

**CLINTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

MINUTES

**Special Meeting August 15, 2011 at 7:00 pm
Clinton Township Middle School Auditorium**

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Dincuff called the meeting to order at 7:07 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 public notice on August 2, 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

Mark Kaplan

Michelle Cresti, Vice President

Kevin Sturges – arrived 7:23 pm

Marc Freda

Michelle Sullivan

Maria Grant

Not Present:

Donna Gregory

Grace Hoefig

Present:

District Administrators:

Mr. Kevin J. 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 thanked all for their attendance this evening and explained the process for this meeting.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Mr. Carroll presented an overview of the Inclusion Program, as well as the new projection for the 2011-12 budget, reflecting increased revenue and both decreased and increased expenses.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Members of the public:

- Asked about the viability of sustaining the level of state funding as presented
- Complimented all on the push to set aside extra state aid for tax relief.
- Questioned the acceptance of higher cost students in the School Choice Program.
- Spoke of the desire to use some of the extra state funding to fully support the district's co-curricula program.
- Questioned the possible uses of the additional state aid.
- Asked about the ratios which would result for additional special education staffing, as well as the possibility of the state not honoring the full amount of anticipated aid.
- Board member Kevin Sturges requested additional information regarding ratios.
- Board member Maria Grant asked about the supports for at-risk students.
- Asked about the 7th and 8th grade Resource Room.
- Board member Marc Freda asked about the pros and cons received via feedback.
- Asked for further explanation about the co-teaching model.
- A teaching staff member spoke to the implementation.
- Board member Michelle Sullivan asked if any Teaching Assistants would be RIFed as a result of this move to a co-teaching model. Mr. Carroll reported this is a possibility.
- Spoke of the current support offered to her child by the Teaching Assistant.
- Ms. Goad spoke of the implementation of the collaborative model.
- Asked about the need to also keep the needs of the general education students in mind.
- Asked about the effects of our Kindergarten program.
- Asked if the reduced Teaching Assistant staff count will be reduced by an equal increased number of teachers Mr. Carroll and Mrs. McLoughlin explained that it will be.
- Board member Michelle Sullivan recapped the opinions being considered for 2011/12, including the effect on full time vs. part time Teaching Assistant staffing.
- Board member Maria Grant asked Mr. Carroll about how to best match program type with special needs students.
- Board member Michelle Sullivan spoke to Clinton Township's pre-eminence in the field of Special Education Inclusion.
- Ms. Hammond spoke to the value of co-teaching and her belief that is the preferred model for our Special Education students.
- Board member Marc Freda asked Ms. Hammond of her personal experience with teaching models here in the Clinton Township School District.
- Ms. Goad spoke to the evaluation of Special Education models and the benefit of the co-teaching model, which she sees as an enhancement of the program.
- Ms. Felip spoke to the co-teaching model as an improvement to the inclusion program.
- A parent of a Special Education student spoke in support of the co-teaching model.
- A parent of a Special Education student spoke in support of the collaborative model.
- Board member Kevin Sturges spoke in support of the co-teaching model and its recommendation as a best practice. He additionally mentioned that some children might benefit from the collaborative model.
- A parent asked of teacher presence at student meetings.

- One parent spoke of changing the terminology applied to Special Education students to that of Students with a Learning Difference. She also spoke to the need for increased collaboration between Clinton Township Middle School and the high school. Lastly, the conversation spoke to the students who are “borderline.”
- Questioned the timeline of this new co-teaching plan if it was approved this evening. Mr. Carroll said the process would begin immediately and current staff would be reviewed for the open spots first.
- Spoke about Special Education at Clinton Township Middle School.
- Board member Michelle Sullivan spoke of some concerns of a total switch to co-teaching.
- Board member Kevin Sturges spoke to the need to make determinations based on need.
- Board member Michelle Cresti spoke to the cost of additional staffing.
- Board member Marc Freda spoke to the need to ensure that the increased state aid of \$247,310 is used as tax relief for 2012/13.
- Board member Mark Kaplan spoke of the needs of the students needing additional enrichment rather than academic support. Board member Michelle Cresti concurred.
- Board Member Michelle Sullivan discussed applying the same research and a special meeting presentation for our General Education and Gifted and Talented students.
- Expressed dissatisfaction with the handling of the increased state aid.

Mr. Dincuff advised the board that the adoption of motion 12-PN-027 A-E would signify acceptance of the co-teaching Special Education model.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

Correspondence:

- Resignation Letter from Donna Gregory

Informational:

- The current date of the Board of Education’s next meeting is August 22, 2011.

Action 12-BA-007:

***BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education hereby accepts, with regret, the resignation of **Donna Gregory**, Board of Education Member, effective August 15, 2011. Motion by M. Kaplan, seconded by M. Cresti. On a roll call vote, the resolution was **ADOPTED** as follows: ayes, 7; nays, 0.*

FACILITIES/FINANCE:

Mark Kaplan – Chair; Marc Freda, Grace Hoefig & Kevin Sturges
Action Items 12-FF-017 through 12-FF-018

Mr. Kaplan spoke of the desire to advertise the Play to Participate fees on the website. No board members dissented. Ms. Cresti spoke of the addition of the phrase “pending approval by the CTEA” to motion 12-FF-18.

Mr. Carroll explained that motion 12-FF-17, while expensive, will allow those two staff members to turn key training to the rest of staff for the legally-required Anti-Bullying training.

Ms. Cresti spoke about action 12-FF-018, which it is acknowledged is prior to a finalized agreement. However, it is being done to allow a November 1st start date.

Action 12-FF-017:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the following requests for employee/board member travel in accordance with the School District Accountability Act and Board of Education Policy No. 6471 "School District Travel." Only overnight stays are eligible to meal reimbursement. Mileage, meals, and lodging reimbursements shall be in accordance with NJ Statute, Code and NJ Department of Treasury Guidelines. Where more than five individuals from the district are to attend the same out-of-state conference, the school district shall obtain the prior written approval of the Executive County Superintendent, OMB Mileage Reimbursement Rate: \$0.31.

<i>Employee/School</i>	<i>Program Title/Location</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Mileage</i>
<i>Judith Hammond, RVS Alex Ruttenberg, SRS</i>	<i>2011-12 HIB Prevention Training, Manville, NJ</i>	<i>8/18/11</i>	<i>\$1295.</i>	<i>OMB</i>

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

Action 12-FF-018:

BE IT RESOLVED that, pending approval by the Clinton Township Education Association, the Board of Education hereby elects:

- *To participate in the Health Program provided by the New Jersey State Health Benefits Act of the state of New Jersey and to authorize coverage for all the employees and their dependents there under in accordance with the statute and regulations adopted by the School Employees' Health Benefits Commission.*
- *To participate in the Employee Prescription Drug Plan defined by N.J.S.A. 52:14-17.25 et seq. and authorize coverage for all employees and their dependents in accordance with the statute and regulations adopted by the School Employees' Health Benefits Commission*
- *To maintain Horizon as our dental plan*
- *Twenty-five (25) hours per week as the minimum requirement for full time status in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:9-4.6.*

- To agree that as a participating employer we will submit to the State Treasury all charges due on account of employee and dependent coverage and periodic charges in accordance with the requirements of the statute and the rules and regulations duly promulgated hereunder;
- To appoint Patricia Leonhardt, Business Administrator, to act as Certifying Officer in the administration of this program.
- To agree that this resolution shall take effect immediately and coverage shall be effective as of November 1, 2011.
- To authorize the Business Administrator to take any and all actions to facilitate the process of transitioning in said Health Program.

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

PERSONNEL/NEGOTIATIONS:

Michelle Cresti – Chair; Jim Dincuff, Maria Grant

Action Items 12-PN-026 through 12-PN-032

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL STAFF APPOINTMENTS ARE AT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS AND THAT ALL SALARIES ARE PRO-RATED TO THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF EMPLOYMENT.

Action 12-PN-026:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the transfers for the following teachers for 2011-2012 school year:

		<u>2010-2011</u>	<u>2011-2012</u>
Castro	German	PMG Special Ed Self-Contained	RVS Special Ed Self-Contained
Chelminiak	Diane	CTMS Science Grade 7	PMG Enrichment
Ferrante	Patrick	CTMS Computer Technology	CTMS Science Grade 7
Greco	Dean	CTMS Communication Technology	RVS Social Studies Grade 6
Jaw	Laura	PMG Grade 2	SRS Grade 1
Menzie	Tracy	RVS School Psychologist	District BCBA
Nugent	Danielle	PMG Special Ed Self-Contained	SRS Special Ed Self-Contained
O'Brien	Christine	PMG Grade 2	RVS Grade 4
Portland	Kelli	SRS Special Ed Self-Contained	PMG Special Ed Self-Contained
Russomano	Rita	RVS Special Ed Grade 6	CTMS Special Ed Self-Contained
Schmid	Carolyn	CTMS Special Ed Self-Contained	(New Program)
Selbo	Jill	CTMS Science Grade 7	RVS Social Studies Grade 6
Tepper	Julie	District Behavior Specialist	SRS Special Ed Self-Contained
Zappulla	Maureen	SRS Special Ed Grade 1	RVS Special Ed Grade 6
Zimmerbaum	Kate	RVS Language Arts Grade 6	CTMS Language Arts Grade 8

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

Action 12-PN-027:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the creation of the following teacher positions for the 2011/12 school year to implement a thorough and efficient system of free public schools:

- a. 5th Gr. Special Education Teacher
- b. 4th Gr. Special Education Teacher
- c. 3rd Gr. Special Education Teacher
- d. 2nd Gr. Special Education Teacher
- e. 1st Gr. Special Education Teacher
- f. Physical Education/Health Teacher at Clinton Township Middle School
- g. Physical Education/Health Teacher at Round Valley School
- h. 5th Gr. Teacher

Motion by M. Cresti, seconded by M. Kaplan. On a roll call vote, the resolution was ADOPTED as follows: A – E – ayes 7; nays 0; F & G – ayes 4; nays 2 (Grant, Sullivan); abstain 1 (Sturges); H – ayes 7, nays 0.

Action 12-PN-028:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the employment of **Michael Alfano**, SRS Teacher, Physical Education, at Step A, BA at an annual salary of \$46,990 (to be adjusted upon settlement of the negotiated agreement) beginning August 30, 2011 for the 2011/2012 school year. Motion by M. Cresti, seconded by M. Kaplan. On a roll call vote, the resolution was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 6; nays, 0; abstain, 1 (Sturges).

Action 12-PN-029:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the employment of **Emily Kablis**, CTMS Computer Technology Teacher, at Step A, BA, at an annual salary of \$46,990 (to be adjusted upon settlement of the negotiated agreement) beginning August 30, 2011 for the 2011/2012 school year. Motion by M. Cresti, seconded by M. Kaplan. On a roll call vote, the resolution was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 7; nays, 0.

Action 12-PN-030:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the employment of **Lisa Waddell**, CTMS Communication Technology Teacher, at Step C, MA+15, at an annual salary of \$51,740 (to be adjusted upon settlement of the negotiated agreement) beginning August 30, 2011 for the 2011/2012 school year. Motion by M. Cresti, seconded by M. Kaplan. On a roll call vote, the resolution was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 7; nays, 0.

Action 12-PN-031:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the following teachers to plan, write, and/or revise curriculum in Rubicon Atlas during the summer of 2011 at a contractual hourly rate of \$35.94 per hour not to exceed \$9,000.00 to be paid through NCLB funds:

Kindergarten and First Grade Math, Science, and English Language Arts:

- *Jean Allen,*
- *Jennifer Collett*
- *Ronda Ferri*
- *Ellen Sidbury*
- *Heather Stanley*

Second Grade Math, Science, and English Language Arts:

- *Lisanne Bartram*
- *Roberta Grambor*
- *Kelly Hill*

Third Grade Math, Science, and English Language Arts:

- *Marygrace Flynn*
- *Alice Hornbake*
- *Julie Mooney*

Fourth Grade Math, Science, and English Language Arts:

- *Jennifer Sandorse*
- *Heather Shanklin*

Fifth Grade Math, Science, and English Language Arts:

- *Tim Jaw*
- *Christine Laudato*

Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Grade Science:

- *Patrick Ferrante*

Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Grade English Language Arts:

- *Erinn Auletta*
- *Chuck Roberto*
- *Kate Zimmerbaum*

Health, Physical Education, and Character Education/Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying:

- *Polly Glowatz*
- *Brent Ruge*

World Language

- *Carrie Moore*

Third, Fourth, and Fifth Grade Math

- *Marlene Chynoweth*

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

Action 12-PN-032:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the employment of **Daniel Gorman**, District Maintenance, at Step 15, at an annual salary of \$50,930 (to be adjusted upon settlement of the negotiated agreement) beginning on or about August 22, 2011 for the 2011/2012 school year. Motion by M. Cresti, seconded by M. Kaplan. On a roll call vote, the resolution was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 7; nays, 0.

POLICY/CURRICULUM:

Grace Hoefig – Chair; Michelle Cresti, Kevin Sturges & Michelle Sullivan
Action Item 12-PC-004 through 12-PC-005

Action 12-PC-004:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the establishment of a self-contained multiple disabled class at the Clinton Township Middle School. Motion by M. Sullivan, seconded by K. Sturges. On a roll call vote, the resolution was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 7; nays, 0.

Action 12-PC-005:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the job description for the stipend position of Curriculum Chairperson. Motion by M. Sullivan, seconded by K. Sturges. On a roll call vote, the resolution was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 7; nays, 0.

RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC

A member of the public discussed her desire to the Board of Education use their increased funding to support the district's Co-Curricula activities.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Freda shared that on September 10, 2011 an Electronics Recycling will be held at Bundt Park.

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 on Monday, August 15, 2011 to discuss matters of negotiations.*
- 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. Freda, seconded by M. Kaplan. On a roll call vote, the resolution was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 7; nays, 0.

ADJOURNMENT

Action 12-AJ-002:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education adjourns this meeting at 11:50 pm. Motion by K. Sturges, seconded by M. Freda. On a roll call vote, the resolution was ADOPTED as follows: ayes, 7; nays, 0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Leonhardt, Business Administrator /Board Secretary

Minutes Prepared: 8/17/11

Minutes remain unofficial until Board of Education approval

Board of Education Approved:

Frank "Jim" Dincuff
Board President

Date _____