

**CLINTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

MINUTES

Special Meeting – March 10, 2008

TIME AND PLACE: The special meeting to discuss the 2008/09 tentative school budget was held on March 10, 2008, by the Board of Education of the Clinton Township School District, Hunterdon County, in the All-Purpose Room of the Round Valley School, 128 Cokesbury Road, Lebanon, New Jersey 08833.

**PUBLICATION
OF NOTICE:**

In accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Laws of 1975, the Clinton Township Board of Education has provided adequate notice of the date, time, and location of this meeting. Such notice has been posted on the district website, in the Clinton Township Board of Education Office and each of the district schools, has been filed with the Clinton Township Clerk, and was faxed to the *Hunterdon County Democrat*, *Hunterdon Review*, *Courier News*, *Star Ledger* and *Express Times* on February 26, 2008.

CALL TO ORDER: Board Vice-President Jim Dincuff called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Jim Dincuff, Vice President
Michelle Cresti
Donna Gregory
Mark Kaplan

Janette LaVigne
Charles Many
Thomas Roskoski
Debra Weiss

Absent:

Roger Straight, President

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS

PRESENT:

Elizabeth A. Nastus, Superintendent of Schools
Daria A. Wasserbach, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

DISCUSSION ON THE 2008/2009 TENTATIVE SCHOOL BUDGET

Mr. Dincuff reminded the Board and audience that no action may be taken to change or amend the 0809 Proposed Budget until the Public Hearing. Tonight's meeting will serve as discussion only.

Mr. Many addressed the \$26,100 in proposed reductions in co-curricular and athletic activities and identified the specifics related to activities and costs.

Dr. Nastus welcomed the Clinton Township School District Leadership Team, Elaine Studnicki, Director of Technology, Bobbie Felip, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Diane Radwill, Director of Special Services, Gerard Dalton, CTMS Principal, Mary Postma, PMG Principal, and Lindsay Nahm, SRS Principal.

Ms. Felip and Dr. Nastus presented the Leadership Team's recommendation for additional items for consideration in the 2008/09 school budget:

\$12,000 – Professional development and staff training
\$57,808 – “Study Island” software, training and stipends
\$26,100 – Restoration of Co-Curricular and Athletics activities
\$4,092 – Additional professional development opportunities

**RECOGNITION
OF THE PUBLIC:**

- Laura Fredon – Disappointed by elimination of EXPO program, asked for consideration of full day kindergarten.
- Steve Swan – Disappointed by elimination of EXPO.
- Donna Talis – Budget presented by Leadership Team is stringent and well thought-out. Board should consider their recommendations.
- Donna Hogrebe – Stressed the importance of JV Sports and Intramurals; Drop in test scores is a direct correlation to defeated school budgets.
- Franklyn Isaacson – Proposed budget should be available on-line; Hazardous busing; Kindergarten and pre-k enrollment; Number of regular education teacher included in budget.

The board considered the recommendations of the leadership team and members of the public addressing topics including, but not limited to transportation, Reading Recovery©, Study Island, and pay to play.

A discussion ensued regarding the addition of a reading coach at a cost of \$60,000 for salary and benefits.

Action 08-342:

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education establishes the new date for its Public Hearing on the 2008/2009 Proposed Budget on Wednesday, March 19, 2008 at 7:30 PM in the Round Valley School Library. Motion by J. Dincuff, seconded by D. Gregory. On a roll call vote resolution was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 8; nays, 0.

**RECOGNITION
OF THE PUBLIC:**

- There were no additional public comments.

Mr. Dincuff complimented the Leadership Team for their efforts and contributions towards the development of the 2008/09 school budget and thanked the members of the public for their comments and suggestions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Action 08-343: RESOLUTION

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, March 10, 2008 at 9:15 PM to discuss matters of contract negotiations with the Lebanon Borough Board of Education.*
- 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.*

Motion by J. Dincuff, seconded by C. Many. On a roll call vote resolution was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 8; nays, 0.

Open session resumed at 9:45 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Action 08-344: RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education adjourns the meeting at 9:47 PM. Motion by J. Dincuff, seconded by D. Gregory. On a roll call vote resolution was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 8; nays, 0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daria A. Wasserbach
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Minutes Prepared: 3/11/08
Minutes remain unofficial until Board of Education approval.

Board of Education Approved:

Roger Straight
Board President

Date