

***EAST WINDSOR REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHTSTOWN, NJ 08520***

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION JUNE 21, 2010**

**The Board of Education of the East Windsor Regional School District held a Regular meeting on Monday, JUNE 21, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. in the Hightstown High School cafeteria.**

Members Present: Bruce Ettman, Suzann Fallon, Bonnie Fayer, Christine Harrington, Bob Laverty, Susan Lloyd, Kennedy Paul and Alice Weisman.

Members Absent: Paul Connolly (with advance notice)

Also Present: Michael Dzwonar, Interim Superintendent  
Kurt Stumbaugh, Business Administrator/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 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.”

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**

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

**ITEM 3.A APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Item 3C: Donaldson Hearing - was added to the agenda.

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

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

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

Mr. Laverty moved, seconded by Ms. Fallon, 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 June 21, 2010.

These closed sessions concern: Personnel Matters, Litigation, Contract Negotiations, & 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, motion to approve was carried unanimously.

**ITEM 3.C DONALDSON HEARING (held in open/public session per request of petitioner)**

Mr. Coates, Board Legal Counsel conducted the Donaldson Hearing on behalf of teacher Joseph Tantum. Mr. Tantum is asking the Board to reconsider their decision to not re-employ him for the 2010-11 school year.

Mr. Coates explained the rules and procedure of the hearing.

Mr. Joseph Tantum went through a detailed presentation that advocated his return to a teaching position in the EWRSD. He provided to each Board member a binder of documents and information to substantiate his presentation.

Witnesses spoke on behalf of and in support of Mr. Tantum. Letters in support were read out loud. Individuals read letters from those who were unable to attend the meeting.

Those who spoke and/or read letters of support were:

Richard Duck, East Windsor (parent)

John Hartnett, East Windsor (parent)

Maria Tantum read supportive letters from Elaine Franzblau, EWRSD teacher and Minyee Mao, (parent).

Caroline Wagner read a letter from Cathy and Paul Watkins.

Samantha Tantum read a supportive letter by Kelly Klein of East Windsor (parent).

Jodie Goddard, EWRSD teacher, read a supportive letter by Diane Kenny, retired EWRSD teacher..

Lynn Catarro (parent and teacher)

Christina Santhouse Bristol PA (former student).

Pat Terlecki, EWRSD teacher

\*\*Copies of these letters are on file with the June 21<sup>st</sup> agenda packet in the Board Secretary's office.

Ms. Susan Nardi, NJEA representative, closed the hearing by reiterating the substance of the witnesses' verbal and written tributes to Mr. Tantum. She asked that the Board please reconsider, and reinstate Mr. Tantum for the 2010-11 school year.

Mr. Weisman closed the hearing and indicated a written response will be given in 3 days.

**4. FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

No one spoke.

**5. FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

Ms. Fallon recapped the events of the MHK and HHS graduations. Wanted to compliment the administrators and students. They were well run and dignified events.

Ms. Fallon also commented on the NJSBA School Board offering District's the opportunity to apply for technology recognition. She noted that our District is well ahead in that area and the Board should definitely consider this.

Ms. Weisman commented that the graduations went very smoothly and the students and administrators did an excellent job. Ms. Weisman also expressed great appreciation to Mr. Dzwonar for his excellent leadership as Interim Superintendent.

**6. FIRST EXECUTIVE SESSION**

## 7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Dzwonar, Interim CSA, reviewed the impact of the budget reductions. The reality of program cuts is beginning to be felt; for example the elimination of summer school.

He commented that 20% of the activities budget was cut but none of the athletic programs at the high school were cut. After school tutors were cut. Strength and conditioning coaches at MHK and HHS were cut.

Regarding redistricting, Mr. Dzwonar indicated that much work has been done to date and we are still fine tuning it. The details of transportation, Special Ed. ESL are being refined. A letter will go out in early July and the 5th grade waiver procedure will be detailed in the letter. He also noted that so far there have been no modifications made to the redistricting map that was presented to the public at the June 7, 2010 meeting.

Mr. Dzwonar also gave an update on the high school scheduling and the rescheduling of the lunch service.

85% of the students have every single class they requested already locked in. That is by far the highest we have ever achieved. 92.8 % of the students that requested AP classes have been a scheduled to all their classes with no conflicts.

Mr. Dzwonar also commented on the high school library conversion to cafeteria plus multipurpose room. This would provide much better use of that space for staff and students.

## 8. MOTION TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEMS BY EXCEPTION

- A. Staffing with addendum
- B. Emergent Hiring
- C. Professional Services for Students
- D. Out of District Placements
- E. HHS Fall Sports Schedule
- F. MHK Fall Sports Schedule
- G. HHS Music Department Overnight Field Trip
- H. Instrument Donation to MHK
- I. Donation to MHK *RED INK Magazine*
- J. Donations to HHS
  - 1) From AFL-CIO to FIRST Robotics
  - 2) Parents to Boys' Lacrosse Team
- K. Removal of Ineligible Student due to Residency
- L. Approval of Minutes for:
  - May 5, 2010 Special Meeting
  - May 10, 2010 Regular Meeting
  - May 11, 2010 Joint Meeting between East Windsor Township and Hightstown Borough Municipalities and the EWRSD Board of Education re: 2010-2011 defeated budget
  - May 17, 2010 Special Meeting
- M. Sale of Surplus Property
- N. Maintenance Reserve Withdrawal
- O. Board Secretary's Report – May, 2010
- P. Treasurer's Report – May, 2010
- Q. Transfer Report – May, 2010
- R. Bill List- June 21, 2010
- S. Adjustment of Public Bidding Threshold-July 1, 2010
- T. Employee Travel & Related Expenses
- U. NCLB 2008-09 Amendment #2

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**8.A STAFFING with Addendum – as submitted**

**8. B EMERGENT HIRING**

Board approval is recommended for the applications for emergent hiring pending completion of the criminal history background check to the County Superintendent for the following individual(s):

Dr. Edward Forsthoffer III Superintendent

**8. C PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR STUDENTS - 2010-11 school year**

The special education department requires services of consultants to provide children with disabilities a free appropriate public education as defined by The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Name	Type of Service	Rate
Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission	Itinerant Services	Per fee schedule
Invo HealthCare Associates, Inc	Therapist	\$88.00 Per hour
Heidi Wolfinger, M.Ed., CCC-A/SLP, C. E. D.	Professional Services	\$115.00 per hour

**8. D OUT OF DISTRICT PLACEMENTS - REGULAR and ESY SCHOOL PROGRAMS  
NEW ROAD SCHOOL**

Tuition July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011

1. Student	#720069	ESY	\$ 6,263.70
		REG.	\$37,582.20

**ACADEMY LEARNING CENTER**

Tuition May 10, 2010 through June 30, 2010

1. Student	#9800679	REG.	\$ 7,812.00
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**The Midland School**

Tuition July 7, 2010 through June 22, 2011

1. Student	#700533	ESY.	\$ 7,014.00
		REG.	\$42,084.00

**The Rugby School**

Tuition July 12, 2010 august 20, 2010

1. Student	#501143	ESY	\$ 9,618.90
		REG.	\$57,713.40
2. Student	#701672	ESY.	\$ 9,618.90
		REG.	\$57,713.40
3. Student	#201216	ESY.	\$ 9,618.90
		REG.	\$57,713.40

**MCSSSD-Personal Assistants**

July 12, 2010 through June 30, 2011

1. Student	#720492	ESY	\$ 4,940.00
		REG	\$34,580.00
2. Student	#720492	ESY	\$ 4,940.00
		REG	\$34,580.00

**State of NJ-commission for the Blind**

July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011

1. Student	#402892	REG	\$ 1,700.00
2. Student	#201023	REG	\$ 1,700.00
3. Student	#301170	REG	\$ 1,700.00

**8. E HHS FALL SPORTS SCHEDULE**

Recommended for Board Approval as submitted. Copies available from High School Athletic Directors office and on file in Board Secretary's office.

**8. F MHK FALL SPORTS SCHEDULE**

Recommend for Board Approval as submitted. Copies available on District Website, MHK Athletic Director's office and on file in Board Secretary's office.

**8.G HHS MUSIC DEPT. OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP**

The Music Department of Hightstown High School would like do an overnight field trip to Disney World in Orlando, Florida from April 6 through April 10, 2011. While there, they will perform and work with professional musicians, participate in a parade and concerts. Attached is information on the field trip.

**8. H INSTRUMENT DONATION TO MHK**

The Association of Princeton Graduate Alumni, Isabel McGinty, P.O. Box 255, Princeton, NJ 08544, would like to donate Musical Instruments to the Melvin H. Kreps School. The donation includes a steel drum, a saxophone, a mandolin, a guitar and a bag of miscellaneous small instruments.

**8. I DONATIONS TO MHK RED INK MAGAZINE**

Mrs. Michelle Wankoff, parent of a current 8<sup>th</sup> grade student at the Kreps Middle School, 9 Leshin Lane, Hightstown, NJ 08520 would like to donate \$150 to the school's *Red Ink* magazine. The money will be used to defray the magazine's costs for next year.

**8. J DONATIONS TO HHS**

1. AFL-CIO to FIRST Robotics

The American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, Council No. 73, Nottingham Village Square, 2653-A Whitehorse-Hamilton Square Rd., Hamilton, NJ 08690 would like to donate \$500 to the FIRST Robotics Team of Hightstown High School. The money will be used to defray club costs.

2. Parents to Boys' Lacrosse Team

Mr. and Mrs. Steven Schachner, 9 Eastwood Drive, East Windsor, NJ 08520 would like to donate \$100 to the Boys' Lacrosse Team of Hightstown High School. The money will be used to defray costs.

**8. K. REMOVAL OF INELIGIBLE STUDENT DUE TO RESIDENCY**

New Jersey Administrative Code requires a parent or guardian to provide proof that their child is domiciled within the district. The East Windsor Regional School District has repeatedly, requested current supporting documentation (lease or mortgage statement or tax bill, current utility bill, etc) from the families of the students at the dwellings where they reside. This information must be provided. These persons have not provided required documentation, have not responded to and/or ignored our many requests which have taken the form of personal contacts, phone calls, letters, etc. As such, we are requesting that the Board of Education remove the students from the district attendance rolls.

The following student is up for removal due to fact they have not provided the appropriate residency information.  
Student # 402892 WCB 1<sup>st</sup> grade

**8. L APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- May 5, 2010 Special Meeting
- May 10, 2010 Regular Meeting
- May 11, 2010 Joint Meeting between East Windsor Twp. and Hightstown Borough Municipalities and the EWRSD Board of Education re: 2010-2011 defeated budget
- May 17, 2010 Special Meeting

As submitted. Copies available for review on District Website and in Board Secretary's office.

**8. M SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY**

The District is in possession of miscellaneous textbooks and resources that are outdated and of no longer useful service. As Follet Educational Services is interested in purchasing some of these materials and has offered \$342.24 as payment to the District for these materials, it is in the best interest of the District to declare these items as surplus property and sell them to Follet Educational Services for the amount indicated.

**8. N MAINTENANCE RESERVE WITHDRAWAL**

The state of New Jersey mandates that certain required maintenance be performed to maintain the adequacy of the district's facilities. These activities can be funded through a withdrawal from the district's maintenance reserve account.

It is recommended that the Board authorizes the withdrawal from the maintenance reserve the amount of \$1,000,000 for the purpose of performing required maintenance during the 2010-2011 year. This item is recorded as a revenue item in our approved 2010-2011 budget.

**8. O BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT – May, 2010** (On file in Board Office)

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education has received the report of the Board Secretary and Treasurer for the month of May, 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.

**8. P TREASURER'S REPORT – May, 2010** (On file in Board office)

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

**8. Q TRANSFER REPORT – May, 2010** (On file in Board office)

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 EWRSD 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 & State regulation.

**8. R BILL LIST** (on file in Board office)

The Bill and Claims Report 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 in the amount of **\$ 544,450.17** as submitted in the attached report.

**8. S ADJUSTMENT OF PUBLIC BIDDING THRESHOLD July, 1, 2010**

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-3(c) and 18A:18A-3(b), Governor Chris Christie has exercised his authority to adjust the bid thresholds for awarding contracts by various contracting units. Please be advised that the bid threshold for contracting units governed by the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-2) and the Public School Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2) will rise **from \$21,000 to \$26,000** on July 1, 2010. Contracting units that have appointed a Qualified Purchasing Agent pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-9(b) and take advantage of a higher bid threshold pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-3(a) and 18A:18A-3(a), have their maximum bid threshold increased from **\$29,000 to \$36,000**. The School Business Administrator Kurt Stumbaugh possesses the required certificate and has been appointed by the EWRSD as a Qualified Purchasing Agent.

It is recommended that the board approve the increase the bid threshold from \$29,000 to \$36,000 effective July 1, 2010.

**8.T EMPLOYEE TRAVEL AND RELATED EXPENSES**

ATTENDEE	LOCATION	DATE OF CONFERENCE	CONFERENCE ATTENDING	TOTAL	YTD TOTAL
					<b>\$27,087</b>
Thad Thompson	Business Office	June 29, 2010	NJ Association of School Business Officials "Audit & CAFR Preparation @ Doubletree Hotel in Mt. Laurel, NJ	100.00	

**8. U NCLB 2008-09 AMENDMENT #2**

Submitting an amended NCLB 2008-2009 application will align Original allocations more closely with expenditures

Title	Original	Amendment 2
I Part A	\$358,140	\$355,919
II Part A	\$109,296	\$107,879
III	\$73,976	\$71,624
III Imm	\$9,592	\$8,425
IV	\$13,756	\$13,690
V	\$539	\$998

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the submission of the Amended NCLB 2008-2009 application, due to the late approval of the Amended 2007-2008 NCLB Final Report.

**ACTION:** Mr. Lavery moved, seconded by Mr. Paul to approve the routine exception items as submitted.

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

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**9. SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

No one spoke.

**10. SECOND OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

Dr Harrington advocated and spoke in support of middle school athletics and extra-curricular activities.  
Ms. Fallon commented that the HHS awards program was excellent. It was a lovely evening.  
Ms. Weisman commented a Board retreat will try to be scheduled over the summer.

**11. SECOND EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**12. OPEN SESSION**

**13. ADJOURN**

Mr. Ettman moved to adjourn meeting.

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**Kurt Stumbaugh, Board Secretary**