

NESHAMINY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Langhorne, Pennsylvania

PUBLIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
REORGANIZATION MEETING  
NESHAMINY BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS  
December 1, 2008

The Neshaminy Board of School Directors met in public session on December 1, 2008 in the Board Room at Maple Point Middle School. The following persons were in attendance:

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

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

**ADMINISTRATORS:**

Dr. Louis T Muenker  
Dr. Sandra Costanzo  
Mr. Joseph V. Paradise  
Dr. Jacqueline Rattigan  
Dr. Geeta A. Heble

**SECRETARY:** Mrs. Anita E. Walls

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

**OTHERS:** Approximately 30 persons from the public, staff and press

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**Call to Order**

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

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

**Public Comment**

None.

**Reorganization of the Neshaminy Board of School Directors** – In accordance with the State Code, the Board held its reorganization meeting.

**Election of Temporary President** - Mr. Eccles requested nominations be presented for Temporary President for the reorganization of the Neshaminy Board of School Directors. Mr. Webb nominated Mr. Koziol as temporary President and Mr. Eccles seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. Mr. Eccles moved that the nominations for Temporary President of the Neshaminy Board of School Directors be closed. The Board approved the motion with nine ayes. Mr. Koziol acted as Temporary President.

**Election of President** – Mr. Koziol requested nominations be presented for President of the Neshaminy Board of School Directors. Mr. O'Connor nominated Mr. Blasch. Ms. Boyle seconded the nomination. Mr. Koutsouradis nominated Mr. Webb. Mrs. Cummings seconded the nomination. Mr. Webb nominated Mr. Eccles. Mr. Eccles declined the nomination. Mr. Koziol thanked Mr. Eccles for his leadership and guidance through the years. There were no other nominations for President. Mr. O'Connor made a motion to close the nominations. Mr. Webb seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion to close nominations with nine ayes.

Mr. Koziol requested a roll call vote for Mr. Blasch as President of Neshaminy School Board. The Board rejected Mr. Blasch as President of the Neshaminy School Board by a vote of four ayes (Dr. Spitz, Mr.

O'Connor, Ms. Boyle, Mr. Blasch) and five nays (Mr. Webb, Mr. Koziol, Mr. Koutsouradis, Mr. Eccles, Mrs. Cummings.)

Mr. Koziol requested a roll call vote for Mr. Webb as President of Neshaminy School Board. The Board approved Mr. Webb as President of the Neshaminy School Board by a vote of five ayes (Mrs. Cummings, Mr. Eccles, Mr. Koutsouradis, Mr. Koziol, Mr. Webb) and four nays (Mr. Blasch, Ms. Boyle, Mr. O'Connor, Dr. Spitz).

Election of Vice-President – Mr. Webb requested nominations be presented for Vice President of the Neshaminy Board of School Directors. Mrs. Cummings nominated Mr. Koutsouradis. Mr. Koziol seconded the nomination. Dr. Spitz nominated Mr. Blasch. Mr. O'Connor seconded the motion. Mr. Eccles nominated Mr. Koziol. Mr. Koziol declined the nomination. There were no other nominations for Vice-President. Mr. Webb moved the nominations for Vice President of the Neshaminy Board of School Directors be closed. The Board approved the motion to close nominations with nine ayes.

Mr. Webb requested a roll call vote for Mr. Koutsouradis as Vice-President of Neshaminy School Board. The Board rejected Mr. Koutsouradis as Vice-President of the Neshaminy School board by a vote of four ayes (Mrs. Cummings, Mr. Koutsouradis, Mr. Koziol and Mr. Webb) and five nays (Mr. Blasch, Ms. Boyle, Mr. Eccles, Mr. O'Connor and Dr. Spitz).

Mr. Webb requested a roll call vote for Mr. Blasch as Vice-President of Neshaminy School Board. The Board rejected Mr. Blasch as Vice-President of the Neshaminy School board by a vote of four ayes (Dr. Spitz, Mr. O'Connor, Ms. Boyle, Mr. Blasch) and five nays (Mr. Webb, Mr. Koziol, Mr. Koutsouradis, Mr. Eccles, Mrs. Cummings).

Mr. Webb opened the floor for re-nomination. Mr. Eccles nominated Mr. Koziol. Mr. Webb seconded the nomination. Mr. O'Connor nominated Mr. Blasch. Dr. Spitz seconded the nomination. Mrs. Cummings nominated Mr. Koutsouradis. Mr. Koutsouradis seconded the nomination.

Mr. Webb requested a roll call vote for Mr. Koziol as Vice-President of Neshaminy School Board. The Board rejected Mr. Koziol as Vice-President of the Neshaminy School board by a vote of four ayes (Mr. Eccles, Mr. Koutsouradis, Mr. Koziol, Mr. Webb) and five nays (Mr. Blasch, Ms. Boyle, Mrs. Cummings, Mr. O'Connor, Dr. Spitz).

Mr. Webb requested a roll call vote for Mr. Blasch as Vice-President of Neshaminy School Board. The Board rejected Mr. Blasch as Vice-President of the Neshaminy School board by a vote of four ayes (Dr. Spitz, Mr. O'Connor, Ms. Boyle, Mr. Blasch) and five nays (Mr. Webb, Mr. Koziol, Mr. Koutsouradis, Mr. Eccles, Mrs. Cummings).

Mr. Webb requested a roll call vote for Mr. Koutsouradis as Vice-President of Neshaminy School Board. The Board rejected Mr. Koutsouradis as Vice-President of the Neshaminy School board by a vote of four ayes (Mrs. Cummings, Mr. Koutsouradis, Mr. Koziol, Mr. Webb) and five nays (Mr. Blasch, Ms. Boyle, Mr. Eccles, Mr. O'Connor, Dr. Spitz).

Mr. Koutsouradis inquired whether Mr. Koziol would remain as Vice-President. Mr. Profy advised that he was appointed to the position of Vice-President for a one year term.

Dr. Spitz inquired whether a Vice-President could be voted upon at a later date. Mr. Profy advised that a vacancy in the position would exist and it is the President's pleasure at this time to either reopen the nomination or continue with the meeting.

Mr. Webb opened the floor for re-nomination. Mr. O'Connor made a motion to reopen the floor for nomination of Vice-President. Mr. Blasch seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved said motion to reopen the floor for nomination. Mr. O'Connor nominated Mr. Blasch. Mr. O'Connor seconded the nomination. Mr.

Eccles nominated Mr. Koziol. Mr. Webb seconded the nomination. Mrs. Cummings nominated Mr. Koutsouradis. Mr. Koutsouradis seconded the nomination.

Mr. Webb requested a roll call vote for Mr. Blasch as Vice-President of Neshaminy School Board. The Board rejected Mr. Blasch as Vice-President of the Neshaminy School board by a vote of four ayes (Mr. Blasch, Ms. Boyle, Mr. O'Connor, Dr. Spitz) and five nays (Mrs. Cummings, Mr. Eccles, Mr. Koutsouradis, Mr. Koziol, Mr. Webb).

Mr. Webb requested a roll call vote for Mr. Koziol as Vice-President of Neshaminy School Board. The Board rejected Mr. Koziol as Vice-President of the Neshaminy School Board by a vote of four ayes (Mr. Webb, Mr. Koziol, Mr. Koutsouradis, Mr. Eccles) and five nays (Dr. Spitz, Mr. O'Connor, Mrs. Cummings, Ms. Boyle, Mr. Blasch).

Mr. Webb requested a roll call vote for Mr. Koutsouradis as Vice-President of Neshaminy School Board. The Board rejected Mr. Koutsouradis as Vice-President of the Neshaminy School Board by a vote of four ayes (Mrs. Cummings, Mr. Koutsouradis, Mr. Koziol, Mr. Webb) and five nays (Mr. Blasch, Ms. Boyle, Mr. Eccles, Mr. O'Connor, Dr. Spitz).

Mr. Webb asked that the Board move on and revisit same at the next meeting.

Mr. Profy stated that the Board has reorganized with the Presidency.

**Motion: Appointment of Solicitor**

Mr. Webb 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.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, 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 dated November 28, 2008.

Mr. Koziol seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken on the Appointment of Solicitor and the Board approved Begley, Carlin & Mandio as solicitor by a vote of six ayes (Ms. Boyle, Mrs. Cummings, Mr. Eccles, Mr. Koutsouradis, Mr. Koziol, and Mr. Webb) and three nays (Mr. Blasch, Mr. O'Connor, and Dr. Spitz).

On behalf of the firm Mr. Profy thanked the Neshaminy School Board for allowing them once again to represent the school district.

