

**CLINTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES
Special Meeting – June 20, 2011 – 7:30 PM
Clinton Township Middle School Auditorium**

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Dincuff called the meeting to order at 7:35 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 June 14, 2011:

- 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 | Grace Hoefig |
| Michelle Cresti, Vice President | Mark Kaplan |
| Marc Freda | Kevin Sturges |
| Maria Grant | Michelle Sullivan |
| Donna Gregory | |

Present:

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 began by explaining the order of the meeting, which will begin with the presentation by Superintendent Carroll.

Mr. Carroll presented a summary of his two years in the Clinton Township School District.

Mr. Dincuff invited the public to provide comments:

RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC

Mr. Nick Corcodilos admonished the board regarding the process for including the public in evaluation of the Superintendent's renewal and noted some criticisms of the Superintendent.

Ms. Cresti clarified some the comments regarding negotiations, specifically the fact that the teacher's union had the ability to be protected from the 1.5%.

Ms. Hoefig clarified that it was the full board who call for tonight's special meeting.

Ms. Sue Axamethy stated that she had not met Mr. Carroll to date, despite working for the Work Family Connection.

Mr. Guy Pulley spoke to his disappointment with teacher's support of a politician and encouraged the board to voice their independent minds. He also mentioned the myriad of ways input can be offered.

Mr. Freda spoke to the importance of all being allowed to speak.

Ms. Jean Phillips spoke of leadership qualities and detailed student achievement goals, outlining those areas in which she feels Mr. Carroll is failing.

Ms. Rachel McLaughlin spoke of her email to the board earlier this evening of the ISLLC standards and spoke about the standards.

Ms. Barbara Vogel spoke to the history of non-renewal of School Superintendents in Clinton Township. She spoke supportively of her interactions with Mr. Carroll and the positive improvements she has seen in the district.

Mr. Stan Gully spoke of the significance of district factor groups, class sizes, classroom investment and test scores.

Ms. Shelly Daugherty spoke to her concern with conflict of interest of the part of the board, as well as her support of the team model in the middle school.

Ms. Kathy Collins, CTEA President, spoke of the association's decision and reasons for taking a vote of no confidence, which was carried by 81% of the vote.

Ms. Susan Koss spoke of her disagreement with many of Mr. Carroll's decisions.

Ms. Pat Warner-Proctor spoke of the multi-faceted approach she would support to solicit the public's input in the process.

Mr. Don Sherblom spoke of the fact that Mr. Carroll is being blamed for years of failed budgets, when in fact he had only one failed budget and the counter-productivity of denying Mr. Carroll's renewal.

Ms. Laura Freda spoke of the lists at back to school night and her belief that the district should be supplying those needs. While Ms. Freda valued Mr. Carroll's presentation this evening, she questioned the timing.

Ms. Ruth Gallina spoke of her wish for the board to do the right thing and the fact that some of what she heard here this evening she found concerning.

Mr. Corcodilos returned to the microphone. His thoughts centered on the need of the Superintendent to be a leader and the stipends received for the work done on behalf of Lebanon Borough. He also reiterated that all of which happens in the district falls to Mr. Carroll and his belief that Mr. Carroll does not provide the necessary leadership.

Ms. Lebbing spoke of her understanding that all are driven by a concern for the children. She also spoke of her shock that these concerns were not raised by parents prior to this process and the claim that the public has not been invited in.

Ms. Mehrmann spoke of her belief that the community has been vocal in their concerns.

Mr. Gully addressed the board a second time highlighting the Superintendent of a District Factor Group "D" district. He stated his belief in a democratic process.

Ms. Cresti reminded all that Mr. Carroll voluntarily took a pay freeze 2010/11. In addition, she spoke to Mr. Carroll's facilitative approach in the current negotiations process with the CTEA.

Mr. Dincuff announced the negotiation's packages declined by the CTEA, which were offered prior to the May 2010 deadline, whereby staff would have been protected from the 1.5% for each of the three years.

Upon Mr. Corcodilos' approach to the microphone, Mr. Dincuff reminded him that he has already addressed the board two times this evening and will be provided opportunity again at the June 27th board meeting.

Mrs. Verderamo spoke of her shock with this evening's events, specifically the conversation regarding negotiations.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - TABLED:

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 on Monday, June 20, 2011 to discuss Superintendent's evaluation.*
- 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 thirty (30) minutes.*
- d. Action will not be taken upon return.*

Motion by M. Kaplan, seconded by M. Freda. Motion withdrawn by M. Kaplan

RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC

Ms. Koss also addressed the board a second time mentioning the snow day make up schedule and the “Ask the Superintendent” page.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

- e. That it is hereby determined that it is necessary to meet in Executive Session on Monday, June 20, 2011 to discuss Superintendent’s evaluation.*
- f. 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.*
- g. The length of the meeting is thought to be approximately thirty (30) minutes.*
- h. Action will not be taken upon return.*

Motion by M. Kaplan, seconded by M. Freda. On a roll call vote, the resolution was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 9; nays, 0.

ADJOURNMENT:

Action 11-AD-022:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education adjourns this meeting at 11:45 pm. Motion by M. Kaplan, seconded by M. Cresti. On a roll call vote, the resolution was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 9; nays, 0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Leonhardt, Business Administrator /Board Secretary

Minutes Prepared: 6/21/11

Minutes remain unofficial until Board of Education approval

Board of Education Approved:

Frank “Jim” Dincuff
Board President

Date