

NESHAMINY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Langhorne, Pennsylvania

PUBLIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES
NESHAMINY BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
June 23, 2010

The Neshaminy Board of School Directors met in public session on June 23, 2010, in the District Offices Board Room at Maple Point Middle School. The following persons were in attendance:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Mr. Ritchie Webb, President
Mr. Kim Koutsouradis, Vice President
Ms. Irene M. Boyle
Mr. Scott Congdon
Mrs. Susan Cummings
Mr. Richard M. Eccles
Mr. Mike Morris
Mr. William Oettinger

ADMINISTRATORS:

Dr. Louis T. Muenker
Mr. Joseph V. Paradise
Mrs. Patricia Boylan
Mr. Kevin Kane
Dr. Jacqueline Rattigan

BOARD MEMBER ABSENT:

Mr. William D. O'Connor

OTHERS: Approximately 100 persons from the public, staff and press

SECRETARY: Mrs. Jennifer Burns

SOLICITOR: James A. Downer, III, Esquire

Call to Order

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

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Announcements

None.

Mr. Webb stated that this meeting was strictly to deal with the ratification of the contract between the Neshaminy School Board and NESPA. Mr. Webb stated that any public comments will be strictly limited to this contract. Mr. Webb also noted that this agreement is an example of when you can get two sides to work together. Mr. Webb declared that some of the goals were to make sure that none of the programs were cut and to help many people who have written to the School Board saying how financially unstable the economy is and to have a minimal increase in taxes. He also stated that another goal was to have as little job loss as possible. Whereupon, Mr. Webb outlined the current health insurance policy:

- Option number 1, PC 20- 30- 70; requires employees to contribute 15% towards benefits
- Option number 2, C3F301, requires employees to contribute 10% towards benefits
- Prescriptions will require a 15% contribution from employees; 5/30/50
- Dental coverage is 10% contribution from employees
- Vision care is 10% contribution from employees
- Current retirees will pay the same rate as the active workers
- June 30, 2011 the retirement health benefits will no longer exist for employees who have not retired as of June 30, 2011
- Opt out clause will be 25% of the district's cost
- No double-dipping health insurance coverage
- Five year contract starting 2009 - 2010
- Year one, 2010 -2011, no increase
- Year two, 2010-2011, no increase in salary

- Year three, 2011-2012, no increase in salary
- Year Four 2012-2013, 2 ½% increase in salary
- Year Five 2013-2014, 3% increase in salary
- Cost Containment Committee
- Me Too Clause

Public Comment

Steve Rodos, Villages of Flowers Mill, stated he would like a detailed monetary report of the savings and where the saving will go. He also congratulated the School Board and the Union for coming to an agreement.

Mr. Webb made a motion to the Board to ratify a contract agreement with the Neshaminy Educational Support Professional Association.

Motion: Ratification of contract between the Neshaminy Board of School Directors and the Neshaminy Education Support Professional Association

Mr. Webb presented the following motion:

WHEREAS, the Neshaminy Board of School Directors and the Neshaminy Educational Support Professional Association have participated in contract negotiations; and

WHEREAS, the negotiating teams of the Neshaminy Board of School Directors and the Neshaminy Educational Support Professional Association have tentatively accepted a proposed collective bargaining contract; and

WHEREAS, the District solicitor has reviewed and approved the language of the tentative agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Neshaminy Board of School Directors ratify the said proposed contract between the Neshaminy Educational Support Professional Association and the Neshaminy School District commencing July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2014.

Mr. Koutsouradis seconded the motion.

Mr. Webb requested a roll call tally. The roll call tally indicated the motion passed by a vote of eight ayes (Mr. Webb, Mr. Oettinger, Mr. Morris, Mr. Koutsouradis, Mr. Eccles, Mrs. Cummings, Mr. Congdon, and Ms. Boyle) and zero nays. Mr. O'Connor was not present.

Mr. Webb noted that Mr. O'Connor was on a business trip but did convey to Mr. Webb that he was in support of said motion.

Other Board Business

None.

Public Comment

Mimi Morrow, Morrisville, former resident of Neshaminy for 35 years, stated she was a Neshaminy graduate and also an ex Neshaminy School Board member. Ms. Morrow noted that her daughter is a student at the Bucks County Technical School.

Mr. Webb interjected that this meeting is only for the contract issues for the NESPA. Mr. Webb advised Ms. Morrow that she was welcome to make her comments at the June 29th Public Meeting.

Howard Lindner, Langhorne, congratulated the School Board for not accepting the Fact Finders Report. Mr. Lindner also praised Mr. Webb's leadership of the School Board and not accepting the recommendation of the

Fact Finder's Report because, in Mr. Lindner's opinion, the jobs of the bus drivers should be saved. Mr. Lindner encouraged the Board to move forward and to come to a resolution with the teacher's contract.

Larry Pastor, Business Executive, Langhorne, asked if the Board intends to provide a more detailed financial analysis of the savings that will be realized from the contract with NESPA.

Susan Loncosky, Langhorne, homemaker, expressed her appreciation to the Board for saving the jobs of the support staff. She mentioned the importance of the teacher's aides, who helped the teachers in the classrooms, the school bus drivers who get the children to school, and the secretaries who communicate with the parents when necessary. Ms. Loncosky asked if this new contract with NESPA would have any effect on the administrator's contract as far as the healthcare benefits.

Board Comment

Mr. Koutsouradis thanked the members of NESPA for all of their hard work and he thanked the members for coming to the meetings and voicing their opinions. He also stated that should this contract be accepted it will show that these hard working professionals are putting the community first and doing their part to serve the community. Furthermore, Mr. Koutsouradis stated he welcomes the NFT to come to the table and do the same.

Dr. Muenker commented on all the hard work and difficult decisions that had to be made on both sides regarding the tentative agreement. Dr. Muenker expressed his opinion that Neshaminy has a great support staff and he is looking forward to a successful next few years.

Mr. Webb responded to Mr. Pastor's question regarding a more detailed financial analysis that this information should be available by the next Board Meeting on June 29th. Mr. Webb replied to Susan Loncosky's question, as to whether this contract affects the administrator's contract, stating it does not have any effect whatsoever.

Adjournment

Mr. Eccles moved the meeting be adjourned and Mr. Congdon seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion. Mr. Webb adjourned the meeting at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Burns
Board Secretary