Committee of the Whole – Minutes
September 11, 2014

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. Bartels, Mrs. Geoffrion, Mrs. Jenkins, Mrs. Larsen (arrived at7:45 PM,) Mrs. Marelli, Mr. Regan, Ms. Resnick, Mr. Presutti

ALSO PRESENT: Monica Rowland, Superintendent
Karin Laraway, Board Secretary
Gwen Thornton, NJSBA Field Representative
Todd Schobel, creator ofSTOP it cyberbullying app

ABSENT: Dr. Schiller

PRESENTATION:

Ms. Thornton discussed the Strategic Planning process that the BOE is undertaking. There will be three meetings:

1.) The Superintendent will prepare a "State of the Schools" and participants which include parents, community members, staff, administration and BOE members will discuss the strengths and challenges of the district.
2.) The second meeting will be a vision setting meeting with a clear understanding where the district should go.
3.) During the third meeting the participants will write goals for 3-5 years. The Administration will create action plans based on the goals.

The Superintendent will create a schedule for the Strategic Planning Meetings. The intent is to complete the process by January/February 2015 so that action plans can be budgeted for the 2015-16 school year.

Mr. Schobel and Sgt. Tom Rich presented information on the Stop It app to deter bullying and harrassment. The app would empower students to "stand up and get help."

CURRICULUM

Ms. Schneider updated the BOE on the K-8 assessment plan and curriculum program updates on Writing, Aspire and PBL (Project Based Learning).

FACILITIES

The TEA Little League has requested to plant grass on the infield of the baseball fields at TES. The BOE will approve this request at the September 23 BOE meeting.

The security project at TES will be substantially completed on Friday, September 19. The transfer switch for the generator project was delivered in early September however it was missing a critical part. Without the part, the transfer cannot be made. The part has been ordered with a lead time of 6 weeks.

FINANCE

The BOE reviewed the bills list and motions. The BOE discussed the surplus of $996,989 from the 2013-14 budget . About half of the surplus was from savings in health benefits. The BOE will approve $200,000 being transferred into the capital reserve account and the remainder as tax relief to be budgeted for the 2015-16 school year at the next meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS

Spring Into Fun Community Day is tentatively scheduled for April 18, 2015 from 12 -4 PM. The intent is to showcase the district. Community participation will include the PTA, TAA, TEF, the township fire and police department, etc.

Ms. Rowland will forward a copy of the NHV 2015-16 school calendar to BOE members for review.

Motion made by Mr. Presutti, seconded by Mr. Regan to change the Wednesday, September 24, 2014 BOE regular meeting to Tuesday, September 23, 2014, 7:00 PM in the library of the Old Turnpike School due to Rosh Hashanah beginning at sundown on Wednesday, September 24.

Motion approved on a unanimous voice vote.

The meeting ended at 9:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karin Laraway
Board Secretary