

JACKSON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
MARCH 8, 2016  
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

A Committee of the Whole workshop meeting of the Jackson Township Board of Education was held in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law and was called to order by the President of the Board, Sharon Dey, at 5:30 p.m. on March 8, 2016 in the Conference Room of the Administration Building.

Present: Mr. Burnetsky  
Ms. Grasso  
Mr. Sargent  
Mr. Hanlon  
Mrs. Fiero  
Mrs. Dey

Absent: Mr. Colucci

Also present: Dr. S. Genco, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. D. Baginski, Assistant Superintendent; Mrs. N. Pormilli, Assistant Superintendent, Ms. M. Richardson, Business Administrator; Mrs. S. Patterson, Assistant Business Administrator; Dr. R. Cerco, Director of Special Services; Mr. N. Montenegro, Board Attorney, staff members, township residents and newspaper representatives.

After the salute to the flag and the Certification of the meeting according to the tenets of the Open Public Meeting Law, the Chair made the following statement: "This meeting is in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law and has been advertised in the newspaper as an Official Meeting."

On a motion by Mr. Hanlon, seconded by Mrs. Fiero, the Board of Education approved the agenda as submitted by the Superintendent of Schools.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Mr. Burnetsky  
Ms. Grasso  
Mr. Sargent  
Mr. Hanlon  
Mrs. Fiero  
Mrs. Dey

**MOTION CARRIED**

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Genco stated tonight we're going in a lot of different directions and spoke about tonight's presentations and the last of the budget presentations on the agenda that are going to be presented by Mr. Baginski, Mrs. Pormilli, Mr. Paneque, Ms. Richardson, Mr. Ostroff and Mr. Olkowitz.

Dr. Genco stated the ad-hoc finance committee met last week and will be meeting again next week. We should have the tentative budget at the business meeting next week noting the tentative budget is just that - tentative. We have approximately a month and a half to pull things out and put things back and are happy to report that we have a budget that is at cap; we're in a good place from a tentative standpoint but we still have a lot of work to be done and will be discussing that with the full Board.

Dr. Genco stated we have a couple of items on the committee of the whole agenda for action tonight. In finance, we have the lease purchase for the buses and the rate came in under what we thought it would which is a good thing but we need to move on it. The second item is the action plan that Mr. Baginski will be talking about; the Board needs to take action on it and then it has to be forwarded to the State.

Dr. Genco introduced Mr. Baginski to present the ESEA Accountability Action Plan.

- a. ESEA Accountability Action Plan – Assistant Superintendent Dan Baginski

Mr. Baginski gave a power-point presentation on the ESEA Accountability Action Plan pertaining to the district's 95% participation rate in the PARCC assessment where we are required to create an action plan and the Board is required to take action on it. Mr. Baginski explained the three strategies that go into preparing the action plans noting it is a state requirement.

**Board Member Comments/Inquiries on the ESEA Accountability Action Plan**

Ms. Grasso asked when a parent, not of a high school student, calls and says they want to opt out their child from the test, what do you do.

Mr. Baginski responded the protocol is the child's guidance counselor will call the parent to discuss the assessments. The guidance counselors really know the children and are capable of handling this discussion with parents. Because we don't know the reason parents are requesting their child be released from taking the test, the guidance counselors will reach out to them.

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Ms. Grasso stated but we are encouraging students to take the test.

Mr. Baginski responded absolutely; our participation rate in the high schools for the fall semester was 97%.

Mrs. Dey stated that is a big difference compared to recently. She shared there is a strong movement occurring on Facebook on some of the Jackson pages right now saying they're going to have outside venues, teacher unions and people coming with facts about PARCC and how well attended our parent meetings were in every school meeting with the Principals.

Mrs. Licitra commented parent meetings were even better attended at the PTO meetings.

Mrs. Dey advised there's a very strong push going on to not take the test.

Dr. Genco explained this is a similar group to last year pushing not to take the test. When he did the state comparison last year, you were able to see all the different towns in the Star Ledger with school districts our size in Ocean and Monmouth County, Jackson was on the higher end of participation which aggravated some people who were pushing the other way; we were right around 90% then and similar districts were around 80% so we did pretty well last year and is hoping to do even better this year.

Mrs. Dey stated there will be more tests in the future and people have to get used to that.

Mr. Burnetsky commented the difference is we have the internet now where people share information that you never knew before. We've had standardized testing forever and now you've seen the problems with Common Core and that's what gets people going.

Mrs. Fiero agreed that's part of it too.

Mrs. Dey stated there is a lot of push going on at the elementary level.

Dr. Genco stated we saw some of it there but last year it was more at the high school level.

Mrs. Dey added that was because of the graduation requirements asking what graduating class does this affect.

Dr. Genco stated it affects all kids in high school and yes it can be used as a graduation requirement so why short yourself another opportunity to meet your graduation requirements.

Mrs. Licitra stated this is actually a graduation requirement now and it's one of the assessments that can be used now.

Mrs. Dey stated so right now it can be used for the class of 2018 going forward but it could change again.

Dr. Genco explained the test is just that, an assessment we use to gauge where the students are at; it is not being used for placement. Ultimately, it gives us valuable information to drive instruction. With the Directors and the Assistant Superintendents here tonight, he can say we have not used it to place a student; we use it to make educated decisions on instruction and where we're going and this is a good thing. Even parent's who are adamantly against Common Core PARCC would recognize that we need to get that information to better assess where we're at on our instruction.

There were no further comments or questions presented on the ESEA Accountability Action Plan.

Dr. Genco announced Mrs. Pormilli will present the Comprehensive Equity Plan.

b. Comprehensive Equity Plan – Assistant Superintendent Nicole Pormilli

Mrs. Pormilli gave a power-point presentation of the Comprehensive Equity Plan to the Board.

**Board Comments/Inquiries on the Comprehensive Equity Plan**

Mr. Sargent asked how do you strengthen the gifted and talented program.

Mrs. Pormilli explained we have criteria we review to fine tune getting into those programs and looking at students getting into that area to ensure our criteria is very fair without compromising our criteria for academic achievement.

Mr. Sargent asked is it less than it was in the past.

Mrs. Pormilli explained we felt the dialogue didn't happen as much as it should so we want to make sure by documenting it. We documented that this conversation has occurred that include lists and rosters.

Mr. Sargent thanked Mrs. Pormilli.

There were no further comments or inquiries presented on the Comprehensive Equity Plan.

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Dr. Genco announced Mr. Paneque will present the 2016-2017 Athletic Budget presentation.

c. 2016-2017 Budget Presentations

- Athletics – Director Rob Paneque

Mr. Paneque gave a power-point presentation of the 2016-2017 Athletic Budget to the Board.

**Board Member Comments/Inquiries on the 2016-2017 Athletic Budget**

Mr. Hanlon asked for a list of students who participate in sports noting athletics is a driving force for scholarships; if they're doing well there, they're doing well in other areas of their life.

Mr. Paneque stated he will do that noting there are a lot of students.

Mr. Hanlon responded and a lot of those students may also receive academic scholarships.

Mr. Paneque continued the athletic budget presentation.

Ms. Grasso asked approximately how many kids participate in the swim program.

Mr. Paneque responded about 60 from Liberty and over 100 from Memorial.

Mrs. Dey stated Dr. Genco can provide that to the Board.

Mr. Burnetsky commented he would like to see an ice rink and a pool in this town.

Mr. Paneque agreed with Mr. Burnetsky.

Mrs. Dey commented there would be tremendous revenue in that and would eventually pay for itself.

Dr. Genco stated in response to this conversation, he can ask the district's architect of record to put together some numbers, however, there are a number of reasons why some districts shy away from doing this and the insurance is a big piece of it and to get it to where you break even, you will have to open it up to the public; you also need certifications, pool chemicals, etc. We had looked at this a number of years ago when he was in Wall Township and it wasn't very cost effective; it would take many many years to recover the cost but being we own some land here, it may be something worth looking at.

Mrs. Fiero stated with the Ocean County College pool being closed, this changes things for us.

Dr. Genco stated we can certainly investigate it citing if we had a pool in this area, we would have no problem getting people to use it during swim season; it's the rest of the year we will have a facility we have to continue to heat and maintain.

Mr. Hanlon stated we talked about this when Liberty was being planned but the insurance issues are what deterred that.

Ms. Grasso stated the question is how long would it take to break even.

Dr. Genco responded there are a lot of things to overcome with something like this.

Mr. Hanlon stated maybe this can be a discussion to have with the town.

Dr. Genco stated let's see what the costs are and then have some discussion on it with both entities.

Mrs. Dey commented although the incorrect information is out there that we don't fund the ice hockey program, we do so let's see if this may help them and help us.

Mr. Paneque continued the athletic budget presentation.

Mrs. Dey asked is that correct, \$18,000.00 for 47 football helmets.

Mr. Paneque clarified the purchase of 50 helmets is just over \$12,000.00, the \$18,000.00 is for a treadmill, weight room equipment and the helmets noting it is an increase but feels it will be money well spent as we are outfitting a brand new weight room at Memorial.

Mrs. Dey responded that still doesn't make her feel any better.

Dr. Genco explained helmets run \$250.00 each.

