

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING**  
**of the**  
**NETCONG SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**26 College Road**  
**Netcong, NJ 07857**  
**December 13, 2011**

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by President Morton at 7:10 PM. The meeting was held in the Netcong Board of Education Office as publicly advertised.

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

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

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting 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 the Act the Board of Education of the Netcong School District 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 to the Daily Record, The West Morris Reporter 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: Mrs. Callahan, Mrs. Dalesandro, Mr. McQueeney, Mr. Olivo, Mrs. Popelka, Ms. Sufly, Mr. Tranor, and Mr. Morton, President.

Absent: None

Also Present: Dr. Dwight Pfennig, Interim Superintendent  
Christine M. Werner, Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
There were five (5) members of the public present.

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

Board Trustee Olivo moved, seconded by Board Trustee Popelka to open the public session at 7:13 p.m. and was approved by a unanimous voice vote by all members present. President Morton opened the meeting to the public at 7:13 p.m.

There being no items for discussion at this time, Board Trustee Popelka moved, seconded by Board Trustee Callahan to close the public session at 7:14 pm. This was approved by a unanimous voice vote by all members present.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – None at this time.**II. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS**

President Morton stated that a “walk through” (FineWall, Parrette Somjen Architects, Gianforcaro AEP, Dr. Pfennig, President Morton and Board Trustee Dalesandro) was done earlier this afternoon from 3:15 pm - 5:00 pm but the walk through is not completed yet. President Morton stated that the “preliminary” punchlist is extensive and that the process has been exhausting. Discussion ensued. President Morton stated that the Construction Manager is angry, which is both encouraging but yet discouraging, because FineWall is having difficulty getting the job done. Board Trustee Olivo stated “we hired the Construction Manager to be our eyes but they have missed a lot.” Board Trustee Dalesandro stated that the Board of Education should be pro-active and involved, and that the projects are not near closure. Much discussion ensued regarding scuppers, holes, roof drains, water pooling on macadam/pavement, piping, VCT flooring/tile (room 201), etcetera. Dr. Pfennig stated that the preliminary punchlist has been discussed since September and little progress has been made. Dr. Pfennig stated that the Gym floor repairs are back in place and basketball practices have resumed. Mathusek will complete the sanding/refinishing will be done during the winter break. Dr. Pfennig also noted that the hallway VCT tile will be replaced over the winter break as well. Much discussion ensued. Board Trustee Popelka stated that the Board of Education should be mindful that as we near substantial completion the Board of Education has options, we can go after their performance bond. A brief discussion ensued.

**III. INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS**

Dr. Pfennig stated that the “walk through” held this afternoon was very frustrating.

Dr. Pfennig reported on the following matters:

**NJ QSAC Update** – Dr. Pfennig noted that he will do a powerpoint presentation regarding NJQSAC at the December 20, 2011 board meeting. A brief discussion ensued. Dr. Pfennig stated that the NJQSAC process requires that the district collect data, that a committee is appointed to review the data and then the data is submitted to the NJDOE. The NJQSAC data submission is expected to occur on or about January 9, 2012.

**Board Trustee Olivo left the meeting at 8:04 pm.**

**December 20, 2011 Meeting Agenda Items~**

**Tabled Resolution:**

Shared Services consideration with Netcong Borough – Custodial Services and Snow Plowing services.

A brief discussion ensued with Dr. Pfenning noting that this shared services initiative/arrangement will initially be done on a trial basis and discussed personnel, time schedule, duties to be performed regarding same. President Morton noted that the Board will need to take action to formalize the contract as presented as the inclement weather season is upon us.

Motion by Board Trustee Dalesandro, seconded by Board Trustee Popelka that the following resolution be adopted as presented:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Netcong Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, approves the Shared Services Interlocal Agreement with the Borough of Netcong pertaining to Custodial Services and Snow Plowing Services effective January 1, 2012 – June 30, 2012. Terms and conditions apply.

**Discussion ensued. Administration will monitor the arrangement and report its status periodically to the Board of Education.**

**Board Trustee Olivo re-entered the meeting at 8:11 pm.**

**VOTE: APPROVAL OF SHARED SERVICES INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT -  
CUSTODIAL SERVICES AND SNOW PLOWING SERVICES AS PRESENTED.**

**AYES:** Mrs. Dalesandro, Mr. McQueeney, Mrs. Popelka, Ms. Sufly, Mr. Tranor,  
and Mr. Morton, President.

**NAYS:** None

**ABSTENTIONS:** Mrs. Callahan and Mr. Olivo

**Recission of Resolution:**

Acceptance of Tuition Student – Stanhope Board of Education. Dr. Pfenning stated that the resolution will need to be rescinded.

***Finance and Facilities:***

- Approval Bills List.
- Approval Board Secretary (A148) Report.
- Transfers as necessary.
- Financial Contracts as necessary.

**Personnel:**

- Appointment of Treasurer of School Monies.
- Authorization to Hire 2 Additional P/T Instructional Aides effective January 1, 2012 for new K4 special education student.
- Approval to Increase Employment Contract of Speech Therapist from .7 FTE to .8 FTE (no benefits) effective January 1, 2012 due to an increase in students needing speech therapy services.

**Education:**

- Educational Program and Curriculum matters.
  - a) NJQSAC Public Presentation scheduled on December 20, 2011.
  - b) Incentive Program(s)

Mr. Richard Eberhardt provided an overview of the Incentive Program as proposed:

Academics – Grades 5-8 – Students who achieve honor roll status for a marking period will receive a school pin (Indian Head Pride pin – 1 per year) and a school credit card that provides them with discounts at local businesses. Discounts can be set amount or percentage and may have restrictions such as being good specifically at certain times. The cards will be good for the duration of the next marking period. Final marking period cards will be issued for summer use.

Academics – Grades K-4 – Each teacher chooses 1 student each month as their “star student.” Students selected as a “star student” receive a pin\*. A student can only receive one pin per year.

**Mr. Eberhardt noted that the pins cost \$1.10 each and are being donated by the Netcong Education Foundation. Pins are created by C. Sanders Emblems in California.**

Attendance – Grades K-8 – For every week of perfect attendance (no absences & no tardiness), students receive a raffle ticket from their homeroom teacher. Just before school ends, all raffle tickets are collected and tickets are picked at the end of the year at the school concert for prizes donated by local businesses. If students are lucky enough, they can win more than one prize.

He stated that he has implemented these programs in various districts in the past to increase student attendance, improve student performance (Honor Roll) and improve test scores. Much discussion ensued regarding these new initiatives.

- c) Approval of 5 Year Curriculum Cycle on December 20, 2011.

- Educational Services Contract(s) approval as necessary.
- Field Trip/Extracurricular Program participation approval as necessary.

Dr. Pfennig stated that he had been approached by the Advisors of the NPS Student Council who have suggested that the 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance be held off-site this year. Much discussion ensued. Dr. Pfennig stated that he had expressed concerns regarding this matter but that his concerns have been addressed (there is no additional cost to be incurred) and that he has authorized the 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance to be held at Junction 46 in Roxbury.

- Educational Workshops as necessary.

Dr. Pfennig provided an overview of the **BYLAW, POLICY AND REGULATION** - proposed policy and regulation revisions as presented:

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>
0168	Recording Board Meetings
5519	Dating Violence At School
6424	Emergency Contracts
6472	Tuition Assistance
8505	School Nutrition
9180	School Volunteers
9181	Volunteer Athletic Coaches and Co-Curricular Activity Advisors/Assistants

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>
R 5519	Dating Violence At School

#### **IV. SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS**

Mrs. Werner stated that she had received (2) two letters of interest in the Board Trustee Vacancy as follows:

1. Joseph Coladarci, III
2. Denise Walsh

A brief discussion ensued. President Morton requested that Mrs. Werner schedule interviews with both individuals on December 20, 2011 during the Regular Business Meeting.

**V. OLD BUSINESS** - There were no Old Business items to be discussed at this time.

#### **VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. FINANCE/FACILITIES** - **Robert Olivo, Chairperson**

There were no Finance/Facilities matters to be discussed at this time.

**B. PERSONNEL**

, Chairperson

There were no Personnel matters to be discussed at this time.

**C. EDUCATION**

**Frank Tranor, Chairperson**

There were no Education matters to be discussed at this time.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS** - There were no New Business items to be discussed at this time.

**VIII. MISCELLANEOUS**

Much discussion was held pertaining to the following matters:

Board Trustee Olivo inquired about the following matters:

1. Steps to the back and side entrances to the NPS building project(s). Mrs. Werner stated that the “steps” project/repairs have been completed.
2. Snow sliding off of the metal roof concern. Mrs. Werner stated that a temporary orange fence may be purchased and placed in that area to preclude children from playing in that area for the time being. Mrs. Werner stated that Board Trustee Olivo’s suggestion to place signage in the area regarding the “sliding snow” is a viable suggestion to insure that the children and staff are notified of the potential danger pertaining to falling snow and/or ice.
3. Swing Stops for swing sets consideration. Mrs. Werner noted that she would solicit price quotes pertaining to the purchase of swing stops at the next opportunity.
4. District entranceway carpets that have been ruined. Much discussion ensued. It was suggested that the carpets be power washed at the next opportunity.
5. Weeds/Poison Ivy concern. Mrs. Werner was asked to solicit quotes for the removal of the weeds and treatment of the poison ivy along the NPS property’s outer perimeter and fencing structure. Board Trustee Olivo stated that the Board of Education had asked that these projects be completed last summer. Quotes for these projects will be provided at the next opportunity.

Board Trustee Dalesandro inquired if the teachers had been requested to provide input with regard to the construction/general contractor with regard to their classrooms. Dr. Pfennig stated that he would put out a memo to staff requesting information regarding the status of their room’s condition/damaged items pertaining to the construction that occurred last summer at the next opportunity.

Board Trustee Dalesandro inquired as to the status of the refurbishment of the NPS Trophy case. A brief discussion ensued.

Dr. Pfennig noted that the training for the new heating system has been completed.

Dr. Pfennig briefly discussed the purchase of a generator for the district noting that the cost is likely prohibitive for the district, in addition to the lack of space/area needed to house equipment of this size. A brief discussion ensued.

Board Trustee Popelka inquired if Mr. Feti had had an opportunity to mark the district's shut off valves as she had requested. Administration stated they would check on the status of this task and advise the Board accordingly.

Board Trustee McQueeney noted that he had requested a School Choice application for our district and that he will be working with Board Trustee Dalesandro and Board Trustee Sufly in conjunction with Administration to complete the application for submission to the NJDOE no later than April 30, 2012. A brief discussion ensued.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the new Board Office secretary. Mrs. Werner noted that Ms. Levigion has begun working as of yesterday and has scheduled her work hours from 8:00 am – 12:00 noon M-F.

### **PETITIONS AND REQUESTS OF THE PUBLIC**

Board Trustee Dalesandro moved, seconded by Board Trustee Popelka to open the public session at 8:32 p.m. and was approved by a unanimous voice vote by all members present. President Morton opened the meeting to the public at 8:32 pm.

Board Trustee Dalesandro noted that Mr. Joseph Coladarci, Board Trustee candidate, was in the audience this evening.

There being no additional comments or items for discussion at this time, Board Trustee Popelka moved, seconded by Board Trustee Dalesandro to close the public session at 8:33 pm. This was approved by a unanimous voice vote by all members present.

### **IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Board Trustee Dalesandro, seconded by Board Trustee McQueeney, 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 8:34 pm and was approved by a unanimous voice vote by all members present.

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

Motion by Board Trustee Olivo, seconded by Board Trustee McQueeney to close executive session at 10:24 pm. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote by all members present.

The Board reconvened in Public Session at 10:24 pm with the following members present:

**Present:** Mrs. Callahan, Mrs. Dalesandro, Mr. McQueeney, Mr. Olivo, Mrs. Popelka, Ms. Sufly, Mr. Tranor and Mr. Morton, President.

**X. ADJOURNMENT** – There being no further business to come before the board, Board Trustee McQueeney made a motion, seconded by Board Trustee Olivo and carried by Unanimous Voice Vote to adjourn the December 13, 2011 Committee of the Whole Special Meeting of the Netcong Board of Education at 10:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine M. Werner  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary