

FLORHAM PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION

Special Public Meeting, March 7, 2022

6:30 PM

Ridgedale Middle School - Ridgedale Learning Commons
71 Ridgedale Ave

-MINUTES -

Mission Statement: The Florham Park Schools are committed to the achievement of individual academic excellence through high quality teaching, learning and community involvement. This results in students being well prepared to meet future educational challenges and to contribute to society. They will achieve these goals in accordance and alignment with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards, which guide our academic instruction.

Assistance for persons with disabilities for the purpose of attending this or any other district meeting/function can be obtained by contacting the Board Secretary's office at 973-822-3880 (x1005).

2021-2022 Board Goals

- Support the health, safety, and welfare of the district's students and staff, with a continued emphasis on the district's Social-Emotional Learning initiative.
- Continue to support effective and transparent communication with the community to further the development of an engaged, connected community, and a growing environment of local organizations and businesses.
- Continue to use student achievement data to monitor the effectiveness of all of our instructional programs and professional development across all learning platforms.
- Ensure that all funds are used in an effective and efficient manner to achieve the Board and District goals; curricular needs; and meet the district's long-range facilities needs, including the capital improvement projects supported by the referendum.

2021-2022 District Goals

- Continue to provide for the emotional well being and support for our students. (Supports Strategic Plan Goal 1)
- To create a learning environment that maximizes student access to 21st Century Tools. (Supports Strategic Plan Goal 3)
- Increase achievement of all students in the district including those who are not meeting grade-level benchmarks. (Supports Strategic Plan Goal 1)
- To assist in developing an engaged and connected environment within the community. (Supports Strategic Plan Goal 4)

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBER	PRESENT	ABSENT
Mr. Priore (Michael)		
Mr. Rittrivi (Nicholas)		
Ms. Sabatos (Stacey)		
Ms. Cali (Yvonne)		
Ms. Crimi (Fabienne)		
Ms. Heinold (Kristina)		
Mr. Perillo (Brian)		

C. FLAG SALUTE

D. SUNSHINE STATEMENT

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975), adequate notification of this meeting has been provided by advertising in the Morristown Daily Record and the Madison-Florham Park Eagle. In addition, notices were posted at the Municipal Clerk's Office, Public Library, and the Board Administration Office at 67-71 Ridgedale Ave at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

President Perillo stated that he and Ms. Heinold met with Dr. Caponegro, Chief Orlando and others to discuss the partnership between the school district and local law enforcement. The purpose to understand the reporting relationship and commitment to safety in our schools and community. Dr. Caponegro and Chief Orlando are prepared to speak this evening to provide and update.

E. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Caponegro thanked Chief Orlando and the FPPD for working with the district to ensure that the district and FPPD continue to articulate and work together on matters involving the FPPD. Very productive meetings and future meetings are planned.

F. PUBLIC COMMENT-OPEN:

This portion of the meeting is open to any individuals for the purpose of addressing resolutions on this agenda or matters that they find is important to the Board of Education, and is governed by Board Policy 0167. Prior to making a comment, members of the public are required to state their names, addresses and the subject matter of the comment. Comments are limited to three minutes per person. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic until all others who wish to speak on the topic have been heard. Comments made by members of the public may or may not be responded to by the Board. Any response that is provided will be made at the end of the public comment period, after all comments have been heard.

The Board asks that members of the public be courteous and mindful of the rights of other individuals when speaking. Students and employees have specific legal rights afforded by the laws of New Jersey. Therefore, comments regarding specific students and employees will not be responded to by the Board. The Board bears no responsibility nor will it be liable for any comments made by members of the public. Members of the public should consider their comments in light of the legal rights of those affected or identified in their comments and be aware that they are legally responsible and liable for their comments.

- G. DeBenedetto - Information this evening, son went to school next day is not feeling comfortable going to school. Mr. Connelly stated its kept quiet. KH replied to move plan forward the board must understand what is happening and has happened. This meeting took place with local law enforcement. Tonight we need to review internal investigation with legal counsel etc. Dr. Caponegro stated he is on site to support staff and community until further notice.
- Who? Crescent road. Threat made first comm. 10 days later...reason for delay? MG no threat now looking at procedure Chief procedure...what was missed. BP communication at top of list of issues. Chief....both incident mitigated. KH. two incidents back to back to communicate error in first and new one.
- Who - Sharon ? Quick concise? SC yet moving forward.
- D Glynn - sharing info whole district?
- M. Huasman - Commun is key SC agree, find where did it breakdown Agenda tonight?
- MG - will not take action tonight....must discuss report and personnel riced....still law matters to discuss. First contact is law enforcement
- MH change is policy review training etc.....MP yes
- MH resource officer role? Chief orlando...SLEO 3 is for entry
- Shannon Core - prof visiting classrooms calming kids? Has been more adults in unstructured time? Importance of HIB, comfortable to kids? R teachers being supported? Dr. Caponegro replied sandy hook promise. May see extra adults, hope children feel supported and comfortable as well as teachers. BP Topic of TAB
- CS Shanley - Problem with open public forum back and forth....follow procedure. Will you video meetings? Maybe with students? SLEO 3 second question? Upscale communities happen.....KH replied clear communication breakdown. Admin FPPD review of protocols. CS...admin run district not board. MP policy not followed. Chief replied info is to be shared with district FPPD findings that are critical.
- Cindy Regan - Important to recognize student signs
- G. DeBenedetto - feels his child is a target.
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G. EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, the Florham Park Board of Education seeks to adjourn to Executive Session in full compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.: and

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act provides that a public body may exclude the public from that portion of the meeting at which it discusses matters pertaining to personnel, negotiations, and /or current and potential litigation; now

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Florham Park Board of Education adjourns to Executive Session; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the minutes of the discussion of any of these items will be disclosed to the public when matters have been determined and confidentiality is no longer applicable.

Motion; KH Second; YC MP NR SS YC FC KH BP

H. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION

Motion by KH _____ to adjourn the Executive Session for the purposes of negotiations, legal issues, personnel issues and reconvene the Regular Meeting at 9:02 _____ p.m. Said motion was seconded by YC _____.

I. OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:

J. ADJOURNMENT-

Move to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m.