Committee of the Whole – Minutes
February 12, 2015

The meeting began at 7:05 PM.

Mrs. Laraway read the Sunshine Law.

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of the Act, the Tewksbury Township Board of Education has caused notice of the time and place of this meeting to be published in the Courier News and notice of the meeting has been posted in the Township Municipal Building, both school buildings and the Tewksbury Township Public Library.

The Board pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

PRESENT: Mrs. Geoffrion, Mrs. Jenkins, Mrs. Larsen, Mrs. Marelli (arrived at 7:14 PM), Mr. Presutti, Ms. Resnick, Mr. Regan, Dr. Schiller (arrived at 7:08 PM)

ALSO PRESENT: Monica Rowland, Superintendent
Karin Laraway, Board Secretary
Lisa Schneider, Supervisor of Curriculum

ABSENT: Mrs. Bartels

CURRICULUM

Professional development is continuing in writing K-6 language arts. The writing coach meets with the teachers with emphasis on unit development and implementation in the classroom. The writing coach has built a repoire with the staff who are dedicated. In the future the writing coach will be brought in for science and social studies.

Math in Focus PD was held for K-5 teachers. Focus is on the concept of program and to keep the process student centered.

PD on Goggle Apps for Education was held. Starting next year the district will be using Goggle email and moving all files to Goggle.

Ms. Schneider presented information on Project Aspire, and the 3 pronged identification process – CoGat testing, Torrance testing and SIG scores. Also PA is based on creativity, cognitive and task commitment. At OTS, PA is differentiated in PBL. At TES, PA is stand alone, students are pulled out.

Project Aspire is not content driven but process driven.

PARCC – students are being prepared through existing curriculum. There is not over emphasis on the test nor specific test prep. At teachers' meetings, the teachers have been looking at the PARCC tests and what type of things are on the test. Testing begins March 2.

There have been parent concerns about the frequency of Spanish at OTS due to scheduling.

FACILITIES

Generator start up is scheduled for February 18.

FINANCE

Based on administration review and prioritization of the strategic plan, budget will be based on those priorities. BOE members received an enrollment projection for 2015-16, excess surplus that has been budgeted since 2012 and the last three years of ratables for review.

COMMUNICATIONS

Spring Into Fun Community Day flyer has been created. Ms. Resnick will email to BOE members for review and revision.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karin Laraway
Board Secretary