

## **Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the East Windsor Regional School District Board of Education, December 17, 2007**

**The Board of Education of the East Windsor Regional School District held a regular meeting on Monday, December 17, 2007 at the Hightstown High School cafeteria.**

Board Vice President Robert Laverty called the meeting to order promptly 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.”

Mr. Laverty 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.”

Members Present: Stuart Dolgon, Bruce Ettman, Suzann Fallon, Bonnie Fayer, James Hauck, Robert Laverty, Vice President, Susan Lloyd, Kennedy Paul,  
Member(s) absent: Alice Weisman, President

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

### **COMPLIANCE WITH FIRE CODE**

The Board Vice 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.....” (Mr. Laverty pointed to the emergency exit.)

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

### **ITEM 3A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Having read the material received Mr. Dolgon moved, seconded by Mrs. Fayer, to approve the agenda. An addendum to staffing item 10A was added. Also items 10D & E were distributed. A second closed session item 9A was added to discuss #'s 1, 2, & 3 as per item 3B on agenda.

On a roll call vote, members voting yes: Mr. Dolgon, Mr. Ettman, Ms. Fallon, Ms. Fayer, Mr. Hauck, Mr. Laverty, Ms. Lloyd, Mr. Paul.

Members voting no: none. Members abstaining: none. Motion was carried unanimously.

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**ITEM 3B. RESOLUTION FOR CLOSED SESSION**

Mr. Dolgon 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 December 17, 2007. This closed session concerns:

1. Personnel Matters
2. Contract Negotiations
3. Litigation-Construction

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. Dolgon, Mr. Ettman Ms. Fallon, Ms. Fayer, Mr. Hauck, Mr. Lavery, Ms. Lloyd, Mr. Paul. Members voting no: none.  
Members abstaining: none. Motion was carried unanimously.

**ITEM 4. FIRST READINGS OF BOARD POLICIES**

Ms. Kearns read and discussed the revised policies

- Policy # 2417 – Pupil Intervention and Referral Service
- Policy # 2412 – Home Instruction Due to Health Condition
- Policy # 2481 – Home or Out of School Instruction for General Education Pupils
- Policy # 5615 – Suspected Gang Activity
- Policy # 0147 – Board Member Travel Expenses
- Policy # 0147A – Appendix A Board Members Travel Expenses
- Policy # 3440 – Teaching Staff Members Travel Expenses
- Policy # 4440 – Support Staff Members Travel Expenses

**ITEM 5. SECOND READING OF POLICY #2415.20-NCLB COMPLAINTS**

The second reading of NCLB complaints was acted upon.

Mr. Dolgon moved, seconded by Mr. Hauck, to approve policy #2415.20- NCLB Complaints as submitted.

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

**ITEM 7. FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**ITEM 8. FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBERS COMMENTS**

Mr. Dolgon requested details on the decision process used to make an emergency weather related closing or postponement. Mr. Bolandi gave a comprehensive explanation of the process.

Ms. Fallon would like to get the word out on gang-related training opportunities.

Mr. Lavery reported on his school boards training on special ed. financing. Mr. Lavery also reported on his meeting with former governors re: school funding issues related to Abbott funding history held on Dec. 14, 2007 at Princeton University. New Jersey is positioned well to close the achievement gap.

**ITEM 9. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Bolandi updated the Board on state aid. Preliminary aid figures look favorable. Many details of the revised aid formula are still needed. Mr. Bolandi, on behalf of the district, wished everyone a happy and healthy holiday break.

Assistant Superintendent, Michael Dzwonar, gave an update on the revised writing curriculum and responded to Board member comments.

Ms. Fallon commented that the recent curriculum presentation by administrators was well done.

**ITEM 9A. FIRST CLOSED SESSION**

The Board went held its first executive session, and returned to regular session at 9:05 am.

**ITEM 10. MOTION TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEMS BY EXCEPTION**

Mr. Dolgon moved, seconded by Mr. Paul, to approve the following agenda items by exception:

- A. Staffing
- B. Authorization for Emergent Hiring Pending Completion of Criminal History Check
- C. Resolution: "CJ PRIDE" - (Consortium for Cooperative Recruitment)
- D. Out of District Placements
- E. Professional Services for Students
- F. Approve NCLB FY 2007 NCLB Amendment
- G. K-12 Writing Curriculum Map
- H. Approval of Reimbursement of Travel & Related Expenses
- I. Volunteer - HS
- J. Donation – Book to HS Library
- K. Scholarship - Mehjabin Saifi Memorial Science Award
- L. Approval of Minutes for November 26, 2007
- M. Interlocal Agreement with Roosevelt for Music Instruction



**ITEM 10R. PSYCHIATRIC/PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS (added at mtg.)**

**Background:** NJ Statutes permit local education agencies to require employees to submit to medical evaluations as a condition of their employment. It is advisable to memorialize this action via a Board resolution.

**Recommendation:** That the Board approve the attached resolution authorizing psychiatric and /or physical evaluation by Board designated physicians.

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

**ITEM 11. SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**ITEM 12. SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENT**

Ms. Fayer commented on the excellent musical program at HHS last week.

Mr. Lavery commented on the "Payment in Lieu of Taxes" (PILOT) program by borough of Hightstown, and is it something the Board would like to comment on.

Ms. Fayer asked if PILOT programs cost the taxpayers, then how is it benefiting the borough.

Mr. Coates responded on the distribution of the payments. Several Board members expressed the pros and cons of taking a "for or against" position on the PILOT programs.

The general sentiment is that a PILOT program will increase the burden to taxpayers

Mr. Lavery requested Board members to draft a letter to be considered at the next meeting.

Mr. Lavery reported on transportation meeting, variance request procedures and field trip experiences.

**ITEM 13. SECOND CLOSED SESSION**

The Board of Education went into its second executive session at 9:40 pm to discuss: personnel matters, contract negotiations, litigation matters – construction.

**ITEM 14. OPEN SESSION**

**ITEM 15. ADJOURN**

Mr. Ettman moved to adjourn meeting at 10:21 pm.

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Kurt Stumbaugh, Board Secretary

