

**FLEMINGTON-RARITAN REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION
BUDGET WORK SESSION/REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 22, 2010
MINUTES**

The budget work session/regular session of the Flemington-Raritan Regional Board of Education was called to order in conformance with the "Sunshine Law" by Julie Bell at 6:03 p.m. in the in the J P. Case Middle School Theatre.

Members Present

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

Members Absent

*Ms. Markowski arrived at 7:08 p.m.

BUDGET WORK SESSION

Mr. Nolan gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the 2010-2011 district budget.

The meeting was opened to questions from the Board

Ms. McGivney asked about the chances of the new charter school opening in September 2010.

Mr. Nolan noted that he is only aware of 12 student enrollments from our district at this time. The charter school needs approximately 108 students (Grades 1-4) from our district by June 30, 2010 to open in September.

Dr. Bonieski complimented Mr. Nolan on his presentation. He had a question on slide 12 regarding the maintenance budget. Ms. Hope gave a breakdown of figures. Dr. Bonieski also asked about slide 26, listing class sizes after the budget reductions. He wanted to know what the class sizes are currently. Mr. Nolan explained the process he used to calculate class averages. Mr. Zarish asked about slide 21, regarding the reduction of state aid. Has this number been confirmed? Ms. Hope replied that it is preliminarily as of February 18, 2010. The figure will not be final until March 16, 2010. Mr. Nolan mentioned that the reductions are tentative. The district must be ready for all possibilities.

Dr. Copeland asked about slide 16 and 20 regarding second and third level reductions. How many people/positions will be affected? The response was 21 positions. Dr. Copeland also asked about retirement breakage. Ms. Hope said that there are 4 possible retirees this year and the difference between their current salary and the salary of the replacement teacher on step one of the salary guide determines the retirement breakage. Dr. Copeland is concerned about losing both the VP and the SAC positions at JPC. Mr. Nolan noted that the elimination of the JPC VP could be a significant issue for the needs at JPC. Mr. Nolan reminded us that these lists are tentative. Dr. Copeland stated that he is concerned with the fact that property taxes will probably be going up and we will still need to cut staff.

Mr. Zarish asked about slide 12, regarding the 4% cap on the tax levy. He wanted a dollar figure for each percentage. Ms. Hope said it is approximately \$500,000.00 for each percentage point.

Ms. Bell noted that in light of the economy the Finance Committee should look at the courtesy busing policy. She also stated that she does not see any reductions in the central office staff.

Ms. Foreman remarked that the district has never faced this type of reduction in the budget before. Nothing is off the table. Eliminating courtesy busing and replacing it with pay to ride is still money out of taxpayer's pockets.

Mr. Nolan mentioned that there is an ongoing central office Human Resources audit. Final recommendations are not yet available.

Mr. Zarish said, regarding the elimination of courtesy busing, we may create a safety issue by changing to pay to ride.

Ms. Bell asked if the March 8th meeting should be dedicated to budget issues. Mr. Nolan stated that we will devote most of the meeting to budget issues. Ms. Hope said that the March 22nd meeting must be a regular board meeting but the board should consider having weekly meetings in March for budget items.

Dr. Murdock questioned the lack of Administrative staff on the reduction list other than the second VP at J. P. Case

Dr. Copeland mentioned the pending contract negotiations. What is the relationship between the proposed budget and the impact of the new teacher contract. Mr. Nolan said that an increase in salary and benefits will affect the budget. There is a negotiations meeting scheduled for March 17, 2010.

Ms. Bell asked if any board members were opposed to having a budget session on every Monday in March starting March 8, 2010 at 6:00 PM. The Board concurred with the suggestion.

The budget discussion ended at 7:04 p.m.

Dr. Carol Baker read the Read Across American Proclamation.

CITIZENS ADDRESS THE BOARD

Bob DeLuca, Raritan Township, disagreed with the 6:00 meeting time for upcoming budget sessions. He suggested 7:00 PM. He asked how we can look at budgeting without a human resources analysis. He was confused about retirement breakage. He mentioned the courtesy busing issue and he is concerned about student safety. He would like to see a top ten reduction list from Mr. Nolan. He questioned VP's at J. P. Case and other schools. Mr. DeLuca asked about administration and SAC positions. Mr. Nolan said he is not prepared to list the reduction items in order at this time.

Stacy Colon, Raritan Township, asked the district to be proactive regarding generating revenue. She suggested a competitive process marketing the before and after school program. Julie Bell debated costs. Ms. Colon questioned the need for maintenance projects when teachers are at risk. Have we looked at strategies to counter act the possible new charter school? She wanted to know if Mr. Nolan contacted the staff for reduction recommendations. Have we explored the option of charging employees tuition to allow their children to attend our district? Have we looked into offering summer school options? She suggested that we analyze central office staff for redundancies. Mr. Nolan mentioned that the human resources audit is addressing the central office staffing issue. Ms. Colon reiterated that we must be proactive during these difficult times.

Nicole Bristol, Raritan Township, applauded Ms. Colon's ideas. She questioned the reduction in art, music and technology when the G & T program curriculum had just been changed to include these items.

Linda Pizzico, Raritan Township, (J. P. Case PTO President) said the district is in a "no win" situation. She said we must go beyond the YMCA issue and look at all facility uses. Facilities are constantly being used. There are substantial costs associated with organizations using our facilities and non-profit organizations use them at no cost. Ms. Pizzico suggests we look at charging organizations across the board to use our district facilities. She also suggested the district look at Curriculum Supervisors, reducing the need for substitute teachers by sharing classroom coverage with existing teachers and freezing teacher tuition reimbursement for college courses. Ms. Pizzico also remarked on the need for the second VP at J. P. Case due to the age of the children and block scheduling.

Bob Segarach, Raritan Township, wanted to know what percentage was used to calculate teacher's budgeted salaries for negotiations. Mr. Nolan responded that the information requested was confidential and he can make no comment at this time.

Ron Tonge, Raritan Township, has questions regarding our debt service. Would refinancing the district debt save money? Stephanie Hope noted that our debt declined due to refinancing and other factors. Mr. Tonge asked about our utility use and costs. Stephanie Hope explained that we are pooling utility costs with a consortium and we are in the process of an energy audit. Mr. Tonge questioned the high cost of cell phone usage in the district. Mr. Nolan responded that the technology audit, that has just concluded, will address this issue. Mr. Tonge stressed the importance of looking at every possible cut in costs and methods to offset costs with new revenue ideas.

Karen Russo, Raritan Township, stated that her son is getting a great education at FRSD. Her property taxes have doubled in the last 14 years. State spending has increased dramatically. Karen feels that the biggest burden is pension and benefits for state employees. The district must be hardcore in contract negotiations on salary and benefits.

Michelle Lee, J. P. Case PTO, asked about the central office audit. Why was it limited to central office? She wants all school secretary positions audited. Mr. Nolan said the audit looked at all the secretaries in central office. The free audit was large in scope and took 4-5 weeks to complete. There are other areas to address but we did what we could with the time restraints we had.

Michelle Stager, Parent/Teacher, urged everyone to call their state and local representatives and let their opinions be known.

Deborah Luccaro, Raritan Township resident and School Librarian, said that teacher's salaries and benefits are under scrutiny. She thanked the board for transparency and the clear budget presentation. If the budget cuts are not supposed to impact the children's education she wants to know why the library clerks are on the reduction list. As of now librarians are free to teach. If the clerks are eliminated, her program and her students will suffer. It is not fiscally responsible to pay a teacher to be a clerk. Suggests the Board members come into the library and see the wonderful programs that are currently offered to the students.

Bonnie Becker, J. P. Case Library Clerk, also invited the board to visit the library. She cannot imagine how the library curriculum and skills will be taught to 800 children without library clerks.

Kim Simington, Raritan Township and employee, said she is the Guidance Office Secretary and she supports three guidance counselors, two rotating counselors and other personnel. She cannot absorb any more work. She asks that they not combine the health and guidance secretary's positions. Ms. Simington also shared concerns for the elimination of the second J. P. Case VP and SAC positions.

Marie Corfield, Art Teacher, encouraged the board to visit the schools and see what teachers do. Teachers love their jobs. The class sizes listed in the budget are average class sizes. The art rooms cannot handle increased class sizes (26+). Mr. Nolan said that the district recognizes the importance and value of every individual person on the staff. He stated that the district does not like the situation we have found ourselves in. The staff is doing a great job and is making major contributions to our children.

Sue Vala, FREA President, thanked the board for the open budget process. She mentioned that she and others have been to Trenton petitioning the state government. She encouraged everyone to get involved with their local assemblyman and tell them how you feel and the impact the current changes are having on your child's education and property values.

Liz Rugg, Raritan Township and employee, is glad that we are going to have additional budget work sessions. She urged the Board to listen to employee and parent ideas. She mentioned that she feels the second J. P. Case VP is essential as well as all the secretarial staff.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Nolan presented the technology audit report as attached.

Mr. Nolan provided an updated on the Strategic Plan. The next meeting is March 4, 2010.

Dr. Murdock left the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

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 December 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 December 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. Foreman, seconded by Mr. Larmore, approval was given to accept the Reports of the Secretary and Treasurer of School Monies for the month of December 2009.

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

PERSONNEL

THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS FOR APPROVAL:

Certified Staff – Appointments, Resignations and Leaves of Absence

On motion of Dr. Bonieski, seconded by Mr. Larmore, approval was given to employ Nydia **Peake-Gonzalez** as half-time leave replacement for Norma Kemp, Spanish Teacher at J.P. Case Middle School, effective February 23, 2010 through April 1, 2010. Salary to be \$46,298 prorated based on Step 1 of the 2009-2010 teachers’ salary guide with a bachelor’s degree. Ms. Peake-Gonzalez is a graduate of Rutgers University and holds Elementary and Spanish Teacher certificates. Ms. Peake-Gonzalez is highly-qualified for this position. Fingerprinting and health exam required.

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

On motion of Dr. Bonieski, seconded by Mr. Larmore, approval was given of the following staff members to take a maternity leave as follows:

Last Name	First Name	Loc	Leave	Date(s)
Ritter	Jamie	CH	Disability Leave Federal Family/NJ Paid Leave	June 1, 2010-June 30, 2010 September 2, 2010-October 31, 2010

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

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.	Davis	Lisa	CH	Pre-School Parent Night	2	Hourly
b.	Loreti	Gina	CH	Pre-School Parent Night	2	Hourly
c.	Royer	Leslie	CH	Pre-School Parent Night	2	Hourly
d.	McDougald	Anne	BS	Pre-School Parent Night	1.5	Hourly
e.	O’Leary	Katherine	BS	Pre-School Parent Night	1.5	Hourly
f.	Behrens	Gabrielle	FAD	Pre-School Parent Night	2	Hourly
g.	Crowell	Chris	FAD	Pre-School Parent Night	2	Hourly
h.	Shames	Susan	FAD	Pre-School Parent Night	2	Hourly
i.	Alexanderson	Karin	RH	Spring Concert	2	\$29
j.	Caiazzo	Michael	RH	Spring Concert	2	\$29
k.	Glanzmann	Debbie	RH	Spring Concert	2	\$29
l.	Jones	Robert	RH	Spring Concert	2	\$29
m.	Benedetti	Anthony	CH	CPR/AED Training	3	\$32
n.	Mandell	Judith	CH	CPR/AED Training	3	\$32

o.	McKay	Erin	RH	Home Instruction	70	\$29
p.	Floyd	Dawn	RH	Glucagon Training-TA	1	Hourly
q.	Kobner	Eileen	RF	Glucagon Training-TA	1	Hourly
r.	Moss	Suzanne	RH	Glucagon Training-TA	1	Hourly
s.	Billman	Debra	FAD	Bilingual Parent Night for K-4 Parents	2.5	\$32
t.	Harley	Adrienne	FAD	Bilingual Parent Night for K-4 Parents	2.5	\$32
u.	Hlinka	Jaclyn	FAD	Bilingual Parent Night for K-4 Parents	2.5	\$32
v.	McGovern	Susan	FAD	Bilingual Parent Night for K-4 Parents	2.5	\$32
w.	Plichta	Kathy	JPC	Extracurricular activities-Spec. Ed student	10	\$29

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

On motion of Dr. Bonieski, seconded by Mr. Larmore, approval was given to amend the motions 6.i and 6.j of February 8, 2010:

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
i.	Ewing	Colleen	RH	Pre-School Parent Night on Mar. 11, 2010	2	\$32
j.	Marterella	Christine	RH	Pre-School Parent Night on Mar. 11, 2010	2	\$32

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
i.	Ewing	Colleen	RH	Pre-School Parent Night on Mar. 11, 2010	2	Hourly
j.	Marterella	Christine	RH	Pre-School Parent Night on Mar. 11, 2010	2	Hourly

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

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)
Henschel	Sara	Teacher
Jepson	Carolyn	Teacher

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

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
Barrett	Courtney	Montclair State University
Berman	Hayley	Raritan Valley Community College
Braun	Meghan	East Stroudsburg
Corsini	Dana	Centenary College
Marciano	Karen	Caldwell College
Mitchko	Catherine	Raritan Valley Community College

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

On motion of Dr. Bonieski, seconded by Mr. Larmore, approval was given for the following administrators to complete their action research project required to obtain their doctorate degree in Educational Leadership at the College of Saint Elizabeth:

Kathleen Suchorsky, Principal at Reading-Fleming Intermediate School
 Wanda Quinones, Vice Principal at Reading-Fleming Intermediate School

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

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.	Baker	Carol	NJ Association of Gifted Convention/Conference, West Windsor, NJ	Mar. 5, 2010	R, M	\$155
b.	Carmona	Eva	TESOL Conference, Somerset, NJ	May 18-19, 2010	R, O, M	\$325
c.	DeGenova	Sherrill	Facilitating Social Skills Program – Autism, Monroe, NJ	Apr. 19, 2010	R, M	\$150
d.	Dukette	Jaclyn	Inquiry Science Workshop Middlesex Community College Center	Mar. 5, 2010	M	\$10
e.	Hutto	Rebecca	Responsive Classroom Training – “Getting the Most Out of Interactive Learning Tasks,” Turners Falls, MA	Apr. 8-9, 2010	R, M, L, F	\$825
f.	Leslie	Patricia	NJECC Annual Conference, Upper Montclair, NJ	Mar. 16-17, 2010	R, M	\$325
g.	Lometti	Susan	Emission Statements Using RADIUS, New Brunswick, NJ	Mar. 18, 2010	R	\$355
h.	Plichta	David	Emission Statements Using	Mar. 18, 2010	R	\$355

			RADIUS, New Brunswick, NJ			
i.	Slagle	Karen	Special Education Workshop, Trenton, NJ	Mar. 11, 2010	R, M	\$175
j.	Stewart	Barbara	Teachers as Scholar Program, "The Artistic Process Revealed," Princeton, NJ	Feb. 24, 2010	M	\$22
k.	Stumm	Donna	The Evolution of Inquiry in the 21 st Century, Middlesex, NJ	Mar. 5, 2010	M	\$45
l.	Truncale	Christopher	NJECC Annual Conference, Upper Montclair, NJ	Mar. 17, 2010	R, M	\$150
m.	Vala	Susan	NJECC Annual Conference, Upper Montclair, NJ	Mar. 16, 2010	R, M	\$160
n.	Wong	May	Attend ALC Learning Consultant's Conference, Eatontown, NJ	Mar. 12, 2010	R, M	\$140

R = Registration Fee; M = Mileage; L = Lodging; F = Food; O = Other

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

CURRICULUM

No Report.

NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

The Green Committee will meet on February 24, 2010.

TRANSPORTATION

No report.

FINANCE

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

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

On motion of Ms. Foreman, seconded by Mr. Zarish, approval was given of the attached bill list for the month of February 2010 totaling \$1,472,669.65.

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

Ms. Foreman thanked Mr. Nolan, Ms. Hope, Ms. Bruhn and the administration during a difficult year. The negotiation team will meet on March 17 to exchange proposals. A Finance Committee meeting has been scheduled for March 4, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. Ms. Bell also thanked the administration and the Finance Committee.

COUNTY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Ms. Markowski reported that the Superintendent’s evaluation is now online with a demo.

Ms. Markowski reported that the Executive Committee met on February 17, 2010 to discuss the topic for the March 11 meeting. The title of the meeting is Legal and Practical Perspectives of Effective Boardmanship. The spring meeting will be June 1, 2010. The committee is hoping to give a presentation “Educational Leadership in Tough Times.”

The committee discussed the Matthew Smith Award that goes to the student who has overcome challenges in life. Applications will be going to high school guidance counselors to nominate students for this award. The Maude Dahme Award is also being presented to an outstanding board member.

The association will have their regular planning session in July for the 2010-2011 school year.

NEW JERSEY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION/LEGISLATIVE ADVISOR

Ms. Markowski reported that on February 17, 2010 Executive Order 14, which freezes \$475 million in current-year state school aid, will have a serious and negative impact on school district budgeting in 2010-2011. A representative of the New Jersey School Boards Association testified to the Assembly Budget Committee today regarding the implications of this order on school boards in the future. A detailed explanation is attached to the minutes.

The Senate and the governor seem to be working together on measures to reform New Jersey’s pension systems. Governor Christie addressed both the Assembly and Senate he outlined his plan for balancing this year’s budget which included withholding \$475 million in state aid for education via school district’s surpluses.

POLICY

On motion of Ms. McGivney, seconded by Ms. Markowski, approval was given for the presentation of the following policy for second reading and approval:

3126 – Induction Program for Provisional Teachers (New & Recommended)

The entire chapter, N.J.A.C. 6A:9-8 – Requirements for Instructional Certificates, and specifically the requirements for the provisional certificate, the State-approved district training program, and the local mentor plan have been revised. New Policy 3126 has been developed and is detailed and aligned with the current Administrative Code.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. Copeland reviewed the role of the committee with working with the Finance Committee to communicate the budget. Parent letters and budget bytes will be forthcoming. Dr. Copeland reminded the Board that the next Board meeting will be at J. P. Case Middle School. The Board will try to make the budget the only item on the agenda to allow more public input.

MISCELLANEOUS

On motion of Mr. Zarish, seconded by Dr. Bonieski, approval was given to accept the following donations:

Donor	School	Purpose/Assemblies	Date	Amount
PTO	Barley Sheaf	Wood Carpet	Spring 2010	\$1,100

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

On motion of Mr. Zarish, seconded by Dr. Bonieski, approval was given to submit an amendment to the 2008-2009 IDEA Grant application.

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

On motion of Mr. Zarish, seconded by Dr. Bonieski, approval was given for Nutritional Management Associates, Inc. to conduct student evaluations for a maximum rate of \$1,300 per evaluation.

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

Ms. McGivney asked about the wood carpet at Barley Sheaf.

Dr. Bonieski also asked for more information about student evaluations.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received from Cynthia J. Yard, County Administrator including a resolution supporting Governor Christie in his efforts to reduce State spending and the burden placed on every taxpayer in New Jersey. The Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders adopted this resolution on Tuesday, February 16, 2010.

Emails from residents Leslie Reid-Green and Melissa France were shared.

OLD BUSINESS

The Board supported the attorney’s decision regarding Briteside Adult Day Center.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Hope reported that the budget is due to the County Office by March 22, 2010. There is a Board meeting that evening.

CITIZENS ADDRESS THE BOARD

Stacey Colon, Raritan Township, offered another idea regarding student fees for sports as well. It would help keep the sport programs and parents would need to pay for their students to play. Ms. Colon commented that Mr. Nolan is always at Barley Sheaf events.

Linda Pizzico received several parent responses indicating that parents are willing to pay if their child makes the team. She offered to take a survey if we need additional help.

Liz Rugg stated that this also penalized students who cannot do other teams and it is only an opportunity for some students.

Linda Pizzico asked a questions regarding Personnel Item #6. She gave kudos to Principal Suchorsky and Vice Principal Quinones but asked if they will be doing this during the day.

Lizz Rugg asked if the student participation fee will cover the cost for intramurals at RFIS. The Board stated no.

Dan DeCanio briefly explained how intramurals are organized.

Bob Castellano addressed questions regarding intramurals and stated that at present, the student participation fees are not covering costs.

Mr. Nolan noted that the PTO’s facilitate after-school activities at the elementary schools.

Stacy Colon asked what the cost to break even is.

Ms. Foreman stated that it is not as simple as it may seem.

ADJOURN

On motion of Ms. McGivney, seconded by Mr. Larmore, the meeting was adjourned, unanimously viva voce, at 9:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Hope

Upcoming Board Meetings

March 29 - Budget Work Session/Regular Meeting

 QSAC Resolution

April 12 - Budget Work Session/Regular Meeting

April 20 - School Elections