

RED BANK BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION
RED BANK, NEW JERSEY
BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC MEETING
MARCH 13, 2012

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER — 7:00pm – Middle School Media Center

SUNSHINE STATEMENT

Pursuant to Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting was advertised as directed by resolution adopted May 10, 2011. Notice of this meeting was published in the *Asbury Park Press* and the *Two River Times* newspapers per code and sent to the Municipal Clerk, Red Bank Borough, within 7 days per code.

Fire exits located in the direction indicated. In case of fire, you will be signaled by bell and/or public address system. If so alerted to fire, please move in a calm and orderly fashion to the nearest smoke-free exit.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Marjorie Lowe, Carrie Ludwikowski, Peter Noble, Allen Palma, Suzanne Viscomi, Ann Roseman

Absent: Grace Costa, Janet Jones, Ben Forest

Also present: Laura C. Morana, Superintendent; Peter Sokol, Esq.

3. FLAG SALUTE

Ms. Roseman led the Salute to the Flag.

4. RESOLUTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:05 pm Ms. Ludwikowski motioned, seconded by Ms. Viscomi, to move to Executive Session.

- A. Teachers' Contract Negotiations Update
- B. Preschool Expansion Space Options
- C. Business Administrator's Contract
- D. Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) Update
- E. Special Education Case

5. CALL TO ORDER – 8:00 p.m.

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6. ROLL CALL

Present: Ben Forest, Janet Jones, Marjorie Lowe, Carrie Ludwikowski, Peter Noble, Allen Palma, Suzanne Viscomi, Ann Roseman

Absent: Grace Costa

Also present: Laura C. Morana, Superintendent; Peter Sokol, Esq.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Legislative Update

Ms. Darrow reviewed S1451, a revision to the Sunshine Law. If passed, this would mandate that sub committees of public bodies, including school boards, would require committees to publicize agendas and minutes of their committee meetings. Also discussed was S1452, a revision to the Open Public Records Act (OPRA) requiring that anyone, not just New Jersey residents, could request public records.

B. Budget Review County Office

Dr. Morana advised the Board that the meeting went well and the Executive County Superintendent stated that as a district we are well on our way. He reviewed the following:

- State aid—The district is in line to receive a little more funding each year as the governor is phasing in the school aid formula.
- He commended the work that is being done in the district with limited resources.
- He was pleased with the competitive grants that provide the additional financial resources for our students. He commented that he would not have approved a budget without an enrollment adjustment on the tax levy.
- He encouraged the district to continue to provide comprehensive education—i.e. music, after school programs, etc. to educate the whole child.

C. Excellent Educators for New Jersey (EE4NJ) District Presentation

Dr. Morana stated that she and Carol Boehm, Primary School Music Teacher, took part in a panel discussion Saturday. The presentation was sponsored by NJ Spotlight and was a conversation on the teacher evaluation pilot.

D. AVID Elementary Site Visit

The district hosted a site visit at the Middle School to highlight the elementary program. Students, parents and staff participated in a panel discussion; and the visiting team was impressed with what they saw in the classrooms.

E. Project Lead the Way (PLTW) – Presentation

Dr. Morana stated that Mr. Ippolito, PLTW Middle School teacher; and Mr. Bombardier, Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction; and she participated in a STEM/PLTW national conference sponsored by IEEEE. We were the only middle school district presenting; and aside from two high schools the presentation was comprised of colleges, universities, and engineering

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professionals. Our work has led to a request that we present at a high profile conference in Washington DC in June.

F. Superintendent's Honor Roll

Dr. Morana congratulated the 65 children who became part of the Superintendent Honor Roll for this past marking period. Students did an amazing job in improving their grades and those who improved by two letter grades. The students were given a students' appreciation of Superintendent Honor Roll mug as a memento of their achievement.

7. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A. Feedback from NJSBA Analyzing & Constructing Salary Guides Training – Janet Jones
Ms. Jones provided a summary of her training.

B. Budget Review

Dr. Morana distributed a handout and provided a PowerPoint presentation in order to guide discussions on decisions for possible reductions and reallocation within the county approved budget. She began with a review of the recommendations to eliminate and reallocate purchases as well as possible consideration for discretionary items that could be eliminated. She also reviewed the non-personnel reduction and eliminations on programs and maintenance, buildings, and grounds.

Dr. Morana reviewed the budgetary items that are supported by entitlement grants such as NCLB and IDEA, as well as the program supported by competitive grants such as PreK Expansion, 21st CCLC, etc.

Ms. Roseman asked the Board for their feedback or questions regarding these items.

