

# DEMAREST BOARD OF EDUCATION

## MINUTES – COW/REGULAR MEETING

*December 18, 2012*

### I. OPENING

- A. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 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: Galtieri, Geisenheimer, Geller, Majeski, Molina, Woods and Holzberg were present.
- E. It was moved by Woods, seconded by Geisenheimer and approved by unanimous voice vote to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting from November 20, 2012.
- F. There was a review of correspondence.

### II. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Holzberg welcomed everyone. She expressed her sorrow for the Sandy Hook Elementary School and Newtown community. Ms. Holzberg also thanked Jane Majeski for her service to the board and community.

### III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Fox acknowledged Jane Majeski for her service and commented that she helped him become a better administrator.

Mr. Kirkby introduced Mrs. DiMartini whose students then gave a smart board presentation on the Luther Lee Emerson Cares program. The students had raised money for Breast Cancer Awareness and Sandy Hook Elementary School. The students expressed that they want to give back to the less fortunate. They also collected food for Hurricane Sandy victims. The Student Council led Caught on Camera for Acts of Kindness and wrote cards for veterans.

Ms. Codey introduced Ms. Zitelli and Mrs. Korines, Demarest Middle School Student Council Leaders, and students Remy Crowley, Idel Tuysuzoglu and Sherina Idnani, who presented an overview of their activities in conjunction with the K.A.R.E. Club students. The students and their families donated food equivalent to 15,000 meals for Table to Table. Bag-a-Lunch raised \$1400 which was donated to Family Promise for homeless in Hackensack. The Breast Cancer carnival raised \$1900. Students raised \$3300 in gift cards that were contributed to families affected by Hurricane Sandy and also collected clothing that was donated to Union Beach/Sea Bright residents. Ms. Zitelli then introduced Harrison Nicholas who presented his Good Reads internet program.

#### Annual Audit Report

Mr. Chilson reviewed the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and the Auditors' Management Report on Findings, as prepared by Nisivoccia, LLP. There were no audit recommendations for the CAFR. Mr. Chilson also reviewed the fiscal condition of the district.

**IV. REVIEW OF AGENDA**

- A. The board members reviewed the items.
- B. It was moved by Galtieri, seconded by Majeski and approved by unanimous voice vote to open the meeting to public discussion limited to agenda items.
- C. There was no public discussion this evening.
- D. It was moved by Galtieri, seconded by Geisenheimer and approved by unanimous voice vote to close the meeting to public discussion.

**V. ACTIONS****A. Instruction – Staffing**

- 1. It was moved by Geller, seconded by Galtieri and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the employment of Christina Cohen, BA Step 1, as Physical Education Teacher, Grades 5-8, for the 2012/2013 school year, effective January 2, 2013, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

**B. Instruction – Pupils/Programs**

- 1. It was moved by Woods, seconded by Geisenheimer and approved by unanimous roll call vote to appropriate the Character Education Grant funds in the amount of \$798 to the 2012/2013 school year budget, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.
- 2. It was moved by Woods, seconded by Geisenheimer and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Class Trip to Washington, D.C. on May 29, 2013 to May 31, 2013, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.
- 3. It was moved by Woods, seconded by Geisenheimer and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Class Trip to Fairview Lake on March 20, 2013 to March 22, 2013, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.
- 4. It was moved by Woods, seconded by Geisenheimer and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the reimbursement of ABA Therapy Services to Northern Valley Regional High School for Student ID #242057, to receive five (5) hours weekly of home instruction, at a rate \$35 for the 2012-2013 school year beginning November 14, 2012, as recommended by the Child Study Team.

**C. Support Services – Staffing**

- 1. It was moved by Geisenheimer, seconded by Galtieri and approved by unanimous roll call vote to accept the resignation of Michael Iannuzzi, classroom aide Grades 2-4, effective January 11, 2013, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.
- 2. It was moved by Geisenheimer, seconded by Galtieri and approved by unanimous roll call vote to accept the resignation of Kyle Franco, custodian at Luther Lee Emerson School, effective on or before January 13, 2013, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.
- 3. It was moved by Geisenheimer, seconded by Galtieri and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the employment of Lauren Zaccaria, Step 1, as an Instructional Aide for the following students (ID #'s 212004, 212003 and 212061) for the 2012/2013 school year, effective January 11, 2013 based on the Student's Individual Education Plan (IEP), as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

V. ACTIONS (Continued)

D. Support Services – Board of Education

1. It was moved by Molina, seconded by Galtieri and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the request of the Vikings Soccer Club to use the gymnasium at Demarest Middle School for soccer from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on the following Saturdays, at a fee to be determined, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

January 12, 19 and 26, 2013      February 9, 2013      March 2, 9 and 16, 2013

2. It was moved by Molina, seconded by Galtieri and approved by unanimous roll call vote, with Diane Holzberg abstaining from vote, to approve Diane Holzberg, Board President, to attend the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Federal Relations Network (FRN) Conference on January 27-29, 2013 in Washington, D.C. with reimbursement for registration, lodging, meals and travel at the statutory rate as per board policy, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

3. It was moved by Molina, seconded by Galtieri and approved by unanimous roll call vote to schedule the 2013 Annual Organization Meeting on Monday, January 7, 2013 at 7:30 p.m., with the January Committee of the Whole meeting to follow, originally scheduled for January 8, 2013, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

4. It was moved by Molina, seconded by Galtieri and approved by unanimous roll call vote to appoint the Board Secretary as temporary chairman of the Annual Organization Meeting on January 7, 2013, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

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

**RESOLUTION TO CONTINUE MEMBERSHIP IN THE NORTHEAST BERGEN COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD INSURANCE GROUP**

**WHEREAS**, a number of Boards of Education in Bergen County have joined together to form a Joint Insurance GROUP as permitted by N.J. Title 18A-18B and;

**WHEREAS**, said GROUP was approved effective July 1, 1985 by the New Jersey Commissioner of Insurance and has been in operation since that date and;

**WHEREAS**, the Bylaws and regulations governing the creation and operation of this Insurance GROUP contain elaborate restrictions and safeguards concerning the safe and efficient administration of the public interest entrusted to such a GROUP, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Demarest Board of Education has determined that membership in the NORTHEAST BERGEN COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD INSURANCE GROUP is in the best interest of the District;

**NOW THEREFORE**, be it resolved that the Demarest Board of Education does hereby agree to renew membership in the NORTHEAST BERGEN COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD INSURANCE GROUP and hereby accept the Bylaws as approved and adopted. The renewal term is from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2016.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board Secretary/Business Administrator is authorized to execute the application for membership and the accompanying certification on behalf of the District and;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board Secretary/Business Administrator is authorized and directed to execute the Indemnity and Trust Agreement and such other documents signifying membership in the GROUP as are required by the Group's Bylaws and to deliver the same to the Executive Director.

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

6. It was moved by Molina, seconded by Galtieri and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the following resolution seeking amendment to Federal Budget Control Act of 2011, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

**RESOLUTION****Seeking Amendment to Federal Budget Control Act of 2011**

**WHEREAS**, a world class public education is essential for the future success of our nation and today's schoolchildren; and

**WHEREAS**, the Budget Control Act of 2011 includes a provision to impose \$1.2 trillion in across-the-board budget cuts in almost all federal programs, including education, that would become effective January 2, 2013; and

**WHEREAS**, these across-the-board budget cuts, also known as "sequestration," would have a negative impact on education through a reduction in funds of 7.8 percent or more and could result in larger class sizes, fewer course offerings, possible four-day school weeks, loss of extracurricular activities, and teacher and staff lay-offs; and

**WHEREAS**, sequestration would affect almost every public school system in the nation and the millions of students educated through programs such as Title I grants for disadvantaged students, the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), English Language Acquisition, Career and Technical Education, and 21st Century Community Learning Centers; and

**WHEREAS**, public schools nationwide would be negatively affected by an estimated \$2.7 billion loss in just three programs alone – Title I grants, IDEA special education state grants and Head Start – that serve a combined total of 30.7 million children; and

**WHEREAS**, federal funding for K-12 programs was already reduced by more than \$835 million in Fiscal Year 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, New Jersey already ranks last among the states in the percentage of school expenditures (3.1%) supported by the federal government; and

**WHEREAS**, in Fiscal Year 2013, New Jersey will lose more than \$73 million in funding for elementary and secondary education programs, administered through the U.S. Department of Education, as well as over \$11.7 million in Head Start funding; and

**WHEREAS**, with a state-imposed tax levy cap and limited growth in state aid, New Jersey local school districts have limited capacity to absorb cuts in funding resulting from sequestration.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Demarest Board of Education, in the County of Bergen, State of New Jersey urges Congress and the Administration to amend the Budget Control Act to mitigate the drastic cuts to education that would affect our students and communities, and to protect education as an investment critical to economic stability and American competitiveness;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be sent to United States Senator Robert Menendez, United States Senator Frank Lautenberg, U.S. Representative Scott Garrett, State Senator Gerald Cardinale, Assembly Representative Holly Schepisi, Assembly Representative Robert Schroder, the New Jersey School Boards Association, and the National School Boards Association.

7. It was moved by Molina, seconded by Galtieri and approved by unanimous roll call vote to authorize notification to the Executive County Superintendent and the New Jersey Department of Education for a waiver, as required, that the Demarest School District will not participate in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative/Medicaid Administrative Claiming Program, as we have no Special Education/Classified students receiving Free or Reduced Lunches, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

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

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

**WHEREAS**, the Teacher Effectiveness and Accountability Act was enacted on August 6, 2012, and

**WHEREAS**, this law requires that school districts adopt an Educator and Principal Evaluation System by December 31, 2013, and

**WHEREAS**, the Northern Valley Schools Consortium has reviewed the models on the approved list published by the New Jersey Department of Education, and

**WHEREAS**, the Northern Valley Schools are desirous of adopting a single model for all of the schools in their region, and

**WHEREAS**, this was done to facilitate the unified support of the model by the Northern Valley Curriculum Center, and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Demarest Board of Education approves the adoption of the Kim Marshall Teacher and Principal Evaluation System.

9. It was moved by Molina, seconded by Galtieri and approved by unanimous roll call vote to acknowledge the service of Jane Majeski, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

**WHEREAS**, Jane Majeski dedicated her time and services to the children of Demarest and the Demarest Board of Education, and

**WHEREAS**, her dedication served as a model of service to the community,

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Demarest Board of Education does hereby extend its appreciation and gratitude to Jane Majeski in recognition of her nine (9) years of dedicated service as a member of the Demarest Board of Education.

10. It was moved by Molina, seconded by Galtieri and approved by unanimous roll call vote to acknowledge the service of Kathleen Frazer, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

**WHEREAS**, Kathleen Frazer dedicated her time and services to the children of Demarest and the Demarest Board of Education, and

**WHEREAS**, her dedication served as a model of service to the community,

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Demarest Board of Education does hereby extend its appreciation and gratitude to Kathleen Frazer in recognition of her eighteen and one half (18½) years of dedicated service as a teacher for the Demarest Board of Education.

E. Support Services –Fiscal Management

1. It was moved by Majeski, seconded by Galtieri and approved by unanimous roll call vote to accept the 2011-2012 Comprehensive Annual Finance Report (CAFR) and the Auditors Management Report on Administrative Findings as prepared by Nisivoccia, LLP, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

2. It was moved by Majeski, seconded by Galtieri and approved by unanimous roll call vote to confirm the November 16<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012 payroll in the amount of \$326,453.68

3. It was moved by Majeski, seconded by Galtieri and approved by unanimous roll call vote to confirm the December 1<sup>st</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012 payroll in the amount of \$352,452.10

V. ACTIONS (Continued)

E. Support Services –Fiscal Management (Continued)

4. It was moved by Majeski, seconded by Galtieri and approved by unanimous roll call vote to approve the November 2012 bills in the amount of \$381,042.78

<u>Subtotal Per Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
10 General Current Fund Expense Funds	\$368,265.29
12 Capital Outlay	12,777.49

5. It was moved by Majeski, seconded by Galtieri 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 November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012, 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.

6. It was moved by Majeski, seconded by Galtieri 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 November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012, 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.

7. It was moved by Majeski, seconded by Galtieri and approved by unanimous roll call vote to acknowledge receipt of October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012 Report of the Board Secretary, A-148 and Report of the Treasurer, A-149.

8. It was moved by Majeski, seconded by Galtieri and approved by unanimous roll call vote to confirm the following transfers for November 2012:

<u>From:</u>	<u>Account No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11-000-217-106-1-0000-18	Extraordinary Services	\$ <u>4,000</u>
<u>To:</u>	<u>Account No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11-000-217-320-0-0000-18	Extraordinary Services	\$ <u>4,000</u>

F. Other

1. It was moved by Galtieri, seconded by Geisenheimer 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, January 15, 2013 at 7:00 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

C. Molina presented a report from the Buildings and Grounds Committee. They are recommending increasing the hourly facilities use fee to \$50 on Saturdays and \$65 on Sundays. The committee reviewed potential capital projects for the 2013/2014 budget that included replacing the sidewalks, upgrading the district phone system, installing air conditioning in the middle school cafeteria, updating the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade science rooms, improving technology and installing a lightning detection system.

VII. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

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

Nicole Dickstein of 40 Bogart Road commented she was rocked to the core by the Sandy Hook Elementary School incident. She commended the district on the handling of information distribution. She expressed her concerns about safety in the schools.

Mrs. Schweid of 32 Pine Hill Road stated the administration did a great job following the Sandy Hook Elementary incident. She said she thought it was nice to see police in front of County Road School.

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

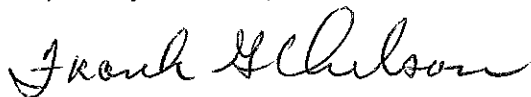
VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF NEEDED)

There was no additional time needed this evening.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

A. It was moved by Galtieri, seconded by Geisenheimer and approved by unanimous roll call vote to adjourn at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank G. Chilson  
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

