

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Runnemede, N.J.**

**MINUTES**

**March 24, 2010**

**Mission Statement**

The mission of the Runnemede Public Schools is to provide a successful educational experience for all children. To this end, we expect all students to achieve the New Jersey Core Curriculum Standards (NJCCCS) at all grade levels and we will ensure the following:

- Demonstrably effective instructional programs that are aligned with the NJCCCS
- A safe, clean and healthy learning environment
- A motivated, committed, skilled staff who are highly qualified in their content areas
- Collaboration between school, parents and community
- Managerial and fiscal accountability

I. Meeting Called to Order at 7:02 pm

Sunshine Law:

The Runnemede Board of Education Meeting is called to order. The Board of Education is in compliance with the sunshine regulations. This meeting was appropriately advertised by notifying the Retrospect, as well as posting notices in Borough Hall, The Runnemede Post Office, Mary Volz School, Aline Bingham School and Grace Downing School.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call of Board Members:

Mark Bergman-present  
Debra Costello-present  
Naomi Davidson-present  
Margie Frasca-present

Robin Spraggins-present  
Samantha Spaulding-present  
Lynn Torrillo-present  
John Wark-present

Colleen Kurth-present

Also Present:

Nancy Ward, Superintendent of Schools  
 Kelly Brazelton, Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
 Marie Gallagher, Principal – Downing & Bingham Schools  
 Mark Iannucci, Principal – Mary Volz School  
 Stephen Pili, Assistant Principal – Mary Volz School  
 Janet Fiola, Child Study Team Coordinator  
 Doug McGarry, Supervisor, Buildings & Grounds

A moment of silence for Mr. Jonathan Hinkson who passed away on March 18, 2010.

## IV. Presentations:

- a. Students of the Month – Volz School

## V. Approval of Minutes at 7:08pm

Motion by Mrs. Frasca\_Seconded by Mr. Bergman

- a. Recommend that the Board of Education approve the regular session and executive session minutes of the February 24, 2010 BOE Meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yes 7\_No 0 Abstain 2 (Kurth, Costello) Absent 0

VI. Correspondence (*white*)

Reply from Bellmawr School District regarding proposal of shared services. (attached)

The approval of the district's request to recalculate excess fund balance, capital reserve, emergency reserve and excess unreserved, undesignated fund balance for State Aid adjustment.

A letter from a student regarding breakfast personnel. (attached)

A letter from the Vice President of Educational Facilities Managers Association, Bud Rutter to Ms. Julie Scully of Triton High School Guidance Department in regard to the \$1,000 scholarship fund to be awarded to a graduating senior.

## VII. Open Public Comment none at this time 7:10 p.m.

Notation of Public Comments on Agenda Items

The Board President will recognize those individuals in the audience whom wish to comment on any action items on this Agenda. Please respect the following procedures:

1. Be recognized by Board President.
2. State your full name and address.
3. Identify the resolution/item number on which you wish to comment.
4. Wait to be recognized before you make your comment.  
(just before the resolution is voted on)
5. Limit your comments to the specific resolution/items.
6. Limit your comments to (3) minutes per person.

Mrs. Kurth called an executive session at 7:15 p.m on a motion by Mrs. Frasca seconded by Mrs. Davidson.

Returned to public session at 7:45pm on a motion by Mrs. Frasca seconded by Mrs. Davidson

#### VIII. Reports (*yellow*)

- a. Superintendent's Report
- b. Business Administrator's, Buildings & Grounds Report (as attached)
- c. Principal's Report (attached)
- d. Nurses Report (attached)
- e. Special Education Report (see attached)
- f. Committee Reports
  - Camden County Educational Services Commission Report (Costello)-nothing to report
  - NJSBA Report (Davidson)-1.5% towards health benefits
  - Black Horse Pike (Spaulding)-progress
  - Policy/Public Relations-nothing to report
  - Negotiations-met tonight and there was a brief discussion on cost containment.

#### IX. Old Business

#### X. New Business

##### a. **PROPERTY & TRANSPORTATION** (*gold*)

Motion by Mrs. Davidson Seconded by Mrs. Spaulding

Approve the following on the recommendation of the Superintendent:

1. Use of facilities as attached
2. Transportation of homeless student by Colonial Cab Company from Collingswood, New Jersey to Mary Volz School. Transportation is to school only and will commence March 22, 2010 and end June 30, 2010.
3. Written request to sell snacks for soccer on weekends.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent 0

**b. PERSONNEL** (*blue*)

Motion by Mrs. Frasca Seconded by Mrs. Spraggins

Approve the following on the recommendation of the Superintendent:

1. Source4Teacher list (March)
2. Daniel Siegel – Substitute from 3/24/10 through 6/30/10.
3. Resignation of Mr. Ronald D'Alfonso, effective March 30, 2010.
4. Resignation of Mrs. Louise Jones, effective March 22, 2010.
5. Employee #161 Intermittent FMLA effective 3/15/10.
6. Employee #197 Intermittent FMLA effective 3/22/10.
7. Camden County Student (Field Experience) (Spring – 2010)

<u>Student</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Teacher</u>
Blair Barber -	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Inclusion	Mrs.Kline/Ms. Pray

8. Employee #143 to have extension on FMLA through April 10, 2010.
9. Extend the sick leave reimbursement offered to the members of the REA to all full time non-represented staff. This offer will be limited to retirees or early leave as of 6/30/10 only.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent 0

**c. FINANCE** (*green*)

Motion by Mrs. Spaulding Seconded by Mrs. Costello

Approve the following on the recommendation  
of the Superintendent:

1. Recommendation that the Board of Education that as of this date and after review of the secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, that to the best of our knowledge, no major fund balance has been overspent in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(b), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations as of this date.

Bills List #1 - \$564,232.27

Bills List #2 - \$358,038.52 (payroll 2/28/10)

Bills List #3 - \$379,288.38 (payroll 3/15/10)

Bills List #4 - \$22,614.88

Treasurer's Report -

Board Secretary's Report -

Transfers (as attached)

Cash Report

2. Professional Development (attached)
3. Fundraisers (attached)
4. Archway Contract for the 2010-2011 school year.
6. Tuition reimbursement: Nancy Bada, Guidance \$2,000.
7. Bancroft NeuroHealth tuition contract March 1, 2010 to June 30, 2010 \$15,776.06; one on one aide \$9,842.00.
8. Runnemede PTA to host a Morey's Pier Ticket Fundraiser from April 1 to April 30, 2010.
9. Mr. Shawn Clancy to collect donations for The Memorial Plaza in New York City from March 26, 2010 to April 15, 2010. Mr. Clancy has headed the event the last few years. He has helped raise over \$1,500 to help in the construction of the plaza to honor those who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks in 1993 and 2001.

We appreciate all Mr. Clancy's efforts in running this event again this year.

10. Uno Chicago Grill Adopt-A-School Program. This fundraising opportunity will help raise money for our student activities. It will also allow the restaurant to provide gift certificates for contests and free food for special events.
11. Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Event. (attached)
11. RESOLUTION – Suspension of 2010 School Budget Elections
12. RESOLUTION – Restoration of 2009-2010 State School Aid Cuts

Items 1-12:

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent 0

**Item 13 delayed until after executive session**

13. Submission of the proposed 2010-2011 School District Budget.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent 0

**d. CURRICULUM** (*pink*)

Motion by Mrs. Spraggins Seconded by Mrs. Costello

Approve the following on the recommendation of the Superintendent:

1. Technology Plan 2010-2013.
2. District Professional Development Plan 2010-2011.
3. Middle School Band & Choir field trip to Great Adventure on 05/14/10
4. Challenge Group (6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade) field trip to Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority and Trash to Steam Plant on 05/25/10
5. Preschool field trip to Adventure Aquarium on 05/17/10
6. Camden County Animal Shelter would like to provide a Free assembly on animal safety and cruelty on April 14, 2010

**Item # 1 Technology Plan 2010-2013 tabled until a later date when completed.**

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent 0

**e. POLICIES/PUBLIC RELATIONS** *(purple)*

Motion by Mrs. Spraggins Seconded by Mrs. Costello

Approve the following on the recommendation of the Superintendent:

1. Policy Regulation #7510 (**revised**) Use of Facility (Fee Structure) (attached)
2. Revised 2009-10 School Calendar (due to snow days)

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent 0

**I. Public Comments (on any item) at 8:10 p.m.  
Audience Recognition and Public Comment**

The public is reminded that all public complaints against a district employee must be made through a specific grievance process.

A description of this process may be found in BOE policy (File Code 1312). This policy is available upon request in the office of the Board Secretary.

Any individual naming an employee in a complaint before the Board of Education, without the employee's permission, could be cited for violating that employee's civil and contractual rights.

Mrs. Ginnie Betteridge- 837 Detmar Terrace- asked whether item #13 will be discussed after the next executive session.

Mrs. Betty Koskinas of Singley Avenue asked whether a decision on privatizing custodial staff will be made tonight.

Ms. Panzarella- 12 S. Oakland Avenue- Has the issue of the bus at Bingham been corrected.

Mrs. Brazelton responded and said a phone call was made to First Student, they indicated they would change the way the bus driver left the area.

Mr. Joe Lepresti of 520 Singley Avenue- asked about Privatization of custodial workers.

Mrs. Ward indicated that Mrs. Brazelton had contacted several different organization including Edvocate and Aramark for quotes on this issue.

- XII. Executive Session to discuss student matters, personnel, contractual and legal matters at 8:20 p.m.

Motion by Mrs. Costello Seconded by Mrs. Spraggins

Resolved that pursuant to Section 8 of the Public Meetings Act, the public shall be excluded from that portion of the meeting involving the discussion of personnel, legal and contractual matters. Further resolved that discussion of such subject matters discussed in Executive Session can be disclosed to public, upon official action, if any, at the conclusion of the executive session, or at a public session at some later date.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent 0

- XII. Return to Public Session at 9:15 p.m.

Motion by Mrs. Frasca Seconded by Mr. Wark

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent 0

Item # 13 (Finance): Submission of the proposed 2010-2011 School District Budget.

On a motion by Mrs. Spaulding seconded by Mr. Bergman the submission of the 2010-2011 proposed budget was approved. The budget represents a \$36.27 increase on an average home valued at \$100,000

ROLL CALL VOTE: Yes 9 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent 0

Mrs. Kurth read the following:

The following items were not cut from the budget at this time:

½ day Kindergarten  
 School Nurses  
 All extra curricular/athletics  
 Administrative Positions  
 More staff members  
 Privatization of custodial services



The following additional items were cut from the budget at this time:

7 teaching positions  
 1 Guidance Counselor  
 1 additional custodial/maintenance position  
 ½ technology position  
 Gifted and Talented Programs  
 Other administrative lines were reduced.

Mrs. Spaulding addressed the crowd: If the budget fails these items may be cut from the budget. In essence we need your help to pass this budget in order for no other cuts to be made.

At this time members of the public were allowed to speak:

Mrs. Pat Wilson-201 Schubert Avenue- This sounds excellent the budget appears to be fiscally sound and can be supported in our community.

Mrs. Tracey Hummel- 675 Hirsch Avenue- Thanks the board members for putting back ½ day kindergarten at this time. If the budget passes is full day kindergarten still in the budget.

Mrs. Ward responded yes.

Mrs. Tara Root-36 N. Rowand Avenue- asked if all the Nurses were in the budget at this time. Mrs. Root explained that her children are diabetic and having trained professionals there keeps her kids in school and out of danger.

Mrs. Ward responded yes.

Mrs. Lynn Hambrose-75 N. Oakland Avenue- Thanked the board.

Mrs. Frank Koch- 2247 Simon Street Philadelphia PA- Thanked the board.

Mrs. Ginny Betteridge- 837 Detmar Terrace- wanted to know when the teacher's contract was up and how will the 1.5% contribution be put into the budget.

Mrs. Brazelton responded that the current contract ends June 30, 2010 for teachers and June 30, 2011 for administrators (principals). Mrs. Brazelton said that the 1.5% was already figured in the budget against the health benefits line item as directed by the county office to do so before budgets were handed in.

Mrs. Angel Bebe of 625 Detmar Terrace- asked whether there is a committee established for passing the budget.

Mrs. Ward responded that the Superintendent's Advisory council was working on that and that a flyer can be given out on March 31<sup>st</sup> so parents can go door to door to vote.

Mrs. Bebe also shared some information on solar panels and asked whether the district had thought about this idea.

Mrs. Brazelton responded and said that had been researched and it is very costly to do, a referendum would have to be put out in order to get solar panels on any of the schools.

Mrs. Panzarella- 12 South Oakland Avenue- asked if parents could volunteer as playground/food service aides if they were a board member or just someone who wanted to help as this could be a way to save money.

Mrs. Ward responded that the board has not addressed that policy yet but would be in the near future.

XIV. Adjournment at 9:47 p.m. on a motion by Mrs. Costello seconded by Mrs. Davidson.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Brazelton  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary