

MEETING OF THE LAKEWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2012, AT 8:00 A.M., AT 1771 MADISON AVENUE, LAKEWOOD, NEW JERSEY 08701

Mr. Meir Grunhut, Board President, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. Arlene Biesiada, Interim Board Secretary read the following:

SUNSHINE LAW

***Sunshine
Law***

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 231, of the Laws of 1976 (THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT), Ms. Miller notified the public that notice of the date, time, location and agenda of this meeting, to the extent known, was provided at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the commencement of this meeting in the following manner:

1. By posting such notice on the public announcement board of the Lakewood Board of Education Offices, and the Lakewood Township Municipal Building.
2. By mailing such notice to the offices of the Asbury Park Press and the Tri-Town News.
3. By filing such notice with the Board Secretary.
4. By mailing such notice to all individuals who requested and paid for a copy of same.

ROLL CALL:

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Mr. Grunhut, Mr. Greenspan,
Mr. Silver, Mr. Seitler
Mr. Freidman

Board Members Absent: Mr. Fink, Ms. Miccio,
Mr. Tift, Mr. Zlatkin

Also Attending: Lydia R. Silva, Superintendent
Arlene Biesiada, Interim Business Administrator/
Interim Board Secretary
Lisa Miller, Business Manager
Rosemary Caricari, Executive Secretary to the
Superintendent

Mr. Silver – “It is interesting, this meeting is unusually quite today, I wonder why?”

Mr. Silver

Mr. Seitler – “Is there a public portion?”

Mr. Seitler

Mr. Grunhut – “Yes.”

Mr. Grunhut

Mr. Seitler – “Can we do that now?”

Mr. Seitler

Mr. Grunhut – “No.”

Mr. Grunhut

Ms. Biesiada – “There is one change to the Agenda. Under A, Superintendent’s Items, the 4th sentence should read: “If the grant is obtained, the district again will consider contributing \$60,000 to the program, and the program will be located in the Lakewood High School and the district will provide a social worker and transportation.” And then it should say: “Subject again to Board approval.”

Ms. Biesiada

M. Grunhut – “Recognition of the Public.”

Mr. Grunhut

RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC

Recog. of Public

Dr. DasGupta – “It’s a pleasure to be here again. I come before the Board with two humbled requests. First, that all options be left open on the question of restructuring. I sincerely believe the Board voted prematurely to approve the restructuring, and therefore, when the pressure came to revoke, you had no grounds to stand on. You had nothing to argue why you voted for the restructuring in the first place because, I am sorry to say, you did not do your homework. What a critical decision you took just on the basis of what some of had to say. If I was in your position, if I know that the fate of so many children rested on my decision, I would listen to the experts, but then I would go and do my own research to find out about K-8 schools. The packet of research that I gave Mr. Inzelbuch, I really would like to know, did you even glance through it? How could you make a decision and undo it so impulsively? Your actions give me very little confidence in your ability, in your sincerity, in your will, in your desire, to make the decision which is the right one for the children of Lakewood. I implore you, I really would like you to do your homework now and convene a panel of experts, both for and against. My second request is to Lydia Silva. Please stay, Lydia. Lakewood schools need your leadership and your dedication. See us through this very difficult threshold. Put the schools on a firm ground before you retire. You are too young to retire anyway. Don’t be discouraged and dissuaded by the naysayers. Doing the right thing is never easy. And I urge the Board most strongly and humbly to request Ms. Silva to stay on or to bring someone on board who will carry on her mission. I am so disappointed that so many people on the Board are not here this morning. If this is a responsibility which has been placed in your hands, how

Dr. DasGupta

can you be so flippant? I really wish you people would take more interest, would show some engagement. Because when I look at you, I am sorry to say I don't see that, and that is what discouraging. How do the children feel? I am sorry, I am not faint-hearted to tell the truth. Please do the right thing. That is what you are there for."

***Recog. of Public
Dr. DasGupta***

Mr. Silver – "Through the chair. I just have one response. You mentioned at the end that you are so faint-hearted to tell the truth. Well, the truth is this is an emergency meeting which was arranged last week by the Board President. The Board President did not ask most Board members prior if they could attend. The Board has requested several times not to make early meetings because they have jobs and cannot make it. So, the reason why many Board members are not here is because they can not make it, because they are working. So, I would not take it out on the Board members.

