

February 25, 2014

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, 2014, at the New Providence High School/Middle School Media Center, 35 Pioneer Drive, by the Board President, Mr. Wolak.

Present on roll call were Bernadette Cuccaro, William Dibble, Robert Dinerman, David Hasenkopf, Ira Krauss, Adam Smith and John Wolak. Also present were Dr. David Miceli, Superintendent of Educational Services; Dr. Paul Casarico, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services; James E. Testa, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary; Sandra Searing, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Supervision; and 18 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 18, 2014:

The New Providence Board of Education Regular Meeting scheduled for Monday, February 24, 2014, at 7:30 P.M. in the New Providence High/Middle School Media Center, 35 Pioneer Drive, **has been cancelled and is rescheduled for Tuesday, February 25, 2014 at 7:30 P.M.** in the New Providence High/Middle School Media Center, 35 Pioneer Drive.

Superintendent's Report

- 1) Dr. Miceli reported on the enrollment for December: 658 at the high school, 375 at the middle school, 652 at Allen W. Roberts School, 666 at Salt Brook School, and 37 out of district, totaling 2,388 students. There was one (1) additional student from last month.
- 2) Dr. Miceli commented on kindergarten and 1st grade registration that will be held on March 4, 2014.
- 3) Dr. Miceli reviewed the revised 2013/2014 School Calendar. Any additional snow days will be made up during the April break, starting with Thursday, April 17th.
- 4) Dr. Miceli commended the custodian and maintenance staff for doing a tremendous job during and after the recent snow storms. Dr. Miceli recognized them and thanked them for their efforts.

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

District Curriculum Report

Mrs. Searing discussed the traits that Google looks for when hiring staff members. These 21st century skills are part of the District's curriculum and taught through the personal device initiative implemented a year ago. She explained the status of the middle school initiative that began about six months ago, which includes a core group of teachers that received professional development and will turn key to other staff members. Mrs. Searing introduced Mrs. Zirpoli, the high school principal.

Mrs. Zirpoli gave a detailed overview of the 1:1 personal device initiative at the high school. She discussed in detail the learning environment, student achievement, enhanced opportunities for the students, 21st century classrooms and preparation for PARCC testing. Mrs. Zirpoli introduced Mr. Hough.

Mr. Hough reviewed the middle school technology initiative in detail. Laptops were replaced with iPads and there was a comprehensive professional development plan. The middle school staff members are committed and support the initiative. Some early success findings are student/teacher efficiencies, student engagement, enhanced school environment and development of 21st century skills. Mr. Hough reviewed the positive results of a teacher survey. The ultimate goal is to have 21st century classroom and a 1:1 model at the middle school.

Teaching staff members discussed the 21st century skills that were being successfully taught to the students in detail, and presented examples of implementing the initiative. They demonstrated apps that assisted in developing communication, critical thinking, creativity and collaboration of the students. All the teachers touched on how the iPad enhances student learning and achievement. Also, they demonstrated how the students were learning 21st century skills, while being more efficient and effective in the classroom.

The teaching staff members that presented were Mr. Keaney (science), Mr. Paris (world language), Mr. Finley (science), Ms. Rykus (math), Ms. Jakubowski (social studies), Mr. Tracey (social studies) and Ms. Gill (science).

Mrs. Searing thanked all the presenters.

Mr. Wolak thanked all for their hard work and efforts. He acknowledged that they all worked very hard on this presentation and went far above and beyond their responsibilities.

Board members asked questions that were addressed by teachers, Mrs. Searing and Dr. Miceli. The questions were related to use of Google docs, class management, student skills and student success. Mr. Dinerman asked Mr. Maciag if the iPads assist the guidance department. Mr. Maciag responded yes and gave a few examples of how they help the guidance department. Mr. Wolak asked about a student survey. Mrs. Zirpoli responded that they are in the process of developing a student survey, starting with focus groups to create the survey. The plan is to send out a survey this school year.

Public Hearing

Mr. Wolak opened the meeting to the public at 9:45 p.m. (on specific agenda items).

Mr. Karsen
38 Evergreen Ave.

Commented on the wonderful initiative and thanked the teachers for an excellent presentation. He was taken back from the support of teachers, principals, administration and the Board related to the technology initiative. The excitement of the teachers was amazing. He commented on the AP scores of the District. 93% of the students scored a 3 or higher on the AP exams. He has a grandson going to Allen W. Roberts next year and is very excited.

There being no other comments from the public, the President declared the public portion of the meeting closed at 9:46 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Krauss moved to approve the minutes as follows:

Regular/Reorganization Meeting	January 6, 2014
Closed Session	January 6, 2014
Special Meeting	January 13, 2014
Closed Meeting	January 13, 2014
Business Meeting	January 23, 2014
Closed Session	January 23, 2014

Seconded by: Mr. Dinerman

Roll Call Vote:

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

ACTION ITEMS
Finance Actions

Mr. Smith, Committee Chairperson, moved to approve Items 1 through 4 as listed below:

January 2014 Secretary's Report Approved

1. After review, we hereby accept the Board Secretary and Treasurer reports for January, 2014. There is no major account or fund which has been overexpended in violation of financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

February 2014 Bills List Approved

- 2. Approve the payment of bills listed for February, 2014, in the amount of \$3,644,938.67.

O'Neill Memorial Scholarship Donation Approved

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

O'Neill Memorial Scholarship Donation Approved

- 4. Accept the generous donation to the John O'Neill Memorial Scholarship Fund from Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Prunesti, in the amount of \$100.00.

Seconded by: Mr. Krauss

Roll Call Vote:

Yea Mrs. Cuccaro

Yea Mr. Hasenkopf

Yea Mr. Dibble

Yea Mr. Krauss

Yea Mr. Dinerman

Yea Mr. Smith

Yea Mr. Wolak

Facilities Actions

No facilities items for Board approval.

Education Actions

Mr. Hasenkopf, Committee Chair, moved to approve Items 1 through 4 as listed below:

Submission to Establish Math Class

Resource Center at AWR Approved

- 1. Approve the submission of a request to establish a resource center math class at Allen W. Roberts School due to increase in class size which is above the number permitted by Special Education Code.

Submission to SEMI Waiver Approved

- 2. In accordance with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3, the Board of Education authorizes the submission of a request for waiver for the New Providence School District from participation in the Special Education-Medicaid (SEMI) Program. This waiver request is based on evidence estimating that the District will have fewer than 40 Medicaid-Eligible Special Education students for the 2014-2015 school year.

Emergency Action Plans for Sudden Cardiac Event/Medical Emergency Approved

- 3. Approve the Emergency Action Plans for Sudden Cardiac Event/Medical Emergency as per Superintendent’s Memo #13 in the hands of each Board member.

UCESC for Speech Therapy Approved

- 4. Approve Union County Educational Services Commission for speech therapy at a rate of \$72/hr.

Seconded by: Mr. Dinerman

Mr. Hasenkopf commented on items #1 and #2.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Personnel Actions

Mr. Dibble, Committee Chairperson, moved to approve Items 1 through 8 as listed below:

2013/2014 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 2013/2014 school year:
 - a. Glen Robertson, home instructor
 - b. Kimberly Wantz, long term substitute teacher, \$22,988 (base \$58,258), effective 2/28/14 thru 6/30/14
 - c. Steven Siracusa, baseball first assistant, \$5,298
 - d. Brian Cooper, spring track first assistant, \$5,740
 - e. David Curtin, spring track first assistant, \$5,740
 - f. Nicholas Sommo, baseball second assistant, \$4,541
 - g. Huy Ho, high school musical instrumental director, \$1,751 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
 - h. Nanying Jia, substitute teacher
 - i. Rosalie Mannino, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade NJASK mathematics/language arts remediation class instructor, March thru April (after school), 2-4 hrs/wk @ \$54.87/hr
 - j. Kristin Witte, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade NJASK mathematics/language arts remediation class instructor, March thru April (after school), 2-4 hrs/wk @ \$54.87/hr

- k. Stefania Forcella, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade NJASK mathematics/language arts remediation class instructor, March thru April (after school), 2-4 hrs/wk @ \$54.87/hr
- l. Katherine Blanco, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade NJASK mathematics/language arts remediation class instructor, March thru April (after school), 2-4 hrs/wk @ \$54.87/hr
- m. Jennifer Powers, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade NJASK mathematics/language arts remediation class instructor, March thru April (after school), 2-4 hrs/wk @ \$54.87/hr
- n. James Vopal, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade NJASK mathematics/language arts remediation class instructor, March thru April (after school), 2-4 hrs/wk @ \$54.87/hr
- o. Jonathan Firetto, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade NJASK mathematics/language arts remediation class instructor, March thru April (after school), 2-4 hrs/wk @ \$54.87/hr
- p. Christina Focacci, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade NJASK mathematics/language arts remediation class instructor, March thru April (after school), 2-4 hrs/wk @ \$54.87/hr
- q. Joanne Catlett, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade NJASK mathematics/language arts remediation class instructor, March thru April (after school), 2-4 hrs/wk @ \$54.87/hr
- r. Sebastiaan de Voogd, 7th and 8th grade NJASK mathematics/language arts remediation class instructor, Feb thru April (after school), 2-3 hrs/wk @ \$54.87/hr
- s. Gina Bellitti, 7th and 8th grade NJASK mathematics/language arts remediation class instructor, Feb thru April (after school), 2-3 hrs/wk @ \$54.87/hr
- t. Kristen Schmidt, 7th and 8th grade NJASK mathematics/language arts remediation class instructor, Feb thru April (after school), 2-3 hrs/wk @ \$54.87/hr
- u. Cathleen White, 7th and 8th grade NJASK mathematics/language arts remediation class instructor, Feb thru April (after school), 2-3 hrs/wk @ \$54.87/hr
- v. John Scholz, boys lacrosse second assistant, \$4,541 (subject to criminal history review procedures)

Resignations Approved

- 2. Accept the resignations of the following employees:
 - a. Margaret Yendrick, secretary, effective 6/30/14, due to retirement
 - b. Edward Cumming, teacher, effective 7/1/14, due to retirement
 - c. Jeanette Coan, teacher, effective 6/30/14, due to retirement
 - d. Janice Miller, school nurse, effective 7/1/14, due to retirement
 - e. Jeanne Abrahamsen, Board meeting minute taker and transcriber, effective 2/12/14

2013/2014 Revisions Approved

- 3. Approve the following revisions for the 2013/2014 school year:
 - a. Elizabeth Giaime, teacher, from .5 time to full-time, effective 1/30/14 and 1/31/14 (base \$63,812); from .5 time to full-time, effective 2/1/14 (base \$66,148)

- b. Angela Suske, secretary, from \$16,573 to \$17,223 (base \$36,559), effective 2/3/14, due to recalculation of days
- c. Glen Robertson, high school Title I language arts remediation instructor (after school)--4 additional hours @ \$54.87/hr
- d. David Goldstein, high school Title I language arts remediation instructor (after school)--4 additional hours @ \$54.87/hr
- e. Michelle Barone, high school Title I language arts remediation instructor (after school)--4 additional hours @ \$54.87/hr
- f. Charles Carell, high school Title I mathematics remediation instructor (after school)--2 additional hours @ \$54.87/hr
- g. Karen Gartner, high school Title I mathematics remediation instructor (after school)--2 additional hours @ \$54.87/hr
- h. Peter Schaefer, high school Title I mathematics remediation instructor (after school)--2 additional hours @ \$54.87/hr
- i. Gina Bellitti, middle school Title I mathematics remediation instructor (after school)--23 additional hours @ \$54.87/hr
- j. Marla Malinauskas, middle school Title I language arts remediation instructor (after school)--21.5 additional hours @ \$54.87/hr
- k. Aileen Musynske, middle school Title I language arts remediation instructor (after school)--23 additional hours @ \$54.87/hr
- l. Marissa Milas, long-term substitute teacher, revise contract end date from 2/28/14 to 2/20/14

Rescinded Appointments Approved

4. Rescind the following appointments for the 2013/2014 school year:
 - a. Andrew Silvagni, baseball first assistant
 - b. Chet Parlavecchio, boys lacrosse second assistant

Johnson Unpaid Maternity Leave Approved

5. Approve the request for unpaid maternity leave for Cherilyn Johnson, teacher, under state and federal Family Leave Acts for the period commencing 9/2/14 and ending 11/2/14 with continued health insurance benefits pursuant to law. (Based on 7/27/14 due date. Dates subject to adjustment by actual birth.)

Lauretta Unpaid Maternity Leave Approved

6. Approve the request for unpaid maternity leave for Sarah Lauretta, speech/language specialist, under state and federal Family Leave Acts for a period of twelve weeks commencing 6/14/14 and ending 11/17/14 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 11/18/14 through and including 6/30/15. (Based on 6/9/14 due date. Dates subject to adjustment by actual birth.)

Cohen Revised FMLA Leave Approved

7. Approve the revised request for FMLA leave for Alyson Cohen, teacher, from the originally approved period of 2/1/14 to 3/2/14, to 2/1/14 to 2/23/14.

Seconded by: Mrs. Cuccaro

Mr. Dibble reviewed the personnel items. Dr. Miceli commented on the retirement of four staff members, Mrs. Yendrick, Mr. Cummings, Mrs. Coan and Ms. Miller. He thanked them for their contributions to the District and the many years of service. Dr. Miceli introduced the potential boys' soccer head coach, Mr. Panella. His appointment is on for approval tonight. Mr. Panella reviewed his playing as well as coaching experiences.

Roll Call Vote:

Yea Mrs. Cuccaro

Yea Mr. Hasenkopf

Yea Mr. Dibble

Yea Mr. Krauss

Yea Mr. Dinerman

Yea Mr. Smith

Yea Mr. Wolak

Board Policy Actions

No Policies for Board approval.

Committee Reports

1. Curriculum, Instruction and Technology:

The committee met recently to discuss tonight's curriculum report. There was a world language discussion that the committee will report on at a later date. Also at the meeting, they reviewed the committee's 2013/2014 goals.

2. Finance, Facilities and Safety/Security:

Nothing additional to report at this time.

3. Personnel, Management and Communication:

The committee met last week to review the additional personnel positions included in the 2014/2015 tentative budget.

On behalf of the Board, Mr. Wolak thanked all involved in the presentation tonight. It showed the staff's dedication to the schools of New Providence.

Old Business

Mr. Smith discussed the 2014/2015 tentative budget that was distributed on Friday. It was a difficult budget to prepare. There are items such as addressing elementary reading and writing skills, PARCC testing, security upgrades, medical/dental insurance premiums, increase in enrollment and ratable decreasing that have to be dealt with during 2014/2015, while meeting the expectations of the District. This budget draft is a strong budget that has more of a tax increase than in the past. The drivers of the budget are technology, health benefit costs, salary increases, security and special education costs. The budget includes 5.5 new hires. They are a .5 special education teacher, 2 special education aides, and 3 elementary reading specialists.

There were three positions that were considered and not included in this budget. These positions were a technology specialist, elementary reading specialist and high school guidance counselor. These needs will be monitored over the next year and will be considered in the future. Based on the current draft of the budget, the tax levy will increase 3.448% and the tax impact for the average homeowner is 2.2%. The increase in expenditures is 2.9%. Due to a budget enrollment adjustment the tax levy base was increased before the 2% cap was calculated. Therefore, the proposed budget does not have to go out for a public vote. No cap banking will be used. Mr. Wolak questioned cap banking that was addressed by Mr. Testa. The District has approximately two million dollars of banked cap available for the 2014/2015 budget cycle. Approximately \$800K of banked cap will expire if not used in the 2014/2015 budget. The Board will vote on this budget at the March 17th meeting to approve submission to the County office for review. Mr. Testa stated that the budget may be slightly adjusted as state aid figures have not been released. Mr. Smith commended the administration for developing a budget that addresses the needs of the District while being fiscally responsible to the community. Dr. Miceli thanked the Board for taking the time to attend many committee meetings during the past few months to complete this tentative budget.

New Business

Mr. Testa commented that as per a State mandate, the Board must review school ethics annually. Mr. Testa discussed the School Ethics and Code of Ethics that were previously distributed to all Board members. The acknowledgement form must be signed and returned to his office.

Mr. Krauss stated that at the Borough council meeting, two items related to the schools were discussed. Some senior boys' basketball players are coaching the recreation middle school teams. This has had a positive affect on the program's success this year. Also, a senior citizen couple stated that high school students have come to their house and shoveled them out after the recent snow storms. This shows great character of our students.

Public Hearing

Mr. Wolak opened the meeting to the public at 10:14 p.m.

There being no one from the public wishing to be heard, the President declared the public portion of the meeting closed at 10:15 p.m.

Closed Session

Mr. Dinerman moved to adopt the following resolution:

1. This body shall on February 25, 2014, at 10:25 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 case: #1121440
 - 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.

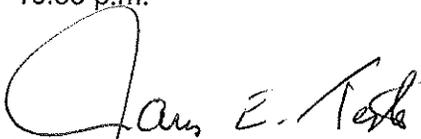
Mr. Dibble seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Return to Public Session

The Board reconvened to public session at 10:58 p.m. Mr. Wolak called the Board to order.

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

There being no other business before the Board, on motion by Mr. Krauss, seconded by Mr. Hasenkopf, and carried unanimously, the Board President declared the meeting adjourned at 10:59 p.m.



JAMES E. TESTA, Board Secretary
2/25/14