

Minutes of the Special Public Board of Education meeting held on December 4, 2008 at Brookside Elementary School.

The meeting was called to order by Board President Amy Antelis at 6:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Ms. Amy Antelis, Board President
Mr. Lew Kaufman, Board Vice President
Mr. Marvin I. Braverman
Mr. Ken Chiarella
Ms. Kathy Kolupanowich
Mr. John Leary
Ms. Kathy Leonard
Ms. Rita Ostrager
Mr. Ira Tessler

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

JAMESBURG BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT

Ms. Patrice Faraone

STAFF

Mr. Joseph King, Interim Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Wayne Holliday, Business Administrator/ Board Secretary
Dr. Veronica Geyer, Assistant Superintendent of Personnel
Mr. Jeff Gorman, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – 68

After the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call, the Board President read the following statement:

In accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law, the Monroe Township Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof posted November 28, 2008:

1. At all Schools,
2. Home News Tribune,
3. Asbury Park Press, and
4. Filed with the Clerk of the Municipality.

CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION

Ms. Faraone moved, seconded by Ms. Leonard the adoption of the following resolution:

Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Township of Monroe hereby moves to go into Closed Session, in accordance with Sunshine Law, Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975 (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 through 10:4-21), to discuss the following subject:

- a. Personnel – Attorney advice with respect to the proposed superintendent’s contract.

The discussion conducted in closed session can be disclosed to the public at such time as the matter has been resolved.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Members of the Board of Education convened to closed session at 6:35 p.m.

Public Meeting reconvened at 7:05 p.m.

BOARD PRESIDENT’S REMARKS – Please refer to attached transcript.

BOARD ACTION - Please refer to attached transcript.

PUBLIC FORUM - Please refer to attached transcript.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ms. Leonard and seconded by Ms. Kolupanowich that the meeting be adjourned. Motion Carried Unanimously. The public meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

WAYNE HOLLIDAY
BOARD SECRETARY/
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

TRANSCRIPT

SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING

DECEMBER 4, 2008

1 MS. ANTELIS: At this time we'll go back
2 into open session. There's plenty of seats up
3 front. There's plenty of seats up front, folks.
4 Good evening, everyone, and thank you for coming
5 tonight. Before we get started, as many of you
6 know, Ryan Walp, a 2008 Monroe Township High School
7 graduate, passed away last week after a 3-year
8 battle with brain cancer. I received a letter from
9 Coach Bob Turco, I think who out of all the staff
10 knew him best, and I'd just like to read something
11 that he said about Ryan.

12 "Ryan's work ethic both in the classroom
13 and on the court exemplified what every student
14 athlete should strive to achieve. Although he had
15 several surgeries, he continued taking honor classes
16 and participated on the varsity basketball team all
17 3 years. His courage was an inspiration to the
18 community, his fellow students, teachers, teammates,
19 friends, and family. His commitment, dedication,
20 and desire to succeed will be the foundation of
21 Monroe athletics for years to come. Ryan will be
22 missed."

23 And at this time I'd like to have a
24 moment of silence for Ryan.

25 (Moment of silence)

1 MS. ANTELIS: Thank you. Okay. Moving
2 on. Okay, number 6, Board action. Miss
3 Kolupanowich.

4 MS. KOLUPANOWICH: It is recommended
5 that members of the Board of Education appoint Dr.
6 Kenneth Hamilton as superintendent of schools in
7 accordance with the terms and conditions of the
8 employment contract between the Monroe Township
9 Board of Education and Dr. Kenneth Hamilton.

10 MR. KAUFMAN: So moved.

11 MR. HOLLIDAY: It was moved it appears
12 by Miss Kolupanowich and second by Mr. Kaufman for
13 the record.

14 MS. KOLUPANOWICH: You take things away
15 from me.

16 MR. HOLLIDAY: So just for to repeat it
17 into the record, Miss Kolupanowich moved the motion,
18 seconded by Mr. Kaufman. The motion is now on the
19 table.

20 MS. ANTELIS: Questions or comments?
21 Seeing none, I'd just like to say finding the right
22 superintendent is not an easy task. The process
23 started in July and ends tonight. In order to find
24 the best match for this district, this Board agreed
25 that everyone must be involved, parents, staff, and

1 community. Working together, we have found that
2 match. I would like to thank the School Community
3 Committee, Anna Salvadore, Tracy Kapoor, Cathy
4 Varacallo, Rob Goodall, Vic Soriano, Dave Kirk,
5 Karen Castaldo, Jackie Winters, Joe Homoki, Ben
6 Baum, Wayne Holliday, and Board of Ed members Kathy
7 Kolupanowich and Marvin Braverman.

8 I'd also like to thank the site
9 committee visit -- Site Visit Committee, Karen
10 Castaldo, Vic Soriano, Claudia Tresente, and
11 Board of Ed members John Leary, Kathy Kolupanowich,
12 Rita Ostrager, and Ken Chiarella. And Wayne
13 Holliday. Sorry, I forgot you were there. I always
14 forget you, Wayne. You know that. But he's always
15 in my heart.

16 Seeing no other questions or comments,
17 we'll have a roll call, Mr. Holliday.

18 MR. HOLLIDAY: Mr. Leary.

19 MR. LEARY: Yes.

20 MR. HOLLIDAY: Mr. Tessler.

21 MR. TESSLER: Yes.

22 MR. HOLLIDAY: Mr. Kaufman.

23 MR. KAUFMAN: Yes.

24 MR. HOLLIDAY: Miss Faraone.

25 MS. FARAONE: Yes.

1 MR. HOLLIDAY: Miss Leonard.

2 MS. LEONARD: Yes.

3 MR. HOLLIDAY: Mr. Braverman.

4 MR. BRAVERMAN: Comment to make. I'm
5 sure that Dr. Hamilton has very good credentials,
6 and he would be my first choice and he is my first
7 choice; however, because I know what he is currently
8 earning, I'm voting no on this agreement because how
9 the salary was arrived at. These are seriously bad
10 economic times, and we have an obligation to
11 taxpayers as well as students. Thank you.

12 MR. HOLLIDAY: Miss Ostrager.

13 MS. OSTRAGER: Like Mr. Braverman, I'd
14 like to make a comment. I went on the site visit.
15 I was extremely impressed by everything I saw.
16 Through everybody that we met, I don't think that
17 anybody came close to meeting the qualifications
18 that we saw in Dr. Hamilton. I think he's capable
19 of doing some fantastic things in this district, and
20 I fully expect that he will; however, like Mr.
21 Braverman, I have an issue with the salary that we
22 have agreed upon, and because of that, and I want to
23 make it very clear that it's not a reflection on the
24 person, it's a reflection of how we determine that,
25 and the consideration or lack of consideration we've

1 had on the budget that I cannot support this
2 contract.

3 MR. HOLLIDAY: So noted. Mr. Chiarella.

4 MR. CHIARELLA: Yes.

5 MR. HOLLIDAY: Miss Kolupanowich.

6 MS. KOLUPANOWICH: Yes.

7 MR. HOLLIDAY: Miss Antelis.

8 MS. ANTELIS: Yes.

9 MR. HOLLIDAY: Madam Board President,
10 the motion has passed.

11 MS. ANTELIS: Thank you, and at this
12 time, I would like to introduce everyone to our new
13 superintendent, Dr. Ken Hamilton.

14 DR. HAMILTON: Well, certainly you
15 talked about how much time went into it. You should
16 try seeing it from my position. Very arduous. I do
17 want to thank the Board, however, and the members of
18 the community who participated in the search for
19 doing what I believe to be a very thorough job and
20 for your diligence and being so sincere and earnest
21 in your efforts to find who you believed to be the
22 right superintendent. I happen to believe I've
23 landed in the right place, as well. I'm committed
24 to Monroe. I'm committed to doing all the things
25 that are on the table before us, and I know that in

1 the interview process, it's much like an audition,
2 and oftentimes people say the right things and they
3 do the right things because they're essentially
4 auditioning, but I want you to know how sincere I am
5 about all the things that I've shared with you and
6 about the things that you've been able to extract
7 from my experience and my background, and I'm
8 committed to doing the work that's before us, and I
9 thank you for your support, and I thank you for your
10 efforts, and I look forward to joining you.

11 MS. ANTELIS: Thank you. I would just
12 like to take another moment to say transition is
13 never easy when a superintendent leaves and an
14 interim comes in. This is a huge job. I've seen
15 it. I always consider superintendents to be a
16 moving target, everybody in all different
17 directions, so at this time I would like to
18 recognize Mr. Joe King for what he has done for this
19 district. When Ralph left, Joe took over, and as
20 Wayne said, it was seamless transition. Joe, thank
21 you.

22 MR. KING: Thank you very much. I'm
23 easily embarrassed. Thank you.

24 MS. ANTELIS: I thought you were always
25 red. Okay. I know I have my agenda here somewhere.

1 At this time we will open it up to the public.
2 Anyone wishing to speak, please stand and state your
3 name for the record. Seeing no one, our next public
4 Board of Education will be Wednesday, December 17,
5 7 p.m. at the high school. A motion to adjourn.

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