

NESHAMINY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Langhorne, Pennsylvania

PUBLIC WORK SESSION MINUTES  
NESHAMINY BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS  
November 5, 2014

The Neshaminy Board of School Directors met in public work session on November 5, 2014 in the District Offices Board Room at the Maple Point Middle School. The following persons were in attendance:

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

Mr. Scott E. Congdon, President  
Ms. Irene Boyle, Vice President  
Mr. John Allen  
Mr. Stephen Pirritano  
Mr. Ron Rudy  
Mr. Mark Shubin  
Mr. Anthony Sposato

**ADMINISTRATORS:**

Mr. Robert L. Copeland  
Mrs. Barbara Markowitz  
Mrs. Theresa Hinterberger  
Dr. Gloria Hancock  
Mr. Don Harm

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Mrs. Susan Cummings  
Mr. Mike Morris

**OTHERS:** Approximately 50 persons from the public, staff and press

**SECRETARY:** Mrs. Jennifer Burns

**SOLICITOR:** John Torrente, Esquire

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**1. Call to Order**

Mr. Congdon called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mr. Congdon requested those in attendance join in the salute to the flag.

**3. Announcements**

None.

**4. Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Copeland advised the Board on the following:

- Mrs. Karen Moraes and Poquessing Middle School Computer Science Club Students - Presentation.
- Mr. James Maloney and NHS AP Environmental Science Club Students - Presentation on "Going Green Weekend" that was presented at Snipes Farm & Education Center, Morrisville, PA.

**5. Public Comment**

Ed Kern, retired, resident of Levittown, commended the students and staff for their presentations this evening. Mr. Kern also expressed his concern that the decision to close 3 elementary schools and move 5th grade to middle school was done without sufficient forethought and the Board should reconsider this decision.

Jim Kates, resident of Feasterville, urged the Board to establish and post goals for the superintendent and assistant superintendent before any contracts are extended. Mr. Kates also congratulated Mr. Copeland and staff for instituting full-day kindergarten.

Steve Rodos, retired, resident of Villages of Flowers Mill, requested a pay raise on behalf of the substitute teachers and instructional assistants for Source4Teachers because it has been quite some time since they have received salary increases.

**6. Items for Approval Tonight**

**a) Approval of request for Sunday Facility Usage at the Herbert Hoover Elementary School Cafeteria and Gym by the Hoover PTO for December 7, 2014**

**b) Overnight Trip**

1. Neshaminy High School to Governor Mifflin High School for Varsity High School Wrestling Tournament - December 29 and 30, 2014.

Mr. Copeland informed the Board on the above items for approval.

Mr. Shubin made a motion to accept the approval of request for Sunday Facility Usage at the Herbert Hoover Elementary School Cafeteria and Gym by the Hoover PTO for December 7, 2014, and the Neshaminy High School overnight trip to Governor Mifflin High School for Varsity High School Wrestling Tournament - December 29 and 30, 2014.

Mr. Sposato seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved said motion by a vote of 7 ayes, and 0 nays. (Mrs. Cummings and Mr. Morris were not present.)

**7. Items for Approval at the November 18 Public Board Meeting**

**a) Private Transportation Contract for 2014 - 15**

Mrs. Markowitz advised the Board on the Private Transportation Contract for 2014 - 2015 and stated that it will be an agenda item at the November 18 Public Board Meeting.

**b) Source4Teachers Contract**

Mr. Copeland stated that the Source4Teachers Contract will be an agenda item at the November 18 Public Board Meeting.

**c) STA of Pennsylvania, Inc. Contract - Standby Drivers**

Mr. Copeland stated that the STA of Pennsylvania, Inc. Contract - Standby Drivers will be an agenda item at the November 18 Public Board Meeting.

**d) Bids/Budget Transfers**

Mrs. Markowitz stated that Budget Transfer Report (Working Copy) 15-2 will be an agenda item at the November 18 Public Board Meeting.

**8. Committee Reports**

**a) Board Polices**

Ms. Boyle stated to the Board that the next meeting is scheduled for December 2 at 6:30 p.m.

**b) Educational Development**

Ms. Boyle stated to the Board that the next meeting is scheduled for November 12 at 6:30 p.m.; agenda items will include presentation from the Principals on the Superintendent's Report.

**c) Finance/Facilities**

Mr. Congdon advised the Board that the next meeting is scheduled for November 13 at 7:00 p.m.; agenda items will include a presentation on food service.

**d) IU Board**

Mrs. Cummings was not present.

**e) Neshaminy Education Foundation**

Ms. Drake announced the winner of the raffle drawing was Mr. Tom Foley, a teacher at Carl Sandburg. The next meeting is scheduled for November 10 at 4:00 p.m.

Mr. Shubin thanked Ms. Drake and everyone involved with the fundraiser at Homecoming.

f) **Technical School**

Mr. Morris was not present.

g) **Technology**

Mr. Shubin said that a date has not yet been scheduled.

h) **Facilities Ad Hoc Committee**

Mr. Pirritano announced that the next meeting is scheduled for November 17 at 7:00 p.m.

i) **Legislative**

Mr. Shubin advised the Board that there was a good turnout of representatives from the area resulting in an excellent communication between both sides.

**9. Public Comment**

Steve Rodos, retired, resident of Villages of Flowers Mill, announced that the Neshaminy Education Foundation is requesting a payroll deduction from teachers in the district to support the grant and scholarship awards that the foundation provides to students.

**10. Future Topics**

None.

**11. Board Comment**

Mr. Shubin stated that criticism about the methods of budgeting the Neshaminy School District's money is unfair and unjust. He said that the work done to budget money for full-day kindergarten was an exemplary effort and is appreciated by him and should be by the community as well.

Mr. Pirritano thanked the staff and students for the great presentation. He said it is nice to see the students involved in these activities and to demonstrate to the public what they are learning.

Mr. Sposato said Neshaminy is moving in a positive direction and he hopes the public is aware of what a great school district they have.

Mr. Allen thanked the teachers and students for their presentation. He also noted that it is great to see females involved in the STEM program.

**12. Adjournment of Meeting**

Mr. Congdon moved the meeting be adjourned and Mr. Shubin seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion. Mr. Congdon adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Jennifer Burns  
Board Secretary