

NESHAMINY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Langhorne, Pennsylvania

PUBLIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
NESHAMINY BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS  
September 24, 2013

The Neshaminy Board of School Directors met in public session on September 24, 2013, in the District Offices Board Room at Maple Point Middle School. The following persons were in attendance:

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

Mr. Ritchie Webb, President  
Mr. Scott Congdon, Vice President  
Mrs. Susan Cummings  
Mr. Kim Koutsouradis  
Mr. Mike Morris  
Mr. William Oettinger  
Mr. Mark Shubin  
Mr. Anthony Sposato

**ADMINISTRATORS:**

Mr. Robert L. Copeland  
Mrs. Barbara Markowitz  
Dr. Geeta Heble  
Mrs. Therese Hinterberger  
Mr. Anthony Devlin

**BOARD MEMBER ABSENT:**

Ms. Irene Boyle

**OTHERS:** Approximately 60 persons from the public, staff and press

**SECRETARY:** Mrs. Jennifer Burns

**SOLICITOR:** Thomas J. Profy, III, Esquire

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Mr. Webb announced that prior to the meeting an Executive Session was held where personnel issues were discussed.

**Call to Order**

Mr. Webb called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

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

**Announcements**

None

**Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Copland advised the Board on the following:

- Poquessing Middle School Celebrated Constitution Day.
- Neshaminy High School Homecoming is on Friday, September 27, 2013.

**Public Comment**

Ed Kern, retired, resident of Levittown, expressed his approval of the Board's decision to review the financial alternatives that are available concerning the consolidation project and for keeping the best interest of the taxpayers in mind.

Jennifer Bennett, parent, resident of Langhorne, said she does not support the consolidation plan because she is very concerned about the size of a super elementary school. She said that another concern she has is the safety of the children being transported within the district and she asked the Board to consider seatbelts on the school buses.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mrs. Burns presented the minutes of August 27, 2013 and September 10, 2013. Upon motion of Mr. Morris and seconded by Mrs. Cummings the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the August 27, 2013 and September 10, 2013 Board Meeting Minutes. (Ms. Boyle was not present.)

**Approval of Treasurer's Report, Check Register, and Exonerations of Personal and Per Capita Tax**

Mrs. Markowitz presented the following for approval:

- August, 2013 Treasurer's Report, subject to audit
- Check Register – August, 2013
- Personal and per capita tax exonerations for August, 2013
- Investment Summary

Mr. Shubin moved the August, 2013 Treasurer's Report be approved, subject to audit, Check Register for August, 2013, Investment Summary, and the Personal and Per Capita Tax Exonerations for August, 2013 be approved. Mr. Koutsouradis seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved said reports by a vote of 8 ayes, and 0 nays. (Ms. Boyle was not present.)

**Certified and Support Personnel Actions**

Mr. Copeland presented the following for approval:

- Elections – Certified Personnel
- Resignations and Leaves of Absence – Certified Personnel
- Elections – Support Personnel
- Sabbatical Leaves – Certified Personnel
- Extra Curricular Staff and Salary Report

Mr. Copeland recommended the approval of the personnel report for certified and support personnel and the extra curricular staff and salary report.

Mr. Shubin moved the certified and support personnel actions be approved and Mrs. Cummings seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved said reports by a vote of 8 ayes, and 0 nays. (Ms. Boyle was not present.)

**Motion: Election of 2014 PSBA Officers**

Mr. Webb presented the following motion:

WHEREAS, for the first time this year, PSBA members will be following new procedures for electing PSBA officers as authorized in bylaws changes approved by the membership at the 2012 annual business meeting (PSBA Bylaws, Article IV; Section 6); and

WHEREAS, a major change to the new procedures requires that each member entity cast one vote per office instead of individuals voting during the annual conference in October. Each District has identified an authorized electronic voter on behalf of your school entity and Neshaminy's designated electronic voter is the Assistant Board Secretary; and,

WHEREAS, electronic voting will be open from September 3 – October 1, 2013 and the Board needs to decide by a majority vote how to cast its votes during a Board meeting in September.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that Neshaminy Board of School Directors casts their votes for the following (choose one in each category - see the attached list).

President-Elect: William S. LaCoff\_\_\_\_ or Mark B. Miller X

Vice President: Larry B. Breech X or Charles H. Ballard\_\_\_\_

Treasurer: Norman G. Hasbrouck\_\_\_\_ or Otto W Voit III X

At-Large Representative (East) Representing Regions 7, 8, 10, 11, 15:

Maura Buri X or Robert M. Schwartz\_\_\_\_

Please Note: \* Endorsed – The Leadership Development Committee may, by a majority vote, choose to endorse the nomination(s) of one or more candidates for any elected position as a means of identifying those candidates that the Leadership Development Committee considers to be highly qualified.

Mr. Koutsouradis seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved said motion by a vote of 8 ayes, and 0 nays. (Ms. Boyle was not present.)

#### **Solicitor's Report**

Mr. Profy recommended the addendum to the contract of Spiezele's Architectural to perform the study of the space utilization and capacity assessment of the elementary and middle schools of Neshaminy School District in the amount of \$7,200.

Mr. Webb made a motion to accept Mr. Profy's recommendation to approve Spiezele's addendum to the contract in the amount of \$7,200 to perform the study of the elementary and middle schools enrollment.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved said motion by a vote of 8 ayes, and 0 nays. (Ms. Boyle was not present.)

Mr. Profy recommended settling pending 2011 - 2014 Tax Year Assessment Appeals of Davis Fiori as follows:

#### David Fiori

#### Settlement Assessment

Tax Map Parcel 22-055-209

\$428,370.00 - 2011 Tax Year Assessment  
\$444,090.00 - 2012 Tax Year Assessment  
\$424,440.00 - 2013 Tax Year Assessment  
\$432,300.00 - 2014 Tax Year Assessment

Mr. Webb made a motion to accept Mr. Profy's recommendation to settle pending 2011 - 2014 Tax Year Assessment Appeals of Davis Fiori.

Mr. Congdon seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved said motion by a vote of 8 ayes, and 0 nays. (Ms. Boyle was not present.)

Mr. Profy recommended settling pending 2011 - 2014 Tax Year Assessment Appeals of Davis Fiori as follows:

#### David Fiori

#### Settlement Assessment

Tax Map Parcel 32-005-012

\$311,880.00 - 2012 Tax Year Assessment  
\$298,080.00 - 2013 Tax Year Assessment  
\$303,600.00 - 2014 Tax Year Assessment

Mr. Webb made a motion to accept Mr. Profy's recommendation to settle pending 2011 - 2014 Tax Year Assessment Appeals of David Fiori.

The Board unanimously approved said motion by a vote of 8 ayes, and 0 nays. (Ms. Boyle was not present.)

Mr. Koutsouradis read a statement announcing his resignation from the Neshaminy School Board of Directors, effectively immediately, this 24th day of September, 2013.

Mr. Webb made a motion to accept Mr. Koutsouradis' resignation.

Mr. Congdon seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved said motion by a vote of 8 ayes, and 0 nays. (Ms. Boyle was not present.)

#### **Federal Programs**

Mrs. Markowitz advised the Board that the total amount of the 2013 - 14 Active Federal Programs and Grant Allocations to date is \$992.169.00.

#### **Other Board Business**

None

#### **Public Comment**

Almando Carrasquillo, retired State Trooper, resident of Langhorne, remarked that he would like to see more information regarding the consolidation project, including transportation effect, fuel cost, traffic impact, and the safety of the building design.

Steve Rodos, retired, resident of The Villages of Flowers Mill, wished Mr. Koutsouradis luck in his future endeavors. He also stated that he is an advocate for seat belts in school buses. Mr. Rodos voiced concern over the money that is still owed to the school district by Middletown Township and said he is troubled that a statute of limitations may apply and the money will be lost if something is not resolved.

Pam Blake, resident of Snowball Gate, voiced her concern about the possible closing of Samuel Everitt Elementary School. She said she is troubled about the possibility of what will happen to the building and what type of business or establishment may reside in the building after it is no longer a school. Ms. Blake said property values will be affected by such a decision.

Angie Manning, New Jersey public school teacher, resident of Langhorne, asked if there has been any feedback from teachers regarding the status of computer classes in Neshaminy.

#### **Board Comment**

Mrs. Cummings expressed her regrets regarding the resignation of Mr. Koutsouradis, but said she understands his reasons are due to the needs of his family. She thanked him for the time he served on the Board and wished him well.

Mr. Shubin thanked Mr. Koutsouradis for his mentoring and advice that he provided to him. He stated that Mr. Koutsouradis came to the Board to make Neshaminy a better district and he is a great guy who has integrity and truly cares about Neshaminy.

Mr. Morris remarked that although the matter of what establishment may take over a former school building is not technically a School Board issue, nevertheless, the Board is aware of the concerns of the community and will keep that in mind. Mr. Morris concluded by thanking Mr. Koutsouradis for his exemplary service to the Board.

Mr. Congdon thanked Mr. Koutsouradis for his assistance and counsel during his service on the Board of Directors and wished him well.

Mr. Sposato said that Mr. Koutsouradis will be greatly missed and it has been a pleasure to serve on the School Board with him.

Mr. Oettinger said Mr. Koutsouradis is a great person and he thanked him for his friendship and service to Neshaminy.

Mr. Webb stated that the money that is owed to Neshaminy by Middletown Township has not been forgotten and the necessary steps have been taken to get the money that is owed. Mr. Webb wished Mr. Koutsouradis well.

Mr. Congdon said the issue of seat belts in buses will be reviewed once again.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Webb moved the meeting be adjourned and Mr. Morris seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion. Mr. Webb adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Burns  
Board Secretary