

FLORHAM PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Public Meeting, January 23, 2012
Board of Education Conference Room
67-71 Ridgedale Avenue

MINUTES
6:30 p.m.

Mission Statement: We are committed to the achievement of individual academic excellence through high quality teaching, learning and community involvement, which results in students being well prepared to meet future educational challenges and to contribute to society. They will achieve these goals in accordance and alignment with the New Jersey Core Content Curriculum Standards which guide our academic instruction.

Assistance for persons with disabilities for the purpose of attending this or any other district meeting/function can be obtained by contacting the Board Secretary's office at 973-822-3880 (x1005).

A. SUNSHINE STATEMENT

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., adequate notification of this meeting has been provided by advertising in the Morristown Daily Record and the Madison-Florham Park Eagle. In addition, notices were posted at the Municipal Clerk's Office, Public Library, and the Board Administration Office at 67-71 Ridgedale Ave at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

B. CALL TO ORDER

C. FLAG SALUTE

D. ROLL CALL

| BOARD MEMBER | PRESENT | ABSENT |
|--------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Mrs. Tobias (Joanne) | X | |
| Mr. Gaffney (John) | X | |
| Mrs. Haynes (Marianne) | X | |
| Mrs. Michalowski (Linda) | X | |
| Mr. Montuore (Patrick) | X | |
| Dr. Carollo (John) | | X |
| Mr. DeCoursey (Kevin) | X | |

In attendance: District Administrators. There were three members of the general public.

E.SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

- Dr. Ronzitti reported that enrollment to date is 1,031. This consists of 1,020 students being taught in district and 11 out of district placements.
- Dr. Ronzitti reported that the district has saved substantial monies on district insurance premiums as compared to the state wide average. The district continues to obtain this insurance through the NJSBAIG Insurance pool.
- Mrs. Tobias announced the winners of the recent DAR contest. She stated there were over 114 entrants. The winners were.....
- Dr. Ronzitti reported 107 reported incidents under HIB policy. All incidents have been investigated and adjudicated in compliance with the policy. 102 of the 107 incidents were adjudicated as “normal social conflict”.
- Dr. Ronzitti reported there has been no communications regarding the potential of consolidation.
- Dr. Ronzitti reported the following security drills: RMS 12/13 fire, 12/19 code orange, BLK 12/5 table top exercise, 12/7 shelter in place, 12/13 fire, 12/19 reverse evacuation, BWD 12/2 lock down, 12/6 fire.
- Dr. Ronzitti reported the details of recent legislation Senate Bill #3148 – Annual School Election.

F.PUBLIC COMMENT

(Petitioners who have requested to speak during the public comment portion of the meeting will be allotted three (3) minutes.)

Mr. Aden asked various general questions regarding the Annual School Election. Mr. Winters asked if the district knew what Hanover, East Hanover and the regional high school were going to do. Mr. DeCoursey stated he did not know, however their decisions have no effect on Florham Park other than if the regional high school continued with the April election, the Florham Park School district facilities would continue to be used as polling sites. There were no further comments.

G.COMMITTEE REPORTS

Policy- Mrs. Tobias stated that the committee had met on 1/18 to discuss the visitors policy.

Curriculum- Mrs. Tobias stated that the committee had met on 1/18 to discuss the 12/13 calendar, Jeans for Teens donation program, Classic American Novels and other items.

Personnel- Mr. Monitore stated that the committee met on 1/18 to discuss the job description of the Executive Secretary to the Superintendent.

Finance/Facility- Mr. Gaffney the committee will meet on 1/31 to discuss the preliminary budget.

Transportation - Mrs. Haynes reported that the committee will meet on 1/31 to discuss the 2012/13 needs and current misconduct log and complaint log.

H.P.R.H.S Articulation- Mrs. Tobias reported that she attended the H.P.R.H.S. Board of Education meeting in January. Among the items discussed were the establishment of an H.P.R.H.S “Hall of Fame”, Completion of a Video Surveillance System and District Website.

H.RESOLUTION:

POLICY

- 1. **Approve** the minutes of the December 19, 2011 Regular Board Meeting. (Doc. PL1)

Motion; PM Second; LM 6 yes, 0 no

- 2. **Approve** the following Brooklake Elementary School Fundraisers:

Teens for Jeans

Motion; PM Second; LM 6 yes, 0 no

- 3. **Approve** the first reading of Visitors policy #1250. (Doc. PL2)

Motion; PM Second; LM 6 yes, 0 no

PERSONNEL

- 1. **Approve the following substitute (s) for the 2011-2012 School Year:**

Jordan DeGroat
 Rose Quintino
 Sharon Treiber
 David Zaleski-Bus Driver, Custodian, Teacher-Substitute, *Pending criminal history background check*

Motion; PM Second; JG 6 yes, 0 no

- 2. **Approve the following 2011-2012 Student Teaching Assignments:**

| <u>Student / College</u> | <u>Purpose</u> | <u>Co-op Teacher</u> | <u>Dates</u> |
|--|------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Amanda Wlodarski Fairleigh Dickinson University | Student Teaching | Cindy Regan Grade 3 | 1/23-5/4/12 |
| Caitlin Anelli College of St. Elizabeth | Student Teaching | Brian Silkensen Grades 6-8 | 2/27-4/9/12 |

Motion; PM Second; JG 6 yes, 0 no

- 3. **Approve the following Home Instructor for the 2011-2012 School Year:**

Yvonne Orlando
 Jacqueline Remaly

Motion; PM Second; JG 6 yes, 0 no

4. **Accept** with regret the resignation of Ann M. Morano, Staff Assistant, Brooklake Elementary School, effective 12/26/11.

Motion; PM Second; JG 6 yes, 0 no

5. **Approve** a temporary family leave of absence w/o pay from 1/9/12-1/23/12 for Farrah Rella, Third Grade Teacher, Brooklake Elementary School .

Motion; PM Second; JG 6 yes, 0 no

6. **Approve the following volunteer homework tutors from Hanover Park High School:**

Danielle Celli
Jessica Merberg

Motion; PM Second; JG 6 yes, 0 no

7. **Approve the following hiring’s for the 2011-2012 School Year:**

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------------|----------------|
| Kailin Armeny | PT Staff Assistant (4.5/hrs) | Step 1 (\$13.09/hr) | 11-216-100-106 |
| Jennifer Turrisi-Valedofsky | PT Staff Assistant (4.5/hrs) | Step 3 (\$13.73/hr) | 11-216-100-106 |
| Angela Peters | PT Staff Assistant (4.5/hrs) | Step 1 (\$13.09/hr) | 11-213-100-106 |
| Christine Danelson | Co-Curricular/Accompanist (80 hrs) (\$31.00/hr) | | |
| Lauren Canales | Co-Curricular/Assistant (2/hrs/wk) (as per FPEA contract) | | |

Motion; PM Second; JG 6 yes, 0 no

8. **Approve the revised maternity leaves of absence (s) for:**

Yvonne Orlando, Briarwood Elementary School, Counselor/Social Worker, effective October 1, 2011 –June 1, 2012 with pay (depending on availability of accrued personal and sick days), followed by a medical leave of absence without pay, consistent with the terms of the Family Medical Leave Act.

Discussion: Mrs. Tobias asked Dr. Ronzitti to clarify relation to item#3. Dr. Ronzitti stated that upon Mrs. Orlando’s return her services will be needed on pending home instruction case.

Motion; PM Second; JG 6 yes, 0 no

9. **Approve** Emily Gruenwald, Social Worker, Extended Maternity Leave Replacement, District-wide, at MA + Step 1 (\$52,340.00) pro-rated no benefits effective September 26, 2011-June 20, 2012.

Motion; PM Second; JG 6 yes, 0 no

10. **Approve** the revised job description for the Executive Assistant to the Superintendent.
(Doc. P1)

Motion; PM Second; JG 6 yes, 0 no

11. **Approve** the following resignation effective January 19, 2012:

- Camille Abdy Homework Club Advisor

Motion; PM Second; JG 6 yes, 0 no

12. **Approve** the following reassignments of Co-Curricular Activities effective January 19, 2012:

- Lyndsey Parman Homework Club Advisor
- Karen Janes On-Call Homework Advisor

Motion; PM Second; JG 6 yes, 0 no

13. **Approve** the school calendar for the 2012-2013 school year and the 12 month employee calendar.

(Doc. P2)

Motion; PM Second; JG 6 yes, 0 no

CURRICULUM

1. **Approve** the acceptance of student A.B in the district PSD program from Livingston Public School District for the remainder of the FY12 School Year Tuition \$74,250.00 *Prorated*.

Motion; JT Second; PM 6 yes, 0 no

2. **Approve** the novel “The Adventures of Tom Sawyer” by Mark Twain to the RMS Textbook/Novel List.

Motion; JT Second; PM 6 yes, 0 no

FINANCE

1. **Authorize the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to pay bills and claims through December 31, 2011.**

(Doc. F1)

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Invoices 12/1-12/30/11 | \$ 405,752.64 |
| Payroll 12/15/11 | \$ 482,655.58 |
| FICA 12/15/11 | \$ 34,737.71 |
| Payroll 12/22/11 | \$ 470,783.78 |
| FICA 12/22/11 | \$ <u>33,625.72</u> |

TOTAL \$1,427,555.43

Motion; JG Second; PM 6 yes, 0 no

2. Accept the following District financial reports:

Board Secretary’s (A148) Report for the Month of December 2011

Business Administrator/
Board Secretary
(Doc. F2)

Treasurer’s (A149) Report for the Month of December 2011

Business Administrator /
Board Secretary
(Doc. F3)

Motion; JG Second; PM

6 yes, 0 no

3. Approve the transfer for December 31, 2011 in the amount of \$37,989.37.

(Doc. F4)

Motion; JG Second; PM

6 yes, 0 no

4. Professional Development/Travel:

The Florham Park Board of Education is required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12 and 18A:12-24 to approve travel expenditures by district employees and board members that is educationally necessary and financially prudent.

The following list of workshops, seminars, conferences and other travel-related staff development has been reviewed by the Florham Park Board of Education and found to be (1) educationally necessary and fiscally prudent; (2) directly related and within the scope of the district employee or board members’ current responsibilities; (3) critical to the instructional needs of and furthers the efficient operation of the Florham Park School district; & (4) is in compliance with N.J.S.A. 18A:12-24.1.

| | Name | Position | Description | Date(s) | Approx. Cost | Funding Source |
|----------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------|---------|--------------|----------------|
| A | Cheryl Bernstein | Guidance Counselor | Workshop | 1/11/12 | N/A | Local |
| B | Lori Pompei | Teacher | Workshop | 1/19/12 | N/A | Local |
| C | Jane Chonowski | Teacher | Workshop | 1/17/12 | \$49.00 | Local |
| D | Karen Holota | Teacher | Workshop | 1/17/12 | \$49.00 | Local |
| E | Lori-Jane Dolan | LDT-C | Workshop | 1/19/12 | \$45.00 | Local |
| F | Shewa Hawkins | School Psychologist | Workshop | 1/11/12 | N/A | Local |
| G | Dana Carsillo | Teacher | Workshop | 1/11/12 | N/A | Local |
| H | Lauren Krikorian | School Psychologist | Workshop | 1/11/12 | N/A | Local |
| I | Lori-Jane Dolan | LDT-C | Workshop | 1/11/12 | N/A | Local |
| J | Michelle Phillips | Teacher | Workshop | 1/11/12 | N/A | Local |
| K | Christe Cirelli | Behavior Analyst | Workshop | 1/19/12 | \$45.00 | Local |
| L | Danielle Manger | OT | Workshop | 2/28/12 | N/A | Local |
| M | Emily Gruenwald | Social Worker | Workshop | 1/11/12 | N/A | Local |
| N | Christe Cirelli | Behavior | Workshop | 1/11/12 | N/A | Local |

| | | | | | | |
|----------|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------|---------|-----|-------|
| | | Analyst | | | | |
| O | Beth Karl | Teacher | Workshop | 1/13/12 | N/A | Local |
| P | Crystal Curry Thomas | Staff Assistant | Workshop | 1/11/12 | N/A | Local |
| Q | Janice Vitiello | Teacher | Workshop | 1/11/12 | N/A | Local |
| R | Gina Cicarelli | Physical Therapist | Workshop | 5/1/12 | N/A | Local |
| S | Karen Janes | Teacher | Workshop | 3/2/12 | N/A | Local |
| T | Nicholas Esposito | Teacher | Workshop | 3/2/12 | N/A | Local |

Motion; JG Second; PM 6 yes, 0 no

- BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Florham Park Board of Education certify, that as of December 31, 2011 after reviewing the Business Administrators/Board Secretary’s financial report, to the best of our knowledge no major account of fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.10(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District’s financial obligations for the remainder of the school year.

Motion; JG Second; PM 6 yes, 0 no

- BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Florham Park Board of Education accept the certification of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary that as of December 31, 2011 pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2A.10(d), no budgetary line item has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.10(b).

Motion; JG Second; PM 6 yes, 0 no

- WHEREAS**, the district has determined a fixed asset, specifically a 1995 Ford F250 pick up truck, Vin#xxxxxx54 to be obsolete and determined it having a value of \$0.00.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the board approve the disposal of said vehicle and removal from the fixed asset report of the district.

Motion; JG Second; PM 6 yes, 0 no

- Accept** the donation of a Ford Explorer, Vin # xxxx16945 from the Borough of Florham Park at a value of \$1.00 and, subsequent addition to the fixed asset records of the Florham Park Public School District.

Motion; JG Second; PM 6 yes, 0 no

FACILITIES

1. Approve the following facility requests:

| | | |
|--|----------------|-----------------|
| a.Florham Park Baseball Club | BKL Gym | Jan-March-2012 |
| b.Dancelife Academy | RMS Auditorium | May 2012 |
| c.Florham Park Baseball Club | RMS Auditorium | Feb-March 2012 |
| d.Morris Magic Basketball | RMS Gym | Feb-March 2012 |
| e.Garden State Basketball | RMS Gym | Feb-March 2012 |
| f.Girl Scout Troop (Asral) | BWD AP | March 2012 |
| g.8 th Grade Washington DC Fundraiser | RMS Gym | March 2-5, 2012 |

Motion; JG Second; PM 6 yes, 0 no

TRANSPORTATION

1. **Approve** the scheduling of the field trip for Brooklake Elementary School, grade 5 to Ridgedale Middle School, Florham Park, NJ.
2. **Approve** the scheduling of the field trip for Ridgedale Middle School, grades 6-8 to Delbarton, Morristown, NJ.
3. **Approve** the scheduling of the field trip for Ridgedale Middle School, grades 6-8 to Madison Plaza Lanes, Madison, NJ.
4. **Approve** the scheduling of the field trip for Ridgedale Middle School, grades 6-8 to the College of St. Elizabeth, Florham Park, NJ.
5. **Approve** the scheduling of the field trip for Ridgedale Middle School, grades 6-8 to Borough School, Morris Plains, NJ.
6. **Approve** the scheduling of the field trip for Brooklake Elementary School, grade 5 to the Papermill Playhouse, Millburn, NJ.
7. **Approve** the scheduling of the field trip for Brooklake Elementary School, grade 5 to the Franklin Mineral Museum, Franklin, NJ.
8. **Approve** the scheduling of the field trip for Brooklake Elementary School, grade 5 to the Essex County Environmental Center, Roseland, NJ.
9. **Approve** the scheduling of the field trip for Brooklake Elementary School, grade 5 to the Bronx Zoo, NY, NY.
10. **Approve** the scheduling of the field trip for Briarwood Elementary School, grade 1 to the Morristown Memorial Hospital, Morristown, NJ.

Motion; JG Second; PM 6 yes, 0 no

I. OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS – Mr. DeCoursey stated that he has been provided a resolution recommended by NJSBA to effectively move the election to November. Mr. DeCoursey opened discussion from the board. Mr. Gaffney stated that the administration, finance committee and board over the last five years, have adopted school budgets below the statutory cap in place at the time respecting the impact it will have on taxpayers. With the statutory cap in place the district can now save additional funds by moving to November and increase voter turnout in electing board members. Mr. Montuore supports the move to November adding he would propose reading the resolution into the minutes to be adopted. Mr. DeCoursey asked for further comment.

**Resolution to Eliminate the Vote on the Annual Budget and to Move the Election
Of School Board Members to the General Election in November**

Whereas P.L. 2011, Chapter 202 provides that a local school district may adopt a resolution to eliminate the vote on its annual school budget that is within the statutory cap imposed by the State of New Jersey, and

Whereas the above legislation provides that the above action would require districts to hold their annual election for school board members in November during the regular general election, and

Whereas, the Florham Park Board of Education has determined that the statutory restrictions on the local levy tax increase for annual school appropriations is appropriate and sufficient to control and maintain a thorough and efficient education for the children of Florham Park, and

Whereas, the Florham Park Board of Education, consistent with the budgetary restrictions expressed above, believes that dispensing with annual school budget vote will save taxpayer dollars, and

Whereas, the Florham Park Board of Education believes that school board member elections in November will attract a far greater number of voters than typically vote in April elections, and

Whereas, the Florham Park Board of Education believes that the elimination of the vote on the school budget and the movement of the board member election to November is in the best interest of the Florham Park community, and

Whereas, the Florham Park Board of Education understands that this decision shall remain in effect for a minimum of four years,

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Florham Park Board of Education does hereby determine that it will eliminate the vote on its annual school budget which shall be within the statutory cap and become effective for the 2012-13 budget, and

Be It Further Resolved, that the Florham Park Board of Education does hereby determine that the election of school board members will occur at the annual general election in November, 2012.

Motion; PM

Second; JG

6 yes, 0 no

J. CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS: Mrs. Tobias reviewed recent legislation regarding the movement of the school board election and budget vote to the month of November. Dr. Ronzitti and Mr. Csatos both commented that this particular piece of legislation has support and should be appearing in newspapers in early January 2012.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, the Florham Park Board of Education seeks to adjourn to Executive Session in full compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.: and

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act provides that a public body may exclude the public from that portion of the meeting at which it discusses matters pertaining to personnel renewals, non-renewals and tenure, negotiations FPBOE/FPEA, and /or litigation special education placements; now

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Florham Park Board of Education adjourns to Executive Session; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the minutes of the discussion of any of these items will be disclosed to the public when matters have been determined and confidentiality is no longer applicable.

Motion; PM

Second; LM

6 yes, 0 no

L. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Montuore motioned to adjourn the regular public meeting at 7:44p.m. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Tobias.

Motion; PM

Second; JT

4 yes, 0 no

Respectfully Submitted

John Csatlos
Business Administrator/Board Secretary