

NESHAMINY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Langhorne, Pennsylvania

PUBLIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES
NESHAMINY BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
June 26 2012

The Neshaminy Board of School Directors met in public session on June 26, 2012, in the Harry M. Dengler, Jr., Performing Arts Center at Maple Point Middle School. The following persons were in attendance:

BOARD MEMBERS:

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

ADMINISTRATORS:

Dr. Louis T. Muenker
Mrs. Barbara Markowitz
Mrs. Therese Hinterberger
Mr. Anthony Devlin
Dr. Jacqueline Rattigan
Dr. Geeta A. Heble

BOARD MEMBER ABSENT:

OTHERS: Approximately 200 persons from the public, staff and press

SECRETARY: Mrs. Jennifer Burns

SOLICITOR: Thomas J. Profy, III, Esquire

*Mr. Shubin participated via electronic communication.

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

Dr. Muenker noted the significance of tonight's meeting with the Board's approval of the budget for the upcoming 2012 - 2013 school year. He said the district will continue to face many challenges in the coming years. Dr. Muenker remarked that he is hopeful that the Board will develop plans for the success of Neshaminy in the next 20 to 30 years. Dr. Muenker thanked all of the administrators, teachers, support staff, parents, and students that he has worked closely with over the past 21 years. Additionally, Dr. Muenker thanked the Board of School Directors for their support and trust and he wished everyone associated with Neshaminy well.

Public Comment

Mrs. McCurdy, yearbook advisor at Poquessing Middle School presented the School Board members with a copy of their yearbook, which celebrated Poquessing's 50th anniversary.

Tom Miller, truck driver, Middletown, stated that many teachers are disturbed by the derogatory statements that have been said about them; however, what is more disturbing is the possibility of a tax increase. He said the suggestion that the district should go into debt in order to give the teachers what they want is not acceptable. Mr. Miller urged the Board to stand firm and know that the taxpayers are supporting them.

Angie Manning, New Jersey teacher, Langhorne, suggested that Neshaminy use other neighboring school district contracts as an example to settle the current contract with the NFT. Among her suggestions is to eliminate the \$27,500 retirement incentive, include a 15% contribution to healthcare, set aside a specific amount for continuing education courses for teachers in each year's budget, eliminate the equal say clause, make each step two years, no retro pay because it is unaffordable, and modify medical benefits after retirement.

Kevin Gallagher, IT analyst, Middletown, said the NFT has not really proposed any real concessions in the negotiations so far. He stated that, furthermore, the actions of the NFT have consistently hurt the students and they can only blame themselves that the parents and taxpayers are not willing to support their demands. Mr. Gallagher said if the NFT wants to end parental anger towards them and if they want to improve the image of teachers, they should start to change their approach.

Tom Foley, Neshaminy teacher, Langhorne, remarked about the irreplaceable current middle school model, which includes IOP. Mr. Foley stated that the IOP allows students to be competitive with other neighboring districts. He said IOP enables teachers to provide a one on one instruction, or a small group instruction to those students who need additional help. Mr. Foley said the School Board should decide on whether Neshaminy needs a program that will provide 150 hours of instructional time per year or do we need just another study hall.

Steve Rodos, retired, Villages of Flowers Mill, thanked Dr. Muenker for his devotion to the students of Neshaminy over the years. Mr. Rodos remarked that the stalemate between the Neshaminy School Board and the NFT is not accomplishing anything except preventing educational progress, which in turn hurts the students. He called for the Board to cease relating program cuts to the lack of a new CBA and to move forward in developing educational programs that are so important to the students of Neshaminy.

Stephen Pirritano, Feasterville, self-employed, acknowledged that Neshaminy needs change. He said that interested members of the community have felt left out of the process of interviewing the candidate for the Superintendent position. Mr. Pirritano said the questions that were submitted by the public were changed by the proctor and presented differently than intended. He asked that the Board to go back to engaging the public during this process, so the community can help, advise and provide their input in order to give the Board the opportunity to make an informed decision on this important position.

Almando Carrasquillo, retired State Trooper, private investigator, Langhorne, said that he agrees with Angela Manning's suggestions for a new contract. Mr. Carrasquillo stated that New Jersey is a good example to follow to work out a better contract. Mr. Carrasquillo recommended that the current offer be withdrawn and a new offer be formulated, which is affordable and reasonable. A contract in which everyone can live with in the future.

Stan Huberfeld, self-employed, Feasterville, thanked the Board for their fortitude and State Representative Frank Farry for his support of the ban to put an end to teacher strikes in Pennsylvania. Mr. Huberfeld also said that we must move past the hard feelings of anger towards the NFT and work on a resolution. He advised the members of the NFT to stop listening to the evil leadership that has misled them and do the right thing, such as putting the kids first, no strikes and no work to contract, and to stand up for each other.

Charles Alfonso, business executive, Middletown, stated that he believes that in the past year the Board has made two major mistakes. The first is the PSSA requirement for graduation and the second is the procedure that has been followed in interviewing for a new superintendent.

Larry Pastor, business executive, Middletown, recognized Dr. Muenker for his exemplary work. Mr. Pastor noted that this year concludes the fifth year that the Neshaminy District has been under strife from the intimidating tactics of the NFT. He said that the neighboring school districts have settled on contracts that are far from the lucrative contract that the NFT has had the benefit of for many years. Mr. Pastor urged the Board

to make a new offer that is more in line with those contracts that are realistic and affordable. He concluded by thanking the Board for their resolve in holding to the no tax increase policy that they have abided by.

Ashley Pelletier, student at TLC, Trevese, said that attending TLC has helped her so much. She stated that on behalf of all the students at TLC she wanted to appeal to the Board to save their school.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Burns presented the minutes of May 22, 2012 and June 5, 2012. Upon motion Mr. Koutsouradis and seconded by Mr. Shubin the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the May 22, 2012 and June 5, 2012 Board Meeting Minutes.

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

Mrs. Markowitz presented the following for approval:

- May, 2012 Treasurer's Report, subject to audit
- Check Register – May, 2012
- Personal and per capita tax exonerations for May, 2012
- Budget Transfer Report 12-6

Bids

Mrs. Markowitz presented the following bids. Information was presented prior to the meeting.

Bid No. 13-02

Amount: \$77,261.43

Bid Description: Supplies for physical education programs and various team sports for the school year 2012 – 2013.

Bid No. 13-05

Amount: \$84,796.65

Bid Description: Various supplies for the maintenance of District vehicles for school year 2012 – 2013.

Bid No. 13-09

Amount: \$26,999.20

Bid Description: Classroom and art supplies for the 2012/2013 school year.

Mr. Oettinger moved the May, 2012 Treasurer's Report be approved, subject to audit, Check Register for May, 2012, the Personal and Per Capita Tax Exonerations for May, 2012, Budget Transfer Report No. 12-6, and Bid No. 13-02, 13-05, and 13-09 be approved. Ms. Boyle seconded the motion.

Mr. Morris asked if the certified staff is paying anything towards their healthcare for May and June.

Mrs. Markowitz verified that they do not make any contribution towards their healthcare.

The Board approved said reports by a vote of eight ayes, zero nays, and one abstention, (Mr. Morris).

Certified and Support Personnel Actions

Dr. Muenker presented the following for approval:

- Resignations and Leaves of Absence – Certified Personnel
- 2012 Summer School Staff
- Non-renewal and Demotion of Certified Staff
- Resignations and Leaves – Support Personnel
- Substitute Support Staff 2012 Summer

Dr. Muenker recommended the approval of the personnel report for certified and support personnel.

Mr. Morris moved the Certified and Support Personnel Reports be approved. Mrs. Cummings seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved said reports by a vote of nine ayes and zero nays.

Motion: Approval of New and Revised Board Policies

Mr. Shubin presented the following motion:

WHEREAS, in order to keep District Board Policies updated and current, new policies and revisions are recommended by the administration to the Board Policies Committee for review, and

WHEREAS, recommended policies meet the requirements of Federal Law; and

WHEREAS, after review by the Board Policies Committee, the District is ready to recommend:

New Policy 811 – Acceptable Use of the Computers, Network, Internet, Electronic Communications and Technical Services

Revised Policy 124 – Employment Background Checks

Revised Policy 518 – Child Abuse Reporting

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Neshaminy Board of School Directors approve the new Policy and revised Policies as recommended by the School Board Policies Committee.

Ms. Boyle seconded the motion.

Mr. Webb stated that there is a requirement by the State to have policy 811 on the books before the new school year as of July 1st; therefore the Board will accept it, but it will be amended.

The Board approved said motion by a vote of eight ayes, and one nay, (Mr. Congdon).

Motion: Approval of State Mandated Food Price Increase

Mr. Sposato presented the following motion:

WHEREAS, proper nutrition for school students contributes to health and academic performance; and

WHEREAS, school food lunch programs must meet federal dietary guidelines established by the United States Departments of Agriculture and Health and Human Services; and

WHEREAS, continuing to provide low-cost, nutritionally beneficial school meals to elementary and secondary students is both a health and education objective; and

WHEREAS, schools provide student meals in concert with the federal and state government; and

WHEREAS, the USDA's New Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010 mandated increases in the price structure for paid meals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following student lunch prices will go into effect September 2012:

Elementary "Type A" lunch price will increase to \$2.15

Secondary "Type A" lunch price will increase to \$2.55

This represents a \$.10 per lunch increase.

