

TOWN OF CLINTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES

November 18, 2009

John Romagna called the meeting together at 7:30 p.m. by announcing this meeting is held in compliance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law. The Town of Clinton Board of Education has given the public adequate notice by having the date, time, and place of the meeting published in the Hunterdon County Democrat and Hunterdon Review, and by having duly posted the same information in the Board Office, the school bulletin board, the faculty room, and the Town Hall.

ROLL CALL: Present: Amanda DiRienz, Cara Morris, John Romagna, Marie Kisch, Robert Pyle and Deborah Broslawski

Also Present: Richard Katz, Superintendent/Principal
Lisa Craft, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

The purpose of the Work Session Meeting is to discuss the agenda for the Regular Session of November 24, 2009. The following discussions took place regarding the action to be taken at the Regular Session which will be recorded in the Minutes of the November 24, 2009.

Fire Drill and Bus Evacuation Drill Report: Robert Pyle asked about Code C Drills. Richard Katz expressed the need to resume Code C Drills and to train new staff.

Superintendent/Principal's Report: Veterans Day Event- Honoring our Veterans with the staff and students standing with a flag when names were read by Mrs. Ahart. A new large flag was purchased and hung in the gym.

Discussion on furthering our public relations coverage in the Democrat.

Website has been thoroughly updated by Rich and Scott, and a checklist developed for procedures.

Test results for NJASK will be mailed to outgoing 8th grade parents in future years.

Rich presented test scores to PTA, and 25 parents attended.

AYP data expected by Oct.31st, but has not yet arrived.

Dr. Vernotica is putting together a county wide advisory regionalization sub-committee.

Honeywell system test went smoothly.

Assistant Principal's Report: One month that she is officially on the board, and thrilled to be at CPS.

Public Comment: Meg Cox offered her opinion that Public Relations would be better done by someone within the building, although she would be willing to help as that is her area of expertise. Molly Naughton has offered, as well, to help in this area with the hope that Public Relations will attract potential benefactors of funding to the school.

Personnel: Richard Katz gave an update on Jamie Friedel's transition.

Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment, & Technology: Workshop request form to be posted on the website.

Discussion Topics:

ARRA Purchases-Smart boards have been ordered representing half the technology allocation in the ARRA grant. Lisa Craft explained the potential cash flow issue until the ARRA grants are in the final approval status. Currently they are submitted and approved by the County which submits to the State for final approval.

Word Journeys- The literacy committee held a meeting with about 25 parents in attendance. Goals were discussed, and materials reviewed.

Partners in Education Foundation- Molly Naughton will be leading the Foundation

Goals Update- Christine Maines gave an update on progress toward Curriculum and Content Standards alignment. Gifted and Talented update on curriculum development. NJASK goal-working on setting up training for teachers. Individual teacher goals have all been submitted.

Walk to School Day – HART (Safe Routes to School Grant) Event was part of the Safe Routes to School grant.

NJCAP- Staff was trained, as well as parents, and program will begin on Dec. 1st. Common themes across grade levels. "Say no, go, and tell" ...using role playing situations. Thank Mrs. Bowlby in working to bring this program to the school.

Discussion of School Policy Services (NJSBA and Strauss-Esmay)- Committee has been comparing services, and is of the opinion that NJSBA service offers the most desired online result at a lesser cost.

Policy Interpretation- Field Trip locations and dates will not be published together. This does not apply to athletic events.

General Information: Business Administrator's Report:

ARRA Equalization Aid- Continued funding of the \$120,000 is a concern for the board to be monitoring and aware.

Position Control Roster and Standard Operating Procedure Manual: Both will be in place for 12/31/09.

403B Plan & Admin. – Will be presented in December

Audit- Submitted and needs to be accepted in December

Mid Year Budget Review- Will be conducted in December

Aramark- Team change with Matt DeLaRosa being promoted to Ridge High School in Bernards Twp. Ray Thompson will be his replacement. Ray Thompson's office will be in the Flemington-Raritan School District. The large water heater for the locker rooms has been repaired by Matthew DeLaRosa, at no cost to the district. The replacement cost of this unit was estimated at \$35,000.

Staff Health Benefits Update: Amerihealth 18 mos. proposal is 3% higher than the current Horizon rates. \$15,000 would be needed to change to Amerihealth as of Jan 1, 2010. The CTA is not on board at this point, and there is not enough of a gain to justify the change given the questions that still remain on comparative health plans. Steve and Lisa Lance, Eles, Inc, will present to the board the options.

Action plan to be developed by Robert Pyle, Richard Katz and Lisa Craft for a July 1, 2010 contract renewal.

New Business:

2010-2011 School Calendar –Request for an additional day before school begins, and early dismissals or delayed openings for professional development days. A draft will be presented at future meeting.

Old Business:

BOE Goals- Robert Pyle will distribute goals report prepared by Dianne Morris.

Staff Health Benefits- Discussed above with letter from CTA.

Public Comment: Molly Naughton discussed public concern during budget meetings over health benefits cost.

RESOLUTION 2009-2010: 161

ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

Amanda DiRienz moved, seconded by Cara Morris, to enter into Executive Session at 10:45 p.m. to discuss Paraprofessional Negotiations. Motion carried unanimously with all "ayes".

RESOLUTION 2009-2010: 162

ADJOURNMENT

John Romagna moved, seconded by Amanda DiRienz to adjourn the Board Meeting at 11:10 p.m. Motion carried unanimously with all “ayes”.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Craft
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Robert Pyle, President