

SOUTH HACKENSACK BOARD OF EDUCATION
Work Session Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 14, 2015

A work session meeting of the Board of Education was held on Monday, September 14, 2015 in the Lunch Room of Memorial School, 1 Dyer Avenue, South Hackensack, New Jersey. This meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President, Ms. Maher:

Ms. Maher read the following statement:

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.

Roll call was taken by Elizabeth Schaefer, Board Secretary, and the following members responded to their names:

Present: Mrs. Lofaro, Ms. Maher, Mr. Perdomo, Mrs. Regan

Absent: Ms. Encarnacion, Ms. Davis, Ms. Obando

Also Present: Gregorio Maceri, Elizabeth Schaefer, Mr. DiLorenzo

Ms. Maher led the Board in the flag salute

Discussion Items:

Mr. Maceri informed the board about back to school night which is scheduled for September 17, 2015. Mr. Maceri is requesting an amended on the district calendar to reflect a 1:00 p.m. on September 18, 2015. Mr. Maceri suggested having the July and August regular board meetings closer to the end of the month. In January when the board re-organizes this change can be reflected if all board members are in agreement. Mr. Maceri informed the board about the New Jersey School Boards Association October 2015 conference/workshop. Any board member that is interested in attending is to notify Mrs. Schaefer or Mr. Maceri as soon as possible so that arrangements may be made. Mr. Maceri informed the board that NJQSAC will once again be monitoring the district. They will be doing 4 sections for instruction and programs only. This is based on our 2013-2014 NJASK scores. They will be looking at our curriculum and the district's initiatives. Mr. Maceri stated that the district is ready with curriculum as the district has implemented a ton of programs and they are working very well for our students. He discussed NJASK versus PARCC but it may take up to 3 years to see in what direction and what is happening with PARCC. Mr. Maceri stated that he has removed

Standardized testing as a method of placing our students in any kind of honors program. Mr. Maceri further stated that he is contemplating not doing standardized testing in the lower Grades K – 2. This testing was used to see which students would be placed in Gifted and Talented and who would be in Basic Skills, but he felt that there were other methods that could be done in the classroom to determine this. Board members were in agreement. Mr. Perdomo stated that students start so early to get ready for these tests that it takes so much away from learning other things. Mr. Maceri stated that the district might have to rewrite our policies and adopt new ones for what the district needs for gifted and talented program. He stated that his recommendation to the board for the time being should be to do some in house things. Mr. Maceri stated that he is not against testing he just feels that it is not necessary for the lower grades – it should be for middle school and high school only. He stated that he rather spend more time on the district's curriculum and doing more enjoyable work with the students. One positive thing about PARCC is that the testing time is shorter than other tests given to students. Mr. Maceri then reviewed the resolutions with the board. He asked if any board member had any questions or needed clarification on any of the resolutions presented. Resolution #35 was questioned regarding the times that the traveling soccer team would be on field. Mr. Maceri stated that he would make sure that the field is used only as need and not a hangout before and after games. Mrs. Regan asked if the team had a certificate of insurance. Mrs. Schaefer stated that all the necessary paperwork was received and everything was in compliance. No other questions or comments were voiced on any other resolutions.

Private Session:

None

Public Session:

Mrs. Lofaro asked if there would be a police officer present on back to school night. Mr. Maceri stated that he would request one.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Moved by Mrs. Regan, seconded by Mrs. Lofaro

All in Favor

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabete Schaefer
Board Secretary