No change in student breakfast prices is recommended.

Mr. Congdon seconded the motion.

Mr. Morris asked how an increase in pricing came about.

Mr. Webb stated that it is federally mandated.

The Board unanimously approved said motion by a vote of nine ayes, and zero nays.

Motion: Budgetary Increase for Federal and Other Programs for 2011 - 2012

Mr. Webb presented the following motion:

WHEREAS, each year the Neshaminy Board of School Directors, in accordance with instructions from the Auditor General's Office, must increase its receipts and expenditures budget by the total amount of other programs; and

WHEREAS, this amount represents previously approved federal and other special program receipts and expenditures for the current fiscal year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the total 2011-12 adjusted budget of all funds with this increase will total \$164,224,014. Corresponding amounts should be added to both the revenue and expenditure side of the budget as indicated on the attached document.

**Neshaminy School District
 Budgetary Increase for Federal and Other Programs for 2011-2012**

Description	District Fund No.	Amount of Revenue
Title III - Immigrant Funds	40	27,926.00
Inclusive Practices Grant	41	5,000.00
Title I - Carryover	42	2,384.00
TitleII, Part A - Carryover	43	23,626.00
Title III	45	22,652.00
IDEA 2010-11 - Stimulus - Carryover	46	16,999.00
E.L.E.C.T. Grant	47	236,053.00
Title III - carryover	48	296.00
HIV/STD/Preg Prevention Educ mini-grant-carryover	51	5,000.00
Title 1 - carryover	52	60,201.00
ACCESS - carryover	53	180,000.00
Title II, Part A - Carryover	54	154,706.00
Federkeil Grant - carryover	56	2,500.00
Title III - carryover	57	18,150.00
Title 1 - carryover	58	17,501.00
Jewish Family & Children's Services Grant	59	500.00
Pre-K Counts Grant	60	74,100.00
GenerationOn Grant	61	250.00
Progress Monitoring Data Grant-Carryover	62	2,582.00
Wellness Consumer Center Grant	64	2,000.00
Giant Foods Store Grant - carryover	68	823.00
IBM Grant	69	10,000.00

Sea World/Busch Gardens Grant-carryover	72	5,524.00
Grammy Foundation/Best Buy Award	74	2,000.00
Summer P.A.S.S.	77	22,950.00
State Early Intervention - Grant 1	82	9,458.00
Challenge Day - carryover	83	13,000.00
Title II, Part A - Carryover	87	15,706.00
State Early Intervention - Grant 2	88	11,205.00
Pre-K Counts Grant - carryover	90	25.00
Summer P.A.S.S. - carryover	91	4,018.00
Drug Free Schools Grant - carryover	92	6,000.00
E.L.E.C.T. Fatherhood Program	94	69,484.00
Title II, Part A - Revision	95	(812.00)
Title I - Revision	96	(8,233.00)
E.L.E.C.T. Grant - carryover	98	13,657.00
E.L.E.C.T. Fatherhood Program - carryover	99	2,626.00
Total Other Program Receipts		\$1,029,857.00

Mr. Sposato seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved said motion by a vote of nine ayes, and zero nays.

Motion: Facilities Professional Services/Consultants for the 2012 – 2013 Fiscal Year

Ms. Boyle presented the following motion:

WHEREAS, the district Facilities Department must use the professional services of various firms in order to ensure compliance with the many federal and state mandates concerning school facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Facilities Department must also use professional consultants/engineers to develop bid specifications for other related facility improvements during the year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following list of professional service vendors be accepted for use during the 2012-13 fiscal year.

Neshaminy School District
Office of the Acting Business Administrator

The professionals/consultants anticipated for use during the next fiscal year along with examples of the work that will be required are listed below.

- **Consolidated Engineers** – boilers and other mechanical engineering.
- **Colm Engineering** – exterior doors and other structural engineering.
- **Weatherproofing Technologies, Inc.** – roof replacements and similar projects.
- **Eagle Industrial Hygiene Associates, Inc.** – asbestos related compliance.
- **Siemens Building Technologies, Inc.** – HVAC control systems.
- **Environmental Control Systems, Inc.** – hazardous waste disposal, underground storage tanks regulations.
- **D.A.D. & Associates, Inc.** – boilers and cooling tower water treatment.
- **Quality Control Laboratories (QC Labs)** – pools and water testing.
- **Parry's Project Management** – logistic services – High School and others if needed.
- **The Wire Runner** – District wide life safety services; fire, smoke, burglar alarms.

- **Liberty Environmental** - Department of Environmental Protection air quality reports for district.
- **1Source Safety & Health, Inc.** - District's professional for air testing.
- **Best Locks, Inc.** - patented locks for all doors and all buildings.
- **George Miller Inc.** - Novar Controls – HVAC controls in 8 buildings.

