



Our Children
Our School
Our Future

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING

of the
NETCONG SCHOOL DISTRICT
26 College Road
Netcong, New Jersey 07857

May 5, 2015
7:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by President Dalesandro at 7:00 p.m.

A. FLAG SALUTE

B. OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT PROCLAMATION

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of the Act the Board of Education of the Netcong School District in the County of Morris has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted. The notice was mailed to the Daily Record and those persons or entities requesting notification, and filed with the municipal clerk of the Borough of Netcong.

C. MISSION STATEMENT

Netcong, a tradition to nurture, inspire, empower, and achieve by all, for all.

D. BOARD GOALS for 2014-2015

- Comprehensive review and update of the district policy manual.
- Continue to monitor and approve curriculum updates and systems of assessment.
- Review Board operations to improve Board performance.

E. DISTRICT GOALS for 2014-2015

- Implement the action plans identified in the Netcong School District's Strategic Plan with a 2014/15 timeline under the goal areas of Student Achievement & Technology, School and Community, and Finance and Facilities.

II. ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Mrs. Callahan, Mr. Coladarci, Mr. Morton, Mrs. Santana, Mr. Stevens, Ms. Sufly and Mrs. Dalesandro, President.

Not Present: Mr. McQueeney
Mrs. Popelka- Surgery Recovery

Also Present: Mrs. Nicole Sylvester, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Mrs. Charlene Peterson, NJSBA
Seven (7) Members of the public and staff present

III. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE AND MINUTES

None at this time.

IV. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

President Dalesandro reminded everyone that the PTA Tricky Tray will be held on Saturday, May 16th and she encouraged everyone to attend.

President Dalesandro stated the purpose of tonight's meeting was to conduct the Interim Superintendent's evaluation. She introduced Mrs. Charlene Peterson from New Jersey School Boards Association.

V. INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

None at this time.

VI. SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS

None at this time.

VII. PETITIONS AND REQUESTS OF THE PUBLIC FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Board Trustee Joe Coladarci moved, seconded by Board Trustee Colleen Suflay, to open the public session at 7:01 p.m. and was approved by a Unanimous Voice Vote by all members present. President Dalesandro opened the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

Public is invited to address the Board with any questions, comments or concerns. The Board requests that the individual address the Board, giving name and address, and asks that all remarks be directed to the Chair. The public portion shall be limited to thirty minutes with a five-minute time limit on each participant.

The Board wishes to remind all attendees at its meeting that while it subscribed without reservation to the principle of keeping the public completely informed, by policy it cannot allow public discussion of personnel matters. If a matter concerning the staff of the Netcong Public School is of interest or concern, the matter would be referred to the Interim Superintendent or the Board of Education, either by telephone or letter.

Mrs. Bond asked why the principal would be getting tenure. President Dalesandro responded and stated it was the recommendation of Mr. Pennisi and the Board has the ability to grant tenure at any time.

Mrs. Patamia asked why the advertisement did not state that there would be other agenda items on it and asked where the evaluation of the Interim Superintendent would be, as it was not on the agenda. Mrs. Sylvester informed her that the advertisement was for the sole purpose of the Interim Superintendent's evaluation and other agenda items were allowed to be added, as the advertisement stated that action may or may not be taken. Mrs. Sylvester then explained that when the Board goes into Executive Session, President Dalesandro would be stating that it would be for the purpose of the evaluation of the Interim Superintendent. Mrs. Patamia then asked why tenure would be granted to the current Principal. President Dalesandro stated that it was for job security if there was ever regionalization. Mrs. Patamia thanked President Dalesandro and understood the Board's reasoning. Mrs. Patamia then asked why the Board

was having the CSA contract reviewed by an attorney. President Dalesandro stated that the Board believed it would be beneficial to the Board before sending it to the County for approval. This will help protect the Board in the future.

There being no further items for discussion, Board Trustee Joe Coladarci moved, seconded by Board Trustee Jen Santana, to close the public session at 7:07 p.m. and was approved by a Unanimous Voice Vote by all members present. President Dalesandro closed the meeting to the public at 7:07 p.m.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

Board Trustee Todd Morton asked why the schedule for the music teacher changed since she was reinstated to full-time. President Dalesandro stated this was because the driving force behind the schedule was affected by the reduction of Art and Spanish. However, Ms. Jensen was able to keep all twelve sections of instrumental lessons and three grade levels received an increase in music sections while two grades received a reduction. Board Trustee Marianne Callahan asked how we would keep lessons yet take away music from two grade levels. She explained how upset she was by this and that she did not agree with this change.

Board Trustee Todd Morton asked Mrs. Sylvester if there was an update on the replacement of the back stairs. Mrs. Sylvester stated that Delahanty Construction was notified that they were awarded the contract and they will start shortly after graduation on June 11th, when all students are out of the building.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. GOVERNANCE/POLICY/FINANCE -**
- Bernadette Dalesandro, Chairperson**
 - Marianne Callahan, Member**
 - Jennifer Santana, Member**
 - Colleen Suflay, Member**

Board Trustee Colleen Suflay, seconded by Board Trustee Jen Santana moved the following resolutions to be approved as submitted:

BE IT RESOLVED that resolution numbers 1-2 be adopted as presented:

1. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Netcong Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, hereby appoints the law firm Schenck, Price, Smith & King, LLP as special legal counsel for the preparation and/or review of the Chief School Administrator employment contract at the hourly rate of \$170.00.
2. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Netcong Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, hereby gives approval to grant tenure to all non-tenure district employees who currently occupy the position of Principal effective immediately.

Board Trustee Joe Coladarci explained that he was not in favor of granting tenure to the principal at this time. Discussion ensued.

Board Trustee Marianne Callahan made a motion to table motion #2, this was seconded by Board Trustee Joe Coladarci and approved by a Unanimous Voice Vote by all members present.

VOTE: GOVERNANCE/POLICY/FINANCE RESOLUTION #1 AS PRESENTED.

AYES: Mrs. Callahan, Mr. Coladarci, Mr. Morton, Mrs. Santana, Mr. Stevens, Ms. Sufly and Mrs. Dalesandro, President.

NAYES: None

ABSENTATIONS: None

B. PERSONNEL- Marianne Callahan, Chairperson
Bill Stevens, Member
Jennifer Santana, Member
Bernadette Dalesandro, Member

None at this time.

C. FACILITIES/OPERATIONS - Todd Morton, Chairperson
Lynn Popelka, Member
Patrick McQueeney, Member
Bernadette Dalesandro, Member

None at this time.

D. CURRICULUM/INSTRUCTION- Colleen Sufly, Chairperson
Joe Coladarci, Member
Patrick McQueeney, Member
Bernadette Dalesandro, Member

None at this time.

X. MISCELLANEOUS

None at this time.

XI. PETITIONS AND REQUESTS OF THE PUBLIC

Board Trustee Jen Santana moved, seconded by Board Trustee Colleen Sufly, to open the public session at 7:13 p.m. and was approved by a Unanimous Voice Vote by all members present. President Dalesandro opened the meeting at 7:13 p.m.

The Public is invited to address the Board with any questions, comments or concerns. The Board requests that the individual address the Board, giving name and address, and asks that all remarks be directed to the Chair. The public portion shall be limited to thirty minutes with a five-minute time limit on each participant.

The Board wishes to remind all attendees at its meeting that while it subscribes without reservation to the principle of keeping the public completely informed, by policy it cannot allow public discussion of personnel

matters. If a matter concerning the staff of the Netcong Public School is of interest or concern, the matter should be referred to the Interim Superintendent or the Board of Education, either by telephone or letter.

Mrs. Patamia stated that she respected the Board members who wish to review and further discuss motion number 2 under G/P/F as this is not a common practice. She stated that she believes Dr. Cinotti will do a fabulous job but the precedence was not good. President Dalesandro stated that the Board has given advance tenure to a seated Principal in the district seven years ago to Melissa Bammer.

There being no further items for discussion, Board Trustee Jen Santana moved, seconded by Board Trustee Colleen Sufly, to close the public session at 7:14 p.m. and was approved by a Unanimous Voice Vote by all members present. President Dalesandro closed the meeting to the public at 7:14 p.m.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Board Trustee Bill Stevens, seconded by Board Trustee Colleen Sufly that **RESOLVED**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-13 and 10:4-12 that the Netcong Board of Education hold a closed Executive Session regarding personnel issues for the Interim Superintendent evaluation and to review resolution number two under G/P/F. It is expected that the discussion undertaken in this closed session can be made public at the time official action is taken. The motion was made at 7:15 p.m. and was approved by a Unanimous Voice Vote by all members present. President Dalesandro closed the meeting to the public at 7:15 p.m. President Dalesandro stated that action will may or may not be taken after executive session and it is anticipated the Board will be in executive session for approximately 2 hours.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ADJOURNMENT

Board Trustee Jen Santana made a motion to come out of executive session. It was seconded by Board Trustee Joe Coladarci and carried by Unanimous Voice Vote by all members present at 7:27 p.m.

Board Trustee Colleen Sufly made a motion to take action on resolution #2 under G/P/F as follows, the motion was seconded by Board Trustee Todd Morton:

2. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Netcong Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, hereby gives approval to grant tenure to all non-tenure district employees who currently occupy the position of Principal effective immediately.

VOTE: GOVERNANCE/POLICY/FINANCE RESOLUTION #2 AS PRESENTED.

AYES: Mrs. Callahan, Mr. Morton, Mrs. Santana, Mr. Stevens, Ms. Sufly and Mrs. Dalesandro, President.

NAYES: Mr. Coladarci

ABSENTATIONS: None

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Board Trustee Joe Coladarci, seconded by Board Trustee Colleen Sufly that **RESOLVED**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-13 and 10:4-12 that the Netcong Board of Education hold a closed Executive

Session regarding personnel issues for the Interim Superintendent evaluation. It is expected that the discussion undertaken in this closed session can be made public at the time official action is taken. The motion was made at 7:28 p.m. and was approved by a Unanimous Voice Vote by all members present. President Dalesandro closed the meeting to the public at 7:28 p.m. President Dalesandro stated that action will not be taken after executive session and it is anticipated the Board will be in executive session for approximately 1 1/2 hours.

Mrs. Sylvester exited the room at 7:28 p.m.

Mrs. Charlene Peterson exited the room at 7:49 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ADJOURNMENT

Board Trustee Todd Morton made a motion to come out of executive session. It was seconded by Board Trustee Jen Santana and carried by Unanimous Voice Vote by all members present at 8:27 p.m.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT There being no further business to come before the board, Board Trustee Todd Morton made a motion, seconded by Board Trustee Jen Santana and carried by Unanimous Voice Vote to adjourn the May 5, 2015 Special Meeting of the Netcong Board of Education at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



**Nicole Sylvester
Business Administrator/Board Secretary**