

<p>SECAUCUS BOARD OF EDUCATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES PUBLIC HEARING ON 2014-2015 BUDGET DATED: MARCH 31, 2014</p>
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President McStowe called the meeting to order at 6PM and roll call taken as follows:

PRESENT: Messrs. Anderson, Lewis, Riebesell, McStowe, Mrs. O'Connell and Ms. Marra
 ABSENT: Mr. Gerbasio and Mrs. Snedeker

President McStowe declared a quorum present

Also present: Robert Presuto, CSA
 Richard T. Calhoun, Interim SBA/BS

Vice President Riebesell, 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 Riebesell, announced that the Acting 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: Mr. Riebesell

SECONDED BY: Mr. Lewis

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

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 6PM in order to discuss finance.

Board Members present unanimously adopted the foregoing Resolution.

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

PUBLIC HEARING-BUDGET FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2014-2015 PRESENTATION

Superintendent Presuto began the presentation with reviewing the District Goals, which drives the budget. Mr. Calhoun, Interim Business Administrator, reviewed what constitutes state aid and the amounts received by the district for the last three years. Basically we have remained flat, while expenses have continued to increase.

Steps in developing budget strategies were then reviewed, which included adhering to district policy/state accountability regulations, prioritize class size, critical spending, streamlining where feasible and staff positioning. In addition, maintaining our buildings, ways to reduce energy consumption and utilizing buildings for essential events only.

Mr. Presuto then projected the enhancements which would be made for the upcoming school year, by school, should the budget be approved by the voters. The enhancements also include technology, special education and district-wide maintenance.

For the Elementary Schools we hope to add two classroom teachers; namely one 6th Grade for Huber and one for 1st Grade Clarendon due to increased enrollment. We continue to implement

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programs to meet the Common Core Curriculum Standards. For both the Middle School and High School we will be implementing a revised master schedule. Copies of the presentation are available at the Administrative Offices for review and/or any questions. The budget pamphlet will also be mailed out shortly providing more detailed information.

Mr. Calhoun provided an overview of the educational budget, our operating budget revenue as well as the tax impact which would be \$40.00/year or \$3.33/month (based at \$175,000 average home assessment).

Committee Reports and New Business

1. Finance

R1.1

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Joseph Lewis

SECONDED BY: Gary Riebesell

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Secaucus Board of Education that the tentative 2014-2015 budget be approved as follows:

Operating Budget	\$34,230,702
Grants & Entitlements	\$ 671,034
Repayment of Debt	<u>\$ 1,877,925</u>
Total	\$36,779,661

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the District's tax requirements to support the proposed 2014-2015 general fund budget to be presented to the voters at the annual election of April 23, 2014 are as follows:

Operating Budget	\$32,748,152
Repayment of Debt	\$ 1,877,925

R1.2

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Joseph Lewis

SECONDED BY: Gary Riebesell

WHEREAS, the 2014-2015 school elections will take place on April, 23, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the drawing for ballot petitions was held on March 13, 2014 at the Administrative Offices located at 20 Centre Avenue, in the office of the Business Administrator at 3:30 PM; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the drawing for ballot petitions results are as follows:

Ruby Pantoliano	<u>1A</u>
Tom Troyer	<u>2A</u>
Lance Bartletta	<u>3A</u>
Joseph Lewis	<u>4A</u>

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BOARD MEETING MINUTES
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The foregoing resolutions were adopted by a roll call vote as follows:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Robert Anderson	X			
Kelli D'Addetta	X			
John Gerbasio				X
Joseph Lewis	X			
Dora Marra	X			
Kathy O'Connell	X			
Gary Riebesell	X			
Lisa Snedeker				X
Jack McStowe, President	X			

Public Agenda Comments:

Don Evanson 1407 Harmon Cove Towers complimented the Finance Committee and the entire board in their presentation and in bringing the budget in below the 2% cap. However, he did notice that the medical benefits were at a 4% increase. Is this due to an increase of staff? Mr. Calhoun responded that this is based on anticipated increases in costs; and not due to an increase in benefits.

Board Member Comments

Bobby Anderson reminded those in attendance that negotiations with the unions have begun and some issues will have to be worked out.

The Board Members all thanked everyone for coming, and noted that this budget as with all school budgets, "is about the children".

Kelli D'Addetta don't forget to vote and support the children.

Kathy O'Connell thanked the Finance Committee and the Administrators for their hard work.

Gary Riebesell thanked Don Evanson for acknowledging the time and effort the Finance Committee put into the budget, and don't forget to support the children and teachers.

Joe Lewis, thank you and don't forget to vote on April 23rd.

Jack McStowe thanked the Town Council for all of their assistance and support in preparation of the 2014-2015 school budget. We will also be adopting a resolution at the next regular meeting, which will be sent to Trenton, which addresses the State's unfair funding to school districts.

Motion by Mrs. O'Connell, seconded by Mr. Anderson, and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:40PM

Respectfully submitted,

Richard T. Calhoun,
Interim Board Secretary