Mr. Silver

Mr. Hobday – "30 School House Lane. It appears that the Board is taken to some disrespectful discourse with each other. this is never positive. It can only be harmful. All of you that sit on the Board are duly elected by the residents of Lakewood and your Oath of Office was to do your best for the school district, especially the children. Now, there is many forms of discourse that a Board can entertain, and sometimes the negative discourse is confined to executive meetings. When the Board starts going public with issues such as have become public in the last several weeks, the Board does itself a disservice and it does the Township a disservices. Ms. Silva, my heart is heavy to hear that have chosen to retire. In my mind, I thought "This is one positive step to helping the Lakewood School District." Now, once have forwarded your letter of retirement, is that undoable? Thank you for your services and your patience and all you so desire to do for the school district. We are having a problem here, a lot of problems. However, we're not going to solve those problems by being nasty to each other. There is something to be said about peace and harmony and open and honest negotiations. You are elected and you are duly bound to try to come to some compromise and try to work together as good ladies and gentlemen that sit on the board. You upset the parents, teachers and the students. You need to be decent, loving people that are

Mr. Hobday

willing to talk to each other and comprise for the betterment of the school district.

**Recog. of Public
Mr. Hobday**

Pastor Wilson – “We have a situation over at Oak Street School. A seven year old student being bullied by a sixth grader. This morning there was an 8:30 meeting scheduled. The parents are now waiting to meet with Ms. Winters, and I am surprised that Ms. Winters is here. What is going on with that?”

Pastor Wilson

Mrs. Winters – “I actually called Friday night to cancel.”

Pastor Wilson – “To cancel?” **Pastor Wilson**

Mrs. Winters – “Yes.” **Mrs. Winters**

Pastor Wilson – “You spoke to her or **Pastor Wilson** left a message?”

Mrs. Winters – “I left a message.” **Mrs. Winters**

Pastor Wilson – “Left a message, okay. **Pastor Wilson** Secondly, I too am not happy about having to go through yet another Superintendent. Ms. Silva you understand, and I understand that as long as you have to work in this environment where we have to fight for anything and everything, any superintendent that comes here, you know, is going to have the same problem because we are a strongly divided Board, which brings a strongly divided community. And as I wrote in the blog last week, I long to see the day when we are going to have a Board that is united for the education of our children, where we can all work together to make sure that our children and all children get the best education that is possible. So, I hope that the comments that every person, you know, has made this morning, you know, considering the Board that you guys take this very seriously and understand that the issues in our school system are not going to be resolved unless we have a Board that is fully and completely committed to the education of our children.”

Mr. Booth – “On the agenda there is a **Mr. Booth** statement there to rent another building. I know that we have been renting a lot of buildings for the school. Is there any

reason why we keep renting and can't purchase something for ourselves?
And on Superintendent Items, I know the BA wrote that the district will provide \$60,000, where will the difference come from for the \$83,448?"

***Recog. of Public
Mr. Booth***

Ms. Biesiada – "Right now this is just an application for the grant. We don't know if we're going to get it. And once we do get it, we have to see if we have the finances to even go through with it. This will be for next school year. Regarding the renting of the building, this is for three months, through June for our preschool handicapped children. It is cheaper than sending them out of district."

Ms. Biesiada

Mr. Booth – "Only through June."

Mr. Booth

Ms. Biesiada – "Only."

Ms. Biesiada

Mr. Grunhut – "That completes our recognition of the public."

Mr. Grunhut

PUBLIC RECOGNITION CLOSED

Pub. Recog. Closed

Mr. Grunhut – "I would like to make a motion to move the whole agenda."

Mr. Grunhut

Mr. Greenspan – "Second."

Mr. Greenspan

Mr. Grunhut – Any discussion?
Hearing none, roll call."

Mr. Grunhut

MOTION TO MOVE THE WHOLE
AGENDA

Motion to Move Agenda

ROLL CALL:

Roll Call

YES: Mr. Friedman, Mr. Greenspan,
Mr. Seitler, Mr. Silver,
Mr. Grunhut

MOTION PASSES

Motion Passes

AGENDA **MARCH 12, 2012**

- I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – PRESIDENT, LAKEWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION
- II. ROLL CALL

- III. PRESENTATIONS – NONE AT THIS MEETING
- IV. MINUTES – NONE AT THIS MEETING
- V. RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC
- VI. CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS – NONE AT THIS MEETING
- VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS – NONE AT THIS MEETING
- VIII. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BOARD SECRETARY/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

A. Approve the renting of additional space needed for the Early Childhood Learning Center for the public school preschool program. Two RFP's were advertised, the first one dated February 22, 2012, with no responses was advertised in the Asbury Park Press on February 7, 2012 and in the Star Ledger on February 8, 2012. The second RFP dated March 7, 2012, with only one response received from the Special Children's Center, Lakewood, NJ was advertised on February 25, 2012 in the Asbury Park Press. The proposed lease will be from Wednesday, March 14, 2012 through June 30, 2012 at a cost of \$10,000.00 per month including utilities and all required furnishings.

IX. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. SUPERINTENDENT'S ITEMS

- 1. Approval to authorize the Superintendent to execute any and all documentation to be submitted to the N.J. Department of Children and Families, Division of Prevention and Community Partnership for the "Parent Linking Grant" (Teen Parenting) in the amount of \$83,448 for the 2012-2013 school year. If the Grant is obtained the district will contribute \$60,000 to the program. The program will be located in the Lakewood High School and the district will provide a Social Worker and transportation.

B. PERSONNEL

1. CERTIFICATED

- a. Resignations– N/A at this meeting
- b. Retirements – N/A at this meeting
- c. Terminations - N/A at this meeting

- d. Leaves of Absence - N/A at this meeting
- e. Transfers
 - (1) DeSANTIS, Jandyr
School Psychologist
Effective: March 12, 2012
From: Ella G. Clarke School
To: Oak Street School
 - (2) MELEN, Chava
School Psychologist
Effective: March 12, 2012
From: Oak Street School
To: Ella G. Clarke School
- f. Appointments – N/A at this meeting
- g. Reappointments – N/A at this meeting
- h. Salary Adjustments– N/A at this meeting
- i. Stipends - N/A at this meeting
- j. Tuition Reimbursement – N/A at this meeting
- k. Miscellaneous
 - (1) EMPLOYEE #5490
Return from Paid Leave of Absence
Effective: March 12, 2012

2. NON-CERTIFICATED

- a. Resignations- N/A at this meeting
- b. Retirements – N/A at this meeting
- c. Terminations- N/A at this meeting
- d. Leaves of Absence - N/A at this meeting
- e. Transfers - N/A at this meeting

f. Appointments

- (1) DEVANEY, James
Security Officer – LHS
Salary: \$22.50 per hour
Effective: March 14, 2012
Terminating: June 30, 2012 (or sooner)
(no health benefits)
- (2) LAZARO, Joe
Security Officer – LHS
Salary: \$22.50 per hour
Effective: March 14, 2012
Terminating: June 30, 2012 (or sooner)
(no health benefits)
- (3) WRIGHT, Charles – LMS
Security Officer
Salary: \$22.50 per hour
Effective: March 13, 2012
Terminating: June 30, 2012 (or sooner)
(no health benefits)
- (4) GARRONE, Salvatore - DISTRICT
Security Officer – Part Time
Salary: \$22.50 per hour (not to exceed 25 hours per week)
Effective: March 14, 2012
Terminating: June 30, 2012 (or sooner)
(no health benefits)
- (5) TIMMERMAN, Kathy- DISTRICT
Security Officer – Part Time
Salary: \$22.50 per hour (not to exceed 25 hours per week)
Effective: March 13, 2012
Terminating: June 30, 2012 (or sooner)
(no health benefits)

g. Reappointments - N/A at this meeting

h. Salary Adjustments - N/A at this meeting

i. Stipends - N/A at this meeting

j. Tuition Reimbursements - N/A at this meeting

k. Miscellaneous - N/A at this meeting

- * Appointment subject to approval of Criminal History background check by State Department of Education, as per NJSA 18A:6-7-1, et. seq., NJSA 18A:39-17 et. seq., or NJSA 18A:6-4.13 et seq., as applicable.
- ** As required by law and code, this Emergent Employee Resolution, upon motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was RESOLVED that this person be employed by the Board of Education of the Lakewood Public School District in the County of Ocean on an emergent basis.
- *** This position does not include the following:

Medical Coverage	Personal Days
Dental Coverage	Professional Days
Prescriptions	Vacation Days
Optical Coverage	Sick Days
Reimbursement for Credits	

Mr. Grunhut – “I would like to make one **Mr. Grunhut** more mention. This afternoon at 4:00 p.m. the Finance Committee headed by Mr. Seitler, to be included with Mr. Greenspan, Mr. Tift and myself, will be meeting about the budget. It is closed, it is only four people. But the budget is being reviewed, just to let the public know. And with that a motion to adjourn.”

Mr. Friedman – “Second.” **Mr. Friedman**
MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion to Adjourn

Ms. Silva – “I want to take this opportunity **Ms. Silva** to welcome Mr Devaney, Mr. Lazaro, Mr. Wright, Mr. Garrone and Ms. Timmerman to our district. We really appreciate you coming on board. We need you and wish you the best because your success is our kids’ success. So thank you again.”

Mr. Grunhut – “Welcome security, **Mr. Grunhut** past police. We really welcome you and are looking forward to working with you. Mr. Stillwell has taken only the best on. Again, thank you for joining us. Okay we can now move on the motion to adjourn.

Board Members – “Aye.”

Motion Passes

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:47 A.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:
ARLENE BIESIADA
INERIM BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/
INTERIM BOARD SECRETARY

