

1 **OFFICIAL MINUTES**

2
3 of the **WORKSHOP MEETING** of the Greenwich Township Board of Education held
4 Monday, May 12, 2008 in the Nehaunsey Middle School library.

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6 The meeting was called to order by President Patrick Lani, Jr. at 7:00 p.m.

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8 **Roll Call:**

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10 Patrick Lani, Jr.
11 Frederick Reel
12 Louis Fabiani
13 Robyn Glocker Hammond (arrived at 7:03 p.m.)
14 Loraine LaPalomento
15 Frank Minniti

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17 Also present were Dr. Francine Marteski, Superintendent and Scott A. Campbell,
18 School Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

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20 **Absent:**

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22 Michael Myers

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24 As required under the guidelines of the Open Public Meeting Law, notice of this meeting
25 was sent to the **Gloucester County Times**, **The Courier Post** and the Township Clerk.
26 It was also posted in the Greenwich Township School Buildings. (Optional:
27 Videotaping Regulations – “The proceedings of this meeting are being videotaped and
28 anyone wishing to discuss an individual child should so note.”)

29
30 Flag Salute

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32 **1. PERSONNEL**

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34 Motion: (Minniti/Reel) to approve the following:

- 35
36 A. The approval of the G.T.E.A. represented non-tenured teaching staff
37 members for the 2008-2009 school year as per the attached; teaching
38 assignments to be determined. (Attachment - EXHIBIT A)
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40 B. The reappointment of the G.T.E.A. represented employees as Classroom
41 Aides for the 2008-2009 school year as per the attached. (Attachment -
42 EXHIBIT B)
43
44 C. The approval for the medical leave of absence for Janice Spoto, Teacher,
45 beginning May 15, 2008 until June 30, 2008.

1 that they were fine with everything as it was and we were just going to look at
2 the Architect of Record. Mr. Lani stated that he solicited Ball, Buckley, & Seher
3 on his own. Frank Minniti asked Mr. Lani who gave him permission to seek
4 proposals? Mr. Lani responded that he wanted to see if we could get other
5 people to apply to have a choice. Mr. Lani asked if we had until July 1st to
6 make the appointments? Mr. Campbell responded that we did. Mr. Lani feels
7 we have time to review. Mr. Minniti wants to know why the Board of
8 Education President is making calls to the professionals and not the Business
9 Administrator? Mr. Lani responded that he did what he thought had to be done
10 to help the Business Administrator who is busy and has a lot to do. Loraine
11 LaPalomoto asked why we were discussing this when we agreed not to do this
12 and now it looks like you want to look into these items? Mr. Lani stated that he
13 didn't think anyone was interested and then he received two faxes today--one
14 from an auditor and one from an insurance broker. Mrs. Glocker Hammond said
15 the only reason someone would show an interest is if they were contacted. Mr.
16 Lani again said that he did contact them. Mrs. Glocker Hammond said the whole
17 board agreed not to do this. Mr. Lani said if he is wrong, then he will accept
18 responsibility. Mr. Lani asked Mr. Campbell if these proposals could be
19 entertained? Mr. Campbell responded that they could be entertained but we
20 would have to do it by July 1st and time is of the essence. The fiscal year end is
21 June 30, 2008 and he was going to act as directed by the Board of Education.
22 Ms.LaPalomoto wanted to know what we would be looking for in a new auditor?
23 Mr. Lani responded that he would be looking for someone who would be doing
24 things differently with a cheaper price. Mr. Campbell responded that there isn't
25 anything that they could do that would be different since all accountants are held
26 to the same standards and guidelines. Sometimes auditors do not provide all of
27 the same services in the writing of the audit so you may be billed for that. For
28 instance, the management report or certain financials. Mr. Lani would want to
29 bring them in for an interview. Mr. Campbell said you could not approve anyone
30 new at the May19th meeting but you could approve the existing auditor who
31 submitted his documentation for the coming year. Mr. Lani asked if it would
32 be easier to have them come in and interview or submit a proposal? Mr.
33 Campbell responded that a request for proposal should be developed and
34 advertised. A new request would have to be developed to our needs. Mr. Lani
35 said he would only do two since he feels that the Business Administrator's
36 workload is heavy. Mr. Campbell explained the timeline for evaluating the
37 auditing proposals. Mr. Lani asked if it put him in a bind and Mr. Campbell
38 responded that it did since the fiscal year is winding down and we have
39 auditors usually coming in for preliminary work in July so they are making their
40 schedules now for the summer and we do not want someone coming in
41 September and pressed for time. For someone to come in new, they would be
42 starting from ground zero and it could be costly. Petroni has been here for over
43 ten years and we have had a very good working relationship. Fred Reel wants to
44 know why we are talking about this again since we voted on this in the April
45 meeting? Mr. Campbell responded that these items were held. Mr. Minniti

1 also reiterated that these appointee's were held. Mr. Reel wants to know what a
2 quorum is? Mr. Campbell responded that in our case, a quorum if four board
3 members. Mr. Lani wants to know what the board thinks about the auditing
4 services? Mrs. Glocker Hammond feels we are cutting ourselves short to make a
5 change. Mr. Minniti agrees and so does Loraine LaPalomente who commented
6 that if we were going to do this, we should have mentioned it at prior meetings so
7 we are not getting someone in here in a rush. Mr. Lani asked Louis Fabiani what
8 he thought and Mr. Fabiani did not comment so Mr. Lani said we would just
9 forget about it and move on. Mr. Reel asked if their agreement was just for a
10 year and Mr. Campbell responded that it was. Mr. Lani reaffirmed he would call
11 Ball, Buckley & Seher and tell them we would entertain proposals next year. Mr.
12 Lani continued to review all professional services without comment from anyone.
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14 Dr. Francine Marteski reviewed all items under the Superintendent's Reports,
15 Curriculum Instruction, Workshops and Personnel. There were no questions or
16 comments.
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18 Scott Campbell reviewed items under Business and Finance without any
19 questions or comments.
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21 **4. NEW BUSINESS**

22 None at this time.
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25 **5. PRESENTATION**

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27 A presentation was made by Mary Ann Friedman and Kathy Wyckoff of New
28 Jersey School Boards Association to discuss Board Members' Self-Evaluation. A
29 full discussion followed. The results of the self-evaluation are on file in the
30 Business Office. The Superintendent's evaluation process was also discussed.
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32 **6. PUBLIC - AGENDA/NON-AGENDA/ITEMS**

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34 This is the time when anyone from the public who wishes to speak to the Board
35 may do so. Please state your name, address and phone number. The Board will
36 hear your concerns. The Board may or may not take action this evening. You
37 will be notified either at this meeting by letter or telephone of any action the
38 Board does take.
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40 No public comment at this time.
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1 **7. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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3 Pursuant to certain requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-
4 6, et seq., which provides that an Executive Session, not open to the public, may
5 be held for certain specified purposes when authorized by Resolution.

6 The Board of Education for Greenwich Township, assembled in public session on
7 May 12, 2008 hereby resolves that an Executive Session closed to the public
8 shall be held on May 12, 2008, at 8:30 p.m. in the Nehaunsey Middle School
9 library, Room 48, located at 415 Swedesboro Road, Gibbstown, New Jersey, for
10 discussion of certain matters which relate to items authorized by Open Public
11 Meetings Act, (N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b) to be discussed in closed session.

- 12
13 *1. Matters Required by Law to be Confidential*
14 *2. Matters Involving Individual Privacy*
15 *3. Matters Relating to the Employment Relationship*
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17 It is anticipated that such matter may be disclosed to the public upon the
18 determination of the Board that applicable exception no longer applies and the
19 public interest will no longer be served by confidentiality.

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21 Motion: (Reel/Minniti) to enter into closed session to discuss the following:

- 22
23 *1. Personnel*
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25 Returned from closed session at 8:50 p.m.

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27 Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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29 **8. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

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31 Patrick Lani brought up several items that he would like to discuss with the Board
32 of Education members. They are as follows:

- 33
34 1. I.D. Badges for Board of Education members.
35 2. A Board of Education group photo for posting in each building which would
36 have a cost for the frame only.
37 3. Availability for the public to leave phone messages for the Board of Education
38 members on the district's phone system.
39 4. Expansion of the district's website to include Board of Education pictures and
40 mission statement. This will be handled by the Districts' Technology
41 Coordinator, Michael Grelli.
42 5. Additional fans for the cafeteria.
43 6. Mr. Lani thinks the Board of Education members should pay for the
44 graduation award and wants to know what each member thinks. Frank
45 Minniti is against taking money out of our pockets--it should come from school

- 1 board funds. Loraine LaPalomato agrees along with Fred Reel and Robyn
2 Glocker Hammond. Mr. Lani wants to know if everyone is ok with the gift
3 amount of \$100.00? Mr. Minniti feels it should be increased. Mrs. Glocker
4 Hammond thinks \$200.00 is acceptable and Mr. Reel was thinking more on
5 the lines of \$250.00. Everyone agrees to \$200.00.
- 6 7. Mr. Lani would like to put suggestion boxes in each building. After a brief
7 discussion, four boxes will be purchased.
- 8 8. Mr. Lani thinks that we should look at clubs to see if we can expand on them.
- 9 9. Paul Morina, Principal at Paulsboro High School would like to address the
10 Board and inform the Board of Education and the public on what is going on
11 at the high school. Mr. Lani will contact him and let him know he has about
12 fifteen (15) minutes to open discussions. Everyone agrees to have him in.
- 13 10. Mr. Lani would like everyone to look at policies which they would like
14 changed.
- 15 11. Our solicitor, Armando Riccio, will be at the May 19th meeting to review the
16 public session portion of our meeting to make sure the Board is doing
17 everything correctly. Frank Minniti wants to know why we are paying \$140.00
18 per hour to our attorney when we could use New Jersey School Boards
19 Association as a guide? Fred Reel and Loraine LaPalomato agrees with Mr.
20 Minniti.
- 21 12. Robyn Glocker Hammond, Fred Reel and Patrick Lani along with Dr. Francine
22 Marteski and Scott Campbell will meet with the Executive County
23 Superintendent regarding possible consolidation
- 24 13. Loraine LaPalomato likes the idea of operating through committee's because
25 we can cover more ground.
- 26 14. Fred Reel feels that we should record all meetings and not rely on a tape from
27 the public. He feels we should use district equipment to record meetings.
28 Louis Fabiani is not for recording of meetings. Mr. Reel feels the Board
29 Secretary could use it as a tool for accuracy. Frank Minniti is concerned with
30 warehousing of audio or video tapes.
- 31 15. Scott Campbell presented the Board with the Resolution for Change in Use
32 approval at Broad Street School. Patrick Lani asked everyone what they
33 thought of the change in use project at Broad Street School? Frank Minniti
34 feels we should move forward and Robyn Glocker Hammond supports his
35 feelings because the voters are expecting us to do this project and it is what's
36 best for the children. Scott Campbell informed the new Board of Education
37 members of the scope of the project and Dr. Francine Marteski described the
38 educational advantages of the project. Fred Reel would like to make a motion
39 to hold off on a vote until next week and have everyone there to vote.

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41 Motion: (Reel/Fabiani) to approve holding the resolution of change in use at
42 Broad Street School.
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Roll Call Vote:

- Patrick Lani, Jr. - Yes
- Frederick Reel - Yes
- Louis Fabiani - Yes
- Robyn Glocker Hammond - No
- Lorraine LaPaloment - No
- Frank Minniti - No

Item does not pass, 3 yes's to 3 no's

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: (Reel/Minniti) to adjourn the meeting at 10:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Scott A. Campbell, Board Secretary