



October 11 Agenda Setting Meeting

Prior to its regular public meeting, the Board held a reception honoring Newly Tenured Teachers and Administrators. This annual celebration is intended to reaffirm the district's commitment to hiring and retaining only the most qualified staff members to serve in its schools. The following were recognized for achieving tenure:

Brunner School

Sarah Marion
Samantha Strulowitz

Coles School

Michelle Brink
Michele Mallozzi

Evergreen School

Maureen Holler

McGinn School

Ann Marie Koscica
Jason Cross

School One

Kelli Miller

Park Middle School

Angela Agosta
Lori Skoller
Adrienne Stack
Anne Guard

Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School

Joseph Franzone
Monique Gilbert-Hoffman
Christopher Hanas
William McMeekan
Cynthia Pfirrmann
Luke Piede
Amy Rutkowski
Elizabeth Vroom
Alisa Zonis

Office of Special Services

Annette Mellusi
Jennifer Cino

Doretta Helfgott
Cezsarai Medley
Mildred Waale

Administrators

Robert Harmer
Colleen Haubert

INSTRUCTIONAL UPDATE:

Mrs. Madeline Meyer reported on the progress on School Level Objectives for 2006-07 and the Proposed Site Objectives for 2007-08.

Reporting out on 2006-07 site objectives:

- Each school selected at least 2 measurable objectives
- Three schools focused on meeting or exceeding the DFG I percent as delineated in NCLB for advanced proficient in language arts literacy
- Three elementary schools, using the Developmental Reading Assessment, will achieve in the independent or above categories (for 1st and 2nd graders)
- Coles increased keyboarding and library research skills
- Middle Schools focused on mathematics and reading to increase number of students achieving proficient or above on NJ ASK 7
- MS also focused on achieving NCLB AYP Benchmarks in all subgroups
- SPFHS focused on continuing to meet NCLB's AYP for all students and set the goal that 9th graders earn a proficiency score or above on a writing prompt integrating English and Social Studies.

Proposed 2007-2008 Site Objectives included:

- 85% of second grade students will score a 2 or higher on a modified NJ ASK rubric in Language Arts Literacy
- 85% of all first graders will accurately record observations in a Science Journal
- Grades 3 and 4 will meet or exceed the DFG I as delineated in NCLB for advanced proficient in Language Arts Literacy (Evergreen)
- Middle Schools to focus on Mathematics-to increase by 5% the number of students achieving proficient or above on NJ ASK 7 compared to 2006
- Middle Schools to focus on achieving the NCLB AYP- new benchmarks for all subgroups
- Terrill's 8th grades will focus on meeting or exceeding the percent of total students scoring Advanced Proficient on the GEPA in Language Arts Literacy
- Percent of tenth graders scoring Advanced Proficient in Mathematics and Language Arts on the NJ PASS will increase by 5% compared to 9th grade performance
- Total population of eleventh graders will achieve the NCLB AYP new benchmarks for all subgroups.

BOARD ACTION: The Board approved the following at the October 11 meeting:

- Two Out of District Placements
- The Vandalism and Violence Report was presented by Mr. Thomas Beese with a motion by the Board to acknowledge the public report. Mr. Beese noted that addressing safe schools and bullying incidents are a priority for the district.
- October 11 Personnel Agenda as presented.
- Travel Reimbursements as presented.
- Approved Bill List dated September 29, 2007 in the amount of \$939,692.75.
- Resolution proclaiming School Violence Awareness Week – October 15-19, 2007.

Workshop Reports:

Linda Nelson and Warren McFall reported on the UCSBA meeting. Topics included A-5 law and its impact on board members and district accountability. Mrs. Nelson shared with the board the process for Board members to complete travel/workshop reports and reminded them that Board members cannot attend conferences and workshops without prior board action if an expenditure is required. Also when voting on travel reports, they must abstain on any line item where they are the attendee.

Committee Reports:Curriculum:

Sasha Slocum reported that the curriculum committee reviewed and discussed the 2006-07 District Assessment Report to be presented at the Oct. 18 Board Meeting.

Facilities:

Warren McFall reported for Mr. O'Connor, providing an update on: the turf field initiative; the repair work on Coles' roof; and the need for electrical wiring in the high school auditorium. They are also moving forward with the final paving of the HS parking lots.

Negotiations:

Linda Nelson reported that they are entering negotiations with the SPFEA. She attended a training workshop and brought back materials to share with the board team.

GSCS:

Mrs. Nelson also reported on Garden State Coalition's efforts regarding the funding issue and was authorized by the Board to prepare a letter for the Governor and legislators urging action on a new funding formula.

Public Board Meeting, October 18, 2007

INSTRUCTIONAL UPDATE:

Mrs. Madeline Meyer, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, presented the **2006-2007 District Assessment Report**, highlighting the following to supplement the written report submitted to the BOE.

- Types of Assessments used in our district include district developed tests, as well as state and national assessments.
- NCLB requires all students to be Proficient or Advanced Proficient by 2013.
- Each school is evaluated based on 41 indicators for Language Arts and Mathematics. State bundling inflates subgroup numbers.
- All 5 of our elementary schools met all 41 indicators.
- Both Middle Schools met all 41 indicators for adequate yearly progress.
- SPFHS met 40 of the 41 indicators; not successful in the Special Education subgroup in mathematics.
- DFG groupings represent approximated measure of other communities with similar socio-economic status to SPF. DFG is a useful tool for examining student achievement and provides comparisons with similar districts (we are in DFG "I").
- District Assessments: Grade 1 (district developed) and NJPASS in grades 2, 9 and 10
- State Assessments: Grades 3-7 NJASK; GEPA, grade 8; HSPA, grade 11

District Scores for 2006-07 (General Education students scoring Proficient or Advanced Proficient).

- NJ ASK 3-Math 98.3%; LA 97.9%
- NJASK 4-Math 98.8%, LA 95.5%, Science 96%
- NJASK 5-Math 96.7%; LA 98.4%
- NJASK 6-Math 97.2%, LA 95.3%
- NJASK 7-Math 86.2%, LA 96.1%
- GEPA 8th grade-Math 94.2%, 96.1%, Science 95.4%.
- HSPA 11th grade- Math 94%; LA 96.4%
- SATs –HS Top 10% of class: Critical Reading 623; Math 652; Writing 630
- 86 students also took individual subject tests for SATs ; 219 students took 390 Advanced Placement Tests.

Actions related to the Superintendent's Report:

- Approved one Out of District Placement
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- Dr. Hayes reported that as of October 15 there are 5, 452 students.
- 2007-08 Memorandum of Agreement with Law Enforcement officials was approved.
- Approved the HS Music Department's field trip to Boston, MA from April 10-13, 2008.
- Approved the October 18 Personnel Agenda as presented.

The Board approved/reviewed the following business items:

- Mr. Del Sordi presented the tentative 2008-2009 Budget calendar.
- Submission of Comprehensive 3-Year Maintenance Plan (QAAR Requirement)
- Emergency Plan approved as discussed in Exec. Session. Mr. Del Sordi noted that this plan is reviewed on a regular basis with administrators and local law enforcement officials.
- Construction Change Order (Renovations to HS Gymnasium) for \$4,684.
- Travel Reimbursements as presented by the Superintendent.
- Approval of Nonpublic School Technology Initiative for 2007-08: Union Catholic - \$32,560.00; St. Bartholomew's -\$8,400.00; Christopher Academy-\$1,080.00.
- Approval of Business Reports as presented.
- Approval of Bill List dated October 16, 2007 in the total amount of \$1,071,418.16.
- Second reading and approval of Board Policy #3542 -Student Wellness and Nutrition
- Approval of Board minutes from September 11 and 27th.

Workshop Reports

Mrs. Costello reported on a tour of the UCES schools.

Committee Reports (since October 11 meeting)

Dr. Slocum reported that the Curriculum Committee met for 3 hours and discussed the assessment report as presented tonight. She thanked Mrs. Meyer and the Supervisors for their excellent work.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Board members complimented the Music Boosters Association for hosting an excellent Band Festival on Sunday, October 14. They make us proud!

Mr. Whitehouse announced a press conference being held by the Garden State Coalition of School on Monday, Oct. 22 in Trenton. Topic: Funding NJ Schools-Finding a Workable Solution. He also noted the efforts of Board Vice President, Mrs. Nelson, strong advocate for our district and other mid-level districts.