Mr. Koutsouradis seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved said motion by a vote of nine ayes, and zero nays.

Motion: Year End Budget Transfers

Mr. Congdon presented the following motion:

WHEREAS, Section 687 of the Public School Code of 1949 requires that line item "...sums appropriated to specific purposes in the budget..." not be exceeded; and

WHEREAS, under the school accounting system, line items have been determined to be major object levels within specific subfunctions; and

WHEREAS, year-end adjustments by the Business Office and Auditors may cause such line items to be exceeded.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Neshaminy Board of School Directors, in accordance with directions from the Auditor General's office, authorizes the Administration to make those necessary budget transfers within and between accounts to prevent any possible over expenditure without exceeding the total budget for 2011-12.

Mr. Shubin seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved said motion by a vote of nine ayes, and zero nays.

Motion: Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution

Ms. Boyle presented the following motion:

NESHAMINY SCHOOL DISTRICT
2012 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution

RESOLVED, by the Board of School Directors of Neshaminy School District, that homestead and farmstead exclusion real estate tax assessment reductions are authorized for the school year beginning July 1, 2012, under the provisions of the Homestead Property Exclusion Program Act (part of Act 50 of 1998) and the Taxpayer Relief Act (Act 1 of 2006), as follows:

1. Aggregate Amount Available for Homestead and Farmstead Real Estate Tax Reduction. The following amounts are available for homestead and farmstead real estate tax reduction for the school year beginning July 1, 2012:

a. **Gambling Tax Funds.** The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) has notified the School District that PDE will pay to the School District during the school year pursuant to Act 1, 53 P.S. §6926.505(b), as a property tax reduction allocation funded by gambling tax funds, the amount of \$3,590,867.48.

b. **Remaining Property Tax Reduction Funds.** Funds will also be available during the school year for real estate reduction as a result of undistributed funds from the property tax

reduction funds received in 2011-12. These funds will be added to the allocation for this school year in the amount of \$409.25.

c. **Philadelphia Tax Credit Reimbursement Funds.** PDE has notified the School District that PDE will pay to the School District during the school year pursuant to Act 1, 53. P.S. § 5926.324(3), as reimbursement for Philadelphia tax credits claimed against the School District earned income tax by School District resident taxpayers, the amount of \$-0-.

d. **Other Sources.** No funds will be available during the 2012-13 school year for real estate tax reduction other than the gambling tax funds, remaining property tax reduction funds and Philadelphia tax credit reimbursement funds set forth in subparagraphs (a.), (b.) and (c.) of Section 1 of this Resolution.

e. **Aggregate Amount Available.** Adding the amounts set forth in subparagraphs (a.), (b.), (c) and (d) of Section 1 of this Resolution, the aggregate amount available during the 2012-13 school year for real estate tax reduction is \$3,591,276.73.

2. **Homestead/Farmstead Numbers.** Pursuant to Act 50, 54 Pa. C.S. § 8584(i), and Act 1, 53 P.S. § 5926.341(g)(3), the County has provided the School District with a certified report listing approved homesteads and approved farmsteads as follows:

a. **Homestead Property Number.** The number of approved homesteads within the School District is 17,476.

b. **Farmstead Property Number.** The number of approved farmsteads within the School District is -0-.

c. **Homestead/Farmstead Combined Number.** The aggregate number of approved homesteads and approved farmsteads is 17,476.

3. **Real Estate Tax Reduction Calculation.** The school board has decided that the homestead exclusion amount and the farmstead exclusion amount shall be equal. Dividing the paragraph 1(d) aggregate amount during the 2012-13 school year for real estate tax reduction of \$3,591,276.73 by the paragraph (2)(c) aggregate number of approved homesteads and approved farmsteads of 17,476, before considering the assessed value of approved homestead and approved farmsteads having an assessed value below the preliminary calculation of the maximum real estate assessed value reduction amount to be established as the homestead and farmstead exclusion amount, the preliminary calculation of the maximum real estate tax reduction amount applicable to each approved homestead and to each approved farmstead is \$205.50.

Based on calculations provided by the School District Business Office from the best available information and carefully evaluated by the School Board, considering the assessed value of approved homesteads and approved farmsteads having an assessed value below the preliminary calculation of the maximum real estate assessed value reduction amount to be established as the homestead exclusion and the farmstead exclusion amount, an additional aggregate amount of \$1,360 will be available during the school year for real estate tax reduction applicable to approximately 17,471 homesteads and farmsteads, resulting in an additional real estate tax reduction amount available for each homestead and farmstead of \$-0-. Adding this additional amount to the preliminary calculation of the maximum real estate tax reduction amount of \$205.50 the final maximum real estate tax reduction amount applicable to each approved homestead and to each approved farmstead is \$205.50.

4. **Homestead Exclusion Calculation.** Dividing the paragraph 3 maximum real estate tax reduction amount of \$205.50 by the School District real estate tax rate of 152 mills (.1520), the maximum real estate assessed value reduction to be reflected on tax notices as a homestead exclusion for each approved homestead is \$1,352, and the maximum real estate assessed value reduction to be reflected on tax notices as a farmstead exclusion for each approved farmstead is \$0.

5. **Homestead/Farmstead Exclusion Authorization – July 1 Tax Bills.** The tax notice issued to the owner of each approved homestead within the School District shall reflect a homestead exclusion real estate assessed value reduction equal to the lesser of: (a) the County-established assessed value of the homestead, or (b) the paragraph 4 maximum real estate assessed value reduction of \$1,352. The tax notice issued to the owner of each approved farmstead within the School District shall reflect an additional farmstead exclusion real estate assessed value reduction equal to the lesser of: (a) the County-established assessed value of the farmstead, or (b) the paragraph 4 maximum real estate assessed value reduction of \$0. For purposes of this Resolution, “approved homestead” and “approved farmstead” shall mean homesteads and farmsteads listed in the report referred to in paragraph 2 above and received by the School District from the County Assessment Office on or before May 1, 2012 pursuant to Act 1, 53 P.S. § 5926.341(g)(3), based on homestead/farmstead applications filed with the County Assessment Office on or before March 1. This paragraph 5 will apply to tax notices issued based on the initial tax duplicate used in issuing initial real estate tax notices for the school year, which will be issued on or promptly after July 1, 2012 and will not apply to interim real estate tax bills for tax periods beginning prior to July 1, 2012.

RESOLUTION adopted this 26th day of June, 2012.

ATTEST:

NESHAMINY SCHOOL

Jennifer Burns, Board Secretary

By: _____
Ritchie Webb, President

Mr. Sposato seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved said motion by a vote of nine ayes, and zero nays.

Motion: Local, State and National Contract Participation Authorization for 2012 – 2013

Mr. Koutsouradis presented the following motion:

WHEREAS, the District participates in cooperative purchasing agreements with entities under the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act of 1996; and

WHEREAS, Act 57 of May 15, 1998 (Title 62 PA C.S. 1902) known as the “Commonwealth Procurement Code”, permits local public procurement units to participate in cooperative purchasing; and

WHEREAS, such contracts are competitively bid and compliant to Pennsylvania laws, and codes; and

WHEREAS, the piggybacking on competitively bid local, regional, state, and national contracts, financially assists the District by increasing its purchasing power through volume leveraging and improved operating efficiencies by streamlining the bidding and purchasing process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Acting Business Administrator be authorized to participate under contracts with piggyback provisions when it is financially advantageous to the

District to order and purchase such materials, supplies, and equipment as needed by the District, and which include these currently available contracts through the following organizations:

Neshaminy School District - Local, State, and National Contract Participation Authorization

- Intermediate Unit Contracts from
 - BCIU(Bucks),
 - LCIU(Lancaster),
 - CSIU(Central Susquehanna),
 - CCIU(Chester Country) .

- State Contracts via Department of General Services
 - COSTARS program contracts.

- Regional Consortium Contracts via
 - AEPA – Association of Educational Purchasing Agencies
 - KPN- Keystone Purchasing Network
 - PAEJPC-Pennsylvania Education Joint Purchasing Council
 - PEPPM-Technology Bidding and Purchasing Program
 - NJPA- National Joint Powers Alliance
 - PaTTAN- Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network
 - TCPN- The Texas Cooperative Purchasing Network

- National Contracts
 - US Communities
 - GSA- US General Services Administration

Mr. Oettinger seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved said motion by a vote of nine ayes, and zero nays.

Motion: Approval of Fund Balance Commitment for PSERS

Mr. Morris presented the following motion:

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania School Employee Retirement System (PSERS) is a mandatory, multi-employer, pension plan for all Pennsylvania school employees; and

WHEREAS, PSERS is funded by three sources – employee contributions, employer contributions, and investment earnings; and

WHEREAS, investment earnings have been the primary source of funding for PSERS benefits, dwarfing the contributions from both school employers and PSERS active members; and

WHEREAS, because of declining investment income, lower employer funding rates, and increased benefits as required by Act 2001-9 and Act 2002-38, unfunded liabilities have been created; and

WHEREAS, such unfunded liabilities will create significant employer rate hikes in the near future.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of School Directors commit a portion of the remaining unassigned Fund Balance as of June 30, 2012, up to \$2,000,000 towards funding this pending debt. As a result of this commitment, these funds will not be available for any other purpose unless changed by a new commitment.

Mrs. Cummings seconded the motion.

Mr. Shubin asked how much is set aside for PSERS.

Mrs. Markowitz stated up to \$2 million dollars is set aside.

The Board unanimously approved said motion by a vote of nine ayes, and zero nays.

Motion: Appointment of Representative to Consortium Health Panel

Mr. Oettinger presented the following motion:

WHEREAS, the Neshaminy School District has entered into an agreement to join the Bucks and Montgomery County Schools Health Consortium; and

WHEREAS, the Bucks and Montgomery County Schools Health Consortium requires representation from member school districts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Neshaminy Board of School Directors appoint Theresa Hinterberger to serve as the representative to the Consortium Health Panel.

Mrs. Cummings seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved said motion by a vote of nine ayes, and zero nays.

Motion: Approval of Revised 2011 – 2012 School Calendar

Mr. Sposato presented the following motion:

WHEREAS, due to a work stoppage on January 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19 and June 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11 and 12 which prevented instruction for our K-12 student body; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Pennsylvania School Code, it is necessary to revise the calendar in order to meet the minimum state child accounting and attendance regulations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of School Directors approves the attached revised school calendar which schedules the last day for students in grades Kindergarten through 11 as June 27, 2012, and the last day for teachers as June 29, 2012.

Ms. Boyle seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved said motion by a vote of nine ayes, and zero nays.

Motion: School Lane Charter School Neshaminy

Mr. Webb presented the following motion:

WHEREAS, on November 15th, 2012 School Lane Charter School Neshaminy submitted a Charter School application to the Neshaminy School District in accordance with Act 22 of 1997 seeking a Charter of the 2011-12 school year and;

WHEREAS, on February 22, 2011, the Neshaminy School District School Board of Directors adopted a resolution rejecting the Charter School application, and;

WHEREAS, the applicant resubmitted their application in accordance with Act 22 of 1997, and;

WHEREAS, on July 19, 2011 the Neshaminy School District Board of School Directors adopted a resolution approving the resubmitted application subject to certain conditions, and;

WHEREAS, on October 25, 2011 the Neshaminy School District Board of School Directors adopted a resolution rescinding the July 19, 2011 resolution approving the resubmitted application, and;

WHEREAS, on or about November 18, 2011 School Lane Charter School Neshaminy petitioned the State charter Appeal Board to overturn the October 25, 2011 resolution rescinding the approval of the School Lane Charter School Neshaminy resubmitted application, and;

WHEREAS, the School Lane Charter Neshaminy has requested that Neshaminy School District Board of School Directors reconsider its October 25, 2011 resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Neshaminy School District Board of School Directors hereby issues School Lane Charter School Neshaminy a five year charter effective for the 2013 – 2014 school year, provided that the terms, conditions, provisions, and contents of the charter are acceptable to the solicitor's office and in accordance with charter school law.

Mr. Sposato seconded the motion.

Mr. Webb requested a roll call. The roll call tally indicated the motion passed by a vote of nine ayes, (Ms. Boyle, Mr. Congdon, Mrs. Cummings, Mr. Shubin, Mr. Koutsouradis, Mr. Morris, Mr. Sposato, Mr. Oettinger, and Mr. Webb) and zero nays.

Motion: School Lane Charter School Neshaminy Letter of Intent

Mr. Webb presented the following motion:

WHEREAS, or about June 12, 2012 School Lane Charter School Neshaminy forwarded a letter of intent to the Neshaminy School District offering to purchase from the Neshaminy School District the property and improvements located at 1700 Woodbourne Road, Middletown Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, be it known as the Eisenhower Elementary School.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Neshaminy School District Board of School Directors hereby authorizes the School board President, Richie Webb, to sign the letter of intent on behalf of the Neshaminy School District, and further, authorizes the solicitor to negotiate with representatives of School Lane Charter Neshaminy to enter into a definitive agreement of sale subject to the final School Directors Board of approval.

Mr. Oettinger seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved said motion by a vote of nine ayes, and zero nays.

Solicitor's Report

Mr. Profy presented the following:

Recommendation to settle pending 2009 through 2012 Tax Year Assessment Appeals of Sports Authority, Inc. as follows:

Sports Authority, Inc.
22-57-48-02

Settlement Assessment
\$556,950.00 – 2009 Tax Year Assessment
\$552,900.00 – 2010 Tax Year Assessment
\$621,300.00 – 2011 Tax Year Assessment
\$644,100.00 – 2012 Tax Year Assessment

Mr. Webb made a motion to accept Mr. Profy's recommendation to settle pending 2009 through 2012 Tax Year Assessment Appeals of Sports Authority, Inc.

Mr. Morris seconded the motion.

Mr. Shubin asked what would be the net number to the district.

