

RED BANK BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RED BANK, NEW JERSEY  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
PUBLIC MEETING  
JANUARY 13, 2009

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board President Peter Noble called the January 13, 2009 Board Meeting of the Red Bank Board of Education to order at 7:00 pm.

2. SUNSHINE STATEMENT

Pursuant to Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting was advertised as directed by resolution adopted April 22, 2008. Notice of this meeting was published in the *Asbury Park Press*, *The Hub*, and the *Two River Times* newspapers per code and sent to the Municipal Clerk, Red Bank Borough, within 7 days per code.

Fire exits located in the direction indicated. In case of fire, you will be signaled by bell and/or public address system. If so alerted to fire, please move in a calm and orderly fashion to the nearest smoke-free exit.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Ben Forest, Janet Jones, Rosemarie Kopka, Marjorie Lowe, Mary-Ellen Mess, Ann Roseman, Peter Noble

Also Present: Laura C. Morana, Superintendent; Peter Sokol, Esq.

4. FLAG SALUTE

Mr. Noble led the Pledge to the Flag.

5. RESOLUTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Contract Negotiations Planning

B. Client/Attorney Privilege – Due Process

At 7:02 pm Mr. Forest motioned, seconded by Ms. Jones, to move to Executive Session.

AYES: Forest, Jones, Kopka, Lowe, Mess, Roseman, Noble

NAYS: None      ABSTENTIONS: None

6. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

At 8:00 pm the Board returned to Public Session.

Present: Ben Forest, Janet Jones, Rosemarie Kopka, Marjorie Lowe, Mary-Ellen Mess, Ann Roseman, Peter Noble

Also Present: Laura C. Morana, Superintendent; Peter Sokol, Esq.

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Resolution Honoring Board Members

Mrs. Morana read aloud the resolution acknowledging the service of our Board members and expressed her gratitude on behalf of the students, staff, and community. The Board had a short break where cake was served.

WHEREAS, Governor Jon Corzine, the National and New Jersey School Boards Associations, and the New Jersey State Board of Education have all declared the month of January 2009 to be School Board Recognition Month, and

WHEREAS, this moment is a time to acknowledge the service and contribution of the nine elected citizens who volunteer their time on our local Red Bank Borough Board of Education, and

WHEREAS, our Red Bank Borough Board members continue to encourage a culture of high performance for the 900 students enrolled in our pre-school through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, and

RED BANK BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RED BANK, NEW JERSEY  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
PUBLIC MEETING  
JANUARY 13, 2009

MINUTES

WHEREAS, our Board of Education serves as a successful model of governance, a factor that has enabled the Red Bank Borough School District to support the implementation of high-quality early childhood, primary and middle school education, a comprehensive fine and performing arts program, and provide equal education opportunities to students of all students, and

WHEREAS, the characteristics of high performing schools and districts demonstrate that the Red Bank Borough School District is committed to fulfilling its mission of **Quality Learning by All, Whatever it Takes!**

RESOLVED, that I, the Superintendent of Schools, Laura C. Morana, on behalf of Red Bank Borough students, staff, and community do hereby acknowledge the efforts of school board members throughout New Jersey, and be it further

RESOLVED, that we acknowledge the service of and express gratitude to Peter Noble, Ben Forest, Janet Jones, Rosemarie Kopka, Marjorie Lowe, Mary-Ellen Mess, and Ann Roseman, as well as Ann Goldman and Juanita Lewis, Board members until December 2008.

B. Budget Development Process

Mrs. Morana advised the Board that increasing enrollment will drive additional staffing needs including an additional first and third grade classroom, an inclusion teacher, reallocation of instructional staff, an additional math/science position that will be funded by NCLB, and an in-class support teacher at the fifth grade level that will also be funded by NCLB. Although the Middle School will continue to have 75 to 80 students per grade level, it is expected that in the next few years 100 students per grade level will be the average.

Mrs. Morana explained that administrators will support any new initiatives through an informational brief that will outline the costs and the benefit to the student. These initiatives would not be entered as a budget request unless funding is available and is approved by Mrs. Morana. Administrators are aware of the budgetary issues.

Our Facilities Director met with each of the principals to complete a walk-through of their buildings to identify repairs or furniture needed. Mrs. Morana also explained that at this time preschool funding through the Preschool Expansion Grant is uncertain until a final decision from the Governor's office is released. Administrators will be meeting with Mrs. Morana and Ms. Darrow next week.

On February 25 Mrs. Morana and Ms. Darrow will meet with the Executive County Superintendent and the County Business Administrator to review the 2009-2010 budget requests. In preparation for this meeting Ms. Darrow provided a three-year history of the district spending and revenue to the County office. Mrs. Morana further stated that we will have all the necessary quotations and backup as support to the budget request.

There was a question from the Board regarding grade level increases and patterns from the Primary School to the Middle School, and whether most of the students move to the Middle School. Mrs. Morana indicated that we have a high attrition rate from Primary to Middle School.

There was a comment that the Board would be interested in the budgetary requests that are omitted from the budget.

C. Consolidation of Districts – Update

Late this afternoon we received an invitation from Monmouth County School Boards Association to attend a meeting presented by the Executive County Superintendent, Carole Morris, to hear about the impact that consolidation will have on districts. Ms. Darrow requested a response from Board members who would like to attend the meeting. Both she and Mrs. Morana will be attending.

RED BANK BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RED BANK, NEW JERSEY  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
PUBLIC MEETING  
JANUARY 13, 2009

MINUTES

D. Primary School Fill Project - Update

Ms. Darrow advised the Board that Mrs. Morana, Ms. Kopka, Mr. Berger, and she met with Cranmer Engineering to discuss the timeline for the fill project, as well as the scope of work. Mr. Cranmer indicates that as a result of the falling fuel prices, and the current economy, it is expected that the district will receive bids up to 20% less than originally expected. This, along with the funds budgeted for ADA ramps that are not needed with the new fill, could very well allow the district to fix some of the areas that are causing flooding of the driveway.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Ann Goldman's Letter of Resignation

Mr. Noble stated that Ms. Goldman's letter of resignation to the Board was submitted on December 15, 2008. A copy will be shared with the Board in the Friday packet.

9. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A. Board Vacancies

We received three qualified applications for the Board vacancies that Mrs. Morana shared in the Friday packet. Interviews will take place during the public portion of the January 20 meeting. Deliberations will take place in executive session and a decision is expected to be made at the meeting.

10. HEARING OF PUBLIC - NONE

11. ACTION AGENDA

Motions 3352 and 9022 were separated.

Ms. Jones motioned, seconded by Ms. Kopka, to approve the following:

BUSINESS – 3000

BE IT RESOLVED by the RED BANK BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent the following FINANCE resolution(s) are approved as indicated:

3352. ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT

Mr. Noble stated that due to Ms. Lewis' resignation to serve as a councilwoman, we have an opening for Vice President. Although this is expected to be a short appointment through April 2009, it is none the less an important position and task for us to address this evening. My goal this evening is to appoint a Vice President so we can maintain continuity.

At this time I will open the floor for nominations. A second is not needed. The board secretary will ask for the consent of the nominee, discussion may follow before the board votes on the vice president. The vice president will then take a place at the table.

Nomination for Vice President were received by President; nominations closed; roll call, vote.

Motion by Ms. Kopka to nominate Nominee Ann Roseman.

Ms. Darrow asked for consent of Ms. Roseman: "Do you consent to having your name placed in nomination for the office of Board Vice President?"

Ms. Roseman responded "yes".

Motion by Ms. Jones to close nomination; Second by Ms. Mess.

Roll call vote:

AYES: Forest, Jones, Kopka, Lowe, Mess, Noble

RED BANK BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RED BANK, NEW JERSEY  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
PUBLIC MEETING  
JANUARY 13, 2009

MINUTES

3353. TRAVEL

Name	Date/Time	Location	Fee	Theme	Account #
Jannett Pacheco	01/14/09 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Trenton, NJ	\$0.00	SES Information Session	NA
John Bombardier	01/15/09 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Kean University, Union, NJ	\$0.00	Presenter at Kindergarten Teacher Conference	NA
Richard Cohen	01/15/09 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Kean University, Union, NJ	\$0.00	Presenter at Kindergarten Teacher Conference	NA
Jana Diamond	01/15/09 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Kean University, Union, NJ	\$0.00	Presenter at Kindergarten Teacher Conference	NA
Kathy Maurer	01/15/09 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Kean University, Union, NJ	\$0.00	Presenter at Kindergarten Teacher Conference	NA
Laura Morana	01/15/09 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Kean University, Union, NJ	\$0.00	Presenter at Kindergarten Teacher Conference	NA
Kathleen Ward	01/15/09 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Kean University, Union, NJ	\$0.00	Presenter at Kindergarten Teacher Conference	NA
Danielle Yamello	01/15/09 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Kean University, Union, NJ	\$0.00	Presenter at Kindergarten Teacher Conference	NA
John Bombardier	01/16/09 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Trenton, NJ	\$0.00	Writing Workshop	NA
John Bombardier	01/22/09 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Seton Hall University, S. Orange, NJ	\$0.00	Collecting, Analyzing & Communication Data for Change	NA
Denise Borns	01/22/09 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Seton Hall University, S. Orange, NJ	\$0.00	Collecting, Analyzing & Communication Data for Change	NA
Laura Morana	01/22/09 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Seton Hall University, S. Orange, NJ	\$0.00	Collecting, Analyzing & Communication Data for Change	NA
Lisa Miskanich	01/23/09 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Saddle Brook, NJ	\$188.00	Attention, Language Processing, & Sensorimotor Disorders in Children	20-231-200-500-004

RED BANK BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RED BANK, NEW JERSEY  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
PUBLIC MEETING  
JANUARY 13, 2009

MINUTES

Name	Date/Time	Location	Fee	Theme	Account #
Melissa Osmun	01/26/09 8:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Red Bank Regional HS, Red Bank, NJ	\$0.00	AVID Tutor Training	NA
Cruz Roolaart	01/28/09 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Monmouth University, W. Long Branch, NJ	\$0.00	Latino Outreach Meeting	NA
Wendy Turnock	02/06/09 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Kean University, Union, NJ	\$0.00	Diversity Council	NA
Cruz Roolaart	02/11/09 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Freehold, NJ	\$0.00	Latino Outreach Meeting	NA
Maura Lehmann	03/06/09 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Eatontown, NJ	\$135.00	Excellence in Education: Children First	11-000-216-890-003
Kara Malandrakis	03/06/09 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Eatontown, NJ	\$135.00	Excellence in Education: Children First	11-000-216-890-003
Maura Lehmann	03/18/09 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	UMDNJ, Piscataway, NJ	\$0.00	Chronological Assessment of Suicide Events	NA
Alina Bershada	04/30/09 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Atlantic City, NJ	\$365.00	Annual Speech Language Conference	11-000-216-890-003
James T. Pierson	05/08/09 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Kean Univ., Union, NJ	\$0.00	Diversity Council Meeting	NA
Wendy Turnock	05/08/09 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Kean Univ., Union, NJ	\$0.00	Diversity Council Meeting	NA
James T. Pierson	05/22/09 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Kean Univ., Union, NJ	\$0.00	Diversity Council Meeting	NA
Wendy Turnock	05/22/09 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Kean Univ., Union, NJ	\$0.00	Diversity Council Meeting	NA

3354. PRESCHOOL EXPANSION COLLABORATION AGREEMENT

That the Board authorizes the Superintendent to enter into a PreSchool Expansion Collaboration Agreement for the 2009-2010 school year between the Red Bank Borough Public Schools and the Little Silver Public schools, at a tuition rate of \$12,092.00 per student.

**COMMENT:** A question was asked about how will this be impacted if the district does not receive expanded preschool funding. Mrs. Morana explained that if preschool expansion is approved, Little Silver may have one student who qualifies for free or reduced lunch. It is Little Silver’s request to send that potential student to our preschool program. Little Silver would have until October 15, 2009 to identify that student.

**COMMENT:** A question from the public was asked by Ms. Carrie Ludwowski about whether she would be able to ask a question at this time. Mr. Noble allowed time for the question. Ms. Ludwowski’s question was about whether accepting the Little Silver student would take away a seat from a Red Bank student. Mrs. Morana indicated that the district would still have a lottery for the open spots but does not believe that Red Bank students would be denied entry into the program.

RED BANK BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION  
 RED BANK, NEW JERSEY  
 BOARD OF EDUCATION  
 PUBLIC MEETING  
 JANUARY 13, 2009

MINUTES

PERSONNEL – 4000

BE IT RESOLVED by the RED BANK BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following PERSONNEL resolution(s) are approved as indicated:

- 4695. That the Board approves the reappointment of Hernando Villegas, as Long-Term Substitute Bilingual Math Teacher, at a BA Step 1 prorated salary of \$43,690.00, effective January 1, 2009 through March 31, 2009 (account #11-130-100-101-000).
- 4696. That the Board approves a maternity leave of absence with benefits for Courtney Matthaei, School Psychologist, from February 2, 2009 through March 26, 2009, and an unpaid family leave of absence with benefits, from March 27, 2009 through June 30, 2009, in accordance with the Family Leave Act.
- 4697. That the Board approves Jean Sharp as Guest Teacher effective January 1, 2009 through June 30, 2009 (for the purpose of renewing her County Substitute Certificate).

CURRICULUM AND PROGRAM - 6000

BE IT RESOLVED by the RED BANK BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following CURRICULUM AND PROGRAM resolution(s) are approved as indicated:

- 6132. That the Board authorizes the Superintendent to accept the approved revision to the No Child Left Behind Consolidated Application (Title II-A Amendment 2) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year to reflect appropriate allocations under the following fund accounts:

From	Amount	To	Amount
100-300	\$23,400.00	200-300	\$26,224.00
100-500	\$34,901.00	200-500	\$35,798.00
100-600	\$5,591.00	200-600	\$1,870.00

- 6133. That the Board approves the Interagency Agreement between Acelero Learning Center-Head Start and the Red Bank Borough Schools for the 2008-2009 school year that supports service delivery for preschool students with special needs.
- 6134. That the Red Bank Board of Education deems student participation in curriculum related field trips to be educationally beneficial. Pursuant to regulation 6A:23A-5.8(c)(1), The Board hereby approves the resolution.

Location	Date
VNA of Central Jersey (AVID Grade 7)	01/09/09

AYES: Forest, Jones, Kopka, Lowe, Mess, Roseman, Noble  
 NAYS: None            ABSTENTIONS: None

Ms. Mess motioned, seconded by Ms. Jones, to approve the following:

BYLAWS OF THE BOARD – 9000

BE IT RESOLVED by the RED BANK BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent the following BYLAWS OF THE BOARD resolution(s) are approved as indicated:

- 9022. That the Board approves the following policies for second reading and adoption:

Policy 9113                      Filling Board Vacancies

RED BANK BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RED BANK, NEW JERSEY  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
PUBLIC MEETING  
JANUARY 13, 2009

MINUTES

**COMMENTS:**

- Ms. Mess, Chairperson of the Policy Committee, explained the logic for the policy which would allow members of the public the opportunity to apply for open Board positions. This would eliminate the appearance of Board members picking and choosing who they wish to fill a vacancy spot. This procedure would at least provide an open process and level the playing field for interested parties.
- Interviewing a candidate in public should not be an issue, but the concern is that the candidate who is not chosen would have the impression that they are rejected by the Board.
- Deliberation occurs after the public interviews and take place in executive session.
- It was noted that at one time interviews and deliberation occurred in public and provided an uncomfortable situation for involved Board members.
- A concern that the candidates who are not elected will not forget the rejection. Part of the district mission is to bring people in and build bridges within the community and feels this process could be hurtful and humiliating.
- A parallel was made that during the school board elections people are also reviewed; however, it is an anonymous vote and not the same as having the board secretary say “no” to a candidate in public.
- Mr. Sokol, Board attorney, conferred that the policy follows the law and that interviews have to take place in public; that deliberation may be in executive session, and the vote must take place in public.

Motion by Ms. Jones, seconded by Ms. Kopka, to amend Policy 9113 to add:

“After deliberation by the Board in executive session the Board of Education will take a public vote over the candidates.”

**AYES:** Forest, Jones, Kopka, Lowe, Mess, Roseman, Noble

**NAYS:** None            **ABSTENTIONS:** None

12. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Ms. Carrie Ludwikowski commented that she was happy she would not have to sit in a public session and hear the deliberation regarding her candidacy for the open Board vacancy.

13. OLD BUSINESS - NONE

14. NEW BUSINESS

- Discussion on the Borough Council emergency call system via their website. Question as to whether they are aware of the system we are using. Ms. Darrow and Mrs. Morana mentioned that information was shared with the Borough.
- Discussion regarding sharing student information with student award applications and how it relates to the district policy. Mrs. Morana will take a look at this type of communication and report back to the Board.
- Question about the timeline for completing the elevator repair at the Middle School. Ms. Darrow indicated that the repair caused by an incident during the blackout is being scheduled. We were required to get quotes on the repair, as well as submit the claim to our insurance carrier. The lowest quote was \$8,229.00. While it is a covered claim, there is a \$5,000.00 deductible; insurance covered the balance.

RED BANK BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RED BANK, NEW JERSEY  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
PUBLIC MEETING  
JANUARY 13, 2009

MINUTES

15. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Mess motioned, seconded by Ms. Roseman, to adjourn the meeting.

AYES: Forest, Jones, Kopka, Lowe, Mess, Roseman, Noble

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne E. Darrow  
Board Secretary/School Business Administrator