Mrs. Dey asked can we start a rotation for them just like we do the bus fleet rotations.

Dr. Genco responded we already do that, they are on a rotation basis.

Mr. Paneque stated the life of a helmet is 10 years.

Mr. Sargent asked what are you doing with the old weight room equipment.

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Mr. Paneque responded some of it we can salvage and some will be surplus.

Dr. Genco stated remember \$10,000.00 of that budget is pool costs, then the helmets and the weight room equipment noting there isn't much wiggle room there. Dr. Genco requested a particular slide be brought up explaining this is something that was cut many years ago when we were in a very different situation, however, this is something that a number of people have asked us to consider trying to put back, it would benefit a number of students and not just the kids in an athletic program but the off season students and also students that are not taking part in athletics so they basically would have a gym after hours.

Ms. Grasso asked would the weight room also be used as a physical education class.

Mr. Paneque responded yes.

Dr. Genco explained in physical education, the kids would be chaperoned, after school hours the weight room is closed.

Ms. Grasso asked but somebody will be supervising the weight room when it's open.

Mrs. Dey explained the kids can work out in there only if there's a coach present.

Mr. Paneque stated he visions what they do at the college level for weight training and feels we can also provide that service for the kids here.

Mrs. Fiero stated the way we're doing it now, if a student isn't a member of a team, they're not getting into the weight room.

Dr. Genco responded right noting the only time the weight room is open after hours is if the coach goes in there with his or her team.

Ms. Grasso asked how much time will the weight room be available to other kids.

Dr. Genco responded every day.

Mr. Paneque stated four hours a day.

Ms. Grasso clarified so that's four hours a day the weight room is accessible to kids that didn't have it before.

Dr. Genco clarified this is not in the budget; this is something we talked with the finance committee about; that there are items that are still outside where we are at this point and is something for consideration if we want to try and put it in and work out certain things. We haven't hired anyone for the position in quite a long time and the contract that was just signed; there is no weight room advisor. This stipend was in the previous contract. While this isn't in the current contract, this is something we can negotiate a little bit, however, they're also going to look at where this was previously.

Ms. Grasso asked does this mean there is something we may be able to take out in order to do this.

Dr. Genco responded correct.

Mrs. Fiero asked if we have a student who is not on a team and wants to use the weight room, how will they be able to use it.

Dr. Genco explained the way we would have to do it is make it a club because this is a stipend position and all stipend positions are either tied to a club or a sport. If we were to do that, then the \$25.00 fee would apply as well that could supplement this.

Mr. Sargent asked what does the \$25.00 fee cover.

Dr. Genco responded all of our kids involved in a club, in which we pay a stipend, pays a \$25.00 participation fee.

Mrs. Dey stated and the kids who participate in sports, pay a \$50.00 fee.

Dr. Genco explained those fees go back to the general fund.

Mr. Burnetsky asked is there a need for that, to pay for use of the weight room with the exception of athletes.

Mr. Paneque responded yes there are a good number of kids who would stay after school to work out. There are also the off season athletes who would use it.

Mrs. Fiero commented this is something her son would have done in his senior year if it was available then to help get in shape for boot camp noting several of his friends would also have done the same.

Mr. Sargent asked do you know the average use of a weight room in the area of sports for a school district this size.

Mr. Paneque responded no more than 28 a day.

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Mr. Sargent asked what is the condition of the wrestling mats.

Mr. Paneque responded they're in pretty good shape at the high school level noting there are some older mats still in use.

Mr. Sargent asked do you pull mats from Goetz.

Mr. Paneque responded we pull mats from both middle schools but isn't certain if McAuliffe is in need of new wrestling mats or if Goetz is in the same situation. At the high school level, we have adequate mats at this point.

Dr. Genco responded he is happy to hear that since wrestling mats are quite expensive.

Mr. Sargent asked would we move the high school mats to the middle schools and replace the high school mats.

Dr. Genco responded typically no.

Mr. Paneque added remember the mats are being moved around constantly so they do take a beating that way. He commented this is a big wrestling town so it's worth the investment - and so would an ice hockey rink.

There were no further comments or inquiries on the 2016-2017 Athletic Budget presentation.

- Co-Curricular – Assistant Superintendent Nicole Pormilli

#### **Document A.**

Mrs. Pormilli presented the 2016-2017 Co-curricular Budget to the Board.

#### **Board Member Comments/Inquiries on the 2016-2017 Co-curricular Budget**

Ms. Grasso stated because she is new here, how do we determine what is a volunteer club.

Dr. Genco responded ultimately there are certain clubs here that are contractually negotiated stipends so there is a finite dollar figure and the association has been great with that. That doesn't preclude them from starting a volunteer club; if they have high participation numbers over a few years, it doesn't preclude the Principal from making that recommendation to possibly add that in the next negotiations; that is how that process goes.

Ms. Grasso asked who comes up with club ideas.

Mrs. Fiero responded it generally starts out with the students; we've actually had students come to Board meetings to request certain things.

Ms. Grasso asked so 72 is a high number.

Dr. Genco yes and clarified but we're not going to fund a high number of clubs.

Mr. Burnetsky asked how many do we fund.

Dr. Genco responded you will see that coming up in the presentation.

Mrs. Pormilli continued the 2016-2017 co-curricular budget presentation.

Ms. Grasso asked how long does a club need to be in existence and how high do the records need to be to be considered a paid position.

Dr. Genco responded the Principals look at that and prioritize it and see how long they have been in existence noting typically with years of participation, they will start knocking on our doors just to consider them. There is a finite figure and it becomes more difficult to add clubs.

Mrs. Pormilli explained one of the things she's done is request the rosters of every paid and volunteer club we have in the district so she can keep an eye on the balance. We have almost 3,000 students involved in a club or activity and finds that incredible.

Mrs. Pormilli continued the co-curricular budget presentation.

Mr. Sargent asked with 72 volunteers, is there a comparison with other alike districts.

Mrs. Pormilli responded 72 is very high.

Mr. Hanlon responded over at least the past 3 to 4 years, there has been over 100; many of these clubs have 2 people that run it.

Mrs. Fiero explained there is an advisor and a co-advisor.

Mrs. Dey commented that's how large some of the clubs are that we have.

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Dr. Genco asked Mr. Paneque how many clubs he oversaw in the Wall Township district.

Mr. Paneque responded we only had about half the clubs we have here.

Dr. Genco stated we didn't have any volunteer clubs in the South Plainfield district.

Mrs. Pormilli commented so this is a credit to our staff here.

Ms. Grasso commented she is glad Mrs. Pormilli brought up the rosters for the kids noting having 65 kids in the national honor society is something to keep in mind.

Mrs. Pormilli concluded the co-curricular budget presentation.

Dr. Genco thanked Mrs. Pormilli for her presentation.

Dr. Genco announced Mr. Ostroff will present the 2016-2017 Facilities/Capital Projects budget.

- Facilities/Capital Projects/Transportation – Business Administrator Michelle Richardson/Facilities Director Ed Ostroff/Transportation Administrator Al Olkowitz

### **Document B.**

Mr. Ostroff gave a power-point presentation on the 2016-2017 Facilities/Capital Projects budget to the Board.

### **Board Member Comments/Inquiries on the 2016-2017 Facilities/Capital Projects budget**

Mr. Sargent asked didn't this district go green with chemicals.

Mrs. Dey responded not with chemicals but we did with paper products.

Dr. Genco stated we went green with recycling paper.

Mr. Ostroff continued the budget presentation.

Mrs. Dey asked didn't we have athletic scoreboards donated to Liberty.

Mr. Ostroff explained they were not salvageable and are now gone.

Ms. Grasso asked are the modulars considered level 1 priority and can we do something about them.

Mrs. Dey stated unfortunately the referendum didn't pass for a new elementary school; it was shot down.

Mr. Ostroff responded it depends on the location of them noting the modulars at Switlik were the worst but now they look aesthetically better. We're also saving energy there because we sealed them.

Ms. Grasso asked how many modulars do we have.

Dr. Genco responded 37.

Mrs. Dey commented we would prefer to get rid of them; if we were able to build another elementary school, we could have eliminated a lot of them.

Ms. Grasso added she doesn't like the way they look noting she prefers kids to be in a building because they have to go in and out of the trailers.

Mr. Burnetsky commented it's a safety issue as well.

Dr. Genco stated Mr. Ostroff has done a good job with the modulars but it's going to take time to redo the exterior of all of them noting we're doing 4 to 5 per year.

Mr. Ostroff responded yes, we're siding them and painting them and as we get towards the end of the cycle, we will repeat the process again. We did do 8 of them last year so we did get a portion of them done.

Ms. Grasso asked so the only way to get rid of them is by building a new elementary school.

Mrs. Fiero responded to get rid of most of them, yes.

Mr. Sargent asked what is the wood shop area going to be now.

Dr. Genco responded the new weight room noting the wood shop was only utilized one semester

Mr. Sargent asked what are we doing with the dust collection system in the wood shop.

Mr. Ostroff responded that is undetermined at this point.

Ms. Grasso asked how many kids are in the modulars citing this is a huge concern for her.

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Dr. Genco responded there are a lot more than you realize.

Mrs. Dey commented we had put a safety committee together and one of the fathers on the committee was a police officer; that's how much of a safety concern this was for many people.

Mrs. Fiero shared the trailer her son had class in is why he is a Marine today. He was in one of them when September 11<sup>th</sup> happened and he didn't want another kid to feel unsafe the way he did.

Ms. Grasso asked when was the last referendum done.

Mrs. Fiero stated she believes that referendum might have been the 4 question referendum.

Ms. Richardson responded she can't recall the date.

Mrs. Dey stated it was the elementary school referendum.

Ms. Erwin explained the elementary school referendum was done back in 2005 and it had 2 questions on the ballot, one was for McAuliffe improvements which passed and the other was for a new elementary school which failed.

There were no further comments or questions presented on the 2016-2017 Facilities/Capital Projects budget.

Dr. Genco thanked Mr. Ostroff for his presentation.

Dr. Genco announced Mr. Olkowitz will present the 2016-2017 Transportation budget.

Mr. Olkowitz gave a power-point presentation on the 2016-2016 Transportation budget to the Board.

#### **Board Member Comments/Inquiries on the 2016-2017 Transportation Budget**

Mr. Hanlon asked when you look at the 513 compared to the 503, you're looking at a \$31,000.00 increase.

Dr. Genco responded correct.

Mr. Olkowitz explained the \$22,000.00 portion of that is the aide in lieu of.

Mr. Hanlon stated it's more than double the difference.

Mr. Olkowitz explained we are getting 2-3 students per week moving into Jackson and this is the projection we have.

Mr. Hanlon asked are these buses at full capacity.

Mr. Olkowitz explained these are not our buses; they are Lakewood buses and what this means is a shift from aide in lieu of to a jointure agreement.

Mr. Sargent asked the cost per student is set by the state, correct.

Mr. Olkowitz responded yes the aide in lieu of is set by the state and that's not going up next year, it's staying the same; it's been \$884.00 for a few years.

Mr. Sargent asked are you in a fuel co-op.

Mr. Olkowitz responded yes we are noting the price of fuel has been dropping and it's at \$1.70 this year but they're starting to rise again. We were down as low as \$1.25-\$1.30.

Mr. Sargent asked are we in a 1, 2 or 3 year deal with the co-op.

Mr. Olkowitz responded we do 1 year at a time.

Mr. Sargent asked are we projecting the same price for next year.

Mr. Olkowitz responded we're projecting \$1.99 for next year noting we looked at other co-ops but their fuel pricing was higher. We have a good deal with the co-op we're with now.

Mr. Olkowitz continued the budget presentation.

#### **Board Member Statement**

Mr. Sargent shared 9 years ago he was highly critical of Mr. Olkowitz and wishes to apologize to him citing he didn't understand the scope of what Mr. Olkowitz was up against because of the outside influences he had here and had no idea of the level of responsibilities involved in his position. Mr. Sargent commended Mr. Olkowitz for doing an amazing job over the past 9 years.

Mr. Olkowitz thanked Mr. Sargent and appreciates his comments adding he himself is his biggest critic. He commented he loves his drivers and likes to make sure all kids are ok and safe.

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Mrs. Dey stated she had a discussion with Dr. Genco about the transportation facility and that is on the radar. She commented she doesn't know of anyone who can do a better job than Mr. Olkowitz does because Jackson is a very unique town and we've outgrown this facility years ago.

Mr. Olkowitz thanked Mrs. Dey. He stated the mechanics do the best they can in the area they have to work in and gives them a lot of credit noting it's tough working outside with bad weather.

Mr. Sargent commented and they do a great job.

Dr. Genco advised Mr. Olkowitz the enrollment isn't going down all that much, we're right around 8,700.

Dr. Genco stated to Ms. Grasso, to recap previous discussion on the trailers, there are 37 trailers that are in use; we do have 42 but 37 are being used for classroom instruction at this point; at the elementary level, we have between 22 and 24 students in those classes so you're looking at 700-800 students in those trailers.

Ms. Grasso asked are we in a position to look at that.

Dr. Genco responded we can always look at it but with the enrollment going down, he feels this isn't the appropriate time to approach the community for a new school.

Mrs. Dey and Mrs. Fiero agreed with Ms. Grasso's concerns about the trailers.

Ms. Grasso asked Dr. Genco, do you think at some point we can look at this.

Dr. Genco responded yes, we can look at the demographic study that was done two years ago noting he doesn't put a lot of weight on it and that study had our numbers down by 200 and he knew that wouldn't be the case but it did show us leveling off this time. In probably 2 to 3 years from now, we're going to look at this again noting there are up to 5,000 building permits that are open of people that will be starting to break ground and that would be the time to reach out because our facilities are inadequate for what's coming soon. He explained this will be a tough sell when comments are out there about enrollment being down and we're functioning as well as we're functioning. Our maintenance crew does a great job on the trailers, the outsides just don't look nearly as good as the insides do.

Ms. Grasso stated as a parent, the trailers were always a concern for her.

Mrs. Fiero explained community-wise before the Liberty referendum passed, Memorial was so crowded that kids had to walk outside the building to change classes; they wouldn't be able to physically move through the hallways and it was then the community said we need another school.

Dr. Genco stated again that would be a tough sell right now.

Mr. Burnetsky asked is there a life span on the trailers.

Mr. Hanlon responded they're well past their life span.

Dr. Genco explained the state inspects the trailers every year to check them over to determine whether they are in compliance with regulations and then signs an authorization to continue use for instruction.

Mrs. Fiero commented the trailers are always under consideration.

Dr. Genco stated we have to look at them from a number of different perspectives.

There were no further comments or inquiries on the 2016-2017 Transportation budget presentation.

Mrs. Dey moved to discussion on the March 15, 2016 agenda.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### **Discussion**

#### **a. March 15, 2016 Agenda**

### **Board Member Inquiries/Comments on Finance**

Mrs. Dey asked the Board if they have any questions on Finance.

Dr. Genco stated some Board members inquired about Finance motion #6 and advised Mr. Olkowitz just explained that during his presentation.

Mrs. Dey responded yes Mr. Olkowitz did bring this to our attention.

Mr. Hanlon stated his concern is are they getting a full bus service.

Dr. Genco explained we're confirming the student and the date; they're asking for the aide in lieu price; they're getting the Lakewood bus. At this point, we're paying for the Lakewood bus and paying it out of the aide in lieu dollars and we're pro-rating the price; this is based on the Lakewood Public



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School calendar which is 180 days like ours, however, the private schools typically run close to 200 days.

Mr. Hanlon asked are any of those schools they're attending within 2 miles of their home.

Mrs. Dey stated she asked that question last month and that doesn't apply to us correct.

Dr. Genco stated what is being asked is if these students are entitled to courtesy busing.

Ms. Richardson explained the aide in lieu is not for courtesy busing; students have to live more than 2 miles away; we review the applications to make that determination.

There were no further inquiries or comments presented on Finance.

#### **Board Member Inquiries/Comments on Facilities**

Mrs. Dey asked the Board if they have any questions on Facilities.

There were no inquiries or comments presented on Facilities.

#### **Board Member Inquiries/Comments on Programs**

Mrs. Dey asked the Board if they have any questions on Programs.

There were no inquiries or comments presented on Programs.

#### **Board Member Inquiries/Comments on Students**

Mrs. Dey asked the Board if they have any questions on Students.

Mr. Hanlon asked now that we're getting towards the end of the year; with our new attendance policy, are the students tracking their attendance at each building.

Dr. Genco responded each student tracks any day they're out; it's marked as unexcused whether it's excused or not and then the facilitator at that building will make those determinations before it becomes an appeal process in administration. His understanding is this has been working out well.

Mrs. Dey asked once the student reaches 10 days, a letter goes out correct, and they have to have a hearing prior to any decision being made.

Mr. Baginski clarified a letter goes out to the parent before 10 days; at 10 days the student actually loses credit. A hearing would have to take place to determine whether they're entitled to get the credit back.

Mrs. Dey commented for instance if the student were to produce a doctor's note for all 10 of those days.

Mr. Baginski further clarified we would have a hearing before a decision is made to take credit away or not.

Dr. Genco stated they have to be credible doctor's notes. This is actually consistent with what most districts are doing and he wants the dialogue out there to be we're stricter and that we hold students more accountable.

There were no further inquiries or comments presented on Students.

#### **Board Member Inquiries/Comments on Personnel**

Mrs. Dey asked the Board if they have any questions on Personnel.

There were no inquiries or comments presented on Personnel.

Mrs. Dey moved to Board Committee Reports:

#### **Standing Committee Reports**

- **State and County School Boards Representative – Barbara Fiero**

*Dr. Genco announced Mrs. Fiero achieved Certified Board Member status by the New Jersey School Boards Association.*

*The Board congratulated Mrs. Fiero.*

- **Parent Group Liaison – Barbara Fiero**

*Mrs. Fiero stated our next parent meeting is Monday, April 11, 2016.*

- **Special Education – Sharon Dey**

*Mrs. Dey stated the next SEAC meeting is Monday, March 14, 2016. This meeting is about students transitioning to elementary, middle school and high school and also students that are going out of high school. Principals and Child Study Team members will be present to address parent concerns. A lot of parents are excited about this meeting; it will be a different group dynamic.*

*Mrs. Fiero stated she and Dr. Cerco saw a screening of Jack of Red Hearts in Westlake, it is a film documentary about a child with autism. Dr. Cerco also had an excellent idea, to see if we can put it out there as an in-district fund-raiser citing it was a really awesome film.*

*Mrs. Dey stated it is an excellent movie noting one of the actors in it is from Howell.*

- **Scholarship – Mike Hanlon**

*Mr. Hanlon stated there is no update to report.*

*Mrs. Dey reminded the Board about the scholarship ad journal.*

- **Buildings & Grounds – Mrs. Fiero, Mr. Dey & Mr. Colucci**

*Mrs. Dey stated we didn't have a meeting, however, the Board received a good report from the Director of Buildings & Grounds.*

- **Budget/Finance – Mr. Hanlon, Mr. Colucci & TBD**

*Ms. Grasso stated she attended her first finance meeting and learned a lot from it. The concerns she had were addressed and she was satisfied with the responses and is glad to be on this committee noting it gives her more perspective.*

*Mr. Burnetsky agreed, looking at the operating budget behind the scenes does give you a different perspective.*

*Ms. Grasso commented Dr. Genco's transparencies are very helpful.*

*Dr. Genco thanked Ms. Grasso.*

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

On a motion by Mrs. Fiero, seconded by Mr. Burnetsky, the public forum was opened by acclamation.

There being no response, on a motion by Mrs. Fiero, seconded by Mr. Burnetsky, the public forum was closed by acclamation.

## **Board Member Comments/Inquiries on Finance**

Mrs. Dey and Mrs. Fiero stated Ms. Richardson did a great job on the lease purchase financing.

Mr. Sargent asked can we include some WD-40 in the budget for these squeaky chairs.

Mrs. Dey agreed, the chairs need attention.

## **RESOLUTIONS FOR ACTION**

### **FINANCE**

1. The Board of Education, on a motion by Mr. Hanlon, seconded by Mrs. Fiero based on the recommendation of the Board Secretary, awarded the Lease Purchase Financing for School Vehicles to JP Morgan Chase, lowest bid per specifications, 1.47% for five (5) years, principal \$934,000.00, as per the following Resolution:

Bid Opening: March 2, 2016, 1:00 PM

### **RESOLUTION**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF JACKSON IN THE COUNTY OF OCEAN DETERMINING TO FINANCE CERTAIN SCHOOL VEHICLES AND RELATED ACQUISITIONS THROUGH THE COMPETITIVE BID, RECOMMENDATION OF AWARD AND EXECUTION OF A LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENT, APPROVING THE FORM OF CERTAIN AGREEMENTS INCLUDING A LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENT, AUTHORIZING CERTAIN OFFICIALS OF THE BOARD TO EXECUTE SUCH AGREEMENTS AND AUTHORIZING OTHER ACTIONS NECESSARY TO ACCOMPLISH THE TRANSACTION.**

WHEREAS, The Board of Education or the Township of Jackson in the County of Ocean, New Jersey (the "Board" when referring to the governing body, and the "School District" when referring to the legal entity and the territorial boundaries that are governed by the Board) has determined to lease purchase finance the acquisition of school buses, and other miscellaneous costs required to enter into a Lease Purchase Agreement ("Lease,

Agreement”) for an amount of not to exceed \$934,000.00 and a term not to exceed five-years (collectively, the “Acquisition”); and

WHEREAS, Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission Lease Purchase Bidding/Financial Advisory Service (MRESC) has served as financial advisor (the “Financial Advisor”) to conduct a competitive bid (Bid) for the Lease Purchase to finance the cost of the Acquisition; and

WHEREAS, MRESC has conducted the Bid for the Lease Purchase on behalf of the Board on March 2, 2016 and has made a recommendation of award to the Board and the Board Secretary; and

WHEREAS, The Board wishes to expedite the payment of the respective vendors of the Acquisition;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF JACKSON IN THE COUNTY OF OCEAN, NEW JERSEY, AS FOLLOWS:

The Board hereby awards the Lease Purchase financing to JP Morgan Chase, at an indexed interest rate of 1.47% and to enter into Lease with JP Morgan Chase (Lessor) after Board Counsel has reviewed the Agreement; and

The Board hereby approves the execution of the Lease to the Lessor in order to finance the Acquisition and authorizes the sale of the Lease to Bank of America, Merrill Lynch as Lessor. This award is to be made in accordance with the proposal form submitted by Bank of America, Merrill Lynch to the Board Secretary as of the date of the Bid, said proposal shall be attached hereto, and kept on file with the Board Secretary; and

The Board authorizes the Board President or the Board Secretary to approve any changes or deletions to the Lease Agreement or related documents as may, in the judgment of Counsel be necessary, advisable and in the best interest of the Board; and

The Board authorizes the Board President or the Board Secretary to establish an escrow account for the deposit of the lease proceeds in accordance with the Governmental Unit Deposit Protection Act (GUDPA), and to direct the deposit and investment of the lease proceeds in escrow for the term of the lease; and

The Board hereby delegates the Board President and the Board Secretary the ability to execute the lease purchase agreement and other related financing documents with JP Morgan Chase, serving as the Lessor and purchaser of the lease purchase agreement (the “Lessor” and “Purchaser”), and Escrow Agent (Escrow Agent); and

The Lease is hereby designated as a “qualified tax-exempt obligation” for purposes of Section 265 (b) (3) (ii) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Mr. Burnetsky  
Ms. Grasso  
Mr. Sargent  
Mr. Hanlon  
Mrs. Fiero  
Mrs. Dey

**MOTION CARRIED**

**PROGRAMS:**

1. The Board of Education on a motion by Mrs. Fiero, seconded by Mr. Hanlon, approved the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Accountability Action Plan - 2015 Participation Rate and Assurances as submitted to the Ocean County Office of Education.

**Document C.**

Roll Call Vote: Yes: Mr. Burnetsky  
Ms. Grasso  
Mr. Sargent  
Mr. Hanlon  
Mrs. Fiero  
Mrs. Dey

**MOTION CARRIED**

**New Business**

Mr. Sargent stated he is requesting the chairs be greased.

Mrs. Dey responded so noted Mr. Sargent.

Committee of the Whole Meeting  
March 8, 2016  
District Administration Building

Dr. Genco advised the Board next week you will see on the addendum our calendar for approval this year due to the adjustment we had to make because of the snow days. Also part of this discussion is the middle school graduations that run concurrently on Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. so the Board typically divides; one Assistant Superintendent will attend the Goetz ceremony and the other Assistant Superintendent will attend McAuliffe's. The high school graduations are on Thursday; we've done multiple things in past practices; we've had them at the same time and we've had them at 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. which people seem to like; Board members prefer this as well because they can attend both as a full Board.

Dr. Genco asked the Board for their preferences.

Mrs. Dey stated she feels it's important we be at both high school graduations.

Mr. Sargent commented the time slot between 3:00 and 5:00 is a very hot time of day.

Dr. Genco responded it generally is plus we also may have to work around the possible threat of thunderstorms noting last year we didn't quite make it; it rained on us out on the field. Remember if it rains, the Memorial graduations have to go inside and then they are split so we're even extending that and we're very limited on that time slot.

Mrs. Fiero agreed with Mrs. Dey, it's important we attend both high school graduations.

Dr. Genco responded he will meet with both high school Principals noting Liberty has always wanted to do the earlier timeslot and if Liberty has to go inside, they can still have one graduation, they don't need to split. If Memorial has to go inside they would have to split so we've typically kept Memorial in the first timeslot because they may have to use the second timeframe.

Mrs. Fiero added Memorial also has a larger staff turnout too.

Dr. Genco stated the earlier time slot is better because it's easier to have to make it later than it would be to make it earlier if we have to split.

Dr. Genco advised the Board he will talk with both Principals and get back to them.

Mr. Burnetsky stated he has been to 3 Liberty graduations and it has never been a problem except getting out of the parking lot.

Mr. Hanlon commented try getting out of the Memorial parking lot.

Mrs. Dey commented try getting down the road to the Memorial graduation.

Dr. Genco stated Mrs. Barbour does a very good job of getting the Board members and Administrators out of the parking lot and moving us to where we have to go. We park our cars where we are going to end our day.

Mrs. Dey asked so the calendar will be an addendum item next week.

Dr. Genco responded yes and he will advise the Board on the final decisions for the graduations noting he understands the Board prefers the 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. time slot. He asked the Board to let him know their thoughts on the middle school promotion ceremonies taking place at 4:00 p.m.

Ms. Grasso asked what do the elementary schools do.

Dr. Genco responded they each do their own moving up ceremony at their schools during the day.

Mrs. Fiero explained the Board decides among them who will attend which of those ceremonies.

Mrs. Dey explained Mrs. Barbour will send that calendar to the Board and then we sign up.

Mrs. Fiero explained it's alright for more than one Board member to attend any ceremony.

Dr. Genco commented once we approve the amended calendar, we have to hope we don't get any more snow.

There being no further comments, on a motion by Mr. Burnetsky, seconded by Mr. Hanlon, the meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michelle Richardson  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Committee of the Whole Meeting  
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District Administration Building