

DEMAREST BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING

November 18, 2014

I. OPENING

A. The meeting was called to order at 7:12 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: Geisenheimer, Geller, Kirtane, Verna, Woods and Holzberg were present. Molina was absent.

E. It was moved by Geisenheimer, seconded by Geller and approved by unanimous voice vote to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 21, 2014 and the Committee of the Whole Meeting held October 14, 2014.

F. There was a review of correspondence.

II. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Holzberg welcomed the public. She commented that we will be presenting the district's annual testing report.

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Fox congratulated Diane Holzberg and Erica Cantatore for being elected to the board for three year terms.

Mr. Fox introduced Dr. Codey and Mr. Mazzini, Principals, who presented their Annual Report on Testing Results. Mr. Mazzini reviewed the test results for the elementary schools. He credited the staff members and parents for the great student results. He noted this is the last year for the NJASK testing, as students will begin taking the PARCC test. Dr. Codey presented the results of the 5th, 7th and 8th grade tests. She commented that Demarest scored eighth overall of the 596 districts statewide.

IV. REVIEW OF AGENDA

A. The board members reviewed the items.

B. It was moved by Geisenheimer, seconded by Geller and approved by unanimous voice vote to open the meeting to public discussion limited to agenda items.

C. Public discussion:

1. L. Gross presented a group of posters expressing her opposition to the referendum.

2. H. Rifkin commented on the high unemployment and that the referendum would cost him \$350 per year.

3. Ms. Hayden stated the board should complete the repairs to County Road School outside of the referendum, thus saving the community money.

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

V. ACTIONSA. Instruction – Staffing

1. It was moved by Kirtane, seconded by Geisenheimer and approved by unanimous roll call vote to accept the resignation of Stefanie Zitelli, 7th Grade Language Arts Teacher, effective January 30, 2015, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

2. It was moved by Kirtane, seconded by Geisenheimer and approved by unanimous roll call vote to accept the resignation of Leah Franco, 6th Grade Language Arts Teacher, effective November 25, 2014.

3. It was moved by Kirtane, seconded by Geisenheimer and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Superintendent has recommended withholding the employment and adjustment increments for Employee # 48591317; and

WHEREAS, the Employee was provided notice of this proposed action; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent has advised the Board of the reasons for the withholding and the Board concurs with the recommendation of the Superintendent.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:29-14, does hereby withhold the employment and adjustment increments for Employee # 48591317 for the 2015-16 school year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent shall notify Employee # 48591317 of the adoption of this Resolution and the reasons therefore, in writing, within ten (10) calendar days.

4. It was moved by Kirtane, seconded by Geisenheimer and approved by unanimous roll call vote to accept the provisional employment of Danielle Ruberto, BA, Step 1, (pending settlement of successor agreement), as 7th Grade Language Arts Teacher, effective February 2, 2015 through the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator. Regular employment status would become effective upon candidate's compliance with P.L. 1986, c. 116 (revised 6/30/98).

B. Instruction – Pupils/Programs

1. It was moved by Verna, seconded by Geisenheimer and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve a Non Domiciled Tuition Agreement with Mr. & Mrs. Sherman for their child (ID # 7235188920) to attend sixth grade at Demarest Middle School for the 2014/2015 school year at a per diem rate of \$109.53, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

C. Support Services – Staffing

1. It was moved by Geller, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the provisional employment of the following substitute teachers for the 2014/2015 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator. Regular employment status would become effective upon candidate's compliance with P.L. 1986, c.116 (revised 6/30/98):

Lauren Agresta

Jason Schoenfelder

Anju Kapoor

Danielle Ruberto

2. It was moved by Geller, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to confirm the resignation of Susan Keenan, Instructional Aide for Student ID # 2529758090 (Local ID 202077) attending Northvale School effective October 31, 2014, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

V. ACTIONS (Continued)C. Support Services – Staffing

3. It was moved by Geller, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to confirm the resignation of Gilda Natko, Instructional Aide at Luther Lee Emerson School for Student Local ID # 252029, effective November 5, 2014, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

4. It was moved by Geller, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the provisional employment of Melissa Rufo, Step 1, as an Instructional Aide for Student ID # 2529758090 (Local ID 202077) attending Northvale School for the 2014/2015 school year effective October 24, 2014 for the hours of 12:25 to 3:00, based on the Student's Individual Education Plan (IEP), as recommended by the Chief School Administrator. Regular employment status would become effective upon candidate's compliance with P.L. 1986, c.116 (revised 6/30/98).

5. It was moved by Geller, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve a Memorandum of Agreement (prorated) with Dawn Delasandro, Assistant Business Administrator/Assistant Board Secretary, for the 2014/2015 school year, effective November 19, 2014 through June 30, 2015, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

6. It was moved by Geller, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the provisional employment of Maria Borges, Step 1, as an Instructional Aide for Student # 2529758090 (Local ID 202077) attending Northvale School for the 2014/2015 school year effective October 24, 2014 for the hours of 8:30 am to 11:48 am, based on the student's Individual Education Plan (IEP), as recommended by the Chief School Administrator. Regular employment status would become effective upon candidate's compliance with P.L. 1986, c.116 (revised 6/30/98).

7. It was moved by Geller, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Employee # 68627843 has provided a medical certification indicating that Employee cannot perform the essential functions of Employee's position; and

WHEREAS, on November 17, 2014, District Administration met with Employee and Employee's supervisor to engage in the interactive process to ascertain whether any reasonable accommodation exists to enable Employee to perform the essential functions of Employee's position; and

WHEREAS, Employee and Employee's supervisor agree that Employee's condition, which is at Maximum Medical Improvement does not permit Employee to perform the essential functions of Employee's position, even with a reasonable accommodation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Employee shall be terminated, effective November 18, 2014 and employee shall be permitted to utilize unused, accrued 14 vacation days, one holiday and one compensatory day between the date of this Resolution and the effective date of termination, December 10, 2014.

8. It was moved by Geller, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the appointment of Yordanis Morales as day custodian with CDL and Black Seal at Luther Lee Emerson School, Step 9 (pro-rated), effective December 15, 2014 as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

D. Support Services – Board of Education

1. It was moved by Geisenheimer, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the request of the Demarest PTO to use the All-Purpose Room and gymnasium at Luther Lee Emerson School for International Heritage Day from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Friday, March 27, 2015 and from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday March 28, 2015, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

V. ACTIONS (Continued)D. Support Services – Board of Education (Continued)

2. It was moved by Geisenheimer, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the following resolution, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BOROUGH OF DEMAREST IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING CERTAIN ACTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF LUTHER LEE EMERSON AND DEMAREST MIDDLE SCHOOL AND THE RENOVATION OF COUNTY ROAD SCHOOL

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Borough of Demarest in the County of Bergen, New Jersey (the "Board"), in the furtherance of its educational goals and constitutional duties to provide a thorough and efficient education seeks to submit a project to the voters which project consists of the expansion of Luther Lee Emerson School and Demarest Middle School and the renovation of County Road School (collectively, the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that the portion of the Project related to Luther Lee Emerson School and the Demarest Middle School will not be eligible for State aid;

WHEREAS, the Board now seeks to take the initial steps in order to proceed with the planning and authorization of the Project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BOROUGH OF DEMAREST IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY, as follows:

Section 1. In accordance with the requirements of Section 6A:26-5.1 through 6A:26-5.3 of the New Jersey Administrative Code, the Board hereby approves the preparation of Schematic Plans and Educational Specifications by EI Associates in connection with the Project and Board further authorizes and directs EI Associates to submit same to the New Jersey Department of Education and to the Bergen County Superintendent of Schools for review and approval. The Board further authorized and directs the submission of the Schematic Plans to the Demarest Planning Board for its review, if required.

Section 2. In accordance with the requirements of Section 6A:26-2.3 of the New Jersey Administrative Code, the Board hereby approves an amendment to the Long Range Facilities Plan, as necessary, to reflect the Project and approves the submission of such amendment to the New Jersey Department of Education.

Section 3. In accordance with the requirements of Section 6A:26-3.2 of the New Jersey Administrative Code, the Board hereby approves the Project Application and authorizes EI Associates to submit such application to the New Jersey Department of Education seeking debt service aid for the Project, understanding that since there are no un-housed students, the portion of the Project related to the Luther Lee Emerson School and the Demarest Middle School are not eligible for debt service aid.

Section 4. The Board hereby authorizes and directs the Board President, the Superintendent and the Board Secretary, as applicable, to sign the schematic plans and educational specifications, the amendment to the Long Range Facilities Plan, the project cost estimate sheets and all related project documents allowing submission of same to the New Jersey Department of Education.

Section 5. The Board hereby authorizes and directs the Board President, the Superintendent, the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, EI Associates and Bond Counsel, as applicable; to take all action required to preserve the opportunity to present the Projects to the voters via a bond referendum at a Special School District Election to be held on January 27, 2015.

Section 6. This resolution shall take effect immediately and shall supersede any resolution previously adopted and inconsistent herewith.

V. ACTIONS (Continued)

D. Support Services – Board of Education (Continued)

3. It was moved by Geisenheimer, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the creation of and job description for Assistant Business Administrator/Assistant Board Secretary, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

4. It was moved by Geisenheimer, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the attendance of Diane Holzberg, Board President, at the Passaic County School Boards Association Meeting on November 24, 2014 in Paterson NJ, with mileage reimbursed at the statutory rate, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

5. It was moved by Geisenheimer, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the attendance of Kristin Konight, Media Specialist, at the Judy Freeman Workshop on April 24, 2015 in Whippany NJ, at a cost of \$199 for registration, with mileage reimbursed at the statutory rate, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

6. It was recommended by President Holzberg to table the following resolution for further review:

Move to approve the first reading and adoption of the following revised Policies/Regulations/Exhibits, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

6142.4 Policy	Physical Education and Health
6145.1-6145.2 Policy	Intramural competition; Interscholastic competition
6145.1-6145.2 Regulation	Intramural competition/Interscholastic competition
6145.1-6145.2 Exhibit	Intramural competition; interscholastic comp exhibit (form)
6147.1 Policy	Evaluation of individual student performance
4115 Policy	Supervision

7. It was moved by Geisenheimer, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to acknowledge the Demarest Board of Education official election results of the November 4, 2014 election, certified by John S. Hogan, Bergen County Clerk, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

Diane Holzberg, 750

Erica Cantatore, 86

8. It was moved by Geisenheimer, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve use of facilities at County Road School for Kiddie Clinic/Yoga for January 6, 8, 13,15, 20, 22, 27, 29, 2014 at a cost of \$400, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

E. Support Services –Fiscal Management

1. It was moved by Woods, seconded by Geisenheimer and approved by unanimous roll call vote to confirm the October 16th – 31st, 2014 payroll in the amount of \$341,880.86.

2. It was moved by Woods, seconded by Geisenheimer and approved by unanimous roll call vote to confirm the November 1st – 15th, 2014 payroll in the amount of \$351,706.07.

3. It was moved by Woods, seconded by Geisenheimer and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the October 2014 bills in the amount of \$448,528.94.

<u>Subtotal Per Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11 General Current Fund Expense Funds	\$ 324,268.94
12 Capital Outlay	124,260.00

V. ACTIONS (Continued)E. Support Services –Fiscal Management (Continued)

4. It was moved by Woods, seconded by Geisenheimer and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the following resolution:

Receipt of Certification from Board Secretary

Pursuant to N.J.A.C 6:20-2.13 (d), I, Frank G. Chilson certify that as of October 31, 2014, no budgetary line item account has obligations or payments (contractual orders) which in total exceeds the amount appropriated by the district Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A 18A:22-8 and 18A:22-8.1.

5. It was moved by Woods, seconded by Geisenheimer and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the following resolution:

Certification of Board of Education

Pursuant to N.J.A.C 6:20-2.13 (e), we certify that as of October 31, 2014, after review of the secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district official, to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over-extended in violation of NJAC 6:20-2.13 (b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

6. It was moved by Woods, seconded by Geisenheimer and approved by unanimous roll call vote to acknowledge receipt of September 30, 2014 Report of the Board Secretary, A148 and Report of the Treasurer, A-149.

F. Other

1. It was moved by Kirtane, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous voice vote to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Demarest Board of Education will convene in a closed Executive Session on Monday, December 15, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss personnel and/or legal matters.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the nature of the discussion is expected to be disclosed to the public at a future date.

VI. REPORTS

Mr. Fox informed the Public Relations Committee he would be forwarding them the next issue of the district newsletter, Chalkboard, for their review.

VII. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

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

1. A resident of Belmar Street expressed her concerns of the board opening a driveway to Belmar Street.
2. Ms. Hayden spoke about the topography of connecting to Belmar Street. She noted someone will need to be present to stop traffic to allow students to cross the driveway.
3. N. Dickstein commented that everyone should consider what is best for the betterment of all.
4. A. Desai commented many people are on fixed incomes and will be negatively affected by increased taxes.
5. T. Swag stated she works in real estate and commented you will get a premium for your home because you live in Demarest.

VII. PUBLIC DISCUSSION (Continued)

6. L. Gross commented she cannot afford this. It is extravagant at this time.

7. T. Swag stated we are in need of a gym sized for the students. It is also utilized by the Demarest Recreation.

8. Mr. Gdalevich commented some residents cannot afford this project.

President Holzberg thanked everyone for their input. She noted the residents raised many good questions. She commented we have been working on this project since 2012, recently deliberated after hearing the community's input and have decided to move forward. She remarked you will all have your chance to vote.

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

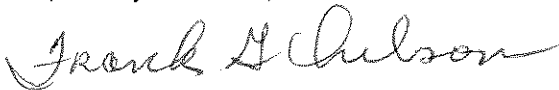
VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION (AS NEEDED)

There was no additional time needed this evening.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

A. It was moved by Geisenheimer, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous voice vote to adjourn at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank G. Chilson
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary