

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – March 11, 2015

The Regular Meeting of the Delanco Board of Education was held on March 11, 2015 in the M. Joan Pearson School cafeteria, Delanco Township, Burlington County, New Jersey. President, Mr. Dennis Bryski called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

A moment of silence was observed. The flag was saluted.

On roll call, the following members were present: Mr. Ken Adams, Mr. Dennis Bryski, Mrs. Rose Gonteski, Mr. Paul Hamlin, Mr. Phil Jenkins, Mrs. Marisa Karamanoogian, Mr. Harry Litwack, and Mrs. Cynthia Wagstaff.

Also present were Mr. Joseph Mersinger, Superintendent/Principal; Mrs. Joanne D'Angelo, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary; Ms. Jennifer Mack, Principal; Mr. Cameron Jenkins, Riverside High School Representative; one DTEA member; one PTO representative; thirty-one parents and grandparents; and twenty-three students.

The Business Administrator/Board Secretary read the following statement:

PUBLIC NOTICE of this meeting pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act has been given in the following manner: Posting written notice on the official bulletin boards of the M. Joan Pearson School, the Walnut Street School, and the Board of Education Office on March 6, 2015; by advertising in the Burlington County Times and the Courier Post on January 16, 2015 and by sending a notice on March 6, 2015; and by filing written notice with the Clerk of Delanco Township on March 6, 2015.

Approval of Minutes of February 11, 2015 Regular and Executive Session Meetings

**Motion: Mr. Adams      Second: Mr. Hamlin      Vote: 8 ayes, 0 nays**

Acceptance of the Reports of the Board Secretary and Treasurer for January 2015, which are in agreement:

**Motion: Mr. Adams      Second: Mr. Hamlin      Vote: 8 ayes, 0 nays**

### **Recognition of Guests**

### **Liaison Reports**

### **Riverside High School Student Representative Report**

Mr. Cameron Jenkins reported the following: The National Honor Society inducted six new members on February 6th; the NHS spent the day at the Food Bank of South Jersey on February 12th; the Student Council's Spirit Week activities were disrupted by inclement weather; the annual state charity marathon took place on March 7th and raised money for Christine's Hope for Kids; and the American Red Cross Blood drive will be held on May 20th.

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## Delanco PTO Report – Mrs. Ruth Esposito

PTO President, Mrs. Ruth Esposito reported the following: The February Chikfila spirit night raised \$435.52; Spring fundraiser delivery will take place during the week of March 23rd; Bingo and Sundae Night will be held March 13th; a skating party will be held March 22nd; students and parents are invited to attend the Trenton Thunder game on April 21st; and the next Chikfila spirit night will be held on April 29th. The current balance of PTO accounts is \$14,279.40.

## Students of the Month

Ms. Mack and Mr. Mersinger recognized students of the month by presenting medals and certificates to the students in attendance.

After the presentations, a break in the meeting took place from 8:01 p.m. to 8:05 p.m. while most of the audience departed leaving one DTEA member, two students and one parent in attendance.

## Superintendent's Report – Mr. Mersinger

1. A motion was requested to approve the following reports:

- A. HIB Report for February 2015 -- See Principal's Reports
- B. Fire and Emergency Drills have been conducted as follows:

	Fire	Emergency
Pearson	2/23/15	2/27/15 Lockdown Drill
Walnut Street	2/23/15	2/25/15 Lockdown Drill

**Motion: Mr. Jenkins Second: Mrs. Karamanoogian Vote: 8 ayes, 0 nays**

- C. Approve District Calendar revisions for 2014-2015 as attached

**Motion: Mr. Adams Second: Mr. Jenkins Vote: 8 ayes, 0 nays**

## Pupil Welfare Report

Mr. Mersinger reported that enrollment as of February 28, 2015 at the M. Joan Pearson School was 264 and at the Walnut Street School was 121. Suspensions for the month of February were listed on the supplement.

## Special Education Report

Special education classifications and placements were reported on the supplement.

## Curriculum Committee Report – Mrs. Wagstaff

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The Curriculum Committee Chairperson made a motion to approve the following:

1. Staff travel for professional development as attached

**Motion: Mrs. Wagstaff**

**Second: Mr. Jenkins**

**Vote: 8 ayes, 0 nays**

### Finance Report – Mr. Adams

The Finance Committee Chairperson made a motion to approve the following:

- A. Necessary line item transfers for February 2015
- B. Monthly line account certification for January 2015
- C. Payment of bills in the amount of \$266,036.55; handwritten checks # 131537 & 131540 in the amount of \$881.27; and electronic funds transfers in the amount of \$80,306.25 and \$439,793.74
- D. Proposal for Sandi Szczepanski to provide literacy coaching for grades K-8 at the rate of \$750 per day for six days funded by NCLB - Title IIA
- E. Purchase of technology supplies under MRESC state approved Co-op #65MCESCCPS 13/14-04 in the amount of \$27,000 for 2014-15
- F. Renewal of the food service management contract for third year with Nutri-Serve Food Management Inc. at the flat fee of \$13,325 (increase of 1.5% per CPI) for the 2015-16 school year
- G. Accept donation of five dozen baseballs for the boys' baseball team valued at \$212.70 from Jeffery and Brenda Thomas
- H. Approve 2014-2015 special education tuition contract with Motivational Educational Training Company, Inc./New Hope Academy for the period February 2/10/15 through 6/30/15 at the daily rate of \$227.22 for 80 days
- I. Approve special education/home instruction contract with Ewing Board of Education for one student for the period 1/20/15 through 2/5/15 at the rate of \$30 per hour for 17 hours
- J. Approve home instruction contract with Professional Education Services, Inc. for one student during the 2014-15 school year for ten hours per week at the rate of \$51 per hour for approximately 4 weeks
- K. Approve shared service agreement with the Township of Delanco and the Delanco Library Association for the use of space at the M. Joan Pearson School

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for calendar years 2015 through 2019 at the initial rate of \$6,302 and increasing each year by \$100 with additional terms per the attached agreement

- L. Transportation jointure with Mercer County Special Services School District to transport one student to New Hope Academy for the period beginning February 10, 2015 through the end of the school year at an estimated cost of \$1,820

**Motion: Mr. Adams      Second: Mr. Litwack      Vote: 8 ayes, 0 nays**

### **Discussion and Adoption of 2015-2016 School Year Budget**

#### **2015-2016 Health Benefits Adjustment**

RESOLVED that the Delanco Township Board of Education includes in the proposed budget the adjustment for increases in costs of health benefits in the amount of \$61,132. The additional funds are included in the base budget and will be used to pay for the additional increases in health benefits.

#### **2015-2016 Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement**

WHEREAS, the Delanco Township Board of Education Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

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

WHEREAS, a Board of Education may establish, for regular district business travel only, an annual school year threshold of \$150 per staff member where prior Board approval shall not be required unless this annual threshold for a staff member is exceeded in a given school year (July 1 through June 30); and

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

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.2(b), to a maximum expenditure of \$12,585 (excluding federal grant funds) for all staff and board members.

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BE IT RESOLVED that the tentative budget be approved for the 2015-2016 School Year using the 2015-2016 state aid figures and the Secretary to the Board of Education be authorized to submit the following tentative budget to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval in accordance with the statutory deadline:

	General Fund	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Total
<b>2015-16 Total Expenditures</b>	9,427,388	179,000	419,801	10,026,189
<b>Less: Anticipated Revenues</b>	3,866,548	179,000	1	4,045,549
<b>Taxes to be Raised</b>	5,560,840	0	419,800	5,980,640

And to advertise said tentative budget in the Burlington County Times in accordance with the form suggested by the State Department of Education and according to law; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a public hearing be held in the cafeteria of the M. Joan Pearson School, 1301 Burlington Avenue, Delanco, NJ, New Jersey on May, 6, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the budget for 2015-2016 School Year.

**Motion: Mr. Adams    Second: Mr. Jenkins    Roll Call Vote: 8 ayes, 0 nays**

### **Lunchroom Report – Mr. Adams**

The Finance committee chairman made a motion to approve the following:

1. Accept Nutri-Serve's monthly report for January 2015
2. Ratify payment of bills in the amount of \$23,838.65 for checks #2037-2038

**Motion: Mr. Adams    Second: Mr. Litwack    Vote: 8 ayes, 0 nays**

### **Riverside Liaison Report – Mr. Jenkins**

Mr. Jenkins reported on Riverside Board of Education activity per the attached agenda.

### **Transportation Committee Report – Mr. Hamlin**

No report

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### **Buildings and Grounds Committee Report – Mr. Litwack**

Mr. Litwack reported on the current status of maintenance projects.

### **Policy and Personnel Report – Mrs. Karamanoogian**

The Policy and Personnel Committee Chairman made a motion to approve the following:

- A. Ex-Care employees:
  - a. Hiring of Robert Hozier at the rate of \$10.00 per hour as of 2/25/15
  - b. Hiring of Jordan Harrod at the rate of \$10.00 per hour pending criminal history review
  - c. Resignation of Jessica Pippin as of 2/24/2015
  - d. Hiring of Marissa Carter at the rate of \$10.00 per hour pending receipt of criminal history archive report
  
- B. Master List for substitute calling service
  
- C. Hiring of Carleen Dickinson as a long term substitute to cover maternity leave for the period of approximately March 16, 2015 through June 30, 2015 at the rate of \$75 per day for the first six days and \$85 per day for subsequent days through the end of the school year
  
- D. Hiring of Arlene Rosenzweig as substitute teacher
  
- E. Accept request for retirement from Patricia Sparrow as of June 30, 2015
  
- F. Authorize K-5 Math Curriculum Writing (30 hours per grade level at \$51 per hour) as follows:
  - a. Gr. K - Stephanie Weller, Emily McCann (will split the stipend - \$1,530)
  - b. Gr. 1 - Jen Smith, Kelli Santino (will split the stipend - \$1,530)
  - c. Gr. 2 - Dawn Schroff, Lisa Wallace (will split the stipend - \$1,530)
  - d. Gr. 3 - Linda Guckin (\$1,530)
  - e. Gr. 4 - Dayna Mader, Mary Beth Deaner (will split the stipend - \$1,530)
  - f. Gr. 5 - Christina Gentile, Maria Zacher (will split the stipend - \$1,530)

**Motion: Mrs. Karamanoogian    Second: Mr. Jenkins    Roll Call Vote: 8 ayes,  
0 nays**

### **Old Business**

Mr. Litwack asked if the Board might consider reorganizing the committee structure. Mr. Mersinger and Mr. Bryski will review the committee structure.

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Mr. Bryski expressed displeasure that the N.J. Department of Education issued directives to school districts regarding PARCC testing, in which the District took great effort to abide, and then later reversed the directives.

### **New Business**

None

### **Visitors**

Township Representative, Ms. Kate Fitzpatrick expressed appreciation to the Board for the way that PARCC testing controversy was handled.

### **Executive Session**

At 9:00 p.m. Mr. Bryski read the following statement:

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a public body to go into executive session during a public meeting, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Delanco School District has deemed it necessary to go into executive session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the public, and

WHEREAS, the regular meeting of this Board of Education will reconvene at the conclusion of executive session at approximately 10:00 p.m. this evening

NOW, THEREFORE, Be it resolved, That the Board of Education of the Delanco School District will go into executive session for the following reason as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12:

To discuss personnel issues

**Motion: Mr. Jenkins      Second: Mr. Adams      Vote: 8 ayes, 0 nays**

The Board returned to public session at 10:43 p.m.

### **Adjournment**

On a motion by Mr. Jenkins seconded by Mr. Adams and carried by unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 10:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne P. D'Angelo  
Board Secretary