

FLORHAM PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION

Public Work Session February 16, 2021
Board Conference Room and Via Telecommunications
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).

2020-2021 Board Goals

- Regardless of the learning environment (virtual, hybrid, in-person), the board will use student achievement data to monitor the effectiveness of all of our instructional programs, including but not limited to Special Education; and curricular updates that encompass the district's Social Justice vision.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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 recognize the accomplishments of staff and students.

2020-2021 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: Ms. Rozek called the meeting to order.

B. ROLL CALL:

BOARD MEMBER	PRESENT	ABSENT
Ms. Sabatos (Stacey)	X	
Ms. Heinold (Kristina)	X	
Ms. Crimi (Fabienne)	X	
Mr. Ritrivi (Nicholas)	X	
Mr. Perillo (Brian)	X	
Ms. Rozek(Linda)	X	
Ms. Cali (Yvonne)		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: Dr. Caponegro, Dr. O'Connor and Mr. Silkensen presented:

- Library Book Donations (Sale = \$1.00 - Total)
 - Selling books to Florham Park and Madison Ambulatory Corp. for \$1
 - The corps are not part of the municipal government and 90% of their finances are through donations.
 - Both Ambulatory Corp work together.
 - New Legacy Books purchases the donations from the ambulance Corp.
 - They use the money for purchases, such as PPE, N95 masks and gloves, sheets, & blankets
- Book Donations from JCP&L
 - February 9th we received notification from Monalisa Kalina from the Morris County Office of Education that Jersey Central Power and Light were looking to donate sets of 5 books on the elementary reading level about Martin Luther King Jr.
 - We applied and we were granted approval to receive a set of the Martin Luther King Jr. books.
- Responsive Classroom Follow-up
 - Morning meeting
 - Interactive Read Aloud covers a range of SEL topics. Students read a number of books on a theme such as empathy, perseverance, etc. During this time students engage in literacy practices and also have whole class conversations and time for reflection on SEL themes.
 - SEL is part of the SEL and Social Justice curriculum that takes place once a week. In addition to addressing SEL objectives in interactive read aloud we have also begun to incorporate SEL into the specials. For example, in 2020 the art curriculum infused the SEL standards and this model will be followed as we revise the curriculum for Music this summer.

- District Virtual Day Feedback
 - We would like to first recognize the teachers for their hard work, determination, flexibility, and professionalism.
 - Parents Feedback
 - Majority of parent feedback was praise for the teachers
 - Parents stated how patient the teachers were with the students
 - Primarily positive feedback
 - Some students had connectivity issues
 - iPads experienced a few problems with getting kicked off of Zoom sessions
- Read Across America
 - Mystery Readers
 - Prizes
 - Battle of the Classes
- Status of Intervention Program

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 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.

Councilman Zuckerman asked for the current breakdown of in person vs. virtual learners. Dr. Capongero reported that the current percentages remain approximately 75%/25% respectively. Councilman Zuckerman asked Mr. Csatlos for an update on the budget development. Mr. Csatlos stated the budget has been developed in its entirety anticipating no increase in State Aid. The district is anticipating not exceeding the 2% tax levy cap. Mr. Csatlos also reported that the next two budget years will result in an increase in taxes beyond the 2% as a result of the taxpayer approved referendum. Mr. Csatlos stated the two year increase would then decrease as the 2009 bond issue expires.

G. CURRICULUM:

1. **Be It Resolved**, that the board accepts and approves the donated Martin Luther King, Jr. books from Jersey Central Power and Light.

Motion; BP

Second; NR

6 yes, 0 no

H. OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:

I. CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS:

J. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Crimi motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 p.m. The motion received a second from Mr. Ritrivi. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

Respectfully submitted,



John Csatos
Business Administrator/Board Secretary