

**OUTH HACKENSACK BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES-REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2014 – 7:30 p.m.**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Regan at 7:30 p.m.

Present:

Y. Encarnacion
K. Maher
P. Nasta
M. Regan

Also Present:

Gregorio Maceri, Superintendent/Principal
Elizabeth Schaefer, Board Secretary
Mrs. Moreno and several citizens

Absent:

T. Lofaro
J. Obando
L. Perdomo

SALUTE TO THE FLAG LED BY: Regan

SUNSHINE LAW ANNOUNCEMENT: Regan

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of the public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of the Act, the South Hackensack Board of education has caused notice of meetings published in The Record by having the date, time and place thereof posted. Notice was also placed on the Bulletin Board in the Municipal Building and in the Lobby of Memorial School.

MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes of 7/14/14, 8/4/14, 9/8/14, 9/18/14

K. Maher abstained from minutes of 9/8/14 and 9/18/14

Discussion – Approved.

Motioned by P. Nasta, seconded by Y. Encarnacion. Roll call, all in favor

CORRESPONDENCE:

Motion to approve correspondence, per attached listing.

Discussion – Approved.

Motioned by K. Maher, seconded by P. Nasta. Roll call, all in favor.

REPORTS:

Monthly Expense Report of 8/31/14

Discussion – Approved

Motioned by K. Maher, seconded by P. Nasta. Roll call, all in favor.

Treasurer's Report of 8/31/14

Discussion – Approved

Motioned by Y. Encarnacion, seconded by P. Nasta. Roll call, all in favor

Board Secretary's Monthly Certification Budgetary Line Item Status (N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11 (c) 4)

Board of Education's Monthly Certification Budgetary Major Account/Fund Status (N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11 (c) 4)

Discussion – Approved

Motioned by K. Maher, seconded by Y. Encarnacion. Roll call, all in favor.

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Superintendent/Principal Report:

Mr. Maceri opened his discussion by informing the board that once the minutes get approved by the board that they will now be posted on the school's website under the BOE heading. The Workshop and Regular agenda will also be posted on the site. Hard copies of the Agenda will still be sent out to all board members. Mr. Maceri then continued with his report which included: the current enrollment, the joint board meeting with Hackensack which is scheduled for November 18th, 2014 at 6:30 at the Hackensack High School library. Mr. Maceri informed the board that "Back to School Night" was a success with 213 attendees and that about 85% of parents had signed up for email correspondence. He stated that he has started sending out mass emails to parents and that only a few are getting kicked back. He will be notifying those parents about these issues. He also stated that the township is using their Facebook page to get information out to parents. Other matters discussed were: beefsteak dinner to be held on November 14, 2014, faculty meeting agendas, professional learning communities, the current count on the national lunch program for free and reduced, student council "Fun Days" schedule for the entire school and the Halloween Parade to be held on October 31, 2015 at 1:15 p.m. Mr. Maceri stated that he had met with the Mayor, the DPW, the reporter from the Chronicle and a few citizens regarding the gas leak on the overpass on Phillips Avenue. PSE&G installed a smoke stack to bring the gas up and make the smell less noticeable. Mr. Bidell asked if he could present some photos to the board to show them what the smoke stack looked like and where it is installed. There had been a few complaints made to the township regarding the smell of gas. Mr. Maceri stated that the reason he was invited to attend this meeting regarding this issue was due to the fact of the proximity to the school and that kids walking to school in that area. Mr. Maceri stated that he would be writing a letter to PSE&G with the board's approval regarding the leak and the smoke stack that is now in the middle of the sidewalk. The board was in agreement with this. Mr. Maceri congratulated both the boys and girls soccer teams for their hard work during the Coppa Italia finals. Mr. Maceri informed the board that he would be doing a Superintendent's Open Forum on a monthly basis from now through June. He is inviting parents and people from the community to attend. The first forum is scheduled for October 27, 2014 where he would be discussing various issues. Mr. Maceri stated that the district held an International Walk to School day which was held on Wednesday, October 8, 2014. Students, a few teachers and administration staff all met at the police station and then walked to school from there. He stated that it had been a great turn out and would be planning another walk in the spring. Mr. Maceri then continued his discussion by stating that October is school climate initiatives month and various days are put aside for different violence awareness programs, which include Week of Respect, Social Skills program and School Violence Awareness week. Mr. Maceri was happy to report that there were no Violence and Vandalism reports for the 2013-2014 school year on the annual district report and that there were no incidents of HIB to report for the month of September. He informed the board of two individual motions and a change made to one of the motions that were presented at the Workshop meeting. Mr. Maceri presented his updated Superintendent/Principal Merit Goals to the board. Since there were some revisions made as requested by County they needed to be reapproved by the board. Mr. Maceri asked if the board had any questions or comments on either his report or the consent agenda. None were voiced.

Discussion – Approved

Motioned by K. Maher, seconded by P. Nasta. Roll call, all in favor

BILLS

Motion to approve, ratify and pay all bills, funds permitting.

Discussion – Approved

Motioned by P. Nasta, seconded by Y. Encarnacion. Roll call, all in favor

COMMENTS AND CITIZENS:

Miss. Maher asked if the district still acknowledged perfect attendance for students at the end of the school year. Mr. Maceri stated “yes”. Miss Maher stated that a few districts are steering away from this practice due to the fact that students are coming into school sick so that they can get perfect attendance. Mr. Maceri stated that the district has a very good attendance rate and that he is fine with not continuing this practice. He further stated that he would ask the teaching staff how they felt about phasing this out. Mrs. Regan stated that parents might be fine with the decision to eliminate this also. Mrs. Regan stated that there had been an issue with the Hackensack High School busing. She stated that the bus is still allowing nonresidents to ride the bus. Mrs. Schaefer stated that the matter has been brought up once again to First Student and the South Bergen Jointure Commission. Students without bus passes are not to board the bus – this will be the responsibility of the bus driver that this is enforced. Mr. Maceri stated that during his meeting with Ms. Karen Lewis the Superintendent of schools at Hackensack this matter was addressed and he suggested if possible for someone at Hackensack to oversee this.

Mr. Maceri then made a power point presentation regarding the spring 2014 NJASK scores for the district. He stated that he would present this power point today and at the next board meeting since not all the board members were present. He would again reach out to parents to attend. Mrs. Nasta asked how prepared is the district for PARCC. Mr. Maceri stated that he would recommend taking the paper version this year due to the fact of some computer issues at the district. Next year since our contract with Dell is up the district will look into computers to make sure that the PARCC can be done electronically. Mr. Maceri stated that the first year of this testing will be a learning experience for everyone. A lengthy discussion arose regarding this matter and more information will be provided to board as it comes available.

Meeting opened to citizens at 8:35 p.m.

Mr. Bidell thanked Mr. Maceri and the board regarding the letter being mailed out a letter to PSE&G regarding the gas leak. Hopefully by addressing the matter and having enough citizens complaining about it – PSE&G will do the right thing and take care of the problem.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn at 8:40 p.m.

Motioned by K. Maher, seconded by Y. Encarnacion

Respectfully Submitted,



Elizabete Schaefer
Board Secretary