

The Randolph Township Board of Education held a Work Session meeting on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at 07:15 p.m. Randolph High School Library, 511 Millbrook Avenue, Randolph, New Jersey.

Board President Tammy MacKay called the meeting to order and read the following statement:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Randolph Township Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted in The Daily Record. It is also posted in all district schools as well as the Randolph Township Municipal Building.

Roll Call

The following Board members were present: Ms. Christine Aulenbach, Mr. Jeffrey Braverman, Mr. Ronald Conti, Sheldon Epstein, Ms. Colleen Pascale, Ms. Anne Standridge, Dr. Diana Thomas and Ms. Tammy MacKay.

Board Vice-President Alfredo Z. Matos was absent.

The following administrators were present: Dr. David Browne, Superintendent, Miss Jennifer Fano, Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Gerald M. Eckert, Board Secretary, Board Counsel Marc H. Zitomer, Esquire was also present.

Board Vice-President Alfredo Z. Matos arrived at 07:18 p.m.

Closed Session – 07:18 p.m.

Board member Anne Standridge made a motion seconded by board member Ronald Conti and carried by roll call vote to adopt the following:

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 REA Grievance, 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.

The Board returned to open session at 08:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Review of Board Minutes

- Closed Executive Session 02-10-15, 02-12-15, 02-17-15 and 02-23-15
- Work Session 02-10-15, Business Session 02-17-15
- Special Meeting 02-12-15, 02-23-15 (FFT)

Correspondence

President's Report

Ms. MacKay stated that we will hear Dr. Browne's report on start times. She then read Dr. Browne's merit goal related to this report.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Browne reported on his research and recommendation for school start times for the 2015-16 school year. He reported that his recommendation responds to the research that adolescent learners should start later. He stated that he thinks his most recent recommendation is the best possible option. He then outlined the three options that he has developed. They are to do nothing, to develop a two tier system with the High school and two elementary schools and a second tier of the Middle school and the other two elementary schools. The third option which is the one that he recommends is to have a three tier system, the high school at 7:45, the middle school at 8:30 and all four elementary schools at 9:15. He stated that this option addresses the research that adolescent learners should start later. He stated that extracurricular activities would have been very difficult to manage with a 3:00 pm dismissal.

The Board then discussed Dr. Browne's recommendation and decided to explore the possibility of developing a two tier transportation system to allow the high school to start later.

Public Discussion

Resident stated that she shared mistakes in the policies, they were all grammatical. Asking to be told when we plan on having a joint meeting with the council to share budgets. She stated that she has been asking at education committee meetings to have a better program that adults can take.

Several Randolph residents and high school students asked questions about the school start time proposals and stated their concerns. One of the students presented a petition with five hundred six (506) signatures against schedule change and twenty (20) minute lunch period.

Board President Ms. MacKay and Dr. Browne then addressed many of the questions and concerns that were raised.

Student Council Representative Report - None

Committee Reports

Personnel – Ms. Aulenbach stated that the committee met tonight but there is nothing that can be reported publicly.

Education – Ms. Standridge stated that presentations will be done as part of the board meetings.

Finance, Facilities and Transportation – Mr. Matos reported on the FFT committee meeting held last night and discussed the current reserves that the district has. He then stated that the rest of the meeting was a budget discussion in preparation for next week's tentative budget vote. Majority of the committee agrees that the tax levy should be at a 2% increase.

Policy – Dr. Thomas stated that policy committee met and there are policies on tonight's agenda.

Liaison Reports

Ms. Standridge thanked Mr. Zlock for coordinating the students' participation in the parks master plan.

Old Business

Mr. Epstein suggested that a former board member should receive a plaque.

New Business

Mr. Epstein thanked everyone for their comments, suggests that we look into video tape meetings or stream our meetings.

Ms. MacKay stated that it is important to get input, but we do not post enough information on superintendent reports and presidents reports.

Dr. Thomas stated that she likes the idea of videotaping meetings. Ms. MacKay directed policy committee to review videotaping of meetings.

Adjournment

Board Vice President Alfredo Z. Matos made a motion seconded board member Ronald

Conti and carried by roll call vote to adjourn the meeting at 09:55 p.m.

The board adjourned the meeting at 09:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerald M. Eckert
Board Secretary