

NESHAMINY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Langhorne, Pennsylvania

PUBLIC WORK SESSION MINUTES  
NESHAMINY BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS  
November 9, 2016

The Neshaminy Board of School Directors met in public work session on November 9, 2016 in the District Offices Board Room at the Maple Point Middle School. The following persons were in attendance:

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

Scott E. Congdon, President  
Irene Boyle, Vice President  
Bob Feather  
Tina Hollenbach  
Ron Rudy  
Robert Sanna  
Marty Sullivan

**ADMINISTRATORS:**

Joseph Jones III  
Gloria Hancock, Ed. D  
Barbara Markowitz  
Anthony Devlin  
Paul Meehan

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Mike Morris  
Stephen Pirritano

**OTHERS:** Approximately 25 persons from the public, staff and press

**SECRETARY:** Mrs. Jennifer Burns

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

**1. Call to Order**

Mr. Congdon called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

A roll call indicated that a quorum of directors was present and the meeting was duly convened. Seven members were present; Mr. Morris and Mr. Pirritano were absent with prior notice.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

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

**4. Announcements**

None.

**5. Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Jones advised the Board on the following:

- Second month of students' artwork being displayed in the District Offices
- November 10th, Maple Point Veterans' Day Ceremony
- Sports updates
- Synopsis of Teacher's Act 80 Day
- Commended the Facilities Department for their painting of the flag at Maple Point
- Maple Point Physical Education teacher Kathleen Kenney, who was selected as the 2016 Pennsylvania State Association of Health Physical Education Recreation and Dance Professional Honor Award recipient
- Albert Schweitzer fourth-grade student, Grace Jacoby, enjoyed a very special shopping trip to a Target store recently, along with several of her classmates who are all in the school's Service Learning Club (SLC). Grace is the recipient of a \$1000 grant from the Karma for Cara Foundation, which she applied for in June
- Joseph Gentile, Food Service Director, gave an update from Aramark

Mr. Sullivan asked if the equipment is paid through Aramark or the district.

Mr. Gentile stated its paid through a capital investment loan through Aramark.

Mr. Sullivan asked what is the procedure if a food service employee calls out.

Mr. Gentile stated that a substitute is obtained through Source4Teachers and if a substitute is not available employees may do double duty.

Mr. Sullivan asked if the program has been well received by the staff.

Mr. Gentile stated that overall Aramark is been well received.

Mr. Congdon asked if sales are up.

Mr. Gentile stated that in general yes, particularly at the high school.

Mr. Congdon asked when the new full menu will be implemented.

Mr. Gentile stated that, as of November, the full menu should be available in all grade levels.

Mrs. Hollenbach asked if in the elementary schools are there salads on the menu daily.

Mr. Gentile stated there are salads on the menu everyday as well as two hot features.

Mr. Feather asked if there are staff meetings every week.

Mr. Gentile stated that there are monthly meetings with the cook leaders.

Mr. Feather asked if his contact information is available to staff members.

Mr. Gentile stated that his two emails and cell phone numbers are available.

Mr. Feather asked if five employees have recently left food services.

Mr. Gentile stated that there are five open positions that they will be hiring for.

Mrs. Hollenbach asked if there are any locations where sales are down.

Mr. Gentile replied at some locations where sales are not up then they are flat.

#### **6. Public Comment**

Steve Rodos, retired, resident of Villages of Flowers Mill, asked the Board to raise the pay for substitute teachers to \$120.00 per diem. He also suggested that one way to keep classroom sizes lower is to offer the NFT an incentive program for eligible teachers to retire, which would then create an opportunity to higher 2 entry level teachers in place of the higher paid higher-ranking teacher.

Nancy Lynch, Neshaminy food service employee, said speaking on behalf of most Neshaminy food service staff, that they are dissatisfied with the working conditions under the new Aramark Food Service. Ms. Lynch discussed increase in staff workload, inadequate training, disorganization, waste and unsanitary conditions.

#### **7. Items for Approval at the November 22 Public Board Meeting**

- a) **Building Usage Request for Sunday Facilities from National Dance Showcase for the Maple Point Middle School, Harry M. Dengler, Jr. Performing Arts Center - Sunday, May 7, 2017**
- b) **Overnight Trip Request**
  - **Neshaminy High School Ski and Snowboarding Club for the ski-snowboarding trip, February 17 - 19, 2017 - Mount Snow, VT**
  - **Neshaminy High School Model UN Club to the Model UN Conference, May 11-13, 2017 - Manhattan, NY**
- c) **Lakeside Transportation Contract for 2016 - 2017**

**d) Contract with Dentist for Mandated Student Screenings**

**e) Contract with PSBA for Board Policies**

**f) First Reading of Policy Revisions**

- Policy 501 - School Entrance Age
- Policy 512 - High School Diploma

**g) Substitute Rate Revision**

**h) Budget Transfers**

Mr. Congdon stated that items A through H will be agenda items at the November 22 Public Board Meeting.

**8. Committee Reports**

**a) Board Policies**

Ms. Boyle advised the Board that the next meeting has not yet been scheduled.

**b) Educational Development**

Ms. Boyle informed the Board that the next meeting is scheduled for December 12 at 6:30 p.m.

**c) Business Operations**

Mr. Congdon advised the Board that at the last meeting discussions included the Preliminary Budget.

**d) Personnel**

- **Certified (NFT)**  
Mr. Congdon stated there was no update at this time.
- **Administrative (NDSAA, NASA)**  
Mr. Sullivan stated there was no update at this time.
- **Support (NESPA)**  
Mrs. Hollenbach stated there was no update at this time.

**e) Ad Hoc Facilities**

Mr. Congdon informed the Board that the next meeting is scheduled for November 29.

**9. Representative Reports**

**a) IU Board**

Ms. Boyle advised the Board that the next meeting is scheduled for November 15 in Doylestown.

**b) IU Legislative**

Mr. Feather advised the Board that there is no update at this time.

**c) Neshaminy Education Foundation**

Mr. Rudy announced to the Board that the Bertucci's fundraiser was very successful. Also grant requests have gone out to the teachers.

**d) Technical School**

Mr. Morris was not present.

**10. Public Comment**

John McGinley, President of Neshaminy Support Staff, asked for clarification about several lines on the check register and for clarification related to the substitute resolution.

Mr. Jones said that the substitute resolution actually involves all substitutes and contracted employees; it will be re-worded for the action meeting.

**11. Future Topics**

None.

**12. Board Comment**

Mr. Feather asked Mr. Gentile from Aramark if he can look into the complaints and resolve the issues.

Mr. Sullivan asked Mr. Gentile if salads are available in the elementary schools.

Mr. Gentile replied that salads are available.

Mr. Congdon congratulated Grace Jacoby for an excellent job with her presentation. Mr. Congdon said he would like to see better communication between the food service workers and management. He explained that Mr. Trzaska, as the new manager of facilities, needs to evaluate and determine his own plan of action. Mr. Congdon concluded with wishing the Neshaminy Football team good luck.

**13. Adjournment of Meeting**

Mr. Congdon moved the meeting be adjourned and Mr. Feather seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion. Mr. Congdon adjourned the meeting at 7:49 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Jennifer Burns  
Board Secretary