

DEMAREST BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES – COW/REGULAR MEETING

February 24, 2015

I. OPENING

- A. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the library at County Road School.
- 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, Geller, Kirtane, Verna, Woods and Holzberg were present. Molina was absent.
- E. It was moved by Woods, seconded by Geller and approved by unanimous voice vote to accept the minutes of the Reorganization Meeting held on January 6, 2015, the Regular Meeting held on January 20, 2015 and the Special Emergency Meeting held on January 26, 2015.
- F. Mr. Chilson reviewed the monthly correspondence. The February 10th Referendum Vote was defeated with 922 No votes and 247 Yes votes. Mrs. Woods questioned the district cost of the recent OPRA request. Mr. Chilson stated the legal cost was \$2,950 in addition to numerous hours from Mr. Fox, Mr. Chilson and Mr. Harris, Northern Valley High School's technology supervisor.

II. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Holzberg thanked the board for allowing her to attend the FRN Conference in Washington, D.C.

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Fox spoke about staff and program changes. He complimented the administrative team for completing their observations and evaluations. He spoke about Northern Valley Regional's proposal to lease space in the Holy Family School in Norwood and vacate Our Lady of Victories (OLV) in Harrington Park. Holy Family School will provide seven additional classrooms for instruction of the Valley Programs. Mr. Fox commented that we held staff training of the PARCC tests with great participation from parents. He also spoke about his merit goals.

Mr. Regan presented an overview of the district's PARCC readiness. He explained that the intent of PARCC is problem solving and critical thinking and the tests will assess students' writing at each grade level. He shared the district's calendar of testing dates and explained the tests will take a total of 10 hours. It is our intent for all students to take the test online, but special education students may take the test on paper, if needed.

Mr. Fox presented a PowerPoint of the middle school's activities on behalf of Dr. Codey, which covered Math Madness, the PARCC Parent workshop and Annie the Musical which had over 700 attendees. He explained the students collected materials and school supplies for those affected by the Avalon fire in Edgewater.

Mr. Mazzini spoke about the recent events at County Road and Luther Lee Emerson Schools including Walk to School Wednesday, Kindergarten Roundup, Writing Awards, PARCC Night, and Jump Rope for Health. County Road School celebrated 100 Days in School, Officer Tony presented Bike Safety and Lunar New Year was celebrated on February 13.

IV. REVIEW OF AGENDA

- A. The board members reviewed the items.
- B. It was moved by Woods, seconded by Geller and approved by unanimous voice vote to open the meeting to public discussion limited to agenda items.
- C. Public discussion:
 - 1. Laura Gross of 176 Chestnut St. questioned item D-2 concerning the driveway to Belmar Street.

Present Holzberg stated that the project was not part of the referendum, but a safety issue recommended by the Demarest Police Chief Powderly and Fire Chief Matto. She explained that the proposal includes salary for a crossing guard.
- D. It was moved by Woods, seconded by Geller and approved by unanimous voice vote to close the meeting to public discussion.

V. ACTIONS

A. Instruction – Staffing

- 1. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve guide movement for Alexandria Lerner, Third Grade Teacher, from BA+16 to MA, Step 3, for the 2014/2015 school year, effective February 1, 2015, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.
- 2. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the following stipend position for the 2014/2015 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

<u>STIPEND POSITION</u>	<u>TEACHERS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Boys/Girls Track	A. Lefer, G. Torres	\$2,040.00 per person

- 3. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the provisional employment of Heather Rockwell as a substitute teacher 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).

B. Instruction – Pupils/Programs

- 1. It was moved by Kirtane, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve a Special Education Tuition contract with the Harrington Park Board of Education for Student ID # 6797028013 for the 2014/2015 school year, effective December 8, 2014 through June 30, 2015, at a cost of \$22,000, as recommended by the Child Study Team.
- 2. It was moved by Kirtane, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve Maria Bachmann as a Certified Teacher of the Visually Impaired to assist Student ID # 3421005687 during the PARCC assessment as required by the New Jersey Department of Education for five (5) hours daily from March 9 through March 13, 2015, at a rate of \$150 per hour, subject to state regulation, as recommended by the Child Study Team.
- 3. It was moved by Kirtane, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the following DMS Math Team field trips with Sunny Lew, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Transportation</u>
Saturday, 3/7/15 (8:30 – 2:00)	Tenafly Middle School	\$15/student	Parents
Saturday, 3/14/15 (7:00 – 4:30)	Princeton University	\$100 registration	Rinaldi Bus Co. (\$628)

V. ACTIONS (Continued)

B. Instruction – Pupils/Programs (Continued)

4. It was moved by Kirtane, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to authorize the Superintendent to submit an application to the Executive County Superintendent for the establishment of a Language Learning Disabilities Program for Kindergarten and First Grades at County Road School, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

C. Support Services – Staffing

1. It was moved by Verna, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the resignation of Kristen Corcoran, Instructional Aide (Student ID #'s 242056, 242087), at Luther Lee Emerson School effective March 30, 2015, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

2. It was moved by Verna, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the provisional employment of Stefanie Hios as Instructional Aide (Student ID # 242087), Step 1, effective February 25, 2015, for the 2014/2015 school year, not to exceed 29 hours weekly, 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).

3. It was moved by Verna, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve a Memorandum of Agreement with Thomas Perez, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, subject to review and approval of the Executive County Superintendent, effective April 27, 2015 through June 30, 2015, 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).

4. It was moved by Verna, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the provisional employment of Lara Dominianni as Instructional Aide (Student ID #'s 252003, 252025, 252095 and 252066), Step 1, effective March 31, 2015, for the 2014/2015 school year, not to exceed 29 hours weekly, based on the Students' Individual Education Plans (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).

D. Support Services – Board of Education

1. It was moved by Geller, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve Erica Cantatore to attend board member in-class or online mandatory training with the New Jersey School Boards Association, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

2. It was moved by Geller, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve Ei Associates, to prepare bid specifications for parking lot expansion and driveway addition at Luther Lee Emerson School at a cost not to exceed \$37,000, plus project-related reimbursable expenses. This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a "Professional Service" by a firm authorized to perform such services, under the provision of the Public School Contracts Law, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

3. It was moved by Geller, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to reschedule Board of Education Meetings as follows, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Previously Scheduled</u>	<u>New Meeting Date</u>
Committee-of-the-Whole	March 24, 2015	March 17, 2015
Regular Meeting	March 31, 2015	March 24, 2015
Committee-of-the-Whole	April 14, 2015	April 21, 2015

V. ACTIONS (Continued)

D. Support Services – Board of Education (Continued)

4. It was moved by Geller, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to accept the School Bus Emergency evacuation drill report (on file in the Board of Education office), as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

5. It was moved by Geller, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve BSM/St. Joseph's Enrichment to use Demarest Middle School field for soccer on Mondays and Thursdays 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. and Saturdays 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. for the period of April 6 through June 13, 2015, in the amount of \$1875 (\$25 per hour), as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

E. Support Services –Fiscal Management

1. It was moved by Woods, seconded by Geller and approved by unanimous roll call vote to confirm the January 16 – 31, 2015 payroll in the amount of \$338,341.24.

2. It was moved by Woods, seconded by Geller and approved by unanimous roll call vote to confirm the February 1 – 15, 2015 payroll in the amount of \$356,880.22.

3. It was moved by Woods, seconded by Geller and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the January 2015 bills in the amount of \$359,747.59, as follows:

<u>Subtotal Per Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
10 General Current Fund Expense Funds	\$355,932.86
20 Special Revenue Funds	3,814.73

4. It was moved by Woods, seconded by Geller 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 January 31, 2015, 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 Geller 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 January 31, 2015, 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 Geller and approved by unanimous roll call vote to acknowledge receipt of the December 31, 2014 Report of the Board Secretary, A148 and Report of the Treasurer, A-149.

V. ACTIONS (Continued)

F. Other

1. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Wood 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 Tuesday, March 17, 2015 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.

2. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Wood 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 Tuesday, March 24, 2015 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

The Finance Committee met and reviewed the proposed 2015-2016 budget. The State Aid data has not yet been received. The committee recommended we reinstitute the furniture replacement in the County Road School classrooms.

VII. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

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

1. L. Gross expressed a concern of technology support. She said we should be sure we have adequate electric and air conditioning. We need to ensure the infrastructure is there and reliable.

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

VIII EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF NEEDED)

There was no additional time needed.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

A. It was moved by Woods, seconded by Geller and approved by unanimous voice vote to adjourn at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank G. Chilson
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary