

**CLINTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

MINUTES

**Special Meeting – March 26, 2010 – 7:30 pm
Round Valley All Purpose Room**

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Dincuff called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm.

**PUBLICATION
OF NOTICE:**

In accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Laws of 1975, adequate notice of this meeting was provided through the annual public notice on April 30, 2009:

- a. Faxing to five newspapers designated by the Board – Hunterdon County Democrat, Hunterdon Review, Courier News, Star-Ledger and Express Times
- b. Posting on the District Website, the main bulletin board in the Administration Office and in each Clinton Township School
- c. Filing with the Clerk of Clinton Township

ROLL CALL

Present:

Board Members:

Jim Dincuff, President	Jody Lebbing
Donna Gregory, Vice President	Roger Straight
Michelle Cresti –arrived 7:45 pm	Debra Weiss
Mark Kaplan	

District Administrators:

Mr. Kevin Carroll, Superintendent of Schools
Mrs. Patricia A. Leonhardt, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

**PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE:**

Mr. Dincuff led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS/REPORT

Mr. Dincuff complimented the Clinton Township School District Teachers of the Year: Mrs. Kathleen Pilla, Spruce Run School, Mr. Dennis Stinner, Patrick McGaheran School, Ms. Kate Zimmerbaum, Round Valley School and Ms. Suzanne Gitomer, Clinton Township Middle School.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOL

Mr. Carroll presented the 2010/11 budget.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

- Caroline Magda asked questions concerning the loss of the ACE program.
- Michelle Sullivan asked questions concerning the number of staff reductions.
- Guy Pulley asked of the purpose of the meeting and agreed that having the lowest cost per pupil in the county is not necessary a good thing.
- Herman Vos spoke of the value of the hard working teachers to the district and of the possibility of school district consolidation.
- Pat Ferrang asked of the status of the teacher’s willingness to freeze salaries for 2010/11.
- Dawn Bucher suggested that if the teachers were to freeze their salaries, the chance of the budget passing might increase.
- Mr. Metropoulos requested a comparative analysis listing that which is not offered due to our low cost per pupil.
- Angela Median mentioned that in her previous district of residence, there were many planned activities the night of the election.
- Michelle Sullivan mentioned that our total comparative cost per pupil is different than our comparative cost per pupil.
- Don Ratacheck asked what the district is doing to help senior citizens.
- Guy Pulley asked if our township has a property tax relief refund.
- Ron Williams asked of the land lease status.
- Dave Miceli asked why we didn’t advocate more strongly to go over cap.
- Marianne Thompson spoke in support of making every attempt to retain staff.
- Mary Reese asked what is our contingency plan should our level of revenue be decreased.

Action 10-SU-010:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the following resolution approving the 2010/2011 Proposed Budget.

WHEREAS, the 2010/2011 proposed budget includes sufficient funds to implement the proposed planning process as described in this district’s Annual Report pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A: 7A -11 and to provide curriculum and instruction which will enable all students to achieve the Core Curriculum Content Standards;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Clinton Township Board of Education approves the 2010/2011 budget in the amount of \$27,359,862 and authorizes its submission to the Hunterdon County Superintendent of Schools for approval as follows:

Current Expense.....	\$23,813,070
Capital Outlay.....	\$94,273
Capital Reserve Fund – Interest Deposit.....	\$100
Special Schools	\$87,346

<i>Total General Fund</i>	\$23,994,789
<i>Special Revenue Fund</i>	\$625,034
<i>Debt Service Fund</i>	\$2,740,039
<i>Total Budget</i>	\$27,359,862

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the submission of the tax levy cap calculation as follows:

<i>Prebudget year adjusted tax levy, including weighted increases for enrollment, inflated by 4%</i>	\$22,395,328
<i>Adjustment for Reduction in Total State Aid From Prebudget Year, Issued with State Aid Notices</i>	\$0
<i>Adjustment for Increase in Health Care Cost</i>	
<i>Adjustment for Districts Spending Above Adequacy, with General Fund Levy Greater than Local Share and State Aid Increase Greater than CPI</i>	
<i>Request to the Commissioner for Waivers:</i>	\$0
<i>Increase in Capital Outlay</i>	\$0
<i>Increase in Special Education Costs over \$40,000 per pupil</i>	\$0
<i>New School Costs</i>	\$0
<i>Increase in Energy Costs</i>	\$0
<i>Increase in Insurance Costs</i>	\$0
<i>Increase in Transportation Costs for Hazardous Routes</i>	\$0
<i>Increase in Tuition Costs</i>	\$0
<i>Failure to Meet CCCS under QSAC</i>	\$0
<i>Non-recurring General Fund Revenues</i>	\$0
<i>Other Waiver requests</i>	\$0
<i>Total Tax Levy Cap:</i>	\$22,395,328

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED to acknowledge that the 2010/2011 budget as described above results in a general fund tax levy in the amount of \$22,395,328 and a debt service tax levy in the amount of \$2,732,796.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in addition to the regular advertised budget, the Board of Education will seek approval from the district's legal voters to raise an additional \$200,000 for the continuation of our Co-Curricula and Athletic programs. The additional levy will provide funds for the stipends and supplies for all of our after school clubs and activities, as well as stipends, supplies, fees and transportation for our athletic programs. One additional school secretary (salary and benefits) will also be included to process the workload from these programs. The taxes, if raised, will be used exclusively for this purpose. Approval of these taxes will result in a permanent increase in the district's tax levy. These proposed additional expenditures are in addition to those necessary to achieve the Core Curriculum Content Standards.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in accordance with Board of Education Policy No. 9250, the district budgeted in the 2009/2010 budget \$100,000 for travel expenses. As of February 28, 2010 the district has spent \$19,946 for travel expenses. The maximum travel allowance for the 2010/2011 school year shall be established at \$50,000.

Motion by M. Kaplan, seconded by R. Straight. On a roll call vote, the resolution was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 7; nays, 0.

Mrs. Gregory reminded all that the majority of the board supported applying for the waiver. Should state guidelines change, Mrs. Gregory would like the board to have the ability to reapply for the tax levy waiver.

RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC:

Ron Williams discussed the use of the land across from the Clinton Township Middle School. He expressed his opinion that the land should not be used for the current proposed usages.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Resolved by the Board of Education of Clinton Township as per Chapter 231, P. L. 1975:

- a. That it is hereby determined that it is necessary to meet in Executive Session at 8:55 pm on Friday, March 26, 2010 to discuss matters of negotiations and personnel and student matter.*
- b. The matter discussed will be made public if and when confidentiality is no longer required and action pursuant to said discussion shall take place only at a public meeting.*
- c. The length of the meeting is thought to be approximately sixty (1 hr.) minutes.*
- d. Action will not be taken upon return*

Motion by R. Straight, seconded by M. Kaplan. On a roll call vote, the resolution was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 7; nays, 0.

Mr. Straight recused himself at 10:40 pm.

Executive Session concluded at 11:00 pm.

Motion by J. Dincuff seconded by J. Lebbing. On a roll call vote, the resolution was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 6; nays, 0.

ADJOURNMENT

Action 10-AJ-013:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education adjourns this meeting at 11:00 pm. Motion by J. Dincuff seconded by J. Lebbing. On a roll call vote, the resolution was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 6; nays, 0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia A. Leonhardt
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Minutes Prepared: 4/7/2010
Minutes remain unofficial until Board of Education approval

Board of Education Approved:

Frank "Jim" Dincuff
Board President

Date