

PITTSGROVE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES –JULY 11, 2012

The Special meeting of the Board of Education of the Township of Pittsgrove, County of Salem, New Jersey, was held on Wednesday, July 11, 2012, 7:00 P.M., Arthur P. Schalick High School.

Members Present: Mr. May, Mr. Miletta, Mr. Rumpp, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Snyder,
Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Berwick, Mrs. Conover,
Mr. Johnson (arrived at 7:06 P.M)

ROLL CALL

Members Absent: Mr. Schmidt

Mr. Henry Bermann, Superintendent; Mrs. Suzanne R. Fox Abdill, Business Administrator/Board Secretary; Theresa Lewis, NJSBA Representative; the press, staff members, and the public.

Board President, Mrs. Melissa Conover, opened the meeting at 7:03 P.M., leading the group in the pledge to the flag and reading the following statement:

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting law was enacted to ensure the rights of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of the public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Pittsgrove Township Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by notifying the Clerk of the Township of Pittsgrove and having the date, time and place thereof posted in the Pittsgrove Township Municipal Building, Today's Sunbeam, The News of Cumberland County, The Daily Journal and the Elmer Times.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW

Board President, Mrs. Melissa Conover, read the District Mission Statement:

The Pittsgrove Township School District promotes the academic and personal growth of all students to the best of their abilities with a rigorous program that supports personal strengths and self-sufficiency, inspiring an ethic of lifelong learning. We strive to instill traditional values and a diversity of 21st century skills necessary to succeed in global environment.

DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

PRESENTATIONS

NJSBA Representative, Theresa Lewis, presented information and provided guidance on work sessions.

BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS

The Board held a discussion regarding work session and meeting dates. The following items were addressed with regard to Board of a Whole:

- Expectations – The expectation of the working sessions is that the Board is more informed, Agenda items receive more discussion, and an increase in trust among Board members.
- Roles – The roles of the Board during work sessions remain the same.
- Work Sessions – If a Board member misses a Work Session, then it is up to that Board Member to catch up. Business Sessions will not be a “discussion” session. The Superintendent will decide which administrators need to attend which session.
- Agendas – The work session Agenda is important and all important items should be placed on the Agenda first.
- Public Comment – The Public Comment will be different for Work sessions; have to view that the Board is “meeting in public, not meeting with the public.” The Board can’t engage the audience unless it is during public comment. The Board should always avoid blame and should set a time limit on individuals.

PRESENTATIONS

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- Communication – The Board needs to communicate by being specific, honest, respectful, and all side discussions should be eliminated. The Board should agree or disagree with the item, not the person discussing the item. The Board needs to focus discussions on Student Achievement. The Board needs to determine the hiring policy with regard to advertising and the process for hiring. The Board hires the Superintendent. The Superintendent recommends staff for hire.
- Board Self Evaluation – Theresa Lewis reviewed the Chart, Board self-evaluation document, and discussed planning. Need Board Goals first and then District Goals.

Negotiations Committee Meeting will be held on July 12, 2012 at 5:00 P.M.

The Board will meet with the Auditor on July 30, 2012.

AUDIENCE
PARTICIPATION

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION I
No comments were made.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mrs. Schneider and seconded by Mr. Rumpff that the Board of Education meeting be adjourned. (9:36 P.M.)
Unanimously approved

SUZANNE R. FOX ABDILL, BOARD SECRETARY

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