

The meeting was called to order by Board President Steve Riback at 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Michele Arminio (arrived at 7:05 p.m.)
Mr. Marvin Braverman
Ms. Jill DeMaio
Mr. Thomas Nothstein
Ms. Dawn Quarino
Mr. Steven Riback
Mr. Frank Russo

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Lew Kaufman
Ms. Kathy Kolupanowich

JAMESBURG BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT

Mr. Paul Rutsky

STAFF PRESENT

Dr. Michael G. Kozak, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Dori Alvich, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Michael C. Gorski, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES' ABSENT

Mr. Syed Ateeb Jamal
Ms. Stefani Scalisi

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC –3

After the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call, the Board Secretary read the following statement:

In accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law, the Monroe Township Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted July 8, 2016:

1. At all Schools,
2. Home News Tribune,
3. Cranbury Press, and
4. Filed with the Clerk of the Municipality

PUBLIC FORUM –

Doug Poye 4 Tamarack Road - stressed his concerns regarding the Resolution Concerning Graduation Requirements listed on the agenda. Mr. Poye also reminded the Board that standardized testing measures how well students are meeting the curriculum and how well they are doing compared to other districts.

OTHER BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS

Ms. DeMaio read the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Education (“NJDOE”) has proposed new regulations regarding high school graduation requirements, which eliminate the Alternative High School Assessment and replace the mandatory High School Proficiency Assessment with the Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (“PARCC”) Assessments; and

WHEREAS, the NJDOE proposal provides that students graduating in 2016 through 2019 can satisfy the graduation requirement by demonstrating proficiency in English language arts and mathematics through a means other than an end-of-course PARCC assessment, including achieving a passing score on a substitute test, such as the SAT or ACT, or meeting the criteria of the NJDOE’s portfolio appeal process; and

WHEREAS, the NJDOE proposal provides that students graduating in the class of 2020 can demonstrate graduation proficiency through the same alternative means as those in the classes of 2016 through 2019, provided that students in the class of 2020 take all end-of-course PARCC assessments for which they are eligible as of the effective date of the regulations; and

WHEREAS, the NJDOE proposal requires that students graduating in 2021 and thereafter, who have not demonstrated proficiency on English language arts and mathematics through the end-of-course PARCC assessment by their senior year, can demonstrate graduation proficiency by meeting the criteria of the portfolio appeals process; and

WHEREAS, under the proposed regulations, for the classes of 2020 and thereafter, with exceptions for students with disabilities and English language learners, students will be required to take all of the applicable end of course PARCC exams in order to be eligible for the portfolio appeals process; and

WHEREAS, the Monroe Township Board of Education believes the state should provide alternative methods of achieving state and federal requirements for graduation; and

WHEREAS, the Board further believes that students who are unable to demonstrate achievement through the PARCC assessment should be offered reasonable alternatives, as determined by the NJDOE, to show that they have met the requirements necessary to meet graduation standards.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Monroe Township Board of Education hereby:

- (1) Supports alternatives to a uniform statewide test as a method of assessing whether students have met New Jersey State Standards;
- (2) Urges the NJDOE to provide multiple pathways to a high school diploma that include alternatives not based on standardized tests; and
- (3) Directs the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to send a copy of this resolution to the Commissioner of Education and all legislators representing Monroe Township.

A motion was made by Ms. DeMaio and seconded by Mr. Nothstein to approve the Resolution Concerning Graduation Requirements by consent roll call.

Mr. Riback stated that while he is in support of this resolution he agrees with Mr. Poye and has concerns on how they will look at different assessments and how they will be used to form instruction in the future.

Ms. Arminio stated that she will be supporting this resolution however she does have some concerns with the statement multiple pathways listed in (2). Ms. Arminio stated that it may be too open ended. Ms. Arminio added that the district does need to have some kind of standard testing to assess our children to further their ability to succeed in the future.

Mr. Nothstein added that it is the Board's responsibility not only to prepare the students to graduate but to prepare them for the day after graduation and requested Dr. Kozak's opinion on standardized testing.

Dr. Kozak stated that while he respects the opinions of the parents, community and some board members on PARCC, there must be some method of how we are doing to gain the knowledge and skills for continued learning and preparing our students for post-graduation.

Ms. DeMaio clarified that the resolution is not asking to remove standardized testing it is asking the NJDOE to add alternatives for those students who this may not be the right pathway for them. Ms. DeMaio added that it will probably be a small amount of students that may need to use those pathways as an alternative.

Roll Call 8-0-0-0-2. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION BY MARY GASSMAN, NJSBA, ON THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

- Self-evaluation
- Board Goals
- District Goals

Ms. Mary Gassman, NJSBA Field Representative provided the Board with a copy of the Board Self-Evaluation. Ms. Gassman and members of the Board reviewed and discussed the results of the evaluation. Ms. Gassman indicated that the Board's scores were all above a 3, noting that anything lower than a 3 would be cause concern. Ms. Gassman stated that there was a high interest in continued professional development for board members. The evaluation indicated that the increase in student growth was the common concern amongst the Board.

- Board Goals

Ms. Gassman provided the Board with a copy of last year's goals. Board members discussed the status and completion of each of them. Ms. Gassman assisted the Board with goal setting and identified the difference between District Goals and Board Goals. Board members discussed the needs of the district along with the strengths and concerns of the Board. The Board prioritized those proposals and agreed to present the following as District, Board and Merit Goals:

District Goals-2016-2017

1. Initiate implementation and community-wide communication of district facilities planning in anticipation of increased enrollments;
2. Use targeted data to create a long-term plan based on the data analysis derived from the Special Education External Program Review; continue to analyze multiple data elements and identify areas of opportunity to improve individual student achievement; (identify achievement gaps, analyze benchmark data from NJDOE on 2016 PARCC results, and possible gaps between district schools;)
3. Conduct in-district climate survey

Board Goals-2016-2017

1. Each board member will attend one training session - in addition to their state mandated governance training – each year.
2. Establish a plan and implement a cohesive document (data) management system which will support everyone's requirements and provide an intuitive library system for all district data and documentation.
3. Evaluate and adopt a plan for enrollment growth and facility needs.

Potential Merit Goals-2016-2017

1. Establish a post-graduation tracking system to measure success in post-secondary education; (e.g. college boards, survey students, and local community colleges)
2. Investigate the potential and initiate a plan to establish partnerships with local industry, universities and community colleges to expand student offerings and achievement;

Ms. Gassman advised the Board that after the Board approves the 2016-2017 goals, the Superintendent should develop an action plan for each of the District Goals. In addition, the Board should develop a Professional Development Improvement Plan for Board Goals. Next, the District and Board Goals should be formally approved and the action plans should be formally accepted at a future board of education meeting. Additionally, dates for periodic updates on progress toward achievement of these goals should be established, along with completing the Evaluation Process Calendar. Lastly, the final step will be evaluating the superintendent's achievement of the District Goals.

PUBLIC FORUM – None

CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION

Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Township of Monroe hereby moves to go into Closed Session, in accordance with the Sunshine Law, Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975 (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 through 10:4-21), to discuss the following subject(s):

- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying

Following closed session, action may be taken. The discussion conducted in closed session can be disclosed to the public at such time as the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

A motion was made by Mr. Nothstein and seconded by Mr. Rutsky that the members of the Board of Education go into closed session. Motion carried.

Adjourned to Closed Session at 8:12 p.m.

Returned to Public Meeting at 8:24 p.m.

PUBLIC FORUM – None

NEXT PUBLIC MEETING

Minutes of the Special Public Meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Education held on July 13, 2016 at the Monroe Township High School.

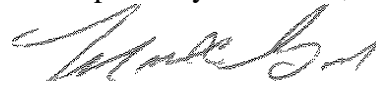
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Mr. Riback stated that the next public meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Education will convene at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 27, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ms. Arminio and seconded by Mr. Nothstein that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried. The public meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael C. Gorski, CPA
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

**423 Buckelew Avenue
Monroe Township, NJ 08831
(732) 521-1500
Fax (732) 521-1628**

**MICHAEL C. GORSKI, CPA
Business Administrator/ Board Secretary**

Vision Statement

“The Monroe Township Board of Education commits itself to all children by preparing them to reach their full potential and to function in a global society through a preeminent education.”

Mission Statement

“The Monroe Public Schools, in collaboration with the members of the community, shall ensure that all children receive an exemplary education by well-trained, committed staff in a safe and orderly environment.”

**AGENDA
PUBLIC MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2016
6:00 P.M.
MONROE TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL**

(PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES AND PAGERS DURING THE MEETING)

(Recording Board Meetings) (See Note 1 below)

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **ROLL CALL**

BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Michele Arminio
Mr. Marvin Braverman
Ms. Jill DeMaio
Mr. Lew Kaufman
Ms. Kathy Kolupanowich
Mr. Thomas Nothstein
Ms. Dawn Quarino
Mr. Steven Riback
Mr. Frank Russo

JAMESBURG BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE (See Note 2 below)

Mr. Paul Rutsky

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Syed Ateeb Jamal
Ms. Stefani Scalisi

4. STATEMENT

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1. At all schools,
2. Home News Tribune,
3. Cranbury Press, and
4. Filed with the Clerk of the Municipality.

5. PUBLIC FORUM (See Note 3 below)

6. PRESENTATION BY MARY GASSMAN, NJSBA, ON THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

- BOARD GOALS
- DISTRICT GOALS

7. OTHER BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS (The Jamesburg Representative is only eligible to vote on the items delineated by an asterisk (*) on the Agenda pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.1).

*RESOLUTION CONCERNING GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Education (“NJDOE”) has proposed new regulations regarding high school graduation requirements, which eliminate the Alternative High School Assessment and replace the mandatory High School Proficiency Assessment with the Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (“PARCC”) Assessments; and

WHEREAS, the NJDOE proposal provides that students graduating in 2016 through 2019 can satisfy the graduation requirement by demonstrating proficiency in English language arts and mathematics through a means other than an end-of-course PARCC assessment, including

achieving a passing score on a substitute test, such as the SAT or ACT, or meeting the criteria of the NJDOE’s portfolio appeal process; and

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WHEREAS, the Monroe Township Board of Education believes the state should provide alternative methods of achieving state and federal requirements for graduation; and

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- (3) Directs the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to send a copy of this resolution to the Commissioner of Education and all legislators representing Monroe Township.

8. PUBLIC FORUM (See Note 3 below)

9. CLOSED SESSION RESOLUTION

Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Township of Monroe hereby moves to go into Closed Session, in accordance with the Sunshine Law, Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975 (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 through 10:4-21), to discuss the following subject(s):

- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying

Following closed session, action may be taken. The discussion conducted in closed session can be disclosed to the public at such time as the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

10. PUBLIC FORUM (See Note 3 below)

11. NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Wednesday, July 27, 2016 7:00 p.m. Monroe Township High School

12. ADJOURNMENT

NOTES

Note 1: Any member of the public may record the proceedings of a public meeting of the Board in a manner that does not interrupt the proceedings, inhibit the conduct of the meeting, or distract Board Members or other observers present at the meeting.

The Board will permit the use of tape recorders, still or movie cameras, or videotape cameras only when notice of such intended use has been given to the Board Secretary one day in advance of the meeting. Any video recording device must be located and operated from inconspicuous locations in the meeting room as determined by the presiding officer of the meeting. The presiding officer may also limit the number of video recording devices if he/she determines the number and position of the video recording devices will be an unnecessary intrusion to the meeting. In this event, preference will be given based on the order in which prior notice requesting to record the meeting was provided to the Board Secretary.

The presiding officer shall determine when any recording device interferes with the conduct of a Board meeting and may order that an interfering device be removed.

Note 2: The Jamesburg Representative shall be eligible to vote on only those matters specifically designated in N.J.S.A 18A:38-8.1, as follows:

- (1) Tuition to be charged the sending district by the receiving district and the bill lists or contracts for the purchase, operation or maintenance of facilities, equipment and

instructional materials to be used in the education of the pupils of the sending district.

- (2) New capital construction to be utilized by sending district pupils.
- (3) Appointment, transfer or removal of teaching staff members providing services to pupils of the sending district, including any teaching staff member who is a member of the receiving district's central administrative staff; and
- (4) Addition or deletion of curricular and extracurricular programs involving pupils of the sending district.

To the extent the Jamesburg Representative inadvertently votes on any other matter, his vote shall not be counted.

Note 3: Public discussion is confined to this portion of the Agenda unless permission is granted by the Board President prior to the start of the meeting or when the Board is considering a Special Agenda Item that the Board deems appropriate for public participation. Anyone wishing to address the Board is requested to stand and state his/her name and address.

***The Jamesburg Representative is only eligible to vote on the items delineated by an asterisk listed on the Agenda pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.1.**