

DEMAREST BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES – PRELIMINARY BUDGET ADOPTION/COW

March 17, 2015

7:00 P.M.

I. OPENING

A. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. Board President's Announcement:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law 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 discussed or acted upon.

In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Demarest Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted at the Borough Hall and at the Middle School and by notifying in writing two newspapers: The Record and The Suburbanite.

C. President Holzberg led the flag salute.

D. Roll Call: Cantatore, Molina, Verna, Woods and Holzberg were present. Geller and Kirtane were absent.

II. PUBLIC DISCUSSION LIMITED TO PRELIMINARY BUDGET

A. It was moved by Woods, seconded by Molina and approved by unanimous voice vote to open the meeting to public discussion, limited to the 2015/2016 preliminary budget.

1. L. Gross of 76 Chestnut Street questioned items in the proposed capital budget. She also questioned the state of teacher negotiations. She commented that the cost of the Belmar connection is nearly half of the proposed capital outlay.

President Holzberg commented both the Demarest Fire and Police approve of the plan and agree it makes the current situation safer.

2. L. Saroufeem of 23 Belmar presented her opposition to constructing the driveway stating Belmar is a narrow roadway without sidewalks and is concerned about safety of children.

President Holzberg responded that parents use Belmar Street now and make u-turns on the narrow road since Columbus Road is so congested. She thanked everyone for their comments.

B. It was moved by Woods, seconded by Verna and approved by unanimous voice vote to close the meeting to public discussion.

III. ACTIONS

1. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve that the Board of Education of Demarest hereby adopt the following preliminary budget for the 2015/2016 school year and submit to the Executive County Superintendent for approval, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

The proposed budget includes sufficient funds to provide curriculum and instruction which will enable all students to achieve the Common Core Curriculum Content Standards and is in compliance with N.J.S.A. 18A and N.J.A.C. Title 6 and 6A.

Anticipated Enrollment: 684

III. ACTIONS (Continued)

Resolution # 1 Continued

<u>Expenditures</u>		<u>Revenue</u>	
General Current Expense	\$ 13,789,233	Local Tax Levy	\$ 12,240,818
Capital Outlay	1,055,230	Budgeted Fund Balance	1,797,901
Special Revenue Fund	139,694	Chapter 78 Revenue	327,709
Repayment of Debt	653,475	Misc. Revenue	123,000
		State Aid	324,035
		Federal Aid	139,694
		Debt Service	653,475
		Tuition	31,000
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 15,637,632</u>	Total Revenue	<u>\$ 15,637,632</u>

As per N.J.A.C 6A:23B-1.2(b), the proposed budget provides for a maximum expenditure amount that may be allotted for travel and expense reimbursement.

The 2015/2016 preliminary budget includes a maximum travel appropriation of \$41,475.

The School Business Administrator shall track and record these costs to ensure that the maximum amount is not exceeded.

IV. FOR BOARD DISCUSSION AND REVIEW

A. Instruction – Staffing

None

B. Instruction – Pupil Programs

1. Approve students to participate in senior service.
2. Approve service contract with State of New Jersey – Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired.
3. Approve amended 2014/2015 and 2015/2016 student calendars.

C. Support Services – Staffing

1. Approved substitute lunch aide.

D. Support Services – Board of Education

1. Approve use of buildings and/or fields.
2. Approve workshop attendance.

E. Support Services – Fiscal Management

1. Confirm payroll.
2. Approve February bills.
3. Confirm February budget transfers.
4. Approve Certification of Board Secretary.
5. Approve Certification of Board of Education.
6. Acknowledge receipt of A-148 and A-149 Reports.

IV. FOR BOARD DISCUSSION AND REVIEW (Continued)

F. Other

1. Schedule Executive Session Meetings Tuesday, April 21 and 28, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss negotiations, personnel and/or legal matters.

V. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

A. It was moved by Verna, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous voice vote to open the meeting to public discussion.

1. L. Saroufeem asked the board to please reconsider their decision on the Belmar connection. She thinks there is too much risk to the board's credibility on the line.

2. Mr. Saroufeem spoke about the increase in cars on Belmar after the connection is completed. He feels the risk outweighs the benefits.

Mr. Molina commented that Belmar will be a one-way during the drop-off and pick-up times.

Mr. Fox explained the police and fire chiefs agree with the board and that the connection driveway will be gated off during all other hours.

B. It was moved by Molina, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous voice vote to close the meeting to public discussion.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION (if necessary)

There was no additional time needed.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

A. It was moved by Woods, seconded by Molina and approved by unanimous voice vote to adjourn at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank G. Chilson
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary