

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The April 2, 2009 meeting of the Alexandria Township Board of Education was called to order by President Patrick D. McGuinness at 7:02 PM.

2. NOTIFICATION OF MEETING

This meeting was properly advertised according to the Open Public Meeting Act (P.L. 1975:31) in the Hunterdon Democrat on March 19, 2009, to begin at 7:00 PM.

3. ROLL CALL

Linda K. Adams - P	Susan F. Luthringer - P
Francis L. Guenther - P(7:10PM)	Patrick D. McGuinness - P
Steven Hill - A(8:42PM)	Scott A. Saccal - P
Thomas W. Hlasney - A	Shawn J. Shapiro - P
Douglas E. Linden, Jr. - P	

4. BOARD STATEMENT

The mission of the Alexandria Township School District is to achieve academic excellence through high quality instruction, a positive learning environment, and a strong partnership among staff members, family and community. We are committed to an inclusive educational program that recognizes individual differences and encourages each child to reach his or her potential. We believe that the desire for life-long learning, the development of positive character, and the development of a positive self-concept are essential outcomes of the school experience.

5. FLAG SALUTE

6. PUBLIC HEARING OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET STATEMENT FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 2009-10

Motion made by Mr. Saccal, seconded by Mrs. Luthringer, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve the following resolution:

Be It So Resolved, to approve a 2009-2010 School District Budget for submission to the voters of Alexandria Township as follows:

General Fund (Operating Budget)	\$8,961,716
Special Revenue Fund (Grants and Entitlements)	119,832
Debt Service Fund (Repayment of Debt)	654,459

Be It Further Resolved, to acknowledge that the 2009-2010 School District Budget as described above results in tax levies as follows:

General Fund (Operating Budget)	\$7,070,661
Debt Service Fund (Repayment of Debt)	564,723

The School District has proposed programs and services in addition to the core curriculum content standards adopted by the State Board of Education.

Whereas, School District Policy #4133 and N.J.A.C. 6A:23B1-2(b) provides that the Board of Education shall establish in the annual budget a maximum expenditure amount that may be allotted for such travel and expenses reimbursement for the 2009-2010 school year.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Alexandria Township Board of Education hereby established the School District travel maximum for the 2009-2010 school year at the sum of \$24,500. Regular business travel maximum is \$1,500 per person.

Be It Further Resolved, that the School Business Administrator shall track and record these costs to insure that the maximum amount is not exceeded.

The amount established for the 2008-09 school year is \$22,100. Total expenditures to date are \$14,414.91.

The supporting documentation of this Budget also contains an itemization of certain expenditures required under administrative regulations.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present - Adams, Guenther, Linden, Jr., Luthringer, McGuinness, Saccal, Shapiro

7. CORRESPONDENCE

President McGuinness advised that the Board was in receipt of a letter from a parent, involving a student, that would be discussed in Executive Session.

8. BOARD PRESIDENT

President McGuinness advised that the Board would go into a second Executive Session at the end of the meeting to go over the Superintendent's evaluation.

President McGuinness said that at the end of the meeting, the Board needs to set up a Finance and Curriculum Committee meeting.

President McGuinness advised that this was Susan Luthringer's last Board meeting after serving nine years. President McGuinness reflected on when he first met Susan and on the nine years serving with Susan on the Board. President McGuinness thanked Susan for her service.

Susan Luthringer said that it has been an honor to serve the students of Alexandria. She said that she would like to pass on an important lesson that she has learned; "there are many sides to every story."

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Jennings advised that the final draft of the policy manual will be available before the re-organization of the Board. The manual is expected to be delivered to the District on April 15, 2009.

Dr. Jennings thanked everyone involved in the curriculum revisions. The curriculum revisions are complete at this time.

President McGuinness thanked everyone for their efforts in the policy revisions.

10. SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BD SECRETARY'S REPORT

Ms. Barbara E. Prowker, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, reported the following:

1. Reminder: 2009-2010 Annual School Election to be held on Tuesday, April 21, 2009, 7:00 AM - 9:00 PM, polling place to be the Alexandria Middle School old gymnasium.
2. Reminder: The annual re-organization of the Board will be conducted on Thursday, April 30, 2009, at 7:00 PM in the Alexandria Middle School library/media center.
3. The 2008 transportation efficiency ratings have just been released. The Delaware Valley Regional High School, for the past three years, has ranked in the top ten for efficiency.
4. The Alliance for Competitive Energy Services (ACES) awarded a contract to South Jersey Energy Company to provide electric generation service beginning in April 2009 for a 24-month term. The prices in the contract will reduce the generation component of electric costs by an estimated 13% for participating districts statewide.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Shapiro - Buildings and Grounds
McGuinness - Communication

12. PUBLIC INPUT

Mark Switzer said that he has a son currently in Kindergarten. He asked when the relocation of the Lester D. Wilson School main entrance would become priority to the Board.

President McGuinness explained where the Board was with the proposed project, stating that the project has been approved by the New Jersey Department of Education and the Board was granted a grant funding of 40% of the project. President McGuinness continued by saying that the Board has not come to a consensus regarding the project at this time. President McGuinness said that we have until the summer of 2010 to do the project if they choose to advance it.

Douglas Ferry advised that he has a son in the District Preschool Program and a son in Kindergarten. He also was in support of relocating the main entrance for safety and security reasons.

A parent asked if there was a time limit on the grant. President McGuinness said that we have until the summer of 2010 to do the project.

Patricia Walsh asked if the current entrance is ADA compliant. President McGuinness explained that the building was grandfathered, but if renovations were done then the area would need to comply.

Leigh Anne Walker expressed concerns with the vehicular traffic. She said that the excessive speeds were dangerous.

Douglas Walker asked for a breakdown of the discretionary funds in the 2009-2010 budget. Barbara Prowker will provide that for him.

Lisa Engelhart asked if a decision has been made regarding having full-day Kindergarten for the 2009-2010 school year. Dr. Jennings said that the proposed budget contains full-day Kindergarten at this time. If there is a budget defeat, decisions will be made as to where the cuts will be made.

Susan Thomas suggested that the word needs to get out about the full-day Kindergarten because, until now, she was not aware of it.

Stephanie Steger advised that the Alexandria Township Education Association supports the budget and that they have contacted District resident educators, asking for their support as well.

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

14. NEW BUSINESS

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION: 8:26 PM

Motion made by Mr. Linden, seconded by Mr. Shapiro, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters and a letter from a parent regarding a student.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

16. OPEN SESSION: 9:13 PM

Motion made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mrs. Adams, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board return to Open Session at 9:13 PM.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

17. MOTIONS

Travel and Related Expenses Reimbursement

1. Motion made by Mr. Guenther, seconded by Mr. Linden, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve work-related and related expenses reimbursement for the following staff members that is directly related to and within the scope of their current work responsibilities, promotes the delivery of instruction, and is critical to the instructional needs of the School District or furthers the efficient operation of the School District, and is educationally necessary and fiscally prudent.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>City</u>
Carothers	4/30/09	Newark, NJ
Kacedon	4/03/09	Morristown, NJ
	4/30/09	Newark, NJ
Russo	4/30/09	Newark, NJ

Roll Call Vote: YES: Guenther, Hill, Linden, Jr., Luthringer, McGuinness, Saccal, Shapiro

NO: Adams

ABSTAIN: None

2. Motion made by Mr. Guenther, seconded by Mr. Linden upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve work-related and related expenses reimbursement for the following staff members that is directly related to and within the scope of their current work responsibilities, promotes the delivery of instruction, and is critical to the instructional needs of the School District or furthers the efficient operation of the School District, and is educationally necessary and fiscally prudent. The information for this workshop was not available at the February 26, 2009 meeting.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>City</u>
Aversa	3/18/09	Jamesburg, NJ
Barry	3/27/09	New Brunswick, NJ
Dominic	3/18/09	Monroe, NJ
Dominic	3/27/09	Ewing, NJ
Glick	3/16/09	Montgomery, NJ
Olcott	3/27/09	Union, NJ
Scollan	3/27/09	Union, NJ
Stoskus	3/20/09	Stanton, NJ

Roll Call Vote: YES: Guenther, Hill, Linden, Jr., Luthringer, McGuinness, Saccal, Shapiro

NO: Adams

ABSTAIN: None

Substitutes

3. Motion made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Shapiro, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve the following substitutes, upon the successful completion of the criminal history background check required by law:

Lewis Compton	Custodian
Gerd Becker	Teacher
Melissa Oszmianski	Secretary
Colleen Rossetti	Speech Teacher
Devin Smith	Teacher

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Emergent Hire

4. Motion made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Shapiro, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve the following resolution:

Resolved, that the Alexandria Township Board of Education approve application of the emergent hiring of the following substitutes:

Lewis Compton	Custodian
Gerd Becker	Teacher
Melissa Oszmianski	Secretary
Colleen Rossetti	Speech Teacher
Devin Smith	Teacher

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

5. Motion made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Shapiro, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve the following addition to the 2008-09 Substitute List, upon the successful completion of the criminal history background check required by law.

Faith Fuhrman	Nurse
Lori Trager	Nurse

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

6. Motion made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Shapiro, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve the following resolution:

Resolved, that the Alexandria Township Board of Education approve application of the emergent hiring of the following substitutes:

Faith Fuhrman	Nurse
Lori Trager	Nurse

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

2009 PSD/MD Extended School Year Program

7. Motion made by Mr. Linden, seconded by Mrs. Luthringer, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve the following personnel to provide services for the 2009 PSD/MD extended school year program for six weeks:

Kim Breidt	Nurse	2 weeks
Pamela Beck	Teacher	3 weeks
Joann Whiteley	Teacher	3 weeks
Heather Meyer	Teacher	3 weeks
Patsy Dewey	Teacher	3 weeks
Sara Sciarelo	Aide	6 weeks
Renee Pender	Aide	6 weeks
Amy Murray	Speech	to split 60 hours
Sara Slack	Speech	to split 60 hours

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Summer Tutoring

8. Motion made by Mr. Shapiro, seconded by Mr. Saccal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve the following personnel to provide summer tutoring for special education students:

Matthew Blazure	12 hours
Vickie Milford	15 hours
Lisa Morz	32 hours

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Approval of Minutes

9. Motion made by Mrs. Luthringer, seconded by Mr. Linden, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve the Minutes of the February 26, 2009, meeting and the Minutes of the March 12, 2009, meeting as presented.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Finance

10. Motion made by Mr. Saccal, seconded by Mr. Linden, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve the transfers for the month ending February 28, 2009, as submitted by the Superintendent, as authorized by N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.1.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

11. Motion made by Mr. Saccal, seconded by Mr. Linden, to accept the Alexandria Township Board of Education's certification that the Superintendent, Dr. Matthew J. Jennings, recommends that the Board of Education accept the monthly financial reports of the Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Moneys for the month ending February 28, 2009, and he further recommends in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(3) that the Board of Education certify that no major account or fund has been overexpended and that as of this report sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

12. Motion made by Mr. Saccal, seconded by Mr. Linden, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board accept the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary's Barbara E. Prowker, certification as required by N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(d), that no line item account has been overexpended as of February 28, 2009, and that as of this date sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Bill List

13. Motion made by Mr. Saccal, seconded by Mr. Linden, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve the Bill List dated February 19, 2009, to March 11, 2009, check numbers 6528 - 6600, in the amount of \$480,212.03, and the Bill List dated March 12, 2009, to March 25, 2009, check numbers N0315 - 6646, in the amount of \$444,226.10.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Education Foundation Grants

14. Motion made by Mrs. Adams, seconded by Mr. Hill, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve the acceptance of the following Education Foundation grants:

<u>Grant Number</u>	<u>Applicants</u>	<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
200809-11	Patricia Dewey	Chick Hatching	\$240
200809-12	Kim Breidt	Skeleton	\$275

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

2009 Safety Grant Program

15. Motion made by Mr. Guenther, seconded by Mr. Linden, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board authorize the submission of a New Jersey School Boards Association Insurance Group Eric West Subfund Application for 2009 Safety Grant Program in the amount of \$2,475.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Occupational Therapy

16. Motion made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Saccal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve Children's Therapy Services, Inc. to provide occupational therapy services for the 2009-10 school year at the rate of \$83 per hour session.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Agreement With Summit Speech School

17. Motion made by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Saccal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve an agreement with Summit Speech School to provide itinerant teacher services for a student whose name is on file in the Business Office. A teacher of the deaf will provide classroom consultations, auditory training, pre and post teaching, and speech and language from March through June, 2009; one session per week at a cost of \$140 per hour.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Field Trips

18. Motion made by Mr. Linden, seconded by Mrs. Luthringer, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve the following field trips:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Reason</u>
3/26	7/8 Grade Band	Delaware Valley Regional High School	Performance
4/21	3	Hunterdon Central High School	Educational
6/05	2	Merrill Creek Reservoir	Educational

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Textbooks

19. Motion made by Mr. Shapiro, seconded by Mrs. Luthringer, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board grant approval to discard the following books:

26 Phantom Tollbooth Books
30 BFG Books (Big Friendly Giant)

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Use of Facilities

- 20.. Motion made by Mrs. Luthringer, seconded by Mr. Hill, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board approve use of the old gym for the 2009-10 school year, September, October, and November, 2009, two nights per week from 5:30-8:00 PM by the Del Val Dawgs Cheerleaders.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Resignation

21. Motion made by Mr. Saccal, seconded by Mr. Shapiro, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board accept the resignation of Gary Walter, custodian, effective May 1, 2009.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Fiscal Year 2009 IDEIA Part B Funds

22. Motion made by Mr. Saccal, seconded by Mr. Shapiro, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board accept Fiscal Year 2009 IDEIA Part B funds as follows:

Basic	\$122,658
Preschool	5,177

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

18. BOARD GOALS

The Alexandria Township Board of Education will:

1. determine if the Board desires to pursue recognition by a third party organization (e.g. Star Schools, Blue Ribbon Schools).
2. continue to explore ways to increase the fiscal and operating efficiency of the District.

3. facilitate a more effective forum for communication through a published annual schedule, quarterly work session, and in other ways to be determined.
4. review and adopt policy book.
5. prepare for NJQSAC monitoring.

19. EXECUTIVE SESSION: 9:45 PM

Motion made by Mrs. Luthringer, seconded by Mr. Shapiro, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss the evaluation of Dr. Matthew J. Jennings, Superintendent.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Dr. Jennings and Ms. Prowker left the meeting at this time.

20. OPEN SESSION: 11:19 PM

Motion made by Mr. Linden, seconded by Mrs. Luthringer, that the Board return to Open Session at 11:19 PM.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

21. ADJOURN: 11:20 PM

Motion made by Mrs. Luthringer, seconded by Mr. Linden, that the Board adjourn the meeting at 11:20 PM.

Roll Call Vote: YES: All Present

Respectfully Submitted By,

Barbara E. Prowker
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary