

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE ROXBURY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2010
Lincoln/Roosevelt School, 34 North Hillside Avenue, Succasunna, NJ 07876**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Auditorium at Lincoln/Roosevelt School, President Moschella presiding.

PUBLIC SESSION

Mrs. Miller announced that this Special Meeting of the Roxbury Township Board of Education is being held to take action and hold discussion on business before the Board tonight, and that the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Roxbury Township Board of Education has caused written notice of tonight's meeting and copies of the agenda for tonight's meeting to be transmitted to:

Roxbury Register	-	Newspaper
Daily Record	-	Newspaper
Roxbury Municipal Clerk		
Roxbury Public Library		
Roxbury Website	-	http://www.roxbury.org/boe/meetings-minutes.htm

The notice of tonight's meeting and a copy of tonight's agenda have been posted in the Board's Business Office.

ROLL CALL

The roll was taken, and a quorum deemed present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mrs. Annette Brooks, Mrs. Maureen Castriotta, Mrs. Liz D'Abbraccio, Mrs. Terry D'Agostino, Mrs. Jennifer Marchesi, Mrs. Patricia Miller, Mr. Chris Rogers, Ms. Carol Scheneck, Mr. Greg Somjen, Mr. John Moschella

MEMBERS ABSENT:

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Dr. Michael Rossi, Dr. James Heinegg, Mr. Anthony Mistretta, Mr. Paul Stabile

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. J. Swanson, Ms. P. Hovey, Mr. J. Curis, Mr. J. Scheiner

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Members of the Board, the Administration, and the Public participated in the salute to the flag.

PRESENTATIONS

Mr. John Moschella, Board President, opened the meeting and explained to the audience how tonight's meeting would proceed. Our State Aid would remain flat or reduced. He indicated the audience will have an opportunity to address the Board about the budget. Information will eventually be posted on the district website.

Mrs. Castriotta asked for additional information, such as the number of pupils, staff, and copy of the matrix.

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Mr. Rogers asked about releasing tonight's information on the budget to the public. Mr. Moschella and Mr. Mistretta replied by saying not at this time, not until it is approved and submitted to the Morris County Office of the New Jersey Department of Education.

Mr. Jeffrey Swanson, Principal of Roxbury High School, began his presentation at 6:12 p.m.

He gave details on the academic courses, co-curricular, and honors programs. He also indicated the number of students, the number of staff, and said the budget was broken down into five categories: Operations, Instruction, Co-Curricular, Athletics, and Salaries. Total high school budget is 1.7 million.

Mr. Swanson also spoke about the items that were cut from the budget, such as technology, staff needs that were removed from previous budgets and facility needs for the building.

Mr. Swanson concluded his presentation at 6:41 p.m.

There were no questions from the public.

Mr. Somjen asked about the calculation of expenses on the last page of the Budget Projection Report.

Mr. Rogers asked about computer laptop costs on page 10, the coin operated copier in the library on page 13, six PC's for \$7,200 on page 54, study hall class and textbooks.

Mrs. Castriotta asked about the stage person, Genesis, the EMS accounts appearing in the RHS report, and furniture supplies.

This question period ended at 7:04 p.m.

Ms. Pat Hovey, Director of Special Services began her presentation at 7:05 p.m.

A handout was given to the Board defining the various categories in special education. Ms. Hovey presented a chart reflecting the number of students that require special services.

Mr. Somjen asked about OT/PT, other purchased services, and IDEA tuition.

Mr. Rogers thanked the Director for a job well done and supports the obligation to all special education students.

Mr. Somjen clarified that he supports all children and the Board is obligated to provide an education to all those who attend the district.

Ms. Scheneck asked how a student is placed.

Mrs. D'Agostino asked about bringing additional students into the district and/or offering other services.

Ms. Hovey concluded her presentation at 7:30 p.m.

The Board President mentioned that there was a need to amend the agenda for the next special meeting to include an action item.

Mr. James Heinegg, Assistant Superintendent, explained the reason for the agenda item which is to approve a chaperone to attend the DECA state competition.

Mrs. Miller motioned and Mrs. D'Agostino seconded the motion to approve that the Roxbury Township Board of Education re-advertises the Special Meeting for February 10, 2010 to allow the Board to take action on resolutions.

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The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Mrs. Brooks: Yes; **Mrs. Castriotta:** Yes; **Mrs. D'Abbraccio:** Yes; **Mrs. D'Agostino:** Yes;
Mrs. Marchesi: Yes; **Mrs. Miller:** Yes; **Mr. Rogers:** Yes; **Ms. Schneck:** Yes; **Mr. Somjen:** Yes;
Mr. Moschella: Yes.

Mrs. D'Abbraccio motioned and Mrs. D'Agostino seconded the motion for a recess at this time.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Mrs. Brooks: Yes; **Mrs. Castriotta:** Yes; **Mrs. D'Abbraccio:** Yes; **Mrs. D'Agostino:** Yes;
Mrs. Marchesi: Yes; **Mrs. Miller:** Yes; **Mr. Rogers:** Yes; **Ms. Schneck:** Yes; **Mr. Somjen:** Yes;
Mr. Moschella: Yes.

Mrs. D'Abbraccio motioned and Ms. Marchesi seconded the motion to continue with the budget presentations at this time, 8:00 p.m.

The motion was approved by roll call vote.

Mrs. Brooks: Yes; **Mrs. Castriotta:** Yes; **Mrs. D'Abbraccio:** Yes; **Mrs. D'Agostino:** Yes;
Mrs. Marchesi: Yes; **Mrs. Miller:** Yes; **Mr. Rogers:** Yes; **Ms. Schneck:** Yes; **Mr. Somjen:** Yes;
Mr. Moschella: Yes.

Mr. Jack Curtis, Principal of Lincoln/Roosevelt School, began his presentation.

A handout was given to the Board. Mr. Curtis discussed capital improvements to the school and the current expenses in the proposed budget.

Mrs. Castriotta asked how many students there were at Lincoln/Roosevelt School. Mr. Curtis responded there is a total of 650 students. Mrs. Castriotta asked about music chairs, and is there a matrix as to when furniture is purchased. Mr. Mistretta replied that he was unaware of one. Mr. Moschella stated there was a list.

A member of the public was concerned with the condition of the bleachers at the field. Mr. Somjen responded.

Mr. Rogers asked why the kitchens were not combined. Mr. Curtis stated that due to size, that it was unable to accommodate all the students, and they would need to start lunch periods earlier.

Mr. Somjen asked about the increase in the workbooks. Mr. Curtis stated this is set by the publisher.

Mr. Curtis concluded his presentation at 8:33 p.m.

Mrs. D'Abbraccio motioned and Mrs. Marchesi seconded the motion to recess at this time, and resume the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

The motion was approved by roll call vote:

Mrs. Brooks: Yes; **Mrs. Castriotta:** Yes; **Mrs. D'Abbraccio:** Yes; **Mrs. D'Agostino:** Yes;
Mrs. Marchesi: Yes; **Mrs. Miller:** Yes; **Mr. Rogers:** Yes; **Ms. Schneck:** Yes; **Mr. Somjen:** Yes;
Mr. Moschella: Yes.

Mr. Moschella stated that the handouts given out tonight are part of the Budget Book, and as such are confidential and will not be placed on the website at this time.

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Mr. John Scheiner, Director of Buildings and Grounds, began his presentation.

Mr. Scheiner commented on the question raised about the bleachers, stating boards will be replaced and rails installed to bring them up to code.

Mr. Scheiner mentioned items that need immediate repairs. Generator is the item that needs immediate attention. Discussion on the possible use of capital reserve followed.

A member of the public asked if capital reserve can be used for items that were presented in the Lincoln/Roosevelt capital improvement budget. Items would be prioritized.

Mrs. Castriotta questioned the cost for maintaining the fire alarm. Mr. Scheiner stated this contract was negotiated prior to his arrival, but he is looking to renegotiate the contract.

Mr. Scheiner concluded his presentation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Moschella acknowledged the representative from the Town Council in the audience, and thanked the public for coming out tonight.

ADJOURNMENT

It was motioned by Mrs. D'Abbraccio and seconded by Mrs. D'Agostino to adjourn the meeting at this time, 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Paul Stabile
Assistant Board Secretary