

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

MINUTES

PUBLIC HEARING

March 31, 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 7:00 p.m.

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	Robin Spraggins -present
Debra Costello -present	Samantha Spaulding -present
Naomi Davidson -present	Lynn Torrillo-present
Margie Frasca -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

Steven Pili, Assistant Principal – Mary Volz School

A. Finance

1. 2010-2011 Budget Presentation by Nancy Ward, Superintendent, and also, Kelly Brazelton, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Mrs. Brazelton read the following before the presentation of the budget. In an effort to reduce the tax rate further, the Board has decided to use capital reserve to offset the debt service tax levy in the amount of \$185,665. This reduces the increase from 3.66 to .009, which equates to \$36.27 to \$8.92 on an average house assessed at \$99,101.81.

2. Public Comments on the Budget Presentation 8:35 pm

Joseph Boyle, Dominique Dockery, Gianna Sparacino, Alegra Sparacino, Brianna Radowicz and Kaitlyn Martin students a Volz School explained what the Challenge program means to them and their fellow students.

Mr. Greg Dobenson of Pine Avenue asked if there were any thoughts of combining the sports programs with RYAA.

Mrs. Ward stated that option has not been considered at this point but would take that suggestion into consideration for the future.

Mrs. Laubestein of 40 Mitchell Avenue feels this budget is fiscally responsible and encouraged the crowd to vote for the budget on April 20, 2010.

Christa Moore- School Nurse at Bingham stated there is a big group of parents and teacher mobilizing to get the word out to people to vote April 20, 2010. Any parents interested can contact her for more information.

Mrs. Suzanne Mayer asked about the B&G position, she wanted to see his credentials and why he was necessary for the district.

Mrs. Ward stated those documents were confidential to a personnel file however the board did see them when this individual was hired.

Mrs. Angel Bebe of Detmar Terrace asked Mrs. Brazelton to explain the change in the tax levy. She also asked if the teacher's contract was settled and how much

of an increase was in the budget for them and when will parents know if the sports programs are cut.

Mrs. Brazelton explained the change in the tax levy and using Capital Reserve to offset the Debt Service Tax Levy, Mrs. Brazelton also stated that at this time the teacher's contract was not settled and there was an amount budgeted but at this time that figure cannot be released due to negotiations.

Mrs. Ward stated that after the budget vote and districts decide what is being cut there will be a list circulated through the county and that will determine if we have any other teams to play against.

Mrs. Wilson asked why the retirements the district received were not being accounted for.

Mrs. Ward explained that the retirement letter were received less than 48 hours before this meeting.

Mrs. Kurth explained that rather than give false hope to anyone the Board has decided to wait until after the budget vote to see whether the budget passes or fails and then make a decision.

Mr. Robert Richards- REA President stated that the teachers are forming a committee to get the word out.

Ms. Maria Panzarella-12 South Oakland Avenue stated the library sign on BHP will reflect the date and time of the budget vote on the 20th and also that the RYAA has not scheduled any games on that day.

Mrs. Garcia commented on transportation being cut.

Mrs. Hicken asked how class sizes would be affected if the budget fails.

Mrs. Ward stated that would be determined by the Principals and how much council would reduce our budget to.

3. Approval of the 2010-11 budget: 9:45 pm

Motion by Mr. Bergman Seconded by Mr. Wark

BE IT RESOLVED to approve the Runnemede Board of Education budget for the FY 2010-2011 School Year for submission to the voters as follows:

	Budget	Local Tax Levy
Total General Fund Budget	\$11,295,844	\$6,157,891
Total Special Revenue Budget	\$ 511,605	N/A
Total Debt Service Fund	<u>\$ 276,125</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
Totals	\$ 12,083,574	\$6,157,891

RESOLVED, That there should be raised for the General Fund \$6,157,891 for the ensuing FY 2010-11 School Year.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the district, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.2(b)-Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement, has adopted policies which provide that the Board of Education shall establish in the annual school budget a maximum expenditure amount that may be allotted for such travel and expense reimbursement for the 2010-2011 school year. The Board of Education hereby establishes the school district travel maximum for the 2010-2011 school at the sum of \$20,000. The School Business Administrator shall track and record these costs to insure that the maximum amount is not exceeded.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-9.3 © 14, that the Board of Education has provided a maximum amount for public professional services as follows:

Public Relations	\$10,000
Attorney's	\$30,000
Auditor	\$20,000
Architect	\$15,000

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

4. Executive Session to discuss personnel matters 9:45 pm

Motion by Mrs. Costello Seconded by Mrs. Spaulding

Resolved that pursuant to Section 8 of the Public Hearings Act, the public Shall be excluded from that portion of the meetings, involving the 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

5. Return to Public Session

Motion by Mrs. Costello Seconded by Mrs. Frasca

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

6. Adjournment or Recess 11:26 pm

Motion by Mrs. Costello Seconded by Mrs. Frasca

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Brazelton
Business Administrator/Board Secretary