

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Newton, NJ
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 20, 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 <u>New Jersey Herald</u> , the <u>Star Ledger</u> , 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. O’Gorman, Mrs. Thomas and Dr. Greene.	ROLL CALL
Members Absent: Mr. Fancher and Mr. Morris	
Also Present: Donna C. Snyder, NEA Representative, Teachers, Mr. Dunleavy.	
There were no public comments.	PUBLIC COMMENTS
<u>Audit Presentation</u> —Ms. Heidi Wohlleb, Partner—Nisivoccia & Company, LLP, School Auditors, reviewed the Newton Board of Education 6/30/15 audit.	COMMITTEE RPTS.
<u>Ed Services Commission</u> —Ms. Faye reported that the school has 35 students. ESC will be presenting at the NJSBA Convention. The Sussex County ESC has been asked by Rutgers to participate in a marketing class on how to market ESC.	
Motion by Ms. Egner, seconded by Mr. Caffrey, that the Board shall move to Executive Session at 7:09 pm to discuss Negotiations (NEA), to reconvene afterward.	EXECUTIVE SESSION
Carried unanimously by a roll call vote of the 11 member Board.	
Motion by Ms. Larsen, seconded by Ms. Faye, that the Board shall reconvene to Regular Session at 7:36 pm.	
Carried unanimously by a roll call vote of the 11 member Board.	
<u>Andover</u> —No report as Mr. Fancher was not present.	SENDING DISTRICTS
<u>Green</u> —Mr. O’Gorman stated that the next meeting will be held tomorrow night.	
<u>EVVRS/HIB Report</u> —Dr. Greene reviewed the report with the Board and stated that he would post it on the website.	SUPT.’S REPORT ED. HIGHLIGHTS
<u>PARCC</u> —The Department of Education released statewide results this afternoon. Dr. Greene said that the district would receive student-level results by the end of November or beginning of December.	
<u>School Funding Formula</u> —Dr. Greene stated that he is researching a report issued by the Education Law Report on adjustment aid.	
<u>SCSBA</u> —Next meeting at the Mohawk House on November 10 th to discuss the impact of declining enrollment.	SBA/BS REPORT
<u>Food Service</u> —Bureau of Child Nutrition is requesting a plan on how we will increase the number of participants in the breakfast program.	
<u>Budget 2016-17</u> —The Board will be having its annual facilities priorities discussion which will then be the basis of obtaining cost proposals. Budget documents will be distributed to administrators the first week of November.	
<u>State Accountability Regulations</u> —Business Administrators in the county and statewide are looking forward to a review of the Accountability Regulations (travel, public relations).	
<u>Audit 2014-15</u> —Ms. Snyder thanked all of the district employees for their part in the successful district audit.	

- A. Approve the minutes of the following meeting:
Regular Meeting of September 22, 2015
- B. Authorize the secretary to pay bills and warrants Nos. 043023 to 043194 as per bill list dated October 20, 2015 in the amount of \$2,801,233.69, as per Attachment A.
- C. Approve the draft financial reports from the Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of September, 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 September 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 September 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 September, 2015 as per Attachment C.
- H. Approve the submission of the QSAC Statement of Assurances for the 2015-16 school year to the NJDOE per Attachment D.
- I. Approve the adoption of the Uniform Memorandum of Agreement between Education and Law Enforcement Officials for the 2015-16 school year and authorize submission of same to the County Prosecutor and Executive County Superintendent.
- J. Affirm the Superintendent’s decisions regarding HIB incidents as reported to the Board of Education on October 2, 2015.
- K. Approve an early dismissal for students on Friday, December 4, 2015, to allow teachers to receive PARCC administration training.
- L. Approve the following resolution:
RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the June 30, 2015 Draft 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 E.

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

- A. Approve the following trips for Halsted Middle School:

<u>Class/Club</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Location</u>
Grade 8 SOAR	Field Trip	Seeing Eye, Morristown, NJ

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

- B. Approve Newton High School to host 20 German exchange students and 2 Chaperones from October 23 through November 14, 2015.

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

Student ID #2069	Effective 10/14/15
Student ID #2206	Effective 10/2/15
Student ID #10322	Effective 9/21/15
Student ID #2248	Effective 9/9/15
Student ID #3400	Effective 9/3/15

D. Approve the following trips for Newton High School:

<u>Class/Club</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Location</u>
German Exchange Students	Transportation	Newark Airport, Newark, NJ
German Students	Field Trip	Waterloo Village, Stanhope, NJ
Marching Band	Field Trip	Sussex County Fairgrounds, Augusta, NJ
Robotics	Field Trip	North Brunswick HS, North Brunswick, NJ

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

Student ID #11726 (Georgia)	Effective 10/15/15
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Carried unanimously by a roll call vote of the 11 member Board.

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

PERSONNEL

- A. Approve Audrey Wilson as Title I After-School Enrichment Substitute Teacher, Merriam Avenue School @ \$30/hr., not to exceed \$1,800.
- B. Approve the following as Title I After-School Enrichment Substitute Teachers, Merriam Avenue School @ \$30/hr., not to exceed \$500 combined:

Donna Nilsen
Jamie Sloboda
- C. Approve the following as Title I Parent Academy, Merriam Avenue School @ \$30/hr., not to exceed \$900 each:

Denise Penoyer
Linda Salerno
- D. Accept the resignation of Jennifer Green, Part-Time Teacher Assistant at Merriam Avenue School, effective September 30, 2015.
- E. Approve Debra Soutter as Part-Time Teacher Assistant at Merriam Avenue School, replacing Catherine Mastrianni, Step 3, effective date TBD pending criminal history approval.
- F. Approve Fred Muller as a Library Volunteer at Halsted Middle School for the 2015-16 school year.

Mrs. Thomas said that it was wonderful to see that Mr. Muller is coming back as a volunteer.
- G. Approve Deborah Bacchetta as Part-Time Teacher Assistant at Merriam Avenue School for the 2015-16 school year, Step 1, effective date TBD pending criminal history approval.
- H. Approve the following volunteers from Pass It Along for the Merriam Mentors Program at Merriam Avenue School:

Michelle Janus
Jessica Visconti
- I. Approve Meghan Baxendell as Part-Time Teacher Assistant at Merriam Avenue School, replacing Jennifer Green, for the 2015-16 school year, Step 3, salary TBD.
- J. Approve an unpaid leave for Sherrie Banta, Teacher Assistant at Halsted Middle School, through October 22, 2015.

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

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

- K. Approve the following substitutes/homebound instructors for the remainder of the 2015-16 school year:

Diane Bucino	Substitute Teacher
Richard Guth	Substitute Teacher
William McCloskey	Substitute Teacher
Cynthia Southard	Substitute Teacher
Kyle Grzymko	Homebound Instructor
- L. Approve Chris Boyle as Newton High School Head Girls Tennis Coach retroactive to September 5, 2015, Step 6, salary TBD and prorated to start date.
- M. Approve Mike Muller as Newton High School Girls Assistant Tennis Coach retroactive to September 23, 2015, Step 1, salary TBD and prorated to start date.
- N. Rescind the June 30, 2015 motion approving Courtney Yetter as Science League Advisor for Bio I and Bio II at Newton High School for the 2015-16 school year.
- O. Approve Yvonne LaForge as Science League Advisor for Bio I and Bio II at Newton High School for the 2015-16 school year, Step 1, salary TBD.
- P. Approve 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.
- Q. Approve Lillian French as CST Spanish Language Translator on an as-needed basis for the 2015-16 school year @ \$30/hr., not to exceed \$3,000.
- R. Approve Ana Maniago as Newton High School Spanish Language Translator for the 2015-16 school year @ \$30/hr., not to exceed \$1,500.
- S. Approve the following teachers for 15 hours each to support CST students in extracurricular school activities as needed for the 2015-16 school year at their hourly rate:
 - Diana Eigner
 - Mary Licata
 - Barbara Straulina
 - Cindy Tracey

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

Motion by Mrs. Thomas, seconded by Ms. Faye, 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>
Byram Bus Line, Inc.	Bus Maintenance	\$ 2,000.00
CDWG, Inc.	Computers & Equipment	\$ 2,103.38
CDWG, Inc.	Computer Equipment	\$ 3,610.12
CDWG, Inc.	Computers	\$ 3,965.46
E.A. Morse & Co.	District Custodial Supplies	\$45,430.11
Hobbie Heat & Power Inc.	Boiler Maintenance	\$ 7,200.00
Horizon BCBS	Prescription Coverage 15-16	\$548,000.00
Jive Communications	Telephone Equipment	\$ 2,422.26
Margarino Ford	Maintenance Vehicle Service	\$ 2,000.00
MGL Printing Solutions	Printing Order	\$ 2,532.00
Progressive Education Partners	Next Generation Science Standards	\$ 5,000.00
Success Advertising, Inc.	Classified Ads	\$ 5,702.26
Sussex Cty. Tech. School	Tuition 2015-16	\$42,000.00
<u>Newton High School</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
R&H Theatricals	Spring Musical	\$ 4,268.50
Trailerama	Trailer for Robotics	\$ 3,749.00
<u>Merriam Avenue School</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Responsive Classroom	Professional Development	\$ 2,400.00

<u>Special Services</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Accent on Communication	Therapy Services 15-16	\$12,000.00
Applied Behavioral Consulting	ABA Svcs. 15-16	\$20,000.00
Applied Behavioral Consulting	ABA Svcs. (Andover) 15-16	\$10,000.00
Bayada Home Healthcare	Nursing Svcs. 15-16	\$34,042.50
Susan Bloodgood	Occupational Therapy Svcs. 15-16	\$35,625.00
Debbie Grimm	Occupational Therapy Svcs. 15-16	\$12,825.00
Gabrielle Heller	Physical Therapy Svcs. 15-16	\$33,150.00

- B. Approve the revised Food Service Biosecurity Plan as on file in the Board Office.
- C. Approve Accent on Communication to provide Prompt Therapy Services for Student #11176 at a rate of \$135/hr. @ student's home and \$115/hr. @ provider's office.
- D. Approve the application of the NASA Grant for sponsorship of the Newton Robotics Program.
- E. Approve district travel expenses as per Attachment F.
- F. Approve the following as per Attachment G:

Submission of Comprehensive Maintenance Plan

WHEREAS, the Department of Education requires New Jersey School Districts to submit three-year maintenance plans documenting "required" maintenance activities for each of its public school facilities, and

WHEREAS, the required maintenance activities as listed in the attached document for the various school facilities of the Newton Public Schools are consistent with these requirements, and

WHEREAS, all past and planned activities are reasonable to keep school facilities open and safe for use or in their original condition and to keep their system warranties valid,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Newton Public Schools hereby authorizes the School Business Administrator to submit the attached Comprehensive Maintenance Plan for the Newton Public Schools in compliance with Department of Education requirements.

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

Mrs. Thomas asked about Self-Defense in Physical Education Class, as well as plaques for Academic Awards.

OLD BD. BUSINESS

Merriam Avenue School—It was reported that there is a phone booth on the curb with no phone.

NEW BD. BUSINESS/
OPEN DISCUSSION

Google Docs—Mr. Caffrey asked if Mary Decker could provide a Google Docs program for the Board.

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

Andy Iliff questioned for clarification of median versus average.

Yvonne LaForge discussed the net loss of take home pay, specifically \$6,000 less/yr. than she made three years ago.

Jean Perrier, NEA Vice President, spoke on behalf of the dedication and hard work of the Association members.

Karen Mazur stated that she was upset that the Board publicized the salary and stipends of the highest paid teacher.

Harry Dunleavy—Made statement about the value of Superintendents as he has paid \$600,000 in taxes. He also asked for his personnel file but admitted Dr. Greene was within his rights to refuse the request.

Karen Hardin Kitchell asked both sides to get together and continue discussions.

Wendy Whipple stated that she does not agree with salary comparisons to "similar districts around the state", and that NEA members have the same cost of living as wealthier districts in the county.

Steve Runske said that he stays in Newton because he loves the students and the community.

Kate Adam said that she doesn't know some of the Board Members and invited them to join her at the high school.

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

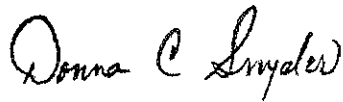
Stakeholder Survey on School Facilities—Dr. Greene reviewed the survey results breaking out the number of participants by category.

Dr. Greene asked if the administration should proceed to solicit RFP for architects, and Board consensus was in the affirmative.

Motion by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Ms. Faye, to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:47 PM, not to reconvene. There was no opposition.

ADJOURN

Respectfully submitted,



Donna C. Snyder
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary