

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Newton, NJ
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 10, 2015

Ms. Dunn, Board President, called the meeting to order at 8:00 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 September 3, 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, Mr. Fancher, Ms. Faye, Ms. Ham, Ms. Larsen, Mr. Morris, Mr. O’Gorman, Mrs. Thomas and Dr. Greene.

ROLL CALL

Members Absent: Mr. Heckman

Also Present: Donna C. Snyder

There were no public comments.

PUBLIC
COMMENTS

Ed Services—Ms. Faye reported that the Superintendent and the Business Administrator attended the NJSBA Convention. Sparta Police attended an active shooter drill and they were very impressed. She also stated that therapy dogs are now permitted.

COMMITTEE RPTS.

Andover—Mr. Fancher stated that Andover has a new Child Study Team Director. Regarding the Principal search, they received 30 resumes, conducted 10 interviews, and the finalists will meet the Board on Thursday. He also reported on the election. There were 4 open seats and 3 incumbents were elected. They are not yet sure of the write-in results.

SENDING
DISTRICTS

Green—Mr. O’Gorman said that Green had a meeting on October 21st. They are working on organizing an open house for area high schools to recruit 8th Graders. PARCC test results were discussed. The draft audit was presented. He also reported on the election. There were 3, three-year seats open and 1, one-year seat. Michael Rose, Ann Marie Cooke, and Joseph Cercone were elected to the three-year seats, and Denise Kelly-Jones was elected to the one-year seat. Next meeting will be on November 18th at 7:30 PM.

Presentation by Project Self-Sufficiency—Project Self-Sufficiency presented information on their services and the partnership with the Newton BOE. They explained how Project Launch operates.

SUPT.’S REPORT
ED. HIGHLIGHTS

Presentation by Sodexo Food Services—Donna Brigham explained the food regulations, improvements to the program, future plans, youth advisory council, etc.

Enrollment, Post-Secondary and Graduation Report—Dr. Greene presented data on enrollment, graduation rates, post-secondary attendance at two and four year institutions, and \$5.3M in scholarship aid. The presentation will be on the district website.

School Funding Formula—Dr. Greene presented a brief summary of the School Funding Reform Act (SFRA) and the fact that the formula is not being funded. He explained how he used the Education Law Center’s data to sort out the 70 districts that are under adequacy but have a tax levy “above local share”, including Newton.

PARCC—The State has posted a Q&A. Anticipate that individual scores will be received shortly and sent to parents.

Superintendent Evaluation—Dr. Greene distributed a proposed schedule of dates.

Sending District Presentation—Dr. Greene and Kurt Walton will attend Andover and Green Board of Education meetings to speak about Newton High School.

New Legislation—Dr. Greene reported that the Governor signed legislation that does not require testing for Grades K-2.

John Jackson 623
 Joan Faye 621
 Jessica Egnor 619
 Write-Ins 52

She welcomed Mr. Jackson back to the Board and said that he will be sworn in on January 5, 2016 at the reorganization meeting.

Budget 2016-17—Documents have been distributed to administrators so they can be prepared and turned in prior to the holiday break.

Ed Services Commission 192/193 Audit—Ms. Snyder reported that the SCESC was audited for their administration of Newton’s non-public funds. Ms. Snyder will be meeting with the DOE representative and SCESC administrators for the exit conference on Thursday. There will be a more detailed report on the minor findings and Corrective Action Plan presented at the next Board meeting.

Special Education Medicaid Initiative—The district finally received correspondence today approving our participation in SEMI. Participation in this labor-intensive reimbursement program is now mandatory for Newton.

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

BOARD BUSINESS

- A. Approve the minutes of the following meeting:
 Regular Meeting of October 20, 2015
 Executive Session of October 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.
 Mr. Morris abstained on Board Business Item A.

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

PROGRAM

- A. Approve the receipt of the following homeless student. The State of NJ will be billed for their tuition and services:

Student ID #11729	(Honduras)	Effective 10/26/15
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- B. Approve the following trips for Halsted Middle School:

<u>Class/Club</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Location</u>
Grades 5&6 SOAR	Field Trip	Mayo Performing Arts Ctr., Morristown, NJ

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

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

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

Student ID #2291	Effective 10/29/15
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- D. Approve the following to work at Athletic events for the 2015-16 school year:

Elysia Ochs
Lisa Sienrukos

- E. Approve revised curricula for 21st Century Life & Careers, which includes Agriculture, Business, Family & Consumer Sciences & Technology, as well as aspects of personal financial literacy, problem solving, and career exploration, as on file in the Business Office.

Mrs. Thomas said she read the curricula and was impressed by the level of detail.

Mr. Morris said he was also impressed with the diversity of the programs. He suggested looking into grants to support them.

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

<u>Class/Club</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Location</u>
French Club	Field Trip	Summit High School, Summit, NJ & Marrakesh Restaurant, Parsippany, NJ

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

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

PERSONNEL

- A. Approve the following Elementary Wrestling Volunteers for the 2015-16 school year:
- Bill Childress
 Aaron Fitt (pending criminal history approval)
 Dan Lombreglia
 Joe Lotruglio
 J. R. Mabee
 Dennis Melillo
- B. Approve Alison Stiehl, Grade 2 Teacher at Merriam Avenue School, for a combination of paid and unpaid leave effective January 4, 2016 through April 11, 2016 as per contract and FMLA.
- C. Approve Kate DelVecchio, Art Teacher at Halsted Middle School, for an extension to her previously approved unpaid leave, for a return date of approximately December 15, 2015.
- D. Accept the resignation of Lynn Sodora, Teacher Assistant at Merriam Avenue School, effective November 13, 2015.
- E. Approve Ana Maniago as a Spanish Language Translator for translation services at Halsted Middle School @ \$30/hr., not to exceed \$300.

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

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

- F. Approve Mary Licata as Assistant Girls Basketball Coach at Newton High School for the 2015-16 school year, Step 1, salary TBD.
- G. Approve the following substitutes and homebound instructors for 2015-16:
- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| Zachary Torppey | Substitute Custodian |
| Megan Garman | Substitute Teacher |
| Alicia Moormann | Substitute Teacher |
| Harley Rolph | Substitute Teacher |
| Christine Tregoning | Substitute Teacher |
| Deborah Sumowski | Homebound Instructor |
| Marlene Tedeschi | Homebound Instructor/Substitute Teacher |
- H. Approve Betsy Van Orden as Long-Term Leave Replacement Technology Specialist, effective November 11, 2015 through April 4, 2016, Step A-1 per diem.

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

Motion by Mr. Caffrey, seconded by Ms. Egner, 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>
Aurora Electric Supply	NHS Area Lighting	\$ 2,500.00
CDWG, Inc.	Computers	\$ 4,348.94
Handi-Lift Service Company	Repairs	\$ 3,178.00
Orr's	Maintenance & Grounds Uniforms	\$ 2,000.00
Powerschool Group Inc.	License Renewal	\$ 4,030.00
Professional Ed Svcs.	Home Inst. for Homebound Student	\$ 2,400.00
Skylands Press	Brave News Printing	\$ 5,550.00
Trane Parts Center of NJ	Roof Units for MAS	\$ 5,000.00

<u>Newton High School</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Shop Rite	Food Supplies—1 st Marking Period	\$ 2,000.00
Shop Rite	Food Supplies—2 nd Marking Period	\$ 2,000.00
Shop Rite	Food Supplies—3 rd Marking Period	\$ 3,000.00
Sussex Cty. Reg. Co-op	Fall Athletic Transportation	\$ 3,800.00

- B. Approve the application of the FIRST Program Financial Assistance Grant for Robotics Competition, ages 14-18, for the 2015-16 school year.
- C. Accept a donation in the amount of \$200 from Harmony in Motion to the Newton High School Theatre Arts Program.

Ms. Dunn said that she attended the Harmony in Motion concert and that it was great.

- D. Accept a donation in the amount of \$500 from F.A.I.T.H. Center for the Arts to the Newton High School Theatre Arts Program.
- E. Accept a donation of a hardware cabinet and hardware from Nick DeVita valued at \$500 for the district Maintenance Department.

Mr. Caffrey thanked all those who have donated to the district.

- F. Approve district travel expenses as per Attachment A.
- G. Approve the disposal of the following books at Halsted Middle School:

60 copies	Language of Literature	2002
54 copies	Language of Literature	2001
1 copy	Science Interactions Course 3	1998
16 copies	Science Interactions Course 2	1998
1 copy	Science Interactions Course 1	1998
1 copy	Focus on Earth Science	1984
4 copies	Merrill Physical Science	1993
7 copies	Merrill Life Science	1993

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

Sports Accomplishments and Public Relations—Mrs. Thomas said it was great to see Newton's teams doing so well and the NJ Herald reporting it.

OLD BD. BUSINESS

Fall Harvest Festival Meal—Mrs. Thomas attended and said it was wonderful.

Candidate Debates—Dr. Greene thanked Mr. Walton and Ms. Huber for setting up the debate.

Ms. Snyder reported that the new traffic lights on Trinity Street are working.

NEW BD. BUSINESS/
OPEN DISCUSSION

NJSBA Teen Driver Program—NJ Manufacturers is offering programs to schools for both students and parents.

Discussions took place on some topics Board Members learned about at convention, including:

NJ Sustainable Schools—Grants, ROTC programs that might offer higher education opportunities to more students, Breakfast in a Bag, Lockdown Mechanism, Farm to Table, etc.

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

Linda Gianni said that she saw the NJ Manufacturers driving presentation last year and strongly supports the concept.

She also encouraged the continuation of informative presentations such as those given at tonight's meeting.

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

Policy

- Discussion of Revised Policies and Regulations

Regarding Policy 5330, Dr. Greene explained that a law was passed that eliminated liability for school staff.

Regarding Policy 5514 on student driving, he stated that although we had a permission form that was being used, the policy we have in place did not address the items on the form.

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

Program (Cont'd)

F. Approve the following revised policies and regulations for 1st reading as per Attachment B:

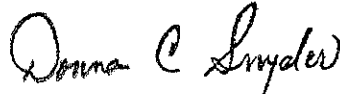
- Policy 5330 and Regulation 5330 on Administration of Medication
- Policy 5514 and Regulation 5514 on Student Use of Vehicles

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

Motion by Ms. Egner, seconded by Ms. Larsen, to adjourn at 8:45 PM, not to reconvene.
There was no opposition.

ADJOURN

Respectfully submitted,



Donna C. Snyder
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary