

MEDFORD LAKES SCHOOL DISTRICT
MEDFORD LAKES, NJ 08055
MEETING MINUTES
May 3, 2017

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

This meeting is called to order under the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act. The Secretary certifies that all requirements have been met. I, Sandra Weiss, Board President, call this meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF NOTICE

Adequate notice of the meeting was advertised by the Burlington County Times on March 24, 2017 and sent by electronic mail to the Clerk of the Municipality.

ROLL CALL

Ms. Kim Bezanis
Mr. Robert Brittain
Mrs. Kristen Caputo
Ms. Mary Sullivan - Arrived 7:14 PM
Mrs. Sandra Weiss

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Anthony Dent, Superintendent
Mr. Michael Colling, Business Administrator
Mrs. Carole Ramage, Director of Curriculum
Mrs. Kelly Scapellato, Supervisor of Special Services

FLAG SALUTE

BUDGET PRESENTATION

The Board held a Public Hearing on the proposed 2017-2018 school district budget.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED 2017-2018 DISTRICT BUDGET

Mr. Colling presented the Budget to the Board of Education and the public. Mr. Brittain inquired about the teacher evaluation system and the cost associated with it. Mr. Colling replied that the cost for our district is approximately \$7,000 and that the cost per district varies depending on the number of teachers as the software companies charge on a per user basis. Mr. Brittain further inquired if there were any grants or state funding available for this as it's a state mandated program. Mr. Colling replied that there is not but that we have looked into alternate funding sources for this tool but they are not available.

Mrs. McKeever inquired about the debt service and that she has been told that you should never let the tax rate decrease. Mr. Colling replied that she is correct however, in order to keep our debt service amount the same, the amount of projects would need to be a lot more and when the architects did an evaluation of the district, they didn't even come out with that amount projects.

Mrs. McKeever inquired why we are going out to referendum now and not waiting until the debt is expiring. Mr. Dent noted that the interest rates are attractive right now and that they could be creeping back up and we want to take advantage of the lower rates. Mrs. McKeever inquired about what would happen if the rates went down instead. Mr. Colling replied that if the rates were to go down by 3% or more, we are required by state law to refinance our bonds. Also, the other reason for going out to referendum now is that the roof at Nokomis is overdue for replacement. The roof originally had a 20 year life and we are approaching 30 years. In the Fall there was a wind storm and a piece of the roof came off and had to be patched.

Mrs. McKeever inquired if there was any way to get the insurance company to reimburse us for the roof replacement. Mr. Colling noted that there is only about 2 ways that the insurance company would reimburse us for the roof is if a tree fell on the roof or if there was a fire and then we're looking at bigger issues than just replacing the roof. The roof at this point is beyond its useful life and needs replacing.

APPROVAL OF THE 2017-2018 BUDGET

Motion by Ms. Bezanis and seconded by Mr. Brittain;

RECOMMEND THAT THE Board of Education approve the 2017-2018 school district budget for submission to the New Jersey Department of Education as follows:

	BUDGET	TAX LEVY
General Fund	\$ 7,584,274	\$ 5,917,019
Special Revenue Fund	\$ 103,852	\$ 0
Debt Service	\$ 452,250	\$ 452,250
Total Base Budget	\$ 8,140,376	\$ 6,369,269

ROLL CALL VOTE: *Ayes: Ms. Bezanis, Mr. Brittain, Mrs. Caputo, Mrs. Weiss*
Nays: None
Absent: Ms. Sullivan
Abstain: None
Motion Carried

CURRICULUM/COORDINATED ACTIVITIES

Motion by Ms. Bezanis and seconded by Mr. Brittain;

RECOMMEND that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, retroactively approve the following curriculum/coordinated activities:

1. Approval of the following field trips:
 - a. May 1, 2017 – School Musical Performers to Nokomis School

VOTE: 4 ayes 0 nays 1 absent 0 abstain Motion Carried

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Mrs. Caputo and seconded by Ms. Bezanis to adopt a resolution to recess meeting to discuss the following under Chapter 7, NJ Open Public Meetings Act:

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF MEDFORD LAKES

**RESOLUTION 2017-19E
 AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a Public Body to go into closed session during a Public Meeting, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Medford Lakes ("Board of Education") has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the Public; and

WHEREAS, the regular meeting of the Board of Education will reconvene following the end of the closed session;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education will go into closed session for the following reason(s) as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12:

 Any matter which, by express provision of Federal Law, State Statute or Rule of Court shall be rendered confidential or excluded from discussion in public (Provision relied upon: _____);

 Any matter in which the release of information would impair a right to receive funds from the federal government;

Any matter the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy;

Any collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions of which are proposed for inclusion in any collective bargaining agreement, including the negotiation of terms and conditions with employees or representatives of employees of the public body (MLEA 2010-2013 Collective Bargaining Agreement);

___ Any matter involving the purpose, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of bank rates or investment of public funds where it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of such matters were disclosed;

___ Any tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public provided that their disclosure could impair such protection;

___ Any investigations of violations or possible violations of the law;

___ Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is or may become a party. Any matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his ethical duties as a lawyer (If pending or anticipated litigation, the matter is entitled: [John Doe vs. ABC Board of Education])

(If contract negotiation the nature of the contract and interested party is _____
_____)

Under certain circumstances, if public disclosure of the matter would have a potentially negative impact on the Board of Education's position in the litigation or negotiation, this information may be withheld until such time that the matter is concluded or the circumstances no longer present a potential impact);

X Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body, unless all individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting (Subject to the balancing of the public's interest and the employee's privacy rights under *South Jersey Publishing*, 124 N.J. 478, the employee(s) and nature of discussion is _____);

___ Any deliberation of a public body occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty upon the responding party or the suspension or loss of a license or permit belonging to the responding party as a result of an act of omission for which the responding party bears responsibility;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby declares that its discussion of the aforementioned subject(s) may be made public at a time when the Board of Education Attorney advises the Board of Education that the disclosure of the discussion will not detrimentally affect any right, interest or duty of the School District or any other entity with respect to said discussion. That time is currently estimated as the time of said matter. (Estimated date: _____) or upon the occurrence of _____);

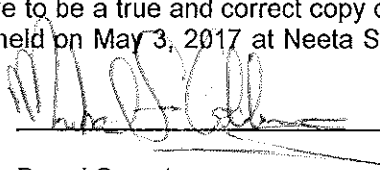
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education, for the aforementioned reasons, hereby declares that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the above discussion shall take place and hereby directs the Board Secretary to take the appropriate action to effectuate the terms of this resolution. Action may be taken when public session resumes.

VOTE: 4 ayes 0 nays 1 absent 0 abstain Motion Carried

Time: 6:27 PM

{Mary Sullivan arrived 7:14 PM}

I, Michael F. Colling, do hereby certify the above to be a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Education at its meeting held on May 3, 2017 at Neeta School Library, 44 Neeta Trail, Medford Lakes, New Jersey.



Board Secretary

Motion by Ms. Sullivan and seconded by Ms. Bezanis to return to open session.

VOTE: 5 ayes 0 nays 0 absent 0 abstain Motion Carried

Time: 7:54 PM

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Brittain seconded by Ms. Sullivan to adjourn meeting.

VOTE: **5 ayes** **0 nays** **0 absent** **0 abstain** **Motion Carried**

Time: 7:54 PM

Respectfully Submitted,



Michael F. Colling
Board Secretary