

MINE HILL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
AGENDA
CONFERENCE/ACTION MEETING
March 8, 2010

1. Opening Statement:

The Conference/Action Meeting of the Mine Hill Township Board of Education will be called to order at 7:30 PM on March 8, 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.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call:

Caryn Battaglia <input type="checkbox"/>	Margo Maher <input type="checkbox"/>	Mary Jo Walilko <input type="checkbox"/>
Patricia Hernandez <input type="checkbox"/>	Bridget Mauro <input type="checkbox"/>	
Steve Hoh <input type="checkbox"/>	Anthony Novelli <input type="checkbox"/>	

4. Consider accepting the closed session minutes of the Regular monthly meeting held on February 22, 2010.

Motion_____Seconded_____ R.C. Battaglia__Hernandez__Hoh__Maher__
Mauro__Novelli__Walilko__

5. Consider accepting the minutes of the Regular monthly meeting held on February 22, 2010.

Motion_____Seconded_____ R.C. Battaglia__Hernandez__Hoh__Maher__
Mauro__Novelli__Walilko__

6. Correspondence

- Thank you note from VA NJ Health Care System for the Valentine's for Veterans donation
- Letter from Maher Family
- SEMI Waiver Letter

7. Superintendent's Report

8. Board Discussion/Reports

9. Presentations-None

10. Business Administrator's Report

11. Public Discussion

12. FINANCE

Steve Hoh, Patricia Hernandez

- a. Consider approving the following resolution for **suspension of 2010 school budget elections**:

WHEREAS, on February 11, 2010, Governor Christopher Christie issued Executive Order 14, which froze current-year state aid payments in more than 500 local school districts, including Mine Hill Township School District; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 14 sets out a process whereby affected school districts would use their excess surplus and portions of reserve accounts to make up for the loss of current-year aid, a strategy that will have an uncertain impact on next year's (2010-2011) school budgets; and

WHEREAS, local school districts have been advised of four possible scenarios concerning their 2010-2011 state aid allocations, adding to the uncertainty over future school finances; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's annual budget message, through which official state school aid amounts for 2010-2011 will be released, has been postponed until March 16; and

WHEREAS, local school boards must finalize proposed budgets for placement on the election ballot by April 3, a span of less than three weeks; and

WHEREAS, the lack of complete information about state school funding and the compressed budget timelines will pose a burden to local school districts in developing intelligent, responsible budgets; and

WHEREAS, the scheduling of the school budget referendums on April 20 precludes the allotment of additional time needed for budget development; and

WHEREAS, proposed school budgets are controlled by a tax-levy cap and undergo thorough review by the state's Executive County Superintendents, thereby ensuring efficient and responsible use of taxpayer funds; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Mine Hill Township Board of Education urges Governor Christopher Christie and the state Legislature to take necessary action to suspend the 2010 school budget elections; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Mine Hill Township Board of Education also urges state lawmakers to permit certification of school tax levies based on the budgets approved by local boards of education following the public hearings required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A: 22-10 et seq.; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Mine Hill Township Board of Education also urges state lawmakers to adjust the school budget calendar to extend timelines for the budget development, hearing and adoption process, thereby enabling school districts to develop responsible budgets necessary to meet state and local education goals; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution be sent to Governor Christopher Christie, Acting Commissioner of Education Bret Schundler, Senate President Stephen Sweeney, Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver, state Senator Anthony R. Bucco and Assembly Representatives Anthony M. Bucco and Michael Carroll; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the New Jersey School Boards Association.

- d. Consider approving the following resolution for **restoration of 2009-2010 State School Aid Cuts:**

WHEREAS, the Mine Hill Township Board of Education recognizes that sound financial management is necessary to support the school program; and

WHEREAS, the Mine Hill Township School District bases its budget on academic goals, current needs and data collected through a long-range planning process; and

WHEREAS, the district's prudent expenditure practices have resulted in an excess surplus of \$106,212 during the current fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, current state law requires districts to apply these excess funds toward the 2010-2011 school budget in order to control local property taxes;

WHEREAS, through its policy of sound fiscal management, the Mine Hill Township Board of Education has placed in reserve for the current school

year \$83,001 to ensure that maintenance and facility renovations do not affect its financial stability; and

