



**ROBBINSVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2011 (7:00 PM)
RHS STUDENT ACTIVITIES CENTER**

PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mr. Michael Reca, President

Mr. Matthew O'Grady, Vice President

Mrs. Carol Boyne

Dr. Vincent J. Costanza

Mrs. Sharon DeVito

Mrs. Florence Gange

Mr. Thomas Halm, Jr.

Mr. Richard Kasper

Mrs. Faith Silvestrov

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Mr. Steven J. Mayer

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Kathleen A. Foster

SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR / BOARD SECRETARY

Mr. Robert DeVita

BOARD ATTORNEY

Matthew Giacobbe, Esquire

ROBBINSVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

March 1, 2011

I. CALL TO ORDER PUBLIC MEETING

Board President Michael Reca called the March 1, 2011 special meeting of the Robbinsville Board of Education to order at 7:06 PM.

II. STATEMENT OF PUBLIC MEETINGS – Mr. Reca

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. ROLL CALL – Mr. DeVita

All members of the Board, except Mr. O’Grady, were present. Also present were Superintendent Steven J. Mayer, Assistant Superintendent Kathleen A. Foster, and School Business Administrator Robert M. DeVita.

V. 2011 – 2012 BUDGET PRESENTATION – Mr. Mayer

Before beginning the annual budget presentation, Mr. Mayer accepted a check from Verizon’s volunteer incentive program and presented by Mr. Kasper in the amount of \$750. This donation will be formerly accepted during the March 22, 2011 monthly meeting of the Board of Education.

As a precursor to the resolution to adopt the preliminary budget, Mr. Mayer and Mr. DeVita presented a power point detailing the 2011-2012 budget.

VI. DISCUSSION

Board members weighed in with their thoughts on the budget presentation.

Mrs. Boyne complimented Mr. Mayer and Mr. DeVita on the presentation noting that the clear progress in this area has resulted in a high degree of Board member confidence. Other Board members echoed her sentiments. Mrs. Boyne stressed the importance of training teachers and reinvesting in the eight year old RHS curriculum pointing out that curriculum should be re-written every five years. She indicated that she is a bit apprehensive about the allocation of funds to capital reserve given that it was among the first places from which the Governor took money last year. Mr. DeVita responded that last year’s actions were a one-time occurrence based upon the Corzine administration’s over inflation of figures.

Other areas of discussion included K-8 class size, Advanced Placement (AP) classes at RHS, the Student Assistance Coordinator (SAC) position and the need for specific utilization of resources for the Reading Recovery program.

VII. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

A. WAYNE HOLLIDAY

Mr. Holliday expressed concern about the posturing of officials in Washington, D.C. with respect to IDEA and NCLB funding. He asked if guidelines have been presented to districts in the event that these funds are cut. Mr. DeVita said that no guidelines have been provided but the district has budgeted for 85%....**what did you say exactly???**

B. JOHN RUCH

Mr. Ruch noted that the cost of implementing last year’s cuts exceeds this year’s aid. He said that budgeting funds for capital reserve is prudent and expressed appreciation for the district’s enthusiasm about implementing creative solutions.

VIII. RESOLUTION

A. PRELIMINARY ADOPTION OF 2011-2012 BUDGET FOR ROBBINSVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

On motion of Mrs. Boyne and seconded by Mr. Halm and carried by a vote of 8-0, the Robbinsville Board of Education upon recommendation of the Superintendent voted to approve the Robbinsville Public Schools Preliminary Budget for FY2011-2012 for submission to the Mercer County Executive County Superintendent as indicated. Mr. O’Grady was absent.

	Appropriations	Local Tax Levy
Total General Fund	\$34,347,120	\$ 31,501,679
Total Special Revenue Fund	\$ 447,515	\$ 0
Total Debt Service Fund	\$ 4,445,553	\$ 4,373,207
Total	\$ 39,240,188	\$ 35,874,886

	Appropriations	Local Tax Levy
Total General Fund	\$ 34,444,283	\$ 31,501,679
Total Special Revenue Fund	\$ 447,515	\$ 0
Total Debt Service Fund	\$ 4,445,553	\$ 4,373,207
Total	\$ 39,337,351	\$ 35,874,886

IX. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

A. JOHN RUCH

Mr. Ruch inquired about the status of a district run summer program. Mr. Mayer responded that the district is in the process of creating a summer component to the Robbinsville Extended Day (R.E.D.) program. He noted that an informational letter is being drafted and is slated to go home with students by the end of the week.

B. WAYNE HOLLIDAY

Mr. Holliday expressed appreciation for the time and effort that went into creating the budget.

X. ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mr. Kasper and seconded by Mrs. Boyne and carried by a vote of 8-0, the Robbinsville Board of Education voted to adjourn the March 1, 2011 special meeting at 8:46 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert M. DeVita
Board Secretary / School Business Administrator