

DEMAREST BOARD OF EDUCATION

PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Luther Lee Emerson School - Gymnasium

April 27, 2021

6:45 P.M.

I. OPENING

- A. The meeting was called to order by President Holzberg at 6:45 pm.
- B. Present: Cantatore, Choi, Governale, Lee, Verna, Holzberg.
Absent: Schliem
Also present: Ms. Kelly Business Administrator/Board Secretary

II. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. The Board determined it will enter into Executive Session for the following reasons:
 - 1. Personnel
- B. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Choi and approved by unanimous voice vote of those present to approve the following resolution to enter the Executive Session:

WHEREAS, in order to protect the personal privacy and to avoid situations wherein the public interest might be disserved, the Open Public Meetings Act permits public bodies to exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which certain matters are discussed;

WHEREAS, the length of the closed Executive Session is estimated to be thirty minutes, after which the Regular Public Meeting will reconvene and proceed with business where formal action may or may not be taken;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that consistent with the provision of N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b), the Board of Education will now adjourn to executive session to discuss items stated above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board hereby declares that its discussion of the aforementioned subjects will be made public at a time when the public's interest in disclosure is greater than any privacy or governmental interest being protected from disclosure.

- C. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Verna and approved by unanimous voice vote of those present to convene executive session at 7:00 P.M.

III. REOPEN PUBLIC MEETING

- A. It was moved by Verna, seconded by Governale to reopen the Regular Meeting to the public at 7:00 P.M.

B. President Holzberg read the following 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.

IV. FLAG SALUTE

A. President Holzberg led the flag salute.

V. ROLL CALL

Present: Cantatore, Choi, Governale, Lee, Verna, Holzberg.

Absent: Schliem

Also present: Ms. Kelly Business Administrator/Board Secretary

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS

A. It was moved by Verna, seconded by Governale and approved by unanimous voice vote of those present to approve:

- March 9, 2021 Executive Session Meeting Minutes
- March 9, 2021 Preliminary Budget/COW Meeting Minutes
- March 16, 2021 Regular Session Meeting Minutes

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

A. None at this time

VIII. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A. Board President Holzberg introduced Ms. Kelly, the Business Administrator to conduct the Public Hearing on the budget.

IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

None at this time

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Mr. Lee, Chair of the Building and Grounds Committee, gave a summary of the issues that were discussed at the meeting. (See attached.)

XI. OTHER REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Ms. Kelly went over the highlights of the 2021/2022 budget. The tax impact on the average assessed value on a home of \$793,914 is \$9.09 per month increase.

B. Principal Mazzini and Principal Regan discussed the rationale for extending the in person school day starting on May 3rd.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT

- A. It was moved by Verna, seconded by Cantatore and approved by unanimous voice vote of those present to open the meeting to public comment regarding extending the in person school day.
- B. Monica Goldklang, 91 Anderson Ave., stated that her child is one of the students in a class whose teacher is teaching remotely into the classroom. She expressed her concerns about extending the in person school day which would mean her child's class would have more remote learning time with the teacher and how this would impact those students. She also wanted to know what the plan is for these students in September.
- C. It was moved by Verna, seconded by Cantatore and approved by unanimous voice vote of those present to close the meeting to public comment.

XIII. REVIEW OF AGENDA

- A. Board members reviewed the items.

XIV. ACTIONS

A. Instruction – Staffing

1. It was moved by Choi, seconded by Governale and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the provisional employment of the following, substitute teachers for the remainder of the 2020/2021 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator. Employment status would become effective upon candidate's compliance with P.L. 1986, c.116 (revised 6/30/98) and N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.7.

- Kenneth Huegel
- Sophia Geisenheimer
- Michael Main

2. It was moved by Choi, seconded by Governale and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve unpaid leave for Ossi Mach, Music teacher at County Road School and Luther Lee Emerson School, from April 5, 2021 to April 9, 2021, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.

3. It was moved by Choi, seconded by Governale and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve Michael Main, 6th grade math teacher at Demarest Middle School, MA, Step 1, for the 2021/2022 school year, PCR 2060-040-200-00002, account code 11-130-100-101-040-00-05, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator. Employment status would become effective upon candidate's compliance with P.L. 1986, c.116 (revised 6/30/98) and N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.7.

B. Instruction – Pupils/Programs

1. It was moved by Lee, seconded by Choi and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the following contract with Bergen County Special Services School District, Educational Enterprises Division for the 2020/2021 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

Student ID	Contract ID	Service	Cost
3009259144	2153184	Assistive technology evaluation	\$900.00
4153299475	2153259	Assistive technology evaluation	\$900.00
4960549059	2153262	Assistive Technology Ongoing Services	\$660.00
3834674358	2153280	Assistive Technology Ongoing Services	\$330.00
7007547909	2153277	Assistive Technology Ongoing Services	\$330.00
8431005533	2152932	Assistive Technology Ongoing Services	\$852.50

C. Support Services – Staffing

D. Support Services – Board of Education

1. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Verna and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve Frontline Education Absence and Substitute Management system at a cost of \$6,988.00 for the 2021/2022 school year, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.
2. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Verna and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the installation of the Dark Fiber Network as part of the Northern Valley Consortium at a cost of \$ 195,484.44 to be paid over four (4) years, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.
3. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Verna and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve purchase of MacBook Airs for upgrade to the one to one device for students in grade fourth from Apple Education through the ESCNJ, contract #MRESC 18/19-67, bid ID 1062153 at a cost of \$89,958.90, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator. This project will be funded by the CRRSA ESSER II Funds.
4. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Verna and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve bathroom ventilation project to include circulation fans and bi-polar ion generators at a cost of \$71,850.00 to be installed by Pennetta Industrial as per bid 20-01 HVAC boiler/burner and ATC repairs, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator. This project will be funded by the CRRSA ESSER II Funds.
5. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Verna and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve 8th grade graduation date as June 16, 2021, with a rain date of June 17, 2021 as recommended by the Chief School Administrator.
6. It was moved by Governale, seconded by Verna and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the following resolution, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

Resolution Pursuant to N.J.S.A 18A:30-9 and 30.9.1 Approving Compensation of Unused Vacation Days for Certain Employees Not Taken Because of Duties Directly Related to a State of Emergency.

WHEREAS, the Demarest Board of Education wishes to permit all eligible twelve-month employees to be compensated for accrued unused vacation days in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:30-9 and 30-9.1 and pursuant to the conditions of this resolution; and **WHEREAS**, twelve-month employees have been and will be unable to utilize all of their vacation days due to the ongoing State of Emergency resulting from the COVID-19 Pandemic;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Demarest Board of Education up the recommendation of the Superintendent, all eligible twelve-month employees shall be permitted to be compensated for accrued unused vacation days that would expire on June, 30, 2021.

E. Support Services – Fiscal Management

1. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Choi and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the following resolution, as recommended by the Chief School Administrator:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of Demarest, approves the following 2021/2022 school year budget using the 2021/2022 state aid amounts and authorizes the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to submit the 2021/2022 school year budget to the Executive County Superintendent for approval within the statutory deadline;

General Current Expense (Fund 11)	\$ 16,998,995
Capital Expenditures (Fund 12)	<u>1,676,062</u>
Total General Current Fund	\$ 18,675,057
Special Grants & Entitlements (Fund 20)	\$ 142,941
Debt Service Fund (Fund 40)	<u>623,300</u>
	\$ 19,441,298

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Fund tax levy of \$ 15,072,093 is approved to support General Current Expenses and \$ 623,300 is approved to support the Debt Service Fund for the 2021/2022 school year.

Be it Further Resolved, that the budget is approved to include budgeted withdrawal from Capital Reserve – Excess Cost and Other Capital Projects in the amount of \$1,000,000 for the County Road School Addition.

2. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Choi and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to confirm the March 15, 2021 payroll in the amount of \$422,620.89.

3. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Choi and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to confirm the March 31, 2021 payroll in the amount of \$431,823.88.

4. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Choi and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the prior month 2021 in office checks in the amount of \$440,356.46 and April 27, 2021 budget checks in the amount of \$195,202.77 as follows:

<u>Subtotal Per Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11 General Current Expense	\$556,007.04
12 Capital Outlay	\$ 72,056.29
20 Special Revenue Fund	<u>\$ 7,495.90</u>
Total Bills:	\$635,559.23

5. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Choi and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to approve the following resolution:

Receipt of Certification from Board Secretary

Pursuant to N.J.A.C 6:20-2.13 (d), I, Antoinette Kelly certify that as of March 31, 2021 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 Cantatore, seconded by Choi and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present 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 March 31, 2021, 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 Cantatore, seconded by Choi and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to acknowledge receipt of the March 2021 Report of the Board Secretary, A148 and Report of the Treasurer, A-149.

8. It was moved by Cantatore, seconded by Choi and approved by unanimous roll call vote of those present to confirm the following budget transfers for March 2021:

<u>To:</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11-000-240-610	School Administration-Supplies	\$10,889
11-000-230-820	Judgements Against the District	1,000
11-000-291-241	PERS Contributions	<u>3,906</u>
		\$15,795

<u>From:</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11-000-230-585	General Administration-Travel/Conferences	\$5,889
11-000-240-105	School Administration-Sub Salaries	5,000
11-000-230-331	General Administration-Legal	1,000
11-000-291-299	Other Employee Benefits	<u>3,906</u>
		\$15,795

F. Other

1. It was moved by Verna, seconded by Lee and approved by unanimous voice vote of those present to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Demarest Board of Education will convene in a closed Executive Session on Tuesday, May 11, 2021 if necessary, to discuss personnel, student 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.

XV. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. There was no motion for public comment being no one from the public was present.

XVI. NEW BUSINESS

A. None at this time.

XVII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. There was no motion to enter the Executive Session.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

A. It was moved by Verna, seconded by Governale and approved by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 P.M.

Sincerely,



Antoinette Kelly
Business Administrator and Board Secretary

