

August 20, 2008
REGULAR SESSION

The Regular meeting of the East Greenwich Board of Education was held on the above date in the Jeffrey Clark School Cafeteria, as duly advertised in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-8d. Notice of this meeting was posted in the East Greenwich Municipal Building, each school in the district and advertised in the Gloucester County Times. Vice President Gallagher called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. Following the flag salute a moment of silent reflection was observed.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken with the following members present at roll call: Arredondo, Childress, Gallagher, Grdinich, Kostick and Stevenson. Members Dolan and Harris were not present. Member Harris arrived at 8:50 pm as noted below. Member Dolan was present after completion of the roll call. Also present were the Superintendent and the Business Administrator and Mr. Robert Muccilli, solicitor representative of the Board with Capehart and Scatchard. Public signed in attendance were Henry Hilt, Robert Green, Crystal Green, Barbara Beamer, Rose Rego, Frank Rego, Dawn Jaramillo, Susanna Baus, Ron Baus, Nicole DiFonzo, Fred Grant, Chris Everwine, Kevin Schlieker, Connie Rizzus, Greg Rego, Theresa Rego, and Brian O'Malley (attorney).

Election of President

The Business Administrator/Board Secretary opened nominations for the position of President to replace Theresa Lewis. Motion by Grdinich, second by Childress, member Gallagher was nominated for President. Motion by Kostick, second by Arredondo, and carried by unanimous vote, the nominations were closed. Member Dolan returned at this time.

Member Gallagher presided at this time.

President Gallagher opened nominations for the position of Vice President to replace former Vice President Gallagher.

On motion by Arredondo, second by Kostick, member Grdinich was nominated for Vice President. On motion by Childress, second by Stevenson, member Dolan was nominated for Vice President. On voice vote, member Grdinich was elected with an affirmative four votes for Grdinich and affirmative three votes for Dolan.

Appointment of Board Member

On motion by Childress, second by Stevenson, and carried by unanimous vote, to appoint Mark D. Ricci residing at 13 Stone Ridge Drive as a member of the Board of Education to complete the term of Theresa Lewis until the April 2009 election, at which time the one-year unexpired term will be presented to the voters.

The Business Administrator administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed member Ricci.

Approval of Minutes

On motion by Stevenson, second by Arredondo, and carried by unanimous vote, the minutes of the Regular and Executive Sessions of July 15, 2008, were approved.

Correspondence

A petition from residents was received requesting restoration of courtesy bussing. Letters of resignation and a letter requesting a leave of absence were referred to Personnel.

PUBLIC

President Gallagher opened the meeting to the public at this time and stated that the Board of Education deliberated after numerous meetings for the discontinuance of courtesy bussing. President Gallagher noted that information regarding a wait list for the Gloucester County YMCA program was inaccurate information; there is not a wait list for the before- and after-school program.

Public comments included:

- A question on the number of crossing guards to be provided
- Mr. Muccilli noted that the public comment portion of the meeting was to permit public comment and noted that it would not be a question and answer period
- Attorney for resident Rego requested a cessation of the policy regarding transportation due to the longstanding policy of courtesy bussing, noting over 200 signatures were on the petition, stating the continuation of addresses 81-94 on Democrat Road is an indication of partial hazardous conditions and the 45 mph zone also is a hazardous condition
- Comment that there was not enough conversation about the transportation change, concern raised about the safety of crossing guards when daily police radar for speeders is present and there are loaded trucks traveling the roadways
- Fred Grant, Mayor, stated that the township police were awaiting an engineering report about safety from the Board of Education
- Resident re-iterated request for cessation of the policy and reinstatement of all courtesy bussing
- Comment if police are responding to a call, a child could be hit by a car pulling over on the road
- Comment from a resident who was struck as a child at age 5 to reconsider the policy on behalf of their beginners child
- Comment of concern about the railroad crossing at Democrat Road
- Comment that if Amherst Farms was restored, why not restore bussing to other developments if within the same radius

Superintendent responded to public comment from Mayor Grant noting that police officers arrived at 2 p.m. on August 19th to present the request for an engineering report, and that this was the first request presented since discussions began in January. He noted that 10 meetings occurred with the Mayor or the Deputy Mayor and the officers, and there were not requests made at those meetings for a report. He noted that a memorandum was issued by the school administration for the Board to the Mayor and the traffic safety officers/police which listed all areas in consideration and at a meeting to discuss that memorandum plan, it was determined that four crossing guards would be requested for placement in response. A letter from the Township Engineer to the Mayor was noted, dated May 5, which attested to the Township Engineers review of the plans and their recommendations for the application of painted crosswalks and installation of signage. The Board of Education took formal action in June, based on the above meetings and documentation and also approved their support of

PUBLIC (continued)

the resolution of the Township's application for a Safe Routes to School Grant that is available to municipalities.

Mayor Grant responded that the township engineer's letter refers only to a grant application so that the township could be reimbursed for expenses incurred. He claimed that the police asked for a report in February.

Member Dolan stated that the Board relied upon the expertise of the police traffic safety officials in planning and that there was agreement on the plan.

The Superintendent stated that the memorandum of April 15 and subsequent meeting to discuss the memorandum triggered all further actions of the Board of Education and that the first request for an engineer's report was presented on August 19 at 2 pm.

Mayor Grant stated that the memorandum is an administrative document and not an official action of the Board of Education.

Solicitor Muccilli noted that the Board of Education does care about the residents' concerns and will consider their comments.

Member Childress stated that he served on the Transportation Committee, though he was not always able to be present for meetings. He added that the Committee did consult with the police as the experts and there was agreement on the policy for the hazardous routes. Member Childress noted that he suggested a 3rd party expert review because of the resident concerns raised in June and that he would vote to restore bussing if it was not available.

Officer Everwine commented that the police department does not declare routes as safe or unsafe, but they do advise on crosswalks and crossing guards. He added that the township engineers may suggest crosswalk and crossing guard placement.

Solicitor Muccilli noted that there has been consultation between the Township officials and the Board of Education.

Member Dolan stated her notes on the memorandum taken at the meeting in April supports the Boards actions and the collective intent to make the routes to school as safe as possible for walking.

Resident asked if the decision could be postponed.

Solicitor Muccilli noted that the Board of Education has met their obligation in consulting with the police department and made the decisions based on statutes and obligations.

Officer Everwine added that the police department has the job of providing as safe a route as possible and that they will do their best to meeting that responsibility.

President Gallagher closed the public comment portion of the meeting with a recess at 8:00 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 8:20 p.m. with Solicitor Muccilli no longer present.

REGULAR SESSION

Superintendent Report

Superintendent reported that a request was received from Mayor Grant to issue a letter to the Township Solicitor with a copy of the Board minutes regarding the transportation policy and courtesy bussing eliminations which will be sufficient to finalize the placement of the crossing guards and the painting of crosswalks by the Township.

On motion by Grdinich, second by Dolan, and carried by unanimous vote, it was resolved to acknowledge the request of Mayor Grant by issuing a letter with the Board of Education minutes to the Township Solicitor, Timothy Chell, for the purpose of documenting the plan for placement of crossing guards.

Superintendent report included updates for personnel and policy actions and information regarding enrollments, teacher preparation of classrooms, the printing of the parent handbook, orientations scheduled for staff and students, progress on the shared service agreement for the lift station maintenance with the Township, the leasing of the Berkley building to the library, plans for traffic controls, the renovation of the district website and the installation of a new student data management system, the presentations of Conrail on pedestrian safety at railroad crossings, and the status of the YMCA before- and after-school childcare program.

On motion by Dolan, second by Arredondo, and carried by unanimous vote, the Board accepted the Superintendent's Report and placed on file for review.

On motion by Dolan, second by Stevenson, the English as a Second Language Three-Year Plan for the 2008-2011 school years was accepted and approved for filing with the Executive County Superintendent of Schools.

Member Harris arrived at 8:50 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMUNITY/STRATEGIC AWARENESS

Member Grdinich suggests that a community information table be established on Back-to-School Night to hand out voter registrations and other information regarding the annual school election, the school budget, and board meeting dates.

FACILITIES

Member Harris reported that the JIF Safety Assessment reports for the playground and transportation/bus activity was distributed to member.

