



MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mr. Michael Reca, President - Absent

Mrs. Lainie Potter, Vice President

Mrs. Carol Boyne

Mrs. Sharon DeVito

Mrs. Melissa Foy

Mrs. Florence Gange - Absent

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Scott Downie, Spiegle Architectural Group, Inc.

**ROBBINSVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA**

**January 11, 2010**

**I. CALL TO ORDER PUBLIC MEETING**

Vice President Lainie Potter called the January 11, 2010 Special Meeting of the Robbinsville Board of Education to order at 7:20 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**

President Mike Reca and Board Member Florence Gange were absent. All other Board members were present. Steven J. Mayer, Superintendent, Dr. Kathleen Foster, Assistant Superintendent, and School Business Administrator Robert M. De Vita were also present, as was Spiezle architect Scott Downie.

**V. SPECIAL PRESENTATION – Mr. Steven J. Mayer**

Mr. Mayer expressed his appreciation to town council members Dave Boyne and Christine Ciaccio for their attendance. He also thanked staff and members of the public for attending. Mr. Mayer conducted a power point presentation entitled *Room for Excellence* which detailed the March 9, 2010 building referendum. Scott Downie provided information about the design of the building and proposed renovations as well as green initiatives for cost saving measures.

**VI. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC**

Questions and comments from staff and members of the public included the following topics:

- Redistricting - Goal to create balance
- Building Timeline - Goal to open September 2012
- The difference between failed referendum vs. failed budget
- Bonding capacity
- Cost to Taxpayers - \$80 per \$100,000 of assessed home value
- Effect of current overcrowding on scheduling / use of core facilities
- Demographic Study
- Inclusion of athletic fields in cost of project
- All K-12 students will be affected if referendum is not successful because annual cost of modular units will be supported by the operating budget

- Effect on Special Education students if referendum fails and overcrowding continues to increase – Will the District be forced to send special needs students out of district?
- Design has received initial approval from NJDOE
- State funding – Robbinsville receives approximately 5%
- Playground
- Parking
- Possibility of cap waiver for opening new building
- Effect on District if Windsor becomes unusable – Why are renovations to Windsor not included in project? Long range plan includes taking Windsor out of service.
- Individuals interested in becoming Team Captains should contact Jodi Stevens
- Poll hours 7:00 AM through 9:00 PM
- Interest rates are favorable for construction project – currently 30 year lows for municipal bonds – a 1% increase translates to an approximate \$4 million increase

## VII. ADJOURNMENT

*On motion of Mr. Halm, and seconded by Mrs. De Vito, and carried by a vote of 7-0, the Robbinsville Board of Education voted to adjourn the January 11, 2010 Special Meeting at 8:55 PM.*

Respectfully submitted,

Robert M. De Vita  
School Business Administrator / Board Secretary