

**MISSION STATEMENT**

To provide every child with the highest quality of instruction, curricula, and services; to treat every child with respect and dignity; to give every child the opportunity to learn and mature, to acquire a thirst for knowledge, to experience the satisfaction of accomplishment, and to anticipate becoming a productive member of a democratic society.

**VISION STATEMENT**

Upon leaving the Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District, all children will credit us with having given them what they need educationally to help them succeed in life in the pursuit of their own goals.

**SPECIAL ACTION MEETING** on **MARCH 4, 2008**, Administration Building, One Crest Way, Aberdeen, New Jersey.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Board President Mr. O’Connell presiding called the Special Action Meeting to order at **7:30 PM**.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE**

**III. ROLL CALL**

Present: **Mr. Aitken, Mr. Barbato, Ms. Demarest, Mr. Donaghue, Dr. Gambino, Mr. Kenny, Mr. O’Connell, Ms. Rubino, Ms. Zavorskas (Arrived at 7:36 p.m.)**  
Absent: **None**  
Also Present: **Dr. O’Malley, Mr. Glastein, Ms. Honnick, Ms. Irons**

**IV. STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE**

**Mr. O’Connell read the following Statement of Adequate Notice:**

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, NJSA 10: 4-6, also known as the Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was sent to the Asbury Park Press, at least 48 hours in advance of this meeting, on February 28, 2008. Notices were also posted in the Board Office and schools, the municipal buildings of the Borough of Matawan and the Township of Aberdeen, the Matawan Aberdeen Joint Free Public Library and sent to those on the Board’s subscription list. Action will be taken on agenda items. As a special meeting, per Board policy, there will be no public participation.

**V. PURPOSE OF MEETING**

**Mr. O’Connell read the following Statement of Purpose:**

The purpose of this March 4, 2008, Special Action Meeting of the Board of Education of the Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District is:

- Adoption of Tentative 2008-2009 Budget

**VI. FINANCIAL & BUSINESS OPERATIONS MATTERS**

**A PRINCIPAL SEARCH FIRM RESOLUTION**

Motion by Ms. Demarest, seconded by Ms. Rubino.

**1. To table the following motion to approve a Principal Search Firm:**

The Superintendent of Schools submits the **following resolution** for approval:

**(TABLED)**

<b>CONTRACT WITH</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>SERVICE</b>
RLF Associates, Inc. (Educational Consultants)	48 N. Maple Avenue Basking Ridge, NJ 07920	Principal’s Search

COST: \$6,000 plus related expenses

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 5, 2008

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b>	<b>AYES</b>	<b>NAYS</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>
	8	0	1	0
			Zavorskas	

**B. ADOPTION OF 2008-2009 SCHOOL YEAR TENTATIVE BUDGET**

**1. PRESENTATION OF 2008-2009 SCHOOL YEAR TENTATIVE BUDGET**

**Dr. O’Malley with the assistance of Ms. Irons delivered a Power Point Presentation to the public and the Board of Education which explained the Tentative 2008-2009 Budget. (Power Point Presentation Attached)**

**Dr. O’Malley stressed in his presentation that with this budget essential programs and services will be maintained along with the major educational innovation Response to Intervention (RTI) initiative which was put into effect during 2007-2008.**

**Dr. O’Malley emphasized that the tight, fiscally accountable Budget addresses the needs of the District moving forward using taxes as a priority with only a 2% increase in the tax levy from the 2007-2008 school budget. Dr. O’Malley stated the Administration and Board**

of Education worked hard to shape an educational plan which maintains programs that serve our students, plans for improvements in student achievement, provides fiscal accountability, and serves all children in its care while fighting to balance needs against taxes.

Dr. O’Malley reviewed the time line of the Budget from the submission to and approval by the new Executive County Superintendent to the March 19 Public Hearing on to the public vote at the April 15, 2008, School Board Elections.

Dr. O’Malley summed up the presentation with encouragement for everyone to go out and vote.

**2. MOTION TO ADOPT 2008-2009 TENTATIVE BUDGET**

Motion by Mr. O’Connell, seconded by Mr. Aitken.

**The Superintendent of Schools submits the following resolution for approval:**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District adopts and approves the submission of a **Tentative 2008-2009 School District Budget**, along with such required supporting documentation, as is necessary to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools as follows:

General Fund	59,244,562
Capital Outlay	209,224
Special Schools	101,605
Total Operating Budget	59,555,391
Total Grants & Entitlements	1,299,580
Debt Service	2,501,045
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>63,356,016</b>

**BE IT RESOLVED** to acknowledge that the 2008-2009 school year budget as described results in a general fund tax levy of **\$44,326,599** and a debt service tax levy of **\$2,478,605** for a total tax levy of **\$46,805,204**; and

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the school business administrator/board secretary is authorized to advertise said tentative budget in the *Asbury Park Press* in accordance with the format required by the State Department of Education and according to law; and

**BE IT RESOLVED** in accordance with the N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.2(b), the maximum expenditure for travel for the 2008-2009 school year for all staff and board members is **\$75,225** and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a public hearing will be held in the Board Conference Room, Cambridge Park School, 1 Crest Way, Aberdeen, New Jersey, March 19, 2008, at 8:00 p.m. for the purpose of conducting a Public Hearing on the Budget for the 2008-2009 School Year.

**3. BOARD DISCUSSION REGARDING TENTATIVE BUDGET**

**Board members commented, raised questions or made statements regarding specifics of the tentative budget as follows to which Dr. O’Malley and Ms. Irons, and Mr. O’Connell responded:**

- Budgeted Fund Balance, its effect now and in the future.
- How school tax is determined.
- Special Revenue and Debt service.
- State Adequacy level.
- Tax Levy History slide.
- Special Education figure.
- Cost of transportation and buying vs. leasing buses.
- New State Aid.
- Lack of emergency reserve fund.
- RTI funding.
- Meaning of 2 percent increase to homeowner.
- When total additional tax figures available to public.
- Details available at Public Hearing.
- Percent of budget actually spent for the classroom.
- Appreciation of hard work in preparing conservative budget that serves taxpayer, staff and children of Matawan-Aberdeen well.
- Complements regarding budget presentation.
- How to get budget out to the community and passed and what will happen if it does not.
- MRTA tentative contract agreement.
- Support of Board and hope for passing of budget.

**4. BOARD VOTE ON TENTATIVE 2008-2009 BUDGET**

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b>	<b>AYES</b>	<b>NAYS</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>
	9	0	0	0

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Mr. Donaghue, seconded by Mr. Barbato.

**RECOMMEND:** That the meeting be adjourned. The Board of Ed Special Action Meeting was adjourned at **8:49 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Susan A. Irons  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary