

**SECAUCUS BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
DATED MAY 21, 2009**

President McStowe called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and roll call taken as follows:

PRESENT: Mrs. Reinl, Ms. Marra, Messrs. McStowe, Gerbasio, Trombetta, Makarski, Krajewski, Riebesell and Troyer

EARLY DEPARTURE: Mrs. Reinl departed at 7:30 PM

President McStowe declared a quorum present.

Also present: Cynthia Randina, CSA
Edward J. Walkiewicz, SBA/BS
Dennis Maycher, Esq.

Vice President, Reinl, asked everyone to rise and join in the salute to the flag. In accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Act, Vice President Reinl, announced that the Board Secretary had forwarded notice of this meeting for advertising by having the date, time and place thereof posted in the Secaucus Town Hall, on the bulletin board in the hallway of the Board of Education Administration Building, as well as being provided to the Secaucus Home News, Jersey Journal, and The Bergen Record.

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Mrs. Reinl

SECONDED BY: Mr. Riebesell

WHEREAS, it shall be necessary for the Secaucus Board of Education to discuss subjects concerning personnel matters;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the aforesaid subject will be discussed in closed Executive Session pursuant to the provisions of P.L. 1975, Chapter 231, and that such deliberations thereto will be made available to the public as soon as the reasons for non-disclosure no longer exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education went into Executive Session at 6:30 PM.

Motion by Mr. Makarski, seconded by Mr. Gerbasio, and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to adjourn the Executive Session and resume the Regular Meeting at 7:05PM.

Motion by Mr. Gerbasio, seconded by Ms. Marra, and adopted by Board Members present to accept the Minutes for Regular Meeting of April 30, 2009 with Messrs. Troyer, Riebesell and Krajewski abstaining. Motion by Mr. Gerbasio, seconded by Ms. Marra, and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to accept the Reorganization Meeting Minutes of April 30, 2009.

Correspondence - None

Organizational Reports - None

Superintendent's Report

Recommended action on Motions and Resolutions would be presented under Committee Reports and New Business.

Mrs. Randina thanked the Board Members present for their support on 2009-2010 budget, staffing, and technology pilots.

Report by the Secretary of the Board

Recommended action on Motions and Resolutions would be presented under Committee Reports and New Business.

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Motion by Mr. Makarski, seconded by Mr. Gerbasio and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to approve the following Special Board Meetings to be held at 6:00 PM at Huber Street School Library and will immediately enter Executive Session to discuss Professional Appointments:

May 26, 2009, June 4, 2009 and June 11, 2009

Motion by Mr. Trombetta, seconded by Mr. Riebesell and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to authorize Board Secretary/Business Administrator to advertise for a Lease Purchase.

Committee Reports and New Business

1. School Government

R1.1

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Mr. Riebesell

SECONDED BY: Mr. Trombetta

BE IF RESOLVED: that the Secaucus Board of Education does hereby approve to appoint the following candidates for the positions, contractual salaries and starting dates indicated for the 2009-2010 school year as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Name	Position	Salary	Date
Dr. Vicki Comerchero-Basen	Full-Time School Psychologist	7 th step, 6 th yr level \$63,317.00 including \$1500 CST stipend	09/1/09
Leandra Avato	Full-Time School Social Worker	2 nd Step, MA Guide \$58,464.00 including \$1500 CST stipend	09/1/09
Amanda Jones	0.6 Social Studies Teacher & 0.4 Teacher Assistant	0.6 - 1 st Step BA Guide 0.4 - 1 st Step Teacher Asst. Guide Total salary \$39,860	09/1/09
Natalie Aljallad	Administrative Assistant	\$38,321.00	07/1/09
Ashley Aligo	Substitute – BS Psychology	\$75.00 per day	5/22/09
Rhonda Kotb	Substitute – CEAS Elem Ed.	\$80.00 per day	5/22/09
Alyssa Grosso	Substitute – BA History	\$75.00 per day	5/22/09

Background checks previously approved

The foregoing resolution was adopted by a roll call vote as follows:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Anthony Gerbasio	X			
Charles Krajewski	X			
John McStowe	X			
Michael Makarski	X			
Dora Marra	X			
Eleanore Reini				X
Gary Riebesell	X			
Frank Trombetta	X			
Tom Troyer	X			