Mr. Profy stated that the loss of real estate taxes for the four years will be \$68,526.00 and that will be issued to the taxpayer via tax credits over the next three years.

The Board unanimously approved said motion by a vote of nine ayes, and zero nays.

Motion: Adoption of the 2012 – 2013 Budget

Mr. Webb presented the following motion:

WHEREAS, the Neshaminy Board of School Directors received a 2012-13 Working Draft Budget from the Administration on December 15, 2011; and the Board has reviewed and adopted a Preliminary Budget on January 24, 2012 and subsequently adopted a Proposed Final Budget on May 8, 2012, all in accordance with Act 1 of 2006 and the Public School Code of 1949, as amended; and

WHEREAS, Notice of Intent to adopt the Budget has been duly advertised as required by law and the budget was also made public throughout the process on PDE Form 2028 as required by law; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Pennsylvania School Code, the Board of School Directors must adopt a Final Operating Budget for the 2012-13 fiscal year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Neshaminy Board of School Directors adopt a Final Operating Budget of all funds in the amount of \$165,244,541 detailed as follows:

- General Fund in the amount of \$161,544,778
- Capital Projects in the amount of \$930,000
- Federal and other programs in the amount of \$2,762,753; and
- Carry-over purchase orders of \$7,010

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Capital Projects Budget will be funded from the capital reserve fund. The federal programs budget will be funded by specific federal grants. In order to fund the general fund budget the following taxes are hereby levied:

1. Real Estate Tax	152.0 mills	(zero increase)
2. Interim Real Estate Tax	152.0 mills	(zero increase)
3. Per Capita Tax - School Code	\$5.00	
4. Per Capita Tax - Act 511	\$10.00	
5. Local Services Tax (formerly OPT/EMS)	\$10.00	
6. Business Privilege Tax	1 mill wholesale, 1.5 mills retail, \$5.00 license fee	
7. Mercantile Tax	1 mill wholesale, 1.5 mills retail, \$2.00 license fee	
8. Real Estate Transfer Tax	1%	
9. Amusement Tax	10%, as amended by current law	

Mr. Sposato seconded the motion.

Mr. Congdon asked on items 3, 4, and 5 if they were increases or status quo.

Mr. Webb responded they are status quo, no changes.

Mr. Shubin asked how much of the reserve will be used to balance the budget next year.

Mr. Webb stated approximately \$5.5 million.

Mr. Webb requested a roll call. The roll call tally indicated the motion passed by a vote of nine ayes, (Ms. Boyle, Mr. Congdon, Mrs. Cummings, Mr. Shubin, Mr. Koutsouradis, Mr. Morris, Mr. Sposato, Mr. Oettinger, and Mr. Webb) and zero nays.

Motion: Temporary or Acting Superintendent of Neshaminy School District

Mr. Webb presented the following motion:

The Board of School Directors of Neshaminy School District do hereby appoint Jacqueline Rattigan to acting superintendent of schools effective July 1, 2012, to serve until the vacancy of office of superintendent of schools is filled, but in no event more than one year of the effective date of this appointment.

The annual salary of the acting superintendent shall be \$155,000.00 over and prorated for the term of the appointment. Jacqueline Rattigan shall comply with all applicable laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and with all conditions, requirements, and regulations of the Pennsylvania Department of Education application to acting superintendent of schools.

Mr. Congdon seconded the motion.

Mr. Webb requested a roll call. The roll call tally indicated the motion passed by a vote of nine ayes, (Ms. Boyle, Mr. Congdon, Mrs. Cummings, Mr. Shubin, Mr. Koutsouradis, Mr. Morris, Mr. Sposato, Mr. Oettinger, and Mr. Webb) and zero nays.

Federal Programs

Dr. Muenker advised the Board that there was a \$2,000 grant to purchase music and instruments for the High School Music Program bringing the total to \$1,410,951.00.

Other Board Business

None

Public Comment

Steve Young, writer, Langhorne, said he is glad to see that TLC will remain open; however, he is sorry to see the program modified to a lesser degree. He suggested that a marketing project be implemented to provide cosmetics and promotional advantages to citizens who donate to the program in order to sustain TLC to the same operating level as 2011 – 2012 school year.

Christine Salamone, retired, Levittown, asked if she can receive a copy of the report from Mrs. Cummings regarding the exclusion resolution.

Larry Pastor, business executive, Middletown, asked if the pending lawsuit that the Board is filing against the NFT for unfair labor practices can be explained during Board comment. He also said he would like the Board to comment on the derogatory and threatening remarks towards the community made on Facebook by NFT members and describe what is being done about the matter.

