

LINWOOD, NEW JERSEY
May 13, 2016

In compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Act" of the State of New Jersey adequate notice of this **special** meeting has been provided. On **May 4, 2016** written notice of this **special** meeting was posted in two schools, City Hall, and the Linwood City Library. On that same date written notice was faxed and mailed to The Press and The Current.

The meeting of the Linwood Board of Education was called to order by Mr. Sless, in the Schiavo Cafetorium, Belhaven Middle School, Linwood, New Jersey, Friday, **May 13, 2016 at 7:04 AM.**

Mr. Sless led all present in a flag salute.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mrs. Zierys, Mr. McLaughlin, Judge Todd, Mrs. DeMorat, Mrs. Scannell, Mr. Sless, and Mrs. Gibson

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: M. Cappelluti, Interim Superintendent, T. Weeks, School Business Administrator, F. Rudnesky, Principal, B. Getzler, H. Rha, C. Swan, B. Marino, E. Moss, G. Wenzel, K. Zaleskiewicz, P. Childs, A. Iannello, M. Sobrinski, J. Mansueto, M. Dias, T. Lhulier, A. Larkin, J. Candeloro, P. Vaccarro, O. Caplan, K. Peschi, E. Sharpe, D. Matik, S. Coyle, P. McConville, R. Moore

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING - Motion made by Mrs. Gibson, seconded by **April 27, 2016** Mrs. DeMorat, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held April 27, 2016.

Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion approved.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING - Motion made by Judge Todd, seconded by **April 27, 2016** Mrs. Zierys, to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting, held April 27, 2016.

Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes

Motion approved.

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION - Motion made by Mrs. DeMorat, seconded by **April 27, 2016** Mrs. Gibson, to approve the minutes of the Executive Session, held April 27, 2016.

Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Operations – None
Governance – None
Instruction – None
Negotiations - None

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - P. Vaccarro inquired about the timing of the meeting. She stated that the approval of staff seemed like a drawn out process when everyone knew the timeline. She stated that it seemed like no respect for the staff. She also stated she has a petition for an elected board. They feel like they have not been heard.

Mr. Sless reaffirmed that the Board has 100% respect for the teachers.

P. Vacarro stated that the hiring practice does not show that respect.

P. McConnville stated she recently moved to Linwood for the schools. She does not want class size to increase and stated if the staff is so exceptional, then the Board should hire from within. She expressed concerns about the future quality of the education in Linwood based on the recent reductions in staffing.

Mr. Sless stated that this Board would not do anything to decimate the education quality in Linwood.

M. Dias stated that the concerned parents feel that they have not been heard. She further inquired why staff within was not hired.

Dr. Cappelluti responded that the process was followed and the candidate that was the best fit was chosen by the committee.

Judge Todd stated that the Superintendent makes recommendations to the Instruction Committee and they reviewed. He carefully reviewed the recommendation and concurred with the Superintendent.

SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT

RECOMMENDATION OF TENURED AND NON-TENURED STAFF - Motion made by Mrs. Gibson, seconded by Mrs. DeMorat, to approve the tenured and non-tenured staff members listed in the Board packet for the employment in the 2016-2017 school year.

Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion approved.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES - Motion made by Mrs. Gibson, seconded by Mrs. DeMorat, to approve Daniel Scott Mascione, Architects for the following projects:

Seaview Elementary School Cafeteria Floor Replacement -	\$1,750
Belhaven Middle School – HVAC Controls Replacement	\$11,850

Both projects are included in the 2016-2017 budget and are scheduled for work to begin this summer.

Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion approved.

REJECT RFP – SCHOOL PHYSICIANS - Motion made by Mrs. Gibson, seconded by Mrs. DeMorat, to reject both proposals received in response to the request for proposals for school physicians:

Dr. Hutchison – Non responsive, fee amount not provide, incomplete package

Dr. Gong – Fee substantially in excess of budget amount

Motion carried by roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion approved.

COMMUNICATIONS – None

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – None

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - P. Vaccarro inquired if the new Curriculum Supervisor has experience.

C. Swan inquired why there was no discussion on the staff renewal.

R. Moore stated that they had considered sending there student to Linwood as a tuition student, however, after the changes were made in fifth grade, she had concerns after the schedule changes and the impact on the programming.

Mrs. Scannell stated that she believe the teachers worked with Dr. Rudnesky and the Administration on the schedule.

R. Moore stated that she felt that the suggestions were not taken into consideration.

Dr. Rudnesky stated that a committee of staffulty met and were solicited for input. They received fourteen pages of requirements from the Instruction Committee as to what they want in the schedule. They are still working on incorporating these requirements.

Mrs. Ziereis stated that all retirement positions were filled. The staff list approved today did not go below the budgeted positions.

C. Swan thanked Mrs. Ziereis for her explanation.

Mr. Sless stated that the Board presents their philosophy and the Administration works with the

staff to put a schedule together.

Dr. Cappelluti stated that they will continue to work to put staff in their areas of expertise and have taken all input into consideration.

G. Wenzel stated she is on the scheduling committee and would ask the Board to please take their input into consideration. She wants to continue to be an active part to the process. They have collaborated over the past year and have put forth important components for the schedule.

M. Dias stated she believes the Board and their commitment to continued quality of instruction. She stated that Dr. Cappelluti is doing a great job, however resources are dwindling and the quality of education has changed. Small changes are made such as the area of Social Studies in 5th grade.

S. Coyle thanked everyone for the communication and looks forward to moving in a positive direction.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD – Mr. Sless stated that there has been a large amount of misinformation and requested the public reach out to Dr. Cappelluti or himself for clarification.

Mrs. Scannell stated that are many forums to get the correct information. The Board cannot comment on rumor or gossip.

Mrs. Gibson stated the Linwood is a great system. Things are not falling apart and she expressed concerns over the damage of the misinformation on social media.

Judge Todd stated he is a member of the Instruction Committee and they continue to discuss improvements to curriculum. He stated that they never saw the report from the scheduling committee and looks forward to reviewing the information.

ADJOURNMENT- Motion made by Mrs. DeMorat, seconded by Mrs. Gibson, to adjourn (7:38AM).

Motion carried by roll call vote, all members present voted yes.

Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Teri J. Weeks, Business Administrator,
Board Secretary