

# **MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING**

## **of the NETCONG SCHOOL DISTRICT 26 College Road Netcong, NJ 07857**

**July 29, 2010**

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by President Popelka at 7:07 PM. The meeting was held in the Netcong Public School Library as publicly advertised.

**A. FLAG SALUTE** - All of those present participated in the salute to the flag.

**B. OPEN PUBLIC MEET ACT PROCLAMATION** – The following is made part of the minutes:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Board of Education of the Netcong School in the County of Morris has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted. The notice was mailed/faxed to the Daily Record, New Jersey Herald and those persons or entities requesting notification, and filed with the Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Netcong.

**C. MISSION STATEMENT** – The following is made part of the minutes:

Netcong School District, a small caring community, is committed to providing a quality, well-rounded education achieved through the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards which inspires students to ultimately become fulfilled, contributing and productive citizens.

**D. ROLL CALL**

The following members were present: Mr. Arbolino, Mrs. Callahan, Mrs. Dalesandro, Mr. Morton, Mr. Olivo, Mr. Still, Mr. Tranor and Mrs. Popelka, President.

Absent: None

Also Present: Mrs. Melissa Flach-Bammer, Acting Superintendent/Principal/CST Coordinator  
Christine M. Werner, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary Consultant  
Mr. Richard Alderiso and Mr. James Strimple of DesignIdeas Group - AOR  
Eighteen (18) members of the public were in attendance.

At this time, President Popelka provided an update regarding the district's Status of the Superintendent Search and Shared Services Superintendent consideration, as well as, a Solar/Renewable Energy consideration for the school district as follows:

**E. STATUS OF SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH AND SHARED SERVICES SUPERINTENDENT DISCUSSION**

President Popelka provided an updater pertaining to the status of the NPS Superintendent search and a possible Shared Service opportunity with LVHS. President Popelka stated that LVHS had met last evening to discuss a potential Shared Services Superintendent and Shared Services Administrative Assistant consideration with Netcong. President Popelka stated that while LVHS has expressed interest in this opportunity and would like to continue discussions for this purpose, they have requested that their Committee continue to meet with Netcong Committee members to discuss the matter further. President Popelka stated that LVHS have several questions about said arrangement and how it may impact LVHS. President Popelka stated that this is a continuing discussion and that it is not expected that it will be a short process so President Popelka recommended that the Netcong Board of Education start interviewing Interim Superintendent candidates to come on board until such time as the Committee(s) (both NBOE and LVHS) can make a final recommendation to their respective Board(s) of Education.

**F. SOLAR ENERGY PROGRAM CONSIDERATION AND DISCUSSION**

President Popelka stated that she had made contact with Ms. Cynthia Rueter of the Morris County Improvement Authority to express an interest in participating in their renewable energy program. President Popelka noted that this program is getting ready to start Phase II. President Popelka stated that Phase I of the program consisted of installing a total of 14,000 solar panels at nineteen (19) school and county government buildings. A brief discussion ensued.

**G. POTENTIAL BUILDING PROJECT PRESENTATION**

At this time, President Popelka turned the meeting over to Mr. Richard Alderiso and Mr. James Strimple, of DesignIdeas Group, the district's Architect of Record to lead the Netcong Public School Referendum projects discussion.

Mr. Alderiso and Mr. Strimple thanked Mrs. Popelka, stated their names and provided pertinent information pertaining to the process that has brought the district's Administration and Board of Education to review and consider proposing a Referendum election. Mr. Alderiso stated that, as the district's Architect of Record, DesignIdeas Group had been contacted by NPS Administration to examine and investigate a Roof Replacement project consideration and various Miscellaneous Level I and Miscellaneous Level II project considerations. Mr. Alderiso stated that after careful review of the projects to be considered, DesignIdeas Group was authorized to submit three (3) ROD grant applications on behalf of the district to the New Jersey Department of Education. Mr. Alderiso provided an overview of the ROD grant submissions that were sent to the NJDOE on behalf of the Netcong Public School:

- 1) Roof Replacement Project
- 2) Miscellaneous Level I Projects
- 3) Miscellaneous Level II Projects

Mr. Alderiso stated that in working with Mrs. Lisa Gorab, Bonding Attorney and Mrs. Werner, the Business Administrator/Board Secretary Consultant, it has been determined that the tax impact of the proposed projects will be as follows:

## NETCONG PUBLIC SCHOOL ROD STATE GRANT FUNDING

STATE GRANT = 42.8% AND  
LOCAL SHARE = 57.2%

### ESTIMATED ANNUAL TAX IMPACTS OF RENOVATION PROJECTS ON AN AVERAGE ASSESSED HOME

\$918,966 Roof Project  (\$525,647 local share bond)	\$1,505,032 Level 1 Renovation Projects  (\$860,875 local share bond)	\$1,120,000 Level 2 Renovation Projects  (\$640,640 local share bond)
<b>\$33</b>	<b>\$54</b>	<b>\$40</b>

Assumptions:

- The State will provide a grant in the amount equal to 42.8% of the Project costs, in which case the Board would bond for the ‘local share’ of 57.2% of costs.
- mortgage-like repayment schedule – level annual debt service on bonds
- 4% interest rate (rates are currently about 3.8%)
- 20 year bond
- Average assessed home of \$292,700
- Total assessments of \$342,948,236
- does not include any increased operational costs or savings resulting from project

The total tax impact to the local taxpayer owning a home in Netcong Borough with an average assessed valuation of \$272,900, would incur an additional increase of \$33.00/year for the Roof Replacement project, would incur an additional \$54.00/year to address all of the Level I Renovation projects and would incur an additional \$40.00/year to address all of the Level II Renovation projects. All total, the projects (Roof Replacement, Miscellaneous Level I and Miscellaneous Level II) are anticipated to raise the taxes of the average assessed value home in the amount of \$127.00/year. Much discussion ensued regarding consideration of all or only portions of the projects to be considered.