WHEREAS, under Executive Order 14, the Governor has frozen the Mine Hill Township school district's current-year state aid in an amount equal to its excess surplus and 25 percent of its capital reserve and other reserve accounts; and

WHEREAS, the aid cut unfairly targets the Mine Hill Township School District and others that accumulated additional surplus and/or put aside reserve funds as the result of sound financial practices; and

WHEREAS, by forcing the expenditure of these surplus funds in the current school year, the Mine Hill Township district will not have them available to control next year's school property taxes; and

WHEREAS, replenishment of reserve accounts next year will divert limited resources from the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 14 will have a negative impact on property taxpayers and the education program in the Mine Hill Township School District in 2010-2011. Therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Mine Hill Township Board of Education urges the state Legislature and the Governor to pursue other means to resolve the state's current-year budget gap without jeopardizing school programs or penalizing property taxpayers in the future; and be it further

RESOLVED, that such an alternative should leave in place school districts' excess surplus, as well as their capital reserves; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution be sent to Governor Christopher Christie, Acting Commissioner of Education Bret Schundler, Senate President Stephen Sweeney, Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver, state Senator Anthony R. Bucco and Assembly Representatives Anthony M. Bucco and Michael Carroll; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the New Jersey School Boards Association.

Motion_____Seconded_____ R.C. Battaglia__Hernandez__Hoh__Maher__
Mauro__Novelli__Walilko__

13. CURRICULUM AND STUDENT ACTIVITIES Anthony Novelli, Margo Maher

- a. Consider approving the following **requests for services:**
(Attachment 1 and 2)

Student ID	Service	Provider	Date(s)	Cost
1441575128	Personal Aide	TBD	Remainder of the 2009-2010 school year	\$15 per day for 75 days for a total of \$1,125.00
8907225185	Occupational Therapy Evaluation	PG Chambers	TBD	\$385.00

Note: These are Dover requests.

- b. Consider approving the **rescinding of Chelsea Maher** as the Board of Education paid tuition student to attend Roxbury High School from September 2010 through June 2014.
- c. Consider approving the **placement of Alexis Lutton**, the first student on the Waiting List to attend Roxbury High School, as the Board of Education paid tuition student to attend Roxbury High School from September 2010 through June 2014.

Motion_____Seconded_____ R.C. Battaglia__Hernandez__Hoh__Maher__
Mauro__Novelli__Walilko__

14. OPERATIONS Margo Maher, Mary Jo Walilko

- a. Consider approving the **Second Reading of Policy 5119 Waiting List For Roxbury.** (Attachment 3)
- b. Consider approving the **Second Reading** of the following Policies and Regulations: (Attachment 4)

- 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_____Seconded_____ R.C. Battaglia__Hernandez__Hoh__Maher__
Mauro__Novelli__Walilko__

15. 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.

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, consider approving **Lisa Lardieri as a Substitute Classroom aide**, as needed, at a rate of \$65.00 per full day and \$32.50 for half day, effective March 9, 2010.
- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, consider approving the following list of **Title I teacher(s)** by Full Time Equivalent and salaries:

Name	Assignment	FTE	Salary
Margaret Strittmatter	Basic Skills	0.24	\$21,000.00

- c. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, consider approving the following **appointment of new Substitute Teachers** for the 2009-2010 school year:

Peter M. Rathjens	\$75 per day, \$85 after 10 days
Diedric Meintsma	\$80 per day, \$90 after 10 days

- d. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, consider approving the **payment to Cindy Pyrzynski** of \$ 5,642.00 from the 2008-2009 school year due to hours worked in excess of contractual obligation.

Motion_____Seconded_____ R.C. Battaglia__Hernandez__Hoh__Maher__
Mauro__Novelli__Walilko__

16. COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

Caryn Battaglia, Anthony Novelli

17. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Bridget Mauro, Caryn Battaglia

18. Dover Report

Bridget Mauro

19. MHEF Report

Margo Maher

20. Old Business

21. New Business

22. CLOSED SESSION

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____ at _____ PM, the Board approves 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 and 7. It may be adjourned while business is conducted in public then reconvened after public business has been completed.

23. RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____ at _____ PM, the Board returns to the regular session meeting.

23. Public Discussion

24. ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board adjourns the meeting at _____ PM.

Motion_____Seconded_____ R.C. Battaglia__Hernandez__Hoh__Maher__
Mauro__Novelli__Walilko_