

If you did not have a chance to attend the Board of Education Workshop Meeting held on Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, here is what you missed:

Dr. Labbe began the presentation portion of the meeting by reviewing with the Board and public the 2016-17 Budget Development Calendar and the philosophy behind the several workshops or presentations which will take place up to the formal public hearing on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. As noted by Dr. Labbe, the purpose of the workshops are for fostering collaboration, clarity and transparency during the budget development process, while also giving members of the community the opportunity to ask questions, provide feedback, and to offer recommendations to the Board and administration. Dr. Labbe then had Mr. D'Andrea, Business Administrator, Mr. Pantiliano, Director of Facilities and Operations, and Ms. Kemprowski, Supervisor of Custodians, present the proposed 2016-17 Buildings and Grounds and Capital Projects Budget. According to their presentation, the district is currently proposing to spend slightly more than \$20,000 than what was budgeted this year for building and grounds, and due to the high level of facility upgrades needed for several district facilities, it is proposing a \$4,663,453 increase capital outlay project expenditures. Both Mr. D'Andrea and Mr. Pantiliano communicated that they did not expect the Board to approve many of the proposed capital project expenditures, but felt it was crucial that they bring them all to the Board's attention.

***If you would like to see the meeting and each of the above mentioned PowerPoint presentations, please 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 amended application for funding under the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act and a Non-Public Security Aid request to Adalex Communications. Additionally, the BOE approved a resolution to refund all or a portion of the outstanding callable refunding school bonds, Series 2006, of the school district issued in the original principal amount of \$10,000,000 and dated September 7, 2006. It also accepted the donation of 5 unassembled Bernhardt violins at the estimated value of \$5,000 from Norcora Insurance Brokers. Finally, the Board of Education approved the use of two buses on Wednesday, December 2, 2015 to shuttle parents attending conferences at the Samsel Upper Elementary School to/from Sayreville High School, and specialized transportation for an out of district student participating in extra-curricular activities, along with bedside tutoring for two students.

On the Vision 2030 Student Achievement portion of the agenda the Board approved the following co-curricular activities: the Winter Wonderland Concert sponsored by the Wilson School PTO on Thursday, December 10, 2015 from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm in the Wilson School Auditorium, and the Winter Wonderland Festival to be held at the Dwight D. Eisenhower School on Friday, December 11, 2015 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm in the all-purpose room. Likewise, it also approved the following co-curricular trips without transportation costs: the SWMHS Choir's attendance at the Sayreville Winterfest at the Sayreville Borough Hall on Sunday, December 6, 2015; a boys' soccer player, coach, and one administrator, to attend the SCANJ Awards Banquet on Sunday, January 10, 2016, at the Pines Manor in Edison; and a girls' soccer player, coach,

and one school administrator, to attend the NJGSCA Awards Banquet on Sunday, January 24, 2016, also at the Pines Manor.

On the Vision 2030 Governance portion of the agenda the BOE approved the November 2015 HIB Report, including any investigations and/or recommendations for action provided by the Superintendent.

On the Vision 2030 Personnel portion of the agenda, as well as other motions, the Board of Education accepted the resignation of a night custodian at SWMHS. Furthermore, the Board of Education approved several leaves of absence (LOA) for 2015-16, the hiring of 4 certified replacement teachers for the remainder of the 2015-16 school year and a part-time paraprofessional. It also approved the transfer of a Cafeteria Worker at Sayreville War Memorial High School to the Truman Elementary School and appointed 2015-16 Winter Extra-Curricular Activity advisors. Finally, the Board approved several teacher stipends for participating in required NCLB Title III supplemental evening parent programs, appointed several Literacy Academy substitutes to work on an as-needed basis, and reinstated a teacher from SWMHS who had been suspended with pay.

During the public comment portion of the meeting, a community member commented on the very large amount of money being budgeted for capital outlay projects. Similarly, another member of the community voiced her concern about the high amount but did express her support for making facility upgrades that would improve the safety and well-being of staff and students. Finally, a community member provided commentary on the efficacy of the Borough PILOT construction projects.

During open discussion, Mr. Macagnone, Board of Education President, requested that a BOE ad-hoc committee be created to oversee health benefits. Mr. Ciak then asked the Board to pass a motion to develop a "Blue Ribbon Five" ad-hoc committee for the purpose of investigating the over-crowding of our schools and to make recommendations to remedy such.

The next meeting will be a special meeting on December 8<sup>th</sup> that will be conducted primarily in closed session with no action to be taken afterward. The meeting after that will be held on Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. During that meeting the District will present the State of the School Address and the 2016-17 Proposed Food Services Budget.

If you would like to see the agenda for this meeting, please visit the BOE Agenda 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 December 15, 2015.