

**BERKELEY HEIGHTS BOARD OF EDUCATION
BUDGET HEARING & REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
APRIL 1, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Berkeley Heights Board of Education was called to order on Wednesday, April 1, 2009 at 7:00 PM in the Clausen Administration Building by the Board President, Mr. Beisser.

ROLL CALL

A roll call indicated the presence of the following members:

Mr. Beisser, Dr. Crisonino, Mrs. Kirsch (8:12PM), Mr. Reinstein, Mr. Sincaglia, Mr. Smalley and Mrs. Walsh. Also present were Mrs. Qualshie and Mrs. Felezzola. Mrs. Williams was absent.

STATEMENT

Mr. Beisser read the following statement:

On February 5, 2009, this body by resolution adopted the schedule for this meeting. The time, date and location of this meeting were accurately set forth therein.

On February 11, 2009 a copy of said schedule was posted at the Town Hall, the Public Library, the Railroad Station and the Administration Building. On the same date a copy was mailed to the Independent Press, Courier News, all PTO Presidents and delivered to the BHEA President, all schools, all Supervisors and filed with the Municipal Clerk. The meeting was also announced on the District Sign at Columbia School.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved by Mr. Smalley and seconded by Mr. Reinstein that the Board of Education adjourn to executive session,

WHEREAS, the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A.10:4-1 et seq.) expressly provide that a public body may move into Executive Session and exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which the public body discusses any of the nine areas set forth in N.J.S.A.10:4-12b; and

WHEREAS, the Berkeley Heights Board of Education has determined it necessary to move into Executive Session to discuss the following subjects, all of which are included in the aforesaid exceptions:

Personnel

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Berkeley Heights Board of Education that it does hereby move into Executive Session pursuant to N.J.S.A.10:4-12b to discuss the aforesaid matters; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the aforesaid discussions shall be made public either at the Public Meeting following said Executive Session or at such time as any litigated or personnel matters are concluded; or upon conclusion of any negotiations or related discussions; or as otherwise specified; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect pursuant to law.

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

It was moved by Mr. Reinstein and seconded by Mr. Sincaglia that the Board of Education return to Public Session. Motion carried.

The meeting was reconvened at 8:00 PM in the Columbia School Multi Purpose Room.

FLAG SALUTE

Mr. Beisser led the Board and the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Dr. Crisonino and seconded by Mr. Reinstein that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the Combined Conference & Regular Meeting & Public Meeting to Adopt Tentative Budget held March 17, 2009.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs. Felezzola indicated the correspondence as listed had been provided to the Board for their review and information.

A. Letter from L. Grossman, Columbia Middle School PTO, Re: Donation

REPORT OF THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

John McNamara reported on the following:

“Kiss Me Kate” was performed this past weekend.
College acceptances are coming in.
Everyone is looking forward to spring break.
School elections are coming up.
Students will be visiting from Italy.

Wendy Lin reported on the following:

National Honor Society inductions.
Guggenheim Museum trip.
Sports Update

The board recognized Kira Prahbu, a student at Columbia Middle School, for her outstanding achievement in the Veterans of Foreign Wars national essay contest.

PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED 2009-2010 BUDGET

Mrs. Qualshie and Mrs. Felezzola presented the 2009-2010 budget.

CITIZENS HEARING FOR BUDGET QUESTIONS

Mrs. Matula of Hastings Road asked questions about specific line items of the budget.

Mr. Sincaglia and Mrs. Felezzola responded.

Dr. Forreger of Dorset Road had questions about the budget.

Mr. Sincaglia and Mrs. Felezzola responded.

Mrs. Johnson of Chestnut Hill Drive thanked the board for developing a conservative budget.

Mrs. Mirabella of Timber Drive thanked the board for the budget and stated that she was happy to see that the district is working to bring special education students back in the district.

Mrs. Freidlander of Timothy Field Road asked about library costs and revenues.

It was moved by Mr. Reinstein and seconded by Mr. Kirsch that the Preliminary Citizens Hearing be closed. Motion carried.

ADOPT PROPOSED 2009-2010 BUDGET

A. ADOPTION OF PROPOSED 2009-2010 BUDGET It was moved by Mr. Sincaglia and seconded Mr. Reinstein that the Board of Education adopt the proposed 2009-2010 school district budget as follows:

| | <u>Budget</u> | <u>Local Tax Levy</u> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Total General Fund | \$42,620,446 | \$34,787,219 |
| Total Special Revenue Fund | 535,729 | n/a |
| Total Debt Service Fund | 2,320,712 | 1,595,218 |
| | <u>\$45,476,887</u> | <u>\$36,382,437</u> |

A roll call indicated unanimous approval.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs. Qualshie stated that the budget presentation on Monday night at the high school was recorded and will be shown on the local television station.

Mrs. Qualshie gave a brief synopsis of the Artist in Residence Program and the Strings Program funded by the Berkeley Heights Education Foundation.

Mrs. Qualshie reported that student artwork was selected for the Union County Teen Arts Festival.

Mrs. Qualshie announced that the PRISM Concert will be held on April 22nd and a parent presentation, Your Child's Wellbeing – Practical Tips for Parents, will be held on April 23rd at the high school.

It was moved by Mrs. Kirsch and seconded by Mr. Reinstein to accept the Superintendent's report.
Motion carried.

LIAISON REPORTS

Dr. Crisonino reported that the Teen Arts Festival was attended by many members of the administration.

Mrs. Kirsch reported that the Union County Educational Services Commission is anticipating a tuition increase of 8% to 10% and that they need a facility for new programs.

Mr. Smalley announced that he attended the Union County School Boards Association meeting where they discussed recent changes in relation to New Jersey School Boards Association reorganization and the re-opening of S1701 for comments. They also discussed improved communications, establishment of county websites, and the student recognition program.

Mr. Beisser reported that he attended the district PTO meeting where they discussed the budget presentation and labor negotiations.

FACILITIES REPORT

There was no facilities report at this time.

PRELIMINARY CITIZENS HEARING

Mrs. Matula of Hastings Road inquired about student field trips.

Mrs. Felezzola responded.

Dr. Forreger of Dorset Road inquired about a personnel item.

Mrs. Qualshie and Mr. Beisser responded.

It was moved by Mr. Reinstein and seconded by Mrs. Kirsch that the Preliminary Citizens Hearing be closed. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATION

- A. POLICIES/REGULATIONS** It was moved by Mrs. Kirsch and seconded by Dr. Crisonino that the Board of Education approve the following revised policy after this second reading:
- Special Education 2460
A roll call indicated unanimous approval.
- B. APPROVE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS/TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT** It was moved by Mrs. Kirsch and seconded by Dr. Crisonino that the Board of Education approve professional development days and travel reimbursement for district staff members, as indicated on Attachment A. A roll call indicated unanimous approval.
- C. APPROVE RESOLUTION HONORING KIRA PRAHBU** It was moved by Mrs. Kirsch and seconded by Dr. Crisonino that the Board of Education approve the Resolution honoring Kira Prahbu, student at Columbia Middle School, for earning Third Place honors nationally in the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) annual essay contest (Attachment B). A roll call indicated unanimous approval.
- D. APPROVE FY 2009 NCLB GRANT APPLICATION AMENDMENT** It was moved by Mrs. Kirsch and seconded by Dr. Crisonino that the Board of Education approve the submission of an Amendment to the Berkeley Heights School District's FY 2009 No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Grant Application, for the purpose of carrying over \$600.00 from the district's 2007-2008 NCLB Grant funding. These funds will be used to cover the cost of purchased services and will be expended prior to June 30, 2009. A roll call indicated unanimous approval.

EDUCATION

- A. **APPROVE STUDENT FIELD TRIPS** It was moved by Dr. Crisonino and seconded by Ms. Walsh that the Board of Education approve the participation of district students and staff in educational field trips, as listed on Attachment C. A roll call indicated unanimous approval.

PERSONNEL

- A. **SUBSTITUTE/SUPPLEMENTAL PERSONNEL** It was moved by Mr. Smalley and seconded by Mr. Reinstein that the Board of Education approve the employment of the substitute/supplemental personnel listed below for the 2008-2009 school year:

Teachers

Dowell, Roxanne
Berkeley Heights, NJ

Policastro, Carol
Berkeley Heights, NJ

Shah, Kunal
Berkeley Heights, NJ

Secretary

Sheppard, Adrienne
Berkeley Heights, NJ

Teacher Aides

Deegan, Cynthia
Berkeley Heights, NJ

Malhosky, Kathleen
Cranford, NJ

Pisano, Gina
Berkeley Heights, NJ

Place, Linda
Berkeley Heights, NJ

Sheppard, Adrienne
Berkeley Heights, NJ

A roll call indicated unanimous approval.

- B. APPROVE REVISION OF EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT/SALARY** It was moved by Mr. Reinstein and seconded by Mr. Sincaglia that the Board of Education approve the following revised employment contract/salary for the 2008-2009 school year, effective January 1, 2009:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Position</u> | Revised 2008-2009 <u>Contract Status/Annual Salary</u> |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Maureen Rica | Special Education Teacher Aide | 6.75 hours per day @18.07 per hour; annual salary of \$21,955.05 (prorated 1/1/2009-6/30/2009) |

Explanatory Note: This salary adjustment reflects additional job responsibilities assumed by the employee as of January 1, 2009.
A roll call indicated unanimous approval.

- C. RESIGNATION OF GINA PICCIRILLO** It was moved by Mr. Reinstein and seconded by Mr. Sincaglia that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of Gina Piccirillo from her position as Grade 5 Teacher at William Woodruff School, effective June 30, 2009.
A roll call indicated unanimous approval.

BUSINESS

- A. AWARD CONTRACT FOR ELECTRICAL REPAIRS** It was moved by Mr. Reinstein and seconded by Mr. Sincaglia that the Board of Education authorize the award of a contract to Sal Electric Co., Inc. for replacement of feeders from the transformers at Columbia Middle School through the District's Bidding Cooperative for \$9,650.00.
A roll call indicated unanimous approval.
- B. ACCEPT DONATION** It was moved by Mr. Reinstein and seconded by Mr. Sincaglia that the Board of Education accept the donation of a 32" Samsung flat screen television and mounting bracket valued at \$641.00 from the Columbia Middle School PTO to be used in the Columbia Middle-School Multi Purpose Room.
A roll call indicated unanimous approval.

FINAL CITIZENS HEARING

There was no one who wished to be heard at this time.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business to present at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Reinstein and seconded by Dr. Crisonino that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna A. Felezzola
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary