

The Randolph Township Board of Education held an Emergency Virtual Meeting in the district on Monday, June 1, 2020 at 1:00 pm, Randolph New Jersey

CALL TO ORDER

Board President Joseph Faranetta called the meeting to order and read the following statement:

EMERGENCY MEETING STATEMENT

Public notice of the emergency meeting pursuant to the Open Public Meeting Act has not been properly given. The matters to be discussed are of great urgency or importance involving confidential student matters.

Delay in holding the meeting will result in harm to the public interest because of the health safety and welfare issues involved. The meeting will be limited to discussion of and acting with respect to the matters of urgency and importance set forth above.

- (1) Written notice of the meeting was given by the Board Secretary in the following manner:
 - a. Posting notice on the District website on June 1, 2020.
 - b. Sending written notice of the meeting to the Daily Record and Randolph Reporter on June 1, 2020 by email.

- (2) The need for the meeting could not have been foreseen at a time when adequate notice could have been provided.

ROLL CALL

The following Board members were present: Mr. Ronald Conti, Ms. Susan DeVito, Ms. Tammy MacKay, Ms. Allison Manfred, Ms. Christine Petrat, Ms. Dorene Roche, Ms. Jeanne Stifelman, and Mr. Joseph Faranetta.

Board member Dr. Robert Soni was not present for the roll call and joined the meeting at 1:05 pm.

The following administrators were present: Miss Jennifer Fano, Superintendent, Mr. Gerald M. Eckert, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Mr. Stephen Frost, Assistant Business Administrator/Assistant Board Secretary, Board Counsel Marc H Zitomer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The following were also present: Director of Technology Peter Emmel, Director of Communications and Digital Media Matthew Pfouts, Director of Secondary Education Jonathan Olsen, and Director of Elementary Education Danielle Soldivieri.

RESOLUTION TO CONDUCT EMERGENCY MEETING

Board President Joseph Faranetta moved a motion seconded by Ronald Conti and unanimously carried by a roll call vote to approve the following resolution to conduct an emergency meeting:

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA), *N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq.*, was enacted by the New Jersey State Legislature to provide the public with advanced notice of, and the right to attend, meetings of public bodies such as a board of education; and

WHEREAS, OPMA permits public bodies to hold emergency meetings without adequate advanced written notice in circumstances of such urgency and importance that a delay for the purpose of providing adequate notice would likely result in substantial harm to the public interest; and

WHEREAS, OPMA permits public bodies to hold emergency meetings subject to certain procedural safeguards, including that three-fourths of its members present vote in favor of conducting the emergency meeting and that prompt notice of the meeting is given to the public by posting and delivery to two newspapers, including the official designated newspaper of the Board; and

WHEREAS, an urgent situation has arisen due confidential student matters; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Board of Education have determined that an emergency meeting must be conducted to discuss and possibly act on these matters which involve the health, safety and educational welfare of these students;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education will conduct an emergency meeting on June 1, 2020 at 1:00 pm via Microsoft Teams; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this Resolution is to be placed on the agenda at the next scheduled public meeting and that the Board Secretary is directed to reflect the same in the minutes and post a copy of this Resolution to deliver it to two newspapers, including the official designated newspaper of the Board.

Mr. Faranetta opened the Q&A function for public comment.

PUBLIC STATEMENT

Seventy public comments and questions were received related to a racially-charged bias incident. Mr. Faranetta, Ms. Fano, and Mr. Zitomer provided limited information related to incident as allowed by law because the incident related to a student matter

EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION

Board President Joseph Faranetta moved a motion seconded by Board member Robert Soni to go into Executive Closed Session at 1:33 pm. Board members present all in favor.

BE IT RESOLVED, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 and 10:4-13 that the Board of Education of the Township of Randolph will hold a Closed Session regarding Personnel, Negotiations, Litigation and matters of Attorney-Client privilege. It is not yet possible to determine when the matters discussed in Closed Session will be made public.

Board member Christine Petrat left the meeting at 2:58 pm.

The Board reconvened to public session at 3:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Board member Ronald Conti moved a motion seconded by Board member Robert Soni to adjourn the meeting. Board members present all in favor.

The Board adjourned the meeting at 3:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerald M. Eckert
Board Secretary