

**Springfield Township School
Jobstown, NJ 08041
Wednesday, February 1, 2012**

Call to Order: A **Special Meeting** of the Springfield Township Board of Education was called to order by Mr. Specca on Wednesday, February 1, 2012, at 6:30 p.m., in the school library.

Roll Call of Members:

James Specca, President – present	John Megariotis -- present
David Reinisch, Vice President -- <i>arrived at 6:35 p.m.</i>	Maggie Payne – <i>arrived 6:40 p.m.</i>
John Ainsworth -- <i>absent</i>	Dennis Schmieder -- present
Lisa Giovanelli -- present	Jennifer Steel – <i>arrived at 6:50 p.m.</i>
Wil Klentzeris -- present	

Others present:

Mr. Joseph Miller, Mr. Edward Kent

Public Notice:

As per the Open Public Meetings Act, NJSA 10:4-6, notice of this special meeting of the Springfield Township Board of Education to be held on Wednesday, February 1, 2012, at 6:30 p.m., in the school library, in Jobstown, New Jersey.

Sent to: Burlington County Times
Board of Education Members
Springfield Township Clerk

Posted: Springfield Township School
Board of Education Office
Springfield Twp Municipal Building, Jobstown, NJ

Pledge of Allegiance:

The President led the Board and the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The public shall be reminded that they should attempt to resolve the problems and/or complaints through initial contact with the appropriate staff. Such matters should only be brought to the Board of Education after all avenues within the administrative chain of command have been exhausted. In addition, items regarding personnel should follow the chain of command and any comments could hold the resident and the Board of Education liable.

Public Comment #1:

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At times, it may appear to members of our audience that the Board of Education takes action with very little, if any, comment and, in many cases, a unanimous vote. Before a matter is placed on the agenda at a public meeting, the administration has thoroughly reviewed the matter and is satisfied that it is ready to be presented to the Board of Education. The matter may have been previously referred to a Board committee for further consideration. When all are satisfied that it is ready for Board action, the agenda is delivered to Board members five days prior to their meeting. Board members preview the agenda items and discuss questionable items with the Superintendent or Business Administrator so that when they attend the meeting, there is usually no further need to question the issue. Only then is it voted upon as an action item at a public meeting.

RESOLUTION

**Establishing the Election of Members of the Springfield Board of Education
As the First Tuesday after the First Monday in November**

WHEREAS, P.L. 2011, c. 202 authorizes changing the election date of school board members from the third Tuesday in April to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November (the General Election); and

WHEREAS, such action requires the adoption of a resolution by a school district or the municipality or municipalities constituting such district, as set forth in P.L. 2011, c. 202; and

WHEREAS, P.L. 2011, c. 202 requires that the change to a November election remain in effect for four years; and

WHEREAS, P. L. 2011, c. 202 eliminates the annual voter referendum on the proposed general fund tax levy (i.e., the base budget which is at or below the statutory tax levy cap) in school districts where board of education members are elected at the General Election; and

WHEREAS, P. L. 2011, c. 202 requires that an additional general fund tax levy proposal (i.e., for an expenditure in excess of the tax levy cap) be presented to voters as a separate question at the General Election; and

WHEREAS, the Springfield Board of Education believes that the financial interest of its constituents is safeguarded by the state's tax levy cap and the thorough review of the proposed school budget by the Executive County Superintendent and the Executive County School Business Administrator; and

WHEREAS, the Springfield Board of Education believes that more citizens will participate in the selection of school board members at the General Election than on the third Tuesday in

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April and that the higher level of participation will foster positive interest in our public schools; and

WHEREAS, the Springfield Board of Education is committed to the non-partisan status of school board membership and the non-partisan conduct of school elections, and believes this principle will not be compromised by conducting board member elections in November.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to P.L. 2011, c. 202, the Springfield Board of Education changes the annual election date for school board members from the third Tuesday in April to the November General Election, beginning in 2012, and be it further

RESOLVED, that pursuant to P.L. 2011, c. 202, the annual organization meeting of the Springfield Board of Education will take place in the first week of January following the November General Election and that the board of education's next organization meeting will take place in the first week of January 2013; and be it further

RESOLVED, that pursuant to P.L. 2011, c. 202, members of the Springfield Board of Education whose terms would have expired by May 2012 will continue to serve in office until the January 2013 organization meeting; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution be transmitted to the Burlington County Clerk; the Burlington County Board of Elections and/or Superintendent of Elections; the Springfield municipal clerk(s) and school board secretary or secretaries; the Department of State, Division of Elections; the Department of Education's Executive County Superintendent; and the Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution also be provided to the New Jersey School Boards Association and New Jersey State League of Municipalities.

Motion: Giovanelli

Second: Schmieder

**Roll Call Vote: Giovanelli, Klentzeris, Payne, Schmieder, Reinisch, Specca – Yes
Megariotis - No**

Approval: 6 - 1

Public Comment #2:

Motion to Enter Executive Session: Time: 6:43 p.m.

Purpose: Building Program Options

Motion: Giovanelli

Second: Megariotis

Approval: 7-0

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Motion to return to Regular Session: Time: 6:57 p.m.

Motion: Giovanelli

Second: Payne

Approval: 8-0

Motion to adjourn: _____

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Motion: Giovanelli

Second: Payne

Approval: 8-0

Respectfully submitted,

Edward D. Kent
Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary