

February 25, 2013

The business meeting of the Board of Education of the Borough of New Providence was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on February 25, 2013, at the New Providence High School/Middle School Media Center, 35 Pioneer Drive, by the Board President, Mr. Wolak.

Present on roll call were William Dibble, Robert Dinerman, David Hasenkopf, Ira Krauss, Adam Smith, Susan Vogel, and John Wolak. Also present were Dr. David Miceli, Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Deborah Feinberg, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services; James E. Testa, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary; Sandra Searing, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Supervision; and 35 members of the public.

Mr. Wolak led in the salute to the flag.

Mr. Wolak read the following statement:

This is a public meeting of the Board of Education of the Borough of New Providence. Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with PL 1975, Chapter 231, in that an annual notice was made in conformance with Section 13 of the Act.

Whenever the business of the Board requires it to convene to Closed Session, the session will begin no later than 10:00 p.m. At the conclusion of the need for Closed Session, the Board will reconvene to the public portion of the meeting. At that time the Board will complete any other business that may be before it and the public will then be given an opportunity to be heard before the meeting is adjourned.

The following notice was posted on February 4, 2013:

The New Providence Board of Education Regular Meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 28, 2013 at 7:30 P.M. in the New Providence High/Middle School Media Center, 35 Pioneer Drive, **has been cancelled and rescheduled for Monday, February 25, 2013 at 7:30 P.M.** in the New Providence High/Middle School Media Center, 35 Pioneer Drive.

Mr. Wolak welcomed everyone then turned the meeting over to Dr. Miceli.

Superintendent's Report

1. Dr. Miceli reported that as of January 31st, enrollment is up by 9 students. Enrollment at Allen W. Roberts School is 649, 650 at Salt Brook School, 356 at the Middle School, and 617 at the High School, with 42 out-of-district students, totaling 2,314 students.
2. Dr. Miceli reported that Kindergarten registration is scheduled for March 5th at the elementary schools. Details are posted on the District website.
3. Dr. Miceli reported that he copied the Board members on a memo he received from Mrs. Barry, Borough Clerk. The memo proposed moving the election polling locations from the schools to the Senior Center and firehouse.

Dr. Miceli turned the meeting over to Mrs. Searing to present the District Curriculum Report.

District Curriculum Report

Mrs. Searing presented an update on the personalized learning initiative that began three weeks ago. She explained that the Common Core State Standards Initiative (CCSS) is having a major impact on curriculum and instruction across the country, and is arguably the most important initiative affecting education today. CCSS provides a framework in English/language arts and mathematics for what students need to know in order to succeed in both college and careers. To effect a transition from NJCCCS to CCSS, New Jersey has provided districts with a phased in schedule of mandatory implementation. With the exception of CCSS in Grades 6-8 mathematics, the transition has been completed, and all math and language arts curriculum in New Jersey is now required to align with Common Core. Additionally, as with any new initiative, the new standards are complex, include a range of new concepts and requirements, and will usher in a host of new instructional strategies and assessments. Under CCSS E/LA requirements, teaching and assessment of reading and writing is no longer the exclusive responsibility of language arts teachers. A significant portion of CCSS deals with informational literacy, and specifically literacy in the content areas outside of the language arts classroom. Students are now required to engage in close reading, analysis and writing related to mathematics, science, social studies, and the arts. The new standards continue to focus on foundational skills, but treat reading and writing as an equal partner with content. The standards require a thorough grounding in content area non-fiction, along with an emphasis on close, critical reading of complex texts, careful analysis, and the integration of evidence into writing. The critical point in the new standards, however, is the assessment of CCSS content area literacy requirements through NJASK and PARCC testing, which adds a heightened sense of urgency to district implementation and student learning. Furthermore, we have been closely watching the development of CCSS and PARCC and have carefully prepared for this transition. Our Curriculum Council and administrators are taking the lead in new standards and assessments, spending a significant amount of time discussing informational literacy as well as studying the projected format and timeline of PARCC. As we implement the transition, it is clear that our Phase initiative has provided the District with a strong instructional foundation that supports the critical thinking and problem solving required in Common Core. Our curriculum is aligned with required standards, we continue to emphasize the importance of challenging, standards driven, authentic tasks in classroom instruction, and all departments are working with content-area literacy. We are carefully choosing resources, including new technologies such as iPads, which support CCSS and align with 21st Century skills. Our district developed common assessments are increasingly focused on standard-based problem solving and critical reading, which will be part of the new PARCC multi-state assessments of student achievement. And to ensure our classroom instruction is aligned with new standards for teaching and learning, our newly approved evaluation documents clearly align with the Common Core, 21st Century Skills, and the elements of Phase. She added that while we anticipate that there will be many changes in Common Core and PARCC over the next few years, we will continue to focus on giving our students the best education possible, and, at the same time, meeting all requirements and mandates.

Mrs. Searing turned the meeting over to the presenters.

Mr. Casarico, High School Principal, gave an overview of the iPad learning initiative. The launching of this initiative went very smoothly. He thanked the Technology Department, especially Mrs. Anderson, Technology Department Head, for the time she spent meeting with the parents and working with the students to create Apple and Google accounts and much more. He further thanked the Board members for their support, the administrators, and a special thanks to Board member Mr. Hasenkopf, for attending the meetings and providing a great introduction to the project.

Mrs. Gartner, Math Department Head, discussed the math core content in detail. The program was built from Common Core with rigorous standards based on State standards. There are approximately 25 different domains throughout the Common Core. Curriculum for the middle school will be written this summer to update the Common Core. Teachers are rewriting common assessments. She stated that the students are using Apps for algebra 2 and geometry. The iPad initiative keeps the students involved and creates spontaneity.

Two students, who are presently using the iPads, demonstrated examples of their everyday use in the classroom. They included note taking and organization, along with scheduling, agenda applications and keeping track of their homework.

Mr. Tracey, History Department Head, discussed the new App the District will be purchasing for next year. Students can branch out to make teaching more effective and efficient. The App contains interactive video clips which make history come to life. He found a balance with the interactive textbooks and American eBooks. Note cards and study aids are built into this function allowing students to customize their work. These are great, affordable educational tools. It's a great challenge for the students and staff.

Mr. Keaney, Science Department Head, discussed the different resources developed by the teachers for physics and AP physiology. He noted that the last four to five years they have been purchasing online versions of all biology textbooks. We also provided resources for students and resource packets in physics. We are moving away from the textbook. This year, an App biology course changed things dramatically. We plan to purchase the eBook. Mr. Keaney noted that although the seniors do not have iPads, the New Providence Education Foundation Grant provided twelve iPads for them to use in the classroom.

Mrs. Searing stated that the first initiative started six years ago. Two years ago, we began to discuss and research grants. While this initiative is three years old, the last two years have been intense. Teachers have had the iPads since last summer. Mrs. Anderson, knowing the importance of moving forward with this initiative, gave free instructions to the teachers during the summer. The presenters and department heads have worked tirelessly on this initiative. The Professional Development has been turn-key for other teachers. The District is meeting all common core standards with the iPads, and will continue to exceed the standards. In a couple of years, there will be new online assessments, which the students will be able to take on their iPads. We will be developing common assessments and practice for the students. Both teachers and students continue to learn. The District is well positioned to move forward into the future. Mrs. Searing thanked the staff and students for their presentations and collaborative efforts.

Mr. Wolak thanked Mrs. Searing and the staff and students for their comprehensive presentations. He opened the floor to the Board members for any questions. Mr. Wolak inquired about the capacity and ability of the band width to accommodate 450 iPads. Mrs. Anderson responded that while a little tweaking may be needed, it is working well. Students are automatically connected. We are also able to provide video and audio. We are well positioned for the infrastructure. We have made tremendous strides. Mr. Wolak publicly thanked Mrs. Anderson for her hard work, and for being an integral part of the success of this initiative. Mr. Krauss commented that it is important for the public to know about the common core standards. This is used in 45 states. It is not a State program. It's nationwide. Dr. Miceli thanked the presenters, administration, department heads, staff, and the Board for the opportunity to put these resources in place these past two years. This initiative has been two-fold: infrastructure and instructional. He commented that this device has been very helpful for the at-risk students. This has been a tremendous undertaking with a successful outcome. Dr. Miceli is looking forward to continued success with this initiative. Mr. Wolak inquired about the iPad carts plan. Dr. Miceli explained there are a couple of carts being used in the middle school science department. Mr. Wolak asked how the personalized initiative affects the need to purchase additional computers. Mr. Testa responded it has no affect on the replacement of computers. Dr. Miceli added that the District will continue to replace and reallocate computers and laptops. It is built into the budget. Mr. Wolak added that there is still a seven year lifecycle on computers and laptops mandated by the State. Dr. Miceli and Mr. Testa agreed. Mr. Wolak applauded Mrs. Searing, the Technology Department, administration, department heads and staff for their hard work and efforts.

Public Hearing

Mr. Wolak opened the meeting to the public at 8:37 p.m. (on specific agenda items).

There being no comments from the public, the President declared the public portion of the meeting closed at 8:38 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Vogel moved to approve the minutes as follows:

Regular/Reorganization Meeting January 3, 2013

Seconded by: Mr. Krauss

Roll Call Vote:

Yea Mr. Dibble

Yea Mr. Krauss

Yea Mr. Dinerman

Abstain Mr. Smith

Yea Mr. Hasenkopf

Yea Mrs. Vogel

Yea Mr. Wolak

O'Neill Memorial Scholarship Donation Approved

- 6. Accept the generous donation to the John O'Neill Memorial Scholarship Fund from Mr. and Mrs. James Prunesti, in the amount of \$50.00.

Seconded by: Mr. Krauss

Mr. Smith reviewed the Finance items. He was grateful for the continued support from the community with regards to the scholarship funds.

Roll Call Vote:

<u>Yea</u> Mr. Dibble	<u>Yea</u> Mr. Krauss
<u>Yea</u> Mr. Dinerman	<u>Yea</u> Mr. Smith
<u>Yea</u> Mr. Hasenkopf	<u>Yea</u> Mrs. Vogel
<u>Yea</u> Mr. Wolak	

Facilities Actions

Mr. Smith, Committee Chairperson, moved to approve Items 1 through 3 as listed below:

CHA Approved

- 1. Approve the following resolution:

Based on the results of the energy audit request for proposal process that was approved by the New Jersey Clean Energy Program, the New Providence School District selects Clough Harbour and Associates, 6 Campus Drive, Parsippany, N.J. 07054, to complete an energy audit at a cost of \$21,503.00. The fee will be reimbursed by the New Jersey Clean Energy Program once completed and required documents are submitted.

NP Athletic Booster Club Donation Approved

- 2. Accept the generous donation of \$5,500.00 from the New Providence Athletic Booster Club, to be used to purchase an indoor batting cage for The High School Athletic Department baseball, softball, and golf teams.

Disposal at HS Guidance Office Approved

- 3. Approve the disposal of one Guidance Office couch at the High School that is worn and broken, and no longer necessary for school use.

Seconded by: Mr. Krauss

Mr. Hasenkopf reviewed the Education items, specifically the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying recommendations.

Roll Call Vote:

<u>Yea</u> Mr. Dibble	<u>Yea</u> Mr. Krauss
<u>Yea</u> Mr. Dinerman	<u>Yea</u> Mr. Smith
<u>Yea</u> Mr. Hasenkopf	<u>Yea</u> Mrs. Vogel
<u>Yea</u> Mr. Wolak	

Personnel Actions

Mr. Dibble, Committee Chairperson, moved to approve Items 1 through 5 as listed below:

2012/2013 Personnel Appointments Chapter 116 Approved

1. Approve the appointment of the following people with the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools subject to the requirements of Chapter 116 of P.L. 1986 for the 2012/2013 school year:
 - a. Linda Klauber, long-term substitute teacher, \$28,997 (base \$64,712), effective 2/14/13 thru 6/30/13 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
 - b. Rachele Muglia, teacher aide, \$8,225 (base \$19,479), effective 3/1/13 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
 - c. Christine Murphy, girls spring track head coach, \$8,039
 - d. Russell Anderson, boys lacrosse first assistant, \$5,194
 - e. Nicole Torre, volunteer girls lacrosse coach
 - f. Morgan Guest, long term substitute teacher, effective 2/25/13 thru 4/25/13, to be paid on a per diem basis of \$278.77 (prorated Step 3, Column I, base of \$51,572)
 - g. Russell Anderson, long term substitute teacher aide, effective 2/25/13 thru 4/25/13, \$14.27/hr
 - h. Lauren Sagendorf, teacher aide, \$8,658 (base \$19,479), effective 2/25/13
 - i. Carolyn Sonnet, teacher aide (3.5 hrs/day), \$3,995 (base \$19,479), effective 2/25/13
 - j. Gina Bellitti, 7th & 8th grade math remediation class instructor (after school), February thru April, 2-3 hrs/wk, \$54.87/hr
 - k. Cathleen White, 7th & 8th grade math remediation class instructor (after school), February thru April, 2-3 hrs/wk, \$54.87/hr
 - l. Marla Malinauskas, 7th & 8th grade language arts remediation class instructor (after school), February thru April, 2-3 hrs/wk, \$54.87/hr
 - m. Kristen Schmidt, 7th & 8th grade language arts remediation class instructor (after school), February thru April, 2-3 hrs/wk, \$54.87/hr
 - n. Anna Rita Falco, 3rd to 5th NJASK math/language arts remediation class instructor (after school), March thru April, 2-4 hrs/wk, \$54.87/hr

- o. Diana Efros, 3rd to 5th NJASK math/language arts remediation class instructor (after school), March thru April, 2-4 hrs/wk, \$54.87/hr
- p. Kristin Witte, 3rd to 5th NJASK math/language arts remediation class instructor (after school), March thru April, 2-4 hrs/wk, \$54.87/hr
- q. Bonnie Nodes, 3rd to 5th NJASK math/language arts remediation class instructor (after school), March thru April, 2-4 hrs/wk, \$54.87/hr
- r. Jessica Malangone, 3rd to 5th NJASK math/language arts remediation class instructor (after school), March thru April, 2-4 hrs/wk, \$54.87/hr
- s. Lisa Hopkins, 3rd to 5th NJASK math/language arts remediation class instructor (after school), March thru April, 2-4 hrs/wk, \$54.87/hr
- t. Nicole Magarino, 3rd to 5th NJASK math/language arts remediation class instructor (after school), March thru April, 2-4 hrs/wk, \$54.87/hr
- u. James Vopal, 3rd to 5th NJASK math/language arts remediation class instructor (after school), March thru April, 2-4 hrs/wk, \$54.87/hr
- v. Catherine Cleenput, 3rd to 5th NJASK math/language arts remediation class instructor (after school), March thru April, 2-4 hrs/wk, \$54.87/hr
- w. Carolyn Walsh, 3rd to 5th NJASK math/language arts remediation class instructor (after school), March thru April, 2-4 hrs/wk, \$54.87/hr
- x. Joanne Catlett, 3rd to 5th NJASK math/language arts remediation class instructor (after school), March thru April, 2-4 hrs/wk, \$54.87/hr
- y. Scott Shepperd, volunteer boys lacrosse
- z. Kathleen Callahan, substitute teacher/teacher aide/secretary
- aa. Christine Demareski, substitute teacher/teacher aide
- bb. Nadine Geoffroy, substitute teacher/teacher aide/secretary
- cc. Kevin O'Connell, substitute teacher
- dd. Matthew Pitarresi, substitute teacher
- ee. Joseph Pulice, substitute teacher
- ff. Elizabeth Spiegel, substitute teacher/teacher aide
- gg. Mary Canete, substitute nurse
- hh. Sandra Valerio, substitute teacher/teacher aide

Revision Approved

- 2. Approve the following revision for the 2012/2013 school year:
 - a. Corey Arnold, from girls spring track head coach, \$8,039, to boys spring track head coach, \$8,039

Starr-Talsmat Unpaid Maternity Leave Approved

- 3. Approve the request for unpaid maternity leave for Jennifer Starr-Talsmat, teacher, under state and federal Family Leave Acts for a period of twelve weeks commencing 6/6/13 and ending 11/5/13 with continued health insurance benefits pursuant to law. Approve an extended leave pursuant to Article X of the Agreement between the Board and the NPEA, from 11/6/13 through and including 6/30/14. (Based on 6/1/13 due date. Dates subject to adjustment by actual birth.)

Rescinded Appointment Approved

- 4. Rescind the following appointment for the 2012/2013 school year:
 - a. Nicola Zipeto, girls spring track first assistant

Resignations Approved

- 5. Accept the resignations of the following employees:
 - a. Carolyn Sonnet, playground/lunchroom aide, effective 2/24/13
 - b. Lauren Sagendorf, playground/lunchroom aide, effective 2/24/13

Seconded by: Mr. Dinerman

Mr. Dibble gave a breakdown of the Personnel appointments and reviewed the Personnel items. Dr. Miceli also commented on the Personnel items.

Roll Call Vote:

<u>Yea</u> Mr. Dibble	<u>Yea</u> Mr. Krauss
<u>Yea</u> Mr. Dinerman	<u>Yea</u> Mr. Smith
<u>Yea</u> Mr. Hasenkopf	<u>Yea</u> Mrs. Vogel
<u>Yea</u> Mr. Wolak	

Board Policy Actions

Mrs. Vogel moved to approve Items 1 and 2 as listed below:

Bylaws/Policies/Regulations Approved on Second Reading

- 1. Approve the following Bylaws and Policies on second reading:

Bylaws and Policies:

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| Policy No. 2468 | Independent Educational Evaluations (New)
(Mr. Hasenkopf) |
| Policy No. 7441 | Electronic Surveillance on District Property and on
School Grounds (Revised)
(Mr. Smith) |

Bylaws/Policies/Regulations Approved on First Reading

- 2. Approve the following Bylaws and Policies on first reading:

Bylaws and Policies:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Policy No. 6480
(Mandated) | Purchase of Food Supplies (Revised)
(Mr. Smith) |
| Policy No. 8505
(Mandated) | School Nutrition (Revised)
(Mr. Smith) |

Seconded by: Mr. Smith

Mrs. Vogel commented on the two mandated policies on second reading, and two policies in first reading.

Roll Call Vote:

<u>Yea</u> Mr. Dibble	<u>Yea</u> Mr. Krauss
<u>Yea</u> Mr. Dinerman	<u>Yea</u> Mr. Smith
<u>Yea</u> Mr. Hasenkopf	<u>Yea</u> Mrs. Vogel
<u>Yea</u> Mr. Wolak	

Committee Reports

1. Curriculum, Instruction and Technology:

Mr. Hasenkopf noted that the committee met this morning to review the curriculum report. He thanked Mrs. Searing for her excellent report. District class sizes were also discussed.

2. Finance, Facilities and Safety/Security:

Mr. Smith reported that the Committee has had meetings about the budget. They are comfortable with the status of the budget. They are presently preparing for the Public Hearing scheduled for March 21st at 7:30 p.m. in the HS/MS Cafeteria. The Board is looking forward to getting approval of the Tentative Budget from the County. Dr. Miceli commented that we should be receiving state aid numbers within the next couple of days. Mr. Wolak asked what was expected from the State. Mr. Testa anticipated that the state aid would remain flat. Mr. Smith also reported on the process of the Principal negotiations. Mr. Testa noted that bids for the bleachers are due this week.

3. Personnel, Management and Communication:

Nothing additional to report at this time.

Old Business

Nothing to discuss at this time.

New Business

Nothing to discuss at this time.

Public Hearing

Mr. Wolak opened the meeting to the public at 8:48 p.m.

Ms. Turner
12 Colony Ct.

Expressed concerns about class sizes at Salt Brook School. class size, and would like to have a robust discussion about it with creative solutions. She noted that the enrollment report does not reference State numbers. In her research, she found that the State average class size for 2nd and 4th grades is 21. Salt Brook School currently has 25 students in 2nd grade classroom, and 27 in 4th grade. She commented that the change in the curriculum is good and more challenging. She is concerned with the quality of education the students are receiving because of the large class sizes.

Ms. Covello
110 Elkwood Ave.

Seconded Ms. Turner's comments. She inquired about the high school class sizes. She reviewed the school's policy on class sizes.

Dr. Miceli responded the high school is a different situation with different courses and levels.

Ms. Covello noted that more people are moving into New Providence for the schools. She added that if more students move into town, we are already at our maximum. She suggested lowering the current class size and questioned the Boards' plan?

Dr. Miceli responded that for the past nine years most families said they moved into New Providence because of the schools. He is very pleased with the reputation of New Providence schools and the way the Board has handled things. The Board put a secondary policy into place, that if we meet the maximum class size in one elementary school, the new students would go into the other elementary school. We instituted that practice last year and continue this year. Dr. Miceli assured her that once maximum capacity is met, no other student will be enrolled in that class. Dr. Miceli stated that we have experienced this in the past and are constantly monitoring and evaluating it. He noted that there have been no dramatic changes in student achievement. Also, because the Department of Education has raised their expectations on assessments, we have to assume that scores may decrease across the State. However, we are not seeing scores will not decrease because of class size. New Providence scores have been above our DFG.

We will continue to monitor the results of assessments. Mrs. Hansen, Principal of Allen W. Roberts School, commented that they have dealt with large class sizes and 5th and 6th grade scores are outstanding. Dr. Miceli added that this process includes looking at the policy and at the facilities. It's not a simple fix to add an extra section or hire another teacher. About six years ago, we added onto the elementary schools. We worked hard to develop a plan to provide that space for District programs. Shifting the policy now would create a systemic change for other classes such as music or the arts, or special education classrooms. We must take the time needed to research and investigate the situation and not act impulsively.

Ms. Turner
12 Colony Ct

Commented that she is teaching her son at home because he is too distracted in class with too many students. She asked that the Board recognize the situation and do something creative. She is not okay with doing nothing or sitting around waiting.

Mr. Wolak stated that this is not something we can do quickly. It has implications district-wide. No one is suggesting a sit and wait approach. The Board and administration take education very seriously in New Providence. We have an obligation to the students and taxpayers to deliver an efficient and cost effective education to the students. He agreed with Dr. Miceli's comments. This is not a simple fix. He noted that the Board and Dr. Miceli have been discussing the issues and will implement a plan based on findings after considering all the input and research. He assured Ms. Turner and the public that the Board will collect all data and review the results. Dr. Miceli added that the District is just as invested in this as are the parents.

Ms. Dalton
25 Morehouse

Asked if the District looks at items other than the test results, and what's the true measure of how students are doing.

Dr. Miceli responded that the District is not driven by test scores. Test scores are just one factor. Besides the daily monitoring of day to day growth, the administration continually communicates with the teaching staff. The Board and administration discuss enrollment at every regular Board meeting, while continuing to focus on curriculum and instruction.

Ms. Dalton asked about the information on the Agenda regarding the cost for remediation of NJ ASK for at-risk students. She wanted to know if that money came from a state grant or the budget.

Dr. Miceli explained the history on the remedial program funding. It began in 2003 when No Child Left Behind was implemented by the State. At first, the funds were donated through the New Providence Education Foundation. After some time, the program was funded by the operating budget and are used for students who need additional help.

Ms. Maier, principal of Salt Brook School, commented that she works closely with the teachers to make sure instruction is not compromised and students are still achieving at a good level and meeting expectations. The teachers are experts in differentiation and are well prepared to handle the integration of technology. Ms. Maier applauded the teachers for the wonderful job they are doing.

Ms. Valerio
4 Eggers Ct.

Commented that while she does understand the parents' concern about the larger class size, she is a parent of a child that also experienced a large class size, and his education was not compromised. She further stated that the junior and senior students from those larger sized classes have done very well. Ms. Valerio offered a solution to the parents who have concerns about their children being in a larger class size. She suggested that the Board could allow their children to switch schools to put them into a smaller class size. Mrs. Valerio stated that the children are getting a great education regardless of the class size.

Mr. Wolak thanked Mrs. Valerio for her comments. The Board and administration will consider her suggestion.

Ms. Policarpio
179 Hickson Dr.

She seconded the others' comments. She said the trend seems to be every other year at both elementary schools.

Mr. Wolak stated that the Board does watch the birth rates and projection for population growth, and incorporates this information into its budgeting. The Board continues to watch and monitor. In the extent it needs to be addressed, the Board will address it. Dr. Miceli added that there are two difficult variables when it comes to our current enrollment: 1) the recent rankings and 2) Merk's headquarter moving to Summit. It's hard to know how they will influence things.

Mr. Smith noted that one of his children is a 2nd grader at Salt Brook School in a large class. He has four children currently going through the District, so he genuinely appreciates the parents' concerns. Despite the fact we have limited resources, we still managed to become the #1 high school in the State. He reiterated Mr. Wolak's comments that the Board watches and project live birth rates every 5-10 years. Occasionally there will be pockets like the 4th grade numbers being discussed tonight. We try to accommodate and address situations as they happen. As a Board, we continue to make every effort to accommodate and make the most appropriate decisions possible for the students, keeping their best interest in mind.

Ms. Lazzari
185 Central Ave

Commented that she thinks there is a problem with class size and would like the Board to look at the policy. She is asking the Board for creative ideas.

Ms. Griffen
Resident

Expressed concerns about her son getting assistance in a class with 27 students. She thinks it may also be a challenge for the teachers in managing the classroom.

Mr. Wolak responded that communication from the teachers, from their perspective, will be included in the Board's considerations.

Ms. Sepinwall
76 Overhill Rd

Commented that she has a 4th grade child in Salt Brook School. She would like the Board to consider addressing and discussing this matter at the next regular Board meeting.

Ms. Dunleavy
38 Inwood Rd.

Expressed concerns about spending money for student test preparation and suggested that the Board consider reallocating those funds for something else.

Resident

Regarding bullying and code of conduct, she asked that the Board address repeat offenders appropriately.

Mr. Wolak thanked everyone for their comments.

There being no one else from the public wishing to be heard, the President declared the public portion of the meeting closed at 9:28 p.m.

Mr. Wolak asked the Finance, Facilities and Safety/Security Committee to take these points about class size under consideration in conjunction with the administration.

Dr. Miceli noted that this issue was discussed this morning with the Curriculum, Instruction and Technology Committee and therefore suggest a dual discussion with both committees.

All agreed.

Closed Session

Mrs. Vogel moved to adopt the following resolution:

1. This body shall on February 25, 2013, at 9:30 p.m. in the New Providence High School/Middle School Media Center, 35 Pioneer Drive, discuss in closed session, pursuant to Section 7 of the Open Public Meetings Act, specific matters which may generally be described as follows:

Student matters related to Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying
Litigation related to cases: #1121440 and #1582
Personnel

2. The minutes of the discussion in closed session of the aforementioned matters will be disclosed to the public after final determination of action has been reached.

Mr. Smith seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Return to Public Session

The Board reconvened to public session at 10:34 p.m. Mr. Wolak called the Board to order.

Members present were Mr. Dibble, Mr. Dinerman, Mr. Hasenkopf, Mr. Krauss, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Vogel and Mr. Wolak.

There being no other business before the Board, on motion by Mr. Krauss, seconded by Mr. Smith, and carried unanimously, the Board President declared the meeting adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

JAMES E. TESTA, Board Secretary
2/25/13