

1 **OFFICIAL MINUTES**

2
3 of the **REGULAR BOARD MEETING** of the Greenwich Township Board of
4 Education held **Monday, May 18, 2009** in the Nehaussey Middle School library.

5
6 The meeting was called to order by President Frank J. Minniti at 7:01 p.m.

7
8 **Roll Call:**

9
10 Frank J. Minniti
11 Loraine LaPalomento
12 Louis Fabiani
13 Robyn Glocker Hammond
14 James Worrell
15 Fred Reel
16 Susan Vernacchio

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

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

27
28 Flag Salute

29
30 **1. STUDENT RECOGNITION**

31
32 A presentation was made by Interim Superintendent Robert Suessmuth assisted
33 by President Frank Minniti for several students who participated in contests
34 during the school year. Those contests were as follows: The GapCap Poster
35 Contest, A Poetry Contest with Creative Communications, The Stock Market
36 Challenge and The School Mascot Design. Each student was presented with a
37 certificate of recognition for their efforts.

38
39 **2. APPOINTMENTS FOR 2009-2010**

40
41 Motion: (Fabiani/Worrell) to approve the following:

42
43 A. The appointment of Ball, Buckley & Seher, LLP as the Greenwich
44 Township School District auditors for the 2009-2010 school year at a fee
45 of \$15,000.00.

1 Roll Call Vote:

2
3 Frank Minniti – No
4 Loraine LaPalomento – Yes
5 Louis Fabiani – Yes
6 Robyn Glocker Hammond – No
7 Fred Reel – Yes
8 Susan Vernacchio – No
9 James Worrell – Yes

10
11 Item passes, 4 yes's to 3 no's.

12
13 Motion: (Fabiani/Reel) to approve the following as one, B1-B2:

14
15 B. Solicitor

- 16
17 1. The approval for the appointment of Capehart & Scatchard as the
18 Greenwich Township School District solicitor for the 2009-2010
19 school year at a rate of \$140.00 per hour.
20
21 2. The approval for the appointment of supplementary attorneys of
22 Capehart & Scatchard as solicitors for the Greenwich Township
23 School District for the 2009-2010 school year.

24
25 *Note: Hourly rates may differ for each attorney as needed.*

26
27 Roll Call Vote:

28
29 Loraine LaPalomento – Yes
30 Louis Fabiani – Yes
31 Robyn Glocker Hammond – No
32 Fred Reel – Yes
33 Susan Vernacchio – No
34 James Worrell – Yes
35 Frank Minniti - No

36
37 Item passes, 4 yes's to 3 no's.

38
39 Motion: (Vernacchio/Glocker Hammond) to approve the following:

40
41 C. Architect

- 42
43 1. The approval for the appointment of Garrison Architects as the
44 Greenwich Township School District architect for the 2009-2010
45 school year.

1 ****Fred Reel** made a statement that we were not charged any fee from Gibson &
2 Tarquini and that they were not influenced by any one school. Their motto was
3 that “they can make any school work”. He also stated that there were problems
4 with Garrison Architect with the change in use and the reason he, Mr. Reel, voted
5 for the change in use was because school was set to open and they had to get
6 the project done. He feels it was a mistake by Garrison Architects. **Louis**
7 **Fabiani** said he looked at the fee arrangements for both architects and it appears
8 that Garrison was much more expensive. The proposal for the Broad Street
9 School was \$265,000.00 and Garrison’s fee was \$7,000.00 more than Gibson &
10 Tarquini. **Frank Minniti** stated that they did not give a proposal and say it was
11 \$7,000.00 more. ******

12
13 Roll Call Vote:

14
15 Louis Fabiani - No
16 Robyn Glocker Hammond - Yes
17 Fred Reel – No
18 Susan Vernacchio - Yes
19 James Worrell – No
20 Frank Minniti – Yes
21 Loraine LaPalomento - Yes

22
23 Item passes, 4 yes’s to 3 no’s

24
25 Motion: (Vernacchio/Worrell) to approve the following:

26
27 D. Physicians

- 28
29 1. The approval for the appointment of Underwood Memorial Hospital
30 for health and physician services for the Greenwich Township
31 School District for the 2009-2010 school year at an annual rate of
32 \$3,300.00.

33
34 ****Fred Reel** asked if it was the same physician that was used in past school
35 years? **Frank Minniti** responded that it is Underwood Memorial Hospital and not
36 one particular doctor. The local doctor that we used is past years has decided
37 not to provide those services any longer. ******

38
39 Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

40
41 Motion: (Vernacchio/Worrell) to approve the following:

42
43 E. Insurance Agent

- 1 1. The approval for the appointment of Brown & Brown, dba Dalton
2 Insurance Agency as the Greenwich Township School District
3 insurance agent for the 2009-2010 school year.
4

5 Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.
6

7 Motion: (LaPalomento/Vernacchio) to approve the following:
8

9 F. Health Benefits-Broker of Record
10

- 11 1. The approval for the appointment of Willis/HRH Insurance as the
12 Greenwich Township School District Health Benefits Broker of
13 Record for the 2009-2010 school year.
14

15 Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.
16

17 **3. RESOLUTIONS**
18

19 Motion: (Vernacchio/Worrell) to approve the following resolutions as
20 one, A1-A2:
21

22 A. Contract Execution
23

24 **WHEREAS**, funds are available for this purpose; and
25

26 **WHEREAS**, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A.
27 18A:18-5 et. Seq.) no longer requires that the resolution authorizing the
28 award of contracts for "Professional Services" be bid competitively;
29

30 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of
31 Education of Greenwich, County of Gloucester and State of New Jersey,
32 as follows:
33

- 34 1. The President and Secretary are hereby authorized and directed to
35 execute contracts for the 2009-2010 school year with:
36
- 37 a. Ball, Buckley & Seher, LLP for auditing and accounting
38 services,
 - 39 b. Capehart & Scatchard, P.A. for legal representation,
 - 40 c. Garrison Architects for architectural design,
41 building/maintenance and consulting,
 - 42 d. Underwood Memorial Hospital for health and physician
43 services,
 - 44 e. Brown & Brown, dba Dalton Insurance Agency for insurance
45 agent,

1 f. Willis/HRH Insurance for dental, health and prescription
2 broker services.
3

- 4 2. The above contracts are awarded without competitive bidding as a
5 "professional service" under provisions of the Local Public
6 Contracts Law because the above persons or firms named are
7 licensed to practice a recognized profession in the State of New
8 Jersey as above stated, and further such services to be performed
9 cannot be bid competitively because it is impossible to prepare
10 specifications for same in accordance with the above-captioned
11 statutes.
12

13 Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.
14

15 **4. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**
16

17 Motion: (Glocker Hammond/Worrell) to approve the following as one, A-C:
18

19 A. Administrative Reports
20

- 21 1. Enrollment Statistics, Fire Drills and Suspensions, as of April 30,
22 2009. (Attachment – EXHIBIT A1)
23
24 2. School Health Services Monthly Reports as of April 30, 2009.
25 (Attachment – EXHIBIT A2)
26
27 3. 2009-2010 Violence & Vandalism Report as of April 30, 2009.
28 (Attachment – EXHIBIT A3)
29
30 4. Monthly Report of Attendance Officer as of April 30, 2009.
31 (Attachment – EXHIBIT A4)
32

33 B. 2009-2010 12-Month Employee Calendars and Kitchen/Cafeteria
34 Calendar
35

- 36 1. The approval of the proposed 12-month Secretary Holiday
37 Calendar for the 2009-2010 school year. (Attachment – EXHIBIT
38 B1)
39
40 2. The approval of the proposed 12-month Custodian/Maintenance
41 Holiday Calendar for the 2009-2010 school year. (Attachment –
42 EXHIBIT B2)
43
44 3. The approval of the proposed Kitchen/Cafeteria Calendar for the
45 2009-2010 school year. (Attachment – EXHIBIT B3)

1 C. Italian Program Funding Proposal

- 2
3 1. The approval to submit the Italian Program Funding Proposal from
4 the Italian American Committee on Education for the 2009-2010
5 school year.

6
7 Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

8
9 Motion: (Glocker Hammond/Worrell) to approve the following:

10
11 D. Field Trips

- 12
13 1. The approval of the Request for Educational Trip/Transportation for
14 the following:

15

Grade and/or Group	Destination/Time	Date	Estimated Related Cost	Estimated Transportation Cost	Total
Grade 4	Nehaunsey Middle School Visitation 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	5/27/09	\$-0-	Driver: \$58.00	\$58.00
SADD Students Grade 5-8	Wilmington Blue Rocks Baseball Game Blue Rocks Stadium Wilmington, DE 10:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.	5/27/09	Tickets: \$126.00 2 Substitutes: \$150.00	Driver: \$87.50 Tolls: \$ 6.00	\$369.50
Grade 8	Paulsboro High School Visitation 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	5/27/09	\$-0-	Drivers: \$58.00	\$58.00

16
17 Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

18
19 **5. PERSONNEL**

20
21 Motion: (Vernacchio/Glocker Hammond) to approve the following as one, A-
22 l:

- 23
24 A. The retroactive approval for a medical leave of absence (FMLA) for
25 Cathleen Myers, Bus Driver, beginning on Wednesday, May 13, 2009 for a
26 period of time to be determined.
27
28 B. The approval of the following G.T.E.A. represented employees for the
29 2009-2010 school year as per the attached. (Attachment – EXHIBITS C1-
30 C3)
31

1 J. The approval for the reappointment of the following as summer custodians
2 effective June 23, 2009 through August 28, 2009, 8 hours per day, 5 days
3 per week, at an hourly rate to be determined:
4

5 Christina Evangelista	Tiffany Young
6 Craig Myers	Richard Erdman
7 Katelyn Hammond	Jenna Chiavoroli
8 Madelyn Giorgianni	Stephen Mogar

9
10 K. The approval for the reappointment of Mark Vogeding as summer help
11 coordinator effective June 23, 2009 through August 28, 2009, 8 hours per
12 day, 5 days per week, at an hourly rate to be determined.
13

14 L. The approval for the reappointment of the Gloucester County Special
15 Services School District Substitute School Nurse Clearinghouse on an as-
16 needed basis for the 2009-2010 school year in the event that the district's
17 school nurse's are absent on the same day and an approved district
18 substitute nurse cannot be acquired. The rate of pay for a full day is
19 \$262.00.
20

21 Roll Call Vote:
22

23 Robyn Glocker Hammond – Recused for Katelyn Hammond on Item J; yes to all
24 others

25 Fred Reel – Yes

26 Susan Vernacchio – Yes

27 James Worrell – Yes

28 Frank J. Minniti – Recused for Jenna Chiavoroli on item J; yes to all others

29 Loraine LaPalomente – Recused for Madelyn Giorgianni on item J; yes to all
30 others

31 Louis Fabiani – Yes
32

33 **6. CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION**
34

35 Motion: (LaPalomente/Glocker Hammond) to approve the following:
36

37 A. Out-of-District Placements
38

39 1. The retroactive approval for the following out-of-district placement
40 for the remainder of the 2008-2009 school year:
41

OPD#	PROGRAM	TUITION	START DATE
2008-26	GCSSSD-Bankbridge	\$35,700.00 prorated until June 30, 2009	5/14/09

1 Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.
2

3 **7. BUSINESS & FINANCE**
4

5 Motion: (Worrell/Vernacchio) to approve the following as one, A & B:
6

7 A. Student Activities Account
8

- 9 1. The approval of the Student Activities Account Monthly Bank
10 Reconciliation for the month of April, 2009. (Attachment – EXHIBIT
11 D)
12

13 B. Cafeteria Prices
14

- 15 1. The approval of the Greenwich Township School District's cafeteria
16 prices for the 2009-2010 school year as follows:
17

<u>Breakfast:</u>		<u>Lunch:</u>	
Student Prices		Student Prices	
Paid	\$1.50 (Elementary)	Paid	\$2.75 (Elementary)
	\$1.75 (Middle)		\$3.00 (Middle)
Reduced	\$.30	Reduced	\$.40
Adult:	\$3.00	Adult:	\$5.00
<u>Salads:</u>			
		Small	\$4.50
		Large	\$5.50

27
28 Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.
29

30 **8. FACILITIES**
31

32 Motion: (Worrell/Minniti) to approve the following:
33

- 34 A. The approval for the acceptance of the Preliminary Eligible Cost (PEC) for
35 State Project #1830-060-09-1002 for the Nehaunsey Middle School.
36 The district elects to accept Grant Funding for support of its school's
37 facility projects. The district also accepts the PEC and will not appeal the
38 PEC.
39

- 40 B. The approval for the acceptance of the Preliminary Eligible Cost (PEC) for
41 State Project #1830-050-09-1001 for Broad Street School.
42

43 The district elects to accept Grant Funding for support of its school's
44 facility projects. The district also accepts the PEC and will not appeal the
45 PEC.

1 Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

2
3 **9. USE OF FACILITIES**

4
5 None at this time.

6
7 **10. OLD BUSINESS**

8
9 None at this time.

10
11 **11. NEW BUSINESS**

12
13 None at this time.

14
15 **12. CORRESPONDENCE**

16
17 None at this time.

18
19 **13. BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS**

20
21 Frank Minniti asked that all Board Members submit their committee requests so
22 they will be approved by the next meeting and he will do his best to
23 accommodate each board members' request. He also stated per the County
24 Superintendent, by law there must be a delegate for Paulsboro High School to
25 attend their meetings. If there is no response for that position, he will have to
26 appoint someone. Fred Reel asked if we had any volunteers could we appoint
27 someone now, Mr. Minniti does not want to do that right now.

28
29 **14. PUBLIC - AGENDA/NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

30
31 This is the time when anyone from the public who wishes to speak to the Board
32 may do so. Please state your name, address and phone number. The Board will
33 hear your concerns. The Board may or may not take action this evening. You
34 will be notified either at this meeting, by letter, or telephone of any action the
35 Board does take.

36
37 **Lee Lucas**, 361 Democrat Road, Gibbstown, NJ, asked about if the district had
38 been notified how much the state aid is going to be reduced? **Robert**
39 **Suessmuth** replied that we used to get 2 payments per month. Several years
40 ago, the state took the 2nd payment in June and pushed it into July. Now we
41 were notified that the first and second payment in June will be pushed into July.
42 So basically we will not be receiving any state aid in June. **Mr. Lucas** asked if it
43 was for all school districts in the state? **Mr. Suessmuth** responded yes. **Mr.**
44 **Lucas** then asked how much that amounted to? **Scott Campbell** replied that it
45 is approximately \$150,000.00. **Mr. Lucas** also asked if there was any plan by

1 the state to catch the district up on the money they are losing and **Frank Minniti**
2 responded that there was no plan to catch up on the money—it is basically lost.

3
4 **Lisa Morina**, 149 Center Street, Gibbstown, NJ asked **James Worrell** about the
5 fee comparison on the architect, she wanted to know who the “we” was in that
6 explanation? **Mr. Worrell** replied that it was **Louis Fabiani** and himself. **Mrs.**
7 **Morina** was clarifying that everything was done in the open.

8
9 **Paul Morlachetta**, 17 Holly Place, Gibbstown, NJ commented on the most
10 recent school board election. He stated that he was an elected official of
11 Gibbstown for 30 years and he has never seen such “emotion” and “commotion”
12 put into one election. He hopes that everyone will now put everything behind
13 them and move on to do the job they were elected to do. One thing that **Mr.**
14 **Morlachetta** said bothered him was the inference of outside pressure being
15 applied on some board members for whatever reason. He didn’t know if that was
16 a fact but there was an implication made and if that is the truth, then he would
17 certainly recommend to all of you, to pay particular attention to that. “It’s over
18 now. It’s time to clear the slate and start from scratch. You took an oath to do the
19 job to the best of your ability & now is the chance to show the people of this
20 township that you can do that. Let’s get together—let bygones be bygones. And
21 do what you are supposed to do, the best you possibly can for the children of this
22 district.”

23
24 **Jim Sorbello**, 26 North Poplar Street, Gibbstown, NJ commented on how **Mr.**
25 **Fabiani** and **Mr. Worrell** were adamant on picking the cheapest proposal on the
26 architect. He asked if all appointments were the cheapest alternative? **Frank**
27 **Minniti** replied that they were not. **Louis Fabiani** stated that the auditors—Ball,
28 Buckley and Petroni were a \$100.00 difference. He also stated that as far as the
29 architects, there was a significant difference in the fee structure. **Fred Reel**
30 stated that with Garrison, the district got two failed referendums. **Mr. Minniti**
31 corrected **Mr. Reel** and stated that Garrison didn’t fail the referendum; the voters
32 failed the referendum and that Garrison was following the direction of the board
33 as any architect would do. **Mr. Sorbello** asked if the auditor that was approved
34 tonight was late with their report? **Scott Campbell** replied that the Board
35 requested the audit to be done in August. They didn’t show up until October 6th
36 and the audit was turned in after the due date of November 5, 2008. **Mr.**
37 **Sorbello** asked if that was okay with the board members? **Mr. Reel** stated, yes.
38 **Robyn Glocker Hammond** and **Susan Vernacchio** stated that it was not okay
39 with them and that they voted no for that auditor. **Mr. Sorbello** asked **Mr.**
40 **Worrell** if that was okay with him and he stated that he wasn’t here last year.
41 **Loraine LaPalomente** voted yes for the auditor but as an auditor herself, she
42 feels it is another set of eyes on the books. She realized there were issues but
43 she didn’t hold that against them in her opinion when she voted for the auditor.
44

1 **Debbie Truhan**, 113 Alliance Street, Woodbury Heights, NJ understands that it
2 is a new set of eyes, but the “set of eyes” that they brought in, “I had to train her”.
3 It was only the second school she was auditing, she didn’t know our program,
4 she couldn’t find anything and they (the auditors) were auditing our office for 4
5 weeks. **Ms. LaPalomento** said she was sorry to hear that and hopefully this
6 year, that won’t be something we will have to address.
7

8 **Lee Lucas**, brought up issues he has with the teacher’s union. **Frank Minniti**
9 asked Mr. Lucas to not bring up the issue of the teacher’s union—that it is not for
10 discussion here.
11

12 **15. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

13
14 Pursuant to certain requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-
15 6, et seq., which provides that an Executive Session, not open to the public, may
16 be held for certain specified purposes when authorized by Resolution.
17

18 The Board of Education for Greenwich Township, assembled in public session on
19 **May 18, 2009** hereby resolves that an Executive Session closed to the public
20 shall be held on **May 18, 2009** at 7:55 pm. In the Nehaunsey Middle School
21 library Room 48, located at 415 Swedesboro Road, Gibbstown, New Jersey, for
22 discussion of certain matters which relate to items authorized by Open Public
23 Meetings Act, (N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b) to be discussed in closed session.
24

25 *Matters Involving Individual Privacy*
26 *Matters Relating to the Employment Relationship*
27

28 It is anticipated that such matter may be disclosed to the public upon the
29 determination of the Board that applicable exception no longer applies and the
30 public interest will no longer be served by such confidentiality.
31

32 Motion: (Minniti/Worrell) to enter into Executive Session at 7:55 p.m. to
33 discuss the following:
34

35 *Legal*
36 *Personnel*
37

38 Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
39

40 Returned from closed session at 8:06 p.m.
41

42 **16. ADJOURNMENT**

43
44 Motion: (Worrell/Fabiani) to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m.
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12

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Scott A. Campbell, Board Secretary