

**FLEMINGTON-RARITAN REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
January 23, 2012  
MINUTES**

The regular session of the Flemington-Raritan Regional Board of Education was called to order in conformance with the "Sunshine Law" by Patrick Larmore at 6:06 p.m. in the Auditorium at J.P. Case Middle School.

**Members Present**

Robin Behn  
Michael Bonieski  
Dennis Copeland  
Bruce Davidson

Janine Foreman\*  
Linda Mastellone  
Doris McGivney  
Patrick Larmore

**Members Absent**

\*Ms. Foreman arrived at 6:52 p.m.

**Board Candidate Interviews**

The Board interviewed Ms. Helfrich, Ms. Markowski and Ms. Fallon. The Board Members each asked the candidates questions.

On the motion of Ms. McGivney, seconded by Ms. Behn, the meeting was adjourned, unanimously viva voce, at 6:52 p.m. to Executive Session in Room D111.

FRAA/FREA Negotiations  
Board Candidate Deliberation & Selection

The Board returned to public session at 7:50 p.m. in the Auditorium.

On the motion of Mr. Davidson, seconded by Ms. Behn, Ms. Fallon was elected to the Board to fill the remainder of the term expiring, January 2013.

Aye: Ms. Behn            Mr. Davidson            Nay: Ms. McGivney    Abstain: Ms. Foreman  
      Dr. Bonieski        Ms. Mastellone  
      Dr. Copeland        Mr. Larmore

Ms. Fallon joined the Board Members at the table.

Mr. Larmore administered the Oath of Office to Ms. Fallon.

The Board recognized Musashi Eto, a 3<sup>rd</sup>-grade student at Robert Hunter School and his 2<sup>nd</sup>-grade teacher Elizabeth Rainey, for starting the Flemington-Iwate Friendship Network. Musashi has worked hard to motivate and encourage fellow students to write letters to children in Japan who were impacted by an earthquake and tsunami.

On the motion of Ms. McGivney, seconded by Ms. Mastellone, minutes of the Executive Session\* on January 9, 2012 were approved viva voce.

**\*Ms. Fallon abstained**

On the motion of Ms. McGivney, seconded by Ms. Mastellone, minutes of the Regular Meeting\* on January 9, 2012 were approved viva voce.

**\*Ms. Fallon abstained**

**CITIZENS ADDRESSED THE BOARD**

Marie Corfield, Raritan Township and Teacher, noted correction on the taxpayers guide, page 4. The Flemington-Raritan School District should be in 5<sup>th</sup> place.

Robert Jones, Raritan Township and Teacher, would like graphs for maintenance and legal costs. He asked why are maintenance costs so high? Mr. Nolan stated that we have 6 schools and high acreage. Mr. Jones questioned the Administrative figure. Mr. Nolan noted that this is the cost per pupil rate.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Mr. Nolan presented the Taxpayer’s Guide to Education Spending as attached. Ms. Bruhn presented the Education Foundation Research Committee Findings as attached.

**REPORTS OF THE SECRETARY AND TREASURER OF SCHOOL MONIES**

The Superintendent of Schools recommends that the Board of Education accept the monthly financial reports of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of November 2011 and further certifies that no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of 6A: 23-2.11(b), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s known financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year 2011-2012.

I, Stephanie Hope, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary certify that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of 6A:23-2.11(a), as of November 30, 2011. As of these dates, sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s known financial obligations for the remainder of school year 2011-2012.

On the motion of Ms. McGivney, seconded by Ms. Mastellone, approval was given to accept the Reports of the Secretary and Treasurer of School Monies for the month of November 2011:

Aye: Ms. Behn            Ms. Foreman            Nay: 0            Abstain: Ms. Fallon  
       Dr. Bonieski        Ms. Mastellone  
       Dr. Copeland       Ms. McGivney  
       Mr. Davison        Mr. Larmore

**PERSONNEL**

The next meeting will be February 16, 2012.

**THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS FOR APPROVAL:**

**Certified Staff – Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence**

**All Personnel items were approved under one motion made by Dr. Bonieski, seconded by Ms. Foreman.**

- Approval was given for the following staff members to take days without pay for personal reasons:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Date(s)
a.	McKay	Erin	RH	March 19, 20 & 23, 2012
b.	Broderick	Sharon	BS	January 23-27, 2012

- Approval was given to confirm the following staff members to take a day without pay for personal reasons:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Date(s)
a.	Hamed	Hanan	RFIS	January 9, 2012

- Approval was given to amend the motion of December 19, 2011:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc	Grade	Leave	Anticipated Date(s)
a.	Gerlach	Margaret	CH	Grade 2	Disability Leave	March 9, 2012-May 11, 2012
					Family Leave/NJ Paid	May 14, 2012-June 30, 2012

Approval for the following staff member to take a maternity leave as follows:

to read:

for the following staff member to take a maternity leave as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc	Grade	Leave	Anticipated Date(s)
a.	Gerlach	Margaret	CH	Grade 2	Unpaid Family Leave	January 30, 2012-March 8, 2012
					Disability Leave	March 9, 2012-May 11, 2012
					Family Leave/NJ Paid	May 14, 2012-June 30, 2012

4. Approval was given for the following staff member to take a maternity leave as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc	Grade	Leave	Anticipated Date(s)
a.	Behrens	Gabrielle	FAD	Gr. 1	Disability Leave	April 16, 2012-April 27, 2012
					Family Leave/NJ Paid	April 30, 2012-June 30, 2012

5. Approval was given to employ the following candidates. These candidates are or will be highly-qualified for these positions. Fingerprinting and health exam required. The 2011-2012 salary will be adjusted at the conclusion of negotiations.

Item	Last Name	First Name	Position/Loc	Dates	Salary/Degree/Step	Certification/College
a.	Corral	Patricia	Grade 5/ RFIS	February 10- May 9, 2012	Per Diem Sub Pay	CEAS/Provisional- Elementary K-5/ Rider University
				May 10-June 30, 2012	\$47,298 prorated/ BA+15/Step 1	
b.	Gelpke	Katherine	Grade 2/ CH	January 25-April 26, 2012	Per Diem Sub Pay	CEAS Elementary K-5/ CEAS Students with Disabilities/The College of New Jersey
				April 27-June 30, 2012	\$49,498 prorated/ MA/Step 1	

6. Approval was given to amend the motion of November 21, 2011:

Approval was given for the following staff member to take a maternity leave as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc	Grade	Leave	Anticipated Date(s)
a.	Hutchison	Lisa	CH	Grade 2	Disability Leave	January 2, 2012-February 20, 2012
					Family Leave/NJ Paid	February 22, 2012-May 1, 2012

to read:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc	Grade	Leave	Anticipated Date(s)
a.	Hutchison	Lisa	CH	Grade 2	Disability Leave	January 2, 2012-February 10, 2012
					Family Leave/NJ Paid	February 13, 2012-April 30, 2012

### Non-Certified Staff

7. Approval was given to employ Deborah Hart as Library Clerk at Robert Hunter School, effective February 1, 2012, pending fingerprinting. Salary to be \$24,169 prorated based on Step 1 of the Library Clerk Guide. Fingerprinting and health exam required.

**All Staff – Additional Compensation**

8. Approval was given to employ the following staff member for additional compensation during the 2011-2012 school year:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc	Purpose	Max. # of Hours	Rate
a.	Montgomery	Lindsay	RFIS	CPR/AED/First Aid	6	\$32/hr

9. Approval was given to confirm the following staff member for additional compensation during the 2011-2012 school year:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc	Purpose	Max. # of Hours	Rate
a.	Servetnick	Kimberly	CH	Winter Concert	1.5	\$29/hr

**Substitutes**

10. Approval was given to employ the following applicants as Substitutes for the 2011-2012 school year pending criminal history background checks:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Position(s)	Certification(s)
a.	Bucher	Dawn	Nurse	County Substitute-expires 7/1/15

**Field Placements**

11. Approval was given of the following field placements for the 2011-2012 school year:

Candidate/College/Univ.	Cooperating Teacher	Loc/Position	Dates
Omar Arnouk/TCNJ	David Thomas	JP Case/Music	1/17/12-3/2/12
Kaitlyn Kayser/TCNJ	Caroline Foreman	RH/Resource Center	3/5/12-4/27-12

12. Approval was given for the following students to observe classes during the 2011-2012 school year:

Item	Last Name	First Name	From	Observing
a.	Zogheb	Michelle	TCNJ	Cate Sewall
b.	Parlow	Samantha	TCNJ	Cate Sewall
c.	Guarini	Allie	TCNJ	Cate Sewall

**Professional Development/Travel**

13. Approval was given for the following travel expenditures for staff members or their designated alternate to attend professional development conferences/workshops. This travel is deemed educationally necessary and fiscally prudent and all travel expenditures shall be directly related to and within the scope of the staff member's current responsibilities and the district's professional development plan.

Item	Last Name	First Name	Workshop/Conference	Dates	Includes (See Below)	Max.Amt.
a.	Sullivan	Hildred	Hunterdon County Librarians Association Winter Meeting, Flemington, NJ	Jan. 25, 2012	R	\$40
b.	Faherty	Heather	NJMEA Music Conference, East Brunswick, NJ	Feb. 23-24, 2012	R, M	\$187
c.	Schultz	Daniel	NJMEA Music Conference, East Brunswick, NJ	Feb. 23-24, 2012	R, M	\$187
d.	Nagy	Rosemary	American Choral Directors Convention, Providence, RI	Feb. 15-17, 2012	R, L	\$480
e.	Stewart	Barbara	NJAGC Conference, Somerset, NJ	Mar. 9, 2012	R, M	\$205
f.	Stager	Melissa	NJAGC Conference, Somerset, NJ	Mar. 9, 2012	R, M	\$215
g.	Carmona	Eva	Literacy Workshop, Iselin, NJ	Mar. 23, 2012	R, M	\$98

h.	Chesseri	Brenda	ABA Training by the Eden Institute, Monroe, NJ	April 26-27, 2012	R, M	\$181
R = Registration Fee; M = Mileage; L = Lodging; F = Food; O = Other						

14. Approval was given of the following resolution:

RESOLVED that the Board approve a one-year extension of the FRAA Agreement for the 2010-11 school year. There will be no salary increase and no changes to the existing Agreement.

The President is hereby authorized to sign the extension document after it is prepared by the parties.

15. Approval was given of the following resolution:

RESOLVED that the Board approve a new collective negotiations agreement with the FRAA commencing July 1, 2011 and ending June 30, 2014. All items in the existing Agreement will remain the same, with the following exceptions:

- Salary increases:
  - 2011-12 2.5% increase on base salary (retroactive to 7-1-11).
  - 2012-13 2.5% increase on base salary.
  - 2013-14 2.5% increase on base salary.
- Remove language around specific positions that were added to the contract addendum for the 2009 - 2010 year.
- Revise the first few paragraphs of Article VI (p.8) as follows:
  - The Board shall pay full premiums, less any contributions required by law, for Comprehensive Major Medical, Surgical and Dental for single or family coverage for all administrators.
    - a. The Comprehensive Major Medical plan shall include a mandatory second surgical opinion rider.
    - b. The comprehensive Major Medical Program and [Blue Cross] Prescription Drug Co-Pay (\$20.00 for brand names; \$10.00 for generic), single and family plans or an equivalent insurance package mutually agreed upon by the Board and the executive committee of the [F.R.E.A.] F.R.A.A. are available to all employees.
    - c. The [Horizon] Dental Insurance Plan or an equivalent insurance package mutually agreed upon by the Board and the F.R.A.A. is available to all employees and dependents.
- In Article VI (p.9), delete the following sentence: "All of these plans shall be for full coverage."
- In Article VI (p.9), revise the following paragraph:
  - The Board shall pay eighty (80) percent of the premiums for co-pay Blue Cross prescription insurance for administrators who retire via TPAF rules. The premiums will be paid for three (3) years immediately following retirement. This plan shall be for husband and wife. To be eligible for retirement health benefits, the administrator will have served for a minimum of [ten (10)] twenty-five (25) years in the Flemington-Raritan Regional School District.
- Dates will be changed as needed.

The President is hereby authorized to sign the new Agreement after it is prepared by the parties.

Aye: Ms. Behn                      Ms. Mastellone                      Nay: 0                      Abstain: Ms. Fallon  
 Dr. Bonieski                      Ms. McGivney  
 Mr. Davidson                      Mr. Larmore  
 Ms. Foreman

**\*Dr. Copeland left the room for vote on Items 1 through 15.**

**CURRICULUM**

The next meeting will be February 15, 2012

**The Curriculum items were approved under one motion made by Dr. Copeland, seconded by Ms. McGivney.**

1. Approval was given to employ Tech4Learning, consultant, to prepare and present a workshop entitled, “Frames and Share” on February 17, 2012 for a maximum amount of \$2,500.00. Monies to be taken from the Title IIA Grant.
2. Approval was given to accept the approved 2010-2011 No Child Left Behind Grant (NCLB) Amendment as indicated below:

NCLB Title	Description	2010-2011	2010-2011
		Original Amount	Revised Amount
Title I, Part A	Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Education Agencies	\$83,618	\$102,432
Title II, Part A	Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting Fund	\$75,700	\$95,603
Title II, Part D	Enhancing Education Through Technology	\$150	\$260
Title III	English Language Acquisition and Language Enhancement	\$23,339	\$30,039
Title IV	Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act	\$0	\$0
Title V	Innovative Programs	\$0	\$0
Total		\$182,807	\$228,334

3. Approval was given of the revised Grades 1-8 Physical Education Curriculum Guide.
4. Approval was given of the revised Grades 1-8 Health Education Curriculum Guide.

Aye: Ms. Behn            Ms. Foreman            Nay: 0    Abstain:    Ms. Fallon  
       Dr. Bonieski        Ms. Mastellone  
       Dr. Copeland       Ms. McGivney  
       Mr. Davidson       Mr. Larmore

**FACILITIES/OPERATIONS**

The next meeting is yet to be determined.

**The Facilities/Operations items were approved under one motion made by Ms. Mastellone, seconded by Ms. Behn.**

1. Approval was given to amend the motion of October 17, 2011:

to award the bid for the new fire alarm system at the Francis A. Desmares School to Signal Electric Corporation in the total amount of \$147,000. Total amount includes a base bid amount of \$139,000 and an alternate amount totaling \$8,000.

The following bids were received:

Bidder	Base Bid	Alternate 1	Alternate 2
Signal Electric Corporation	\$139,000	\$10,000	(\$2,000)
Fire & Security Technologies	\$168,400	\$12,000	(\$6,000)
Haig Service Corporation	\$171,787	\$32,000	(\$8,000)
Open Systems Integrators	\$177,400	\$20,000	(\$9,900)
Alarm & Communication Technologies	\$188,825	\$ -0-	(\$11,200)
P.J. Smith Electrical Contractors	\$235,500	\$ -0-	(\$16,400)

to read:

to award the bid for the new fire alarm system at the Francis A. Desmares School to Signal Electric Corporation in the total amount of \$149,000. Total amount includes a base bid amount of \$139,000 and an alternate amount totaling \$10,000.

The following bids were received:

Bidder	Base Bid	Alternate 1	Alternate 2
Signal Electric Corporation	\$139,000	\$10,000	(\$2,000)
Fire & Security Technologies	\$168,400	\$12,000	(\$6,000)
Haig Service Corporation	\$171,787	\$32,000	(\$8,000)
Open Systems Integrators	\$177,400	\$20,000	(\$9,900)
Alarm & Communication Technologies	\$188,825	\$ -0-	(\$11,200)
P.J. Smith Electrical Contractors	\$235,500	\$ -0-	(\$16,400)

- Approval was given to accept the Project Development Agreement with Ameresco, Inc. as attached.

Aye: Ms. Behn            Ms. Foreman            Nay: 0    Abstain: Ms. Fallon  
 Dr. Bonieski        Ms. Mastellone  
 Dr. Copeland        Ms. McGivney  
 Mr. Davidson        Mr. Larmore

**TRANSPORTATION**

The next meeting will be February 8, 2012.

No report.

**FINANCE**

The next meeting will be February 24, 2012.

**The Finance items were approved under one motion made by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Ms. Mastellone.**

- Approval was given of the attached transfer list from December 13, 2011 to January 16, 2012.
- Approval was given of the attached bill list for the month of January, 2012 totaling \$2,140,427.39.

Aye: Ms. Behn            Ms. Foreman            Nay: 0    Abstain: Ms. Fallon  
 Dr. Bonieski        Ms. Mastellone  
 Dr. Copeland        Ms. McGivney  
 Mr. Davidson        Mr. Larmore

**COUNTY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION**

The next meeting is yet to be determined.

Ms. Behn reviewed the Resolution to eliminate the vote on the Annual Budget and to move the election of School Board Members to the General election in November. A discussion by many Board Members followed stating pro's and con's to the move.

**NEW JERSEY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION/LEGISLATIVE ADVISOR**

Dr. Copeland noted the New Jersey Race to the Top, the core curriculum testing for 2014, computer testing to move into curriculum, and Junior Achievement Finance.

**POLICY**

The next meeting will be February 7, 2012.

No report.

MISCELLANEOUS

All Miscellaneous items were approved under one motion made by Mr. Davidson, seconded by Ms. Behn.

1. Approval was given of the following resolution:

Resolution to Eliminate the Vote on the Annual Budget and to Move the Election Of School Board Members to the General Election in November

- Whereas Public Law S-3148, Laws of 2012 provides that a local school district may adopt a resolution to eliminate the vote on its annual school budget that is within the statutory cap imposed by the State of New Jersey, and
- Whereas the above legislation provides that the above action would require districts to hold their annual election for school board members in November during the regular general election, and
- Whereas, the Flemington-Raritan Board of Education has determined that the statutory restrictions on the local levy tax increase for annual school appropriations is appropriate and sufficient to control and maintain a thorough and efficient education for the children of the Flemington-Raritan Regional School District, and
- Whereas, the Flemington-Raritan Board of Education, consistent with the budgetary restrictions expressed above, believes that dispensing with annual school budget votes will save taxpayer dollars, and
- Whereas, the Flemington-Raritan Board of Education believes that school board member elections in November will attract a far greater number of voters than typically vote in April elections, and
- Whereas, the Flemington-Raritan Board of education believes that the elimination of the vote on the school budget and the movement of the board member election to November is in the best interest of the Flemington-Raritan community, and
- Whereas, the Flemington-Raritan Board of Education understands that this decision shall remain in effect for a minimum of four years,
- Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Flemington-Raritan Board of Education does hereby determine that it will eliminate the vote on its annual school budget which shall be within the statutory cap and become effective for the 2012-13 budget, and
- Be It Further Resolved, that the Flemington-Raritan Board of Education does hereby determine that the election of school board members will occur at the annual general election in November, 2012.

\* Motion number 1 was tabled.

2. Approval was given of the following resolution:

Resolution Waiver of Requirements Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program

- Whereas, NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district's participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2012-13, and
- Whereas, the Flemington-Raritan School District Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having only 66 Medicaid eligible classified students, of whom only 13 parents provided consent AND participation in SEMI would not provide a cost benefit to the district based on the projection of the district's available SEMI reimbursement for the 2012-13 budget year
- Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Flemington-Raritan School District Board of Education hereby authorizes the Chief School Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools In the County of Hunterdon an appropriate waiver of the requirements of NJAC 6A23A-5.3 for the 2012-13 school year.



3. Approval was given for Child Neurology Services of Southern New Jersey to conduct student evaluations during the 2011-2012 school year at a cost not to exceed \$500 per evaluation.
4. Approval was given to accept the following donation, during the 2011-2012 school year:

Item	Donor	School	Donation	Date	Amount
a.	Mr. & Mrs. Silva	CH	Copper Hill's Music Department	January 4, 2012	\$47.75

**\*Motion number 1 was tabled.**

Aye: Ms. Behn            Ms. Foreman            Nay: 0    Abstain:    Ms. Fallon  
       Dr. Bonieski        Ms. Mastellone  
       Dr. Copeland       Ms. McGivney  
       Mr. Davidson       Mr. Larmore

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**OLD BUSINESS**

Ms. Foreman announced that there was a tentative FREA agreement. No details were available at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Dr. Copeland noted that it was a pleasure to recognize student Musachi Eto. Ms. Behn thanked all the teachers and staff who participated in the Harlem Wizards basketball game.

**CITIZENS ADDRESS THE BOARD**

Marie Corfield, Raritan Township, commented on the standard testing being computerized by 2014. Who is paying for technology, educating teachers, students? She also mentioned she would love to see the elections moved to November.

**ADJOURN**

On the motion of Ms. Foreman, seconded by Ms. Mastellone, the meeting was adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim Parisi  
 Secretary to the Business Administrator

Upcoming Board Meetings

- February 6 - Ethics Presentation
- February 10 - Mid-Year Board Planning Session
- February 27
- March 5
- March 19
- April 2
- April 16