

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Newton, NJ
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 24, 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 December 18, 2014, and appropriately posted. The notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act have been satisfied.

OPENING

Members Present: Mr. Caffrey, Ms. Dunn, Ms. Egner, Mr. Fancher, Ms. Faye, Ms. Ham, Mr. Heckman, Mr. Morris, Mrs. Thomas and Dr. Greene.

ROLL CALL

Members Absent: Ms. Larsen and Mr. O’Gorman

Also Present: Donna C. Snyder

There were no public comments.

PUBLIC
COMMENTS

Negotiations—Mr. Caffrey said that there was a committee meeting last Wednesday, and details will be discussed in Executive Session.

COMMITTEE RPTS.

Town Council—Mr. Heckman stated that there was a 2nd reading on 5 ordinances and that it was uneventful. A spokesperson of the downtown merchants expressed his concern about Spring Street being one way.

Andover—Mr. Fancher reported that the Andover Board met on March 16th. They approved the tentative budget, signed a 3-year contract with PenTele Data, and are creating a new position for Director of Curriculum.

SENDING
DISTRICTS

Green—No report as Mr. O’Gorman was not present.

Enthusiastic Readers Recognition—Ms. Wendy Whipple introduced the media specialists from each school; they in turn, introduced teachers and the 2015 Newton Public Schools Enthusiastic Reader award recipients from each grade level.

SUPT.’S REPORT
ED. HIGHLIGHTS

There was a brief recess at 7:35 PM to visit with the honorees.

The meeting resumed at 7:50 PM.

EVVRS/HIB Report—Dr. Greene discussed the EVVRS/HIB Report for September through December, 2014, as per Attachment 1A.

Academic Recognition—Dr. Greene said that the High School is considering ways to honor and recognize academic achievements.

Social Media—Dr. Greene explained that there is a policy on appropriate staff usage of social media.

Brave News—Dr. Greene discussed that the newest issue of the Brave News, and complimented Janet Mosner for her hard work on each publication. He also mentioned that he started a Facebook page last week for the district, and will be revising the district website to make it more user friendly.

Consortium Savings—Ms. Snyder announced that the Hunterdon County ESC released the Annual Savings Statement. The Newton Board of Education purchased \$70,226 worth of materials and paid \$37,060, a savings of 47%.

SBA/BS REPORT

Municipal Road Construction—Ms. Snyder reported that she had a discussion with Ms. Milliken regarding the Spring Street and Trinity Street construction projects. The projects should be complete by the start of school. Ms. Snyder and Dr. Greene will be meeting with Ms. Milliken and the Town Engineer to see how summer school and other school-related transportation might be affected.

Purchasing—Ms. Snyder reported that she is soliciting proposals for the FY15-16 Food Service, Health Insurance, some professional services, garbage disposal, etc. and will report back to the Board as information becomes available.

8. Board Business

- A. Approve the minutes of the following meetings:
Regular Meeting of March 10, 2015
- B. Authorize the secretary to pay bills and warrants Nos. 041843 to 041983 as per bill list dated March 24, 2015, in the amount of \$3,133,708.19, as per Attachment A.
- C. Approve the financial reports from the Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of February, 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 February 28, 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 February 28, 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 February, 2015 as per Attachment C.
- H. Affirm the Superintendent’s decisions regarding HIB incidents as reported to the Board of Education on March 20, 2015.

Carried unanimously by a roll call vote of the 11 member Board with the following exceptions:
Mr. Fancher abstained on Board Business Item A.

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

PROGRAM

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

<u>Class/Club</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Location</u>
FFA	Field Trip	Lebanon Valley Expo Ctr., Lebanon, PA
MD Class	Field Trip	Pax Amicus Theatre, Budd Lake, NJ
MD Class	Field Trip	Turtle Back Zoo, West Orange, NJ
- B. Approve a Newton homeschooled student to participate on Newton High School’s Track Team for the 2014-15 school year.

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

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

PERSONNEL

- A. Approve Kelsey Ryan as a long term leave replacement Health and Physical Education Teacher at Halsted Middle School, effective on or about April 21, 2015 through the end of the school year, step 1, \$51,000 on a per diem basis.
- B. Approve Jared Roe as Middle School Track Coach for the 2014-15 season, Step 1, \$3,381.

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

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

- C. Approve Trudie Lehman, Part-Time Teacher Assistant at Newton High School, for an unpaid leave of absence retroactively from March 9, 2015 through March 20, 2015.

D. Approve the following substitutes for the remainder of the 2014-15 school year:

MelodyAnne Belchik	Substitute Teacher
Marlee Cirringione	Substitute Teacher
Nancy Gigante	Substitute Teacher
Jennifer Zanella	Substitute Teacher

E. Approve the following weight room supervisors, not to exceed \$3,000 for the season. Individuals will split stipend when sharing a season.

Eric Bollette—Spring Season
Rick Peterson—Spring Season
Mike Grifone (Substitute)—Spring Season

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

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

BUSINESS

A. Approve district travel expenses as per Attachment D.

B. Approve the following district purchases for the 2014-15 school year:

<u>Newton High School</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Newton Athletic Dept.	Spring Sports 2015	\$12,000.00
Newton Police (Escrow Acct)	Police Coverage at Athletic Events	\$ 5,180.00
NJISRA	Ski Team Fees for 2015	\$ 2,615.00
W.B. Mason	Copy Paper	\$ 2,755.20

<u>Merriam Avenue School</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Zones Inc.	Chromebooks	\$ 7,900.82

C. Approve the renewal of a Software Support Agreement with Computer Solutions, Inc. (CSI) to provide human resources, budgetary, payroll and AESOP software support for the 2015-16 school year at a cost of \$10,080.

D. Approve participation in a Master Service Agreement between Affiniti PA, LLC and Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission (MRESC) to provide Cooperative Purchasing of Broadband, Wide Area Network Services (WAN) and Internet Access (DRLAP), per Attachment E.

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

Mandated Ethics Training—Scheduled for May 12th.

OLD BD. BUSINESS

Realtor—Mrs. Dunn asked that we create a handout.

Newton Day—Scheduled for June 13th.

Senior Citizen Luncheon—Will be held on Sunday, March 29th.

NEA Letter—Mr. Heckman asked if there was a plan to address the NEA letter. Ms. Dunn responded that there would be a response, but since it was only received last night, the response would not be given at tonight's meeting.

NEW BD. BUSINESS/
OPEN DISCUSSION

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

There were no public comments.

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.

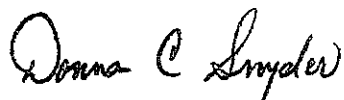
COMMITTEE OF
THE WHOLE

There were no discussions.

Motion by Mrs. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Morris, to adjourn the meeting to Executive Session at 8:31 PM to discuss NEA negotiations, not to reconvene. There was no opposition.

ADJOURN

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna C. Snyder". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D'.

Donna C. Snyder
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary