

NESHAMINY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Langhorne, Pennsylvania

SPECIAL PUBLIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES
NESHAMINY BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
(WORK SESSION/PUBLIC MEETING)
August 26, 2008

The Neshaminy Board of School Directors met in public session on August 26, 2008, in the Board Room of the Maple Point Middle School. The following persons were in attendance:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Mr. Richard M. Eccles, President
Mr. Frank J. Koziol, Vice President
Mr. Joseph R. Blasch
Mrs. Susan Cummings
Mr. Kim Koutsouradis
Mr. William D. O'Connor
Dr. William H. Spitz
Mr. Ritchie Webb

ADMINISTRATORS:

Mr. Paul J. Kadri
Dr. Louis T. Muenker
Mr. Joseph V. Paradise*
Dr. Sandra Costanzo
Dr. Geeta Heble
Dr. Jacqueline Rattigan

BOARD MEMBER NOT PRESENT:

Ms. Irene M. Boyle

SOLICITOR:

Thomas Profy, III, Esquire

SECRETARY:

Mrs. Anita E. Walls

OTHERS: Approximately 75 persons from the public, staff and press

*left meeting at 8:25 p.m.

An Executive Session was held prior to the meeting.

1. Call to Order

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

2. Pledge of Allegiance

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

3. Announcements

Mr. Kadri thanked and congratulated the high school students and staff for taking the district to a new level. The priority of the district, administration, community and staff was to be for the students to head toward their potential at the high school level regarding the PSSA scores. Both through positive incentives and hard work students, staff and administrators at the high school deserve much credit. Mr. Kadri noted that the Philadelphia Inquirer listed that Neshaminy ranked third in terms of improvement in the entire Philadelphia region in reading. Special education also showed a 15% and 9% increase. Mr. Kadri thanked Mr. Alex Menio, Mr. Jeff Dunkley, Mr. Alex Jeffers, Ms. Tricia Nemig and Ms. Rachel Coleman. Mr. Kadri also thanked Ms. Michele Burkholder, Special Education Supervisor.

Mr. Kadri thanked the entire class of 2009 for their efforts.

Mr. Webb noted that the Board packages arrived on Saturday. Normally, packages are received on Friday which is bad enough. Mr. Webb stated that to receive the package on Saturday and try to review all the information is horrendous. Mr. Webb requested that the packages be received sooner. Mr. Webb needs more time to review same.

Mr. Eccles commented that he did not see his package until Sunday morning.

Mr. Koziol commented that he was away for the weekend and upon returning Sunday evening found the package. Reporting needs to take place on time. Mr. Koziol requested that, if possible, the packages are received a week ahead of time. It is necessary.

Mr. Kadri noted that the district has the ability to provide same electronically. Mr. Kadri questioned why now if the opportune time to raise this issue when the ability to find out what happened cannot occur.

Mr. Webb stated that this is a pattern. Mr. Kadri stated that it could be a courier issue. Mr. Kadri stated that his secretary was on vacation this week and that could possibly have been the issue. Mr. Kadri would like to resolve the problem without accusations being made. Mr. Kadri agrees that the information should be available as soon as possible. An Executive Session was held prior to the meeting, a phone call could have been made or an e-mail dropped to may attention regarding same.

Mr. Webb stated that he does not receive his e-mails until the evening at his home. Mr. Webb was unaware of the Executive Session which took place.

Mr. Kadri stated that if any board member wishes to be communicated in a certain way, he will be glad to accommodate the specific wishes. Mr. Kadri would like to have an answer or solution to the problems.

Mr. Koziol stated that he has dial up modem and would appreciate delivery of his packet.

Mr. Kadri noted that it has been very difficult to communicate as a Board for whatever reasons. Three Board members have raised this issue and it is not something that Mr. Kadri feels he is directly responsible for.

Mr. Blasch stated that this is the first time he ever received his package on a Saturday around noon.

Mr. Webb stated that a pattern has developed with receiving information late. Mr. Webb noted that we will reviewing the PSSA scores for the first time this evening.

Mrs. Cummings noted that Mr. Kadri sent e-mails for Board members to meet with him regarding the PSSA scores. Mr. Webb stated that he was unavailable one week and Mr. Kadri was unavailable the other week. Mr. Webb has not had the opportunity to review the PSSA scores. Mr. Webb noted that at the district he works in the raw data was available at the end of June. Mr. Webb cannot understand why this information cannot be shared at that time. Mr. Kadri noted that it is critical for the Superintendent and Board to communicate. Especially, the Board President. Mr. Kadri stated that he does not really think that everyone wants to go down the path of checking when e-mails were sent, when responses were received, etc. Mr. Kadri noted that tonight's agenda is very large and suggested that the meeting move forward. Mr. Kadri noted that his cell phone is always on to receive calls.

4. Public Comment

Mr. Steve Rodos, Villages of Flowers Mills, stated that he would speak at the end of the meeting.

Mr. Philip Green, representative of the swim team who were seated in the first three rows, stated that this summer the team was swimming at Neshaminy Middle School due to the renovations at Poquessing Middle School. Mr. Green noted that there is a motion this evening concerning the blocks and water filtration system. Mr. Green thanked Mr. Kadri for coming out and speaking with the team and coaches. Mr. Kadri noted Mr. Paradise, Mr. Minotti, the swim coach, board members, all require a note of thanks and appreciation for the time and effort in bringing this situation to a successful conclusion this evening.

Mr. Chris Graham, Langhorne Boro, spoke regarding the PSSA article which was published in the paper. Mr. Graham looks forward to Mr. Kadri's presentation regarding the scores. Mr. Graham noted that the paper stated that Neshaminy School District is the lone school system in the area that did not achieve AYP on the standardized mathematic and reading tests as required by the federal No Child Left Behind Act. The AYP is the adequate yearly progress. Mr. Graham does not have children in Neshaminy anymore. The current parent's should be getting up and addressing the scores. Mr. Graham stated that if you don't care, he doesn't care. Other people need to bring their concerns to the attention of the Board.

5. Items for Discussion

a) **High School Construction Update**

- **Reynolds Construction Presentation – Mr. Damion Spahr**
- **ATS&R – Mr. Paul Erickson**
- **Approval of PlanCon I**

Mr. Paradise noted that the district is completing two years of construction at the high school and the school is almost not recognizable. The Board will receive a presentation from Reynolds and ATS&R.

Mr. Spahr provided the following comments:

- During the summer final approvals from PDE were received. District reimbursement is up significantly by several hundred thousand dollars.
- Slide Presentation was provided to Board members
- Project is ahead of schedule and on budget
- Library was completed in time with use on September 3rd - New entrance, carpeting, air conditioning, new finishes, sprinkler system, and upgrades
- Unit H Gym will be turned over to district by September 2nd
- All other areas have been turned over as required
- Unit D corridor and Unit E corridor are on schedule for move in during December, 2008
- Unit D itself will follow with occupancy in the summer of 2009 (wrapping up the major construction)
- Old Lincoln Highway work required by PennDot is complete
- Gym and Administration renovation in Unit A is completing for the upcoming school year
- Auditorium renovation in Unit B is nearing completion
- Unit F is a new two story math, business and social studies addition
- Addition D is underway – new two story science, classrooms and staff planning areas, new school store
- Unit A Gym renovations are complete and weight room renovations are complete

Mr. Paradise noted that a new traffic pattern is occurring at the high school which is now in effect from 6:30 a.m. till 7:30 a.m. Monday through Friday. Traveling south on Route 1 were previously you could turn right at the Veterinary Hospital you can no longer do same during those hours. Vehicles must proceed to the next exit at the water tank, turn right and come north on Old Lincoln Highway. This is mandated by the PennDot agreement.

Mr. O'Connor requested police coverage. Mr. Paradise noted that it is a state highway and the district is limited to what can be done. Advertisement has taken place heavily on the T.V. channel. Mr. Menio has advertised it heavily amongst the students and staff.

Dr. Spitz questioned the fall sports camps relocation. Mr. Spahr advised that this situation was resolved within the district operationally to allow the bleachers to be put in at this time to be ready for school, however, they were not ready for the sports camps.

Dr. Spitz questioned the contingency status. Mr. Spahr advised that June monthly report was provided to Board members. Summer month impact on the contingency was approximately \$10,000. Items have been

identified and discussions will take place with contractors in order to lower exposure. \$50,000 is still being carried for other township requirements. Mr. Spahr advised that \$250,000-\$300,000 is left in the contingency at this time to complete any other changes which may arise.

Mr. Webb toured the building and sat in on a contractor's meeting and was very impressed with the organization. Atmosphere was amazing. The entire project team is very happy to be on this type of job. Neshaminy is in a wonderful situation.

Mr. Eccles seconded the praise. Mr. Eccles has good fortune to know some of the contractors and they have nothing but praise for the Reynolds group and ATS&R and the way the project is being handled. This has kept this project moving forward. Many districts are saying WOW! Neshaminy is way ahead of the game.

Mr. Paul Erickson, ATS&R, stated that they are thrilled with the progress of the project. It is a very difficult, complex project. Good quality is being received from the contractors, mechanical, architectural, electrical, technology, etc. Great team effort is taking place. A project for the community and students which will last a long time is being accomplished.

Mr. Webb made a motion to approve PlanCon I. Mr. Blasch seconded the motion.

Mr. Eccles requested a roll call vote. The roll call tally indicated that the motion passed by a vote of six ayes (Mr. Blasch, Mrs. Cummings, Mr. Koutsouradis, Mr. O'Connor, Dr. Spitz and Mr. Webb) and zero nays. Mr. Eccles and Mr. Koziol abstained. Ms. Boyle was not present.

Mr. Eccles noted that Mr. Paradise will complete his items in order that he may be excused from the meeting.

e) Elementary School Furniture

Mr. Paradise advised that this item is on the agenda for discussion only and Board advice as to how to proceed.

Elementary school furniture is in need of replacement. The quote was approximately \$1M. Mr. Paradise suggested that some of the money from the capital reserve fund be used for items that would last twenty or more years. Possibly this could be done in increments over the upcoming years.

Principals are looking for feedback and discussion. Principals provided feedback to Mr. Paradise regarding what items would be necessary in each building.

Mr. Webb has requested a detailed list of what was taken out of the budget, part of which was capital improvement and he has not received same yet.

Mr. Koziol suggested that a financial committee review same.

Mr. Blasch noted that the Board still needs to address the issue of K-8 as provided in the McKissick report.

Mr. Paradise noted that the per pupil allocation cannot cover this type of larger expense for each Elementary school.

Mr. Eccles questioned when the list of cuts will be received from the budget. Line by line needs to be reviewed. Mr. Eccles knows the buildings need upkeep and the supplies need to be obtained.

Mr. Paradise advised that a detailed list was provided from May-June. Mr. Webb stated that the request for same was made on June 16th. Mr. Kadri asked that Board members call regarding any requests that are

not followed up with in a reasonable time. Mr. Kadri noted that this budget has put the district in a much sounder position financially. Mr. Kadri noted that the budget has been lowered by \$3.5M. Mr. Webb noted a school was closed.

Mr. Webb inquired what happened to the furniture from Neshaminy Middle School.

Mr. Paradise advised that the good furniture was distributed amongst the other middle schools and any remaining furniture will be auctioned in October.

Mr. Eccles does not want to "mortgage the future". Mr. Webb wants to see the list of cuts to see the priority of things. \$500,000 was taken out of the capital improvement fund. The Board borrowed \$25M approximately 5 years ago to do these type of things. The fund is down to less than \$4M.

Mr. Paradise assured the Board that a list would be provided.

Mr. Paradise noted that the Elementary school furniture items would be referred to Facilities and Finance Committee.

6. Items for Approval

a) Rental of Neshaminy Middle School Pool to Council Rock School District

Mr. Paradise advised that the Board will vote on a motion this evening regarding same. Mr. Profy is working on a lease agreement for the period of time from October, 2008 to December, 2008.

Mr. Paradise advised that Council Rock is willing to pay all the costs and expenses for operating same at approximately \$10,000 per month. Extensive requirements will be necessary regarding insurance. Mr. Profy will prepare said agreement if Board support is in the affirmative.

Mr. Eccles questioned what the operating expense would be. Mr. Paradise advised approximately \$9,500. If the Board wishes to earn some revenue, that could be considered. There should be no burden on Neshaminy taxpayers. Minimal heat will be necessary for the building at approximately 55 degrees. Security will also be an issue.

Council Rock is renovating their pool. Neshaminy has held off draining the Neshaminy Middle pool due to the renovations taking place at Poquessing.

Mr. Eccles inquired whether the district would be opening itself to litigation if there is air quality problems at Neshaminy Middle. All pools within the district require an infusion of capital. One of reasons why Neshaminy Middle was chosen for closure was because it was a middle school that had had the least done to it regarding upgrades and renovations.

Mr. Paradise noted that Council Rock needs to know now, due to a time element. If the Board does not feel they would like to proceed with the agreement, the district just needs to inform Council Rock and they will look elsewhere.

Mr. Eccles feels the rental fees for said pool need to be higher. Mr. Paradise advised that this evening the Board will not be voting on a dollar amount to be in the agreement. Mr. Webb noted that some profit needs to be obtained. Maintenance would be on an ala carte basis. A reasonable percentage should be added, but keep in mind that these are our neighbors.

Mr. Webb suggested that Mr. Paradise e-mail board members with the suggested dollar figure per month.

There was Board consensus to move forward.

b) Proposed change order for Poquessing Pool

Mr. Paradise advised that during the Spring testing took place at the Poquessing pool for air quality. Nothing was discovered in any way that showed any unhealthy conditions. It still remains today.

In continuing to pursue the matter on the parts on many individuals it has come to the districts attention that there is a process where chlorine interacts with the body oils and perspiration and that produces chloramines. This has probably been the cause of the issues experienced by the swimmers at the Poquessing pool. There is no known test for the chloramines.

Mr. Paradise advised that an ultraviolet light system to purify the water through filtration system has been suggested to alleviate the problem. The cost is approximately \$33,000 for the ultraviolet light system and \$22,000 for the starting blocks. The change order price seems to be a very fair price.

Mr. Blasch inquired whether similar problems exist at the Sandburg pool. Mr. Paradise advised that the Sandburg pool is not used for competitive swimming. Competitive swimming produces fast movement through the pool waters.

Mr. Webb is questioning why there has not been a problem for the past forty some years. Mr. Koutsouradis advised that the gases will be destroyed approximately 6"-10" above the water which are causing the problem.

Mr. Webb is concerned about a guarantee from the distributor of the ultraviolet system and how can we are assured that the same problem will not still be present. Mr. Paradise advised that other facilities have been contacted who have had the problem, used this solution and have resolved the issues. Council Rock, Central Bucks and Rider University have used this type of system to combat the problem.

Mr. Webb questioned whether this is a biddable item. Dr. Spitz advised that it is appropriate for the Board to discuss same. Mr. Webb is still concerned whether it is an add on or a change order.

Mr. Profy advised that the change order has two components. First, the starting blocks, second, the Ultraviolet light system. Mr. Profy reviewed the entire segment of the contract documents for the Pool renovation project and a significant component of the pool renovation program at Poquessing if the upgrading of the filtration system and this is an improvement and/or enhancement, augmentation of the filtration system of the pool and this qualifies as a change order for a number of reasons. The project engineer has approved the work as a change order. Documentation states that the cost is less to the school district doing it on a change order basis as opposed to doing same on a separate bid. A separate bid would be more costly. The total base contract is approximately \$350,000 and there have only been two change orders. Change orders are in a range of almost exactly 15%. Parameters have been met. Can it be bid separately? Yes. Can it be a change order? Yes.

Mr. Webb asked that Mr. Profy provide same in writing to the district.

Mr. Koziol asked if more than one company provides an ultraviolet light system. Mr. Paradise advised that there is. Mr. Koziol is concerned regarding the competition.

Mr. Eccles is concerned about the Sandburg pool. Mr. Eccles would like the same testing be required at that location. This is not a dangerous situation. Competitive swimmers just have a more difficult time breathing and competing.

Mr. Paradise asked the Board for their approval to have the change orders take place for the Poquessing project.

Mr. Eccles is still concerned regarding a risk of litigation from other contractors and the district is not violating any laws with regards to these change orders.

Mr. Profy again reiterated that these are legitimate change orders.

Mr. Blasch made a motion to accept the change order for the Poquessing pool as presented. Mr. Koutsouradis seconded same.

Mr. Eccles requested a roll call vote. The roll call tally indicated that the motion passes by a vote of five ayes (Mr. Blasch, Mrs. Cummings, Mr. Koutsouradis, Mr. O'Connor, Dr. Spitz). Mr. Eccles, Mr. Koziol and Mr. Webb abstained. Ms. Boyle was not present.

Mrs. Cummings thanked the swim team for bringing this situation to the attention of the Board.

Mr. Paradise left the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

c) Tax Year 2009 Assessment Appeals

Mr. Profy advised that George Sengpiel, district appraiser, has identified seven commercial properties which, in his opinion, have a fair market value significantly higher than the imputed fair market value of the 2009 assessments. Mr. Profy advised that the Board was provided a memo dated August 20th with the recommended properties.

The 2009 tax assessment appeals are herewith authorized and approved and all action heretofore taken by the Board President and the Solicitor to have said Appeals filed prior to August 1, 2008, as required by law, are herewith ratified and confirmed in all respects.

Dr. Spitz made a motion to approve the filing of the seven tax assessment appeals for the 2009 tax assessment listed in the memorandum dated August 20, 2008 by the Solicitor ratifying and confirming all that the Solicitor and Board President had done in connection with the filing of the appeals prior to August 1, 2008 as required by law.

Mr. Koziol seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved said motion. Ms. Boyle was not present.

A meeting break was called at 8:30 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 8:35 p.m.

(Continuation of Items for Discussion)

5. Items for Discussion

b) PSSA Review and Plans for the Year

Mr. Kadri provided presentation packets to all Board members entitled Review of School Year 2008 and Plans for School Year 2009. Said presentation would also be posted on the Neshaminy website.

A true and correct copy of the presentation is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes. (Attachment B)

The goal of the presentation was to provide the following:

- Explain No Child Left Behind, PSSA and AYP
- Review of goals and initiatives for SY 2008
- Examine results
- Comments on Recent Newspaper Accounts
- Comments on Maintaining an Appropriate focus
- Plans for SY 2009

Mr. O'Connor inquired why 9th & 10th grade are skipped in the process, how is a student determined to be in the economically disadvantaged category, and how is it determined whether special education or the reading program is lacking when determining the scores.

Mr. Kadri advised that the economically disadvantaged category is based upon the freedom reduced lunches, but the numbers are a bit deceiving at the high school level. As far as determining which areas are lacking the district needs to look at the student level data (curriculum, instruction, programs, sequence, etc.)

Mr. O'Connor complimented the district on the information provided.

Mr. Eccles inquired what was the purpose of No Child Left Behind. Mr. Kadri stated that some people think it was a sinister way to make public education look bad. The public school system has the task of having success with everyone. Public school needs to care for every child and forces conversation about every child.

Mr. Kadri advised that the PSSA's were put into effect so that every state has a level assessment which meets the requirements of No Child Left Behind otherwise federal grant funds are lost. PSSA is a test which is required to determine adequacy level of attainment.

Mr. Eccles noted that this was all put into effect to make sure that every student was receiving the education that they deserve. Mr. Eccles feels that over the years some subgroups were being ignored over the years and therefore, setting up the program was enabling every child to have the opportunity. Yearly progress with every student needs to be made.

Mr. Kadri stated it is the moral obligation of every educator to service every child. NCLB in its framework helps promote that, because it fosters decision making and continuous improvement which are great. The assessment measures with NCLB is where the concern lies. By 2014 the federal government has said that 100% will be O.K. does not service students appropriately. At times government makes rules while in theory are intended to make everyone proficient, the accountability measures actually do not assist in the process.

Mr. Eccles is concerned that districts are not paying attention to groups that need the most attention and hence it was instituted to make sure that help was given to those.

Mr. Kadri noted that the only way you can focus on every child is if you can see every child. Some are easier to see than others because they sit on ends of the bell curve. Certain students look so similar that it is difficult to see them. The district should be able to see every child and receive information.

Dr. Spitz agrees with Mr. Eccles that the district needs to focus on the subgroups. Many of the IEP students need help. Dr. Spitz agrees that since day one Mr. Kadri has been asking for data/research capability. Dr. Spitz would implore this Board to give you the resources that you need to develop that capability. Since the district spends so much money \$160M per year, that

we cannot afford to know why students are doing well and why they are not because of a lack of research capability. Give the administration the ability to carry out this task.

Mr. Kadri noted that the districts goal is that every child heads toward their potential. Everyone within the district must work together to reach the 2014 goal.

Mr. Koziol stated that 91% of all the school districts in Pennsylvania met AYP. The high school is in corrective action for the second year not meeting AYP. What happens next year if it is not met? Mr. Kadri advised that every year the district needs to write a corrective action plan. The plan is redone every year. Mr. Koziol noted that if you fail for a third year then the state will provide help.

Mr. Koziol advised that at the district he works they use Performance Tracker. Every principal is trained to interpret the data since they are the closest with the student on a daily basis. This is very useful rather than having one person decipher the data, but not be in contact and know the student.

Mr. Koziol advised that he did not run for this office so he could beat up on people. Mr. Koziol did not run for this office so he could question every bill. He ran for this office because he is interested in the welfare of the students and district. Mr. Koziol would have liked to see the raw data two months ago. Other districts had their information. Mr. Webb noted that he requested the data back in June. Mr. Koziol noted that everyone is on the same team.

Mr. Kadri commented that Mr. Eccles did not contact him directly, but he wrote the rest of the Board that other districts have received data. It was not a directive to me. It was an e-mail to other Board members speaking in the third person. Mr. Kadri responded that the data that came in is student level data with the purpose of being assigned to the school district to check for errors. It was not sent to the district in an aggregated form in order to study same. Mr. Kadri wrote the Board on two occasions and indicated same and stated that 60 plus errors had been found and were sent back to the state. At the end of July the data was done in school level form, again for the purpose of identifying errors. Again, the Board was written stating that the goal was to present an opinion in a timely fashion to digest same before becoming public.

Mr. Kadri stated that a direct request for data was sent. Three of the Board members could not find the time to meet with him. Six Board members reviewed the more refined data. Changes have occurred in the last week prior to release.

Mr. Koziol wants to help, but if you don't let him help then the need to ask questions is ever present.

Mrs. Cummings does not see how throwing accusations changes the numbers and where the district is at. We should be moving forward as a Board. Mr. Eccles stated that he has been with the district for forty years and that the scores that Neshaminy received is the darkest day in Neshaminy's history. Absolutely. We should be ashamed of ourselves talking about subgroups and how bad they are. Our job is to educate every child. Mr. Eccles is looking at data from 2003, 2004 and 2005 and only one school was in trouble. In 2008 seven out of thirteen schools failed AYP. Mr. Kadri stated failed is the wrong term.

Mr. Kadri stated that if the Board directs him to focus the district on AYP then it will be done, but you will not have student achievement.

Mr. Webb stated that the high school for three years has been in corrective action. PSSA is the law of the land in PA and it is the state's report card. The district did not make AYP in seven out of thirteen schools. Last year three schools did not make. There is a movement down. Other

schools have the exact same problems. They managed to improve. Mr. Kadri asked what is more important – How our students are actually doing with student achievement, or flag indicators that are meant to help. AYP is meant to be an indicator not to mock. Mr. Kadri stated that you cannot look at AYP alone.

Mrs. Cummings stated that three seniors tonight prided themselves with the accomplishments made at the high school. By the papers saying the district failed it is saying the students failed and those students did not fail.

Mr. Kadri reiterated that failed is not a good word. Warning is the correct term.

Mr. Kadri stated that the three Board members who would not meet with him are having the biggest issue with the topic.

Mr. Kadri noted that the students in the high school did an absolutely fantastic job. High School scores were increased, put the budget in line and keep politics out of the hiring process. Mr. Kadri believes that he has done all three. Mr. Kadri would like to know what the Board wants him to do.

Mr. Koziol stated that the Board lowered the budget by closing Neshaminy Middle School.

Mr. Webb is suggesting that Mr. Kadri speak with other districts regarding the tracker software. Mr. Webb noted that next year the Tech School grades will be drawn into this which will have an effect on Neshaminy's population.

Mr. Webb noted that the bottom line is that all that is being asked is that the property values are being protected.

Mr. Kadri noted that the Commonwealth of PA asks the district not to release the data until they have released same. Number publicizing should not have occurred prior to August 14th. Tawanka has been made part of the high school and it is not a separate operation code.

Mr. Blasch noted that Mr. Kadri has been requesting data warehousing ever since he came to Neshaminy. Mr. Kadri has a different model other than Performance Tracker which has been very successful. Time is a value and resource.

Mr. Webb suggested you have surrounding districts that are successfully using a program it is not necessary to reinvent the wheel. Mr. Kadri stated that at this time we should not be speaking about product specific.

Mr. Eccles commented have you ever purchased something, got the product and then felt it was not worth it? Mr. Eccles stated that is what it feels like in this district. A lot of money has been spent on the educational system in this community and Mr. Eccles feels that he is not getting his money's worth.

Mr. Kadri questioned what did the Board do last year to contribute to achievement? Did you set goals? Communicate with the Superintendent on how to work together? Mr. Kadri stated that it is time that rhetoric is put aside and focus on the students. Mr. Kadri asked the Board to do the following: create goals for the district and then force to set goals for yourselves how you help reinforce same. Let by gones be by gones. A strategic goal setting needs to occur.

Mr. Koziol remembers that last November we were asked to vote on a Strategic Plan in which the Board had no input, really not needed, pushing the timetable and graduation requirements.

Dr. Spitz stated that despite all the back and forth some of the board members do not support where the Superintendent is steering this district. Dr. Spitz feels that there is a majority of the Board that does support where Mr. Kadri is leading the district. The majority needs to take its role seriously and indicate strongly to the Superintendent that we do support him. We should not let a minority of this Board dictate how and in what manner you move this district forward.

c) Girls Soccer at the Middle Schools

Mr. Kadri advised that it is possible to create a 7th & 8th grade Girl's soccer program at Maple Point. Equity of programs is a necessity. The middle schools are planning to solicit whether or not there is interest at a student level that does not take away from other programs that are run. If there is interest the Board will be presented a proposal with numbers behind it to see where it could go. This is a skills development program and the schools would need to use the fields available.

This would not be in competition with soccer, but will it take away from softball and track and field.

Mr. Eccles advised that if you add girl's soccer would you then need to add boy's soccer at that level.

d) Redistricting Update

- **Staggered opening for the middle schools**

Mr. Kadri provided a few power point slides to advise Board members on enrollment numbers at the middle schools.

1398 & 60 IU students	Maple Point
713 students	Poquessing
724 students	Carl Sandburg

Mr. Blasch questioned that due to the economy has there been an increase in parochial school students switching over to public school due to finances. Mr. Kadri will e-mail the data found.

Orientation for the Middle Schools was provided by Mr. Kadri.

7. Items for Information

a) Confirmation of Previous PlanCon Approval I

Mr. Kadri advised that the PlanCon I approval for an adjustment. A true and correct copy of said approval is attached hereto and made a part hereof. (See Attachment A).

b) Confirmation of Overnight Trip – Neshaminy Middle School Healthy Schools Program National Recognition – August 4 – 6, 2008

Dr. Heble noted that Neshaminy Middle School was awarded the bronze status by The National Health Alliance last year. Dr. Heble shared highlights with the Board that Mrs. Wychock advised of. President Clinton presented the award to Neshaminy as one of the 43 schools in the United States to receive the award.

8. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Kadri advised that Government Finance Officers Association in Chicago, IL provided a letter awarding Neshaminy with a distinguished budget presentation award for the current fiscal year. This is the highest

form of recognition in government budgeting and represents a significant achievement by the district. This award has been presented to the Business Office.

Mr. Kadri further advised that the Commonwealth of PA, Department of Education provided a letter to Neshaminy congratulating accomplishments on the audits for fiscal years ending June 30, 2006, 2005, 2004 and 2003 recently issued by the Department of Auditor General. It was asked that this be made an official part of the minutes. A true and correct copy of said letter is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

9. Committee Reports

a) Board Policies

No report.

b) Educational Development

Dr. Spitz advised that meeting will be set in early October.

c) Finance/Facilities

Mr. Webb advised that a meeting date will be set in the upcoming weeks.

d) IU Board

No report.

e) Education Foundation

Dr. Costanzo advised that the foundation continues to meet and is looking for any new members.

f) Technical School

Mr. Koutsouradis advised that the Joint Board met last night and approved the minutes of the prior Meeting. Discussion took place regarding the new auditorium addition project. The Auditorium should be capable of operating by October 1st.

Next meeting will be held on September 22nd at 8:00 p.m.

g) Technology

Mr. Blasch advised that no meeting took place in August. The next meeting is scheduled for September 15th.

10. Future Topics

Mr. Koziol provided Board members with a handout regarding the Senior Citizens Property Tax Assistance program for the purpose of providing property tax relief to senior citizens which was started in 1977. It is the same program which is current today.

No adjustments have been made in the past thirty years.

Mr. Koziol would like to see adjustments in order to help the senior citizens.

Mr. Webb stated that originally is was 100% of the income and social security. Over the years it has been changed to 50%.

Discussion could take place in the finance committee.

11. Agenda Development for the August 26, 2008 Public Meeting

12. Other Board Business

Mr. Koziol advised that the fastest way to lose or gain confidence in a public company is untimely reporting or be suspected of forcing an issue when all of the facts have not been divulged. Request that the Board members receive their packets of information with enough time to review them. Request at least a week in advance. Until we start getting timely packets Mr. Koziol stated that he will have no choice but to abstain on any items regardless of the circumstances.

Mr. Koziol requested that the district contact Central Bucks and review and report to the Board on their plan to enforce random drug testing: 1. All students participating in extra curricular activities and 2. Students with driver licenses and parking privileges.

Mr. Koziol requested the Board to pass a policy that requires random drug testing of all employees that come in contact with children.

Mr. Koziol suggested the following items:

- Request e-mail accounts for all board members and have them posted on the web site
- Revisit the senior citizen property tax assistance program
- Construct a report with legal guidance that advises all residences of pending and settled court cases in the past three years. Issue a semi-annual report thereafter. Reasons, participants, outcome
- Would like an outside firm audit and review all student/sports clubs
- Request the Board pass a policy that requires all employees to be re-checked for both felony and drug usage crimes every five years
- Would like a complete inventory of computer technology equipment
- Would like to see the credit card report/how effective was same/how much money did the district save
- Review bidding policy

Mr. Koziol will forward e-mail regarding same to Board members.

13. Adjournment of Meeting

Mr. Webb moved the meeting be adjourned and Mr. Blasch seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion. Mr. Eccles adjourned the meeting at 10:12 p.m.

PUBLIC MEETING

Call to Order

Mr. Eccles called the meeting to order at 10:12 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Walls presented the minutes of the June 3, 2008 and June 16, 2008 public meetings. Upon motion of Mr. Koutsouradis and seconded by Mr. Blasch, the Board approved the minutes of the June 3, 2008 and June 16, 2008 public meetings.

Mr. Eccles requested a roll call vote. The roll call tally indicated the approval of minutes passed by a vote of five ayes (Dr. Spitz, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Koutsouradis, Mrs. Cummings, Mr. Blasch.) and three abstentions (Mr. Webb, Mr. Koziol, Mr. Eccles). Ms. Boyle was not present.

Approval of Treasurer's Report, Check Registers, Investments, and Exonerations of Personal and Per Capita Tax

Dr. Muenker presented the following for approval:

- June, 2008 and July, 2008 Treasurer's Reports, subject to audit

- Check Register – June, 2008 and July, 2008
- New Investment Approvals

Mr. O'Connor questioned a transaction to Teen Parenting for Mr. Paradise to answer in the future.

Mr. Blasch moved the June, 2008 and July, 2008 Treasurer's Reports, subject to audit, Check Registers for June, 2008 and July, 2008. Dr. Spitz seconded the motion.

Mr. Eccles requested a roll call vote. The roll call tally indicated the approval of the Treasurer's Reports by a vote of five ayes (Mr. Blasch, Mrs. Cummings, Mr. Koutsouradis, Mr. O'Connor, Dr. Spitz) and three abstentions (Mr. Eccles, Mr. Koziol (reserve the right to question the checks at the next meeting) Mr. Webb. Ms. Boyle was not present.

Certified and Support Personnel Reports

Dr. Muenker presented the following for approval:

- Elections of Certified Personnel
- Resignations/Leaves of Certified Personnel
- Elections of Support Personnel
- Resignations/Leaves of Support Personnel
- 2008-09 Recommended Extra-Curricular Staff and Salaries

Dr. Muenker advised that of the personnel report on page 106 delete candidate number 13.

Mr. Blasch moved the personnel report be accepted. Dr. Spitz seconded the motion.

Dr. Spitz confirmed that the salary numbers are based on the 2007/2008 salary grid.

Mr. Eccles would like to see the Extra Curricular staff and salaries be placed in alphabetical order.

Dr. Spitz made a motion to separate out Item #23, on page 113. Mr. Blasch seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved same.

Mr. Profy advised that the Board will vote upon the list absent of Item #23, on page 113.

Mr. Eccles requested a roll call vote. The roll call tally indicated the personnel report passed by a vote of five ayes (Dr. Spitz, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Koutsouradis, Mrs. Cummings, Mr. Blasch) and three abstentions (Mr. Webb, Mr. Koziol, Mr. Eccles). Ms. Boyle was not present.

Mr. Profy advised that the Board will now vote upon Item #23, on page 113.

