

EAST WINDSOR REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, HIGHTSTOWN, NJ 08520

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

December 13, 2010 7:30 p.m.

The Board of Education of the East Windsor Regional School District held a Regular meeting on Monday, December 13, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. in the Hightstown High School Cafeteria located at 25 Leshin Lane, Hightstown, NJ.

Members Present: Bruce Ettman, Suzann Fallon, Bonnie Fayer, Christine Harrington,
Bob Lavery, Susan Lloyd, Kennedy Paul and Alice Weisman
Members Absent: Paul Connolly (with advance notice)
Also Present: Dr. Edward Forsthoffer, Chief School Administrator
Kurt Stumbaugh, SBA/Board Secretary
David Coates, Board Legal Counsel

ITEM 1. WELCOME

Board President Alice Weisman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and read the Open Public Meeting Act Statement as follows:

“Written advance notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with law. Minutes of this meeting are being kept by the Board Secretary and will be made available to any member of the public requesting them from the Board Secretary at the Administration building 25A Leshin Lane, Hightstown, NJ. Minutes will be provided at cost and in accordance with Board policy.

Ms. Weisman asked “Are there any Board members present who believe this meeting to be in violation of the Open Public Meeting Act?” No one objected. “There being none, we may proceed.”

Fire Code Compliance: Ms. Weisman made the following announcement: “In compliance with the fire code of the State of New Jersey, I call your attention to the emergency exit for this room, which is located.....” (Ms. Weisman pointed to the emergency exit.)

ITEM 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ITEM 3.A APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Lavery moved, seconded by Ms. Fayer to approve the agenda as submitted.
On a roll call vote of the Board, motion to approve was carried unanimously.

ITEM 3.B RESOLUTION FOR CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Lavery moved, seconded by Ms. Fayer to approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the East Windsor Regional School District will hold two closed sessions during its regular meeting on December 13, 2010. These closed sessions concern: Personnel matters, Litigation, Contract matters, and Attorney /Client Privilege. Minutes will be available in accordance with Board policy when the need for confidentiality no longer exists. On a roll call vote of the Board, Motion to approve was carried unanimously

ITEM 4. PRESENTATION: HHS FLUTE ENSEMBLE

The Flute Ensemble of Hightstown High School gave an excellent performance of “Carol of Bells” which was composed by Mykola Dmytrovich Leontovich. The ensemble is an extra-curricular activity and the students work extremely hard to practice and perform these pieces. The student musicians were Ajani Crosley, Katarzyna Dobrzycka, Kimberly Jack, Taffy Le, Sonia Kelkar, and Grace Kang.

Dr. Forsthoffer thanked Mr. Toomey and the ensemble for their outstanding performance and to keep up the good work.

ITEM 5. RECOGNITION OF MHK ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS

Three students from the Melvin H. Kreps Middle School were the winners of an essay contest sponsored by the Township of East Windsor. The essay was to be 75 to 150 words and the topic was to select a hazardous material which should not be placed in the regular trash, and explain why and how to dispose of it properly. The three winners, all 6th graders, were Michael Sokol, 1st place; Rahul Kamat, 2nd place and Joseph Bonacorda with 3rd place.

ITEM 6. RECOGNITION OF MEGAN BELANSKY- HHS STUDENT MUSICIAN

Hightstown High School student Megan Belansky, a 12th grader, was recognized for being selected to the 2011 All-Eastern Wind Ensemble. This ensemble is comprised of the finest student musicians from 12 states on the East Coast, selected through a highly competitive process. Megan, who plays the Alto Clarinet, will participate in rehearsals and two performances in Baltimore, MD during the weekend of the National Association for Music Education Convention (March 31-April 3). This is not only a great achievement for Megan, but it is also great for Hightstown High School and the East Windsor Regional School District. Megan is the first student from this school to be selected to this prestigious ensemble.

ITEM 7. RECOGNITIONS

A. HHS MARCHING BAND

The Marching Band of Hightstown High School was recognized for the outstanding performances they gave this year and the successes they had in competitions. In addition to supporting the high school football team, the Marching Band performed at six competitions in New Jersey and one in Pennsylvania. They had great results with several being in the top three positions and they received their highest score of the season (87.2) at the Northern State Championships in Allentown, PA. Justin Toomey is the Director of the Band; Harrison Horowitz and Ross Gary are Assistant Directors.

B. HHS GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY TEAM

Hightstown High School’s Girls’ Field Hockey team won the coveted Colonial Valley Conference Valley Division Championship. Several of their players were also recognized by the Coaches Association. Nichole Tomasello was the Head Coach.

C. HHS CHEERLEADING SQUAD

The fall Cheerleading Squad of Hightstown High School was recognized for winning the championship with the Colonial Valley Conference Medium Division. They also won overall Best Cheer at the annual competition. Kim Ostrowski was the Head Coach and Cindy Ettenhuber was the Assistant Coach.

ITEM 8. DONATION FROM BOROUGH OF HIGHTSTOWN COMMUNITY FAIR COMMITTEE TO MUSIC DEPARTMENT OF HHS

The Borough of Hightstown Community Fair Committee Chairperson Kathy Patten presented a check for \$500.00 to the music department of Hightstown High School. The donation was in gratitude and appreciation for the musical entertainment provided by high school students during the Community Fair. Dr. Forsthoffer, the Board and Mr. Toomey thanked Mrs. Patten for the generous donation.

ITEM 9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Forsthoffer spoke on the following:

- Updated the Board on the upcoming music presentations at the district schools.
- Attended the High School Red Cross Club holiday party. Food, entertainment and games were enjoyed by all. Commended the volunteers for their efforts.
- Holiday window decorating contest in Hightstown, two of our high school students were winners.

ITEM 10. FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

No one spoke.

ITEM 11. FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Ms. Fallon commented it was a wonderful way to begin the meeting with student recognitions and a music performance.

Ms. Harrington commented that she would definitely support the district using "Facebook" for the community to benefit from seeing short clips or videos of our students performances.

Ms. Lloyd commented that teacher, Christopher Gregory and the High School Robotics team held a demonstration of the robots at the Hamilton Barnes and Noble. People were impressed and were asking Mr. Gregory for information about the team.

ITEM 12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

(The Board opted to not have a closed session at this time.)

ITEM 13. MOTION TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEMS BY EXCEPTION

Mr. Lavery moved seconded by Ms. Fayer to approve the following routine items:

- A. Staffing
- B. Emergent Hiring
- C. Out of District Placement
- D. Professional Services
- E. Travel Related Expenses
- F. Approval of Elective Life Time Activities at Kreps
- G. Non-Paid Military Appreciation Club at HHS
- H. Donations:
 - 1. To the School Store at HHS
 - 2. Computer to EMK 5th Grade Class
 - 3. Hightstown Community Fair Committee to HHS Music Dept.
- I. Field Trips
- J. Volunteers
- K. Approval of Minutes for November 29, 2010
- L. Resolution to Participate in Government Energy Audit Program
- M. Board Secretary's Report: October, 2010
- N. Treasurer's Report: October, 2010
- O. Transfer Report: October, 2010
- P. Bill List: December 13, 2010

Discussion:

Mr. Lavery asked about the Military appreciation club. Dr. Forsthoffer will provide additional details.

Ms. Weisman expressed her thanks for the donation presented to the district this evening and to all the generous donors to the district.

On a roll call vote of the Board, motion to approve the routine agenda items was carried unanimously.

F. APPROVAL OF ELECTIVE COURSE AT KREPS: LIFETIME ACTIVITIES

This course is a one marking period elective available to eighth grade students. It is designed to help students develop an appreciation and understanding of the importance of lifetime physical activity. Students will learn the skills needed to maintain a healthy and active lifestyle through individual and dual sports, self-defense/personal safety, conditioning and recreational activities. An emphasis on safety, sportsmanship, and fitness will be stressed at all times. The full curriculum is on the Sharepoint Website.

G. NON-PAID MILITARY APPRECIATION CLUB AT HHS

Hightstown High School would like to start a new club entitled “Military Appreciation Club” which would fall under the category of a non-paid, extracurricular activity with a teacher advisor. The advisor will be David Williams, one of the English teachers at HHS.

H. DONATIONS:

1. To HHS School Store

Mrs. Sonya Neer-Atkinson, 8 Springwood Drive, Princeton Junction, NJ, a long-time Special Education teacher, would like to donate \$148.00 to cover the cost of T-shirts that will be sold at the School Store of Hightstown High School. The store is run by the Life Skills Classes.

2. Computer to EMK 5th Grade Class

Ms. Lisa Thibault, 504 South Main St., Hightstown, NJ 08520 would like to donate an Apple iMac personal computer, keyboard, and flat screen monitor to the Ethel McKnight School. This donation is for the 5th grade class of Mrs. Siggelakis.

3. Hightstown Community Fair Committee to HHS Music Department

The Community Fair Committee of Hightstown Borough, Chairperson Kathy Patten would like to donate \$500. to the Music Department of the high school. The donation is in gratitude and appreciation of the musical entertainment provided by high school music students during the Community Fair.

I. FIELD TRIPS

Field Trips planned for the Ethel McKnight School:

1/26/11 1st Grade – Play entitled “If You Give a Mouse a Cookie”
War Memorial Patriots Theatre, 1 Memorial Drive, Trenton, NJ

Field Trips planned for Kidcare:

12/23/10 - Rogers School Kidcare to Dairy Queen
200 Marketplace Blvd., Hamilton, NJ

Field Trips planned for Hightstown High School:

1/8/11 FIRST Robotics Team to Montgomery Township High School
1016 Route 601, Skillman, NJ
1/7/11 FBLA – Regional Competition at Mercer County Community College
1200 Old Trenton Road, West Windsor, NJ

J. VOLUNTEERS

The Board of Education approves all volunteers/chaperones who serve in the school district. The following have offered to volunteer/chaperone at the Walter C. Black School:

Cynthia Flanagan	Daljit Mann	Navneet Singh
Melissa Jugmohan	Vijaya Mekala	Shalini Vadi
Navneet Kumar	Helina Patel	Debbie Warfield
Charlie Lee	Michele Rosario	Jill Wargo
Nicole Lee	Cindy Scatko	Jerry Wargo
William Lindner	Joseph Sinacore	Sadaf Zaidi

The following have offered to volunteer/chaperone at the Hightstown High School:
Justin Bauman – Assistant Wrestling Coach

The following have offered to volunteer/chaperone at the Perry L. Drew School: Heather Sargent

The following have offered to volunteer/chaperone at the Ethel McKnight School:

Monika Herman	Michele Hartnet	Madhu Karra
Christine Fry	Kelly Iavarone	Jennifer Tandler
Joanne Mamone	Marilyn Forst	Prrona Sarang
Fred Simon	Dan Tandler	
Rich Mamone	Michael Fry	

K. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 29, 2010 MEETING

As submitted. Posted on District website.

L. RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN GOVERNMENT ENERGY AUDIT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, Office of Clean Energy administers the Local Government Energy Audit Program (Program), an incentive program to assist local government agencies to conduct energy audits and to encourage implementation of energy conservation measures; and,

WHEREAS, the East Windsor Regional Board of Education has decided to apply to participate in the Local Government Energy Audit Program; and,

WHEREAS, the facilities to be audited are in New Jersey, are owned by the East Windsor Regional School District, are served by a New Jersey regulated public utility, and that the East Windsor Regional School District has not already reserved \$100,000 in the Program this year as of this application; and,

WHEREAS, it is acknowledged that acceptance into the Program is dependent on the Scope of Work and Cost Proposal, and that Program rules will have to be met in order to receive incentive funds; and,

WHEREAS, upon acceptance into the Program, the East Windsor Regional School District will prepare Facility Data Forms and Scopes of Work for each facility to be audited, solicit quotations from the authorized contractors, and submit the Part B application; and,

WHEREAS, the East Windsor Regional School District understands that energy audit work cannot proceed until a Application Approval Notice is received from the Program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the East Windsor Regional School District Board of Education approves the submission of an Application for participation in the Local Government Energy Audit Program of the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities. *Adopted this 13th day of December, 2010*

M. BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT: OCTOBER, 2010

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has received the report of the Board Secretary and Treasurer for the month of October, 2010 submitted pursuant to N.J.S.A 18A:17-9, and

WHEREAS, in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6:20-2A.10 (d) the Secretary has certified that, as of the date of the reports, no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district Board of Education;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education accepts the above referenced reports and certifications and certifies that after review of the Secretary's monthly financial report (appropriation section), to the best of its knowledge, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation on N.J.A.C.6:20-2A.10 (a)(1), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the year.

N. TREASURER'S REPORT: OCTOBER, 2010

The Report of the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of October, 2010 is submitted for approval. The Treasurer's report is in agreement with the Board Secretary's report.

O. TRANSFER REPORT : OCTOBER, 2010

The East Windsor Regional School District submits to the County School Business Administrator an updated report of budget transfers and changes in revenue and appropriations on a monthly basis.

The EWRSB Board of Education certifies to the best of its knowledge that no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education ratifies the attached transfers between budget line items that have been approved by the Superintendent of Schools and reported to them pursuant to Board policy and State regulation.

P. ORDERS OF PAYMENT / BILL LISTS for December 13, 2010

The Bill and Claims Reports must be approved by the Board of Education before being submitted for payment.

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education approves the payment of bills and claims as submitted in the attached reports for the grand total amount of: \$13,940,584.95

14. SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

No one spoke.

15. SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

No one spoke.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

17. OPEN SESSION

18. ADJOURN

Ms. Lloyd moved to adjourn.

Kurt Stumbaugh, Board Secretary