

FLORHAM PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION

Public Work Session December 10, 2018

Board Conference Room

67-71 Ridgedale Avenue

MINUTES

Public Work Session - 5:30pm

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).

2018-2019 Board Goals

- To fortify and strengthen the unification of the Board team with a focus on governance.
- Monitor the effectiveness of all of our instructional programs, including but not limited to Special Education, based on student achievement data.
- Ensure that all funds are used in an effective and efficient manner to achieve the Board and District goals and meet the long-range facilities and curricular needs.
- Support effective and transparent communication with the community to develop an engaged, connected community, and a growing environment of local organizations and businesses.

2018-2019 District Goals

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

A. CALL TO ORDER:

B. ROLL CALL:

BOARD MEMBER	PRESENT	ABSENT
Ms. Crimi (Fabienne)	X	
Ms. Cali (Yvonne)	X	
Ms. Rozek(Linda)	X	
Mr. Shanley (Skip)	X	
Ms. Heinold (Kristina)	X	
Ms. Thomas (Alita)		X
Mr. Ritriivi (Nicholas)	X	

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.

E. WORK SESSION UPDATES

- LLI Update
 - Students across the district continue to receive the LLI intervention. Ridgedale is starting it's second cycle and we want to extend our gratitude to Mr. Christ and Mrs. Ford who have been working tirelessly on schedule and program changes. Briarwood will start it's fourth cycle in January. In Brooklake students are working through their first, second, or third cycle depending on their level and if they are in a 10 or 25-day kit.
 - Christy and Jane are working together to monitor student progress and their response to the intervention.
- STEAM Update
 - The Jersey Technology Engineering Educators Association (NJTEEA) consultant provided training for Emma Harvey and Nick Esposito on the Vex Robots. They organized the lessons for the trimester, reviewed how to set up the robots, and provided training on implementing the lessons. It was decided to set up the base component of the robot prior to the students working on the robots. This will allow the students to focus more on coding and performing real world tasks, rather than following step-by-step instructions for 3 weeks.
 - Ridgedale Middle School STEM classes are currently working on redesigning the lockers to be updated based on the massive changes that have occurred with technology and student's needs. The students will be utilizing woodworking and 3D printing to construct a prototype of their locker design.
 - Mrs. Crimi asked about the 6th grade STEM classes and whether we were going to introduce robotics this year or next year. Mr. Silkensen stated that we are exploring options for 6th grade next year. He described how we are exploring either extending programs like the Vex Robots or finding a new program like Raspberry Pi, etc.
 - Dr. Varley and Mr. Silkensen expressed to the board how grateful they are for the recent PTA grant to support the STEAM program.

- Reading & Writing Workshop Update
 - Students are embarking on their third units in reading and writing workshop. These units reflect a shift in addressing the most rigorous standards for their grade level. Teachers continue to participate in full day trainings with Christy and have Teachers College staff development training to assist with the successful implementation of this curricula.
 - Writing workshop represents a cultural shift for our students and our teachers. A parent raised a concern that their child's spelling was not perfect and their writing was hanging out in front of the classroom. Developmentally, the only way for a first grader, and most students to have perfect spelling is if the teacher corrects all of the spelling for the child. This is not best practices for students learning. We also want our teachers spending time conferring with students and helping them learn skills, and higher order thinking skills such as how to develop an argument, or support their writing with details not to learn to simply copy correct spelling from the teacher. We continue to address any and all concerns with meetings, phone calls, and information that will help educate parents including videos and letters in the Superintendent's monthly newsletter.
- Parent Teacher Conferences
 - Teachers were asked to share each child's pre and post writing on demands with parents and review the rubric with them to ensure parents had time to see their students' progress and understand how we were addressing standards, (including spelling and grammar).
- Math Update
 - Mr. Sheeran, our math consultant, began the second round of observations with our math teachers on December 10 & 11. This is the follow up from observations conducted in November. Mr. Sheeran and each math teachers created goals based on the observations in November. This opportunity provided the teachers a chance to display their growth and create new goals for the next month.
 - Mr. Silkensen went to a data conference hosted by LinkIt! and Dr. Tracy Severns with Brian McParland, Nick Esposito, Sarah Montasr, and Melissa Dillon. The workshop revolved around how to use the data from LinkIt! to inform instructional decisions.
- Report Cards
 - Teachers received the 12/10 faculty meeting to collaborate and work on their report cards given the busy time of year.

F. PUBLIC COMMENT-AGENDA ITEMS

(Petitioners who have requested to speak during the public comment portion of the meeting will be allotted three (3) minutes.) There were no comments at this time.

G. CURRICULUM

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, move to:

1. **Be It Resolved**, that the board accepts and approved the Superintendent's current to date bullying report.

Motion; Second; FC YC LR SS KH AT NR

H. PERSONNEL - Dr. Varley advised the board and the public of the need to take action on this item this evening in order to begin on January 2, 2019. There was no discussion.

1. Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, move to approve the following Items:

A. Appointments

Code	Name	Action	Loc	Position/UPC	FTE	Degree/Step	Salary	GAAP Code	Eff.	Term.
B	Fernandes, Theresa	Appointment	BWD	Behavior Analyst / SED.001.ABA.01	1.00	MA / 3	\$58,725.00	11-000-216-100	1/2/19	6/30/19
B	Spindler, Kristen	Appointment	BWD	Preschool Disabled Teacher / SED.001.PSD.01	1.00	BA+30 / 13	\$69,050.00	11-216-100-101	1/2/19	6/30/19

Motion; NR

Second; YC

6 yes, 0 no

I. OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS: Dr. Varley stated the RMS play was fantastic.

J. CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS: Mr. Ritiriv referenced correspondence from residents regarding Murphy Circle property. Legal counsel has been apprised of the issue. District engineer will review plans and site. Letter to be proposed upon review.

K. PUBLIC COMMENT-OPEN: Councilman Zuckerman commented on information presented to parents in wake of their concerns at the November meeting surrounding the ELA program. Mr. Ritrivi, Dr. Varley and Ms. O'Connor updated the councilman on information and meetings conducted in response. Additional parent trainings/information sessions to be planned.

Mr. Ritrivi advised the public that the board had a need to adjourn into executive session to discuss legal matters. No action would be taken this evening. Mr. Ritrivi motioned to adjourn into executive session. The motion received a second from Ms. Rozek.

Motion; NR

Second; LR

6 yes, 0 no

Ms. Cali motioned to adjourn the executive session for the purpose of legal matters and reconvene the regular work session. The motion receive a second from Ms. Rozek and passed by unanimous consent.

L. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Cali moved to adjourn the regular work session meeting at 6:44 p.m. The motion received a second from Ms. Rozek and passed by unanimous consent.

Respectfully submitted,



John Csatlós

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Business Administrator/Board Secretary