

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WOODSTOWN-PIESGROVE BOARD OF EDUCATION HELD ON THURSDAY EVENING, MARCH 11, 2020 AT THE WOODSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM, LOCATED AT 140 EAST AVENUE, WOODSTOWN, AT 6:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Miller, President, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE

Mrs. Miller then led the group in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

READING OF STATEMENT OF NOTICE

Mrs. Miller 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-Pilesgrove 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 Pilesgrove 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 Pilesgrove Clerk.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Mrs. Chiarelli, Dr. Carr, Mrs. Chiarelli, Mr. Kinney, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Morris, and Dr. Nielsen.

Members absent: Mr. Carney, Mr. Pennal, Mrs. Thomas, Ms. Wojciechowski, and Mr. Zigo.

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

Administrators Present: None.

Mrs. Grossman hosted a Public Information Session regarding the proposed Consolidation/Regionalization of the Salem County Schools. Invitations were extended to all of the Oldmans, Upper Pittsgrove and Alloway Board members.

Mrs. Chin took a courtesy roll call for the sending district's Board of Education as follows:

Members Present Oldmans: None.

Members Present Upper Pittsgrove: Mrs. Deal, Mr. Kinney, Mr. Caltabiano, Ms. DiSilvestro, Mr. Gallagher, Mr. Parks.

Members Present Alloway: Mr. Morris, Mr. Angelus, Mr. Fedora, Mrs. Fulmer, Mr. Hitchner, Mr. McKelvey.

PRESENTATION

Regionalization/Consolidation

A PowerPoint presentation was presented by Dr. Michael Gorman (President, SCC Salem Community College) and Mrs. Virginia Grossman (Superintendent, WPRSD) to include topics such as:

- NJ Path to Progress Background
- Implications for Educational Recommendations
- Salem County Feasibility Study (background; data; scope of analysis; aspects of recommendations)

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

The Q&A session was well participated with a robust volume of questions, including but not limited to:

- Will residents of Salem County be afforded the opportunity to vote on a county district?
- Will School Boards of Education be abolished?
- Will traditions such as sporting rivalries be lost with a unified district?
- Will my child have to be bussed further from home?
- Whose curriculum will be used?
- Will any schools be closed?
- Will my taxes go up?

Not all questions could be addressed with an answer at the time of the presentation as the process unfolds.

The goal of the Q&A session is to compile everyone's input and concerns about the contemplation of a Salem County Regionalization/Consolidation.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn this meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Motion made by: Eileen Miller

Motion seconded by: Michael Kinney

Voting

Richard Carr – Yes

Maricia Chiarelli – Yes

Michael Kinney – Yes

Eileen C. Miller – Yes

Richard C. Morris – Yes

Anne Nielsen – Yes

Respectfully submitted,

March 11, 2020

Mrs. Rose Wang Chin
SBA/BS

Approved by Motion of the Board

Date

Signature /SBA