

1 **OFFICIAL MINUTES**

2  
3 of the **SPECIAL MEETING** of the Greenwich Township Board of Education held  
4 **Tuesday, March 5, 2013** in the Nehaunsey Middle School library.

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6 The meeting was called to order by President Roseanne Lombardo at 6:05 p.m.

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8 Roll Call:

- 9  
10 Roseanne Lombardo  
11 Lisa Morina  
12 Andrew Chapkowski  
13 Louis Fabiani  
14 Jill Trainor  
15 Susan Vernacchio  
16

17 Also present were Mr. Stephen Derkoski, Interim Superintendent and Mr. Scott A.  
18 Campbell, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

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

26 **FLAG SALUTE**

27  
28 **1. ADOPTION OF THE TENTATIVE BUDGET 2013-2014**

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30 Motion: (Chapkowski/Vernacchio) to approve the following resolution:

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32 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the tentative budget for the Greenwich  
33 Township Board of Education be approved for the 2013-2014 School Year using  
34 the 2013-2014 state aid figures and the Secretary to the Board of Education be  
35 authorized to submit the following tentative budget to the Executive County  
36 Superintendent of Schools for approval in accordance with the statutory deadline:  
37

	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>SPECIAL REVENUES</b>	<b>DEBT SERVICE</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
2013-2014 Total Expenditures	\$12,118,436.00	\$287,308.00	\$-0-	\$12,405,744.00
Less: Anticipated Revenues	\$2,552,621.00	\$287,308.00	\$-0-	\$2,839,929.00
Taxes to be Raised	\$9,565,815.00	\$-0-	\$-0-	\$9,565,815.00

38

1 And to advertise said tentative budget in the South Jersey Times in accordance  
2 with the form suggested by the State Department of Education and according to  
3 law; and  
4

5 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a public hearing be held in the  
6 Nehaunsey Middle School Library, on March 25, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. for the  
7 purpose of conducting a public hearing on the budget for the 2013-2014 School  
8 Year.  
9

10 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Greenwich Township Board of  
11 Education requests the approval of a capital reserve deposit in the amount of  
12 \$75,000.00. The district intends to utilize these funds for future projects identified  
13 in its Long Range Facility Plan.  
14

15 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Greenwich Township Board of  
16 Education requests the approval to establish and make an initial deposit into a  
17 maintenance reserve account in the amount of \$25,000.00.  
18

19 **WHEREAS**, the Greenwich Township Board of Education  
20 recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to  
21 an within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes  
22 the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district;  
23 and  
24

25 **WHEREAS**, *N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq.* requires Board members  
26 to received approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting  
27 membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these  
28 expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting  
29 membership of the Board; and  
30

31 **WHEREAS**, a Board of Education may establish, for regular district  
32 business travel only, an annual school year threshold of \$150.00 per staff  
33 member where prior Board approval shall not be required unless this annual  
34 threshold for a staff member is exceeded in a given school year (July 1 through  
35 June 30); and  
36

37 **WHEREAS**, travel and related expenses not in compliance with  
38 *N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq.*, but deemed by the Board of Education to be  
39 necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of  
40 District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; now  
41

42 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Education  
43 approves all travel not in compliance with *N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq.* as being  
44 necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of  
45 District Travel and Reimbursement Forms, and

1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Board of Education approves  
2 travel and related expense reimbursement in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-  
3 1.2(b), to a maximum expenditure of \$1000.00 for all staff and board members.  
4

5 *Louis Fabiani wanted to know how this stands with our 2% cap that the state*  
6 *has set for us? Stephen Derkoski said one of the hardest things that the Board*  
7 *of Education has to do is create a budget because you are taking a look at the*  
8 *money that is necessary to run a school district many months in advance. We*  
9 *have to look at what is in the best interest for our students and our community*  
10 *and we created a budget that is in the best interest of both. We look at staffing,*  
11 *programs, facilities; we looked at every item that runs a school district. We did*  
12 *have a vote to move our election from April to November with the option to go to*  
13 *a 2% cap. This board has opted not go to a 2% cap but a 1.25% of the cap.*  
14 *There were many difficult decisions but it is a situation that still reflects the best*  
15 *interest of our students, staff and community.*  
16

17 Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.  
18

19 **2. 2012-2013 PROGRESS TARGETS ACTION PLAN**  
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21 Motion: (Vernacchio/Chapkowski) to approve the following:  
22

- 23 A. The approval to accept and adopt the 2012-2013 Progress Targets Action  
24 Plan for the Greenwich Township Public Schools.  
25

26 *Stephen Derkoski said this is a new item necessary to go forward with the*  
27 *County Superintendent. It was worked on and completed today and he will be*  
28 *handing copies out plus there are copies in the Superintendent's office. We have*  
29 *to identify areas in reference to where we are using Title I funds; we've identified*  
30 *Grade 3 and 4 at the Broad Street School to utilize the funds to assist staff*  
31 *development and enrich students in those grades to increase Language Arts test*  
32 *scores.*  
33

34 Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.  
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36 **3. PUBLIC – AGENDA/NON-AGENDA ITEMS**  
37

38 This is the time when anyone from the public who wishes to speak to the Board  
39 may do so. Please state your name, address and phone number. The Board will  
40 hear your concerns. The Board may or may not take action this evening. You  
41 will be notified either at this meeting by letter or telephone of any action the  
42 Board does take.  
43

44 *Lee Lucas, 361 Democrat Road, Gibbstown, NJ said to Scott Campbell that the*  
45 *tax rate will be increasing 1.25% to which Mr. Campbell agreed. Mr. Lucas*

1 asked what the school tax will be? **Mr. Campbell** said there will be a rate  
2 decrease of \$.56. He told Mr. Lucas his school tax will be \$1.09 per \$100 of  
3 assessed value which is down from \$1.70. You really can't compare last year to  
4 this year because you now have new assessments. The bottom line is because  
5 of the new year and the re-evaluation, it all comes into play; it lowers the tax rate  
6 but it does not lower what you will pay in taxes.  
7

8 **Patty New**, teacher at Broad Street School, asked if Source4Teachers is  
9 budgeted and is the Board considering renewing their contract for the new school  
10 year? **Stephen Derkoski** responded that it is budgeted but nothing has come to  
11 his attention as far as renewing their contract even though he has heard that  
12 there were some concerns with them. **Susan Vernacchio** asked when will their  
13 contract be up? **Scott Campbell** answered, "June". **Mrs. Vernacchio** said we  
14 should be looking at all of our contracts on an annual basis.  
15

16 **Terry DiSanto**, Child Study Team, said she did question the Source4Teachers  
17 contract at the January meeting. The Superintendent's office would have to  
18 reestablish their calling base of teachers. There is a process that involves  
19 fingerprinting which takes time. **Mrs. DiSanto** then asked if there is any  
20 reduction in school staff based on this budget? **Mr. Derkoski** said there is no  
21 reduction.  
22

23 **Patty New** said last year some programs were reduced because of the decrease  
24 in ratables. Since there is an increase now, will those programs be reinstated or  
25 will any new programs be brought in? **Scott Campbell** said everything is "status  
26 quo". No programs were eliminated but no programs were added. **Mr. Derkoski**  
27 said if anyone is familiar with P.A.R.C.C. it is a mandated item to start in 2015  
28 and what is necessary is for us to increase our technology so that we are  
29 prepared. That is a "big ticket item" in the budget. **Roseanne Lombardo** said  
30 that P.A.R.C.C. (Partnership for the Assessment and Readiness for College and  
31 Careers) is going to be a big state test to get students ready for "college and  
32 careers".  
33

34 **Terry DiSanto** said there were areas that were identified where to use the Title I  
35 funds and Grades 3 and 4 were targeted in an effort to improve the Language  
36 Arts scores. Does the Board have any idea how this is going to be done? **Mr.**  
37 **Derkoski** said that he can give Mrs. DiSanto the action plan which is about 15  
38 items that were established. The third and fourth grades were mandatory mainly  
39 because their test scores were below what we thought were necessary. The  
40 action plan involves teachers, Title I staff and administration.  
41

42 **Lee Lucas** said at the \$1.09 tax rate, Gibbstown may be back to #1 as having  
43 the lowest tax rate. **Mr. Campbell** believes that Elk Township is the lowest right  
44 now. Mr. Lucas finished by saying that Gibbstown is in the top three.  
45

1 **4. 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

7 The Board of Education for Greenwich Township, assembled in public session on  
8 **March 5, 2013** hereby resolves that an Executive Session closed to the public  
9 shall be held on **March 5, 2013** at **6:25 p.m.** in the Nehaunsey Middle School  
10 library, Room 48, located at 415 Swedesboro Road, Gibbstown, New Jersey, for  
11 discussion of certain matters which relate to items authorized by *Open Public*  
12 *Meetings Act, (N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b)* to be discussed in closed session.  
13

- 14 • Matters Involving Individual Privacy
- 15 • Matters Relating to the Employment Relationship

16  
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 such confidentiality.  
20

21 Motion: (Morina/Chapkowski) to enter into Executive Session at 6:25 p.m.  
22 to discuss the following:

- 23 • Personnel
- 24 • Legal

25  
26  
27 Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

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29 Motion: (Lombardo/Chapkowski) to return from Executive Session at 6:35  
30 p.m.

31  
32 Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.  
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34 **5. PERSONNEL**

35  
36 Motion: (Vernacchio/Morina) to approve the following:

- 37  
38 A. The approval to exercise Article XI, Section 4 for an employee to receive  
39 their salary less that of a substitute. The article reads as follows:  
40 *“when absence exceeds the annual and accumulated sick leaves, the*  
41 *Board may pay any such person each day’s salary less the cost of a*  
42 *replacement for a period of thirty (30) days or the balance of the teacher*  
43 *contract year, whichever occurs first. Such payment shall be determined*

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*by the Board on a case by case basis. A day’s salary is 1/200<sup>th</sup> of their annual salary.”*

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: (Lombardo/Morina) to adjourn the meeting at 6:37 p.m.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Scott A. Campbell, Board Secretary