

NESHAMINY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Langhorne, Pennsylvania

PUBLIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
REORGANIZATION MEETING  
NESHAMINY BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS  
December 1, 2014

The Neshaminy Board of School Directors met in public session on December 1, 2014, in the District Offices Board Room at Maple Point Middle School. The following persons were in attendance:

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

Mr. Scott Congdon, President  
Mr. Irene Boyle, Vice President  
Mr. John Allen  
Mrs. Susan Cummings  
Mr. Mike Morris  
Mr. Steve Pirritano  
Mr. Ron Rudy  
Mr. Mark Shubin  
Mr. Anthony Sposato

**ADMINISTRATORS:**

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

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT :**

**OTHERS:** Approximately 65 persons from the public, staff and press

**SECRETARY:** Mrs. Jennifer Burns

**SOLICITOR:** Mr. Profy, IV, Esquire  
Mr. John Torrente- Left at 7:52 p.m.

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**Call to Order**

Mr. Congdon called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

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

**Announcements**

None

**Public Comment**

Karen Lowry, resident of Feasterville, said she is opposed to the closing of elementary schools and moving fifth grade to middle school and she called for a referendum. Ms. Lowry questioned why the Act 34 closing hearing is being held on the same night as scheduled school functions. She also asked why the Reynolds report has not been made available to the public.

Robert Sanna, resident of Levittown, commented that it appears that the special Act 34 closing hearing is scheduled on the same night as school functions in order to insure a small turnout for the meeting. Mr. Sanna voiced his displeasure that auditors were present in the classrooms during parent-teacher conferences, which he felt was disrespecting both the teachers and parents.

**Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Copeland advised the Board that there was nothing new to report at this time.

- Personal & Per Capita Taxes due by December 15, 2014
- December Holiday Concert Schedule
- Maple Point Middle School Provides Thanksgiving Meals for 40 Families
- NHS's Family & Consumer Science Students prepared Annual Thanksgiving Feast

**Reorganization of the Board of School Directors**

**a) Election of Temporary President**

Mr. Congdon requested nominations be presented for Temporary President for the reorganization of the Neshaminy Board of School Directors. Mr. Congdon nominated Mr. Shubin and Mrs. Cummings seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. The Board moved the nominations for Temporary President of the Neshaminy Board of School Directors be closed.

Mr. Congdon requested a roll call. The roll call tally indicated that Mr. Shubin was elected Temporary President of the Neshaminy Board of School Directors for 2014, by a vote of 7 ayes, (Mr. Allen, Ms. Boyle, Mr. Congdon, Mrs. Cummings, Mr. Pirritano, Mr. Shubin and Mr. Sposato) and 2 nays, (Mr. Morris, and Mr. Rudy)

**b) Election of President**

Mr. Shubin made a motion to open nominations for President of the Neshaminy Board of School Directors and Mr. Morris seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved said motion. Mr. Morris nominated Mr. Sposato and Mr. Sposato respectively declined the nomination. Mr. Shubin nominated Mr. Congdon. Mr. Morris nominated Ms. Boyle and Ms. Boyle respectfully declined the nomination. Mr. Morris nominated Mr. Pirritano and Mr. Pirritano respectively declined the nomination. Mr. Morris nominated Mr. Allen and Mr. Allen respectively declined the nomination. Mr. Morris nominated Mr. Sposato and Mr. Sposato respectively declined the nomination. Mr. Morris nominated Mrs. Cummings and Mrs. Cummings respectively declined the nomination. Mr. Morris nominated Mr. Allen and Mr. Allen respectively declined the nomination. Mr. Morris nominated himself.

Mr. Shubin moved that nominations for President of the Neshaminy Board of School Directors be closed. The Board unanimously moved that nominations for President of the Neshaminy Board of School Directors be closed.

Mr. Shubin requested a roll call. The roll call tally indicated that Mr. Congdon was elected President of the Neshaminy Board of School Directors for 2015, by a vote of 7 votes, (Mr. Allen, Ms. Boyle, Mrs. Cummings, Mr. Congdon, Mr. Pirritano, Mr. Shubin, and Mr. Sposato.) Mr. Morris received 2 votes, (Mr. Morris and Mr. Rudy.)

The loyalty of oaths of office was administered to Mr. Scott Congdon by Mr. Shubin.

**c) Election of Vice-President**

Mr. Shubin made a motion to open nominations for Vice-President of the Neshaminy Board of School Directors. Mr. Shubin requested nominations be presented for Vice-President of the Neshaminy School Board of Directors. Mrs. Cummings nominated Mr. Shubin and Mr. Shubin respectively declined. Mr. Shubin nominated Ms. Boyle. Mr. Morris nominated Mr. Sposato and Mr. Sposato respectively declined the nomination. Mr. Morris nominated Mrs. Cummings and Mrs. Cummings respectively declined the nomination. Mr. Morris nominated Mr. Allen and Mr. Allen respectively declined the nomination. Mr. Morris nominated Mr. Pirritano and Mr. Pirritano respectively declined the nomination. Mr. Morris nominated Mr. Shubin and Mr. Shubin respectively declined the nomination.

Mr. Shubin moved that nomination for Vice-President of the Neshaminy Board of School Directors be closed.

Mr. Shubin requested a roll call. The roll call tally indicated that Ms. Boyle was elected Vice-President of the Neshaminy Board of School Directors for 2015, by 9 votes, (Mr. Allen, Ms. Boyle, Mr. Congdon, Mrs. Cummings, Mr. Morris, Mr. Rudy, Mr. Pirritano, Mr. Shubin, and Mr. Sposato.)

The loyalty of oaths of office was administered to Ms. Irene Boyle by Mr. Shubin.

**Motion: Appointment of Solicitor**

Mr. Congdon presented the following motion:

WHEREAS The School Board Policy #100 requires during the month of December that the Board of School Directors appoint a solicitor for a one year term.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of School directors reappoint the law firm of Begley, Carlin & Mandio as Solicitor of the Neshaminy School District in accordance with its fee letter attached.

Mr. Pirritano seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved said motion by a vote of 9 ayes, and 0 nays.

Mr. Profy thanked the Board for the vote of confidence, on behalf of Begley, Carlin & Mandio, and said that they look forward to serving the Neshaminy School District for the upcoming 2015 – 2016 school year.

**Motion: Approval of Meeting Schedule**

Mr. Congdon read the following motion:

WHEREAS, the Board of School Directors must adopt and publish a schedule of Public Meetings for 2015.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the attached 2015 School Board Meeting Calendar be adopted by the Neshaminy Board of School Directors.

Mrs. Cummings seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved said motion by a vote of 9 ayes, and 0 nays.

**Other Board Business**

None.

**Public Comment**

Angie Manning, New Jersey public school teacher, resident of Middletown, asked how residents in her district would go about re-districting the boundaries so they can be considered part of region 3.

Mr. Profy answered that the matter would have to be looked into.

**Board Comment**

Mr. Shubin thanked Mr. Congdon and Ms. Boyle for their dedication and efforts performing as Board President and Vice President during some difficult situations.

Mr. Pirritano also thanked the Board executives for their hard work. Mr. Pirritano remarked that the Board is aware of scheduling conflicts on December 4th and said December 5th is also scheduled, so the public can come on that night to voice their opinions.

Mr. Morris congratulated Ms. Boyle and Mr. Congdon on their re-elections and said he looks forward to better future communications.

Ms. Boyle thanked the Board for their vote of confidence.

Mr. Congdon, additionally, thanked the Board for their votes.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Congdon moved the meeting be adjourned and Mr. Pirritano seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion. Mr. Congdon adjourned the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Burns  
Board Secretary

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**SPECIAL MEETING**

**PRESENTATION OF PHASE 1 GESA PROJECT**

**Call to Order**

Mr. Congdon called the meeting to order at 7:29 p.m.

**Public Comment**

Kevin Gallagher, IT analyst, resident of Middletown, thanked the Board for their time and service to the community. Mr. Gallagher said it is a fact that the school district is facing huge financial challenges to renovate, upgrade and improve Neshaminy. He said it makes sense to borrow money to accomplish what needs to be done without further delay.

Mark Fiore, resident of Middletown, said that the students should be protected with security vestibules before any money is spent of air conditioning.

**Approval of GESA Project**

Mr. Damion Spahr and Rick Evans from Reynolds Construction Company gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Neshaminy School District Facilities Program GESA Phase 1 Contract.

Additionally, Mr. Evans and Mr. Spahr answered several questions from the School Board and public with respect to Phase 1 of the GESA Project.

**Motion: Approval of Agreement for Construction for Reynolds Energy Services for Guaranteed Energy Services**

Mr. Pirritano read the following:

WHEREAS, the Neshaminy Board of School Directors desires to move forward with Phase I of the Guaranteed Energy Services project; and

WHEREAS, the Neshaminy Board of School Directors approves the appointment of Reynolds Energy Services to provide all the necessary services including construction upgrades related to energy efficiency measures at Carl Sandburg Middle School, Albert Schweitzer Elementary School, and Herbert Hoover Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, the Board of School Directors approves Reynolds Energy Services to begin an investment grade audit for amendment of this Guaranteed Energy Services Agreement to extend efficiency construction measures to Joseph Ferderbar Elementary School, Poquessing Middle School (Phase II) and Walter Miller Elementary School and Maple Point Middle School (Phase III) as directed by Administration; and

WHEREAS, the Phase I project will be provided as recommended in the presentation to the Board on December 1, 2014 and in accordance with the scope accepted by the Board following the presentation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of School Directors accept the proposal from Reynolds Energy Services for Phase I in the NOT TO EXCEED amount of \$20,900,000 with energy savings guaranteed under PA Act 39, 57, and 77 guidelines.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Administrator be authorized to execute the final agreement upon review of the Solicitor.

Mr. Sposato seconded the motion.

**Roll Call:**

|                       | <b>Ayes</b> | <b>Nays</b> | <b>Abstentions</b> |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Mr. John Allen        | 1           |             |                    |
| Ms. Irene Boyle       | 1           |             |                    |
| Mrs. Susan Cummings   | 1           |             |                    |
| Mr. Mike Morris       | 1           |             |                    |
| Mr. Anthony Sposato   | 1           |             |                    |
| Mr. Stephen Pirritano | 1           |             |                    |
| Mr. Ron Rudy          | 1           |             |                    |
| Mr. Scott Congdon     | 1           |             |                    |
| Mr. Mark Shubin       | 1           |             |                    |

The Board unanimously approved said motion by a vote of 9 ayes and 0 nays.

**Other Board Business**

None.

**Board Comment**

Mr. Allen said that he is happy to move forward with the project.

Mr. Morris said that he has been in favor of implementing an energy savings program for many years. He also said he is concerned with the statement that the cost of the project is guaranteed not to exceed the proposed amount.

Mr. Shubin said he is proud of the vote to move forward and he commends the Board for making an excellent decision.

Mr. Pirritano thanked the Board members for voting for the project and said the district is finally getting something positive accomplished.

Mr. Congdon said that the security vestibules are a top priority, so all schools will be protected equally.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Congdon moved the meeting be adjourned and Mr. Sposato seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion. Mr. Congdon adjourned the meeting at 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Burns  
Board Secretary