

DEMAREST BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES – PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING MEETING

April 29, 2014

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: Geisenheimer, Geller, Kirtane, Molina, Verna, Woods and Holzberg were present.

II. 2014/2015 BUDGET PRESENTATION

President Holzberg congratulated the administration and Finance Committee for successfully preparing the 2014/2015 budget.

Mr. Fox spoke about the budget highlights which focus on maintaining small class sizes at each building. The proposed budget continues support of staff development initiatives and includes funds to enhance technology and digital literacy. This summer we will air condition County Road School classrooms and install permanent walls with enhanced electrical capabilities. We plan on increasing staff by adding a part-time (.5) Basic Skills teacher, part-time (.5) School Psychologist, a full-time Occupational Therapist and full-time Supervisor of Instruction.

Mr. Chilson reviewed the revenues for the 2014/2015 budget. The Board of Education Finance Committee recommended that we maintain the current tax level. The proposed budget is down \$278,585 from the current year. State Aid is increased by \$13,920.

Mrs. Geller, Chairman of the Finance Committee, presented the 2014/2015 tax impact. An average home assessed at \$739,000 will receive a tax decrease of \$82.08 for the year, or \$6.84 per month.

III. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

- A. It was moved by Woods, seconded by Geisenheimer and approved by unanimous voice vote to open the meeting to public discussion, limited to the 2014/2015 budget.

There was no public discussion.

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

IV. ADJOURNMENT

- A. It was moved by Molina, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous voice vote to adjourn at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frank G. Chilson".

Frank G. Chilson
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary