

The business meeting of the Board of Education of the Borough of New Providence was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on January 22, 2015, at the New Providence High School/Middle School Media Center, 35 Pioneer Drive, by the Board President, Mr. Hasenkopf.

Present on roll call were Bernadette Cuccaro, William Dibble, Robert Dinerman, David Hasenkopf, Ira Krauss, Mary Misiukiewicz and Adam Smith. Also present were Dr. David Miceli, Superintendent of Educational Services; Dr. Deborah Feinberg, Interim Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services; James E. Testa, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary; Sandra Searing, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Supervision; and 8 members of the public.

Mr. Hasenkopf led in the salute to the flag.

Mr. Hasenkopf 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.

#### **RECOGNITION OF BOARD MEMBER**

Mr. Hasenkopf welcomed everyone. He stated it was a privilege to recognize Mr. John Wolak for his dedication and commitment to the Board.

Mr. Hasenkopf read and presented Mr. Wolak with three awards for his years of dedicated service.

On behalf of the Board, Mr. Hasenkopf commented that it was a pleasure to honor Mr. Wolak for his leadership, dedication and the positive impact he had on the district for the past twelve years.

Mr. Wolak thanked everyone and commented that it's been a great twelve years and has learned a lot from everyone.

Mr. Wolak thanked everyone who came out to wished him well.

Mr. Wolak commented that it was an honor and privilege to have had the opportunity to serve, debate, argue, decide and move the District forward. He noted that the best gift to the children is the gift of education, and hoped that he had made a difference in the their lives.

Mr. Wolak commented about Dr. Gordon during the time of the "golden age of education". He noted that if Dr. Gordon were to come back, he would see that the District has far exceeded and surpassed the "golden age of education" to the platinum age.

Mr. Wolak commented how he appreciated everything for the last twelve years of his service and is very proud to have been a part of the Board of Education and noted that he did not do all the work, that it was a team effort with everyone who had served with him and all had contributed to the success of the District.

Mr. Hasenkopf thanked Mr. Wolak for his high level of work and dedication for the District. He commented that the high standard of leadership Mr. Wolak had set for the board is greatly appreciated and will be hard to follow.

Mr. Smith commented that in the twelve years Mr. Wolak served, he appreciated the counsel and steady influence he had on the board. The work the board does is important, and Mr. Wolak took it seriously with tremendous time and dedication with every task he undertook on behalf of the board. Through the difficult times and the best of times, Mr. Wolak was steady throughout, guiding and helping with the decisions of what is best for the District.

Mr. Smith thanked Mr. Wolak on behalf of the District as well as his own kids, for all of his contributions and commented that his wit and wisdom will be greatly missed.

Mr. Dibble thanked Mr. Wolak for his service to the District.

Mr. Krauss commented that the resolution says Mr. Wolak affected hundreds of children in the District, but in fact, he has impacted thousands, with twenty four hundred kids in the District, for the last twelve years of his service. He thanked Mr. Wolak for his immense service, and commented that he will miss having him on the board.

Mr. Dinerman thanked Mr. Wolak for his leadership and example and appreciated everything he has done for the children of New Providence.

Dr. Miceli commented what a privilege it was working with Mr. Wolak for the past eleven years, but especially for the last three years as Board President.

Dr. Miceli commented that it was always a pleasure to work with Mr. Wolak and that he was a great inspiration to him. He noted that during the crisis when state aid was taken away, most people did not know how much effort and work Mr. Wolak put into finding the best solution for the District and most importantly, he helped the board to stay focused on the work at hand.

Dr. Miceli thanked Mr. Wolak for his leadership to him and the whole community.

Mr. Wolak thanked everyone for their sincere comments and stated that he never thought he would quote President Obama, but quoted, "I didn't do it, You didn't do, We all did it".

Mr. Wolak was humbled and commented that a tribute to him is a tribute the board, administrators, staff and especially the children for striving to do their best toward the success of the District.

