BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOROUGH OF TOTOWA

MEETING MINUTES

03/08/2017

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Borough of Totowa was held at Washington Park School Media Center, 10 Crews Street, Totowa, New Jersey on March 08, 2017.

1. Call To Order

President Ruocco called the meeting to order at 7:08 P.M. and led all present in the salute to the flag and remain standing for a moment of silence for our past and present troops.

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Mr. Bierach, Ms. Carr, Ms. DeCeglie, Mr. Ferraro, Mr, Kerwin
Mr. Reynoso, Ms. Ruocco, and Mr. Schaffer
Members Absent: Mr. Guarneri
Also Present: Patricia Capitelli, Superintendent of Schools
Vincent Varcadipane, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Mr. Raymond B. Reddin, Board Attorney

3. Open Public Meeting Notice

The following statement was read by Mr. Varcadipane:

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting 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 interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this act, the Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted in the Municipal Building and notice was mailed to the North Jersey Herald News and The Record.

4. Public to be Heard

Ms. Ruocco read the following statement:

The Board would like to respond to Ms. Grant's concerns that were expressed during the meeting of February 15, 2017 and thank her for her observations and submissions. The Totowa Board of Education is in full compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act as well as District Policy 0164, Conduct of Board Meetings, requiring the Board to provide the public with: (a) adequate advanced notice of all of its meetings, (b) the right to attend its meetings, and (c) reasonable comprehensive minutes of all of its meetings. The Board agenda will be posted on the District website prior to all Board meetings.

There were no other public to be heard at this time.

5. Policy & Regulation Revision 2460 - Special Education

The Superintendent presents to the Board the first read of the revisions to mandated Policy & Regulation 2460 - Special Education.

6. Regulation Revision 2460.1 - Special Education - Location, Identification, and Referral

The Superintendent presents to the Board the first read of the revisions to mandated Regulation 2460.1 - Special Education - Location, Identification, and Referral.

7. Regulation Revision 2460.8 - Special Education - Free and Appropriate Public Education

The Superintendent presents to the Board the first read of the revisions to mandated Regulation 2460.8 - Special Education -Free and Appropriate Public Education.

8. Regulation Revision 2460.9 - Special Education - Transition From Early Intervention Programs to Preschool Programs

The Superintendent presents to the Board the first read of the revisions to mandated Regulation 2460.9 - Special Education - Transition From Early Intervention Programs to Preschool Programs.

9. Regulation Adoption 2460.15 - Special Education - In-Service Training Needs for Professional and Paraprofessional Staff

The Superintendent presents to the Board the first read of the new Regulation 2460.15 - Special Education - In-Service Training Needs for Professional and Paraprofessional Staff.

10. Regulation Re-Adoption 2460.16 - Special Education - Instructional Material to Blind or Print-Disabled Students

The Superintendent presents to the Board the first read of the mandated Regulation 2460.16 - Special Education - Instructional Material to Blind or Print-Disabled Students.

11. Policy Revision 2467 - Surrogate Parents and Foster Parents

The Superintendent presents to the Board the first read of the revisions to mandated Policy 2467 - Surrogate Parents and Foster Parents.

12. Regulation Revision 7422 - School Integrated Pest Management Plan Memorial School/Washington Park School

The Superintendent presents to the Board the first read of the revisions to mandated Regulation 7422 - School Integrated Pest Management Plan Memorial School/Washington Park School.

Motion for approval of items 5-12

MOTION: Mr. Reynoso
SECONDED: Mr. Schaffer
VOTE: Unanimous

13. Executive Session

A request for executive session was made to discuss personnel matters and other business excluded from the Open Public Meeting by Law. The Board entered executive session at 7:13 p.m.

Mr. Reddin said, in Executive Session the Board will be discussing personnel and legal matters. The discussion will last approximately thirty (30) minutes and no action will be taken.

Motion for approval of item 13

MOTION: Ms. DeCeglie
SECONDED: Mr. Schaffer
VOTE: Unanimous

The Board returned from executive session at 7:44 p.m.

14. Approval - Maternity Leave Replacement Revision

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Administrative Team, recommends the Board approve Mr. Jim Jammal Jr's. revised Maternity Leave Replacement for seventh grade social studies beginning Tuesday, November 1, 2016 through the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year. Mr. Jammal will remain on Step-0 ($33,000 prorated) of the contracted teacher salary guide without sick/personal days or benefits.

15. Reassignment - Erin Gander

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Administrative Team, recommends the Board approve the reassignment of Erin Gander from seventh grade social studies teacher at Washington Park School to second grade teacher at Memorial School beginning Monday, March 6, 2017, through the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year.

16. Appointment - Special Education Aide

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Administrative Team, recommends the Board appoint Ms. Chelsea Falone as a temporary Special Education Aide for the 2016-2017 School Year. Ms. Falone will be paid at the rate of $16.80 per hour.

Motion for approval of items 14-16

MOTION: Ms. DeCeglie
SECONDED: Mr. Schaffer
VOTE: Unanimous

17. Approval of Adoption and Submission of 2017-2018 Tentative School Budget to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary recommends the Board adopts and submits the 2017-2018 tentative School budget. (See attachment #1)

18. Approval of Health Care Cost Adjustment

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board approve the use of the Health Care Cost Adjustment for the budget of $149,529.00 for the 2017-2018 budget.

19. Approval of Mid-Year Budget Review – Passaic County Office

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommended the Board accept the Passaic County Mid-Year Budget Review letter. (Attachment#2)

20. Approval of Legal Costs

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and school district auditor recommends the Board approve and acknowledge the school district exceeds 130% of the statewide average for legal costs. The school district will implement internal controls for the reduction of costs or to provide evidence that such procedures would not result in a reduction of costs.

Motion for approval of items 17-20

MOTION: Mr. Reynoso
SECONDED: Mr. Schaffer
VOTE: Unanimous

21. Old Business

There was no old business.

22. New Business

There was no new business.

23. Hearing and Petition of Citizens

There were no citizens to be heard.

24. Other Matters of a Timely Nature

There were no other matters of a timely nature.

25. Adjournment

Upon motion by Mr. Schaffer and seconded by Mr. Reynoso this meeting was adjourned at 7:51 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent Varcadipane
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary