

MARCH 2, 2011

A Workshop Public Meeting of the Board of Education of the Township of Teaneck, County of Bergen, New Jersey, was held in the Eugene Field, Administration Offices Staff Development Room, One Merrison Street, Teaneck, New Jersey, on Wednesday, March 2, 2011, at 8:25 p.m. Dr. Ardie Walser, President of the Board, presided.

FLAG SALUTE

PRESIDING OFFICER'S MEETING NOTICE STATEMENT

"I hereby call to order the Workshop Meeting of the Teaneck Board of Education, held on Wednesday, March 2, 2011, in the Eugene Field, Administration Offices Staff Development Room. Adequate notice of this meeting has been sent to The Record, The Suburbanite, filed with the Municipal Clerk of the Township of Teaneck and posted inside the Teaneck Board of Education, One Merrison Street, on Friday, February 25, 2011."

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: Mrs. Margaret Angeli
Dr. David Diuguid
Mrs. Margot Embree Fisher
Dr. Henry Pruitt
Mr. Sebastian Rodriguez
Mrs. Gervonn Rice
Dr. Ardie Walser

Absent: Mr. Herbert Burack
Mr. Joseph Cliffe

Others Present: Ms. Barbara Pinsak, Interim Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Robert S. Finger, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Motion made by Dr. Diuguid seconded by Mr. Rodriguez:

Motion to recess Workshop Meeting and continue questions by public on Preliminary Budget 2011-2012.

Roll call. Motion approved 7-0.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON PRELIMINARY BUDGET - SPM - Continuation

Laverne Lightburn – Custodial concerns, is outsourcing the custodial staff effective? Should take a look at other districts that have outsourced their custodial staff and do we have the results?

Keith Braymer – Churchill Road – Why is the Charter School per pupil cost less than the public school per pupil cost? How does the health benefits cost for the teachers and professionals compare to the state coverage cost?

Dave Gruber – What is the total debt? In the Bergen Record the per pupil cost was \$25,340 why has the cost per pupil increased over the last 5 years? How do you make a decision to outsource?

Alan Sohn – The total cost per pupil and comparative cost per pupil is not a reasonable comparative. The State requires a minimum of one custodian per 17,000 sq. feet with this change in our staff can you tell us if you have a number and can tell us what that projection is.

Tasha Morton – Two negative articles concerning Skip Denham in the newspaper why did the Board not do something about this and why did he receive over \$300,000 for sick leave when he retired?

Joe Scazafave– Shop Steward Teamsters– Thanked the Board and public for all the kind comments they said about the custodians. Is the savings for outsourcing \$875,000? What is the total savings if they outsource? What was the total number on the bid for the Custodial Services? The numbers that were given by the Teamsters Union were not the same numbers that were given to them at this meeting.

Clara Williams – Graduate of the Teaneck Public Schools has a son in the school system. Is an advocate for quality public education and clean facilities. Would like to know about the technology equipment and supply line being reduced, how will this impact our students? Is the out of district students really a big problem or does it just seem to be growing in terms of perception. Is there anything we can do about the Charter Schools once they are established?

Randy Allhouse – was told that the Charter Schools do not have to report test scores and do not have to meet the same standards as the public schools, is this true? Custodial outsourcing a concern and there are concerns about the security in the schools if they are replaced. Are the people that are brought in going to be fingerprinted?

Motion made by Dr. Diuguid seconded by Mr. Rodriguez to reconvene Workshop Meeting at 9:45 p.m.

PRESENTATION – Mr. Finger made a presentation on the Transportation Budget.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

PUBLIC HEARING ON MEETING AGENDA

The hearing on matters appearing on this meeting's business agenda commenced at 10:30 p.m. The following persons were recognized and addressed the Board on the indicated agenda matter.

Amalya Megerman – student representative – doesn't feel laptops or carts are needed at the high school. Would like the district to look into the Dreamspark program, which gives free software to school districts. She also would like the nutritional facts from our food service department on the district's website.

Mrs. Pinsak – explained that the laptops and carts were for the elementary schools not for the high school and they were taken out of the budget.

PUBLIC HEARING ON OTHER THAN MEETING AGENDA

The public hearing on matters other than those appearing on this meeting's business agenda commenced at 10:40 p.m. No one wished to address the Board, and the hearing was declared closed.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Dr. Diuguid and seconded by Dr. Pruitt, the meeting adjourned at 10:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert S. Finger, CFE, CGFM
Business Administrator/ Board Secretary