**Mr. Krauss moved to adopt the following resolution**

**Resolution in Recognition of Board Member John T. Wolak**

**WHEREAS**, John T. Wolak has ended his service on the Board of Education of the Borough of New Providence after faithful service over the last 12 years; and

**WHEREAS**, the members of the Board of Education are cognizant of the fact that Mr. Wolak has greatly contributed toward the welfare of the children of the Borough by his energy and sincere application to all matters which have come before the Board; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Wolak has served as Board President for 3 years, and Board Vice President for 2 years; Finance, Facilities & Safety/Security Committee Member and Chairperson; Personnel, Management, and Communication Committee Member; Special Education Committee Member; Community Relations Chairperson; Government Relations Representative; Union County Educational Services Commission Representative; Morris-Union Jointure Commission Representative; Union County School Board Association Representative; New Jersey School Board Association Representative; Negotiations Committee Member, and as Tri-County Boards Liaison;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Education of the Borough of New Providence, in the County of Union, that the personal and collective gratitude and appreciation of the members of the Board of Education are hereby extended to John T. Wolak for his loyal and untiring dedication to the community; and they do hereby publicly commend him for the excellent example he has thus demonstrated to the present and future members of the Board of Education.

**APPROVED THIS 22<sup>nd</sup> DAY OF JANUARY, 2015**, and signed by the order of the New Providence Board of Education.

Seconded by: Mrs. Cuccaro

Roll Call Vote:

Yea Mrs. Cuccaro

Yea Mr. Hasenkopf

Yea Mr. Dibble

Yea Mr. Krauss

Yea Mr. Dinerman

Yea Mrs. Misiukiewicz

Yea Mr. Smith

**COMMENTS**

**Mr. Jim Madden, Borough Councilman**

Mr. Madden expressed that on behalf of the children and the community, “thank you for your service and contribution”. He thanked Mr. Wolak for his leadership and commented that it was the key through the tough times.

Mr. Madden commented that Mr. Wolak is “hugely under thanked” for his contribution and service and will be dearly missed.

Mr. Wolak thanked Mr. Madden.

**Superintendent’s Report**

- 1) Dr. Miceli reported on the enrollment from December: 660 at the high school, 378 at the middle school, 665 at Allen W. Roberts School, 636 at Salt Brook School, with 36 out of district, totaling 2,375 students.
- 2) Dr. Miceli reviewed the proposed 15/16 School Calendar and commented that the first day of school is September 8th, because of a late labor day and last day on a Friday, June 24. There are four snow days built into the calendar for next year.
- 3) Dr. Miceli commented that the 14/15 Curriculum Report will be presented by Mrs. Searing at the February 26 board meeting, highlighting elementary technology, the additional reading specialist, the expanded language arts in 7th grade, and some of the STEM programs.
- 4) Dr. Miceli thanked the administration, department heads and staff for planning Professional Development Day that occurred on January 19th. There were PARCC training and STEM programs throughout the day. Mr. Randy Nathan presented a half day program for staff, which was funded by the Booster Club to talk to coaches on the

topic of bullying. The whole day went well with other topics, which included Character Ed and Special Ed programs.

Dr. Miceli welcomed student representative, Katie Vigilante.

### Student Report

Katie Vigilante greeted everyone with Happy New Year! She commented that the high school students enjoyed their time off over holiday break, which was spent attending basketball games, touring colleges and doing other fun things.

Katie reported that the music department had voice recitals this past Tuesday. Mrs. Kirkland and Ms. Flynn rotated classes once a week and three to six kids worked on vocal techniques. The recital showed the many students' development in singing as they performed foreign language songs, making them difficult to sing.

Katie reported that in sports, the basketball teams have been doing great, wrestling team is excellent this year, and the swim and winter track teams are also showing well.

Katie noted that high school students are preparing for midterms, which will take place this coming Monday through Thursday. To help guide the freshman through their first major high school exams, the Peer Leaders Club, led by English teacher Melissa Hatfield, held a meeting with the freshmen. The upperclassmen provided information and advice on the midterm process. The students were happy to receive studying tips.

Katie commented that it was hard to believe that the school year is almost half over and finally commented that the upcoming months are sure to be fun with the February break and the Prom Fashion Show not long off.

Katie commented that the Peer Leadership partnership with Morris-Union Jointure Commission will be starting soon and they are all very excited.

Dr. Miceli commented that the partnership with Morris-Union Jointure Commission started at Salt Brook School. He met with the administration at the Morris-Union Jointure Commission and is looking forward to a great experience for our students.

Katie commented on a side note that Dr. Gordon, the former Superintendent of Schools in New Providence, was her father's wrestling coach in high school. He was elated to hear that she is the student representative, because he was the one who implemented the student representative to report monthly activities for the high school at the board meetings.

Mr. Dibble commented that he didn't want to date himself, but enjoyed watching her father's wrestling matches.

Dr. Miceli thanked Katie for her report.

### **Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) Report**

Mr. Hasenkopf declares a Public Hearing on the September 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014 Violence, Vandalism, Substance Abuse, and HIB Report at 8:01 p.m.

Dr. Feinberg reported that the EVVRS report from September 1 to December 31, 2014 has 1 incident of Violence (NPHS), 2 incidents of Substance Abuse (NPHS), and 2 affirmed incidents of HIB (NPMS).

- Total # of HIB investigations district wide: 15; 2 affirmed by BOE by Dec. 31, 2014
- Status of all HIB investigations: All completed within 10 days as required by law; 2 BOE affirmed incidents as of Dec. 31
- Nature of HIB on protected categories Other distinguishing characteristics
- Names of Investigators Anti-Bullying Specialists in each school
- Type/nature of discipline In-School suspension  
Out of school suspension  
Counseling/parent and student conference
- Any other measures imposed Student/parent conference  
Counseling/parent and student conference
- Training conducted or programs Implemented to reduce HIB HS student training in PE first week of school  
Topics discussed in advisory classes at middle school  
Character Education program Theme: Be the Difference  
Training for all new teachers and new substitutes  
PD Day: Refresher training of all custodians and maintenance staff

Mr. Hasenkopf opened the public hearing to the public at 8:04 p.m. Since there was no comments from the public, Mr. Hasenkopf closed the public hearing.

### **Public Hearing**

Mr. Hasenkopf opened the meeting to the public at 8:05 p.m. to discuss any item on the Agenda.

There being no one from the public wishing to be heard, Mr. Hasenkopf declared this public portion of the meeting closed at 8:05 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Krauss moved to approve the following minutes:

Business Meeting	December 11, 2014
Closed Session	December 11, 2014

Seconded by: Mr. Smith

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> Mrs. Misiukiewicz
<u>Yea</u> Mr. Smith	

**ACTION ITEMS**

**FINANCE ACTION**

Mr. Smith, Committee Chairperson, moved to approve Items 1 through 7 as listed below:

**Board Secretary and Treasurer Reports Accepted**

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

**January 2015 Bills List Approved**

2. Approve the payment of bills listed for January 2015, in the amount of \$4,058,929.51.

**Scholarship Fund Donations Accepted**

3. Accept the generous donations to the New Providence High School Class of 1960 Walter McCarthy and Edward Lieder Memorial Scholarship Fund in the total amount of \$4,349.00.

**John O'Neill Memorial Scholarship Fund Donation Accepted**

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

**Voided Check Approved**

5. Void the following check:

<u>Check Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Account Number</u>	Replacement <u>Check #</u>
#344286	11/13/14	\$ 60.00	11-000-230-590-99	#9922

**Donation from Mr. and Mrs. Espinal for Salt Brook School Music Department Approved**

6. Approve the generous donation of \$619.32 (matching fund program), from Mr. and Mrs. Espinal, to be used for the Salt Brook School Music Department. **(EXHIBIT A)**

**Professional Cleaning Services and Related Work Agreement Between the Borough of New Providence and the New Providence Board of Education Approved**

7. Approve the Agreement between the Borough of New Providence and the New Providence Board of Education for professional cleaning services and related work for municipally owned buildings, at an annual cost of \$4,095.00, beginning January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.

Seconded by: Mr. Krauss

Roll Call Vote:

     Yea      Mrs. Cuccaro

     Yea      Mr. Hasenkopf

     Yea      Mr. Dibble

     Yea      Mr. Krauss

     Yea      Mr. Dinerman

     Yea      Mrs. Misiukiewicz

     Yea      Mr. Smith

**FACILITIES ACTION**

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

**Grant Award from Mr. Trezza, of the Drive for Autism Foundation Approved**

1. Approve the acceptance of a Grant Award from Mr. Trezza, of the Drive for Autism Foundation in the amount of \$4,500.00, to be used in the the special needs classrooms at Salt Brook School. **(EXHIBIT B)**

**NPHS Athletic Booster Club Donation Accepted**

- 2. Accept the generous donation of \$6,875.00 from the New Providence School Athletic Booster Club, to pay for the award and recognition banners in the high school main gym.  
(EXHIBIT C)

**Donation from the New Providence School Athletic Booster Club Accepted**

- 3. Accept the generous donation of \$1,750.00 from the New Providence School Athletic Booster Club, to compensate Randy Nathan, (Project NextGen), to make two presentations at the high school, one for coaches and one for student athletes, with an additional donation of \$530.00 to purchase 30 books on the day of the event.  
(EXHIBIT D)

Seconded by: Mr. Dinerman

Mr. Smith commented on the two donations.

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> Mrs. Misiukiewicz
<u>Yea</u> Mr. Smith	

**EDUCATION ACTION**

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

**2014/2015 HIB Investigations Approved**

- 1. Per the 2011 Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act, approve the recommendations of the Superintendent regarding the following 2014/2015 Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying investigations:

<u>School</u>	<u>Incident Report Number(s)</u>
High School:	6 and 7
Middle School:	5, 7, and 8

**2015/2016 School Calendar Approved**

- 2. Approve the 2015/2016 school calendar.

(EXHIBIT E)

**Common Core State Standards and New Jersey Core Curriculum Contents Standards Approved**

- 3. Approve all new and existing Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards (NJCCCS).

Seconded by: Mr. Krauss

Roll Call Vote:

     Yea Mrs. Cuccaro

     Yea Mr. Hasenkopf

     Yea Mr. Dibble

     Yea Mr. Krauss

     Yea Mr. Dinerman

     Yea Mrs. Misiukiewicz

     Yea Mr. Smith

**PERSONNEL ACTION**

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

**Appointments 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 2014/2015 school year:
  - a. Sandra Valerio, long-term substitute teacher, \$27,540 (base \$53,072), effective 1/22/15 thru 6/30/15
  - b. Colleen Cortese, long-term substitute teacher, \$30,678 (base \$61,690), effective 1/29/15 thru 6/30/15
  - c. David Colby, technology help, \$9/hr, effective 12/17/14 thru 1/24/15
  - d. Morgan Guest, girls lacrosse volunteer coach
  - e. Elaine Berman, 6<sup>th</sup> grade Title I language arts remediation instructor, January thru May (after school), 20 hrs @ \$54.87/hr
  - f. Stefania Forcella, 6<sup>th</sup> grade Title I language arts remediation instructor, January thru May (after school), 20 hrs @ \$54.87/hr
  - g. Susan Shallcross, 6<sup>th</sup> grade Title I mathematics remediation instructor, January

- thru May (after school), 20 hrs @ \$54.87/hr
- h. Jesselynn Hogarth, substitute teacher/substitute nurse
- i. Joseph Carollo, high school youth & government advisor, \$1,825
- j. Edward Barnes, high school youth & government advisor, \$1,825

**Resignation Accepted**

2. Accept the resignations of the following employees:

- a. Mary Romeo, teacher, effective 2/28/15, due to retirement
- b. Susan Sachsel, teacher aide, effective 6/19/15, due to retirement
- c. Anna Rita Falco, reading specialist, effective 3/21/15

**Revision in Extended Leave Approved**

3. Approve revision in extended leave return date for Jaclyn Kaufmann, teacher, from 9/1/15 to 2/25/15. Pro-rated salary for the period 2/25/15 thru 6/30/15 is \$24,398 (base \$59,389--Step 7, Column III)

**Revision in Extended Leave Approved**

4. Approve revision in extended leave return date for Lisa Ball from 1/21/15 to 1/19/15.

**Request for Unpaid Maternity Leave Approved**

5. Approve the request for unpaid maternity leave for Marla Malinauskas, teacher, under state and federal Family Leave Acts for the period commencing 5/29/15 and ending 6/30/15 with continued health insurance benefits pursuant to law. (Based on 4/30/15 due date. Dates subject to adjustment by actual birth.)

Seconded by: Mr. Dinerman

Roll Call Vote:

Yea Mrs. Cuccaro

Yea Mr. Hasenkopf

Yea Mr. Dibble

Yea Mr. Krauss

Yea Mr. Dinerman

Yea Mrs. Misiukiewicz

Yea Mr. Smith

Mr. Dibble commented on the retirement of Mary Romeo being in the District for a long time.

Dr. Miceli recognized Mrs. Romeo's service for twenty years and Mrs. Sachsel for thirty years.

Dr. Miceli also commented on Anna Rita Falco, reading specialist, is leaving due to her commute.

Mr. Dinerman asked if volunteer coaches are screened.

Dr. Miceli reported that all are screened and go through the fingerprinting process as well.

### **BOARD POLICY**

Mr. Krauss, Committee Chairperson, reported that there are no Board Policies for Board approval at this time.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Curriculum, Instruction and Technology**

Mrs. Cuccaro, Committee Chairperson, had nothing new to report.

#### **Finance, Facilities and Safety/Security**

Mr. Smith, Committee Chairperson, reported that the committee have been busy and discussed the following:

- Beginning budget process
- Beginning to look at a possible Bond Referendum in 2016/2017
- Have received three proposals to retain an architect and are reviewing now
- Negotiations committee have met and will be ready to begin by the end of February

#### **Personnel, Management and Communication**

Mr. Dibble, Committee Chairperson, had nothing new to report.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **2015/2016 Proposed School Budget Update**

Mr. Testa commented that the budget timeline is dictated by the state. The dates for March and April board meetings will need to be rescheduled. Mr. Testa also commented that the budget is due to the County office in March and the public hearing will take place in April.

Mr. Dibble asked what dates would be good dates for the board meetings to be rescheduled.

Mr. Testa proposed that the March 19th board meeting be moved to Monday, March 16th and the April 23rd board meeting be moved to Monday, April 27th.

Mr. Testa commented that he will be sending emails out to the board to get their availability.

Mr. Testa commented that the budget process started in December. Dr. Miceli met with the principals and Mrs. Searing. There will be a meeting with the finance committee in February.

### **2014/2015 Strategic Planning Process**

Mr. Hasenkopf commented that Strategic Planning Process is at the halfway point and still more good topics to come. He encouraged everyone to attend to get more participation for the next four remaining sessions.

Dr. Miceli commented that the Facilities and Security session in December was mainly focused on security and the Finance session last week had a lot of focus on fundraising, not so much on the operating budget.

Dr. Miceli noted the dates and topics for the coming Strategic Planning Sessions, and they are:

- February 5 - Special Education and Gifted & Talented
- March 5 -Athletics, Music & Performing Arts & Co-curriculars
- April 16- Guidance & Character Education
- May 14- Public Relations & Communications

Mr. Hasenkopf thanked Dr. Miceli.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There were no new business to report.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Hasenkopf opened the meeting to the public at 8:17 p.m.

#### **Mr. Bob Munoz, Borough Councilman**

Mr. Munoz congratulated the District on another accolade, a website called NerdWallet, a financial website, ranked our district #9 for the best school district for your bucks in New Jersey.

There being no other comments from the public, Mr. Hasenkopf, Board President, declared the public portion of the meeting closed at 8:18 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Mr. Dinerman moved to adopt the following resolution:

This body shall on January 22, 2015 at 8:18 p.m. in the New Providence High/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
- Student matters related to HIB
- Personnel
- Sale of Property
- Litigation- Case #1121440

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

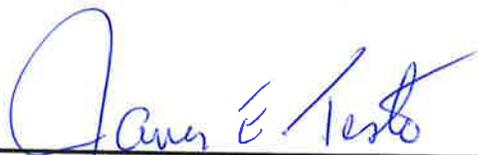
Mrs. Cuccaro seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

**RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION**

The Board reconvened to public session at 10:22 p.m. Mr. Hasenkopf called the Board to order.

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

There being no other business before the Board, on a motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Misiukiewicz, and carried unanimously, Mr. Hasenkopf declared the meeting adjourned at 10:23 p.m.



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James E. Testa  
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
1/22/15