

***MEETING OF THE LAKEWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2009,
AT 8:00 P.M. IN THE MEETING ROOM AT 1771 MADISON AVENUE, LAKEWOOD, NEW JERSEY 08701***

Mr. Ostreicher, Board President, called the meeting to order at 8:25 p.m. Cynthia Romano, Administrative Assistant to the Board, read the following notice:

SUNSHINE LAW

***Sunshine
Law***

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 231, of the Laws of 1976 (THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT), Mr. Finger notified the public that notice of the date, time, location and agenda of this meeting, to the extent known, was provided at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the commencement of this meeting in the following manner:

1. By posting such notice on the public announcement board of the Lakewood Board of Education Offices, and the Lakewood Township Municipal Building.
2. By mailing such notice to the offices of the Asbury Park Press and the Tri-Town News.
3. By filing such notice with the Board Secretary.
4. By mailing such notice to all individuals who requested and paid for a copy of same.

ROLL CALL:

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Mrs. Gonzalez, Mr. Grunhut,
Mrs. Miccio, Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Tift, Mr. Ostreicher

Board Members Absent: Mr. Gonter, Mr. Neumann,
Mr. Silver

Also Attending: Lydia R. Silva, Superintendent
William T. Andersen, Assistant
Superintendent, Robert S. Finger,
Business Administrator,
Michael I. Inzelbuch, Esq.

***Also
Attending***

Mr. Inzelbuch – “I want to apologize, I have a family matter that is urgent and must leave my cell phone on. The minutes should reflect that Mr. Silver was here for

Mr. Inzelbuch

closed session.”

RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC

Public Recog.

Pastor Wilson – “Good evening everyone. Before I go on to what I want to say, I want to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. About two meetings ago, we had the students here from ACE. They did a presentation. Shortly after that we got a complaint from the very same students about cold lunches and also not having gym. They are pretty much just sitting around and there’s a lot inactivity going on there. It is bad enough that they are sitting in trailers. I don’t know if there is any plan to get those kids out of the trailers, but at least let’s try to service them at the same level as the other students in their building. If you guys could actually follow up on that I would appreciate it.”

Pastor Wilson

Mr. Tift – “Which school is that?”

Mr. Tift

Pastor Wilson – “The ACE Program.”

Pastor Wilson

Mr. Waters – “I’ve got a couple of questions, but before I do I want to reinforce the fact that we believe that education is a civil right and a bridge to a child’s future. In case sometimes you guys forget that. I’m interested in information concerning the Perkins Grant and I hope that you respond to me after I finish. I’d like to know if there is an effort being made to replace retired African American teachers with African American teachers. So that we can have teachers in the district that look like the students. Especially that I am advocating for the Amistad legislation to be part of this curriculum. I would also like to know if you have a rule on this Board about missed meetings of Board members. Is there is a requirement? If not, I think there should be a requirement and this is the third meeting that I’ve raised a question about the appointment of the liaison to special ed for public school students. I’m very serious about that. I’d like to hear some kind of response to that. Now I compliment the school in terms of doing something about the Amistad legislation and I’m saddened by the fact that it took me six or seven years to get us to where we are now. Because if we go back and pull out minutes, I’ve beat this drum and I’ve seen the nodding. We need to leave this room when people raise legitimate concerns with doing something about them and not the appeasement in terms of nodding. What’s happening to students in this public school is going to be taken a lot

Mr. Waters

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*Public Recog.
Cont.***

more seriously. Not that it hasn't been and there's going to be some accountability. And this accountability starts right here with the people that I'm looking at. Because you are responsible for what happens to these students and I'm going to be looking you in the eye, pointing to you and holding you accountable. And I'll be coming here with my camera equipment in the future. I will be photographing you and if you go on U-tube, I hope you have a nice smile because you can see yourself. Thank you."

Mr. Grunhut – "Through the Chair. I'm just not sure what you will be taking pictures of. Of us talking or what?"

Mr. Grunhut

Mr. Thomas – "Through the Chair. I have been hearing at nauseum for the last two years and I think at one point we did get some type of update about Amistad legislation. As recently as this year, I began taking a class on civil issues and I've got to tell you that I went through Lakewood Schools from the beginning to the end and every single day of this class was like a brand new education."

Mr. Thomas

Mr. Inzelbuch asked the gentleman filming the meeting to stop and stated the policy had to be reviewed.

Mr. Inzelbuch

Mr. Thomas – "I would like to find out through the administrators about the Amistad bill. I know we had this discussion before, but it slips my mind. What are we doing? What have we done? What type of ways has the Amistad legislation affected our current curriculum?"

Mr. Thomas

Ms. Silva – "I know that the State Department of Education has reiterated and reissued the demand that the Amistad curriculum be incorporated in the World History and United States History curriculum and we are in the midst of looking at that. In fact, Mr. Waters is part of the group and we will review it together. And then we have to determine how we will incorporate it next year because it requires scheduling changes. It's pretty monumental, but we have to do it and we are determined to do it."

Ms. Silva

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Mr. Thomas – "I only say this because you only just came into the position. It's not a new conversation so I am very glad to hear that we are making conscious efforts and I'm not even sure that each and every one of us sitting on the Board are very aware of exactly what the

**Public Recog.
Cont.**

Mr. Thomas

Amistad legislation is. And it's true desire to be infused within our curriculum. I don't think we all know. I think we should know because what I was trying to elude to is that I got all of my education here and then I went to a class and they began to teach me history and all I can say is I can't believe I never heard that. I can't believe I didn't know that. And it was mostly history about African Americans that I was clueless about. I felt wow if this is continuing to go on I hope this is the type of legislation that's working to eliminate that."

Mr. Inzelbuch – "If we could ask the administration to e-mail to or send to all the Board members before the next meeting the Amistad legislation. When this was brought up several years ago in fact we got the legislation and it was given out to all Board members, but perhaps a quick refresher be sent out before the Thanksgiving break. The DOE does have information on it. It's on the website. The Board so directs the Superintendent. All in favor."

Mr. Inzelbuch

All members present agreed.

Mr. Orville – "Good evening. I just wanted to follow up on the question from last week and the African American Society account."

Mr. Orville

Ms. Silva – "I will have the information on December 2 as directed by the Board."

Ms. Silva

Mr. Inzelbuch – "I do have something to share with the Board. Last meeting you authorized me to contact the township regarding an agenda item, a playground at the Clarke Annex. The letter was sent to Mayor Singer today." Mr. Inzelbuch read the letter.

Mr. Inzelbuch

Discussion arose regarding the questions asked by Mr. Waters.

Mr. Inzelbuch – "We had a resolution with the State regarding the last discrimination back several years ago.

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*Public Recog.
Cont.***

There was a lawsuit filed by the ACLU and the New Jersey Department of Education which I might add was dismissed with prejudice regarding alleged discrimination. As part of the agreement and my advice to the Board was to agree to this portion. There is a group called SPAN which is a public special education advocacy agency which works throughout the

state. SPAN was to come to the district and to help advocate for children. Nevertheless SPAN as far as I know has not actively been a participant in the district despite the district agreeing. Which in my opinion they didn't have to. But we did agree several years ago. The fact is they did not show recently. Ms. Silva and Ms. Cucuro met with representatives of SPAN and again threw out the olive branch to have representatives of SPAN which I believe is a state-wide advocacy group. In the back of every IEP it's supposed to say if you have any questions call SPAN.

Regarding African American teachers who are retiring I will defer to the administrators to hopefully answer that question."

Ms. Silva – "Mr. Waters as you know we will always look for the most qualified, but I understand the spirit of what you are indicating and within the parameters of the law, we will be attempting to find the most qualified people to fill the positions that are vacant."

Ms. Silva

Mr. Inzelbuch – "Through the Chair. I would like to give Ms. Silva the benefit since others are not. We did actively several years ago attempt to recruit people at traditional black colleges. We actually paid someone and anyone who recalls this.....This person was charged with actively seeking qualified candidates and I don't know what ever happened to it. Perhaps you would like to consider that again by December 2 or the meeting thereafter.

Mr. Inzelbuch

Regarding Perkins Grant, Mr. Waters is asking for more information. Again since no one is responding to you I with the Board's permission will take the liberty of doing that. The Perkins Grant which I have become familiar with over the last month is a grant that is applied for with the New Jersey Department of Education. The grant is

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Public Recog.

approximately \$191,000 and is funding for vocational like programs including but not limited to ceramics, ROTC and to other such activities. The district applies yearly. I was also told how good we do with this grant by an employee who is involved. Allegedly other districts in the area get \$30,000 to \$40,000 and we get \$191,000. This grant is not limited to public school children."

Mr. Ostreicher – "We have a few addendums for the

Mr. Ostreicher

agenda. I would ask Mr. Finger to please read them.”

Mr. Finger – “There are three addendums for this evening.

Mr. Finger

- Approval of payment to Neptune Board of Education in the amount of \$15,673.40 for transporting a student in a New Jersey mentor home located in Neptune for the 2008-09 school year.
- Amend Superintendent’s Item #13 previously approved November 18, 2009 to delete “*In addition, should additional facilities(modulars) be required the district will render payment for same in accord with State guidelines.*”and to read as follows:
Provide instructional services not to exceed \$2,934,351.62 and administrative cost of 5% of instructional services provided with the understanding that the non public schools have explicit right to utilize instructional dollars for professional development and parental involvement. Catapult rate structure for ARRA Title I is as follows pending Department of Education approval of EWEG application
- Approval of the following people to utilize district cell phones with all bills paid by the Board:
Robert Finger, Business Administrator
Richard Ogle, Computer Technician

Those are the only addendums for the evening.”

Mr. Tift – “I have a question. The cell phones are for district use only?”

Mr. Tift

Mr. Finger – “Absolutely.”

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Mr. Finger

MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA INCLUDING ADDENDA AS READ

Motion To Approve Agenda

Mr. Gonzalez moved, seconded to approve the agenda including the addenda as read.

ROLL CALL:

Mrs. Gonzalez

YES: Mrs. Gonzalez, Mr. Grunhut, Mrs. Miccio,
Mr. Thomas, Mr. Tift, Mr. Ostreicher

NO: Mr. Thomas to addendum re Amend Supt.
Item #13 from November 18

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION PASSED

**REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
BOARD SECRETARY/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR**

Bus. Items

A. Approve a revision to the resolution regarding the
2009 – 2010 Perkins Grant previously approved
at the meeting held on November 18, 2009 as follows:

Perkins

Authorize the Chief School Administrator to amend
the 2009 – 2010 Perkins grant to allow for participation
of non-public school students in Perkins funded pro-
grams in accordance with U.S. Department of Education
code and regulations in the amount of \$30,000.

B. Accept the award of Even Start grant funds in the
amount of \$103,250 for the 2009-2010 school year
as per the Notification of Grant Award. (Attachment A)

Even Start

C. Approval of payment to Neptune Board of Education
in the amount of \$15,673.40 for transporting a student
in a New Jersey mentor home located in Neptune for
the 2008-09 school year.

***Neptune Bd.
of Ed.***

D. Amend Superintendent's Item #13 previously approved
November 18, 2009 to delete "*In addition, should
additional facilities(modulars)be required the district
will render payment for same in accord with State
guidelines.*"and to read as follows:

***Amend
Supt. #13
11/18/09***

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Provide instructional services not to exceed
\$2,934,351.62 and administrative cost of 5%
of instructional services provided with the
understanding that the non public schools have
explicit right to utilize instructional dollars for
professional development and parental involve-
ment. Catapult rate structure for ARRA Title I
is as follows pending Department of Education
approval of EWEG application

***Bus. Items
Cont.***

E. Approval of the following people to utilize dis-
trict cell phones with all bills paid by the Board:

Cell phones

Robert Finger, Business Administrator
Richard Ogle, Computer Technician

OLD BUSINESS

Old Bus.

None this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

New Bus.

None this meeting.

Mr. Inzelbuch – “The Board needs to go into closed session. It’s now 8:43 p.m. and if action is taken we will return by 9:15 p.m.”

Mr. Inzelbuch

MOTION TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ex. Session

Mr. Ostreicher moved, seconded by Mrs. Gonzalez to move into executive session.

ROLL CALL:

Roll Call

YES: Mrs. Gonzalez, Mr. Grunhut, Mrs. Miccio,
Mr. Thomas, Mr. Tift, Mr. Ostreicher

NO: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION PASSED

EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, known as the Open Public Meetings Act, provides that a public body may not exclude the public from any meeting to discuss any matter described therein until the public body has first adopted a Resolution; and

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WHEREAS, the Board of Education, of the Township of Lakewood has determined that the following items must be discussed in closed session and that the public must be excluded from said deliberations; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education, of the Township of Lakewood has determined that the subject matter of the closed discussion falls within those matters described in subsection 7b of the Open Public Meetings Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF

LAKEWOOD, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, that

1. The Board of Education go into closed session to discuss the following subject matters:

Personnel

which subject matters constitute a subject matter described in sub-section 7b of the Open Public Meetings Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT, THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LAKEWOOD will disclose to the public the subject matter of said closed discussions, as soon as the matters have been resolved, and the determination can be disclosed to the public.

The Board moved into Executive Session at 8:45 p.m.

CALL BACK TO ORDER

Call Back To Order

Mr. Ostreicher called the meeting back to order at 9:30 p.m.

Board Members Present: Mrs. Gonzalez, Mr. Grunhut, Mrs. Miccio, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Tift, Mr. Ostreicher

Mr. Ostreicher – “The Board will not be taking any action but I would like to mention that when the Board goes out to closed session, when they return, there is no public participation from the microphone on the second comeback.”

Mr. Ostreicher

MOTION TO ADJOURN

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Motion To Adjourn

Mr. Thomas moved, seconded by Mr. Grunhut to adjourn the meeting.

ROLL CALL:

Roll Call

YES: Mrs. Gonzalez, Mr. Grunhut, Mrs. Miccio, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Tift, Mr. Ostreicher

NO: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION PASSED

Mr. Ostreicher adjourned the meeting at 9:32 p.m.

Mtg. Adj.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT S. FINGER
BOARD SECRETARY/
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

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