

The Randolph Township Board of Education held a Special Business Session meeting on Tuesday, March 23, 2010 at 7:15 p.m. in the Randolph Middle School Library, Millbrook Avenue, Randolph, New Jersey.

Board President, Gregory Mark, 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: Mr. Ethan Blynn, Ms. Christine Carey, Ms. Barbara Levinson, Ms. Tammy MacKay, Ms. Maria Martorana, Mr. Al Matos, and Ms. Amy Sachs, Ms. Jeanne Stifelman and Mr. Gregory Mark.

The following administrators were present: Mr. Owen Snyder, Superintendent, Dr. David Browne, Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Theresa Schiffenhaus, Director of Special Services, and Mr. Michael Neves, Business Administrator / Board Secretary.

Closed Session – 7:15 p.m.

Board member Ms. Amy Sachs made a motion seconded by Ms. Barbara Levinson and carried unanimously 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 Personnel, Litigation and Negotiations. It is not yet possible to determine when the matters discussed in Closed Session will be made public.

The board reconvened at 8:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

New Business

Board member Mr. Ethan Blynn made a motion, seconded by Mr. Al Matos to move the agenda and carried unanimously by roll call vote to approve the following **Communications Motions 1 – 2**, with the following exception:

Board member Ms. Christine Carey votes YES on motion 2 and NO on motion 1.

Communications

March 23, 2010

1. MOTION to adopt the following resolution for **Board Attorney**:

WHEREAS, the Randolph Township Board of Education requires the services of an attorney; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the firm Barger & Bolger, be appointed Special Education Counsel for the Randolph Township Board of Education from this date, March 23, **2010** through the reorganization meeting schedule in 2011 and a copy of this resolution be printed in a newspaper circulated in Morris County no later than **May, 2010**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5.

2. RESOLVED, that the Randolph Board of Education extend the school year at Center Grove School by one day so as to make up for the closure of the school on March 15 due to power failure. Students at Center Grove will be required to attend for a four hour (half-day) session on Friday, June 18, 2010 in order to comply with state attendance requirements.

President's Report

Presentation of 2010-2011 Budget. Ms. Stifelman presented to the community the status of the current budget being developed.

Public Discussion

Randolph resident spoke in support of the budget as presented.

Another resident spoke in support of the budget.

Another resident spoke in support of the budget.

Another resident spoke in support of the budget.

Parent of Shongum school student spoke against the budget proposal and the need to be tougher on unions.

Former educator and board member commented saying the presentation should be widened to additional groups.

Another resident spoke in favor of budget presentation.

A senior student of the high school spoke favorably in support of the budget presentation.

Another resident questioned if there is an appeal process? Three tier prescription care and has the union taken more reductions in benefits?

Another senior student of the high school spoke in support of the district proposal.

Another student spoke in support of the Gateways program and spoke in support of district wide enrichment programs.

A junior student of the Randolph High School spoke in support of the budget proposal.

Another resident commented on contracts - need to be reopened, salary and benefit decreases, bus surcharges, Vice-Principals, and suggested the hire a dean-of-students.

Parent of Ironia school students, spoke in support of the proposed budget and commented the Commissioner and Governor, they should be held accountable.

Randolph resident of seventeen years spoke in support of proposed budget.

Former board member commented on the budget process and unions - should not give in.

Another resident asked what the community can do to help.

Another member of the public spoke in favor of the proposed budget.

A former Randolph student spoke favorably on accomplishments of the Randolph education system.

Parent of Randolph students spoke in support of the proposed budget.

Another member of the public commented saying unions need to share in the sacrifices.

Another resident spoke in support of the proposed budget.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING RULE

Board member Mr. Al Matos made a motion seconded by Mr. Ethan Blynn and carried unanimously by roll call vote to approve a motion to suspend the board's standing rule of board meetings ending by 11:00 p.m.

Public Discussion (cont'd)

Another Randolph resident comments on the necessity of union concessions stressing the needed to pass the budget.

Another long-time resident questioned - why don't teachers have more teaching time in their contracts?

Another resident commented - growing the tax levy base is necessary.

Adjournment

Board member Ms. Chris Carey made a motion seconded by Mr. Ethan Blynn and carried unanimously by roll call vote to adjourn the meeting at 11:10 p.m.

The board adjourned the meeting at 11:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael S. Neves
Board Secretary