Stephen Pirritano, self-employed, Feasterville, asked Mr. Webb to comment on whether the IOP will remain intact. Additionally, he asked for an explanation regarding the fund balance increase. Mr. Pirritano stated that the taxes steadily increased from 2001 through 2010 and finally held the same for the past three years. He

thanked the Board for putting an end to the tax increases and said the public will continue to support them until a solution is reached.

Charles Alfonso, business executive, Langhorne, said he has honored a request to keep the identity of the candidate for superintendent confidential. Since the questioning period is now past, Mr. Alfonso said he does not understand why this should continue to remain a secret.

Almando Carrasquillo, retired State Trooper, Langhorne, asked for an announcement of the time of the meeting for questions and answers regarding the finalist for the superintendent position.

Board Comment

Mr. Koutsouradis thanked the NFT for their part in the agreement to keep TLC. He also thanked Dr. Muenker for all his years of service to Neshaminy.

Mr. Morris thanked Dr. Muenker for all his assistance to the Board members. He also thanked Louise Boyd for her part in saving TLC and commented that we need the same cooperation in order to advance the Neshaminy district. Mr. Morris voiced his appreciation for the support from the community. He also welcomed the School Lane Charter School to Neshaminy.

Mr. Shubin said it is important that the community understand how challenging the budget process is. He commended Mr. Webb, Dr. Muenker and Mrs. Markowitz for all the hard work they put into the budget process. Mr. Shubin said he is well aware of the hardship that a tax increase would be for the community and he supports the strategy of no tax increase. Mr. Shubin said the goal for Neshaminy should be to settle on a fair and reasonable contract that is similar to some of the contracts of neighboring districts. He concluded by voicing his appreciation to Dr. Muenker for his years of service to Neshaminy and the community.

Ms. Boyle thanked Dr. Muenker for his years of service and congratulated Dr. Rattigan and said she looks forward to working with her. Ms. Boyle also thanked Louise Boyd for giving her support for TLC. Ms. Boyle said that Policy 811 was recently passed, which deals with acceptable use of Computers, Network, Internet, Electronic Communications and Technical Services.

Mrs. Cummings thanked Dr. Muenker for his service and dedication to the district. She added that the Board is pleased that the TLC program was saved and she thanked Louise Boyd for her part in the decision.

Mr. Oettinger thanked the parents and students who advocated for TLC and said their voices were heard and were a consideration in the decision.

Mr. Sposato thanked Dr. Muenker and Ms. Holland for the work put forth to save the TLC program.

Mr. Webb stated that the district bills were paid for with the savings. Mr. Webb asked Mrs. Markowitz to explain the fund balance once again.

Mrs. Markowitz explained that we had \$12.1 million unassigned fund balance and this year's projection of \$2.9 million will bring the fund to \$15 million. Of the \$15 million, \$5.5 million was used to balance the budget leaving a fund balance of \$9.5 million.

Mr. Webb asked Mrs. Markowitz to clarify why there was a \$2.9 million reserve this year.

Mrs. Markowitz said the funds were a result of money set aside for anticipated expenses such as teacher's settlement, fuel expenses, etc., that were not needed.

Mrs. Markowitz said the \$1,352.00 is off the assessment figure and the actual cash value is \$205.50, which will be already being deducted from the tax bill for each home owner. The money comes from gambling revenue and does not go towards the school district.

Mr. Webb asked Mr. Profy to explain the unfair labor practice filed against the NFT.

Mr. Profy explained that the motion for court supervised negotiations violates the law because it is designed to intimidate, punish and retaliate against the Board's negotiating committee by forcing them to miss time from work and to lose compensation. It would also deprive the district and School Board the right to select its own representatives in collective bargaining by requesting the court order four Board members to be present, which would violate the School District's rights, and the intent to create unreasonable and illegal tactics to limit the bargaining ability of the School District.

Mr. Webb stated that the candidate for superintendent did not want his name released at this time for the sake of his privacy regarding his present employment. Mr. Webb said the IOP will be eliminated; however, TLC will continue under Option B. The Pay-to-Play has been removed and all other budget recommendations were followed.

Mr. Webb outlined Dr. Muenker's many professional accomplishments during his time with the Neshaminy School District since 1990. Mr. Webb remarked that throughout all the complexity that Dr. Muenker has dealt with, he has never lost sight of the goal of putting the students first. He said that Dr. Muenker has been invaluable to him and his professionalism, his advice and his gentle sense of humor will be greatly missed.

Mr. Webb confirmed that the interview for the new superintendent will take place at 6:30 p.m. on June 27, 2012 in Maple Point Auditorium. He also stated that the meeting with the NFT that was held that afternoon was productive and he is hopeful for a continued rapport so the differences can be resolved.

Adjournment

Mr. Webb moved the meeting be adjourned and Mr. Koutsouradis seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion. Mr. Webb adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Burns
Board Secretary