

Minutes of the Special Public Meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Education held on May 14, 2015 at the Monroe Township High School. 95

The meeting was called to order by Board President Doug Poye at 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Michele Arminio
Mr. Marvin Braverman
Ms. Jill DeMaio
Ms. Kathy Kolupanowich
Mr. Thomas Nothstein
Mr. Doug Poye
Mr. Anthony Prezioso
Mr. Steven Riback

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Lew Kaufman

JAMESBURG BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT

Mr. Robert Czarneski

STAFF PRESENT

Mr. Dennis Ventrello, Interim Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Michael C. Gorski, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Nicholas Tharney

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Ms. Cori Haider

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – 9

After the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call, the Board Secretary 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 May 8, 2015:

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

Mr. Poye explained the process that should be followed during the Public Forum portions of Board of Education Meetings. Mr. Poye specified that the board welcomes the input from the public and appreciates their cooperation. The following procedures are stated in the bylaws and will be enforced:

- A.) The first Public Forum is designated for members of the public to speak about items on the agenda. Mr. Poye asked that the speaker identify the item number listed on the agenda when referencing it.
- B.) The second Public Forum is opened to any questions or concerns that the public may have.
- C.) Speakers should state their name, residence and any group affiliation.
- D.) Statements should not exceed three minutes.
- E.) All statements should be directed to the presiding officer. Questions should not be directed to individual members of the board. Likewise board members should not comment to speakers during the public session.

PUBLIC FORUM - None

BOARD DISCUSSION ONE-TO-ONE INSTRUCTIONAL INITIATIVE

Mr. Riback stated that from what he understands the teachers are most comfortable with the iPads and they feel that the iPad best meets the needs of the students and school. Mr. Riback suggested that the district begin to expand the professional development to include other products and not be exclusive to Apple at no additional cost.

A motion was made by Mr. Riback and seconded by Ms. Arminio that the members of the Monroe Township Board of Education approve the creation of in-house professional development technology opportunities, which are varied rather than platform-specific so as to better enable staff members in the District to develop technology skills that will be adaptable to a variety of different technology devices in the future.

Mr. Braverman stated that the Board should look into what needs the students have as they enter college and how Monroe is meeting those needs.

A motion was made by Mr. Braverman and seconded by Ms. Kolupanowich to amend the previous motion to include an ongoing study on how computers are used and what needs the students are after high school. Roll Call 4-5-0-0-1. Motion Failed with Ms. Arminio, Mr. Nothstein, Mr. Prezioso, Mr. Riback and Mr. Poye voting no. Ms. Arminio and Mr. Riback stated that they voted no with the hope of restructuring the concept in the future.

The Roll Call was taken for the previous motion made by Mr. Riback and seconded by Ms. Arminio which read that the members of the Monroe Township Board of Education approve the creation of in-house professional development technology opportunities, which are varied rather than platform-specific so as to better enable staff members in the District to develop technology skills that will be adaptable to a variety of different technology devices in the future.

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Roll Call 6-3-0-0-1. Motion Carried with Mr. Braverman, Mr. Czarneski and Ms. Kolupanowich voting no.

A motion was made by Mr. Poye and seconded by Mr. Nothstein that members of the Board of Education approve the following resolution entitled:

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-42 authorizes the Board of Education of the Township of Monroe (the "Board") to enter into a contract exceeding the fiscal year for the leasing of equipment of every nature and kind; and

WHEREAS, the Board has a need to acquire 2200 new iPad units and 200 MacBook units (collectively, the "Equipment") for school purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to acquire the Equipment through State Contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Board hereby authorizes the Superintendent, the Board Secretary and the Board's counsel to proceed to draft documents and conduct such other activities as are necessary to accomplish the acquisition of the Equipment through State Contract.

Section 2. The Board hereby directs the Board Secretary to process the necessary purchase orders and contracts to acquire the Equipment.

Section 3. The Board President and the Board Secretary are hereby authorized and directed to determine all matters in connection with the acquisition of the Equipment not determined by this or subsequent resolution of the Board, as permitted by law.

Section 4. A copy of this resolution shall be placed on file with the Secretary of the Board.

Section 5. The making of and submission to the County Superintendent of the application as required by N.J.A.C. 6A:26-10.1(d) is hereby authorized and approved, and the Board's counsel, along with other representatives of the Board, is hereby authorized to prepare and submit such application and to represent the Board in matters pertaining thereto.

Section 6. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Ms. DeMaio inquired if Apple agreed to the same price per unit considering that we will now be purchasing 200 iPads less. Dr. Alvich reported that the new price of the iPad did go up to \$513 per unit, however Apple reduced the price of the teacher laptops, PD, cases and tech support. Dr. Alvich stated that the old total price was \$1,610,461.37 and the new quote is \$1,501,953.50.

The new quote indicates approximately \$100,000 in savings. Mr. Gorski added that Apple has also granted 0% finance in the deal which would save about \$36,000 in finance costs.

Mr. Nothstein specified that it is a credit to the Board that they spent the time thoroughly considering and discussing this purchase and by having done so they were able to save the district \$100,000.

Mr. Prezioso inquired if the new iPads can be utilized for PARCC testing. Dr. Alvich responded yes.

Ms. Arminio inquired if the money received from the sale of the old iPads will be earmarked to defray the cost of the new iPads. Mr. Gorski responded yes, to comply with the states procurement laws all the proceeds received will be used to offset the new purchase.

Mr. Prezioso inquired about the possibility of using some of the old iPads in resource rooms or using them for the special needs department. Dr. Alvich responded that it is the intent to put the proceeds of the sale towards the new purchase of the new ones. Dr. Alvich added that units have been purchased for the other schools through Title I funds and PTA organizations.

Ms. Kolupanowich inquired where the recommendation to purchase 2200 iPads instead of 2400 units came from. Mr. Ventrello specified that administration is compromising to meet the needs of the Board with the understanding that the Board is being considerate to the taxpayers for this purchase. Mr. Ventrello stressed that the discussions regarding the technology needs began back in December when the technology committee was formed, all options have been considered and all of the questions have been answered, administration has negotiated the best price from Apple, but in order to receive the new units and have them ready for September a decision needs to be made soon.

Roll Call 9-0-0-0-1. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC FORUM

Victor Cooper 525 Avid Court – inquired if any of the current iPads are in good enough conditions to be used. Mr. Gorski responded that life span of the iPad is designed to last two to three years and new operating systems are continually being updated. Mr. Gorski added that the assessment of the current units will not take place until late June. Next, Mr. Cooper reported that there are 2400 non-age restricted homes being built which is estimated to bring in another 2200 students and inquired about the district having enough iPads for those students. Mr. Gorski explained that by holding on to some of the existing stock with this resolution we can handle the additional students entering the high school. Mr. Poye added that the impact of the projected 267 new students from the increased growth will be felt more in the younger grade levels.

Robert Roche 18 Muirfield Blvd. – congratulated the Board on the deliberative process regarding the iPad purchase. Mr. Roche inquired parents pay for broken screens. Mr. Gorski responded

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yes, parents pay fifty dollars for cracked screens. Mr. Roche stated that he would have liked to see the current juniors take iPads into senior year instead of purchasing new ones for them.

Mr. Poye asked Nicholas Tharney, Student Board Member to take a study as to what technology requests and usage are in the colleges that he will be visiting over the summer and fall. Mr. Poye requested that Nicholas report back to the Board on his findings.

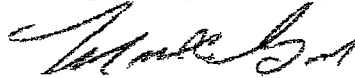
NEXT PUBLIC MEETING

Mr. Poye stated that the next public meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Education will convene at 5:15 p.m. on Tuesday, May 19 2015.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Poye and seconded by Mr. Nothstein that the meeting be adjourned. Motion Carried Unanimously. The public meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael C. Gorski, CPA
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
423 Buckelew Avenue
Monroe Township, NJ 08831
(732) 521-1500
Fax (732) 521-1628

MICHAEL C. GORSKI, CPA
Business Administrator/ Board Secretary

Vision Statement

“The Monroe Township Board of Education commits itself to all children by preparing them to reach their full potential and to function in a global society through a preeminent education.”

Mission Statement

“The Monroe Public Schools, in collaboration with the members of the community, shall ensure that all children receive an exemplary education by well trained, committed staff in a safe and orderly environment.”

AGENDA
SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING,
THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2015
7:00 P.M.
MONROE TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

(PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES AND PAGERS DURING THE MEETING)
(Recording Board Meetings)*

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Michele Arminio
Mr. Marvin Braverman
Ms. Jill DeMaio
Mr. Lew Kaufman
Ms. Kathy Kolupanowich
Mr. Thomas Nothstein
Mr. Doug Poye
Mr. Anthony Prezioso
Mr. Steven Riback

JAMESBURG BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE **

Mr. Robert Czarneski

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Cori Haider

Mr. Nicholas Tharney

4. STATEMENT

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5. PUBLIC FORUM***

6. BOARD DISCUSSION ONE-TO-ONE INSTRUCTIONAL INITIATIVE

7. PUBLIC FORUM***

8. NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Tuesday, May19, 2015 5:15 p.m. Monroe Township High School

9. ADJOURNMENT

* Any member of the public may record the proceedings of a public meeting of the Board in a manner that does not interrupt the proceedings, inhibit the conduct of the meeting, or distract Board Members or other observers present at the meeting.

The Board will permit the use of tape recorders, still or movie cameras, or videotape cameras only when notice of such intended use has been given to the Board Secretary one day in advance of the meeting. Any video recording device must be located and operated from inconspicuous locations in the meeting room as determined by the presiding officer of the meeting. The presiding officer may also limit the number of video recording devices if he/she determines the number and position of the video recording devices will be an unnecessary intrusion to the meeting. In this event, preference

will be given based on the order in which prior notice requesting to record the meeting was provided to the Board Secretary.

The presiding officer shall determine when any recording device interferes with the conduct of a Board meeting and may order that an interfering device be removed.

** The Jamesburg Representative shall be eligible to vote on only those matters specifically designated in N.J.S.A 18A:38-8.1, as follows:

- (1) Tuition to be charged the sending district by the receiving district and the bill lists or contracts for the purchase, operation or maintenance of facilities, equipment and instructional materials to be used in the education of the pupils of the sending district.
- (2) New capital construction to be utilized by sending district pupils.
- (3) Appointment, transfer or removal of teaching staff members providing services to pupils of the sending district, including any teaching staff member who is a member of the receiving district's central administrative staff; and
- (4) Addition or deletion of curricular and extracurricular programs involving pupils of the sending district.

To the extent the Jamesburg Representative inadvertently votes on any other matter, his vote shall not be counted.

*** Public discussion is confined to this portion of the Agenda unless permission is granted by the Board President prior to the start of the meeting or when the Board is considering a Special Agenda Item that the Board deems appropriate for public participation. Anyone wishing to address the Board is requested to stand and state his/her name and address.