Mr. Eccles requested a roll call vote. The roll call tally indicated the that Item #23, page 113 failed by a vote four ayes (Mr. Blasch, Mrs. Cummings, Mr. Koutsouradis, Dr. Spitz) and four abstentions (Mr. Eccles, Mr. Koziol, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Webb). Ms. Boyle was not present.

Mr. Profy advised that under Section 508 of the school code the personnel appointment must be made by an affirmative vote of five board members. Mr. Profy advised that the motion failed for lack of five affirmative votes.

Motion: Approval of Rental of Neshaminy Middle School Pool to Council Rock School District

Mr. Blasch presented the following motion:

WHEREAS, the Council Rock School District has expressed an interest in a short term lease of a pool to use during their pool renovations; and

WHEREAS, the Neshaminy Middle pool is available due to the recent closure of this facility.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Neshaminy Board of School Directors authorize the Business Administrator to execute a lease with the Council Rock School District for the use of the Neshaminy Middle School pool upon the review and approval of our Solicitor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the terms of the lease be for the approximate period from October to December, 2008, and will cover the complete operating costs including labor, energy and all utilities, pool supplies, maintenance, legal expenses, and all other expenses.

Dr. Spitz seconded the motion.

Mr. Profy stated that the prepared agreement will need to be approved by the Board in the future. This motion is authorizing the development of the agreement and the agreement will need to be approved by the Board in the future. This is time sensitive.

The Board unanimously approved the motion. Ms. Boyle was not present.

Federal Programs

Mr. Kadri advised that the Classroom For the Future grant has been decreased to \$88,000 due to the compromise in the state budget.

Other Board Business

Mr. Koutsouradis advised that he will not be present at the September 9, 2008 Work Session due to a planned family vacation.

Public Comment

Mr. Steve Rodos, Villages of Flowers Mills, Langhorne, PA, congratulated Mr. Kadri and his administration, the teachers and students for the improved test scores in the PSSA. The 11th grade increased by over 20% and that is an accomplishment. Mr. Rodos feels the Courier Times has their priorities upside down. This should not be construed. The district is only as strong as the attention it pays to its weakest students. The test results got better for the 11th grade with every page turned in the Courier. Next major area of concern will be computer teachers in the elementary schools along with full time kindergarten. Mr. Rodos hopes that Neshaminy has spoken with Council Rock regarding their pool upgrades. Mr. Rodos thanked the Board and Teacher's Union for not using the Courier Times to air any and all contract disagreements. Mr. Rodos wanted to know the intended future use of the Sesame Place property. The school district is being shortchanged for our receipts from Sesame Place. This is a concern. Mr. Rodos does not agree with Board members abstaining on votes. In the long run it will not lead to harmony amongst the Board members and public.

Mr. Chris Graham, Langhorne, PA, stated that the circus has come back to town. The bantering back and forth by this Board tonight, what is the purpose of all the abstentions. Mr. O'Connor abstained from a vote tonight for a personal reason, but because of how the rest of the Board voted, this person did not get a contract. Of the three board members who abstained from the vote how many of you researched this individual person to find out whether she was qualified or not. Mr. Kadri is trying to fix the garbage left by the last administration. Mr. Graham stated that all Board members had knowledge that the test scores existed. Dr. Costanzo advised the Board of same back in June. Mr. Graham advised that each board member should have a district wide e-mail.

Mr. Koziol advised that he abstained from every vote tonight because he is not given the information in a timely fashion.

Mr. Webb advised that the PSSA scores were released to Mr. Kadri not the Board. They became public record in August. Mr. Webb would like to have the raw data. Mr. Kadri never received a request for the data.

Mr. Webb asked Mr. Eccles for a brief Executive Session. The Board broke for an Executive Session at 10:43 p.m. to discuss personnel issue.

The Board reconvened at 10:48 p.m.

Mr. Webb made a motion to revisit the Personnel Report Item #23, on page 113. Mr. Koziol seconded the motion.

Mr. Eccles requested a roll call vote. The roll call tally indicated that the Board approved the motion by a vote of seven ayes (Mr. Webb, Dr. Spitz, Mr. Koziol, Mr. Koutsouradis, Mr. Eccles, Mrs. Cummings, Mr. Blasch) and one abstention (Mr. O'Connor). Ms. Boyle was not present.

Mr. Webb made a motion to approve Personnel Item #23, on page 113. Mr. Koziol seconded the motion.

Mr. Eccles requested a roll call vote. The roll call tally indicated that the Board approved the motion by a vote of seven ayes (Mr. Blasch, Mrs. Cummings, Mr. Eccles, Mr. Koutsouradis, Mr. Koziol, Dr. Spitz, Mr. Webb) and one abstention (Mr. O'Connor). Ms. Boyles was not present.

Board Comment

Mr. Eccles advised that Ms. Boyle is at the Democratic National Convention in Denver.

Adjournment of Meeting

Mr. O'Connor moved the meeting be adjourned and Mr. Koutsouradis seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion. Mr. Eccles adjourned the meeting at 10:51 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Anita E. Walls
Board Secretary