Feedback/Questions:

- Is the coordinator for HIB a supervisory position?
This position is not a supervisory position; however, a supervisor can hold this position.
- Discussion on whether the amount the district pays for the promotion robes can be made up by other sources—i.e. PTO, fundraisers.
- Discussion about the cost of the software program KidBiz that is in the budget as a placeholder.

Dr. Morana stated that there is a meeting this week with the vendor to discuss the program. She also stated that the Visual Technology Coordinator, Ms. Mattucci, is working on researching available options and how the district can accomplish more with a program for less money, or possibly for free.

Comment by Board member that this is not the best spent money and Dr. Morana agreed. The goal is to see what we can do based on available data. She also indicated that the district is not in a position to waste money and we want to do what is best for the students.

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- Board member stated that he cannot support the budget as he cannot “stomach” the cuts and does not want to be part of dismantling the district. He expressed his outrage that the state continues to place demands and mandates on the district; our student needs and enrollment continue to increase and we do not receive adequate funding from the state. Board member further commented he does not know how long he can serve on the Board. Commented that the district does so many great things and does not get the proper funding.
- Board member commented that he agreed with the previous comments and felt that the district should go to Trenton. He further indicated that year after year we are under adequacy and the state still does not give us those funds.
Ms. Darrow clarified that the state calculates that deems adequate and the fact that the district is under adequacy by \$5 million is partially the amount below the expected local tax levy. This is based on the wealth of the community, as well as the valuation of the property. Ms. Darrow also stated that she is not supporting that the tax payers bear that amount; she is merely clarifying what the “adequacy” definition entails.
- Dr. Morana stated that she can reach out to Senator Beck who was out of the office and she will follow up.
- Board member made a comment directed at the comments regarding not supporting the budget and suggested that if a Board member votes “no” it is not a vote against the state funding but the district.

Ms. Roseman asked if there were any other comments.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Letter from New Jersey School Boards Association – Resolution for
May 19, 2012 Delegate Assembly

9. HEARING OF PUBLIC

Bylaw #060 reads . . . “Any individual deciding to speak shall sign the speaker’s sheet before the business of the meeting has begun. Please include your name, address and group or organization you represent. All comments will be directed to the Chair. Speakers shall be limited to one (1) turn of five (5) minutes.”

- Gene Horowitz, 118 Branch Avenue, Red Bank, NJ
Discussed lack of state aid and his dismay for the need to make budget cuts.
Also discussed the district athletics program and gave a background on the Red Bank Middle School Athletics Foundation.
- Stacy Sherwood, Middle School Teacher and RBBEA President
Question about the Vice Principal/Supervisor position.
Also stated that to avoid cuts the Board has the option of going out for a referendum to ask for more funds.

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10. STATEMENT TO THE PUBLIC

Often times it may appear to members of our audience that the Board of Education takes action with very little comment and in many cases a unanimous vote. Almost without exception, before a matter is placed on the agenda at a public meeting the administration has thoroughly reviewed the matter with the Superintendent of Schools. If the Superintendent of Schools is satisfied that the matter is ready to be presented to the Board of Education, it is then referred to the appropriate committee. The members of the board committee work with Administration and the Superintendent to assure that the members fully understand the matter. When the committee is satisfied with the matter, it is presented to the Board of Education for discussion before any final action is taken. Only then is it placed on the agenda for action at a public meeting.

Ms. Roseman asked Board members if there were any questions regarding motions or if they wished to take any separately. Having heard none, the agenda proceeded.

Mr. Forest motioned, seconded by Ms. Jones, to approve the following:

11. ACTION AGENDA

BUSINESS – 3000

BE IT RESOLVED by the RED BANK BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent the following FINANCE resolution(s) are approved as indicated:

3127.TRAVEL

Name	Date/Time	Location	Fee	Theme	Account #
Nancy Mattucci	03/16/12 9:00 am. – 3:00 p.m.	Monroe Township, NJ	\$0.00	NJPSA Formative Data Analysis	NA
Nancy Mattucci	03/20/12 12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Monroe Township, NJ	\$0.00	NJ ASK Training	NA
Brooks Morris	03/20/12 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Piscataway, NJ	\$0.00	ISCALS Coordinator Meeting	NA
Meredith Faistl	03/23/12 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Red Bank, NJ	\$0.00	On the Road to Implementing the Common Core State Standards	NA
Laura Morana	03/28/12 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Edison, NJ	\$0.00	Special Meeting Invitation with Dr. MacCormack, Chief Academic Officer, Sponsored by Seton Hall University	NA

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Laura Morana	03/28/12 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Trenton, NJ	\$0.00	Great Schools of NJ Sponsored Meeting with Dr. Penny MacCormack, Chief Academic Office	NA
Jody Robbins	04/17/12 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Neptune, NJ	\$0.00	Tools of the Mind (TOM)	NA
Laura Morana (Alternate)	04/25/12 – 04/28/12 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Washington, DC	\$0.00	2012 Kennedy Center Partner in Education Institute	NA

COMMENT: Dr. Morana explained that her travel to Washington DC is just to allow her to act as an alternate for John Bombardier who was previously approved in the event he cannot attend the entire conference.

PERSONNEL – 4000

BE IT RESOLVED by the RED BANK BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following PERSONNEL resolution(s) are approved as indicated:

4242. That the Board approves the following salaries for the 2011-2012 school year.

John Bombardier	\$79,568
Richard Cohen	\$110,597(Prorated)
Maria Iozzi	\$100,157
Christina Vlahos	\$75,000

4243. That the Board approves the following as substitute teachers, effective March 6, 2012 through June 30, 2012:

Evangelia Dounis	Charlene Guibas	Jessica Kuras
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4244. That the Board approves the following staff members to assist with PreK registration information sessions, March 8 – 10, 2012, not to exceed 3 hours each. Account #20-218-200-100-P12

Shary Ashe	March 8 and 10, 2012	\$20.00 per hour
Kathy Feeny	March 10, 2012	\$20.00 per hour
Daphne Keller	March 8 and 10, 2012	\$20.00 per hour
Michelle Leonardo	March 8, 2012	\$32.00 per hour
Barbara Meyer	March 8, 2012	\$20.00 per hour
Magda Timmes	March 8 and 10, 2012	\$20.00 per hour
Danielle Yamello	March 10, 2012	\$32.00 per hour

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CURRICULUM AND PROGRAM – 6000

BE IT RESOLVED by the RED BANK BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent the following CURRICULUM AND PROGRAM resolution(s) are approved as indicated:

6077. That the Red Bank Board of Education deems student participation in curriculum related field trips to be educationally beneficial. Pursuant to regulation 6A:23A-5.(c)(1), the Board hereby approves the resolution.

Funding Source	Location	Date(s)
No Cost	Red Bank Senior Center, Red Bank, NJ (Strings)	03/19/12
PS Student Activity Fund	Count Basie Theatre, Red Bank, NJ (Kindergarten and 1 st grade classes)	03/30/12
PreK Grant	Paper Moon Puppet Theatre, Atlantic Highlands, NJ (St. Anthony's PreK Classes)	04/03/12 AM
PreK Grant	Paper Moon Puppet Theatre, Atlantic Highlands, NJ (MDCC PreK Classes)	04/04/12 AM
PreK Grant	Paper Moon Puppet Theatre, Atlantic Highlands, NJ (Acelero & CYMCA PreK Classes)	04/04/12 PM
PreK Grant	Paper Moon Puppet Theatre, Atlantic Highlands, NJ (Primary School PreK Classes Olivero, Vazquez, and Sevillano).	04/05/12 AM
PreK Grant	Paper Moon Puppet Theatre, Atlantic Highlands, NJ (Primary School PreK Classes Robbins, Van Utrecht, and Moss)	04/05/12 PM
RBRHS Source	NJPAC, Newark, NJ (Latina Girls' Group, Grades 7 & 8)	05/05/12

6078. That the Board authorizes the Superintendent to submit the Race to the Top Phase 3 (RTTC 3) grant designed to focus on the following initiatives: curriculum design aligned to Common Core State Standards and STEM (science – technology – engineering – mathematics), instructional improvement, and principal and teacher effectiveness evaluation system, in the amount of \$54,414, effective July 1, 2012.

COMMENT: Dr. Morana advised the Board that the grant has to be submitted by March 21 and we needed to have the agenda item approved.

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Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Jones, Lowe, Ludwikowski, Noble, Palma, Viscomi, Forest, Roseman

NAYS: None ABSTENTIONS: None

12. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC - None

13. OLD BUSINESS

- Gene Horowitz was thanked for his work with the Red Bank Middle School Athletics Foundation.
- Observation that the Middle School parking lot has had automobiles driving through on Sundays while children were playing in the lot. Concern for safety. Ms. Darrow will look into it.
- Board was reminded about the deadline for the CSA and Board self evaluation.
- Board member thanked Ms. Roseman for her assistance in completing the evaluations.

14. NEW BUSINESS

- Board member thanked everyone for their feedback regarding voting on the budget.

15. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:16 pm Mr. Palma motioned, seconded by Ms. Ludwikowski.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne E. Darrow
Business Administrator/Board Secretary