

BLOOMSBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes – December 8, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved January 12, 2010

I. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

CALL TO ORDER:

President, Mike Galuppo called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. and asked everyone to please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT:

Mike Galuppo read the following statement:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is either discussed or acted upon. The Board has fully complied with the notice requirements by advertising in The Express Times posting publicly and by notifying the Municipal Clerk of the date, time and place of the meeting.

ROLL CALL

Present

President, Mike Galuppo

Vice-President, Karyn Frey

Catherine Foulk

Robert Furnari

Absent

Marnie Carrick

Others Present

Mike Slattery, Chief School Administrator

Tim Mantz, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Flag Salute – Pledge of Allegiance

II. PRESENTATIONS:

William Colantano presented the 2008-09 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) to the Board. He reviewed the school's surplus position and reserve accounts and suggested that the Board consider improving its capital reserve for funding any future projects. Mr. Colantano provided the Board with a revenue/expenditure comparison which, in his opinion, showed good fiscal prudence. Furthering his point, Mr. Colantano mentioned the historical tax rates over the past four years and stated that the Board's tax rate has risen only 4% over this time period. Ultimately, Mr. Colantano said that the school was in sound fiscal shape and said that his audit turned up no recommendations.

Karyn Frey asked Mr. Colantano's opinion with regard to summer pay. Mr. Colantano discussed the summer pay statute and the best way for the school to be compliant.

III. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

Mr. Galuppo pointed out the letter from Emmajeane Dooley included in the agenda packets. Mr. Slattery said that this was not necessarily a formal program and gave the background behind the request. The Board requested that a list of needed supplies be provided.

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IV. PTO REPORT

Marianne Treanor told the Board that “Parent’s Night Out” went well and the money raised would go towards the 8th grade graduation.

Ms. Treanor said that the “Kid’s Holiday Corner” and holiday luncheon for the staff was upcoming as well as a toy/coat/food drive with all proceeds going to NORWESCAP.

Ms. Treanor also stated that the new sound system for the all-purpose room had been installed and his functionable.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Policy

Karyn Frey inquired about sending a letter to the Bloomsbury Education Association outlining when a Board decision to their grievance might be made.

E. Public Relations

Catherine Foulk told the Board that Town Council had received proposals from interested parties with regard to using space available at the mill.

F. Education

Catherine Foulk told the Board that the Phillipsburg School District shared its test results with their Board at the last meeting.

VI. CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Mr. Slattery told the Board that the cluster was in the process of having articulation meetings for the revision of the K-8 Language Arts curriculum. He said that they hoped to have a proposal by the spring.

Mr. Slattery made note of the art curriculum in the agenda packets for review.

Mr. Slattery said there was no Super Student of the Month due to time constraints.

Mr. Slattery told the Board that the QSAC review went very well. The County was very appreciative of the administration’s preparation and efforts and agreed with the majority of the scores presented on the self-assessments. The final scores should be ready in February.

Mr. Slattery said that the next day’s walking bus would be cancelled and rescheduled.

Mr. Slattery mentioned that the school’s winter concert was the next evening and invited all to attend.

Mr. Slattery recognized the PTO for all the organization is doing outside of the school and applauded their outstanding efforts.

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Mr. Slattery informed the Board that the tree lighting ceremony in town had been rescheduled for the upcoming Friday.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Marianne Treanor asked the Board about state driven feasibility studies for potential regionalization efforts and inquired as to whether the Board considered doing on its own. Mr. Slattery outlined the process the state is undertaking for any regionalization possibilities.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS: Chief School Administrator's Recommendations

CONSENT AGENDA: Matters listed within the consent agenda have been referred to members of the Board of Education and/or its standing committees, for reading and study, are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion.

A. Consent Agenda Motion: BOARD AFFAIRS

Motion made by Karyn Frey, seconded by Robert Furnari, to approve the following board affairs agenda item **1.1**;

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

To approve the minutes of the November 11, 2009 regular meeting. (Tabled)

To approve the minutes of the November 11, 2009 executive session. (Tabled)

1.1 To approve the minutes of the October 21, 2009 regular meeting.

B. Consent Agenda Motion: BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Motion made by Karyn Frey, seconded by Catherine Foulk, to approve the following business affairs agenda items **2.1** through **2.5**;

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

2.1 To approve, on the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the acceptance of the monthly financial reports of the Board Secretary and the Treasurer for the month of **October 2009** and further that, in compliance with NJAC 6A:23-2.11(c)4, the Board of Education certifies that as of **October 31, 2009**, after review of the secretary's monthly financial report and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge, no major account has been over expended in violation of NJAC 6A:23-2.11(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

2.2 To approve the December 8, 2009 current expense bill list for check numbers 11875 to 11902 totaling \$201,113.30.

2.3 To enter into a joint special education transportation agreement with the Hunterdon Central Regional High School for the 2009-10 school year at a total annual cost of \$7,225 with terms as presented.

2.4 To approve transportation contract number Q2-09/10 with First Student, Inc. in the amount of \$143.75 for field trips as presented.

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2.5 To approve the following resolution for the continuing participation in the Alliance for Competitive Telecommunications:

Alliance for Competitive Telecommunications (ACT)
PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATIVE PURCHASING OF
TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES

The Bloomsbury Board of Education agrees to participate in the **Alliance for Competitive Telecommunications** with the Monmouth-Ocean Educational Services Commission and the New Jersey Association of School Business Officials (NJASBO) for the period of July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2012. The Monmouth-Ocean Educational Services Commission shall be the lead Local Educational Agency (LEA) for this program. All New Jersey School districts are invited to participate in the **Alliance for Competitive Telecommunications, which is intended to fulfill the districts obligation under 18A:55-3.**

The Board of Education shall provide the Commission with accurate data, i.e. telephone line numbers for each number included in the bid and any other appropriate information necessary for the development of bid specifications.

The Board of Education shall not solicit bids or enter into a contract that would jeopardize the award of a contract for cooperative telecommunication services by the Commission. The Board shall abide by the award of contract made by the Commission. The Board shall not withdraw from this agreement prior to June 30, 2012.

The Board understands that the services to be provided under this cooperative purchasing agreement will include dial tone/local calls (where available), regional toll calls, long distance toll calls and voice over internet protocol (VOIP) when such option is chosen by the participating district.

All fees for the work of the Commission and the expenses of NJASBO will be incorporated into the price for services as provided by the successful vendor (s).

C. Consent Agenda Motion: PERSONNEL

Motion made by Catherine Foulk, seconded by Karyn Frey, to approve the following personnel affairs agenda item **3.0** through **3.4**;

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

- 3.0** To accept Debra Kane's letter of resignation effective June 30, 2010.
- 3.1** To approve Caroline Kirk has a teacher substitute for the 2009-10 school year.
- 3.2** To approve a week long leave of absence consisting of three personal days and two unpaid days for Donna MacLennan in early December 2010.
- 3.3** To approve Spring 2010 through Spring 2011 graduate course registration for Dianna Kohrt per the presented class list.
- 3.4** To approve Centenary College student Tara Baranowski to be a first grade classroom student teacher with Sally Jo Pulcini during the Fall of the 2010-11 school year.

The Board discussed presenting a plaque to Ms. Kane's in lieu of her many years of service and outstanding career.

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D. Consent Agenda Motion: School Affairs

Motion made by Robert Furnari, seconded by Mike Galuppo, to approve the following school affairs agenda items **4.1** through **4.3**;

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

- 4.1** To approve the following field trips:
- 4th Grade to the State House, Old Barracks Museum and a French & Indian War exhibit on 4/14/10 in Trenton and Mercer County, NJ.
 - 5th, 6th & 7th Grades to the Philadelphia Zoo on 5/28/10 in Philadelphia, PA.
 - 7th & 8th grade Chime Ensemble students to the Lopatcong Care Center in December 2009 in Lopatcong, NJ.
- 4.2** To approve the attendance of staff members at the following conferences:
- Rick Arlotto to “Training for Building-based Teams of Intervention and Referral Services” on 1/7/10 & 1/8/10 in Westfield, NJ. Cost is mileage reimbursement in the amount of \$37.20 (120 miles @ \$.31/mile).
 - Graziella Woodruff to “Training for Building-based Teams of Intervention and Referral Services” on 1/7/10 & 1/8/10 in Westfield, NJ. Cost is mileage reimbursement in the amount of \$37.20 (120 miles @ \$.31/mile).
 - Sally Pulcini to “Training for Building-based Teams of Intervention and Referral Services” on 1/7/10 & 1/8/10 in Westfield, NJ. No expense.
- 4.3** To approve the following building use request:
- i. Student Council on 12/18/09 from 7:00pm – 9:00 pm in the All-Purpose Room, restrooms & stage for a school dance.

IX. OLD AND NEW BUSINESS:

Karyn Frey asked when the Board might act on the teacher’s grievance and stated that a response from the Board should be issued.

Karyn Frey, who was in attendance for a portion of the County QSAC review, stated that she also felt that everything went well. She told the Board that the County Executive Superintendent praised the job being done by Mr. Slattery.

The Board discussed the new agenda format and decided to continue with it. Mike Galuppo stated he believed that stimulating conversation on the issues at hand was important and wants to ensure that this agenda does not stifle that.

Mr. Galuppo stated that some in the community feel that the school’s dress code was unnecessary. The discussed the code and its merits.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

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XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m. on a motion by Mike Galuppo, seconded by Catherine Foulk.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Mantz
Board Secretary/B.A.

Board Member