

DEMAREST BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES – COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MEETING

September 13, 2016

6:00 P.M.

I. OPENING

A. President Holzberg called the meeting called to order.

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. Roll Call: Alevrontas, Cantatore, Molina, Verna, Holzberg, Kirtane arrived at 6:12 p.m., Woods was absent.

II. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. The Board has determined it will enter into Executive Session for the following reasons:

There was no executive session.

III. BOARD DISCUSSION AND REVIEW

Mr. Matthew Lee, Field Service Representative for the New Jersey School Boards Association, reviewed the Board's Self-Evaluation for 2016.

Mr. Lee reviewed all 9 sections of the Board Self-Evaluation and determined that the Board works well together and is a high functioning Board. He also provided bar graphs that compared the past three years. The graphs indicated that the Board is consistent and values the Board as a whole over individuality.

Mr. Lee reviewed the 2015-2016 District and Board Goals.

The District goals were:

1. Achieve a student growth model that impacts district level curriculum using data supplies by the Northern Valley Assessments for mathematics.
2. Improve student achievement by continued provision of staff professional development for the implementation of the 1:1 technology as measured through lesson planning review and classroom observations.
3. Implement and monitor the new STEM program at the middle school and research its use at the elementary level as identified in the final report.
4. Provide for successful assimilation of new instructional and administrative staff through orientation and transition opportunities.

All four (4) District goals were achieved.

The Board goals were:

1. Continue to improve communications with the Demarest community at large.
2. Enhance the Board's understanding of policy development.

Both goals were achieved.

Mr. Lee then assisted the Board in developing District and Board goals for the 2016/2017 school year.
The following goals were established:

District Goals

1. Implement and monitor a new STEM program in grade 4 to provide greater articulation into our middle school STEM program.
2. Continue to build trust and engagement with community outreach initiatives with the addition of a new District App.
3. Creation of an integrated preschool program that will benefit children with and without disabilities socially, academically and emotionally.
4. Expand Teachers College Assessment to the middle school grade 5 and include all special education students. 75% of students assessed will increase by one reading level by the end of the year.

Board Goals

1. Successfully negotiate DEA, support staff administrator contracts.
2. BOE will continue its review of the Facility Study, prioritize projects and identify any additional curriculum and enrollment related construction needs. The Board will develop a timeline for completion of projects.

A. Instruction – Staffing

1. Approve FMLA replacement for first grade teacher.
2. Accept resignation of social studies teacher.
3. Approve substitute teacher(s).
4. Approve movement on guide.

B. Instruction – Pupil Programs

1. Acknowledge receipt of PARCC scores from 2015/2016.
2. Approve dates for DMS play.
3. Approve SACC After School Program dates for 2016/2017 school year.
4. Approve PTO Enrichment Program for the 2016/2017 school year.
5. Approve girls and boys basketball schedules for 2016/2017 season.
6. Approve volleyball schedule for 2016/2017 school year.
7. Approve soccer schedule for 2016/2017 school year.
8. Approve trip to Washington DC.

C. Support Services – Staffing

1. Approve additional hours for technology teacher.
2. Accept resignation of lunch aide(s).
3. Accept resignation of paraprofessional aide(s).
4. Approve paraprofessional aide(s).
5. Appoint substitute lunch aide.

D. Support Services – Board of Education

1. Approve final readings of bylaws.
2. Approve nursing plan.
3. Approve revised technology plan for the 2016-2019.
4. Approve MOA agreement with the Demarest Police Department.
5. Approve the refunding bond ordinance
6. Approve disposal of textbooks.
7. Approve disposal of desk and chairs.

D. Support Services – Board of Education(Continued)

8. Approve payment to Billy Contracting.
9. Approve the Demarest PTO as an additional insured.
10. Approve workshops.

E. Support Services – Fiscal Management

1. Confirm payroll.
2. Approve August bills.
3. Confirm August 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.

F. Other

Mr. Fox reported that the District experienced a great opening of the school year. He remarked that this was the best opening since he's been in Demarest.

The Pre-K program was launched and has been received with good reviews. Mr. Fox is currently, exploring the option of opening a second class for November 1st due to the reported interest.

A ribbon cutting ceremony is tentatively set for next Monday September 19 at 8:00 am for the new County Road Playground donated by the PTO.

VI. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

None


VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

VIII. ADJOURN

1. It was moved by Kirtane, seconded by Alevrontas, and approved by unanimous voice vote of those present to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas J. Perez
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary