

**FLEMINGTON-RARITAN REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION
BUDGET WORK SESSION/REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 14, 2009
MINUTES**

The budget work session of the Flemington-Raritan Regional Board of Education was called to order in conformance with the "Sunshine Law" by Julie Bell at 6:04 p.m. in the Media Center of the Copper Hill School.

Members Present

Julie Bell	Michael Bonieski
Dennis Copeland*	Janine Foreman
Patrick Larmore	Laurie Markowski
Doris McGivney	Joseph Zarish

Members Absent

John Yankowski

*Dr. Copeland entered the meeting at 6:06 p.m.

BUDGET WORK SESSION

Ms. Foreman as chairperson of the Finance Committee began the budget work session at 6:04 p.m. She introduced the purpose of tonight's work session. Ms. Hope facilitated the session and discussed the committee's vision of where the district wants to go in the next few months.

A discussion ensued on the questions listed on the agenda for tonight's meeting.

1. Question: Does the Board understand what the budget is comprised of and what variables affect the outcome?

**Composition of budget*

78.86% of total budget = Salaries and Benefits

21.14% of total budget = Other (curriculum, trans., supplies, technology, O+M)

**Unknown variables*

- o Negotiations
- o State aid
- o New state guidelines (timelines and allowable adj., cost penalties)
- o State restrictions on levy increases

Ms. McGivney asked about the 4% levy and how much will it cost each taxpayer. Ms. Hope responded that the Board will need to decide if they want to go to cap. Once numbers are known we will be able to give costs.

Dr. Bonieski discussed the composition of the budget and that we have very little control over some of the costs. Dr. Bonieski stated that we may lose state aid as well.

Ms. Markowski stated that she would like to see a broader look at shared services. Ms. Hope stated that we utilize shared services. Ms. Hope has reached out to the municipalities but they have a union which in turn will cost more. We currently share transportation services.

Dr. Copeland asked if the public will be able to speak? Ms. Bell stated that the public will be able to speak during the Citizens Address the Board portion of the meeting.

Mr. Larmore commented on unknown variables such as the proposed new charter school.

Mr. Zarish commented on the 80% allotted to salaries and benefits. He suggested 60% for salaries and 20% for benefits. Salaries correlate to the length of service. He suggested a possible freeze in salaries.

2. Question: What are your priorities? We are not expecting a clear cut answer to this question. We would like to briefly discuss and ask that the full board reflect on this issue.

- Class Size
- Staffing
- Programs
- Non-Instructional Services (guidance, health, food service, secretary and staff dev.)
- Technology
- O + M Projects
- Transportation

Ms. Markowski asked when do we need an aide in class for kindergarten. Mr. Nolan responded 26 or more.

Dr. Bonieski stated that prior to J. P. Case, test scores were lower than after the opening. Class size does have a bearing on scores.

Dr. Copeland stated that only at grades K-2 does class size have a direct bearing.

Ms. Foreman stated that the economy is a reality. We made cuts in better times.

Mr. Larmore stated that there is very little room to wiggle courtesy busing. Do we want to rediscuss? We can save money and do less maintenance but the money will be gone for next year and the year after.

Ms. Hope stated that there was a time when we needed help with dilapidated buildings. The state stepped in. Every year we cut maintenance. Do we want to be in a dire situation again?

3. Question: How do we communicate our budget to the community? What has worked well in the past and what has not? Do we share budget cuts?

- Budget work sessions
- Newsletter
- Budget Bytes
- PTO, staff and public sessions
- School sessions
- Website
- Public Hearing

Ms. Bell stated that the budget sessions were not highly attended and many hours were spent on the planning.

Mr. Larmore suggested we change the format and ask people to sign up and use the town hall format. We can discuss what is at risk!!

Dr. Bonieski stated that he has no problem with a "risk" list. We must have consensus with what would be eliminated if the budget does not pass. The Board must be in agreement. He brought up busing and the concerns of child safety.

Ms. Foreman and Dr. Copeland stated that it is not a foregone conclusion that there would be cuts. It was the consensus of the Board that the list should be shared.

It was also a consensus that the Board would have a budget work session once a month.

4. Question: Knowing that budget cuts are inevitable, what percentage of tax levy increase do you foresee?
 - Current levy increases cannot exceed 4% under the 2009-2010 budget guidelines. Although the guidelines have not yet been published for 2010-2011, what increase would you be comfortable in supporting? We ask that you reflect on this question in greater depth as we move closer towards finalizing our budget.

Ms. Hope noted that this is an issue to ponder and think about.

CONCLUSION

- General Timelines – Tentative

January 7	Finance Committee Meeting
January 11	Finance Committee Report (BOE)
	• Budget Work Session 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
February 12	Finance Committee Meeting to Review Superintendent’s Recommended Budget
February 22	Finance Committee Report (BOE)
	• Budget Work Session 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
February 26	Department budgets will be closed for 09/10
March 5	Nominating Petitions Deadline
March 12	Finance Committee Meeting
March 18	Release of state aid information
March	Finance Committee Report (BOE) - *** (Additional BOE meeting may be needed)
	• Budget Work Session 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
	• Public Discussion of Budget & Adoption of Tentative Budget
March 19	Submission of Tentative Budget to County Dept. of Education
Mar. 29 – Apr. 2	Finance Committee Report (BOE) Public Hearing & Final Adoption of 2010-2011 Budget
April	Budget Presentations to School/Community Groups
April 20	Annual School Election
April 26- May 7	Reorganization Meeting – (Tentative date April 26)

- Did we give the Administration guidance so that they may begin to construct an educationally appropriate and responsible budget?
- Did we gather the insight and information as to what the Board will need to understand and support a decision regarding our 2010-2011 budget.

Ms. Hope stated that the timeline is not concrete. There will be a budget work session on January 11 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Dr. Copeland stated that this was a good start and it was premature to be focused on budget cuts at this time. Time should be spent on busing. There is not an issue on cutting bus costs.

Mr. Larmore stated that budget cuts are inevitable. The bulk of the unknowns will not be decided at the time of the vote.

The regular meeting of the Flemington-Raritan Regional Board of Education was called to order by Ms. Bell at 7:00 p.m.

BOARD RECOGNITIONS

The Board recognized the following:

J.P. Case student, Alex Carr has been cast in this year’s production of “Oliver” at the Walnut Theater from November 10th January 10th. Alex is one of forty student actors chosen to perform this timeless and unforgettable story. He was nominated by Mr. Castellano to acknowledge Alex’s effort and success in the “Performing Arts”.

Several 4th-graders at Copper Hill School were instrumental in organizing this year’s Veterans Day assembly. The students interviewed local veterans, wrote a speech and presented an oral report to the whole grade-level and distinguished guests during a special assembly. The annual program demonstrates good character traits while honoring and recognizing the service and sacrifices of local veterans. The Board commends the following students: Ahmed Fahmy, Richard Frohman, Isaiah Hendricks, Patrick Herrera, Ryan Lockrey, Max Lunsmann, Carolyn Mallory, Toni Marinaccio, Ramon Menendez, Charlie Merker, Tristian Mracek, Sasha Pace, Colin Redmann, David Rocha and Shaye Seyffart. The Board also recognizes Copper Hill teachers Jane Roosa, Kim Reiter, Debbie Glessner and retired teacher Sal Randazzese, who started the program and continued the tradition for many years.

The Board recognized and acknowledged all of the veterans who attended tonight’s meeting. The veterans thanked the Board and the children for allowing them to share their stories with the students. They were very appreciative

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Ms. McGivney, seconded by Ms. Markowski, the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 7, 2009 were approved, viva voce.

On motion of Ms. McGivney, seconded by Ms. Markowski, the minutes of the Executive Session of December 7, 2009 were approved, viva voce.

Ms. Foreman abstained.

CITIZENS ADDRESS THE BOARD

Gerald Fogarty, Raritan Township, asked about the cost per pupil. Mr. Nolan responded that Flemington-Raritan School District was below like schools.

Bob Geremia, Raritan Township, expressed concern that cutting maintenance costs will cost more in the long run.

Jim O’Donnell, Raritan Township, is concerned with the lack of kids riding the buses. We still need to pay for empty buses. We need to be efficient. How many on the list of priorities is mandated? It is a large problem. We need to have the state pay for mandates.

He is also concerned with the lack of cooperative relationships. It is a big problem. Everyone needs to work together.

Ms. Markowski noted that the NJSBA helps support the same efforts.

Delores Fogarty, Raritan Township, asked which programs are mandated. Mr. Nolan stated that most are. She said as a taxpayer, she wants to know how the budget affects us. She also has concerns about elections. She stated that we need to do something to have the community aware of the budget vote. She also thinks having an open house for parents is an unfair advantage. The Board explained elections are state mandated. The county oversees all elections. Sample ballots go out to every citizen by mail.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Mr. Nolan provided an update on the Strategic Plan.

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 October 2009 and further certifies that no major account or fund has been overexpended 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 2009-2010.

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 October 31, 2009. As of these dates, sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s known financial obligations for the remainder of school year 2009-2010.

On motion of Ms. McGivney, seconded by Ms. Foreman, approval was given to accept the Reports of the Secretary and Treasurer of School Monies for the month of October 2009.

Aye:	Ms. Bell	Dr. Bonieski	Nay:	0	Abstain:	0
	Dr. Copeland	Ms. Foreman				
	Mr. Larmore	Ms. Markowski				
	Ms. McGivney	Mr. Zarish				

PERSONNEL

THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS FOR APPROVAL:

Dr. Copeland requested clarification on items 3 and 4. Mr. Nolan clarified them for him.

Certified Staff – Appointments, Resignations & Leaves of Absence

On motion of Dr. Bonieski, seconded by Mr. Larmore, approval was given to accept the resignation of Jessica **Kilgore**, Ten Month Vice Principal at J. P. Case Middle School, effective December 23, 2009.

Aye:	Ms. Bell	Dr. Bonieski	Nay:	0	Abstain:	0
	Dr. Copeland	Ms. Foreman				
	Mr. Larmore	Ms. Markowski				
	Ms. McGivney	Mr. Zarish				

On motion of Dr. Bonieski, seconded by Mr. Larmore, approval was given to transfer Peter **Sibilia** from Eleven Month Vice Principal at J. P. Case Middle School, to Twelve Month Vice Principal at J. P. Case Middle School, effective December 23, 2009.

Aye:	Ms. Bell	Dr. Bonieski	Nay:	0	Abstain:	0
	Dr. Copeland	Ms. Foreman				
	Mr. Larmore	Ms. Markowski				
	Ms. McGivney	Mr. Zarish				

On motion of Dr. Bonieski, seconded by Mr. Larmore, approval was given to amend the motion of August 24, 2009:

to employ Julie Gravett as leave replacement for Jessica McPeek, Grade 1 Teacher at Robert Hunter School, effective September 8, 2009 through December 23, 2009. Salary to be \$49,498 prorated based on Step 1 of the 2009-2010 teachers’ salary guide with a master’s degree and no public school experience. Ms. Gravett is a graduate of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and holds a Provisional Teacher certificate in Elementary K-5. Ms. Gravett is highly qualified for this position. Fingerprinting and health exam required.

to read:

to employ Julie Gravett as leave replacement for Jessica McPeek, Grade 1 Teacher at Robert Hunter School, effective September 8, 2009 through **June 30, 2010**. Salary to be \$49,498 prorated based on Step 1 of the 2009-2010 teachers’ salary guide with a master’s degree and no public school experience. Ms. Gravett is a graduate of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and holds a Provisional Teacher certificate in Elementary K-5. Ms. Gravett is highly qualified for this position. Fingerprinting and health exam required.

Aye:	Ms. Bell	Dr. Bonieski	Nay:	0	Abstain:	0
	Dr. Copeland	Ms. Foreman				
	Mr. Larmore	Ms. Markowski				
	Ms. McGivney	Mr. Zarish				

On motion of Dr. Bonieski, seconded by Mr. Larmore, approval was given to transfer Jessica **McPeek**, Grade 1 Teacher at Robert Hunter School, to leave replacement for Danielle Rynearson, Kindergarten Teacher at Robert Hunter School, effective February 8, 2010 through June 30, 2010 as amended..

Aye:	Ms. Bell	Dr. Bonieski	Nay:	0	Abstain:	0
	Dr. Copeland	Ms. Foreman				
	Mr. Larmore	Ms. Markowski				
	Ms. McGivney	Mr. Zarish				

Non-Certified Staff – Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence

On motion of Dr. Bonieski, seconded by Mr. Larmore, approval was given for Lorraine **Hagen**, Student Support Teacher at Copper Hill School to take a Federal family leave/NJ family paid leave from January 4, 2010 through January 29, 2010.

Aye: Ms. Bell Dr. Bonieski Nay: 0 Abstain: 0
 Dr. Copeland Ms. Foreman
 Mr. Larmore Ms. Markowski
 Ms. McGivney Mr. Zarish

All Staff - Additional Compensation

On motion of Dr. Bonieski, seconded by Mr. Larmore, approval was given to employ the following staff members for additional compensation during the 2009-2010 school year:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Purpose	Max. # of Hours	Rate
a.	Boelhower	Peter	JPC	CPR/AED Training	3	\$32
b.	Corfield	Marie	RFIS	CPR/AED Training	3	\$32
c.	Heirling	Kimberly	JPC	CPR/AED Training	3	\$32
d.	Quattrochi	Megan	RFIS	CPR/AED Training	3	\$32
e.	Headley	Ana	FAD	CPR/AED Training-Café Aide	3	hourly
f.	Larson	Maryann	FAD	CPR/AED Training-Café Aide	3	hourly
g.	Mandal	Mitra	FAD	CPR/AED Training-Café Aide	3	hourly
h.	Orrei	Catherine	FAD	CPR/AED Training-Café Aide	3	hourly
i.	Picchio	Matilde	FAD	Spanish Translation	1.75	\$32

Aye: Ms. Bell Dr. Bonieski Nay: 0 Abstain: 0
 Dr. Copeland Ms. Foreman
 Mr. Larmore Ms. Markowski
 Ms. McGivney Mr. Zarish

On motion of Dr. Bonieski, seconded by Mr. Larmore, approval was given l to amend the motion (8. r, t, u, v, w, y, z, aa, bb, cc, dd, ee, ff, gg, hh) of November 2, 2009:

to employ the following staff members for additional compensation during the 2009-2010 school year:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Purpose	Max. # of Hours	Rate
r.	Agabiti	Joseph	JPC	CPR/AED Training	3	Hourly
t.	Borawski	Jason	JPC	CPR/AED Training	3	Hourly
u.	Cagenello	Stacey	RFIS	CPR/AED Training	3	Hourly
v.	Carr	Rebecca	RH	CPR/AED Training	3	Hourly
w	Mack	Paul	RFIS	CPR/AED Training	3	Hourly
y.	Montgomery	Lindsey	RFIS	CPR/AED Training	3	Hourly
z.	Osmond	Stephanie	RFIS	CPR/AED Training	3	Hourly
aa.	Povall	Cynthia	BS	CPR/AED Training	3	Hourly
bb.	Reiter	Kimberly	CH	Home Instruction	70	Hourly
cc.	DeGenova	Sherrill	CH	Home Instruction	70	Hourly
dd.	Hoff	Kelly	CH	Home Instruction	70	Hourly
ee.	Fallstich	Sarah	RFIS	Home Instruction	70	Hourly
ff.	Madlinger	Marybeth	RFIS	Home Instruction	70	Hourly
gg.	Mazzetta	Kay	CH	Home Instruction	70	Hourly
hh.	Reiter	Kimberly	CH	Home Instruction	70	Hourly

to read:

to employ the following staff members for additional compensation during the 2009-2010 school year:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Purpose	Max. # of Hours	Rate
r.	Agabiti	Joseph	JPC	CPR/AED Training	3	\$32
t.	Borawski	Jason	JPC	CPR/AED Training	3	\$32
u.	Cagenello	Stacey	RFIS	CPR/AED Training	3	\$32
v.	Carr	Rebecca	RH	CPR/AED Training	3	\$32
w.	Mack	Paul	RFIS	CPR/AED Training	3	\$32
y.	Montgomery	Lindsey	RFIS	CPR/AED Training	3	\$32
z.	Osmond	Stephanie	RFIS	CPR/AED Training	3	\$32
aa.	Povall	Cynthia	BS	CPR/AED Training	3	\$32
bb.	Reiter	Kimberly	CH	Home Instruction	70	\$29
cc.	DeGenova	Sherrill	CH	Home Instruction	70	\$29
dd.	Hoff	Kelly	CH	Home Instruction	70	\$29
ee.	Fallstich	Sarah	RFIS	Home Instruction	70	\$29
ff.	Madlinger	Marybeth	RFIS	Home Instruction	70	\$29
gg.	Mazzetta	Kay	CH	Home Instruction	70	\$29
hh.	Reiter	Kimberly	CH	Home Instruction	70	\$29

Aye: Ms. Bell Dr. Bonieski Nay: 0 Abstain: 0
 Dr. Copeland Ms. Foreman
 Mr. Larmore Ms. Markowski
 Ms. McGivney Mr. Zarish

On motion of Dr. Bonieski, seconded by Mr. Larmore, approval was given to amend the motion (7. 1, o, q, r) of October 19, 2009:

employ the following staff members for additional compensation during the 2009-2010 school year:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Purpose	Max. # of Hours	Rate
l.	Altman	Dawn	RFIS	Bloodborne Pathogen Training	1	\$32
o.	Dawes	Denise	CH	Bloodborne Pathogen Training	1	\$32
q.	Larson	Jennifer	CH	Bloodborne Pathogen Training	1	\$32
r.	Ostenso	Ruth	RFIS	Bloodborne Pathogen Prep/Instruction	2	\$32

to read:

employ the following staff members for additional compensation during the 2009-2010 school year:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Purpose	Max. # of Hours	Rate
l.	Altman	Dawn	RFIS	Bloodborne Pathogen Training- Teacher Assistant	1	Hourly
o.	Dawes	Denise	CH	Bloodborne Pathogen Training- Teacher Assistant	1	Hourly
q.	Larson	Jennifer	CH	Bloodborne Pathogen Training- Teacher Assistant	1	Hourly
r.	Ostenso	Ruth	RFIS	Bloodborne Pathogen Prep/Instruction- School Nurse	2	Hourly

Aye: Ms. Bell Dr. Bonieski Nay: 0 Abstain: 0
 Dr. Copeland Ms. Foreman
 Mr. Larmore Ms. Markowski
 Ms. McGivney Mr. Zarish

Substitutes

On motion of Dr. Bonieski, seconded by Mr. Larmore, approval was given to employ the following applicants as substitutes for the 2009-2010 school year pending criminal history background checks:

Last Name	First Name	Position (s)
Christman	Anita	Teacher, Library Clerk, Cafeteria Aide
Flesher	Jared	Teacher
Latimer	Mary	Teacher
McBeth	Stacie	Renewal of Substitute Certificate
Mowell	Sarah	Teacher, Library Clerk, Cafeteria Aide
Reich	Dawn	Library Clerk
Sullivan	Leah	Teacher
Toborowski	Sally	Teacher

Aye: Ms. Bell Dr. Bonieski Nay: 0 Abstain: 0
 Dr. Copeland Ms. Foreman
 Mr. Larmore Ms. Markowski
 Ms. McGivney Mr. Zarish

Field Placements

On motion of Dr. Bonieski, seconded by Mr. Larmore, approval was given for the following students/teachers to observe classes in the district during the 2009-2010 school year:

Last Name	First Name	College/University/School
Battikha	Marie	RVCC
Burke	Joshua	RVCC
Gebler	Allison	RVCC
Hayes	James	Grand Canyon University
Iandiorio	Barbara	RVCC
Katchen	Melissa	RVCC
Murray	Caitlin	RVCC
Noble	Karen	Department of Education
Renmanz	Alexandra	RVCC
Thatcher	Jennifer	RVCC
Thrash	Victoria	Felician College
Barr	Marylynne	Quinnipiac University
Dubiel	Kim	Hunterdon Central Regional High School
Fulton	Erin	Hunterdon Central Regional High School
Peterman	Dawn	Hunterdon Central Regional High School
Puluka	Donna	Hunterdon Central Regional High School
Ryan	Susan	Hunterdon Central Regional High School
Staats	Amy	Hunterdon Central Regional High School
Zullo	Kathy	Hunterdon Central Regional High School

Aye: Ms. Bell Dr. Bonieski Nay: 0 Abstain: 0
 Dr. Copeland Ms. Foreman
 Mr. Larmore Ms. Markowski
 Ms. McGivney Mr. Zarish

Professional Development/Travel

On motion of Dr. Bonieski, seconded by Mr. Larmore, approval was given of 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.	Amoriello	Thomas	Clinician at NJMEA State Conference (Guitar Workshop), East Brunswick, NJ	Feb. 19, 2009	M, O	\$95
b.	Behrens	Gabrielle	Building a First Class Kindergarten Conference, Union, NJ	Jan. 14, 2010	R	\$125
c.	Cherkezian	Donna	Richard Allington – “What Really Matters in Response to Intervention,” Union, NJ	Jan. 8, 2010	M	\$50
d.	Clark	Catherine	Richard Allington – “What Really Matters in Response to Intervention,” Union, NJ	Jan. 8, 2010	M	\$50
e.	Crowell	Christopher	Building a First Class Kindergarten Conference, Union, NJ	Jan. 14, 2010	R	\$125
f.	Davis	Lisa	Building a First Class Kindergarten Conference, Union, NJ	Jan. 14, 2010	R, M	\$195
g.	Loreti	Regina	Building a First Class Kindergarten Conference, Union, NJ	Jan. 14, 2010	R	\$150
h. *	Pollock	Sandra	NCTM National Meeting, San Diego, CA	Apr. 19-23, 2010	R, M, L, F, O	\$2700
i.	Royer	Leslie	Building a First Class Kindergarten Conference, Union, NJ	Jan. 14, 2010	R	\$150
j.	Shames	Susan	Building a First Class Kindergarten Conference, Union, NJ	Jan. 14, 2010	R, M	\$190
R=Registration Fee; M=Mileage; L = Lodging; F = Food; O = Other						

Aye: Ms. Bell Dr. Bonieski Nay: 0 Abstain: 0
 Dr. Copeland Ms. Foreman
 Mr. Larmore Ms. Markowski
 Ms. McGivney Mr. Zarish

*Mr. Zarish asked about letter “h”. Dr. Copeland noted curriculum did discuss this. It’s added value by turnkeying professional development. Ms. Hope explained that the locations for the conventions are rotated.

CURRICULUM

Ms. McGivney noted the Curriculum Committee minutes were distributed to the Board.

On motion of Dr. Copeland, seconded by Ms. McGivney, approval was given to adopt the Grades K-8 Visual Art Curriculum.

Aye: Ms. Bell Dr. Bonieski Nay: 0 Abstain: 0
 Dr. Copeland Ms. Foreman
 Mr. Larmore Ms. Markowski
 Ms. McGivney Mr. Zarish

On motion of Dr. Bonieski, seconded by Mr. Larmore, approval was given to adopt the Grades 1-8 Computer Curriculum.

Aye:	Ms. Bell	Dr. Bonieski	Nay:	0	Abstain:	0
	Dr. Copeland	Ms. Foreman				
	Mr. Larmore	Ms. Markowski				
	Ms. McGivney	Mr. Zarish				

On motion of Dr. Bonieski, seconded by Mr. Larmore, approval was given to adopt the Grades K-8 Physical Education Curriculum.

Aye:	Ms. Bell	Dr. Bonieski	Nay:	0	Abstain:	0
	Dr. Copeland	Ms. Foreman				
	Mr. Larmore	Ms. Markowski				
	Ms. McGivney	Mr. Zarish				

On motion of Dr. Bonieski, seconded by Mr. Larmore, approval was given to adopt the Kindergarten Curriculum.

Aye:	Ms. Bell	Dr. Bonieski	Nay:	0	Abstain:	0
	Dr. Copeland	Ms. Foreman				
	Mr. Larmore	Ms. Markowski				
	Ms. McGivney	Mr. Zarish				

On motion of Dr. Bonieski, seconded by Mr. Larmore, approval was given to adopt the Library Skills Curriculum.

Aye:	Ms. Bell	Dr. Bonieski	Nay:	0	Abstain:	0
	Dr. Copeland	Ms. Foreman				
	Mr. Larmore	Ms. Markowski				
	Ms. McGivney	Mr. Zarish				

NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

Ms. Markowski noted that the next meeting of the Green Committee is scheduled for January 21, 2010.

On motion of Ms. Markowski, seconded by Ms. McGivney, approval was given to dispose of the attached list of obsolete and broken district technology property as it is no longer needed for the instructional program and is not required as a trade-in on a replacement purchase.

Aye:	Ms. Bell	Dr. Bonieski	Nay:	0	Abstain:	0
	Dr. Copeland	Ms. Foreman				
	Mr. Larmore	Ms. Markowski				
	Ms. McGivney	Mr. Zarish				

On motion of Ms. Markowski, seconded by Ms. McGivney, approval was given for Design Ideas Group Architecture & Planning, LLC to provide architectural services for the preparation and submission of a R.O.D. Grant Application for Mechanical Improvements at the Copper Hill School at a fee of \$7,985 plus reimbursable expenses.

Aye:	Ms. Bell	Dr. Bonieski	Nay:	0	Abstain:	0
	Dr. Copeland	Ms. Foreman				
	Mr. Larmore	Ms. Markowski				
	Ms. McGivney	Mr. Zarish				

TRANSPORTATION

No Report.

FINANCE

Ms. Foreman noted that the next meeting of the Finance Committee is January 7, 2010 at 8:00 a.m.

Ms. Foreman noted that she would like Verizon Wireless to be considered in the technology audit.

Mr. Yankowski previously requested to speak to the Township before the District sent them a letter regarding late tax payments. Ms. Foreman and Mr. Yankowski agreed to have an open conversation as in the past. The Finance Committee will discuss the next steps after that conversation.

On motion of Ms. Foreman, seconded by Mr. Larmore, approval was given of the attached transfer list for 2009-2010 school year.

Aye:	Ms. Bell	Dr. Bonieski	Nay:	0	Abstain:	0
	Dr. Copeland	Ms. Foreman				
	Mr. Larmore	Ms. Markowski				
	Ms. McGivney	Mr. Zarish				

On motion of Ms. Foreman, seconded by Mr. Larmore, approval was given of the attached bill list for the month of December 2009 totaling \$2,210,796.58.

Aye:	Ms. Bell	Dr. Bonieski	Nay:	0	Abstain:	0
	Dr. Copeland	Ms. Foreman				
	Mr. Larmore	Ms. Markowski				
	Ms. McGivney	Mr. Zarish				

COUNTY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

No report.

NEW JERSEY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION/LEGISLATIVE ADVISOR

There was no report from NJSBA. A legislative summary report is attached.

POLICY

No report.

COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Bell noted that the next meeting of the Communications Committee is December 15, 2009.

MISCELLANEOUS

On motion of Dr. Copeland, seconded by Ms. McGivney, approval was given to employ Stefanie Watson as the JP Case MS piano accompanist for rehearsals and concerts for the 2009-2010 school year for an additional 20 hours at a rate of \$60 per hour for a maximum of \$1,200. She is replacing Lynda Saponara, who is no longer available to work for JP Case MS.

Aye:	Dr. Bonieski	Dr. Copeland	Nay:	0	Abstain:	Ms. Bell
	Ms. Foreman	Mr. Larmore				
	Ms. Markowski	Ms. McGivney				
	Mr. Zarish					

On motion of Dr. Copeland, seconded by Ms. McGivney, approval was given of the 2010-2015 Strategic Planning Volunteers, as per attached.

Aye:	Ms. Bell	Dr. Bonieski	Nay:	0	Abstain:	0
	Dr. Copeland	Ms. Foreman				
	Mr. Larmore	Ms. Markowski				
	Ms. McGivney	Mr. Zarish				

On motion of Dr. Copeland, seconded by Ms. McGivney, 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 2010-11, and

Whereas, the Flemington – Raritan School District Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having fewer than 30 Medicaid eligible classified students **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 2010-11 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 2010-11 school year.

Aye: Ms. Bell Dr. Bonieski Nay: 0 Abstain: 0
 Dr. Copeland Ms. Foreman
 Mr. Larmore Ms. Markowski
 Ms. McGivney Mr. Zarish

On motion of Dr. Copeland, seconded by Ms. McGivney, approval was given of a District Technology Audit by Ned Davies, Executive Director of the New Jersey Educational Computer Cooperative and Adjunct Professor at College of St. Elizabeth, at a cost of \$10,000.*

Aye: Ms. Bell Dr. Bonieski Nay: 0 Abstain: 0
 Dr. Copeland Ms. Foreman
 Mr. Larmore Ms. Markowski
 Ms. McGivney Mr. Zarish

* Mr. Zarish asked about the technology audit. Mr. Nolan explained the necessity for the audit. The money for the audit will come from the technology budget. It is anticipated that it will cost about \$10,000 for a plan for the future.

On motion of Dr. Copeland, seconded by Ms. McGivney, approval was given to receive homeless student # 2002239 at Robert Hunter School effective December 2, 2009.

Aye: Ms. Bell Dr. Bonieski Nay: 0 Abstain: 0
 Dr. Copeland Ms. Foreman
 Mr. Larmore Ms. Markowski
 Ms. McGivney Mr. Zarish

On motion of Dr. Copeland, seconded by Ms. McGivney, approval was given for Special Education students to take the following field trips, as per IEP requirements, during the 2009-2010 school year:

Location
Hunterdon County Library
Mine Brook Park
Michael’s Arts & Crafts Store
Shop Rite of Flemington
Walking Tour of Main Street Flemington
Black River Train/Whistle Stop Nurseries

Aye:	Ms. Bell	Dr. Bonieski	Nay:	0	Abstain:	0
	Dr. Copeland	Ms. Foreman				
	Mr. Larmore	Ms. Markowski				
	Ms. McGivney	Mr. Zarish				

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received from attorney Mr. Dilts regarding a tax payment issue that occurred with the township and county and Brideside Adult Daycare Center. The attorney is asking for a refund via a donation. The correspondence was referred to the District’s attorney.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed.

CITIZENS ADDRESS THE BOARD

Delores Fogarty asked how we can justify two vice principals at our middle school. Mr. Nolan stated that he is currently evaluating schools. He noted how our administrators do very positive things and have positive effects on the children. Our administrators are very hands on and involved with the students. Administrators are very important. Mrs. Fogarty stated they receive very high salaries. She is concerned and not comfortable with the cost impact.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Be It Resolved, by the Flemington-Raritan Regional Board of Education that it does hereby determine that it is necessary to meet in executive session to discuss the matters stipulated, in conformance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231 P.L. 1975.

NEGOTIATIONS

The matters discussed will be made public when confidentiality is no longer required and formal action pursuant to said discussion shall take place only at a meeting to which the public has been invited.

On motion of Ms. McGivney, seconded by Mr. Larmore, the meeting was adjourned, unanimously viva voce, to executive session at 7:59 p.m.

The Board returned to public session at 8:38 p.m.

ADJOURN

On motion of Ms. Markowski, seconded by Ms. McGivney, the meeting was adjourned, unanimously viva voce, at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Hope

Upcoming Board Meetings – Copper Hill School Media Center

- January 11, 2010
- January 15, 2010 – Board Planning Session
- January 25
- February 8
- February 22 – Social Studies Grades 6-8
- March 8 - Integrated Pest Management Program Presentation

Regular Meeting

December 14, 2009

March 29 – G & T General Grade 3

April 12

April 20 - School Elections