



ROBBINSVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2010 - 7:00 PM

ROBBINSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENT ACTIVITIES CENTER

PUBLIC HEARING
2010-2011 PROPOSED BUDGET ADOPTION

MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mr. Michael Reca, President
Mrs. Lainie Potter, Vice President
Mrs. Carol Boyne
Mrs. Sharon DeVito
Mrs. Melissa Foy
Mrs. Florence Gange
Mr. Thomas Halm, Jr.
Mr. Matthew O'Grady
Mrs. Faith Silvestrov

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Mr. Steven J. Mayer

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Kathleen A. Foster

SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR / BOARD SECRETARY

Mr. Robert M. DeVita

ROBBINSVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING

AGENDA
April 13, 2010

I. CALL TO ORDER PUBLIC MEETING

Board President Mike Reca called the April 13, 2010 Special Meeting of the Robbinsville Board of Education to order at 7:03 PM.

II. STATEMENT OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to insure the rights of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this act, the Robbinsville Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted in the Trenton Times and the Township of Robbinsville Bulletin Board. In addition, this notice was faxed to the Trenton Times and posted at Windsor School, Sharon School, Pond Road Middle School and Robbinsville High School.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. ROLL CALL

Mrs. Boyne	Absent	Mrs. Gange	Present	Mrs. Potter	Present
Mrs. DeVito	Present	Mr. Halm	Absent	Mr. Reca	Present
Mrs. Foy	Present	Mr. O'Grady	Present	Mrs. Silvestrov	Present

Also present were Superintendent Steven J. Mayer, Assistant Superintendent Kathleen A. Foster, and School Business Administrator / Board Secretary Robert M. De Vita.

V. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

A. Sherry Dorwart

Mrs. Dorwart asked for clarification on the LEO Program as it relates to next year's budget. Dr. Foster indicated that the district is not considering the elimination of the gifted and talented program. Rather, it is looking for ways of restructuring the program by identifying more eligible students and clustering them within their classrooms as a way of embedding gifted and talented experiences within the school day.

Mrs. Dorwart asked what changes in the Cycle Program would entail. Mr. Mayer indicated that the district is considering reductions in programs like Lifeskills and Drama which can be offered instead at the co-curricular level.

B. Elissa Harris

Mrs. Harris expressed an opinion that a successful vote will equate to a pay increase. She asked programs will be cut if teachers agree to a pay freeze. Mr. Mayer indicated that a pay freeze would save some programs.

VI. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Mrs. DeVita, and seconded by Mrs. Foy, and carried by a vote of 9-0, the Robbinsville Board of Education voted to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:24PM.

VII. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION

Public Session reconvened at 9:33 PM.

VIII. DISCUSSION

A. Student Activity Fees

The Board agreed to have the Finance, Facilities and Transportation Committee explore options on how to restructure Student Activity Fees.

B. Negotiations

Mr. Halm reported that there is nothing new to report. The Board remains committed to a discussion with union leadership.

IX. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

A. John Ruch

John Ruch expressed his view that the Board's response to increasing Student Activity Fees should be no cuts in staffing. Given that parents currently pay thousands of dollars for travel / recreation teams, \$100 for school activities is a fair fee.

B. Mike Caputo

Mr. Caputo asked what the priorities are for facility usage.

C. Joanne Laskey

Mrs. Laskey asked what consideration is given for parents that will not pay the fee.

X. BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Recca thanked Mrs. Potter for her service on the Board as this is her last meeting.

Mrs. DeVito filed an OPRA request with the State to determine how much in income taxes individuals and corporations pay to the State from Robbinsville. The State wants \$800 to provide the information. Mrs. DeVito has filed an appeal with the State.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mrs. Potter, and seconded by Mrs. DeVito, and carried by a vote of 9-0, the Robbinsville Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, voted to adjourn the April 13, 2010 Special Meeting at 9:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert M. De Vita
School Business Administrator / Board Secretary