedlock, Transportation Director, then made a brief presentation on the proposed 2016-17 Transportation Budget. According to her presentation, the district is projecting a \$538,904 increase in this budget. Finally, Ms. Taylor, Director of Athletics, and Tom Gentile, Supervisor of Humanities and Related Arts, presented the 2016-17 proposed Extra-Curricular Activities and Athletics Budget. As per their presentation, expenditures for the combined 2016-17 Extra-Curricular and Athletics Budgets are being projected to increase by nearly \$17,150.

***If you would like to view the meeting and each of the above mentioned PowerPoint presentations, see them below or click [here](#). To view the meeting video, 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 a contract with Springboard Education in America, LLC, for the period of September 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 for before and after school care services. It also approved the NJ Achievement Coaches Grant in the amount of \$60,000 and the submission of an amended application for funding under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) in the total amount of \$1,569,575 for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. Furthermore, it approved several building permits with and without fees in accordance with district fee schedule, and several student trips with transportation and other costs to be paid for by the BOE. Finally, the Board of Education approved private out of district (OOD) tuition contracts for 6 students with disabilities, a retroactive placement of a Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS) student in the Middlesex Regional Education Services (MRESC) Interim Alternative Education Program (IAEP), physical therapy services for a student in a private OOD placement, and itinerant teacher of the visually impaired services for a student with a disability in Sayreville Middle School (SMS).

On the Vision 2030 Student Achievement portion of the agenda the Board approved more than a dozen co-curricular activities.

On the Vision 2030 Personnel portion of the agenda, as well as other motions, the Board of Education accepted and honored the retirement of Nancy Peterson, Administrative Secretary in the Guidance Department, at SMS, and Mary Beth Woolf, Social Studies Teacher at SWMHS, effective July 1, 2016. It also accepted the resignation of a lunchroom/playground aide at the Samsel Upper Elementary School (SUES), effective February 16, 2016, and an English language arts teacher at SWMHS, effective on or before April 11, 2016. Furthermore, the Board of

Education approved several leaves of absence and modifications to previously approved LOAs for the 2015-16 and 2016-17 school years, the hiring of three certified tenure track and replacement teachers for the remainder of the 2015-16 school year and three non-certified staff members. Additionally, the BOE approved two teachers to provide supplemental instruction, three certificated staff members to provide CPR/AED certification training for district personnel, and five teachers to write curriculum for implementation in the 2016-2017 school year. Finally, the Board appointed assistant track coaches at SWMHS and SMS and two coaching aides at SWMHS, as well as five certified and eight non certified substitutes, and terminated an English language arts teacher at SWMHS, effective April 4.

During the public comment portions of the meeting, several community members expressed concern about the proposal of a new before and after care service. Another community member commented on the SAT course curriculum writing project and asked that the Board consider changing the course name to SAT/ACT due to the high number of students now taking the ACT. In addition, he suggested that any teacher writing or teaching such a course take each test before doing so. Yet another community member commented on the SWMHS Marching Band and the need for increased funding to effectively support its continued success. Finally, a community member inquired as to why the BOE Finance Committee Meetings were not open to the public.

Prior to voting on the Finance and Infrastructure portion of the agenda, Mr. Biesiada asked the motion for DI Group Architecture contract in the amount of \$28,500.00 for the Truman Elementary School classroom/cluster alterations, be tabled until the Board has a better grasp of the 2016-17 School District Budget. During open discussion, Mrs. Bloom, who is chairing the district Blue Ribbon Committee, presented the charge of the committee and reported that Dr. Labbe would be asking the community for representation and that she would like to see an equal representation of teachers, administrators, parents, and community members on the committee.

The next meeting will be a Workshop Meeting. It will be held on Tuesday, March 1, 2016. During it, the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students from the Samsel Upper Elementary School will represent the Board of Education and Central Administration as they participate in the “Let the Children Lead” program. In addition, the district will present the proposed 2016-17 Special Education and Personnel Budgets.

If you would like to see the agenda for this meeting, please visit the [BOE Meeting Info page](#) on our website. In addition, a complete copy of these minutes will be posted on the BOE Meeting Minutes page of the website once they are approved by the BOE during the next Agenda/Business Meeting on March 1, 2016.