

MINUTES OF THE BOARD RETREAT
OF THE TENAFLY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 13, 2021
TENAFLY BOARD OF EDUCATION HEGELEIN BUILDING

Open Session

The Board Retreat meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Board President Jocelyn Schwarz

Adequate Notice Statement/Call To Order/Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance

Board President Jocelyn Schwarz read the following statement:

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et. seq., adequate notification of this meeting has been provided by having the date, time and place thereof posted in the Board of Education Hegelein Building, the Borough office, Tenafly Public Library, the local press and on the district's web site.

"The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to insure the right to the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon."

In accordance with provisions of this act, the Tenafly Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be publicized by having the date, time and place thereof posted at the Borough office, Tenafly Public Library, administrative building, in the local press and on the district's web site.

The following Board members answered present:

<i>Board Member</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Mark Aronson	X	
Inbal Israeli Miller	X	
Michelle Merchant	X	
Yelena Meytes	X	
Paula Newman	X	
Edward J. Salaski	X	
Michael Wilderman	X	
Jane Juhng, Vice President	X	
Jocelyn Schwarz, President	X	

Also present:

Ms. Shauna C. DeMarco, Superintendent

Dr. Victor J. Anaya, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Ms. Danielle Diaz, Human Resources Manager

Welcome from Board President Jocelyn Schwarz

School Culture & Climate Initiative: Supporting, Connecting and Empowering Schools

Introduction to Keynote Speakers by Dr. Evelyn Mamman - Presented by Elizabeth Warner & Patricia Heindel

Overview of Presentation

- Understanding the goals of the climate world in Tenafly.
- Diversity, equity & inclusion is an important approach. It takes three years for initiative.
- Board President Jocelyn Schwarz asked if staff could be brought in for improved and continued learning.
- Ms. Newman – ask about feedback from data collected: Survey was done during Covid under different circumstances would feedback have been different?
- Ms. Juhng – SEL – what she sees coming down the pike – 5-10 years?
- Superintendent DeMarco – Covid connected many groups and partnerships.

Board President Jocelyn Schwarz and Vice President Jane Juhng gave an overview of the retreat.

Public Comment – None.

2021-22 Curriculum and Instruction Presentation

Presented by Dr. Evelyn Mamman – a discussion followed:

- Four (4) Board Goals and TPS Core.
- District level overview – meaningful, manageable, challenging educational experiences.
- Diversity, equity & inclusion.
- Engaging community
- Building coherence
- Targeted professional development
- Instructional equity
- Curriculum and instruction as equity tool
- Commitment to success of every child definition
- Learning realignment
- Teaching & learning goals – (3-5 years)
- Building & Department level meeting topics.
- Board President Jocelyn Schwarz asked about student interest.
- Superintendent Shauna DeMarco – informational group, openness and honesty. October 4 is full day PD.

Facility Updates and LRFP work related to flood damage

Presented by Dr. Victor Anaya – a discussion followed:

- Ms. Israeli Miller asked about the Mackay playground area.
- Ms. Meytes – what is the strategic plan? Review what is damaged and not in the schools, why?

Benchmarks for Board Goals

Vice President Jane Juhng spoke about the following:

Goal 1 – Strategic technology plan (budgeting). Scheduling practices & innovative learning. Aptitude tests throughout the district.

Goal 2 – Empower each student & staff member, balance social & emotional well-being.

- Wellness PD
- Mental Health Day
- Re-Evaluate Care Plus
- Assessment – Lessen anxiety.
- Provide access to all
- Engage in good cross-section/student representatives for ideas
- Implement SEL practices at each school consistently, identify & sustain – make accessible
- Use post survey data from culture & climate work

Ms. Newman – spoke about Community of Trust:

- Improve website & easier to navigate
- Frequently asked questions page on website
- Hear good news links so public knows
- Consistently across the board in schools – WIP
- Steer website as a source of info.
- Pointed survey
- Circulation of key information
- Quarterly newsletters & feedback

Motion to enter Closed Session at 8:30 p.m.

Moved: Mr. Salaski Second: Ms. Meytes

All in favor

Closed Session

Be it Resolved, that the Tenafly Board of Education determines it is necessary to meet in Closed Session on September 13, 2021 to discuss Legal, Personnel matters and Student matters; and

Be it Further Resolved that these matters will be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Victor J. Anaya

Dr. Victor J. Anaya
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary