

Regular Meeting
South Orange-Maplewood
Board of Education
February 4, 2008

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of South Orange-Maplewood was held in the District Meeting Room at the Administration Building, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, New Jersey, on February 4, 2008.

Board President Mark Gleason called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

Adequate written notice of this meeting of the South Orange-Maplewood Board of Education was sent to the Township and Village Clerks, the Libraries, The Star Ledger, the News Record and all schools.

ROLL CALL: Present: Mr. Bennett, Ms. Crawford, Mrs. Daugherty,
Mr. Eastman, Mr. Gleason, Ms. Karriem,
Mr. Laine, Dr. Payne-Parrish, Mrs. Wren-Hardin
Absent: None.

9 MEMBERS PRESENT

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Gleason declared the minutes of the Executive and Public Sessions of January 28, 2008 approved.

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS AND DELEGATIONS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Stephen Sigmund Tuscan Parent	Spoke in favor of having an additional kindergarten at Tuscan School.

The following teachers spoke in favor of the Project Ahead program:
Joanne Tesi, Barbara Jackson, Carole DeSarno, Donna Friedrich, Stacey Padalino, Rhoda Chait.

Teachers provided an overview of the program and spoke on behalf of struggling learners who would be affected by the reduction or elimination of the program.

The following individuals spoke in favor of keeping Home Economics at the middle schools:

Erin Hicks, Tara Fitzmartin, Sonya Cole, Shirley Deeds, Gail Blazure, Leslie Marshall, Peter Bozzo, Christine Squires, Steve Latz, Jane Yaris, Melanie Yaris.

Teachers, parents, former and current students of Home Economics classes spoke about the positive experiences afforded them by the program.

Superintendent Osborne thanked everyone who spoke. He expressed respect for the Home Economics teachers, and described the proposed changes for the program at the schools. The current nine FTEs allocated for Project Ahead will be reduced in the coming school year.

DISCUSSION

2008-09 Preliminary Budget

Mr. Laine introduced the budget discussion and acknowledged that many hard decisions will have to be made since the State has not allocated new revenues and the community is already heavily taxed.

Mrs. Milanette presented the side-by-side comparing proposed revenues and expenditures and explained the CAP calculations.

Board member comments included:

- § Discussion should be limited to trends, sustainability and direction to the Finance Committee for working with the administration.
- § Think about innovation and getting high quality education within the framework of the budget.
- § The budget focuses on changing the shape of the district and making things better, and incorporates visionary ideas and plans that will have a positive impact on the district.
- § The kindergarten proposal will necessitate increase.
- § We have the option not to do all of Phase I implementation of full-day kindergarten and keep the tax impact low now.
- § Review the larger categories such as special education and operation of facilities projects over next two years.
- § Investment in school system will pay off in many ways.
- § Need to track results of full-day kindergarten as a group and compare to half-day to confirm benefits.
- § At current growth rate, special education will outpace regular education.
- § The budget is aligned with district goals and will take conviction and funds to meet goals.
- § Consider comfort level on tax levy limit to recommend to the Board of School Estimate.

Paperless Board Meetings

Mrs. Wren-Hardin gave an update on the Communications Committee's research into School Board Net, acknowledging that the success of this initiative would be dependent upon a change in behavior and internet access. There would be a need to download files in advance of a meeting. The cost varies depending on the number of users.

ITEMS FOR ACTION

MOTION made by Mr. Eastman, seconded by Ms. Crawford, that the Board of Education:

2353A. WHEREAS, the following employees have requested approval for the indicated work-related travel; and

WHEREAS, the attendance at stated function was previously approved by the employees' supervisor and superintendent as work-related and within the scope of the work responsibilities of the attendee; and

WHEREAS, the attendance at the function was approved as promoting delivery of instruction or furthering efficient operation of the school district; and fiscally prudent;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education approves the attendance and related travel expenses for the following

work-related events:

EMPLOYEE	WORKSHOP/CONFERENCE	DATE	Location	Estimated Cost (\$'s)
Monique Durant	NJSBA	2/13/08	Mercerville, NJ	60
Patricia Barker	NJAPSA	5/19-20/08	Long Branch, NJ	350
Kris Harrison – MMS	ASCD Convention	3/14-17/08	New Orleans, LA	1801
*Jennifer Cudmore - Clinton	Using Ideas to Teach Standards Based Math	2/7/08	Somerset, NJ	175
*Terry Kohn-CHS	Int'l Dyslexia Association	3/14/08	Newark, NJ	180
*Debra Myers-SOMS	NECTFL Conference	3/28/08	NY, NY	150
*Carla DosSantos-SOMS	NECTFL Conference	3/28/08	NY, NY	150
*Rocio Lopez-CHS	NECTFL Conference	3/28/08	NY, NY	150
*Laurence Seltzer-Elem	NECTFL Conference	3/28/08	NY, NY	150
*Laurence Seltzer-Elem	FLENJ	3/7/08	Somerset, NJ	100
*Deborah Blumenthal-Clinton	Prompt Institute	3/10-12/08	New Providence, NJ	650
Lovie Lilly-CHS	Ethnography Forum	2/29-3/1/08	Philadelphia, PA	783
Dave Curtin – CHS	Glazier Clinic	2/21-22/08	Morristown, NJ	495
Michele Pozner-CHS	What's New in Young Adult Literature; 2008	4/28/08	Newark, NJ	205
*John Wolff-Jefferson	Writing about Mathematics	3/13/08	New Brunswick, NJ	208
Craig Rynar-CHS	Gang Awareness Training	2/11/08	Cedar Grove, NJ	11
Jim Cooney-MMS	Childhood Neurology	4/3/08	Parsippany, NJ	173

* Substitute Coverage Required

2353B. Approve the following attendance and related travel expenses:

BOARD MEMBER	EVENT	DATE	Location	Estimated Cost (\$'s)
Richard Laine	Accountability Act Training	3/4/08	Jersey City, NJ	32
Wayne Eastman	Accountability Act Training	3/4/08	Jersey City, NJ	32
Jennifer Payne-Parrish	NJSBA Salary Guide	2/23/08	Hamilton, NJ	190

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education approve the above event to be work related and within the scope of the work responsibilities of the of the attendee and promotes the

delivery of instruction or furthering of efficient operation of the school district and is fiscally prudent, and in compliance with N.J.S.A. 18A:12-24 and 24.1 of the School Ethics Act.

2353C. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education award the contract for the Special Education Program Audit to Dr. Mari Molenaar and Dr. Joyce Baynes, at a rate of \$46,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board President, Superintendent and Board Secretary are authorized to execute and deliver any necessary contracts and reports on behalf of the Board.

2353D. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education accepts additional Federal FY2008 *No Child Left Behind* (NCLB) Consolidated Entitlement Funds (Grant NCLB490008) in the amount of \$33,068 for program activities from September 1, 2007 to August 31, 2008.

20-231-100-320-SB-0231 \$ 6,416
20-231-100-600-SB-0231 \$ 1,800
20-231-100-600-CH-0231 \$ 20,852
20-231-200-320-CH-0231 \$ 4,000

Total Additional Funds \$33,068

2353E. Approves an agreement with Metro Energy Solutions of West Caldwell, New Jersey to provide an Alternative Energy Study/Energy Auditing Services at a cost of \$39,995.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board President, Superintendent and Board Secretary are authorized to execute and deliver any necessary contracts and reports on behalf of the Board.

2354. Approves the revised Board Member committee and liaison assignments as noted on the attached spreadsheet [on file in Board Secretary's office].

2355. Approves a settlement agreement for special education student #14954, and authorizes the Board President to execute the settlement agreement.

2356. WHEREAS, in accordance with law hearings were afforded with regard to the children identified by student number below; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that, as to the students identified below, the parents or guardians are not domiciled within the District or the children are not kept in the home of another person domiciled within the school district pursuant to the affidavit pupils statute; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby orders the transfer or removal of the students identified below.

<u>STUDENT #</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>GRADE</u>
0DPO	CHS	11 th

MOTION made by Mr. Laine, seconded by Ms. Crawford, to amend resolution 2354 to assign Mr. Bennett to the Garden State Coalition and remove Mrs. Daugherty from that position.

ROLL CALL: Motion 2353A-E, 2355, 2356 passed; 9 yes, 0 no.

Motion to amend 2354 passed; 9 yes, 0 no.

Motion 2354 passed as amended; 9 yes, 0 no.

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS AND DELEGATIONS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Steve Latz CBAC Member	Commented on budget development process and requested additional information regarding budget.
Hannah Edelman CHS Teacher	Requested information about what is included in regular programs and benefits. Inquired about proposed budget expenditures.
Paula Bethea SOMEA President	Raised questions about making ends meet and increases in administrative costs.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Wren-Hardin commended the Maplewood Middle School cast, crew and staff for an outstanding musical performance.

Future Public Board Meetings – Read by Mr. Gleason

The Board of Education will hold a Special Public Meeting on Monday, February 11, 2008, at 7:00 pm, in the Superintendent's Office at 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ. At the meeting, the Board will consider a motion to recess into Closed Session to hold a Student Discipline Hearing. Action will be taken.

The Board of Education will meet in Closed Session on Monday, February 25, 2008, at 7:00 pm, in the Superintendent's Office to discuss personnel and legal issues, negotiations and other matters to be announced at a later date. Immediately following the Closed Session, the Board of Education will meet in Public Session at 7:30 pm in the District Meeting Room, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ. Action will be taken.

The Board of Education will hold a Special Public Meeting on Wednesday, February 27, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the District Meeting Room, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ to present the Underhill Field renovation design and to hear questions/concerns from the public. No action will be taken.

The Education Liaison Committee of the South Orange-Maplewood Board of Education, the Township of Maplewood and the Township of South Orange Village will meet on Friday, February 29, 2008, at 7:30 am in the Superintendent's Office at 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ, to discuss issues pertinent to the school district and to the two municipalities of South Orange and Maplewood. No action will be taken.

MOTION made by Ms. Crawford, seconded by Ms. Wren-Hardin, that the Board of Education meet in Executive Session prior to the February 11, 2008 public meeting to discuss personnel and legal matters, the nature of which will be made public at a future date.

Motion unanimously approved.

MOTION made by Ms. Crawford, seconded by Mr. Bennett, that the Board of Education adjourn. Motion unanimously approved at 10:35 p.m.

Karla Milanette, Board Secretary