

The Board of Education of the East Windsor Regional School District held a regular meeting on Monday, February 12, 2007 at the Hightstown High School Cafeteria.

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 promptly 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.”
The meeting continued.

Members Present: Bruce Ettman, Suzann Fallon, Bonnie Fayer, James Hauck, Robert Laverty, Susan Lloyd, Kennedy Paul, Alice Weisman

Members Absent: Ricardo Perez

Also Present: Ronald Bolandi, Chief School Administrator; Kurt Stumbaugh, Business Administrator/Board Secretary; and David Coates, Board Legal Counsel

COMPLIANCE WITH FIRE CODE

The Board President 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...” (Board President pointed to the Emergency Exit).

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (ITEM 2)

The Board President asked those present to join in a pledge of allegiance to the flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA (ITEM3A)

Having read the material received, Mr. Laverty moved, seconded by Ms.Fayer, to approve the agenda.

On a roll call vote, members voting yes: Mr. Ettman, Ms. Fayer, Mr. Hauck, Mr. Laverty, Ms. Lloyd, Mr. Paul, Ms. Weisman. Members voting no: None. Members abstaining: None.

Motion was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION FOR CLOSED SESSION (ITEM 3B)

Mr. Laverty 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 a closed session during its Regular Meeting on February 12, 2007. This closed session concerns:

1. Personnel Matters
2. Contract Negotiations
3. Litigation

Minutes of this closed session will be available in accordance with Board Policy when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

On a roll call vote, members voting yes: Mr. Ettman, Ms. Fallon, Ms. Fayer, Mr. Hauck, Ms. Lloyd, Mr. Laverty, Mr. Paul and Ms. Weisman. Members voting no: None. Members abstaining: None. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION BY HIGHTSTOWN COUNCILWOMAN, CONSTANCE HARINXMA (ITEM 4)

As a parent, and a resident Ms. Harinxma gave a detailed presentation on recreational activities hosted by the schools. The substance of the presentation centered around the equity of recreational activities offered to the communities. The Hightstown YMCA plays a central role in this. Equal access and literature to both East Windsor and Hightstown needs to be "first come, first served." These are the issues of concern.

PRESENTATION OF FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN (ITEM 5)

Mr. Bolandi introduced the full day kindergarten program; along with Gayle Parker, principal of the Ethel McKnight school. They gave a detailed presentation on the benefits of full day kindergarten. The Superintendent gave detailed program budget costs for this program. \$1,345,000. is the *estimated* cost as of today. This number will be refined. A minor re-districting may be required to accommodate full day kindergarten.

DRUG TESTING IN DISTRICT

Superintendent gave detailed presentation on NJ State Law related to drug testing and the related district policies. Mr. Laverty stated his support for the Superintendent's viewpoint.

FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT (ITEM 6)

Glen Johnston – Voiced his strong support for the district's drug testing policies and efforts.

Note: Mr. Johnston is the parent of a student who died of a drug overdose at the beginning of the school year.

Stacey Judge - Expressed her concern for the inequity in the summer recreation programs run at the schools. Sign ups are unfair and the cost is more for Hightstown residents.

Stu Dolgon – Suggested that EWRSD and local law enforcement combine their efforts to reduce drug activity. Inquired what current kindergarten set up is, and what the proposed full day kindergarten set up would be. Gayle Parker responded. He also inquired about the last revenue at Turning Point. The Superintendent responded that approximately \$200,000. revenue would be lost.

Traci Hemel – Voiced strong support for full day kindergarten. Ken Boardman will coordinate outreach efforts with interested residents

Karen Stack – Inquired about curriculum adjustment in later grades. She voiced opposition to full day kindergarten, and inquired about the specific process of drug testing. The Superintendent gave a detailed response.

Christian Toulg – Detailed his experiences with YMCA recreational activities. He feels that Hightstown residents are treated less fairly than East Windsor for recreational opportunities. Superintendent responded with a detailed description of the building use request process.

Kamelia Kimeli – asked about special needs students in full day kindergarten. The Superintendent responded that the same full day opportunities will be offered to all.

Pamela Senatore – requested that the building usage policy be modified so that no discrimination occurs for sign-ups.

Leslie Cokeley - spoke about the Robotics Team. Thanked the Board for their support and gave a demonstration of this year's Robot. Students introduced themselves and shared their Robotics experiences.

Wendy McDade, of East Windsor Recreation Dept. – as a parent expressed disapproval with the policy of literature that is inequitable and should not be distributed in schools.

Public Comment Closed

At this time, the Board of Education President recognized the Boy Scouts from Troop 59.

FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

- Bruce Ettman re: Flyers – Discriminating is an overly charged word. In the past, summer recreation was funded by both East Windsor and Hightstown. Public community groups have the freedom to distribute flyers without editorial review by the EWRSD.
Re: Robotics team – Long history of success. Keep up the good work.
Re: Drug Testing – Press coverage was less than balanced with a two page article over a non-event. Mr. Ettman gave a strong rebuttle to the reporter and editor of the Trenton Times for their coverage of the story.
- Mr. Coates - Amplified the finer points of state law related to drug testing.
- Mr. Hauck – Re: the East Windsor Recreation matter, stated that the related policies need to be revisited. He encouraged Robotics team support. Stated that drug testing is an important issue.
- Susan Lloyd – Stated the report card data clearly indicates substantial progress by the District. She gratefully acknowledged the Superintendent for his leadership. Suggested that Hightstown assist.
- Ms. Fallon – shared her experiences with summer recreation. Hightown's withdrawal from joint summer recreation avoided a minor budgetary expense at a large cost. There is no equity in the summer recreation program. Ms. Fallon updated the BOE on her activities since we last met.
- Ms. Fayer – commented on press coverage of AYP. Mr. Dzwonar clarified that 159 out of 160 indicators were met. Ms. Fayer congratulated administration on their efforts.
- Mr. Laverty – requested discrimination term be removed from the discussion. The joint recreation program does not offer an easy solution to a difficult issue. The coverage by the Windsor- Hights Herald was very good.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (ITEM 8)

The Superintendent thanked the Johnston family for coming out tonight in support of students. The reschedule of the scheduling meeting to occur at curriculum meeting.

The Superintendent gave a commendation to the elementary education faculty, staff and administrators for their hard work in achieving the successes they have.. He thanked the Board of Education members for their unwavering support and freedom to administrate the District.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE #86 (ITEM 9)

The construction attorney and manager will present a full report later this month.

MOTION TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEMS BY EXCEPTION (ITEM 10)

Mr. Lavery moved, seconded by Ms. Fallon that the following routine items be approved by exception:

- A. Staffing
- B. Authorization for Emergent Hiring Pending Completion of Criminal History Check
- C. Approval of Travel & Related Expenses, Reimbursements – Certified Staff
- D. Professional Development Plan 2007-08
- E. Donations
 - 1. Exercise Machine – HHS
 - 2. Trailer – Building & Grounds
- F. “Technology for Teaching “ Grant Proposal
- G. Volunteers
- H. Approval of Minutes
- I. Surplus Property Sale/Auction
- J. Change Orders
- K. Orders of Payment

On a roll call vote, members voting yes: Mr. Ettman, Ms. Fallon, Ms. Fayer, Mr. Lavery, Ms. Lloyd, Mr. Paul, Mr Hauck and Ms. Weisman. Members voting no: none. Members abstaining: none
Motion carried unanimously.

STAFFING (ITEM 10A)

Mr. Lavery moved, seconded by Ms. Fallon, that the Board approve staffing as submitted.
(Copy in minutes book).

On a roll call vote, motion to approve was carried unanimously;

AUTHORIZATION FOR EMERGENT HIRING PENDING COMPLETION OF CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECK (ITEM 10B)

Mr Lavery moved, seconded by Ms. Fallon, that the Board of Education approve the submission of applications for emergent hiring pending completion of the criminal history background check to the county superintendent for the following individuals:

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| Khadijah Caffie | School Social Worker |
| Jillian Dee | Kidcare Instructor |
| Robyn Klim | School Social Worker |

On a roll call vote, motion to approve was carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF TRAVEL RELATED EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENTS – CERTIFIED STAFF (ITEM 10C)

Mr. Lavery moved, seconded by Ms. Fallon, that the Board of Education approve the travel related expense reimbursements to certified staff as submitted.

On a roll call vote, motion to approve was carried unanimously.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2007-08 (ITEM 10D)

Mr. Lavery moved, seconded by Ms. Fallon, that the Board of Education approve the Professional Development Plan for school year 2007-2008 as submitted.

On a roll call vote, motion to approve was carried unanimously.

DONATIONS (ITEM 10E)

Mr. Lavery moved, seconded by Ms. Fallon, that the Board of Education approve the donations of the following items: 1. Exercise Machine – donated by The Peddie School c/o Ms. Francis dLaurentis, Assistant Athletic Director
 2. Trailer – donated by Tim Megargle of Lawrenceville to Building & Grounds Dept.

On a roll call vote, motion to approve the above items as submitted, was carried unanimously.

TECHNOLOGY FOR TEACHING GRANT PROPOSAL (ITEM 10F)

Mr. Lavery moved, seconded by Ms. Fallon, that the Board of Education approve the grant proposal "Technology for Teaching" as submitted.

On a roll call vote, motion to approve was carried unanimously.

VOLUNTEERS (ITEM 10G)

Mr. Lavery moved, seconded by Ms. Fallon, that the Board of Education approve the list of Volunteers to serve in the East Windsor Regional School District as submitted.

On a roll call vote, motion to approve was carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JANUARY 22, 2007 (ITEM 10H)

Mr. Lavery moved, seconded by Ms. Fallon that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the meeting on January 22, 2007.

SURPLUS PROPERTY SALE/AUCTION (ITEM 10 I)

Mr. Lavery moved, seconded by Ms. Fallon, that the Board of Education declare the following EWRSD vehicles as surplus, and authorize the sale of surplus property.

#	VIN#	YEAR/MAKE/MODEL
1	1GDHG31F6W1018777	1998 GMC THOMAS
50	1GBHG31Y4RF168758	1994 CHEV. BLUEBIRD
51	1GBHG31Y1RF168586	1994 CHEV. BLUEBIRD
52	1GBHG31Y0RF171429	1994 CHEV. BLUEBIRD
53	1GBHG31YXR171549	1994 CHEV. BLUEBIRD
57	1GBHG31Y4SF158267	1995 GMC SUPERIOR
58	1GBHG31Y5SF159413	1995 GMC SUPERIOR
18	2B7HB21Y3KK405865	1989 DODGE VAN
29	2GDHG31KXK4516805	1989 GMC VAN
11	1FTHF26G1SNB37665	1995 FORD PICKUP
15	2GBHG31M8F4167871	1985 CHEV. VAN

On a roll call vote, motion to approve was carried unanimously.

CHANGE ORDERS – BOND PROJECTS (ITEM 10J)

Mr. Lavery moved, seconded by Ms. Fallon, that the Board of Education approve the change orders of Air Con, Inc. as submitted.

On a roll call vote, motion to approve was carried unanimously.

ORDERS OF PAYMENT (ITEM 10K)

Mr. Lavery moved, seconded by Ms. Fallon, that the Board of Education approve the orders of payment for the amount submitted.

On a roll call vote, motion to approve was carried unanimously.

SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT (ITEM 11)

- Constance Harinxma – Stated opportunities for recreation are not trivial. If literature is distributed, it needs to be fair.

SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBERS COMMENT (ITEM 12)

- Mr. Lavery - restated his position on summer recreation and YMCA programs. Hard data and facts are needed before statements of inequity are proffered.
- Ms. Weisman – stated Board of Education has limited control over outside entities. More productive strategies should be pursued before putting the Board of Education into the process. The middle school play was memorable. Perhaps an additional performance can be put on.

CLOSED SESSION (ITEM 13)

The Board went into closed session to discuss District issues.

OPEN SESSION (ITEM 14)

The Board held an open session.

ADJOURN: (ITEM 15)

Ms. Fayer motioned to adjourn this regular meeting of the BOE at 10:45 pm.



Kurt Stumbaugh, Board Secretary