**Motion: PA Open Records Law – Act 3 – 2008 Session**

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Open Records Law defines what records constitute “public records” and how the public records of Neshaminy School District (“School District”) must be made available to members of the public; and

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Legislature has enacted Act 3 of 2008 which amended Pennsylvania’s Open Records Law to provide regulations for access to public records, and to impose the requirement on the School District to establish a written open records policy complying with the requirements and adopting the procedure required by the Act; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Neshaminy School District, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, desire to comply with the provisions of Act 3 of 2008 and establish a written open records policy for the School District.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it, and it is hereby RESOLVED, by the Board of School Directors of the Neshaminy School District, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, adopt the attached as the Neshaminy School District Open Records policy. (See attachment A).

Mr. Koziol seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved said motion.

**Motion: Approval of Board Meeting Calendar**

Mr. Webb presented the following motion:

WHEREAS, the Board of School Directors must adopt and publish a schedule of Public Meetings for 2009.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached 2009 School Board Meeting Calendar be adopted by the Neshaminy Board of School Directors.

Mr. Blasch seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved the 2009 School Board Meeting Calendar.

Mr. O'Connor asked Dr. Muenker to e-mail a copy of the schedule to Middletown Township, who often scheduled their meetings on the same nights. Many residents would like to attend both meetings and this might possibly encourage them to choose another night for their meetings.

**Motion: Approval to File Various Tax Parcel Assessment Appeals**

Mr. Webb presented the following motion:

WHEREAS, the Board of School Directors herewith authorizes appeals of the 2009 Real Estate Tax Assessments and the filing with the Court of Common Pleas of Bucks County, Pennsylvania for each of the following:

Ashley Prop Mangement, LP	Tax Parcel No. 21-009-150
GPO Wheeler Inc.	Tax Parcel No. 22-021-066-005
OVA Associates, LP	Tax Parcel No. 22-040-025-006
H A Ott Prop LLC	Tax Parcel No. 22-048-001

and further authorizes and directs the Business Administrator and Solicitor of the School District to take all actions required to timely perfect said Appeals.

Mr. O'Connor seconded the motion.

The Board unanimously approved said motion.

**Other Board Business**

None

**Public Comment**

Mr. Howard Lindner, Langhorne, PA, thanked Mr. Eccles for his years on the school board; however, Mr. Lindner is disappointed that Mr. Eccles did not vote for Mr. Koutsouradis as Vice-President. There is no doubt in Mr. Lindner's mind that Mr. Koutsouradis would be a good Vice-President. Mr. Lindner hopes that when the vote comes up again, Mr. Eccles will vote for Mr. Koutsouradis. Mr. Lindner hopes that the Board moves forward. Mr. Lindner is receiving comments as to why did the Board go outside. Don't we have qualified people? Dr. Muenker, Dr. Costanzo, Dr. Rattigan are qualified people to be Superintendent. Mr. Lindner was concerned that there was a Superintendent who was never a teacher, vice-principal or principal. The Superintendent did not even live in Bucks County. He lived in the state of New Jersey. The District has always had qualified people. Congratulations to Dr. Muenker. Mr. Lindner thanked Mr. Eccles again.

Mr. Steve Rodos, Villages of Flowers Mill, Langhorne, PA, thanked Mr. Eccles for all his work as President of the School Board. He was always there to hear the people out. Mr. Rodos wished Mr. Webb good luck during his tenure as President. Mr. Rodos is concerned about the upcoming budget and the impact on the community. Not many meetings this fall have addressed budgetary concerns. Teacher contract meetings are underway. Mr. Rodos agrees with Mr. Lindner that the Superintendent should come up through the ranks and be the home grown variety. Mr. Rodos feels that a cheap shot was taken at the prior Superintendent and out of line. Mr. Rodos believes that the previous Superintendent brought to the table a lot of knowledge.

Mr. Solis Basen, Villages of Flowers Mill, Langhorne, PA, thanked the Board and previous officers and congratulated the new President on a successful year. Mr. Basen asked the solicitor if it was possible to have co-Vice Presidents on the Board.

Mr. Profy advised that Section 404 uses the term in the singular. Research on the issue is necessary.

**Board Comment**

Dr. Muenker advised that the next Strategic Meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 8, 2008 at Herbert Hoover Elementary School at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Webb thanked everyone and stated that he is proud and honored to serve the district. Mr. Webb promised to keep communications open.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Eccles moved the meeting be adjourned and Mr. O'Connor seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion. Mr. Webb adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anita E. Walls  
Board Secretary