

**HASBROUCK HEIGHTS BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, January 4, 2011**

A special meeting of the Board of Education was held on Tuesday, January 4, 2011, in the Middle/High School Library, 365 Boulevard, Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 8:02 p.m. by President, Mr. Giarratana.

Mr. Giarratana read the following statement:

“Pursuant to the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Act, Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, the Board Secretary caused notices of this meeting to be given to the public and the press on December 23, 2010.

Roll call was taken by Dina Messery, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, and the following members responded to their names:

Roll Call:

Mrs. Ciocia	Mrs. Hodulik
Mr. DeLorenzo-absent	Mr. Nazzaro
Mrs. Doheny	Mr. Parodi
Mrs. Garifalos	Mr. Rinke
Mr. Giarratana	

Also Present: Dr. Porto, Mrs. Messery

Mr. Giarratana led the Board in the flag salute.

Public Attendance: Approximately 75

Presentations - None

Public Discussion on Agenda Resolutions – None

Report of the Superintendent - Dr. Porto explained one educational philosophy is the best time to implement change is in the beginning of the school year. In a perfect world, that may be true. However, an opportunity became available immediately which prompted a change in administrators at an unusual time. All students must be given the best opportunity to succeed. Every student Pre K-12 must be ready for post- secondary education; which includes college, military, 3month certification program, trades, etc. The Pre K-12 instruction must be fluid. With the administrative team working together children will be ready for career opportunities. There must be connectivity amongst what teachers are doing at all levels. We all must take responsibility; staff, parents, students, mayor and council, community; to implement the Reform Plan that is going to help our students succeed. All administrators are in agreement that this reform is about the students and doing what is best for them.

RESOLUTIONS:

EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

RESOLUTIONS:

The following resolutions were moved by J. Ciocia, seconded by C. Doheny

E01-01-11 Be it Resolved that the Hasbrouck Heights Board of Education approve the following for the 2011 – 2012 school year:

District School Calendar (**Attachment A**)

E01-02-11 Be it Resolved that the Hasbrouck Heights Board of Education approve the following for the 2010 – 2011 school year:

JAG Athletic Trainer Program – Consultants for six weeks for winter season to replace athletic trainer

Roll Call:

Ayes: Mrs. Ciocia, Mrs. Doheny, Mrs. Garifalos, Mr. Giarratana, Mrs. Hodulik, Mr. Nazzaro – E01-02-11, Mr. Parodi, Mr. Rinke

Nays: Mr. Nazzaro – E01-01-11 Abstain: None

Absent: Mr. DeLorenzo **Resolution Approved**

SPECIAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

RESOLUTIONS:

None:

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE:

RESOLUTIONS:

None:

FACILITIES COMMITTEE:

RESOLUTIONS:

None:

RECREATION COMMITTEE:

RESOLUTIONS:

The following resolutions were moved by C. Doheny, seconded by J. Ciocia

R01-04-11 Be it Resolved that the Hasbrouck Heights Board of Education approve the following for the 2010 – 2011 school year:

January 14, 2011 – The Junior Women’s Club Spelling Bee in the HSMS Auditorium

Roll Call:

Ayes: Mrs. Ciocia, Mrs. Doheny, Mrs. Garifalos, Mr. Giarratana, Mrs. Hodulik, Mr. Nazzaro, Mr. Parodi, Mr. Rinke

Nays: None Abstain: None

Absent: Mr. DeLorenzo **Resolution Approved**

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

RESOLUTIONS:

None:

PERSONNEL

RESOLUTIONS:

The following resolutions were moved by L. Hodulik, seconded by C. Doheny

P01-01-11 Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Hasbrouck Heights Board of Education approve the following appointments or personnel action as of February 1, 2011:

Transfers:

Linda Simmons to be named Principal of the Hasbrouck Heights Middle School
Peter O’Hare to be named Principal of Euclid School
Steve Forte to be named Principal of the Hasbrouck Heights High School

Roll Call:

Mrs. Ciocia – **Nay** – Objects to movement of principals at this point in time, in favor of doing it as of July 1, 2011

Mrs. Doheny – **Aye** – The Board discussed at length during the work session. The administrators are in agreement to do the move now.

Mrs. Garifalos – **Aye** – Spoke with Mrs. Simmons who told her she believes this is the time to make the move and the children will be fine.

Mrs. Hodulik – **Aye** – For all of the reasons stated as well as this will help to move the district forward.

Mr. Nazzaro – **Nay** – Applauds the district for doing more with less but feels this move shouldn't be implemented until July 1, 2011.

Mr. Parodi – **Aye** – The administrators believe doing the move now is in the best interest of our students.

Mr. Rinke – **Nay** – Feels making these moves during the middle of the school year is extremely disruptive and the moves should occur as of July 1, 2011.

Mr. Giarratana – **Aye** – The Board discussed this at length for almost two hours during the work session. The administrators believe that this is what is best for the district. We are not going to be able to make everyone happy.

**Resolution Approved: Ayes -5
Nays - 3**

P01-02-11 Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Hasbrouck Heights Board of Education approve the following appointments or personnel action as of February 1, 2011:

Eliminate the Director of Curriculum and Technology

Roll Call:

Ayes: Mrs. Doheny, Mrs. Garifalos, Mr. Giarratana, Mrs. Hodulik, Mr. Nazzaro, Mr. Parodi, Mr. Rinke

Nays: Mrs. Ciocia Abstain: None

Absent: Mr. DeLorenzo **Resolution Approved**

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

Several parents expressed concern as to why this move should occur in February instead of July. Two parents of seniors at HHHS explained that their children have only known Mr. O'Hare throughout their entire high school experience. Switching Mr. O'Hare now is unfair to the high school seniors.

Dr. Porto said he understands the parents' concerns. An opportunity became available to implement the Reform Plan immediately. Some children require immediate assistance. We have identified students in the middle and high school with serious reading deficiencies with the SRI. A program which we never used before. The PSAT scores show that writing is a serious deficiency amongst our students. Dr. Porto reiterated that the Pre K-12 instruction must be fluid and there must be connectivity amongst teachers at all

levels. By implementing this administrative move now, he believes all of these goals can and will be accomplished. Dr. Porto already asked Mr. O'Hare to attend graduation, as well as the entire administrative team to be present as everyone had a part in guiding the students to this wonderful milestone.

Mrs. Simmons thanked Dr. Porto and the Board for this wonderful opportunity. She told Dr. Porto that this move should be done as soon as possible. She believes in Dr. Porto's instructional vision. Euclid is a wonderful school and she will truly miss it. It will continue to thrive under the leadership of Mr. O'Hare. Children are resilient and will love him. She will work with Mr. O'Hare to make the transition as smooth as possible.

Dr. Porto said that he will be teaming with Mr. Forte and Mrs. Simmons at the HHHS/HHMS. Mr. Forte's current job responsibilities - instruction, scheduling, and technology – are a principal's responsibility. Dr. Porto stated that he along with Mr. Forte will reach out to all high school students, especially the seniors, to help them through this transition period.

Mrs. Ciocia expressed to Mrs. Simmons and Mr. O'Hare that her "No" vote was not a reflection on their ability but rather her belief that the administrative move should wait until July 1st.

PRIVATE SESSION-None

Meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dina Messery
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary