

RED BANK BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RED BANK, NEW JERSEY  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
PUBLIC MEETING  
JUNE 9, 2009

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board President Peter Noble called the June 9, 2009 Board Meeting of the Red Bank Board of Education to order at 7:04 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 28 2009. 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: Grace Costa, Janet Jones, Rosemarie Kopka, Marj Lowe, Ann Roseman, Peter Noble  
Absent: Ben Forest, Carrie Ludwikowski, Rickey Tharrington  
Also Present: Laura C. Morana, Superintendent; Armen McOmber, Esq.

4. FLAG SALUTE

Mr. Noble led the Pledge to the Flag.

5. RESOLUTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Jones motioned, seconded by Ms. Costa, to move to Executive Session.

- A. Negotiations Update
- B. Personnel recommendations 2009-2010
- C. Grievance Status
- D. School Business Administrator's Contract

6. PUBLIC SESSION

At 8:00 pm the Board reconvened to Public Session

Present: Grace Costa, Janet Jones, Rosemarie Kopka, Marj Lowe, Carrie Ludwikowski, Ann Roseman, Peter Noble

Absent: Ben Forest, Rickey Tharrington

Also Present: Laura C. Morana, Superintendent; Armen McOmber, Esq.

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. End-of-Year Activities

Mrs. Morana told the board that the district is busy with year-end activities in the schools, setting up for summer programs, hiring for 2009-2010, and the closeout for grants.

B. Hiring Process

We are moving forward with hiring for next year. Mrs. Morana indicated that we have received great references from staff members and colleagues. Demo lessons are in progress, and Saturday morning she will be interviewing candidates.

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C. Tools of the Mind Partnership

Mrs. Morana indicated that Debbie Leone, designer of the Tools of the Mind (TOM) program, has invited us to participate in an amazing opportunity. Ms. Leone would like to have our preschool master teacher travel with her one week per month to present and train others in the TOM program. This would provide the district with tremendous exposure as it highlights our success with the program. TOM has received a grant that would support this program, and Mrs. Morana is gathering information and costs as she would like to have a fulltime substitute in the classroom for continuity of instruction. Mrs. Morana's vision would be to have one of the aides serve as the teacher in the class and have one of the preschool teachers cover the master teacher position while Mrs. Yamello is away.

A comment was made regarding the disruption in the classrooms; and Mrs. Morana stated she has no reservations at all. The preschool team works very well together and has benefited from having the teachers and aides participate in all training.

Comment was made that the children will be fine; it is the parents that need to adjust. Another question was asked if this would be for the entire school year and Mrs. Morana responded yes it would be.

8. CORRESPONDENCE - NONE

9. REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

10. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A. Garden State Coalition Annual Meeting

Mr. Noble and Miss Lowe reported on the annual meeting. They commented that information on the regionalization was informative.

11. HEARING OF PUBLIC

Bylaw #060 reads . . . "Any individual deciding to speak shall sign the speaker's sheet before the business of the meeting has begun. Please include your name, address and group or organization you represent. All comments will be directed to the Chair. Speakers shall be limited to one (1) turn of five (5) minutes."

12. STATEMENT TO THE PUBLIC

Often times it may appear to members of our audience that the Board of Education takes action with very little comment and in many cases a unanimous vote. Before a matter is placed on the agenda at a public meeting the administration has thoroughly reviewed the matter with the Superintendent of Schools. If the Superintendent of Schools is satisfied that the matter is ready to be presented to the Board of Education, it is then referred to the appropriate committee. The members of the board committee work with Administration and the Superintendent to assure that the members fully understand the matter. When the committee is satisfied with the matter, it is presented to the Board of Education for discussion before any final action is taken. Only then is it placed on the agenda for action at a public meeting.

13. ACTION AGENDA

Mr. McOmber, Board attorney, read the resolution approving settlement of the grievance with the RBBEA. Copy of resolution in Board book.

Ms. Roseman motioned, seconded by Ms. Jones, to accept the resolution.

AYES: Grace Costa, Janet Jones, Rosemarie Kopka, Marj Lowe, Carrie Ludwikowski, Ann Roseman, Peter Noble

NAYS: None      ABSTENTIONS: None

Ms. Ludwikowski motioned, seconded by Ms. Roseman, to accept the following:

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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:

3022. TRAVEL

Name	Date/Time	Location	Fee	Theme	Account #
Carrie Ludwikowski	06/04/09 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. *Executive County Superintendent's Approval Received	New York, NY	Registration \$140.00 Train fare/ not to exceed \$40.00	New York Fundraising Summit	11-000-230-585-000
Holcombe Hurd	06/28/09-06/30/09 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Washington, DC	Fees to be reimbursed to participants by Sony Technology in Motion Student Film Contest Award and NEEC Conference	Sony Technology in Motion Student Film Contest Award and NEEC Conference	NA
Christopher Ippolito	06/28/09-06/30/09 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.				
Laura Morana	06/28/09-06/29/09 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.				

3023. GRANT AGREEMENT

That the Board approves the acceptance of the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Food Service Equipment Assistance Grant Agreement in the amount of \$17,847.

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 previously submitted and presented to the Board:

6006. 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.(c)(1), the Board hereby approves the resolution.

Location	Date
Middle School 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation, Grade 3 PS Students	June 11, 2009
Metropolitan Museum of Art, Grade 7 LAL Essay Contest Winners	June 13, 2009

6007. That the Board approves the revision to the **2008-2009** School Calendar to reflect June 18, 2009 as a minimum school day for students and June 19, 2009 as a minimum school day for students and staff.

AYES: Grace Costa, Janet Jones, Rosemarie Kopka, Marj Lowe, Carrie Ludwikowski, Ann Roseman, Peter Noble  
NAYS: None      ABSTENTIONS: Ms. Ludwikowski abstained on her travel motion.

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14. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC - NONE

15. OLD BUSINESS

- Question about when the district will receive New York University's report on the ESL evaluation. Mrs. Morana stated we should receive it at the end of June.
  
- Dress Code  
Comment that there will be a meeting at the Middle School regarding the uniform dress code and concerns about enforcing a dress code.  
Comments that the district needs a policy to assist economically disadvantaged students who cannot afford the required dress code.  
Question was raised how this policy would be enforced. Mr. McOmber, Board attorney, indicated that if the policy is crafted correctly, it would outline consequences. Attorney would review the policy to ensure it is not arbitrary or capricious.  
There was debate on whether this was a dress code or a uniform.

Mrs. Morana summarized for the board where we are on this issue. Surveys were sent to parents and students, but only 50 have been returned to date. Of those 50, two or three did not support the dress code. There will be a meeting tomorrow night at the Middle School for parents to discuss the dress code and surveys will be available for them to complete. Mrs. Morana advised the School Improvement Team (SIT) that a majority of the families had to be represented through the survey. She suggested that teachers give copies of the survey to their students again and provide extra credit for their return. She is also aware of the concern about the cost of uniforms for those who cannot afford them.

Families also have to be given three months' notice, but this does not have to start in September. The SIT would present to the Board and explain the data and how decisions were made. The Board of Education has the opportunity to vote "yes" or "no" on the issue if it ever becomes a requirement.

16. NEW BUSINESS

- The community clergy toured the Primary School and were very impressed with what they saw. Many times the information they hear is negative and incorrect; and they were pleased to see the school first hand.
- "101 Dalmations" performance will be presented on Thursday.
- "International Night" was a great success with standing room only.

17. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:45 pm Ms. Roseman motioned, seconded by Ms. Ludwikowski, to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne E. Darrow  
Board Secretary/School Business Administrator