Member Harris reported that a meeting was held with the representative of the East Greenwich Township library and the county library with the district Superintendent, Business Administrator, and facilities committee. The Committee is recommending a plan wherein the county library would lease the Berkley building with an agreement which would include that the county library system would assume all operational costs of the building and undertake necessary major repairs, such as the mechanical controls and roof repairs, in exchange for a lease agreement of approximately \$1 per year. Included in the agreement would be the availability to the Board of Education space for storage of records. The library would insure

COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)

FACILITIES (continued)

the facility and operations, the Board of Education may negotiate for grass cutting service to be provided by the school staff, and the term of the lease would be approximately 5-7 years.

Member Harris reported that the Lift Station Maintenance Agreement for Shared Service with East Greenwich Township is in development, which includes in the terms that the Township will provide inspection and maintenance of the lift station. The school staff would no longer be required to work overtime on Saturday for the purpose of the lift station maintenance.

Motion by Harris, second by Grdinich, and carried by unanimous vote, to approve entering an Agreement with the Township for East Greenwich Township to provide inspection and maintenance service for the lift station, such agreement to be ratified at an upcoming meeting.

FINANCE

On motion by Childress, second by Dolan and carried by unanimous vote, payment of bills from the custodian account in the amount of \$181,731.39 for August 20, 2008, were approved. (Attachment 1)

On motion by Childress, second by Dolan and carried by unanimous vote, Handwritten Checks for July 2008 in the amount of \$194,617.16 were approved. (Attachment 2)

On motion by Childress, second by Dolan and carried by unanimous vote, the line item transfers approved by the Superintendent on June 30, 2008, as per the attached list for 2007-08 were approved and the line item transfers approved by the Superintendent on July 31, 2008, as per the attached list for 2008-09 were approve. (Attachment 3 and 4)

On motion by Childress, second by Dolan and carried by unanimous vote, the Financial Reports A-148, Report of the Board Secretary, and A-149, Report of the Treasurer, for June 2008 which agree, were accepted and filed for audit. (Copies on file in the Board Minutes reference file.)

On motion by Childress, second by Dolan, and carried by unanimous vote, the Board Secretary's Certification was accepted as follows:

BOARD SECRETARY'S MONTHLY CERTIFICATION/BUDGETARY LINE ITEM STATUS
Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(d), I certify that as of June 30, 2008, no budgetary line item account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(a).

Board Secretary/Business Administrator

8/20/2008

On motion by Childress, second by Dolan and carried by unanimous roll call vote, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(e), we certify that as of June 30, 2008, after review of the Secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the

COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)

FINANCE (continued)

appropriate district officials that, to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YEA: Arredondo, Childress, Dolan, Gallagher, Grdinich, Harris, Lewis, and Stevenson,

NAY: 0

ABSENT: Kostick

MOTION CARRIED: Yea - 9; Nay - 0; Absent - 0.

On motion by Childress, second by Dolan, and carried by unanimous vote, the Waiver of Requirements resolution for the Special Education Medicaid Initiative for 2008-09 and the submittal of the action plan for 2009-10 participation were approved. (Attachment 5)

On motion by Childress, second by Stevenson, and carried by unanimous vote, the purchases of school supplies through state contract pricing from School Specialties (A65606), Tom Caine & Associates (A65595), Dell (A70256), and Hewlett Packard (A70262) for the 2008-09 school year were approved.

POLICY

On motion by Dolan, second by Childress, and carried by a vote of 8 yes and 1 no vote by member Arrendondo, the 1st Readings on the following policies were approved:

Policy 5145.41 Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying

Policy 3327 Relations with Vendors

Policy 4112.8 Nepotism

Policy 4212.8 Nepotism

Policy 9270 Conflict of Interest

CURRICULUM:

On motion by Harris, second by Arredondo, and carried by a unanimous vote, the following workshops were approved for staff travel:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Workshop</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Brittany Broomall	Classroom Management for New Teachers	Glassboro, NJ	8/18 & 8/19/08	\$140
Kristy Garozzo	CP of NJ, From Low Tech To High Tech: Computer Access	Ewing, NJ	9/15/08	\$125
	CP of NJ, Making the Most of Solo	Ewing, NJ	11/25/08	\$125
	CP of NJ, Low Cost Computer Accessibility	Online	3/2/09	\$59

TRANSPORTATION

On motion by Dolan, second by Grdinich and carried by unanimous vote, the Jointure Agreement with Kingsway Regional for the 2008-09 school year to provide to/from school transportation with available buses only for an annual estimated contract cost of \$364,107

COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)

TRANSPORTATION (continued)

for 10 one-tier and 2 two-tier routes was approved, with adjustments to be made to accommodate growth in enrollment.

On motion by Childress, second by Dolan, the restoration of courtesy bussing to Harmony Acres and Harmony Estates was defeated.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YEA: Childress

NAY: Arredondo, Gallagher, Grdinich, Harris, and Kostick

ABSTAIN: Dolan, Ricci, and Stevenson

MOTION DEFEATED: Yea - 1; Nay - 5; Abtain - 3.

CAFETERIA

None.

PERSONNEL

On motion by Stevenson, second by Childress, and carried by unanimous roll call vote, on recommendation of the Superintendent, the emergent hiring resolution and hiring of the following food service workers effective September 1, 2008, through June 30, 2009 at the hours and tentative payrates, to be adjusted in accordance with the negotiated agreement was approved:

Lynda Muller	Cashier	Step 1	3.5 hrs/day	180 days	\$10.10/hour
Barbara A. Walker	Helper/Dishwasher	Step 1	3.0 hrs/day	181 days	\$10.63/hour

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YEA: Arredondo, Childress, Dolan, Gallagher, Grdinich, Harris, Kostick, Ricci and Stevenson

NAY: 0

ABSENT:

MOTION CARRIED: Yea - 9; Nay - 0; Absent - 0.

On motion by Arredondo, second by Stevenson, and carried by unanimous roll call vote, on recommendation of the Superintendent, the emergent hiring resolution and hiring of the following cafeteria substitute for the 2008-09 school year was approved: Rebecca Norman-Clark.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YEA: Arredondo, Childress, Dolan, Gallagher, Grdinich, Harris, Kostick, Lewis and Stevenson

NAY: 0

ABSENT:

MOTION CARRIED: Yea - 9; Nay - 0; Absent - 0.

On motion by Stevenson, second by Childress, and carried by unanimous roll call vote, on recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of Lisa McKenna as Assistant Cook effective September 1, 2008, through June 30, 2009, on Step 7, \$13.70/hr, 181 days to be adjusted as per the negotiated agreement was approved.

PERSONNEL (continued)

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YEA: Arredondo, Childress, Dolan, Gallagher, Grdinich, Harris, Kostick, Ricci and Stevenson

NAY: 0

ABSENT:

MOTION CARRIED: Yea - 9; Nay - 0; Absent - 0.

On motion by Stevenson, second by Childress, and carried by unanimous roll call vote, the increase of schedule for Diane O'Malley from 0.2 FTE (full-time equivalent – one day per week) to 0.4 FTE (two days per week) effective September 1, 2008, through June 30, 2009, as teacher of physical education on Step BA+30, Step E, \$19,231.20 (to be adjusted as per the negotiated agreement) was approved.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YEA: Arredondo, Childress, Dolan, Gallagher, Grdinich, Harris, Kostick, Ricci and Stevenson

NAY: 0

ABSENT:

MOTION CARRIED: Yea - 9; Nay - 0; Absent - 0.

On motion by Childress, second by Stevenson, and carried by unanimous roll call vote, the emergent hiring resolution and hiring of Ashley N. More as a substitute teacher as an applicant for a county certification was approved.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YEA: Arredondo, Childress, Dolan, Gallagher, Grdinich, Harris, Kostick, Ricci and Stevenson

NAY: 0

ABSENT:

MOTION CARRIED: Yea - 9; Nay - 0; Absent - 0.

On motion by Childress, second by Ricci and approved by unanimous vote, the appointment of Dana Boggs as a substitute aide for the 2008 extended school year at the hourly rate of \$15 was approved.

On motion by Childress, second by Harris and approved by unanimous vote, the Family Leave of Absence for Lisa Bellotti to commence September 29, 2008, for the period of certified medical disability as paid leave up to 30 accumulated available sick days and an unpaid NJ Family Leave of Absence commencing from the conclusion of the certified period of disability until January 23, 2009, was approved.

On motion by Stevenson, second by Arredondo and approved by unanimous vote, the resignation of Denise P. Gray as a supervisory aide effective immediately was accepted.

On motion by Childress, second by Harris and approved by unanimous vote, the resignation of Ashley Randazzo effective August 25, 2008 was accepted.

On motion by Childress, second by Harris and approved by unanimous vote, the resignation of Christine Gardner effective August 31, 2008, was accepted.

PERSONNEL (continued)

On motion by Stevenson, second by Childress and approved by unanimous roll call vote, the emergent hiring resolution and hiring of the following special education aides effective September 1, 2008, through June 30, 2009 at the salaries listed (to be adjusted as per the negotiated agreement) was approved:

Caitlyn Reuter	Step 1	\$103.89/day	183 days	\$19,012
Jennifer LaGreca	Step 1	\$103.89/day	183 days	\$19,012

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YEA: Arredondo, Childress, Dolan, Gallagher, Grdinich, Harris, Kostick, Ricci and Stevenson

NAY: 0

ABSENT:

MOTION CARRIED: Yea - 9; Nay - 0; Absent - 0.

On motion by Stevenson, second by Childress and approved by unanimous roll call vote, the hiring of Maureen Gray as a special education aide effective September 1, 2008, through June 30, 2009, on Step 2, \$103.89/day for 183 days, for an annual salary of \$19,372 (to be adjusted as per the negotiated agreement) was approved.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YEA: Arredondo, Childress, Dolan, Gallagher, Grdinich, Harris, Kostick, Ricci and Stevenson

NAY: 0

ABSENT:

MOTION CARRIED: Yea - 9; Nay - 0; Absent - 0.

OLD BUSINESS

Motion by Childress, second by Harris, and carried by unanimous vote with Arredondo, Grdinich, and Stevenson abstaining, to approve one night each of lodging for Maria Arredondo, Toni Grdinich, and Barbara Stevenson at the rate of \$117 each for attendance to the 2008 Annual Workshop and to approve the 2008 Annual Workshop registration fee of \$175 each (to be reimbursed to the Board of Education within 10 days of a cancellation made by the school board member directly to NJSBA if before 9/5/08 at the cancellation fee of \$50, before 9/30/08 at a fee of \$100, or without cancellation made by the deadline at the full fee of \$175).

Motion by Grdinich, second by Childress, and carried by unanimous vote with Arredondo abstaining, to approve the registration of member Maria Arredondo to the New Board Member Orientation to be held on Tuesday, October 28, 2008, in Atlantic City at the registration fee of \$125 with cancellation fees to be reimbursed to the Board of Education per the cancellation policy (\$0 if cancelled up to 10 days in advance, \$25 if cancelled between 72 hours and 10 days before the event, in full if within 72 hours or no show).

NEW BUSINESS

On motion by Harris, second by Childress, and carried by unanimous vote, changing the

meeting locations beginning with the September 3, 2008 Work Session continuing through the April 22, 2009 Reorganization and Regular Meeting from the John Berkley Building to the Samuel Mickle School Library/Media Center and to provide public notice for the change was approved.

The Superintendent reported that a meeting was held with the County Executive Superintendent of Schools and the Superintendents of the region (Kingsway, East Greenwich, South Harrison, Logan, and Swedesboro-Woolwich) to address rumors regarding plans for consolidation of districts within the county. Reported that the Executive County Superintendent must have a consolidation plan to present within 19 months (by 3/15/2010) to the Commissioner of Education. The Executive County Superintendent of Schools confirmed that the communities of Kingsway Regional will be included in the plan. If the consolidation plan is approved, an election would be held within one year and consolidation would occur over the succeeding two years. If the consolidation plan is defeated by voters, a re-election would be held. If the plan is not approved by the voters, state aid would be withheld from the communities. The plan for consolidating the regionals in Gloucester County is in the order of Delsea, Clearview, Kingsway, and Gateway. As retirements occur within these administrations, interims must be hired. Two superintendents planning retirements voiced objection to the plan because the Boards of Education will face issues with interim hirings. The Executive County Superintendent is also requesting that districts not fill positions for CST directors, Curriculum Coordinators, etc, if vacancies occur.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion by Childress, second by Stevenson, and carried by unanimous vote the meeting was adjourned at 10:23 p.m.

Valerie J. Carmody
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary