

LINWOOD, NEW JERSEY
February 28, 2018

In compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Act" of the State of New Jersey adequate notice of this Special meeting has been provided. On January 18, 2018 written notice of this 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 [Mrs. Ziereis](#), Board President, in the Library, Belhaven Middle School, Linwood, New Jersey, [Wednesday, February 27, 2018 7:04 PM](#).

[Mrs. Ziereis](#) led all present in a flag salute.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mrs. Barrera, Mrs. Lowry, Judge Todd, Mrs. Scannell, Mrs. DeMorat, Mr. Goldstein, Mrs. Ziereis, Mr. Kahn, Mr. McLaughlin,

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: B. Pruitt, Superintendent, T. Weeks, School Business Administrator

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Negotiations – None

Curriculum – None

Personnel – None

Operations – None

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

FOR INFORMATION

Board Retreat

Security Update

Mr. Pruitt provided an update on his security meetings and onsite reviews of procedures. Discussion was held on the Department of Education team to review our facilities and provide recommendations. He is working on redirecting the conversation with character initiative to take the conversation inside relative to the planned walkouts across the county on gun violence. Discussion on Alice and I Love You Guys was held. The facility manager is trained in both. Currently we use I love you guys for consistency with Mainland High School and the Police

Department regulations. Discussion was held on community input and the correct forum to address security concerns.

Budget Review Presentation

Mr. Pruitt and Mrs. Weeks presented the preliminary budget recommendations which includes an estimated decrease in state aid of \$34,000, a 2% increase in the levy which is the equivalent of \$0.034 rate increase. State aid will be announced March 15, therefore, this budget is subject to change. Increase in health care costs, staff training, educational support services reviewed. Planned maintenance reserve projects include Belhaven Gym, Lock replacement, and the Belhaven School field sod project. Enrollment and staffing changes were reviewed. The impact of the declining ratable base was reviewed and discussed in conjunction with the impact on tax rate. Comparative to five years ago, the district's levy has only increase 1.8%, which has created banked cap, unused spending authority available for up to three years, with a direct impact to the tax payer.

Also reviewed was the transition of School Bond Anticipation Notes from the City's books to the School Books. It is a shifting of the cost to the taxpayer from the City tax rates to the School tax rates and is not in addition to the overall outstanding debt.

The members also discussed the need for Library Media specialist but expressed concerns that the budget should not be increased.

ACTION REQUIRED - None

Communication – Included in the packet

OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS – None

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC –

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD – None.

ADJOURNMENT - Motion made by Mr. McLaughlin, seconded by Mrs. Zierys, to adjourn. (9:52 PM).

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

Respectfully submitted,

Teri J. Weeks, Business Administrator,
Board Secretary