

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 **February 11, 2008**, Administration Building, One Crest Way, Aberdeen, New Jersey.

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE

III. STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE

Mr. O’Connell read the following Statement:

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 6, 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.

IV. ROLL CALL

Present: **Mr. Aitken, Mr. Barbato, Ms. Demarest, Mr. Donaghue, Dr. Gambino, Mr. Kenny, Mr. O’Connell, Ms. Rubino, Ms. Zavorskas**
Absent: **None**
Also Present: **Mr. Glastein, Ms. Honnick, Ms. Irons, Mr. Gross**

There was a request from MRTA President Mr. Kosmyna to permit public comment during the meeting contrary to the Statement of Adequate Notice.

The Board agreed to take public comment.

V. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of this February 11, 2008, Special Action Meeting of the Board of Education of the Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District is:

- Appointment of Superintendent of Schools

VI. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT REGARDING SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH

Mr. O'Connell reviewed the Superintendent's Search process from the hiring of the Leadership Advantage team to handle the search both in and out of state, the application and screening process as well as the interview process to the completion of the contract. Mr. O'Connell explained the Board made a visit to the top candidates' school districts to interview staff and obtain a feeling of their leadership ability, accomplishments, and results of evaluations. Mr. O'Connell reviewed finalist Dr. O'Malley's qualifications and educational background as well as expressed confidence that he would be a good fit for the Matawan-Aberdeen community.

VII. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC RELATING TO BOARD AGENDA ITEM

Various Aberdeen and Matawan residents as well as bargaining unit officials made comments, expressed concerns, and/or raised questions regarding the resolution to appoint a new Superintendent of Schools as follows to which Mr. O'Connell responded:

- Request for a synopsis of new Superintendent's contract.
- Role of new Superintendent during 120 day notice period.
- Involvement of new Superintendent with budget process.
- Experience with and competence to handle K-12 district.
- Type of Doctorate held.
- Detail regarding Payment to Estate in contract.
- Role in labor negotiations and District's ability to settle.
- Clarifications regarding comments made by Dr. O'Malley in his previous position.
- Welcome to Dr. O'Malley and wish for good luck as CSA of Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District.

VIII. RESOLUTION TO APPOINT SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Motion by Mr. Kenny, seconded by Ms. Rubino.

The Board of Education approves the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District Board of Education hereby appoints Dr. Richard O'Malley to the position of Superintendent of Schools effective February 12, 2008, through June 30, 2012, consistent with the terms set forth in the Employment Contract, which is on file in the Office of the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator.

Members of the Board made comments or expressed concerns regarding the recommendation as follows to which Mr. O’Connell responded:

Dr. Gambino – Personally welcomed Dr. O’Malley as our educational leader and looks forward to working with him as such.

Mr. Barbato – Expressed concerns regarding Dr. O’Malley’s contract and requested more definitive times as to his presence in the District during the 120 day notice period as well as expressed concern that his position on town counsel would take away from service to this District.

Ms. Rubino – Spoke positively regarding Dr. O’Malley’s appointment and commented regarding time he would spend in-district during the 120 day notice period.

Mr. Kenny – Spoke regarding Dr. O’Malley’s impeccable references and staff interviews and stated this recommendation is a powerful step in the right direction. Mr. Kenny also thanked Mr. Glastein for his service as Interim Superintendent.

Ms. Zavorskis – While a major accomplishment, expressed concerns regarding definition of part-time in Dr. O’Malley’s contract, would like more specifics stated, and expressed concern regarding the ability to acclimate to the size and diversity of this District. Ms. Zavorskis also questioned agenda and materials for discussion at the small committee budget meeting to follow the Board meeting.

Ms. Demarest – Recommended Mr. Glastein be compensated for Superintendent duties during the transition of Dr. O’Malley.

Mr. Aitken – Congratulated Dr. O’Malley and assured his support.

Mr. O’Connell reviewed specifics of Mr. O’Malley’s contract and stated it has the approval of the new Acting Executive County Superintendent of Schools.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	AYES	NAYS	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
	6	3	0	0
		Barbato, Demarest, Zavorskis		

IX. INTRODUCTION OF NEW SUPERINTENDENT DR. O’MALLEY

Dr. O’Malley expressed his pleasure at being selected as Superintendent of Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District and welcomes the opportunity to serve with MARSD students and staff.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Donaghue, seconded by Mr. Aitken.

RECOMMEND: That the meeting be adjourned. The Special Action Meeting was adjourned at **8:18 p.m.**

ROLL CALL VOTE:	AYES	NAYS	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
	9	0	0	0

Respectfully submitted,

Susan A. Irons
Business Administrator/Board Secretary