Mr. Alderiso stated that as a result of the meeting with the NBOE Committees the other evening, that his firm had been requested to consider a smorgasbord menu of sorts to determine the cost/tax impact of the individual projects contained within the Miscellaneous Level I projects and the Miscellaneous Level II projects to determine the feasibility of either choosing certain projects that would not be cost (tax impact) prohibitive or to consider all projects in going forward in proposing a Referendum election to the residents of the Borough of Netcong.

Mrs. Werner distributed System Action Description spreadsheets and correlating estimated tax levy impact costs for each of the proposed building projects that are being considered for approval this evening pertaining to the Referendum to both the Board of Education and members of the public who were present.

Mr. Alderiso described the detailed Scope of Work and tax impact of the Roof Replacement Project as follows:

## Roof Replacement Project Scope of Work

- 1) Remove and dispose of existing roof membrane, insulation, vapor-barriers and protection board to existing structural decking. For the purpose of defining this scope of work assume that 20% of the roof area contains hazardous materials which will require special handling and disposal.
- 2) Remove and replace compromised decking with new material to match existing in all respects. For the purpose of defining this scope of work assume that 5% of the decking will require replacement. Deck material will be steel corrugated decking and wood plank decking.
- 3) Remove and dispose of existing gutters, leaders, trim, and associated flashing material.
- 4) Provide new roofing assembly at areas indicated on roof plan. For the purpose of defining this scope of work assume that a multi-layered modified bitumen roofing assembly with 3-inches of rigid insulation, vapor barrier and one layer of protection board. Total area is approximately 30,000 S.F. Installation will include new drainage systems, equipment curbs, flashings, and associated trim materials.
- 5) Existing standing seam roof to remain. Inspect all joints between counter flashing and head-walls and end-walls. Remove cracked or damaged joint sealant, clean joints, and apply new joint sealant.
- 6) Provide new 3-coat, polymer based exterior finishing system over existing brick at areas indicated on drawings. System is meant to create a barrier to prevent water penetration into existing brick at noted areas. Approximate area is 5,000 S.F. Exterior finish to emulate existing brick in all respects.
- 7) Existing roof drain travels through building to basement level and penetrates ceiling of the music room. At that penetration the drain leaks and is damaging the ceiling/floor assembly. Provide new cast iron elbow and replace existing concrete deck where damaged. For the purpose of this application, assume that fifteen (15) feet of cast iron piping shall be replaced and that masonry and plaster refinishing will be required in order to access the internal leader section which is leaking.

Project	Estimated Cost	Grant Award	Cost to District
Roof	\$918,966	\$393,319	\$525,647

\$918,966 Roof Project (\$525,647 local share bond)
<b>Tax Impact to Local Tax Payer = \$33/year</b>

Mr. Alderiso described the detailed proposed project description and tax impact of the Miscellaneous Level I Projects as follows:

### Miscellaneous Level I Projects Scope of Work

Proposed Project Description	Total Cost of Project	Grant Funding	Local Share	Tax Impact on \$100,000 Assessed Valuation	Tax Impact on \$292,700 Assessed Valuation
Remove and replace existing unit ventilators.	\$510,579	\$218,529	\$292,050	\$6.26	\$18.20
Remove and replace lead based paint impacted wall surface (ceramic tile).	\$133,847	\$57,287	\$76,560	\$1.59	\$4.64
Upgrade toilet rooms for barrier free access.	\$511,660	\$218,992	\$292,668	\$6.28	\$18.33
Replace existing fire doors and hardware.	\$82,543	\$35,329	\$47,214	\$1.01	\$2.95
Remove and replace existing boiler pumps and valves.	\$97,195	\$41,600	\$55,595	\$1.19	\$3.47
Install chemical water treatment system.	Included in remove/replace existing boiler pumps project.				
Remove and replace vinyl asbestos floor tile with vinyl composition floor tile at ground floor.	\$77,437	\$33,143	\$44,294	\$0.95	\$2.77
Remove and replace vinyl asbestos floor tile with vinyl composition floor tile at entrance corridor.	Included in remove/replace vinyl asbestos floor tile.				
Replace existing roof top exhaust fans and replace all existing gravity ventilators with roof top exhaust fans.	\$129,659	\$55,494	\$74,165	\$1.59	\$4.54
Remove and replace the existing HVAC unit serving the nurse's office.	Included in remove/replace ceiling mounted heating and ventilation units.				
Remove and replace the existing multi-purpose room deck-hung heating and ventilating units including the suspended ceiling systems.	\$243,136	\$104,063	\$139,073	\$2.98	\$8.70
Remove and replace the locker room ceiling mounted heating and ventilating units.	Included in multipurpose room deck hung heating and ventilation units.				

Mr. Alderiso described the detailed proposed project description and tax impact of the Miscellaneous Level II Projects as follows:

### Miscellaneous Level II Projects Scope of Work

Proposed Project Description	Total Cost of Project	Grant Funding	Local Share	Tax Impact on \$100,000 Assessed Valuation	Tax Impact on \$292,700 Assessed Valuation
Remove and replace existing light fixtures and suspended ceilings.	\$496,179	\$212,366	\$283,813	\$6.09	\$17.98
Remove and replace all corridor lockers.	\$80,000	\$34,320	\$45,760	\$0.98	\$2.86
Remove and replace lockers, benches, floor tile, wall tile, doors, and frames in the existing boys' and girls' locker rooms (w/toilets).	\$540,372	\$231,280	\$309,092	\$6.63	\$19.35
Remove and replace existing wall mounted light fixtures at all entrances and exits.	\$36,105	\$15,453	\$20,652	\$0.44	\$1.28

Much discussion ensued. President Popelka inquired if the district might qualify for Smart Start grant funding pertaining to the interior lighting replacement project. Mr. Alderiso stated that he was not certain if the grant funds associated with the “Smart Start” grants were exhausted at this time.

President Popelka then opened the discussion this evening to the Board of Education Trustees and the Public for questions/concerns/comments pertaining to these projects.

**PETITIONS AND REQUESTS OF THE PUBLIC ~ AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

Mr. Morton moved, seconded by Mrs. Dalesandro, to open the public session at 8:06 p.m. and was approved by a unanimous voice vote by all members present. President Popelka opened the meeting to the public at 8:06 pm.

Mrs. Callahan inquired if the projects were proposed by Mr. Fyffe. Mr. Alderiso responded that Mr. Fyffe had reached out to DIG regarding substantial and numerous leaks associated with the NPS building’s roof and has proposed DIG would investigate the matter. Mr. Alderiso stated that Mr. Fyffe indicated that there were other facility issues – “concerns” that he requested DIG investigate (as listed above) and had asked DIG to file ROD grants as the district’s AOR after investigating the district facilities’ “concerns”, what concerns needed to be addressed and what has already been addressed in terms of capital improvements. Discussion ensued. Mr. Alderiso stated that Mr. Fyffe had requested that DIG go through the list to see if there was any Federal funding, State funding or local funding that might be ascertained for this purpose. Mr. Alderiso stated that he was aware of ROD grant funding and that there might be “energy savings” grants as a potential funding resource. Mr. Alderiso stated that the ROD grants were the most lucrative (able to provide the greatest amount of grant funding for this purpose) at this time but was also encouraged by Mr. Fyffe to investigate any/all opportunities. Mr. Alderiso stated that the district was not eligible for ARRA funding but that there may be a potential opportunity through local municipal grants – CEH projects but that there were additional hurdles that the district would have to jump over to get funding.

Mr. Tranor inquired if the ROD grants were estimated costs or if, Mr. Alderiso could give specific explanations associated with the estimated costs for our projects as presented i.e. roof replacement. Mr. Alderiso stated the ROD grants have a template format and that the estimated costs, as presented, are merely estimated with an "escalation" cost added in and includes fees as well. Mr. Alderiso stated that DIG has done its best to estimate costs based on "your building"/the NPS project. Mr. Alderiso stated that the DIG looked at the potential escalation cost over the last few years and that, they had found the in 2008-2009 there was actually a de-escalation cost associated with all construction.

Mrs. Dalesandro inquired if the estimate of \$900,000 for the roof replacement project included everything, even though there are no actual specifications drafted for the project. Mr. Alderiso stated that DIG has done its best in providing the Board of Education with estimated costs in conjunction with historical costs, market trends and "escalation costs". Mrs. Dalesandro stated that to date, Netcong Board of Education has already spent \$21,604.00 +/- just for DIG to look at "projects" for our district and to submit ROD grants on behalf of the district. President Popelka stated that as a result of their (DIG) efforts to submit ROD grants on our behalf, we should think of it in terms of the investment will allow the NPS district to receive \$1.5 million in grant funds. Mr. Alderiso stated "yes". Mr. Tranor inquired if any of these associated costs (architectural costs) could be absorbed in the referendum or ROG grant funds? Mr. Alderiso stated that the \$ (monies) spent to date do not get reimbursed but that the work that has already been completed and paid for (i.e. engineering, etc.) will be paid forward in the project. Mr. Tranor inquired if it is fair to say that this will reduce time and effort (and in reality, fiscal expense/cost) to the district going forward. Mrs. Callahan commented that if the referendum fails, how will the BOE come back from this and in terms of future assessment, can we expect other / more problems? Mr. Alderiso stated that the problems (with the facility) will only worsen with time.

Mr. Olivo inquired about solar energy/solar panels, what type and weight, and how many panels we (NPS need) would Mr. Alderiso recommend. Mr. Alderiso stated that the project/ROD grants did not specify solar energy/panels. Mr. Olivo inquired if they could be included as "change orders", and, if not, inquired where the district could get grant monies for this purpose. A brief discussion ensued. President Popelka stated that she had made an inquiry to the M.C.M.I.A. in the hope that the district could get funding for this purpose from them. Mr. Alderiso stated that this ("solar panels/energy") consideration should not let this keep the Board of Education from doing the proposed projects. A brief discussion ensued. President Popelka stated that the district had received ROD grant funding to assist with the Boiler Replacement project.

Pat Marsico (41 Koclas Drive) commented on the tax impact associated with the roof replacement project (\$33/year for the average assessed home value of \$292,700).

Karen Bond (5 Koclas Drive) inquired if the district was going to replace all roofs on all the building's wings? President Popelka responded "yes". Ms. Bond inquired how long has it been since the roofs have been replaced and if there was any warranty for this purpose? President Popelka stated it has been over 20+ years since the roofs have been replaced and are no longer under warranty. Ms. Bond inquired if the roofs on the NPS building are flat? President Popelka stated "yes". Ms. Bond then inquired what will happen if the referendum does not pass. President Popelka stated that the Board of Education is looking at a September Referendum election and if we are not successful, then the BOE will trim down the projects and entertain going back out for a December Referendum election. President Popelka stated that the district can continue to go out to referendum election for 6 months henceforth, but that if the district is not successful in the next 6 months, then the district must return the ROD grant funds. Mr. Alderiso and Mr. Strimple (DIG) explained that the district only has 180 days from receipt of the FEC letter to use the ROD grant funds, otherwise it goes away. Mr. Alderiso and Mr. Strimple stated that it is anticipated that this is the last year that the NJ Governor/NJDOE is expected to authorize ROD grant funding.

Netcong Borough Mayor Joe Nametko inquired if there had been a study of the projects and consequently a "ranking" of the projects in terms of "must have", "should have", "nice to have", etc. Discussion ensued. Mr. Alderiso stated that in the State's eyes (NJDOE) all of the projects being considered/proposed are HEALTH AND SAFETY projects, that the Roof is imperative, and that the Level I and Level II projects are must haves.

Mr. Arbolino commented that the list of BOE approved projects has not been finalized. Mrs. Dalesandro stated that the Roof replacement project is the #1 priority but that the other projects were discussed in Committee forum last Monday evening and that the BOE was still prioritizing the projects. In fact, Mrs. Dalesandro stated that the BOE Committee had prioritized the projects and felt that 6 items were Level I projects were of the most interest to the BOE and that consideration was/is still being given to the others as presented. Mrs. Dalesandro stated that the Committee had asked DIG to itemize the projects and break them down individually in terms of “per project” tax (fiscal) impact as has been provided this evening via excel spreadsheets – “Thank you to Mrs. Werner for this effort.” Discussion ensued.

Kathleen Renegar (29 Dell Avenue) expressed concern with the “leaking roof” because leaks create mold. Mrs. Renegar said that although the public has been told that there is no evidence of mold that has been found, is there a test done that can be done for this contingency? Mr. Alderiso stated that this is included in the allowance for environmental testing line item (fees). Mrs. Renegar inquired what the district/BOE will do if there is mold found in the building? Mr. Alderiso stated that it depends on the mold type, etc. Mr. Strimple stated that many districts have taken advantage of addressing high humidity areas by removing affected areas with a Clorox solution. Mrs. Renegar stated that she had a particular concern with the leaking roof drain in the music room and inquired if this has been built into the project. Mr. Alderiso stated that there are some contingencies for this purpose. Mrs. Renegar inquired if the district had also included air quality testing for the unit-ventilators. A brief discussion ensued. Mrs. Renegar stated that she hoped that these things can all be worked out in the best interest of the district. Mrs. Renegar thanked the Board for having the Architects present this evening to answer the public’s questions.

Netcong Borough Mayor Joe Nametko inquired if the ROD grant funding was guaranteed funding for the district. President Popelka stated “yes” unless the referendum is continually defeated over the next 6 months, then the district will be forced to relinquish its claim on the funding. Acting Superintendent Bammer stated “...take a look at everything. The school will always be here. We want to fix it for our children and our children’s children. We want to improve our school for our kids!” President Popelka stated “...look at the list before you this evening. These projects are all issues that the Netcong school community has been dealing with for years and years. It is time to fix it properly, these are all major issues. We will continue to have school for children, we have to take ownership and do our due diligence and we have done our due diligence over the years within our small financial budget while taking advantage of NJDOE grant funds. We have saved money in our Capital Reserve account and we have utilized those funds as necessary in the past but we do not have a lot of money in our Capital Reserve account at this period in time. We have also NOT had (been burdened with) debt service in more than 20 years! The school district can only fund capital (building) projects through grant funds (either ROD/State grant funding or debt service aid) or through referendum. In terms of referendum, we must go to the voters for approval. That is what we have to do at this point in time”. Discussion ensued.

Karen Bond (5 Koclas Drive) made an inquiry to the AOR pertaining to the discussion of the drainage pipes going to the base of the NPS building. Mr. Alderiso stated that drainage matters will be addressed within the Roof Project. A brief discussion ensued.

Pat Marsico (41 Koclas Drive) stated that the paint on the walls and hallways (beige, gray, etc.) are very dreary and inquired if any painting is included in the project. A brief discussion ensued.

Kathleen Renegar (29 Dell Avenue) inquired if this (drainage system) is solid enough for the life of the roof? Mr. Alderiso stated that it should be, but reiterated that general maintenance is the key.



A preliminary timeline for the projects was discussed:

- ✚ Referendum to be held September 28, 2010.
- ✚ Construction documents to be bid in March 2011.
- ✚ Award of bid to Contractor in May 2011.
- ✚ Notice to Proceed given to Contractor in June 2011.
- ✚ Construction work to begin in June/July 2011.
- ✚ Roof Project and Miscellaneous projects (those selected) completed by September 2011.

Mrs. Dalesandro inquired if the projects can all conceivably be completed by September in this timeline. Mr. Alderiso stated that the Contractor(s) will be on board in June, many of the projects can work at the same time. Mrs. Dalesandro inquired if awarded in June, can the work be completed by September 2011? Mr. Alderiso stated that the interior projects will be carried out simultaneously. All Contractors know that no work can be carried on when school is in session. Mrs. Dalesandro inquired if the work can be done after school is opened in September 2010. A brief discussion ensued. Mr. Tranor stated that it is expected that any work that needs to still needs to be completed will be done after school hours or on weekends. Mr. Alderiso stated "yes". President Popelka referenced the unit-ventilator replacement project and inquired if being that we currently have two (2) systems, steam/water, does it make more sense to have all of the unit-ventilators one system. Mr. Alderiso stated that DIG would look at the specs in terms of this inquiry, but that for the most part this will probably cost more money for this. A brief discussion ensued.

President Popelka then "THANKED" the public for coming this evening. She asked for a show of hands of those in the public who do not want the Board of Education to proceed with all of the projects presented this evening. There were no hands raised by any of the members of the public present this evening.

Netcong Borough Mayor Joe Nametko stated that he supported "ALL" of the projects that have been proposed to be included in the Referendum election to be held on September 28, 2010.

Kathleen Renegar (29 Dell Avenue) inquired if the district will be responsible for paying O.T. wages to Construction personnel when they are required to work after hours and weekends next Fall when school is open. President Popelka stated that there are penalty clauses placed in construction contracts that charge penalties and fees if contractors do not finish projects on time. A brief discussion ensued, in particular noting that June is hurricane season such that construction work may be deterred as such and not completed "on-time" as a result, it was noted that consideration may or may not be given to changing the start date of school next September, that this is not known at the present time.

President Popelka asked for a show of hands of those in the public who want the Board of Education to proceed with all of the projects presented this evening. There was a unanimous show of hands of the members of the public present this evening to proceed with all of the projects as presented and discussed.

Patrick McQueeney (15 Kings Road) volunteered to assist with the NPS Referendum. Mr. McQueeney inquired if the Board of Education anticipated that the ballot question that will be posed in September will be one question or more and will the public have the opportunity to vote on one project or various levels of projects? President Popelka stated that the question/questions that will be posed on the district's Referendum ballot will be decided after the Board has the opportunity to discuss this in public with our Bonding Attorney, Ms. Lisa Gorab of Wilentz, Goldman and Spitzer.

Karen Koster (41 Dell Avenue) stated that the NPS building has not had any changes made to it since "you" went to school and stated that the Board should consider all of the projects and pose one question on the Referendum election ballot. A brief discussion ensued.

Karin Bond (5 Koclas Drive) inquired about the locker rooms and asked if the Administration would be willing to give parents/residents a tour of the facilities so that they can see the referendum projects being considered. President Popelka stated that the public is invited to take a tour of the facilities by contacting Mrs. Flach-Bammer, Acting Superintendent/Principal. Mrs. Flach-Bammer stated that tour dates will be publicized so that all members of the community can take a tour of the NPS building to become advised of the projects that have been proposed in the Referendum. Mrs. Flach-Bammer welcomed the opportunity to have the public help to publicize the Referendum and the projects included within it.

President Popelka stated that the district has not had Debt Service obligations in over 20 years. Mrs. Dalesandro stated that the last Referendum election was held in 1981. Mrs. Dalesandro stated that the matter at hand is the question(s) that will be posed on the ballot. She noted that it is important that the public be made aware that the State of NJ is paying 42.8% of the estimated cost of the projects through providing ROD grant funding, the balance of 57.2% will be raised through local tax dollars in the referendum election. Mrs. Dalesandro stated that the Administration and Board of Education needs to educate the community in terms of what the local share (57.2%) represents in terms of the tax impact to the local taxpayer. A brief discussion ensued. Mrs. Dalesandro stated that, in accordance with the discussion pertaining to 6 months henceforth to raise the local share of the projects via referendum, then the district must be successful in achieving public support for the referendum by February 2011. Mr. Strimple of DIG provided an overview of the timeline of Referendum election dates stating that the State of NJ determines that under the law – the dates happen in September, December, early February and April (with the annual School election, noting that success is most often achieved at certain dates rather than others and that statistically, September elections are the most successful. Discussion ensued. Mr. Strimple stated that if the Referendum is successful on September 28, 2010 then the bidding documents will be completed by March and the work will begin/start in June, 2011. If the Referendum is not successful, the district can go back out for Referendum on December 14, 2010. A brief discussion ensued. Mr. Strimple stated that the most of the proposed work will be done over the Summer and if there is a need to complete work after August 31, 2011 then contractors will work on weekends and after school hours so as not to disturb the school day/education of the pupils. Netcong Borough Mayor Joe Nametko stated that if there shall be more than one question posed on the Referendum ballot, then he recommended that the questions posed be concise and clear. Mr. Strimple stated that the Bonding Attorney will write the Referendum question(s) and work in conjunction with the Board of Education to ensure the question is exactly as the Board of Education prescribes. Discussion ensued.

Karin Bond (5 Koclas Drive) stated in reference to the lighting project, are the district's ceilings "suspended ceilings"? President Popelka stated "yes". Mrs. Bond inquired if something falls through the roof and then subsequently through the suspended ceiling, then should both of these projects be considered Level I? A brief discussion ensued. Mr. Alderiso stated that both the Roof replacement project and the Ceiling replacement should be considered Level I projects. Discussion ensued. Mrs. Bond then stated that both her children are hearing impaired and that the roof top units are very noisy and vibrate which affects her children and the learning environment. Mrs. Popelka stated that the Board did not wish to adversely affect the NPS children's learning environment before or during construction. A brief discussion ensued.

There being no items for discussion at this time, Mrs. Dalesandro moved, seconded by Mr. Morton to close the public session at 8:55 pm. This was approved by a unanimous voice vote by all members present.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION None at this time.**

**II. PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

President Popelka “thanked” everyone for coming this evening, and for asking pertinent questions and for participating in the discussion, as well as, for providing public support pertaining to the proposed Referendum projects.

**III. ACTING SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS**

Mrs. Flach-Bammer also “thanked” everyone for participating this evening and for providing support regarding the proposed Referendum projects/election.

Mrs. Flach-Bammer “thanked” Mr. Alderiso and Mr. Strimple for coming this evening and for providing pertinent information regarding same.

**Mr. Alderiso and Mr. Strimple left the meeting at 9:05 p.m.**

**IV. SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR CONSULTANT’S COMMENTS**

Mrs. Werner had no comment at this time.

**BOARD MINUTES AND CORRESPONDENCE**

**Correspondence**

Mr. Still moved the following resolution:

**RESOLVED**, the communications mentioned be listed in the minutes and action be taken as noted.

Sender	Subject	Referred to
Mr. James Strimple Mr. Richard Alderiso DesignIdeasGroup	September 28, 2010 Referendum Schedule & Sequence of Actions to Develop an Energy Savings Project	Mrs. Melissa Flach-Bammer, Acting Superintendent Mrs. Christine Werner, Board Secretary Consultant Members, Netcong Board of Education
State of New Jersey Department of Education – Office of School Facilities Bernard E. Piaia, Jr. Director <b><u>Via Email 07-23-10 – to Mrs. Melissa Flach-Bammer Mrs. Christine Werner</u></b>	<b><u>PRELIMINARY ELIGIBLE COST (PEC)</u></b> – Determination of a School Facilities Project for a Regular Operating District Seeking a Grant Pursuant to the Educational Facilities Construction and Financing Act (EFCFA), P.L. 2000, c.72 as amended <b>State Project #: 3520-060-10-1001 Misc. Level 2 Projects</b>	Mrs. Melissa Flach-Bammer, Acting Superintendent Netcong Borough School District (via email) c.: Mrs. Christine M. Werner, Business Administrator/Bd. Secretary Consultant (via email) Members, Netcong Board of Education

Sender	Subject	Referred to
State of New Jersey Department of Education – Office of School Facilities Bernard E. Piaia, Jr. Director <u>Via Email 07-23-10 – to</u> <u>Mrs. Melissa Flach-Bammer</u> <u>Mrs. Christine Werner</u>	<u>PRELIMINARY ELIGIBLE COST (PEC)</u> – Determination of a School Facilities Project for a Regular Operating District Seeking a Grant Pursuant to the Educational Facilities Construction and Financing Act (EFCFA), P.L. 2000, c.72 as amended <b>State Project #:</b> <b>3520-060-10-1002</b> <b>Roof Replacement Project</b>	Mrs. Melissa Flach-Bammer, Acting Superintendent Netcong Borough School District (via email) c.: Mrs. Christine M. Werner, Business Administrator/Bd. Secretary Consultant (via email) Members, Netcong Board of Education
State of New Jersey Department of Education – Office of School Facilities Bernard E. Piaia, Jr. Director <u>Via Email 07-23-10 – to</u> <u>Mrs. Melissa Flach-Bammer</u> <u>Mrs. Christine Werner</u>	<u>PRELIMINARY ELIGIBLE COST (PEC)</u> – Determination of a School Facilities Project for a Regular Operating District Seeking a Grant Pursuant to the Educational Facilities Construction and Financing Act (EFCFA), P.L. 2000, c.72 as amended <b>State Project #:</b> <b>3520-060-10-1003</b> <b>Misc. Level 1 Projects</b>	Mrs. Melissa Flach-Bammer, Acting Superintendent Netcong Borough School District (via email) c.: Mrs. Christine M. Werner, Business Administrator/Bd. Secretary Consultant (via email) Members, Netcong Board of Education

The motion was seconded by Mr. Morton and was approved by a unanimous voice vote by all members present.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS** - None at this time.

**VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. FINANCE/FACILITIES** - **Frank Tranor, Chairperson**

Motion by Mr. Tranor, seconded by Mr. Olivo, that resolutions numbered 1 – 3 be for adopted as presented:

1.

**Miscellaneous Level 2 Projects - Authorization for Execution of NJSDA Grant Agreement for NJ State Project # 3520-060-10-1001**

**BE IT RESOLVED** By the Netcong Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, approves the authorized notification of the New Jersey Department of Education and delivery of the NJSDA Grant Agreement for NJ State Project # 3520-060-10-1001 (Miscellaneous Level 2 Projects) accepting the Preliminary Eligibility Cost (PEC) with a total eligible cost of **\$1,120,004** inclusive of an NJSDA grant amount (payable to the Netcong School District) of **\$479,364.00 or 42.8002%** per the letter of award dated July 23, 2010. It will not appeal the determination of the preliminary eligible costs. It is the district’s intent to pursue construction of this project (Netcong Public School – Miscellaneous Level 2 Projects) and elects the grant option pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7G-7. Attached, NJDOE Attachment “A” will become part of this resolution.

The Board hereby (i) accepts the determination of Preliminary Eligible Costs as set forth in the letter of the New Jersey Department of Education dated July 23, 2010, (ii) elects to receive support from the State in the form of a State Grant pursuant to Section 15 of the State Grant Act, (iii) determines to construct the Project; (iv) agree to locally fund any excess costs (v) authorizes the Board President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary to execute and deliver the applicable State grant agreements and (vi) delegates the supervision of the Project to the Business Administrator/ Board Secretary.

2.

**Roof Replacement Project - Authorization for Execution of NJSDA Grant Agreement for NJ State Project # 3520-060-10-1002**

**BE IT RESOLVED** By the Netcong Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, approves the authorized notification of the New Jersey Department of Education and delivery of the NJSDA Grant Agreement for NJ State Project # 3520-060-10-1002 (Roof Replacement Project) accepting the Preliminary Eligibility Cost (PEC) with a total eligible cost of **\$918,966.00** inclusive of an NJSDA grant amount (payable to the Netcong School District) of **\$393,319.00 or 42.8002%** per the letter of award dated July 23, 2010. It will not appeal the determination of the preliminary eligible costs. It is the district’s intent to pursue construction of this project (Netcong Public School – Roof Replacement Project) and elects the grant option pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7G-7. Attached, NJDOE Attachment “A” will become part of this resolution.

The Board hereby (i) accepts the determination of Preliminary Eligible Costs as set forth in the letter of the New Jersey Department of Education dated July 23, 2010, (ii) elects to receive support from the State in the form of a State Grant pursuant to Section 15 of the State Grant Act, (iii) determines to construct the Project; (iv) agree to locally fund any excess costs (v) authorizes the Board President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary to execute and deliver the applicable State grant agreements and (vi) delegates the supervision of the Project to the Business Administrator/ Board Secretary.

3.

**Roof Replacement Project - Authorization for Execution of NJSDA Grant Agreement for NJ State Project # 3520-060-10-1003**

**BE IT RESOLVED** By the Netcong Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, approves the authorized notification of the New Jersey Department of Education and delivery of the NJSDA Grant Agreement for NJ State Project # 3520-060-10-1003 (Miscellaneous Level 1 Projects) accepting the Preliminary Eligibility Cost (PEC) with a total eligible cost of **\$1,505,032.00** inclusive of an NJSDA grant amount (payable to the Netcong School District) of **\$644,157.00 or 42.8002%** per the letter of award dated July 23, 2010. It will not appeal the determination of the preliminary eligible costs. It is the district’s intent to pursue construction of this project (Netcong Public School – Miscellaneous Level 1 Projects) and elects the grant option pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7G-7. Attached, NJDOE Attachment “A” will become part of this resolution.

The Board hereby (i) accepts the determination of Preliminary Eligible Costs as set forth in the letter of the New Jersey Department of Education dated July 23, 2010, (ii) elects to receive support from the State in the form of a State Grant pursuant to Section 15 of the State Grant Act, (iii) determines to construct the Project; (iv) agree to locally fund any excess costs (v) authorizes the Board President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary to execute and deliver the applicable State grant agreements and (vi) delegates the supervision of the Project to the Business Administrator/ Board Secretary.

**VOTE: FINANCE/FACILITIES AGENDA ITEMS #1– 3 AS PRESENTED.**

**AYES:** Mr. Arbolino, Mrs. Callahan, Mrs. Dalesandro, Mr. Morton, Mr. Olivo, Mr. Still, Mr. Tranor, and Mrs. Popelka, President.

**NAYS:** None

**ABSTENTIONS:** None

Motion by Mr. Tranor, seconded by Mr. Still that resolution number 4 be addended and adopted as presented:

4.

**RESOLUTION – SPECIAL ELECTION**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING CERTAIN INITIAL ACTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH A SEPTEMBER 28, 2010 BOND REFERENDUM**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education of the Borough of Netcong in the County of Morris, New Jersey (the “Board”) has submitted certain projects to the New Jersey Department of Education (“NJDOE”) in connection with a facilities renovations project (the “Projects”); and

**WHEREAS**, the NJDOE has awarded funding to the Projects in the amount of 42.8002%; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to access such funding, the Board would be required to receive approval from the voters to undertake the Projects via a bond referendum; and

**WHEREAS**, the next available bond referendum date is September 28, 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board seeks to take certain initial steps to preserve the opportunity to present all or a portion of the Projects to the voters via a bond referendum at a Special School District Election to be held on September 28, 2010; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY**, as follows:

Section 1. The Board hereby authorizes and directs the Board President, the Superintendent, the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, and Bond Counsel, as applicable, to take all action required to preserve the opportunity to present the certain projects consisting of a Roof Replacement project and various Miscellaneous Level I projects and Miscellaneous Level II projects to the voters via a bond referendum at a Special School District Election to be held on September 28, 2010 including the providing notice to the appropriate election officials.

Section 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

**All in favor.**

**Discussion:** A brief discussion ensued. It was noted that the actual ballot questions will be determined in August 2010 after meeting with the district’s Bond Counsel, Mrs. Lisa Gorab of Wilentz, Spitzer and Goldman.

**VOTE: FINANCE/FACILITIES AGENDA ITEMS #4 AS ADDENDED AND AS PRESENTED.**

**AYES:** Mr. Arbolino, Mrs. Callahan, Mrs. Dalesandro, Mr. Morton, Mr. Olivo, Mr. Still, Mr. Tranor, and Mrs. Popelka, President.

**NAYS:** None

**ABSTENTIONS:** None

**B. PERSONNEL - James Still, Chairperson**

Motion by Mr. Still, seconded by Mr. Morton, that resolution number 1 – 1 be adopted as presented:

- 1. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Netcong Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, approves Ms. Jacqueline Rich as the Teacher in Charge when the Acting Superintendent/Principal and Ms. Gina Szarejko are out of the building at the same time effective September 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011.

**VOTE: PERSONNEL AGENDA ITEM #1 AS PRESENTED.**

**AYES:** Mr. Arbolino, Mrs. Callahan, Mrs. Dalesandro, Mr. Morton, Mr. Olivo, Mr. Still, Mr. Tranor, and Mrs. Popelka, President.

**NAYS:** None

**ABSTENTIONS:** None

**C. EDUCATION - Todd Morton, Chairperson**

There were no Education Committee resolutions to be considered for approval this evening.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS** – None at this time.

**VII. MISCELLANEOUS** - None at this time.

**PETITIONS AND REQUESTS OF THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Morton moved, seconded by Mr. Tranor, to open the public session at 9:10 p.m. and was approved by a unanimous voice vote by all members present. President Popelka opened the meeting to the public at 9:10 pm.

Patrick McQueeney (15 Kings Road) volunteered to assist with the NPS Referendum.

Pat Marsico (41 Koclas Drive) referenced the Board’s consideration pertaining to a potential interlocal “purchased service” for the LVHS’s Superintendent and his Secretary’s services for the 2010-2011 school year. Mrs. Dalesandro stated that interlocal agreements for this purpose no longer exist but that the Sussex County Executive Superintendent is a proponent of shared services and, in particular for such an agreement as is being considered by the Netcong Board of Education and the Lenape Valley Board of Education. Discussion ensued.

Patrick McQueeney (15 Kings Road) stated that he respectfully disagreed with Mrs. Dalesandro on this matter, Netcong residents are already paying taxes to LVHS and subsequently already contributes to Mr. Palek's salary. Discussion ensued. Mr. McQueeney stated that the children of Netcong will probably not know Mr. Palek is the Superintendent because in all actuality many of the LVHS students do not know he is Superintendent. Students know who the Principal is and not necessarily who the Superintendent is or what they do. Mr. McQueeney said the Superintendent works with the Board of Education, works on the school budget, works with school facilities and management matters including Referendum elections and works with the district's Policy for the most part. Mr. McQueeney said that the Superintendent's role is to not run the school and not to "high five" the kids. Mr. Arbolino stated that the intention of the Board of Education is that the Superintendent should be seen, we want the Superintendent to be known by the kids but that is not our primary concern. Discussion ensued. Mr. McQueeney stated that in a perfect world, the students would know the Superintendent but this is not the case in a large building. He then stated that it is the Principal who runs the school!

Angela Kunkel (13 Church Street) stated that LVHS BOE has stated that they need a full-time Superintendent and inquired what has been changed that he could serve as the Superintendent for both LVHS and Netcong. A brief discussion ensued.

Kathleen Renegar (29 Dell Avenue) stated that it is the Principal who runs the day-to-day operations of the school which is what Mrs. Bammer does. Mrs. Renegar stated that she feels that Mrs. Bammer should be an integral part of any decision pertaining to a proposed shared arrangement because she is the one who will work with Mr. Palek, and she is the one who is with our children all day and who attends school functions. Discussion ensued. President Popelka stated that the Netcong Board of Education wants what is in the best interest of our school and our children, are investigating options to determine what will work well for the district and the children and not necessarily to have the Superintendent outside greeting the children, that is the Principal's (Mrs. Bammer's) job.

Pat Marsico (41 Koclas Drive) stated that Mine Hill and Wharton share a Superintendent.

Karin Bond (5 Koclas Drive) stated that she did not remember the Principal or the Superintendent from her childhood (elementary school). She stated that in her opinion, it does not matter who is chosen to be the Superintendent, you just want someone to do their job. A brief discussion ensued. Mrs. Bond stated that perhaps Netcong should just become part of Mt. Olive. President Popelka stated that Mt. Olive has a large number of students and has cut programs after having a defeated budget in April. A brief discussion ensued and President Popelka stated that perhaps Netcong might have the opportunity to pick up a few tuition students as a result of their cutting programs, just something to be considered.

There being no additional items for discussion at this time, Mr. Olivo moved, seconded by Mr. Still to close the public session at 9:32 pm. This was approved by a unanimous voice vote by all members present.

## **IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Mrs. Dalesandro, seconded by Mr. Still, that RESOLVED, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-13 and 10:4-12 that the Netcong Board of Education hold a closed Executive Session regarding pending or anticipated litigation, contract negotiation, personnel, and/or matters pertaining to attorney/client privilege. It is expected that the discussion undertaken in this closed session can be made public at the time official action is taken.

The motion was made at 9:32 pm and was approved by a unanimous voice vote by all members present.



**X. EXECUTIVE SESSION – A motion is requested to come out of executive session.**

Motion by Mr. Morton, seconded by Mr. Olivo, to close executive session at 9:59 pm. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote by all members present.

The Board reconvened in Public Session at 9:59 pm with the following members present:

Present: Mr. Arbolino, Mrs. Callahan, Mrs. Dalesandro, Mr. Morton, Mr. Olivo, Mr. Still, Mr. Tranor and Mrs. Popelka, President.

**XI. POSSIBLE MOTIONS FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Mrs. Dalesandro, seconded by Mr. Morton that resolution number 2 be adopted as presented:

- 2. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Netcong Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, approves the amendment to the employment contract of Mrs. Christine Werner to include health benefits with appropriate employee deductions (1.5% of employee’s gross salary) in accordance with the HBI withholding law implemented on July 1, 2010 for the 2010-2011 school year.

**VOTE:** **PERSONNEL AGENDA ITEM #2 AS PRESENTED.**

**AYES:** Mr. Arbolino, Mrs. Callahan, Mrs. Dalesandro, Mr. Olivo, Mr. Morton, Mr. Still, Mr. Tranor, and Mrs. Popelka, President.

**NAYES:** None

**ABSTENTIONS:** None

**XII. ADJOURNMENT** – There being no further business to come before the board, Mr. Arbolino made a motion, seconded by Mr. Still and carried by Unanimous Voice Vote to adjourn the July 29, 2010 Special Meeting of the Netcong Board of Education at 10:03 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Christine M. Werner*

Christine M. Werner  
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
Consultant