Special Meeting August 26, 2014

FLEMINGTON-RARITAN REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING August 26, 2014 MINUTES

The Special Meeting of the Flemington-Raritan Regional Board of Education was called to order in conformance with the "Sunshine Law" by the Board President at 6:32 p.m. in the Auditorium at the J.P. Case Middle School.

Members Present <u>Members Absent</u> <u>Board Attorney Present</u>

Robin Behn Marianne Kenny Alan Brewer Jeff Caccese

Sandra Borucki Laurie Markowski Eric Liszt

Dennis Copeland Bruce Davidson

Anna Fallon

On the motion of Ms. Behn, seconded by Ms. Borucki, the meeting was adjourned, unanimously viva voce, at 6:33 p.m. to executive session in Room D111.

Be It Resolved, by the Flemington-Raritan Regional Board of Education that it does hereby determine that it is necessary to meet in executive session to discuss the matters stipulated, in conformance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231 P.L. 1975.

Possible Litigation – Custodial Service Personnel Negotiations

The matters discussed will be made public when confidentiality is no longer required and formal action pursuant to said discussion shall take place only at a meeting to which the public has been invited.

The Board returned to public session at 7:07 p.m.

CITIZENS ADDRESS THE BOARD

Mr. Davidson read the following statement regarding public comment pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(a), the Open Public Meetings Act. Members of the public are invited to address the Board according to the Board's policy and bylaws. Please be aware that this portion is your opportunity to comment, and is not a forum for the Board to respond to your comments. However, the Board will certainly give all comments appropriate consideration.

Sue Vala, President FREA, expressed concern as were staff members about the leak of the security plan. She explained there are many confidential documents and procedures that teachers handle every day. She was concerned that Mr. Brewer doesn't feel the plan was confidential. She wants Mr. Brewer to know how upsetting this leak is. She demanded an apology from Mr. Brewer and that every staff member receive it. She thinks the political aspect is disgusting. She thanked the remaining Board Members for their support regarding this sensitive issue.

Marie Corfield, Teacher, V.P. of FREA, asked the Board if we know what this breach will cost us. Mr. Nolan told Marie he will be happy to meet with her.

Julie Bell, Borough Resident, stated that her and her husband raised two children in this school district and has spent 25 years volunteering. Twelve of those years were on the School Board as a Representative of Flemington Borough. A Board of Education is a non-partisan body of elected volunteers, not politicians. A Board Member needs to be prepared for every meeting and should not come to the table with a personal agenda. She continued by stating that over the past 8 months, she has witnessed Mr. Brewer malign and slander Mr. Nolan and Ms. Voorhees and evaluate Mrs. Voorhees publicly, something that Ms. Voorhees could bring suit against him for. She stated that he comes unprepared, cannot not keep up with where he is on the agenda and more than once she has heard him ask where the Board was on the agenda. She noted that, if he is not voting no, he abstains, she has rarely heard him vote yes. She cannot imagine how anyone has that many legal and ethical conflicts that they need to abstain. As a Resident of the Borough, Ms. Bell noted that she is concerned that her Representative never explains why he throws his vote away so many times.

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She stated that sadly, it does not surprise her that Mr. Brewer violated the school ethics' code by emailing the school security plan to his Republican Party friends in her opinion this is not the first time and when she heard him implore the Borough Council to help him fix the school district because he wasn't on certain committees. On March 24, 2014 she became painfully aware that he did not understand the roll of a school board member. While she applauds Mrs. Fallon's efforts to expose Mr. Brewer's lack of ethics, she challenges Ms. Fallon and Ms. Borucki (who represents the Borough on the Board) to take the next hard step if they haven't already since it is obvious Mr. Brewer has no intention of resigning. They should file charges with the Ethics Commission against him for the violations of his oath.

Ray Thompson, Aramark Manager, stated Aramark sent a legal challenge to the custodial bid. He further explained difficulties with alternates and why Aramark's bid is responsive. He noted several defects as he sees. He feels Aramark gives a great program. He speaks again against awarding the bid to Temco. Ms. Fallon requested Mr. Thompson to elaborate on concerns with part time providing snow removal. Mr. Thompson responded. He again noted Aramark is trying to break even.

Sue Vala, FREA, asked if ESC has filled all the Teacher Assistant positions. Mr. Nolan will contact Ms. Vala tomorrow.

FACILITIES/OPERATIONS

The next meeting will be September 4, 2014.

All Facilities/Operations items were approved under one motion made by Ms. Behn, seconded by Dr. Copeland.

Approval for the Business Administrator to award the bid for Custodial Services to Temco Building Maintenance, Inc., as per attached Resolution.

Ms. Borucki asked about the night coverage for facility use. Ms. Behn explained.

Aye: Ms. Behn Dr. Kenny Nay: 0 Abstain: 0

Ms. Borucki Ms. Markowski Dr. Copeland Mr. Davidson

Ms. Fallon

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Fallon asked for the Facilities/Operations Committee to look into Farm to School legislation. Ms. Fallon also asked if we could get a date for the Wellness Committee Meeting in October.

Dr. Kenny asked for Mr. Brewer's resignation. Ms. Behn asked for Mr. Brewer's resignation and will ask for it at every meeting. Ms. Borucki asked for Mr. Brewer's resignation. Ms. Markowski asked for Mr. Brewer's resignation. Mr. Davidson asked for Mr. Brewer's resignation for the benefit of the district. Dr. Copeland also supports the request for Mr. Brewer's resignation and Ms. Fallon once again asked for Mr. Brewer's resignation.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Behn thanked the staff and administration for all of their efforts in opening the school year. Mr. Nolan thanked the staff and is looking forward to a successful school year.

On the motion of Ms. Fallon, seconded by Ms. Behn, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m. viva voce.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Voorhees Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Upcoming Board Meetings

September 15th & 29th November 10th & 24th October 13th & 27th December 15th & 22nd