

MINE HILL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
February 22, 2010

Opening Statement:

The Regular Meeting of the Mine Hill Township Board of Education was called to order at 7:35 PM on February 22, 2010, by Board President Mary Jo Walilko. Adequate notice of the date and time for this meeting was advertised in the Daily Record on April 28, 2009, in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Mrs. Walilko led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present:

Caryn Battaglia, Patricia Hernandez, Steve Hoh, Margo Maher, Bridget Mauro and Mary Jo Walilko

Absent: Anthony Novelli

Also Present: Julia Coyne, Nancy Gulley, Jerry Rubino from DiCara/Rubino Architects, Jeanne Kraemer, David Percely and Ernest Palestis.

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro, the Board accepted the closed session minutes of the Regular monthly meeting held on January 25, 2010.

Roll Call Vote-Patricia Hernandez Abstained-All Others Present Voting Yes-
Motion Carried

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro, the Board accepted the minutes of the Regular monthly meeting held on January 25, 2010.

Roll Call Vote-Patricia Hernandez Abstained-All Others Present Voting Yes-
Motion Carried

Correspondence

Mary Jo Walilko received an email from a parent of a Grade 1 student.

Superintendent's Report

- Dr. Palestis welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- Dr. Palestis indicated that teacher training for the Achieve 3000 grant will take place on February 25, 2010.
- FM systems have been installed in every classroom.
- Dr. Palestis attended a presentation from the Canfield Avenue School Cares and Shares program to Habitat for Humanity. The school donated \$2,450.00

for the relief efforts by Habitat for Humanity in Haiti. Dr. Palestis expressed how impressed he was with the enthusiasm and hard work of the students.

- Dr. Palestis discussed the use of Federal Stimulus funds to completely update the computer lab with brand new computers. The funds were also used to purchase brand new net books that can be used in the classrooms as well.
- Dr. Palestis discussed the fiscal crisis in the state of New Jersey. As of now, the state has a 2 billion dollar shortfall in their current budget. It has been forecasted that a potential 15% reduction in state aid will take place next year.
- Dr. Palestis indicated that the School Choice bill continues to move forward and thanked the Mine Hill Township town council for their support.

Board Discussion/Reports-None

Business Administrator's Report

- Mrs. Slunt handed out budget spreadsheets to the Board and presented her report.
- Katine Slunt indicated that the Board has been looking into different architectural firms and turned the floor over to Jerry Rubino.

Presentations

- Jerry Rubino from DiCara/Rubino Architects, presented to the Board.

Public Discussion

- Nancy Gulley provided information about various Mine Hill resident students and their participation in events at the Dover High School.
- David Percely expressed concern about adapting the program at Canfield Avenue School to better match the projected increase in work when students enter higher grades. He also expressed concern about students preparing for tests but tests are then postponed, in some cases more than once. He also questioned the decision to not allow a flyer to be distributed on behalf of the Growing Stage. Mrs. Walilko responded that the Board will check the policy about distribution of such materials.
- Mrs. Walilko thanked the public for their comments.

FINANCE

Steve Hoh, Patricia Hernandez

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro, the Board approved the payment of bills as per the attached bill list in the amount of \$1,093,042.61. (Attachment 1)

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro, the Board approved the following resolution for a moratorium on spending:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has a responsibility to exercise fiscal prudence and to protect its limited surplus.

RESOLVED, effective immediately all non-essential general fund spending be curtailed, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, costs associated with health, safety, required maintenance, IEP's, as well as any functions or projects scheduled or budgeted for prior to adoption of this resolution be excluded from the moratorium on spending.

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board authorized the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to solicit Requests for Proposals for **banking services** on behalf of the Mine Hill Township Board of Education.

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board authorized the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to solicit Requests for Proposals for **food management company** on behalf of the Mine Hill Township Board of Education.

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro, the Board approved the following workshop travel request for the following:
(Attachment 2)

Name	Workshop	Location	Dates	Cost of Workshop	Mileage
Greg Hobaugh	ADA/IDEA	Long Branch	March 5, 2010	\$195.00	142 miles at .31/mile=44.02

Roll Call Vote- Mary Jo Walilko abstained from bill 1117 and Steve Hoh abstained from bill 11073-All Others Present Voting Yes-Motion Carried

CURRICULUM AND STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Anthony Novelli, Margo Maher

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro, the Board approved the Discipline Report, as presented, for the month of January 2010.
(Attachment 3)

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro, the Board approved the following out of district placements for the 2009-2010 school year: (Attachment 4)

Student ID #	Placement	Date(s)	Tuition	Transportation
2651534327	Wharton POR and ICS Program	10/13/09 through 6/30/10	\$13,050.96	\$4,475.64
5584538538	Wharton POR and ICS Program	9/21/09 through 6/30/10	\$14,389.52	\$5,127.72
3731463506	Chancellor Academy Outreach	2/23/10 through 6/17/10	\$22,319.99	\$4,200.00

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro, the Board approved the following request for services: (Attachment 5)

Student ID #	Services	Provider	Date(s)	Cost
3731463506	Instructional Services	St. Clare's Hospital	January 19 and January 20, 2010	2 hours at \$49.00/hour- total \$98.00

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro, the Board approved the following field trip proposal: (Attachment 6)

Grade	Date	Destination	Location
Grade 4	May 3, 2010	Community Theatre	Morristown, NJ
Chorus	April 22,2010	Rockaway Mall	Rockaway, NJ

Note: The Grade 4 field trip is a Mine Hill Township PTA Mini Grant.

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro, the Board approved the following out of district placement, effective February 8, 2010:

Student ID #	Placement	Tuition	Transportation
5465609065	Transitional Education Center of Morris County, Morristown, NJ	n/a	Approximately \$50/day

Note: This is a Dover placement.

Roll Call Vote- All Present Voting Yes-Motion Carried

OPERATIONS Margo Maher, Mary Jo Walilko

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro, the Board approved the First Reading of Policy 5119 Waiting List For Roxbury. (Attachment 7)

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro, the Board approved the First Reading of the following Policies and Regulations: (Attachment 8)

- 3351 Healthy Workplace (new)
- 4351 Healthy Workplace (new)
- 5338 Diabetes Management (policy and regulation)
- 5512.01 Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying
- 5533 Pupil Smoking (policy and regulation)
- 6360 Political Contributions
- 6660 Student Activity Funds
- 7434 Smoking on School Grounds
- 8461 Reporting Violence, Vandalism, Alcohol, and Other Drug Use
- 9700 Special Interest Groups
- 0142.1 Nepotism
- 0174 Legal Services
- 0177 Professional Services
- 1570 Internal Controls
- 1620 Administrative Employment Contracts
- 6111 Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program (policy and regulation)
- 6471 School District Travel (policy and regulation)

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro, the Board approved the acceptance of the lease contract between the Mine Hill Township Board of Education and the Mine Hill Township Educational Foundation as amended. (Previously tabled.) (Attachment 9)

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro the Board approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Mine Hill School District has fewer than 40 Special Education Medicaid eligible students, and

WHEREAS, efforts to participate in SEMI would not provide a cost benefit to the district,

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Mine Hill Township Board of Education seeks a waiver of the requirements for participation in the SEMI Program in accordance with N.J.A.C 6A:23A-5.3.

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro, the Board approved the authorization of the following items related to the Annual School Election:

1. Authorizes the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to draw for position on the ballot in the Board Conference Room at 11:30 am on Wednesday, March 10, 2010, which is seven (7) working days subsequent to the filing deadline of Monday, March 1, 2010 at 4:00 pm, for nominating petitions.
2. Authorizes the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to make the necessary legal announcements to hold the Public Hearing on the 2010-2011 school budget at the Board Meeting scheduled for March 29, 2010 at 7:30 pm, in the Educational Media Center of Canfield Avenue School.
3. Approves the Annual Meeting and Election of the legal voters of the Mine Hill School District to be held on April 20, 2010 from 7:00 am until 9:00 pm, at the Mine Hill Civic Center, for the purpose of voting on the Annual School Budget and two (2) candidates for the Board of Education (3-year term.)

Roll Call Vote-All Present Voting Yes-Motion Carried

PERSONNEL

Patricia Hernandez, Steve Hoh

New personnel employment appointments are contingent upon the required state and federal criminal history background checks in accordance with N.J.S.A. 116, P.L. 1986.

And be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board submit to the County Superintendent, as required, applications for emergency hiring and the applicant’s attestations that they have not been convicted of any disqualifying crime pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A.18A:6-7.1 et.seq.,N.J.S.A. 18A:39-17 et. seq.,or N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4.13 et.seq., on the recommendation of the Superintendent.

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approved the following appointment of new Substitute Teachers for the 2009-2010 school year:

Douglas Adams	\$75 per day, \$85 after 10 days
Peter Serratelli	\$75 per day, \$85 after 10 days
Amy Feld	\$80 per day, \$90 after 10 days

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approved the placement of the following student teachers from the County College of Morris Teacher Education Program, for the remainder of the 2009-2010 school year: (Attachment 10)

Student Teacher	Placement	Hours	Dates
Andrea Theodore	K5 Day	TBD	TBD
Courtney Andre	K5 Kenny	TBD	TBD

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approved the adjustment in salary for Julia Coyne, from \$42,500 to \$46,000 (increase of \$3,500) to take on the duties of Transportation Coordinator, formerly the responsibility of the Educational Facilities Manager, effective February 23, 2010.

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approved the appointment

of the following Substitute Custodians for the 2009-2010 school year at a rate of \$12.00 per hour, no benefits, prorated.
(Attachment 11)

Robert Spurr	Kathy Hoopes
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Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approved the appointment of Amanda Riley as a teacher in Grade 1, at the rate of \$46,523.00 (BA Step 1) with benefits, effective February 23, 2010, prorated. (Attachment 12)

Roll Call Vote-All Present Voting Yes- Motion Carried

COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC RELATIONS Caryn Battaglia, Anthony Novelli

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS Bridget Mauro, Caryn Battaglia

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro, the Board approved the following request for use of facilities:

Organization	Facility requested	Dates	Purpose
Wharton Area Little League	Baseball field and gym	March through June (gym) March through September (field)	Games and practice on field and practice in gym in inclement weather (schedule to be coordinated by WALL with Mine Hill Recreation and MHEF)

Roll Call Vote-All Present Voting Yes-Motion Carried

Dover Report Bridget Mauro

- Mrs. Mauro indicated that Dover High School is looking into applying for Title 1.
- Dr. Palestis asked Mrs. Mauro to inquire about the 2010-2011 calendar. Mrs. Mauro will follow up at the February 23rd Dover Board of Education meeting.

MHEF Report Margo Maher
None

Old Business

- Steve Hoh reminded the Board that a replacement needed to be appointed for his position on the Educational Services Commission Board.

Motion by Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Bridget Mauro, the Board approved the appointment of Caryn Battaglia as primary member of the Educational Services Commission Board, and Patricia Hernandez as the secondary member.

Roll Call Vote-All Present Voting Yes-Motion Carried

New Business

- The Board indicated the need for the gym usage to be posted outside the gym doors and possibly on the Canfield Avenue School web page. Dr. Palestis will follow up.
- The Board expressed it's condolences for the family of Michael Pyrzynski and it was suggested that a donation from the Board of Education to the scholarship fund be made. Mary Jo Walilko will follow up.

CLOSED SESSION

On the motion of Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Steve Hoh at 9:09 PM, the Board approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A.10:4-11, permits the Board of Education to meet in closed session to discuss certain matters, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Board of Education adjourns to closed session to discuss: (select one or more)

- 1) *a matter rendered confidential by federal or state law*
- 2) *a matter in which release of information would impair the right to receive government funds*
- 3) *material the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy*
- 4) ***a collective bargaining agreement and/or negotiations related to it***
- 5) *a matter involving the purchase, lease, or acquisition of real property with public funds*
- 6) *protection of public safety and property and/or investigations of possible violations or violations of law*
- 7) ***pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation and/or matters of attorney-client privilege***
- 8) ***specific prospective or current employees unless all who could be adversely affected request an open session***
- 9) *deliberation after a public hearing that could result in a civil penalty or other loss;*

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the minutes of this closed session be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

Note: This closed session will include items in categories 4, 7 and 8. It may be adjourned while business is conducted in public then reconvened after public business has been completed.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

On the motion of Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Steve Hoh at 9:55 PM, the Board returned to the regular session meeting.

Public Discussion

None

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mary Jo Walilko and seconded by Caryn Battaglia, the Board adjourned the meeting at 9:56 PM.

Roll Call Vote-All Present Voting Yes-Motion Carried