

SECAUCUS BOARD OF EDUCATION
 BOARD MEETING REGULAR MINUTES
 DATED: MARCH 26, 2015

President Riebesell called the meeting to order at PM and roll call taken as follows:

PRESENT: Messrs. Anderson, Bartletta, Gerbasio, Lewis, McStowe and Mr. Riebesell, Mrs. D'Addetta, Ms. O'Connell and Mrs. Pantoliano

ABSENT:

LATE ARRIVALS: Mrs. O'Connell at 6:15

President Riebesell declared a quorum present

Also present: Robert Presuto, CSA
 Kristin Kosky, BA/BS
 Francelis De Oca Montes
 Stephen Fogarty, Esq.

Vice President Lewis, 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 Lewis, 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: Mr. McStowe

SECONDED BY: Mr. Lewis

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 6PM in order to discuss personnel.

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 7:20PM.

Organization Reports: None

Superintendent Report:

On behalf of Administration, Teachers and Staff of the District, Mr. Presuto presented to Mr. Riebesell a plaque commmerating his six years of dedicated service as a board member. Mr. Riebesell was then presented with the President's plaque for his service as Board President. Mr. Presuto thanked Mr. Riebesell for his volunteerism, dedication and truly caring for the students of the district...they always came first in his decisions. We will miss him and wish him the best in his future.

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Business Administrator/Board Secretary Report:

Recommended action on resolutions and motions to be presented under Committee Reports.

Mrs. Kosky, on behalf of the board office staff, thanked Mr. Riebesell for his 6 years of service to the board. Everyone will agree that it has been a pleasure to work with him, and in my short time with the board, it is clear that he will be missed by all. We cannot thank him enough for service to the community and wish him luck in the future.

BS1.0**RESOLUTION**

INTRODUCED BY: **Mr. Anderson**

SECONDED BY: **Mr. McStowe**

WHEREAS, President Gary Riebesell, has submitted his letter of resignation as Board President and Board Member effective April 1, 2015; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby accepts, with regret, Mr. Riebesell letter of resignation.

M1.1 Motion by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. O'Connell to post for qualified candidates for membership to the Board for a term to expire January 7, 2016.

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

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Robert Anderson	X			
Lance Bartletta	X			
Kelli D'Addetta	X			
John Gerbasio	X			
Joseph Lewis	X			
John McStowe	X			
Kathy O'Connell	X			
Ruby Pantoliano	X			
Gary Riebesell, President	X			

Public Agenda Comments: None

Stephen Fogarty, Board Attorney, advised the public in attendance that by adopting resolution R1.1, the Board is authorizing our Professionals to negotiate with the first and second bidders, as well as any other interested parties. Further, the scope of the project cannot exceed the referendum approved by the voters and those areas presented as educational cannot be changed. Through negotiation we hope that this will be concluded in April and award in May.

Committee Reports and New Business**1. Finance**

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R1.1

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Mr. Lewis

SECONDED BY: Mr. Gerbasio

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby authorizes the Board Secretary/Business Administrator to amend the authorized banking signature to include the Vice President.

WHEREAS, the Secaucus Board of Education (“the Board”) advertised for bids for the Building Additions and Interior Renovations at Secaucus Middle School Project (“the Project”); and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2015, the Board received four bids for the Project, as reflected on the attached bid tabulation sheet prepared by Di Cara Rubino Architects; and

WHEREAS, the bids are excessive as to price, as they substantially exceed the cost estimate of \$22,314,135 prepared by the Architect for this Project and, as such, are unreasonable as to price; and

WHEREAS, the Board advertised twice for bids for the Project, and on both occasions the Board will have rejected bids as being excessive as to price; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5(c), the Board may negotiate a contract after having twice rejected bids as being unreasonable as to price;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby rejects the bid received for the Project pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-22(a) as the bids substantially exceed the cost estimates and, as such, are unreasonable as to price on the basis of the cost estimates prepared on behalf of the Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Secretary/Business Administrator and the Architect are hereby authorized to negotiate a contract for the Project in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5(c).

R1.2

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED BY: Mr. Lewis

SECONDED BY: Mr. Gerbasio

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secaucus Board of Education hereby authorizes the Board Secretary/Business Administrator to amend the authorized banking signature to include the Vice President.

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

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Robert Anderson	X			
Lance Bartletta	X			
Kelli D'Addetta	X			
John Gerbasio	X			
Joseph Lewis	X			
John McStowe	X			
Kathy O'Connell	X			
Ruby Pantoliano	X			
Gary Riebesell, President	X			

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Public General Comments None

Board Member Comments

Bobby Anderson thanked Mr. Riebesell for his six years of service. It was pleasure to serve with him, and wishes him well in his new journey. (Hopefully, he has a sturdy wall to hang his plaques) since he will be living in Tornado Alley).

Ruby Pantoliano thanked Mr. Riebesell as her mentor this first year of her term. She also thanked him on behalf of the children.

Lance Bartletta thanked Mr. Riebesell for acting as his mentor this first year of his term. Wishing him the best in his future.

Jack McStowe first thanked Liz and Kelly for giving up their husband and father for all the hours away from home. He thanked Mr. Riebesell for all his hard work and time and his dedication to the children of the district. Good Luck and know we will see you time to time.

John Gerbasio expressed his gratitude for his years of service. Mr. Riebesell is a gentlemen and a friend and it was a pleasure working with him.

Kelly D'Addetta, stated to Mr. Riebesell, he was a mentor to all and respectful. His goal was always the best for the children. Thank you Liz & Kelly for lending Gary to us.

Kathy O'Connellyou can always come back. Know that you will be happy in your new location. Gary was always fair, gave good advise and guided us. Always remained calm and encouraged me to step back and think before making a bad decision. Good Luck.

Joseph Lewis thanked Mr. Riebesell for his time and effort for the students and staff, as well as the community. You have been a mentor and friend and will be missed.

Mr. Riebesell thanked the voters for their confidence in electing him. Thank you fellow board members it was a pleasure working with you on behalf of the children of the Secaucus.

Motion by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. McStowe , and unanimously adopted by Board Members present to adjourn the regular meeting at 8PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Kosky,
Board Secretary