

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Newton, NJ
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 22, 2015

Ms. Dunn, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the Board Office at 57 Trinity Street, Newton, NJ, noting in the opening statement that the notice of this meeting was sent to the New Jersey Herald, the Star Ledger, and the Town Clerk of Newton on January 13, 2015, and appropriately posted. The notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act have been satisfied. OPENING

Members Present: Mr. Caffrey, Ms. Dunn, Ms. Egner, Ms. Faye, Ms. Ham, Mr. Heckman, Ms. Larsen, Mr. Morris, Mr. O’Gorman, Mrs. Thomas and Dr. Greene. ROLL CALL

Members Absent: Mr. Fancher.

Also Present: Donna C. Snyder, Jeff Waldron, NEA Representative, John Jackson, Linda Gianni, Ann Marie Cooke, Angela Dunbar, Town Council Representative.

Motion made by Mr. Caffrey, seconded by Mrs. Thomas that the 11 member Board adjourn to Executive Session at 7:06 PM to discuss Negotiations (NEA) , to reconvene into Regular Session. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board reconvened into Regular Session at 7:24 PM.

Linda Gianni asked about the agenda item showing the Newton BOE paying for window film at St. Joseph’s School. Ms. Snyder responded that just as the Board is responsible for pass through state funding for non-public schools in the areas of technology, nursing and special education, now the State has added funds for security. PUBLIC COMMENTS

SCESC—Ms. Faye reported that there were three people retiring and discussion about holiday activities in the school. COMMITTEE RPTS.

Negotiations—Mr. Caffrey stated that the Board just held a brief executive session about the Memorandum of Agreement.

Request For Proposal for Architect—Mr. Morris summarized activities leading to the issuance of the RFP. He also said the committee of Mr. O’Gorman, Ms. Dunn, Ms. Egner, and Ms. Ham is recommending that the Board accept the proposal from EI Associates.

Andover—No report as Mr. Fancher was not present. SENDING DISTRICTS

Green—Mr. O’Gorman reported that Kelly Ann McDonald was honored for 11 years of service at the December 16th meeting. Also the reorganization meeting will be held on January 6th at 7:30 PM.

Jim Tasker—Dr. Greene thanked Mr. Tasker for his years of service and assisting in a smooth transition at Newton High School. SUPT.’S REPORT ED. HIGHLIGHTS

Rich Heckman—Dr. Greene, Ms. Snyder and Ms. Dunn recognized Mr. Heckman’s almost 28 years of service to the District as a Board Member.

Newton High School Science Course Sequence Revision Proposal—Jeff Waldron, Jake Mull, and Karen Mazur presented information on a proposal to implement changes in Newton High School Science Course offerings in the 2016-17 school year. They explained reasoning behind the proposal.

PARCC—Dr. Greene presented information on the State and local data resulting from the first year of PARCC testing.

Administrative Visits to Sending Districts—Dr. Greene and Mr. Waldron have presented information at both the Andover and Green Board Meetings.

Bond Refunding—Ms. Snyder reported that she is working on a calendar and planning for professionals that will be working with us on this project. SBA/BS REPORT

Ms. Dunn stated she has a potential conflict on the refunding due to her profession.

Generators—Ms. Snyder reported she attended the Town Planning Board Meeting with Dave Hughen on December 16, 2015 to share information about the Newton BOE generator projects. They would prefer board-on-board fencing instead of chain link, especially at Merriam Avenue School, where they would also like additional landscape buffering, but understand the Board needs to stay within a specific budget.

ACA—Ms. Snyder said that the staff is continuing to prepare for implementation of the reporting requirements of the ACA.

Motion made by Mrs. Thomas, seconded by Ms. Larsen, to approve the following:

BOARD BUSINESS

- A. Approve the minutes of the following meeting:
Regular Meeting of November 24, 2015
Executive Session of November 24, 2015
- B. Authorize the secretary to pay bills and warrants Nos. 043406 to 043562 per bill list dated December 22, 2015 in the amount of \$2,341,411.27, as per Attachment A.
- C. Approve the financial reports from the Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of November, 2015 as on file in the Business Office.
- D. Accept the Board Secretary's certification, as attached, (pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2.12(d)) that as of November 30, 2015, no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the Board of Education pursuant to NJSA 18A-22-8 & 18A-22-8.1.
- E. Pursuant to NJAC 6:23-2.11, certify that as of November 30, 2015 after review of the secretary's financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been overexpended in violation of NJAC 6:20-2.12(a) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.
- F. Approve the line item transfers and 10% report as per Attachment B.
- G. Approve Food Service checks from November, 2015 as per Attachment C.
- H. Affirm the Superintendent's decisions regarding HIB incidents as reported to the Board of Education on December 18, 2015.
- I. Approve the use of the Non-Public Security Monies to be used for security window film at St. Joseph's Regional School totaling \$2,700 for the 2015-16 school year.
- J. Approve the following resolution:
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the June 30, 2015 Audit Report as presented by the accounting firm of Nisivoccia & Company, LLP, with a copy of the Audit Synopsis to be forwarded to the New Jersey Department of Education, Sussex County Office as per State Regulations, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the Summary and Corrective Action Plan as per Attachment D.
- K. Approve the ratification of the Memorandum of Agreement, signed December 8, 2015 (including salary guides), between the Newton Board of Education and the Newton Education Association for the period of July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2017.

Mr. Caffrey thanked the committees from the Board and the NEA for the time and effort spent negotiating.

Carried unanimously by a roll call vote of the 11 member Board with the following exceptions:

- Mr. Caffrey abstained on Board Business Item B.
- Mr. Heckman abstained on Board Business Item A.
- Mr. O'Gorman abstained on Board Business Item K.

Motion made by Ms. Larsen, seconded by Ms. Egner, to approve the following:

PROGRAM

- A. Approve the following trips for Merriam Avenue School:

<u>Class/Club</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Location</u>
Gifted & Talented	Field Trip	Sussex County Comm. College, Newton, NJ
- B. Approve an overnight trip for the Halsted Middle School 8th Grade Class for two days in June, 2016, to Rocking Horse Ranch in Hyland, NY.

Carried unanimously by a roll call vote of the 9 member Board.

Motion made by Ms. Faye, seconded by Mr. Heckman, to approve the following:

- C. Approve the following trips for Newton High School:

<u>Class/Club</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Location</u>
Region Choir	Field Trip	Paramus High School, Paramus, NJ
Robotics	Field Trip	NJIT, Newark, NJ
Spanish Club	Field Trip	Dance Studio/Hackettstown & Restaurant/ Dover, NJ
Sports/Entertainment Mgmt.	Field Trip	Madison Square Garden, New York, NY

Mrs. Thomas asked what the purpose of the trip is to Madison Square Garden. Dr. Greene said that it is the Sports and Entertainment Class. Mrs. Thomas asked about students going into NYC to such a large venue. Dr. Greene stated that parents could opt to not allow students to participate if they had concerns.

- D. Approve an overnight trip in January, 2016, for the Newton High School Ski Race Team to receive advanced training through NYSEF at Whiteface Mountain, Lake Placid, NY.
- E. Approve an overnight ski and snowboarding trip in March, 2016, for the Newton High School Agricultural Club to travel to Whiteface Mountain, Lake Placid, NY.
- F. Approve the receipt of the following homeless students. The district of residence will be billed for their tuition and services:

Student ID #11743	Effective 12/1/15
Student ID #11744	Effective 12/1/15

- G. Approve the out-of-district placements of the following homeless students. Newton as district of residence will be billed for their tuition and services:

Student ID #10077	Effective 9/3/15
Student ID #10389	Effective 9/3/15

- H. Approve the following students for homebound instruction in accordance with N.J.A.C.6:14:

Student ID #11196	Effective 12/7/15
Student ID #2323	Effective 12/4/15

- I. Approve a new math course to be offered at Newton High School entitled "Mathematical Application and Analysis" for the 2016-17 school year per Attachment E.

Carried unanimously by a roll call vote of the 11 member Board.

Motion made by Mr. Caffrey, seconded by Mrs. Thomas, to approve the following:

PERSONNEL

- A. Accept the resignation of Sherrie Banta, Part-Time Teacher Assistant at Merriam Avenue School, effective November 23, 2015.
- B. Rescind the June 30, 2015 motion approving Larissa Roman as I&RS Team Member at Halsted Middle School for 2015-16, and approve Larissa Roman as I&RS Team Member at Halsted Middle School from September 3, 2015 through December 31, 2015.
- C. Approve Anna Zalokostas as I&RS Team Member at Halsted Middle School from January 1, 2016 through June 30, 2016.
- D. Approve Kate DelVecchio, Art Teacher at Halsted Middle School, for an extension to her previously approved paid and unpaid leave, for a return date of approximately January 4, 2016.
- E. Approve an extension for Michelle Mayhood as a Long-Term Leave Replacement Art Teacher at Halsted Middle School from December 1, 2015 through December 23, 2015.
- F. Approve Melissa Storch as a Long-Term Leave Replacement Grade 2 Teacher at Merriam Avenue School, replacing Alison Stiehl, from January 4, 2016 through April 11, 2016, Step A1 per diem, salary TBD.
- G. Approve Therese Johnson as Head Custodian at Halsted Middle School, replacing Barbara Kurbel-Riker, effective January 4, 2016, Step 2, salary TBD.

- H. Approve Jared MacKenzie as custodian at Merriam Avenue School, replacing Therese Johnson, effective January 4, 2016, Step 1, salary TBD.
- I. Approve Jennifer Boyle, from Centenary College, to do a Guidance Counselor internship at Halsted Middle School, under the supervision of Chris Boyle, from January 1, 2016 through June 21, 2016.

Carried unanimously by a roll call vote of the 9 member Board.

Motion by Ms. Egner, seconded by Ms. Larsen, to approve the following:

- J. Approve the following substitutes for the remainder of 2015-16 school year:

Brian DeParis	Substitute Teacher
Gabrielle Guridys	Substitute Teacher
Cody Magill	Substitute Teacher
Trista Powell	Substitute Teacher
Lauren Stocklinski	Substitute Teacher
Rachel Leahy	Substitute Nurse
- K. Accept the resignation of Darrell Struble, District Electrician, effective December 8, 2015.
- L. Rescind the October 20, 2015 motion approving Emily Rimassa, Physical Education Teacher at Newton High School, for a combination of paid and unpaid leave effective January 11, 2016 through April 8, 2016 as per contract and FMLA, and approve Emily Rimassa for a combination of paid and unpaid leave effective January 11, 2016 through May 13, 2016 as per contract and FMLA.
- M. Rescind the November 24, 2015 motion approving Harley Rolph as Long-Term Leave Replacement Physical Education Teacher at Newton High School, effective January 11, 2016 through April 8, 2016, Step A1 per diem, and approve Harley Rolph as Long-Term Leave Replacement Physical Education Teacher at Newton High School, effective January 11, 2016 through May 13, 2016, Step A1 per diem.
- N. Rescind the November 24, 2015 motion approving Dan DiMarzo as Long-Term Leave Replacement Science Teacher at Newton High School, effective January 4, 2016 through June 30, 2016, Step A1 per diem, and approve Dan DiMarzo as Long-Term Leave Replacement Science Teacher at Newton High School, effective December 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, Step A1, salary TBD.
- O. Rescind the October 20, 2015 motion approving Yvonne LaForge as Science League Advisor for Bio I and Bio II at Newton High School for the 2015-16 school year, and approve Dan DiMarzo as Science League Advisor for Bio I and Yvonne LaForge as Science League Advisor for Bio II at Newton High School for the 2015-16 school year, Step 1, salary TBD.
- P. Approve Zachary Wolff for a Field Experience placement at Newton High School with Jenn Coffey, Social Studies, and Jack Choma, Special Education, from January 19, 2016 through May 9, 2016.
- Q. Approve the following as Wrestling Volunteers at Newton High School:
 - Ronnie Gill, pending criminal history approval
 - Nik Lasso

Carried unanimously by a roll call vote of the 11 member Board.

Motion by Ms. Faye, seconded by Mr. Heckman, to approve the following:

BUSINESS

- A. Approve the following district purchases for the 2015-16 school year:

<u>Newton Board of Education</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Cengage Learning	Science Textbooks Gr. 1-4	\$ 3,345.00
CDWG, Inc.	Lenovo Computers & Accessories	\$ 3,819.40
Compass Energy Gas Service	District Gas Svcs. 2015-16	\$43,000.00
Cooperative Communications	District Telephone System	\$ 3,585.79
Frontline Technologies	VeriTime System	\$ 2,500.00
North Jersey Refrigeration Inc.	Freezer Repair	\$ 2,130.00
Rubicon International	Curriculum Software	\$ 3,375.00
Sussex County Ed Svcs.	Chapter 192/193 Svcs 15-16	\$44,509.00
Sussex County Tech. School	Bus Maintenance—Labor	\$20,000.00

<u>Newton High School</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Newton Police Dept.	Police Escrow	\$11,880.00
<u>Halsted Middle School</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Houghton Mifflin	Staff In-service Training	\$ 2,500.00
<u>Merriam Avenue School</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Telecom Management	Security Cameras	\$ 5,899.00

- B. Approve district travel expenses as per Attachment F.
- C. Approve the disposal of a set of 6 signature risers at Newton High School, Asset Tag #2573.
- D. WHEREAS, a Request for Proposal was issued for Curriculum Development Software; and
WHEREAS, a committee reviewed all submissions;

NOW BE IT RESOLVED, that a Software Licensing Agreement be approved with Rubicon West, Inc. from January 1, 2016 through June 30, 2016 at a cost of \$3,375.

Carried unanimously by a roll call vote of the 11 member Board.

TDC—Mr. Caffrey asked if any activity has taken place to reactivate the TDC. Mr. O’Gorman said he had raised the topic at the Green meeting but there was no further action. OLD BD. BUSINESS

Freshman Student Course Failure—Mrs. Thomas asked if a breakdown has ever been done to determine if student data can delineate which middle school each student attended. Dr. Greene responded that, in the past, all students are considered Newton High School students. NEW BD. BUSINESS/
OPEN DISCUSSION

Teacher of the Year—Ms. Ham congratulated the teachers. Ms. Faye stated that she thought the State process was awkward. She asked if Newton would consider a different selection process. Dr. Greene said he would look into it.

This public session is designed for members of the public to speak on issues for Board consideration. By law, the Board of Education is under no obligation to respond to public comment. If the Board of Education chooses to respond, it does not waive its right thereafter not to respond. Please identify yourself and spell your last name. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Regarding the Science Course Revision, Ann Marie Cooke questioned the difference between Earth Science and Environmental Science and what is being gained. Also, regarding Board Business Item K she asked for clarification on the terms. Dr. Greene responded that the terms are not being released but are Open Public Records. Ms. Cooke thanked Mr. Heckman for his service.

Ms. Gianni expressed her appreciation to Mr. Heckman.

This public committee meeting is designed for the Board of Education to discuss issues that may appear on future board agendas. Please consider that an individual employee’s terms and conditions of employment cannot be discussed prior to that employee being given proper notice. COMMITTEE OF
THE WHOLE

There was discussion on tentative 2016-17 budget calendars, as well as discussion of Architect Submissions as received from recent Request For Proposal.

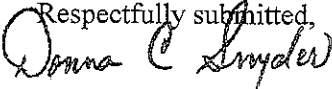
Business (Cont’d)

Motion by Mr. Caffrey, seconded by Ms. Faye, to approve the following:

- E. Approve EI Associates to provide a cost analysis for projects listed on the Stakeholder Analysis of School Facilities at a cost of \$4,200 as per the Request for Proposal issued on November 17, 2015 and recommended by a committee of the Board of Education.

Carried unanimously by a roll call vote of the 11 member Board.

Motion by Mr. Heckman, seconded by Mrs. Thomas, to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:14 PM, not to reconvene. There was no opposition. ADJOURN

Respectfully submitted,

 Donna C. Snyder
 School Business Administrator/Board Secretary