

DEMAREST BOARD OF EDUCATION

COW MEETING MINUTES

September 8, 2020
6:30 P.M.

I. OPENING

- A. The meeting was called to order by President Holzberg at 6:30 P.M.
- B. Roll Call: Cantatore, Choi, Governale, Lee, Schliem Verna, Holzberg
Absent:
Also present: Mr. Fox, Superintendent and Mr. Perez, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

II. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. The Board has determined it will enter into Executive Session for the following reasons:
 - 1. Personnel matters – Interim Business Administrator
- C. It was moved by Verna, seconded by Governale and approved by unanimous voice vote of those present to approve the following resolution to enter the Executive Session:

WHEREAS, in order to protect the personal privacy and to avoid situations wherein the public interest might be disserved, the Open Public Meetings Act permits public bodies to exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which certain matters are discussed; **WHEREAS**, the length of the closed Executive Session is estimated to be thirty minutes, after which the Regular Public Meeting will reconvene and proceed with business where formal action may or may not be taken;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that consistent with the provision of N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b), the Board of Education will now adjourn to executive session to discuss items stated above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board hereby declares that its discussion of the aforementioned subjects will be made public at a time when the public's interest in disclosure is greater than any privacy or governmental interest being protected from disclosure.

III. REOPEN PUBLIC MEETING

- A. It was moved by Verna, seconded by Governale to reopen the Regular Meeting to the public at 7:00 P.M.
- B. Roll Call: Cantatore, Choi, Governale, Lee, Schliem Verna, Holzberg
Absent:
Also present: Mr. Fox, Superintendent and Mr. Perez, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
- C. 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.

IV. FOR BOARD DISCUSSION AND REVIEW

A. Instruction – Staffing

1. Substitutes
2. Leave of absence
3. Hire leave replacement
4. Payment of accumulated sick time
5. Mentors/ Mentees

B. Instruction – Pupils/Programs

1. Non-domiciled tuition agreements
2. Contract with Bergen County Special Services
3. Home instruction

C. Support Services – Staffing

1. Resignation

D. Support Services – Board of Education

1. Review of 2019/2020 Board Goals

Nancy Stern of Sousa & Stern Educational Consultants reviewed the board self-evaluation and attainment of goals as follows:

Goal: Board members will continue to explore the pathway to Demarest becoming “Sustainable Jersey Certified”. The Committee will present their findings and recommendations to the entire Board for a decision as to how to proceed.

Update: Committee met several times and reported back to the full Board. Decided not to undertake the challenge but decided to look at parts of the program.

Goal: Board members will conduct a feasibility study of different Strategic Planning methods which would involve the community. They will get proposals from consulting firms and interview them for consideration.

Update: In progress. Business Administrator began to gather information from various consulting firms but due to COVID, this was put on hold.

2. Establish 2020/2021 Board Goals

Nancy Stern of Sousa & Stern Educational Consultants discussed the goal setting. A report will be issued to the board members by the end of the week.

3. Use of district athletic fields. The board determined that the fields may be used during this time.
4. Use of district gymnasiums.
5. Pre-K Contract. Refunds of deposits was discussed. No refund as per contract.
6. Interim business administrator
7. Policies

8. SACC aftercare program
9. Agreement with NV Consortium to upgrade internet
10. Shared service with Closter for speech
11. Shared service with Region III for transportation
12. MOA with DEA regarding modifications to teaching day.
13. Para professional SOA

E. Support Services – Fiscal Management

1. August 31, 2020 payroll
2. September 15, 2020 payroll
3. August 2020 in office checks and September 15, 2020 budget checks
4. Receipt of Certification from Board Secretary
5. Certification of Board of Education
6. July 2020 Report of the Board Secretary, A148 and Report of the Treasurer, A-149.
7. Budget transfer for August 2020

V. NEW BUSINESS

- County Road School expansion draft report from EI Associates was given to the board members. Mr. Perez was asked to have EI Associates present at the October meeting.
- President Holzberg acknowledged Michael Dipple from the Demarest Athletic Association. Mr. Dipple spoke to the board regarding gym usage for basketball and indoor soccer. The board expressed their support for the DAA however, they are concerned about indoor use during this pandemic.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION (if necessary)

There was no motion to enter executive session

VII. ADJOURNMENT

A. It was moved by Verna, seconded by Governale and approved by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 P.M.

Sincerely,



Thomas J. Perez
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

