

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
CITY OF LONG BRANCH
NEW JERSEY**

MINUTES

JULY 19, 2011

The Agenda Meeting of the Long Branch Board of Education was held at 540 Broadway, Long Branch, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Dangler, Board President, at 7:00 P.M.

A. ROLL CALL

Mr. Dangler - President	Mrs. Perez	Mr. Zambrano
Mrs. Beams - Vice President	Mr. Grant	Mr. Parnell
Mrs. George	Mrs. Critelli	Mr. Menkin

Administrators Present

Mr. Salvatore	Mrs. Valenti	Ms. Dudick
Mr. Genovese	Mr. Penta	Mrs. Nogueira

Also Present

Armen McOmber, Esq. – Board attorney

A-1. STATEMENT OF THE MANNER OF NOTIFICATION OF THE MEETING

Peter E. Genovese III, RSBO, QPA, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary stated adequate notice of the meeting of the Long Branch Board of Education has been provided by a Schedule of Public Meetings published in the Atlanticville and the Asbury Park Press. He further stated a Schedule of Public Meetings has been posted in the Board of Education Office and the Office of the City Clerk, Long Branch, New Jersey.

Mr. Genovese made the following announcement: Fire exits are 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.

A-2. OBJECTIONS, IF ANY, TO THE VALIDITY OF THE MEETING

Mr. Genovese stated that the objecting member must give supporting reasons.

B. FLAG SALUTE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Dangler, Board President, saluted the flag and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C-1. STATEMENT TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. Dangler made the following announcement: 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 by 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 board committee. The members of the board committee work with the administration and 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.

C-1. STATEMENT TO THE PUBLIC (continued)

Time may be allocated for public comment at this meeting. Each speaker may be allotted a limited time when recognized by the presiding officer. Individuals wishing to address the Board shall be recognized by the presiding officer and shall give their names, addresses and the group, if any, that they represent. Although the Board encourages public participation, it reserves the right, through its presiding officer, to terminate remarks to and/or by any individual not in keeping with the conduct of a proper and efficient meeting. The Board will not, during the public portion of this meeting, discuss matters involving employment, appointment, termination of employment, negotiations, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance of, promotion or disciplining of any specific or prospective or current employee.

C -2. OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE BOARD RELATING TO AGENDA ITEMS

No one addressed the Board.

Mr. Salvatore asked the Board, if there were no objections, he would like to have Mr. Armen McOmbler, Board attorney, speak to the Board with regards to item #12 on the agenda first.

The Board had no objections.

Mr. McOmbler apologized to the Board regarding the fact that he had not spoken to them prior to this item being placed on last month's agenda. He wanted to bring them up to date on this particular placement.

Mr. McOmbler - This motion deals with a special education student whose parents wish to have the child placed at the Special Education Academy of Deal (S.E.A.D.) school and although this placement is not a legal placement, the courts felt that it was in the child's best interest to attend. A settlement had been reached with the plaintiff and although the administration does not concur with this placement, it actually is a savings to the district over where the student would have to attend.

Mrs. Perez - Why are we not fully litigating this now if there is a concern that litigation could possibly happen next year with the placement.

Mr. McOmbler – The Collier School, just this year, started a program that would be good for this child so we anticipate that next year we will be in a more defensible position.

Mrs. Perez - What do you know about this school?

Mr. McOmbler - It is more of a maintenance situation for the child. We do not feel that it is an adequate program.

Mr. Parnell - Are you saying the child no longer lives in the district?

Mr. McOmbler – No, he does still live in the district.

Mr. Menkin - For the entire year?

Mr. McOmbler - Yes.

Mr. Menkin - What is the difference between the cost over the 2 years?

Mr. McOmber - In the first year there is reimbursement of some fees that go towards the cost.

With no further questions from the Board, Mr. McOmber left the meeting.

Mr. Salvatore continued the meeting by going over some goal setting with the Board. The Board felt that the parent meeting was very positive and received a lot of positive feedback.

Mr. Parnell - What about parent conferences for elementary school students? For instance, hold a meeting at the Anastasia School for those parents.

Mr. Salvatore - I do value the students and parents opinions although it may not be practical to have individual meetings at each school because of time constraints. However, we do want to forge relationships.

Mrs. Perez thanked Mr. Salvatore for including the Board in that process.

Mr. Salvatore explained his concerns regarding parents coming out to these important events and if we don't have larger attendance in the future, we will have to reach out to the community and churches to get their help in generating involvement.

Mr. Salvatore solicited the Board for their input with regards to which specific organizations he should be targeting in the coming year.

Mr. Parnell - The Portuguese Club.

Mrs. George - The Chamber of Commerce and perhaps offering our facilities for their meetings to get them more involved.

Mrs. Perez - Real estate groups in the area, possibly getting together for a luncheon.

Mr. Grant - The Second Baptist Church and Reverend Gibson.

Mrs. Perez - A sit down with the Mayor and City Council would be a good place to start as well.

Mr. Salvatore discussed with the Board what he felt was a very explicit Mission Statement, one which would be very easy to remember rather than paragraphs of information that no one can relate to. Mr. Salvatore's suggestion was one sentence that sums it all up:

"Embrace the need to meet or exceed the standards set forth by the State of New Jersey"

Mr. Salvatore reviewed the Agenda with the Board.

4. GIFTS TO SCHOOLS

Mr. Salvatore - I will be reviewing what books are being donated and what their uses would be.

6. STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE 2011-2012

Mr. Salvatore - The student accident insurance for FY11 was approximately \$80,000. and this current year, FY12, we are looking at \$116,000. The reason for this is that the premiums collected last year exceeded the claims by several thousands of dollars.

8. AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT THE WRAP AROUND SERVICES FOR EXTENDED PROGRAMS FOR THE LONG BRANCH SCHOOL DISTRICT BID

Mr. Salvatore - The KLC rates are less than they have been for the last 3 years. This is good for our parents. I am going to insist that KLC works diligently in getting the children's homework done prior to their participation in any other activities.

9. AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT THE HIGH SCHOOL ROOF MEMBRANE RE-COATING BID

Mr. Parnell - Do we know anything about E.R. Barrett?

Mr. Genovese - This is the company that originally did the work on the High School roof through the School Development Authority. It is assumed that their familiarity with the project is what brought their price in so low.

Mr. Salvatore reviewed the Addenda with the Board.

1. PERSONNEL
b) APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT TO THE PRINCIPAL

Mr. Salvatore - There are currently 2 individuals that I am looking to appoint as assistants to the principal, and upon completion of their full certification they will become principals.

1. PERSONNEL
d) APPOINTMENT OF 10 MONTH VICE PRINCIPAL

Mr. Salvatore highlighted the appointments of the new 10 month Vice Principal positions.

DISCUSSION

There was a great concern expressed by many of the Board members with respect to the amount of new leadership that is being proposed at the High School. With very little history among those administrators remaining, there was a concern that the High School may experience many problems in the upcoming school year.

Mr. Salvatore – I am concerned as well and I am glad that the Board has recognized some of the issues. However, I feel that with a lot of additional support from the Central Office administrators, Mr. Freeman and Mr. Penta, that these hurdles will be addressed.

Mr. Salvatore reviewed each principals assignment and which academy they would be leading. Although there appeared to be some hesitation on the part of the Board, the Board was willing to support the Superintendent's recommendations based on his explanation of the programs for next year.

1. PERSONNEL
h) APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Salvatore explained the process that the committee undertook to evaluate and review potential candidates for the position of Assistant Superintendent. He stated that the committee would have liked to have had a little more time for the advertising process, but recognizes that out of all of the candidates interviewed, Al Freeman was the most qualified candidate. This is why Mr. Salvatore is bringing this recommendation to the Board.

5. APPROVAL OF PFEISTER CONSULTING SERVICE LLC FOR NETWORK MANAGEMENT CONSULTING SERVICES

Mr. Salvatore explained the need for network management consulting services.

Mr. Salvatore – We are looking to fill the position of Network Manager but it appears that that position would require a price tag of well over \$100,000. Currently we are hiring this company to do work for us for certain things that have to be accomplished within a certain time frame. That amount of money will not exceed the \$36,000. bid threshold but at some point in time the Board will have to go out for a competitive contract for additional services in the area of network management.

12. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION FOR PAYMENT APPLICATION TO RAI, INC.

Mr. Salvatore reviewed the payment application from RAI with the Board.

17. RESULTS OF BID FOR STAR OF THE SEA SCHOOL PROPERTY

Mr. Salvatore reviewed with the Board the third opening of bids for the Star of the Sea School property.

Mr. Salvatore - Once again, no bids were received even though we had removed the minimum bid on the third round. We did have one interested party meet with myself and Mr. Genovese. He came in to make a verbal offer of \$400,000. which was conditional on grants and permission to do many things so we unfortunately do not really have an offer. We will keep you posted on anything that may happen in the future.

DISCUSSION

2. Artifact from the Work Trade Center

Mr. Salvatore – We received approval to pick up our piece of steel that came from the World Trade Center and that should be on site sometime within the next couple of weeks.

3. Change of titles

Mr. Salvatore – There is a need to change one custodian position to custodial/supply inventory clerk in order to facilitate our inventory needs.

4. Salary increase

Mr. Salvatore – When Janet Dudick accepted the position of District Administrator for Personnel, she received less of an increase than if she had remained in the LBAA unit. Additionally, other duties have been assigned to her such as district policies. The Assistant Superintendent used to have this responsibility and it is an incredible amount of work to maintain, manage and keep current. I am suggesting that the Board take into consideration her additional duties and the fact that she would have made more money if she had stayed on the LBAA guide, and adjust her salary from \$127,000. to \$132,000. for this year.

Mr. Parnell – Do you feel this is warranted?

Mr. Salvatore – Yes.

Motion was made by Mr. Parnell, seconded by Mrs. Perez and carried by roll call vote that the Board approve the following item (1).

Ayes (9), Nays (0), Absent (0)

1. APPROVAL OF SALARY ADJUSTMENT FOR JANETLYNN DUDICK

That the Board approve a salary adjustment for Janetlynn Dudick from \$127,000. to \$132,000. prorated for FY12.

5. A plan for additional funding

Mr. Salvatore – We have been notified that we will be receiving additional funding in the amount of \$4.3 million this year. We unfortunately cannot use any for tax relief purposes since the tax levy is at the minimum. I feel that it is not a good idea to use it all on Buildings and Grounds therefore I am suggesting we consider using part of it for the FY13 solar payments, approximately \$2.6 million. We would be able to launch some new instructional innovations for about \$1 million. Also we can now work on completing the design of the Amerigo A. Anastasia School parking lot which will facilitate a single start time.

6. Letter from Ron Bennett

Mr. Salvatore – Mr. Bennett had requested from the Board of Education members who voted no to his appointments, that they put their reasons in writing. After my discussion with Mr. McOmber, there is no legal rationale for any Board member to defend why they voted no as long as they are being reasonable in their conclusions. I will be meeting with Mr. Bennett to discuss this situation in the near future.

At 9:50 P.M. the Board recessed for 5 minutes.

The Board returned to the meeting at 9:55 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Dangler - President
Mrs. Beams - Vice President
Mrs. George

Mrs. Perez
Mr. Grant
Mrs. Critelli

Mr. Zambrano
Mr. Parnell
Mr. Menkin

Mr. Dangler explained to the Board the process that was used in determining who should be recommended for the position of Assistant Superintendent.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Dangler asked for a consensus on the appointment. All of the Board members said yes except for Mr. Grant who said no.

Mr. Salvatore – I want to thank the Board for their support. I did hear you when you stated that you wanted a little more time for key positions to be advertised in the near future.

Motion was made by Mrs. George, seconded by Mr. Parnell and carried by roll call vote that the Board approve the following item (2).

Ayes (9), Nays (0), Absent (0)

2. **RESOLUTION FOR CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION – 10:00 P.M.**

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975) allows for the exclusion from discussion at the public portion of a meeting of certain matters which might endanger the public interest or risk the deprivation of individual rights, and

WHEREAS, the Long Branch Board of Education wishes to discuss matters falling within the **attorney/client privilege concerning litigation against the Board of Education** and others with the resulting action being made public when a proper conclusion has been reached and there is no longer a need for confidentiality;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Long Branch Board of Education will hold a closed executive session immediately in the Board Conference Room, 540 Broadway, Long Branch, New Jersey.

It is expected that the closed executive session will last not more than twenty minutes. At the conclusion of the closed executive session, the Long Branch Board of Education may return to the public portion of the meeting and may take action.



Peter E. Genovese III, RSBO, QPA
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Ayes: 9
Nays: 0
Absent: 0
Date: July 19, 2011

The meeting was adjourned through the Executive Session meeting at 10:17 P.M.