

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION MEETING OF THE WOODSTOWN-PILES GROVE BOARD OF EDUCATION HELD ON THURSDAY EVENING, JULY 18, 2019 AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE AT 6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Stanton, Vice President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

READING OF STATEMENT OF NOTICE

Dr. Stanton read aloud the following: The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the rights of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of the public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Woodstown-Piles Grove Regional Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof posted in the South Jersey Times, Elmer Times, Borough of Woodstown Municipal Hall, Township of Piles Grove Municipal Hall, general offices and faculty rooms of the district's four schools, the school district's central office, and with the Borough of Woodstown Clerk and the Township of Piles Grove Clerk.

FLAG SALUTE

Dr. Stanton then led the group in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Mr. Carney (arrived at 6:47 p.m.), Mrs. Chiarelli, Mr. Kinney, Mrs. Miller (arrived at 6:41 p.m.), Mr. Morris, Dr. Nielsen, Mr. Pennal Dr. Stanton and Mr. Zigo.

Members absent: Mrs. Madiraca and Ms. Wojciechowski.

Also Present: Mrs. Virginia M. Grossman, Superintendent of Schools and Mrs. Rose Chin, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

Administrators Present: Ms. Cioffi.

Superintendent's Report – Mrs. Grossman reported on the following:

- Previewed goal setting process and materials.

Board Resolution

- Mrs. Chiarelli read aloud the district's opposition of county-wide school system; Mrs. Grossman thanked Mr. Kinney for sharing his district's language; Mrs. Grossman and Mrs. Chin reviewed bill pertaining ideas towards consolidation (Senate, No. 3757).
- Comments/Discussion include, but are not limited to:
 - Mr. Kinney said freeholders given power to approve initiative; private citizens encouraged to reach out to freeholders.
 - Salem and Sussex County are targeted to be consolidated.
 - Balcony view: appoint 1 county superintendent; governor appoint superintendent and fix salary.
 - People move to Woodstown-Piles Grove to be in our school district.
 - Local flavor could change over time (e.g., Agriculture program).
 - Sending districts are against consolidation; school is center to life.
 - Invite freeholders to BOE meeting (suggested).
 - Resolution to voice our district's opinion to stop the feasibility study.
 - Consolidation is not proven to be successful; may not save money given complexities, compliance, and efficiencies needed to operate a school district; may simply result in more "middle management" position; job is too big for a single CSA.
 - Need to retain culture and community pride; identity may be lost.

Instruction/Curriculum – Items were clarified as needed.

- Items were discussed and clarified as needed.
- Fundraising -- extensive discussion took place on the topic of fundraising, including but not limited to:
 - Online fundraisers in terms of % of take.
 - Educational value of fundraisers.
 - Board fundraising policy was discussed.

Administration/Personnel – Items were clarified as needed.

- Items were discussed and clarified as needed.
- Custodial department update -- approve hiring of custodians; evaluation process in place; checklist in place to clarify work process/steps.
- McKinney-Vento grant discussed -- how grant is expanded in 19/20.
- Preschool Expansion Aid (PEA) discussed -- anticipated funding if approved; eventual partnership with learning centers; 5-year plan; info session for families; DOE alert of approval in early September; if approved, implementation in early October.

Operations/Finance – Items were clarified as needed.

- Items were discussed and clarified as needed.
- Mrs. Chin discussed June cafeteria loss and 18/19 full year profit; goal is to continue the momentum of profitability, tackling some high priority equipment needs while at the same time reversing the years of losses since before outsourcing; pace ourselves to ensure that cafeteria operations runs as smoothly as feasible.

Ms. Cioffi left the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

19/20 BOE Goals

- Mrs. Grossman guided BOE on goal setting process
 - BOE brainstorm top 3 priorities to establish metacognitive link.
 - Cornell Notes -- assist with synthesizing/organizing learning.

- Mrs. Grossman goal-setting presentation
 - Mission drives vision.
 - Framing concepts included, but not limited to:
 - Students at center of plan.
 - Students fulfil their own potential.
 - Well-managed schools -- operations and fiscal.
 - Collaboration -- Kitchen Cabinet.
 - Community/Ethics/Philosophy.
 - Prepare our students for life.
- 4 post-its exercise; Be -- Open, Honest, Kind.
- Three (3) themes
 - Student Achievement / Equity -- raise achievement for all levels of students; student data dashboard and benchmark assessment data will identify educational holes to enable educational/academic improvement
 - Sustainability -- fiscal responsibility goals; begin budgeting process early; shared services; negotiation year is commencing
 - Communications -- e.g., communicate financial snapshot; Orange and Blue briefs

Mr. Carney and Mrs. Chiarelli left the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

New Business

- Discussed concept of increasing diversity in hiring process.
- Updated BOE that Charter School was approved on July 15.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn this meeting at 9:50 p.m.

Motion made by: Eileen Miller

Motion seconded by: Anne Nielsen

Voting

Eileen C. Miller – Yes

Richard C. Morris – Yes

Anne Nielsen – Yes

Amy Wojciechowski – Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Rose Wang Chin
SBA/BS

Approved by Motion of the Board

Date

Signature /SBA