

FLORHAM PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION
Special Public Meeting, January 5, 2015
Board of Education Conference Room
67-71 Ridgedale Avenue

MINUTES

6:30 p.m.

(Formal action will be taken on the following)

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).

Mr. John Csatlós serving as Presiding Officer pro tempore until election of a Board President.

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

In attendance; Mayor Taylor, administrators, FPEA members, board members families and members of the general public.

D. CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION RESULTS – Mr. Csatlós communicated the following:

Results of the Annual School Board Election held on November 4, 2014, certified by the Clerk of Morris County:

Board Members Three -Year Term

Alita L. Thomas – 1,269 Patrick Montuore – 1,076 Kristina Heinold – 1,362 Joanne Tobias - 880

Note; certified by the Morris County Election Division and on file in Administration Office

E. OATHS OF OFFICE – Mr. Csatlós, Board Secretary administered the oath of office to the newly elected Board Members: Mrs. Alita Thomas and Mrs. Kristin Heinold.

Oath: I, _____, do solemnly swear or affirm that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of New Jersey, and that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same and to the Government established in the United States and this State, under the authority of the people. (So help me God.)

I, _____, do solemnly swear or affirm that I possess the qualifications prescribed by law for the office of member of a Board of Education and that I will faithfully, impartially and justly perform all the duties of that office according to the best of my ability. (So help me God.)

The new members were welcomed and applauded by those in attendance.

F. Distribute Code of Ethics to Board Members

CODE OF ETHICS

Policy 9271

The members of the Florham Park Board of Education recognize that they hold authority not as individuals but as members of the board. In order to make a clear public statement of its philosophy of service to the pupils of the district, the board adopts this code of ethics.

A. I will uphold and enforce all laws, state board rules and regulations, and court orders pertaining to the schools. Desired changes should be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.

B. I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain public schools which meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex or social standing.

C. I will confine my board action to policymaking, planning and appraisal and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the board has consulted those who will be affected by them.

*

D. I will behave toward my fellow board members with the respect due their office--demonstrating courtesy, decorum and fair play at all public meetings and in all public statements.

*E. I will refrain from inappropriate conduct in public meetings and in making public statements, refraining from any disparagement of my fellow board members or others on a personal, social, racial or religious basis.

F. I will carry out my responsibility, not to administer the schools, but together with my fellow board members, to see that they are well run.

G. I will recognize that authority rests with the board of education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action, which may compromise the board.

H. I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.

I. I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools, which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals or the schools. But in all other matters, I will provide accurate information and, in concert with my fellow board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its schools. Not legally required. See "recommendation" on legal reference pages.

J. I will vote to appoint the best-qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief school administrator.

K. I will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.

L. I will refer all complaints to the chief school administrator and will act on such complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.

Mr. Csatos distributed a copy of the policy above to each board member. The policy was reviewed and each member signed to affirm receipt. This document will be kept on file in the administration offices.

G. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBER	PRESENT	ABSENT
Mrs. Thomas (Alita)	X	
Mrs. Heinold (Kristina)	X	
Dr. Carollo (John)	X	
Ms. Haynes (Marianne)	X	
Mr. DeCoursey (Kevin)	X	
Mr. Gaffney (John)	X	
Mrs. Michalowski (Linda)		X

H. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Election of Board President

Mr. Csatos opened the floor for nominations for the office of president. Dr. Carollo made a motion to nominate Mr. Kevin DeCoursey. Mr. Gaffney provided a second to the nomination. No further nominations were made and the floor was closed.

Motion; JC Second; JG

6 yes, 0 no

Mr. John Csatos, Presiding Officer pro tempore, turned the meeting over to President Elect Decoursey.

Election of Board Vice-President

Mr. DeCoursey thanked his fellow board members and nominated Dr. Carollo for the office of Vice-President. The nomination received a second from Mrs. Haynes. There were no further nominations made. The floor was closed.

Motion; KD Second; MH

6 yes, 0 no

I. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Mr. Winters asked if the board has any plans for the property it owns on Brooklake? Mr. DeCoursey stated that property has not been discussed for over ten years. Mr. DeCoursey stated that he would inform the new members about the property and possibly have the finance/facility committee look into it during this year. Mr. Gruenwald, FPEA president welcomed and congratulated the new board members and added his hope that their presence would facilitate a new open dialogue with the board.

There were no further comments.

J. NEW BUSINESS: Mr. DeCoursey stated that the board had various executive session items concerning personnel, negotiations and possible litigation that it needed to address. Also the board would be taking action on Committees, Delegates, Liaison Assignments, Board Meetings and possibly a Mission Statement. Mr. DeCoursey stated the public has the right to be present for all action and the executive session would be completed as soon as possible, however the new board members need to be advised of much information.

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 current and potential litigation; 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; JG Second; MH 6 yes, 0 no

Motion by Mrs. Haynes to adjourn the Executive Session for the purposes of negotiations, legal issues, personnel issues and reconvene the Regular Meeting at 8:47 p.m. Said motion was seconded by Mr. Gaffney.

Motion; MH Second; JG 6 yes, 0 no

RESOLUTION

Board Meetings

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Florham Park Board of Education designates the following meeting dates for Regular Meetings with Executive Sessions through December 31, 2015, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:10-6, to be held at the Board of Education Office, at 6:30 p.m. All meetings shall be held in accordance with the “Open Public Meetings Act” and formal action may be taken at any meeting.

January 19, 2015	3 RD Monday
February 16, 2015	3 rd Monday
March 16, 2015	3 RD Monday
April 20, 2015	3 RD Monday
May 18, 2015	3 RD Monday
June 15, 2015	3 RD Monday
July 20, 2015	3 RD Monday
August 17, 2015	3 RD Monday
September 21, 2015	3 RD Monday
October 19, 2015	3 RD Monday
November 16, 2015	3 RD Monday
December 21, 2015	3 RD Monday

** All meetings are held in the Florham Park Board of Education, Administrative Offices, Conference Room, 67-71 Ridgedale Ave, Florham Park, NJ

Discussion; Board discussed start times of meetings and meetings on dates that schools are closed.

Motion; AT Second; JG 6 yes, 0 no

RESOLUTION

Board Meeting Agenda

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Florham Park Board of Education establishes the following Agenda Format to be observed and the order of business conducted at the Regular Meetings of the Board of Education through December 31, 2015; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board President has sole discretion to change the Agenda Format and order of business in the best interest of the Board of Education through December 31, 2015:

- A. Sunshine Statement
- B. Call to Order
- C. Flag Salute
- D. Roll Call
- E. Superintendent's Report
- F. Public Comment
- G. Committee Reports
- H. Resolutions
- I. Old/New Business
- J. Correspondence/Communication
- K. Executive Session
- L. Adjournment

Motion;

JG

Second; JC

6 yes, 0 no

Negotiations/FPAA – Dr. John Carollo(Chair), Marianne Haynes, Kristina Heinold, Kevin DeCoursey(Alt.)

T.A.B – Kristina Heinold(Chair), Alita Thomas, John Gaffney

Borough of Florham Park Liaison – Dr. John Carollo

Project Community Pride Liaison – Alita Thomas

Public Relations Liaison – Kristina Heinold

Hanover Park R.H.S. Liaison – Marianne Haynes

NJSBA Delegate – Kevin DeCoursey

MCSBA Delegate – Kevin DeCoursey

Discussion; Board members were given opportunity to discuss committees and assignments.

Motion; JC Second; JG

6 yes, 0 no

L. ADJOURNMENT:

Dr. Carollo motioned to adjourn the special public reorganization meeting at 8:59pm. The motion received a second from Mrs. Haynes.

Motion; JC Second; MH

6 yes, 0 no

Respectfully submitted,



John Csatos Board Secretary