

**OCTOBER 1, 2014**

A Workshop Meeting of the Board of Education of the Township of Teaneck, County of Bergen, New Jersey, was held in the Eugene Field Administration Offices, Margaret Angeli Staff Development Room, One Merrison Street, Teaneck, New Jersey, on Wednesday, October 1, 2014 at 8:00 p.m. Dr. Ardie D. 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, October 1, 2014 in the Eugene Field Administration Offices, Margaret Angeli 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 Wednesday, September 24, 2014."

**ROLL CALL**

Board Members Present: Dr. David Diuguid  
Dr. David Gruber  
Mrs. Sarah Rappoport  
Mrs. Gervonn Rice  
Mr. Sebastian Rodriguez  
Mr. Howard Rose  
Dr. Ardie Walser  
Mrs. Clara Williams  
Ms. Shelley Worrell

Absent:

Others Present: Ms. Barbara Pinsak, Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. Robert Finger, Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
Mr. Vincent McHale, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction



**Teaneck Public Schools  
Superintendent's Report  
October 1, 2014**



Last night (Sept. 30th), the THS counseling department had their annual Senior Parent Night. Important information was presented to help students/parents effectively navigate and understand the college process. There were many positive comments and feedback. The attendance was outstanding, according to our high school administrators. Approximately 120 students and parents attended. Congratulations to Mr. Andrisani and the THS Guidance Staff on an effective outreach to the parents and guardians of our senior students.

For the past several years the New Jersey Department of Education has required public schools to recognize the first full week in October as the "Week of Respect." The week is intended to minimize incidents of harassment, intimidation and bullying (HIB). Each district school has worked to create meaningful and age/grade appropriate programs that will engage and motivate students to continue to refrain from bullying and to stand-up for others, if they witness acts of HIB. All schools will include anti-bullying messages as part of their classroom curriculum. To highlight a few activities at schools:

- Our young Bryant learners will start each day with a morning announcement and activity to support student understanding of the theme, followed by classroom lessons, shared reading materials and writing or drawing activities.
- Hawthorne School students will celebrate the week with a Stand Up to Bullying Poster Day, Wear Blue to Stomp out Bullying Day, participate in Principal's Read-Alouds with anti-bullying themes and learn to recite the Respect Pledge. We're certain that their Respect Dance will also happen sometime during the week as well.
- Lowell School has planned a full week of activities that begin with a school-wide Respect Assembly. During the week, activities that are infused into the curriculum will take place at each grade level. Each day, certain writing, reading, music, art and other subject areas will incorporate elements that support a culture of respect. School-wide activities, like pajama day, will also be threaded throughout the week.
- Whittier School has planned a week of writing assignments, interactive presentations and poster activities. Parents have been informed of the activity themes so that they can reinforce them at home if they wish.
- Benjamin Franklin Middle School students will show that they "team up" against all forms of bullying by wearing team jerseys on Monday, "sock it" to bullying by wearing crazy socks on Tuesday, share an item that shows their heritage because BFMS students accept all others in their diverse community and participate in other themes for the remaining week days. Morning announcements will feature poems and quotes that focus on the theme of respect. Many theme-related classroom activities are planned as well.
- Activities at Teaneck High School include education presentations about bullying guidelines, morning announcements, quotes and songs of peace, Acts of Kindness acknowledgements, a Pennies for PEACE fundraising activity and discussions/writing in the classroom setting.
- Thomas Jefferson Middle School art classes are creating a mural on one of the school walls. The mural will feature a tree with positive words that should be used at the school and a trash can with negative words that should be "thrown away". The school is also featuring a Pledge of Respect writing contest, a Pennies for Pasta fundraiser to raise money for leukemia patients and a door decorating contest with the theme of "What is Respect?"
- Throughout the district popular books and songs will be used as tools to build and solidify empathy for others.

**PRESENTATIONS** – 2013 - 2014 Violence and Vandalism Report - Ms. Pinsak  
Summer Summary of Curriculum & Instruction Activities – Mr. McHale, Dr. Edwards, Ms. Dent, Ms. Gillette, and Dr. King.

### **PUBLIC HEARING ON MEETING AGENDA**

The public hearing on matters appearing on this meeting's business agenda commenced at 9:55 p.m. No one wished to address the Board on any agenda matters and the hearing was closed.

### **BUSINESS AGENDA**

Review of agenda items for the October 8, 2014 meeting.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON OTHER THAN MEETING AGENDA**

The public hearing on matters other than those appearing on this meeting's business agenda commenced at 10:19 p.m. No one wished to address the Board and the hearing was closed.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Worrell spoke about the need for a waiver of fees for the Teaneck High School Alumni Association for upcoming events. The Board agreed to add to the October 8, 2014 agenda.

Mrs. Williams would like the Board to consider the resolution regarding CSX oil tanker trains passing through town recently approved by the Township Council.

### **Resolution to enter into Executive Session**

Motion made by Dr. Diuguid seconded by Mr. Rose;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Teaneck Board of Education that:

1. It does hereby determine that it is necessary to meet in Executive Session on Wednesday, October 1, 2014, to discuss matters of personnel, involving specific individuals, negotiations, anticipated litigation and/or alleged incidents of Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying.
2. These matters will be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.
3. The time that the Board anticipates to be in Executive Session is 45 minutes.

Roll call approved 9-0

Time In: 10:37 PM

Time Out: 12:08 PM

School Operations & Curriculum #35

On a motion made by Dr. Diuguid seconded by Mr. Rose, the Board, by roll call vote of the members present, approved the following resolution:

the Board acknowledges the receipt of the findings and determinations of the Superintendent of Schools regarding Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) incidents reported to the Board in Executive Session during the October 1, 2014 Board meeting.

Roll call on School Operations & Curriculum Motion #35. Motion approved 9-0.

Finance & Budget #58

On a motion made by Dr. Diuguid seconded by Mr. Rose, the Board, by roll call vote of the members present, approved the following resolution:

the Board approves settlements in the matter of Agency Reference #2014-20741, 20742, 20743 and 20943 in accordance with the terms and conditions discussed and agreed upon with the Board's legal counsel during the Executive Session meeting held on October 1, 2014.

**LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT**

None

**REPORTS FROM BOARD COMMITTEES AND APOINTED REPRESENTATIVES**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Rice announced that Dr. Walser and Ms. Worrell are receiving an award from the NAACP.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion made by Dr. Diuguid and seconded by Mr. Rose, the meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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