R1.2

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Mr. Riebesell

SECONDED BY: Mr. Trombetta

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BE IF RESOLVED: that the Secaucus Board of Education does hereby appoint Wayne Demikoff as an interim Staff Accountant at a per diem rate of \$500.00 as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

The foregoing resolution was adopted by a roll call vote as follows:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Anthony Gerbasio	X			
Charles Krajewski	X			
John McStowe	X			
Michael Makarski	X			
Dora Marra	X			
Eleanore Reinl				X
Gary Riebesell	X			
Frank Trombetta	X			
Tom Troyer	X			

R1.3

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Mr. Riebesell

SECONDED BY: Mr. Trombetta

BE IF RESOLVED: that the Secaucus Board of Education does hereby appoint the following individuals to the 2009 Summer Programs as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Instrumental Music Program:

Sean Sonnett Elementary
Compensation: \$720.00 per/week
Duration: July 13th – August 14th

Middle/High School Instrumental Music Program:

Robert Fournier
Compensation: \$480.00 per/week
Duration: Four week during the summer

Guidance Counselors:

High School (4) Jessica Siemes, Helen Bacigalupo, Catherina Ferrara,
Additional guidance counselor- name will be forthcoming
Duration: Three days each during the summer.
Middle School Joan Cali
Duration: 10 days during the summer

Compensation for the above Guidance Counselors will be at the contracted rate of \$35.00 per/hr.

The foregoing resolution was adopted by a roll call vote as follows:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Anthony Gerbasio	X			
Charles Krajewski	X			
John McStowe	X			
Michael Makarski	X			
Dora Marra	X			
Eleanore Reinl				X
Gary Riebesell	X			
Frank Trombetta	X			
Tom Troyer	X			

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R1.4**RESOLUTION**

INTRODUCED BY: Mr. Riebesell

SECONDED BY: Mr. Trombetta

BE IF RESOLVED: that the Secaucus Board of Education does hereby appoint the following individuals to the 2009 Summer Special Education Programs as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools, and

Teachers:

Tammy Hennessey	Fury Nardone
Lori Garafola	Steve Viggiani
James Clancy	Lisa VanEs
Mayda Cadena	Eilish Viggiani

Speech/Language Specialists:

Beth Nusbuam (0.5) Barri Cohen (0.5)

School Nurse:

Barbara Bivin

Teacher Assistants:

Graceann Hurtuk	Allison Hess
Jenny Bogdan	Mary Ann Meli
Linda Hansen	Connie Boruch
Lucille Ramirez	

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: the program will run from July 27th through August 21st and compensation shall be \$35.00 per/hr for Teachers and \$25.00 per/hr for Teacher Assistants.

The foregoing resolution was adopted by a roll call vote as follows:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Anthony Gerbasio	X			
Charles Krajewski	X			
John McStowe	X			
Michael Makarski	X			
Dora Marra	X			
Eleanore Reinl				X
Gary Riebesell	X			
Frank Trombetta	X			
Tom Troyer	X			

R1.5**RESOLUTION**

INTRODUCED BY: Mr. Riebesell

SECONDED BY: Mr. Trombetta

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Secaucus Board of Education does hereby appoint the Anthony Griffo to the position of Assistant High School Girls' Tennis Coach as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that compensation for this position shall be contained in the Agreement between the Secaucus Education Association, Inc. and the Secaucus Board of Education and that no rights of tenure shall accrue by virtue of this appointment.

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The foregoing resolution was adopted by a roll call vote as follows:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Anthony Gerbasio	X			
Charles Krajewski	X			
John McStowe	X			
Michael Makarski	X			
Dora Marra	X			
Eleanore Reinl				X
Gary Riebesell	X			
Frank Trombetta	X			
Tom Troyer	X			

R1.6

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Mr. Riebesell

SECONDED BY: Mr. Trombetta

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Secaucus Board of Education does hereby approve of the annexed Field Trips in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 53 – Fiscal Accountability Measures: Subchapter 5, Subsection 5.8.

The foregoing resolution was adopted by a roll call vote as follows:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Anthony Gerbasio	X			
Charles Krajewski	X			
John McStowe	X			
Michael Makarski	X			
Dora Marra	X			
Eleanore Reinl				X
Gary Riebesell	X			
Frank Trombetta	X			
Tom Troyer	X			

M1.1 Motion by Mr. Riebesell, seconded by Mr. Trombetta, and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to post/approve the following positions:

- Winter Coaching Positions for the 2009-2010 school year
- Head Track & Field Coach
- Co-curricular programs for 2009-2010 school year for:
 - Future Business Leaders of America
 - Model UN
 - Robotics
 - Elementary Dance Club
- Job Description for the ESL Coordinator position
- Job Description for Literacy Coach and Math Coach

Post for the following summer curriculum writing/revisions as follows:

Elementary 20 hrs each @ \$35.00 per/hr

- Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd grades – Spanish Curriculum.
- Full Day Pre-K Program Curriculum (2) teachers.
- Kindergarten Screening (4) teachers.
- Teacher Training for the On-Line Lesson Plans – 3 hrs (June 25th).
- Training on the Promethean & smart Boards for Teachers – 3 hrs (June 26th).
- Elementary Handbook Revision (2) teachers (**10 hrs each**)

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High School 20 hrs each @ \$35.00 per/hr

- (2) Teachers to write a program overview for Freshman Transition Program; Philosophy, Goals, Activities, Objectives Outcomes Assessments.
- (3) Mathematics teachers needed to write curriculum for Algebra I Long, Algebra II Long, and Geometry I Long.
- (1) Science Teacher to revise the environmental Science curriculum.
- (3) Facilitators needed to write “Academy Program Overviews” for the Mathematics, Science Academy; Media & Communications Academy, Business/Technology Academy.

Middle School 20 hrs each @ \$35.00 per/hr

- (2) teachers to revise accelerated Science Curriculum.
- (1) teacher to develop accelerated Language Arts Curriculum Grade 8.
- (1) teacher to develop World Language Curriculum, Grade 7.
- (2) teachers to revise 7th & 8th grade Social Studies Curriculum.
- (1) teacher to develop Middle School Handbook.
- (1) teacher to develop Middle School After School Cultural Arts Program.

Mrs. Randina commented on the need for new standards and that the revisions of the above curriculum are critical.

2. Curriculum – No Report

3. Finance

R3.1

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Ms. Marra

SECONDED BY: Mr. Trombetta

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Board of Education approves for payment the Bill List as per annexed in the amount of \$1,303,082.90.

Board Members present unanimously adopted the foregoing Resolution.

R3.2

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Ms. Marra

SECONDED BY: Mr. Trombetta

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education has solicited from vendors and patrons of the school district donations for the Science Fair Awards program;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the annexed list of donations has been accepted by the Secaucus Board of Education and that the proceeds of the donations will be presented to the finalist, in the form of gift certificates, of the various science fairs within the district.

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100	Assemblyman Vincent Prieto	Legislative Office	1249 Paterson Plank Rd	Secaucus, NJ 07094
100	Clarendon School PTA	Karyn Lusskin, President	685 Fifth St.	Secaucus, NJ 07094
100	Huber Street School PTA	Michelle Garrett, President	1520 Paterson Plank Rd	Secaucus, NJ 07094
100	Lifetouch Photographers	Richard Scheller, Territory Mgr	101 Fairfield Road	Fairfield, NJ 07004
350	School Craft Studios	Joseph Crescio	Two Wilson Drive	Sparta, NJ 07871
100	Secaucus Education Philanthropic Fund	Nancy Lynch	11 Mill Ridge Road	Secaucus, NJ 07094
25	Secaucus High School PTSA	Vickie Nappo, President	11 Mill Ridge Road	Secaucus, NJ 07094
100	Secaucus Middle School PTA	Lisa Carney, President	11 Mill Ridge Road	Secaucus, NJ 07094
250	Secaucus PBA Local 84	Lt. Joseph Kickey	PO Box 1038	Secaucus, NJ 07096
100	Secaucus School Administrators	Deidre Ertle	685 Fifth Street	Secaucus, NJ 07094
100	Secaucus Supervisors' Assocation	Robert Kirsch	11 Mill Ridge Road	Secaucus, NJ 07094
50	Secaucus Unico	Peter Weiner, President	PO Box 1182	Secaucus, NJ 07096
100	Deidre Ertle			
1575				

Board Members present unanimously adopted the foregoing Resolution.

R3.3

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Ms. Marra

SECONDED BY: Mr. Trombetta

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby authorizes the Director of Special Education to execute Letters of Agreement for out of district placement tuition for the 2008-2009 Summer Program for:

School	Student	Tuition
JFK Johnson Rehabilitation Inst.	RK	\$3,481.00 (Part-time)

Board Members present unanimously adopted the foregoing Resolution.

4. Buildings & Grounds

R4.1

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Mr. Trombetta

SECONDED BY: Mr. Makarski

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it may benefit the Secaucus Board of Education to purchase and install photovoltaic systems on Secaucus High School/Middle School, for the purpose of generating electric power by solar energy; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Clean Energy Program (NJCEP) has rebates which are intended to reduce the cost for new renewable energy systems, while encouraging investment in the technologies; and

WHEREAS, Faridy Veisz Fraytak (consultant engineers) has completed a feasibility study indicating certain board of education buildings as excellent candidates for photovoltaic energy systems; and

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WHEREAS, the NJCEP guidelines require public sector projects to solicit bids for installation of such photovoltaic systems in order to apply for rebates and so that they can determine the final costs associated with their projects;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Secaucus Board of Education, authorizes Faridy Veisz Fraytak to execute applications with NJCEP for grants for construction and to solicit bids for Photovoltaic Electricity Generation Systems for the identified Board of Education Buildings; and

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED, that it is the intent of the Secaucus Board of Education to solicit bids for photovoltaic electricity generating systems at Secaucus High School/Middle School upon notification by NJCEP that it has committed the requested equipment grants with the further intent of having a formal contract within 180 days and construction completed within one year.

Board Members present unanimously adopted the foregoing Resolution.

5. Adult School Committee - No Report

6. Technology Committee

Mr. Makarski commented that consideration should be made to issuing a press release on all new technology within the district.

7. Shared Services Committee - No Report

8. Policy Committee

Mr. Troyer indicated that he would like to review the policy manual.

9. Legislative Report - No Report

10. New Business

Mr. Troyer commented on the most recent letter from Mr. Thomas Roarty which appeared in the Home News. Mr. Dennis Maycher, Board Attorney, stated that the letter is personnel related, and therefore, information is confidential.

Mrs. Randina indicated that all hiring practices were followed, and all positions have been posted accordingly. In addition, the hiring meets the requirements of policy concerning Nepotism with regard to past Board Members.

11. Resident's Forum General

Mr. Troyer requested that the following statement be entered into the minutes:

“Mr. Andriani, in a segment of his farewell address, expressed his displeasure with the many letters sent to the newspapers concerning the Board of Education that made you believe there are sinister plots between town hall and the board. In the minutes of the April 30, 2009 meeting, he states, for the record, “there is no cable on the board of education”. “We are not under the control of town hall. Board of Ed matters are handled by the board, and only the board”. He then goes on to say, “however, there are times we need to work together for the good of the students and the community.”

Does he believe that when the president of the board at that time, Susan Pirro was circulating a political flyer to obtain signatures of six board members, (one of the six is on record saying he didn't sign it) in support of the Elwell team back in November 2006, was working for, (his quote) “the good of the students and the community?” I think not.

I want the record to indicate that I strongly disagree with Mr. Andriani statement. I could site numerous examples of how, over the years, town hall manipulated/interfered with board matters.

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However, at this point in time, I believe former Secaucus Board of Education, President Susan Pirro, in her testimony before the NJ Ethics Board, (hearing to be held sometime in March 2010) will illuminate the extent of the manipulating of Board Members that come out of town hall”

Mr. George Broemmer inquired of Mr. Walkiewicz as to why no notice was given of the cancellation of the Ethics Board. Mr. Maycher responded that in the future, he will give notice of any future cancellations. Mr. Broemmer then inquired if the case could be dismissed and wants the board members to admit they were wrong.

Mr. Broemmer also requested that the board consider broadcasting meetings on TV, and notices of board meetings on Channel 34. Mr. McStowe responded that it would be taken under advisement.

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: **Mr. Makarski**

SECONDED BY: **Mr. Gerbasio**

WHEREAS, it shall be necessary for the Board of Education to discuss subjects concerning personnel matters;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the aforesaid subject will be discussed in closed Executive Session pursuant to the provisions of P.L. 1975, Chapter 231, and that such deliberations thereto will be made available to the public as soon as the reasons for non-disclosure no longer exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education went into Executive Session at 7:55 P.M.

Motion by Mr. Makarski, seconded by Mr. Gerbasio, and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to adjourn Executive Session and resume Regular Meeting at 8:28PM.

Motion by Mr. Makarski, seconded by Mr. Gerbasio, and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward J. Walkiewicz
Board Secretary and
Business Administrator