

DEMAREST BOARD OF EDUCATION
PRELIMINARY BUDGET AND COW MEETING MINUTES
Luther Lee Emerson School - Gymnasium
March 8, 2022
5:30 P.M.

I. OPENING

- A. The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Verna at 5:30 pm.
- B. Roll Call
Present: Brillhart, Cantatore, Choi, Governale, Lee, Verna
Absent: Holzberg
Also present: Mr. Fox, Superintendent and Ms. Kelly Business Administrator/ Board Secretary
- C. Vice-President Verna 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.

II. FLAG SALUTE

- A. Vice-President Verna led the flag salute.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

The policy committee reported on the following:

- Policy and regulations for alerts 222,223 and 224 were distributed.
- FMLA policy is in attorney review. Former policies related are expected to be abolished.
- Most changes are due to statute and code updates.

IV. FOR BOARD DISCUSSION AND REVIEW

A. Instruction – Staffing

- Retirement
- Teacher start date – modification
- FMLA request
- FMLA leave replacement

B. Instruction – Pupils/Programs

- Student placement modification
- Home instruction

C. Support Services – Staffing

- Reassignment of lunch aide to teacher's assistant

D. Support Services – Board of Education

- Facility use
- Policies/regulations first reading
- Payout of accumulated sick time

E. Support Services – Fiscal Management

- 2022/2023 Preliminary Budget
- Vice-President Verna/Chair of the Finance and Budget Committee and Board Secretary Kelly reviewed the highlights of the 2022/2023 preliminary budget:
 - Proposed tax levy increase includes automatic enrollment adjustment and use of banked cap from the two previous school years.
 - Costs for the health and wellness center, science lab renovations and boiler upgrades will be funded with capital reserve as well as the PSE&G Direct Install program. The Governor's address was delayed so state aid funding has yet to be determined.
 - The majority of budget increases are due to overall salary and benefit increases, two new pre-school teachers and four new pre-school aides.
- Confirm payroll
- Confirm Board Secretary reports
- Confirm Treasurer reports
- Confirm in office and budget checks
- Confirm budget transfers
- Direct install project
- Appropriate insurance revenue
- Architectural services to update science lab
- Accept Funding for return of students grant

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no motion to enter the executive session.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

- A. It was moved by Choi, seconded by Governale and approved by unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 P.M.

Sincerely,



Antoinette Kelly
Business Administrator and Board Secretary