

MINUTES OF THE PRE-MEETING WORKSHOP
MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
WEDNESDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 21, 2011

Time and Place Pursuant to notices sent to each member of the Board of Education, the pre-meeting workshop was held
Of Meeting: on Wednesday, September 21, 2011 in the High School North Auditorium, 63 Tindall Road, Middletown,
New Jersey.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – at 6:55 p.m. the pre-meeting workshop was called to order.

2. **SUNSHINE NOTICE** - *"Adequate notice of this meeting was provided by sending such notice to the Asbury Park Press, the Independent, the Two River Times, and the Hub and the posting of such notice at the August T. Miner Administration Building and each elementary, middle, and secondary school in the district."*

3. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Vincent Brand, Sue Griffin, Michael Mascone, Gerald Wexelberg and Joan Minnuies.

Absent: Chris Aveta, Leonora Caminiti and Michael Donlon.

Also Present: Patrick Houston, Amy Gallagher and Christopher Parton, Esq.

4. **RESOLUTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION** – At 6:58 p.m. motion made by Mr. Mascone and seconded by Mr. Brand to adjourn to closed session for matters of litigation, personnel and confidential student information. The Board will be discussing: student standardized testing scores, a proposal for an audit of autistic student programs, administrative appointment recommendations, the litigation with Dr. Witmer, and the Superintendent and Interim Superintendent positions.

5. **CALL TO ORDER AND RE-READING OF SUNSHINE NOTICE** – Reconvene Workshop Meeting at 7:40 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Vincent Brand, Leonora Caminiti, Sue Griffin, Michael Mascone, Jerry Wexelberg and Joan Minnuies.

Absent: Chris Aveta and Michael Donlon.

Also Present: Patrick Houston, Amy Gallagher and Christopher Parton, Esq.

6. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

7. **PRESENTATION – Proposed District Solar Project**. Notices of the public presentation were mailed out to all residents bordering schools that are being considered for the solar project, in addition to posting on the District and Township websites.

Mr. Gerald Genna of Birdsall Services Group, Cadence Bowden of Gabel Associates, and Heather Litzebauer of NW Financial Group discussed the proposed solar project. Mr. Genna represented the technical portion of the program and discussed layout of the panels and bid process, Ms. Bowden represented the energy consulting group and discussed energy usage and overall savings to the district, and Ms. Litzebauer is the financial advisor for the Improvement Authority who discussed the success of the program in other districts. All three groups represent the Monmouth County Improvement Authority and Solar Renewable Energy Program. The power point presentation and all documentation have been placed on the Board of Education website for reference by residents of the community.

8. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

No comment at this time.

9. **REPORTS**

A. **Report of the President** – Mrs. Minnuies commented on the wonderful condition of the buildings at the opening of school and wanted to thank all of the staff involved for all of their hard work over the summer, and the recent work completed in the elementary buildings. Mrs. Minnuies also read a letter from Mr. Banta, Director of Soccer for the St. Mary's Athletic Association. Mr. Banta thanked the staff in the Facilities Department who participated in getting all four soccer fields at Thorne Middle School used by St. Mary's Athletic Association lined

in time for the start of their soccer season. The diligence and hard work were applauded by all of the parents and children involved.

Mrs. Minnuies gave an update on the Superintendent position. At this time Administration is waiting for the County to approve the contract with a new permanent superintendent.

B. Report of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary – Mrs. Gallagher reported that the Finance Committee will meet on Monday, September 26th. A Finance Committee of the Whole Board will be held immediately following the regularly scheduled committee meeting.

C. Report of the Superintendent – Mr. Houston discussed recommendations for the \$1.4 million received from the Department of Education. These items will be on the September 27th voting meeting agenda. Mr. Houston discussed the need for six (6) guidance counselors that had been removed due to budget cuts, and Co-teachers in four (4) of the elementary schools. The additional guidance counselors will be beneficial to all students and have training in bullying. Mr. Houston asked for the Board's consideration on these recommendations.

Mr. Houston discussed the agenda item to revise the school calendar that effects the PLC days in the high schools.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS – updates were given by the chairperson from recent committee meetings:

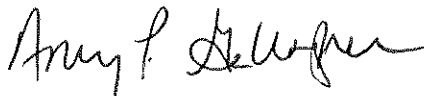
- A. Curriculum Committee (Sue Griffin, Chairperson).
- B. Finance Committee (Chris Aveta, Chairperson). Committee to meet on 9/26/11.
- C. Policy Committee (Vincent Brand, Chairperson).
- D. Co-Curricular/Athletic Committee (Jerry Wexelberg, Chairperson).
- E. Negotiations Committee (TBD, Chairperson). Mr. Parton gave an update from recent meetings with the State appointed mediator. Significant progress is being made and parties are continuing to work together. The next mediation date is scheduled for the first week in November.
- F. Facilities Committee (Michael Mascone, Chairperson).
- G. Student Services Committee (Joan Minnuies, Chairperson).
- H. Technology Committee (Michael Donlon, Chairperson). Committee did not meet in September.
- I. Personnel Committee (Leonora Caminiti, Chairperson). Committee to meet on 9/22/11.

11. OLD BUSINESS – No old business.

12. NEW BUSINESS – No new business.

13. MOTION TO ADJOURN - Motion made by Leonora Caminiti and seconded by Gerald Wexelberg at 9:10 p.m. to adjourn the pre-meeting workshop to return to executive session to continue discussion of the items listed in the earlier executive session resolution. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy P. Gallagher
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

/vrm