

DEMAREST BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES – COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MEETING

November 10, 2015

I. OPENING

A. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the library at County Road School.

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: Cantatore, Geller, Kirtane, Molina, Verna, Woods, Holzberg was present.

II. BOARD DISCUSSION AND REVIEW

A. Instruction – Staffing

1. Approve substitutes.
2. Approve Teacher-Mentor.
3. Approve guide movement.
4. Approve extension of unpaid leave of absence.
5. Amend stipend position.

B. Instruction – Pupil Programs

1. Approve non-domiciled tuition agreement.
2. Approve home instruction hours.
3. Approve special education tuition contract with Closter Board of Education.
4. Approve recognition of DMS Volleyball Northern Valley Champions.

C. Support Services – Staffing

1. Accept notice of resignation from DMS Instructional Aide, effective November 17, 2015.
2. Appoint Maintenance/Custodial position.
3. Approve change in position for custodian from part-time to full-time.

D. Support Services – Board of Education

1. Approve workshop attendances.
2. Approve/confirm use of facilities.
3. Approve progress toward Superintendent Merit Goals.
4. Approve creation of and job description for Maintenance/Custodial position.
5. Accept results of school board election.

E. Support Services – Fiscal Management

1. Confirm payroll.
2. Approve October bills.
3. Confirm October budget transfers.
4. Approve Certification of Board Secretary.
5. Approve Certification of Board of Education.
6. Acknowledge receipt of September A-148 and A-149 Reports.

F. Other

1. Schedule Executive Session Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on December 22, 2015 to discuss personnel, negotiations and/or legal matters.

III. DISCUSSION – OTHER

Superintendent Fox provided the Board with the following update relative to the status of various district initiatives related to his Merit Goals achievement for the 2015-2016 school year:

A. Home/School Connection

1. Weekly newsletters are going out and are being archived
2. Two Infographics have been released
3. Chalkboard Newsletter is being mailed out this month
4. Press release has been published regarding the STEM lab/program

B. 1:1 Initiative

1. MacBook Air laptops have all been deployed- only 4 students chose to use their own device
2. Schedule of professional learning is created for staff. We already have had workshops centered around 1:1 learning and these will continue through the year at all staff meetings.
3. Courses in technology are built into student schedules and are underway.

C. Board Policies

1. Collected all policies and pertinent information and sent to Strauss Esmay Associates for review.
2. Met with Strauss Esmay Associates to review policies and answer questions.
3. Met with administration to review some policies.
4. Should have first set ready for review in December for policy committee to review.

D. Go Math Program

1. The beginning of the year benchmark assessment was given to K-4 students. Middle and end of the year assessments will be given as the year progresses.
2. The teachers were given professional development to utilize Think Central and there will be another one in January. By now the teachers and students have adapted to it very well.

E. STEM Program

1. Teacher was hired and curriculum designed.
2. Materials have been and continue to be purchased.
3. We have met with high school personnel.
4. Multiple districts visited the STEM center at Demarest.

IV. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

There was no public discussion this evening.

V. ADJOURN

1. It was moved by Geller, seconded by Woods and approved by unanimous voice vote to adjourn at 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas J. Perez
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary