

Netcong School District
26 College Road
Netcong, NJ 07857

Work Session Minutes
November 17, 2015
7:00pm

I. CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order by President Dalesandro at 7:00 p.m.

A. Flag Salute

B. Open Public Meeting Act Proclamation

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 and those persons or entities requesting notification, and filed with the municipal clerk of the Borough of Netcong.

C. Mission Statement

Netcong, a tradition to nurture, inspire, empower, and achieve by all, for all.

D. Board Goals 2015-16

1. Successfully communicate the information to all stakeholders regarding the public vote for the November 2015 Ballot Question.
2. Improve the Board of Education relationships among the community and staff.
3. Monitor and verify a secure financial status in the District.

E. District Goals 2015-16

Implement the action plans identified in the Netcong School District Strategic Plan with the 2015-16 timeline under the goal areas of: (a) student achievement and technology, (b) school and community, and (c) finance and facilities.

II. ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Mr. Costanzo, Mr. Kranz, Mr. Morton, Mrs. Santana, Mrs. Stephens and Mrs. Dalesandro, President.

Not Present: Mrs. Callahan- Family Emergency
Mrs. Popelka
Mr. Stevens

Also Present: Dr. Gina Cinotti, Chief School Administrator
Mrs. Nicole Sylvester, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Five (5) Members of the public & staff present

III. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE & APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None at this time.

IV. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

President Dalesandro welcomed everyone to the meeting and spoke about the successful color run fundraiser that the student council sponsored. Fun was had by all who attended. The event raised enough money to pay for all transportation costs for all grade class trips.

President Dalesandro stated that six members of the Board of Education along with Dr. Cinotti and Board Secretary/Business Administrator, Nicole Sylvester attended their annual training convention in October. She stated that with so many Board Members attending a wide range of topics were able to be covered and information was brought back and shared.

President Dalesandro stated the Boards ballot question asking the voters to increase our budget by \$200,000 to add two full-time teachers and increase Art, Music and Spanish to full-time was defeated. She stated that this defeat should not define the Board but the Board should be defined by how it comes together and moves forward. The board did its job and got the information out to the public to make the voters knowledgeable and informed. She stated that at this time her and Dr. Cinotti were analyzing the election data and will bring it back to the Board to review and make a recommendation for next year won whether or not we should have a question on next year's ballot and for what purposes.

President Dalesandro stated that there was no PTA meeting this month to report on and that no member of the Board of Education was able to attend the Netcong Education Foundation meeting this month. However, she will follow up with the leadership during the month for an update.

Board Trustee David Costanzo and President Dalesandro attended both town Council meetings and the highlights included the mayor reading a letter from our students thanking them for the town's cooperation, support and generosity with our color run. Mr. Costanzo also thanked the mayor and council on behalf of the Board of Education for their help with the color run fundraiser. Another highlight of the evening was the recognition of several high school students who saved a town resident from a burning fire.

President Dalesandro stated that at next week's regularly scheduled Board meeting the Board will honor its former members by having a former Board Member recognition ceremony at the end of the meeting.

President Dalesandro was happy to report that the Boards two newly elected members, Mr. Tim Domick and Kerri Santalucia, are attending a training opportunity this evening called New Jersey School Boards Association's the 3Rs, responsibilities, relationships and resources . President Dalesandro stated that although they have not been sworn in yet she had Mrs. Sylvester check with New Jersey School Boards and they were eligible for the training. She contacted both new members and asked if they would be willing to attend the training and both were very eager and happy to

attend. This will mark the first time in this Board of Education's history that prior to coming on the Board Members have received some training.

V. CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS

None at this time.

VI. SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mrs. Sylvester reported that our auditors from Nisivoccia, will be here at next week's Regular Board Meeting to report on our 2014-15 audit in detail. She indicated that in the past we have had over 20 audit recommendations and now she was happy to report we had only 3, one of which was back from the 2013-14 school year. She indicated all recommendations have been fixed and she will have a copy of our Corrective Action Plan as a draft ready to be Board approved for next week. She also indicated that the fund balance has gone up substantially since last year. Mrs. Sylvester stated last year we had \$32,000 in fund balance and this year we have approximately \$133,000. She said this was at no expense of the teachers, stipends, etc. that were cut last year.

Mrs. Sylvester also reported that the asbestos abatement project of the library alcove and adjacent hallways has been completed and this is a great improvement to the school and has helped complete one of the referendum project tasks.

Mrs. Sylvester also reported that she met with Garland Company who replaced our roof during the referendum and had them come out to review small leaks in the school. She indicated she would be working with him to see if the leaks pertained to the roof.

VII. PETITIONS & REQUESTS OF THE PUBLIC FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Board Trustee Todd Morton moved, seconded by Board Trustee David Costanzo, to open the public session at 7:09 p.m. and was approved by a Unanimous Voice Vote by all members present. President Dalesandro opened the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

Public is invited to address the Board with any questions, comments or concerns. The Board requests that the individual address the Board, giving name and address, and asks that all remarks be directed to the Chair. The public portion shall be limited to thirty minutes with a five-minute time limit on each participant.

The Board wishes to remind all attendees at its meeting that while it subscribed without reservation to the principle of keeping the public completely informed, by policy it cannot allow public discussion of personnel matters. If a matter concerning the staff of the Netcong Public School is of interest or concern, the matter would be referred to the CSA or the Board of Education, either by telephone or letter.

There being no further items for discussion, Board Trustee Todd Morton, moved, seconded by Board Trustee Kelly Stephens, to close the public session at 7:09 p.m. and was approved by a Unanimous Voice Vote by all members present. President Dalesandro closed the meeting to the public at 7:09 p.m.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

President Dalesandro thank Dr. Cinotti for the implementation of the Boards “cone strategy” in order to keep parent’s out of the main parking lot while picking up and dropping off in the morning and afternoon. She indicated this was a great strategy implemented and was keeping our children safe.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Governance/Policy/Finance – *B. Dalesandro (Chair)*

Board Trustee Todd Morton, seconded by Board Trustee David Costanzo moved the following resolution to be approved as submitted:

Be it resolved that resolution number 1 be adopted as presented:

1. Be it resolved that the Netcong Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the CSA, hereby approves the contract retroactive to November 2, 2015 with Bayada Home Health Care, Inc. for a new out of district student (#32321335) for nursing services at an hourly rate of \$54.50/hour for RN services and \$44.50/hour for LPN Services.

VOTE: G/P/F RESOLUTION #1 AS PRESENTED.

AYES: Mr. Costanzo, Mr. Kranz, Mr. Morton, Mrs. Santana, Mrs. Stephens and Mrs. Dalesandro

NAYES: None

ABSENTATIONS: None

The Board reviewed agenda items to be approved at next week’s Regular Board meeting.

B. Personnel – *M. Callahan (Chair)*

Board Trustee Kelly Stephens, seconded by Board Trustee Todd Morton moved the following resolutions to be approved as submitted:

Be it resolved that resolution numbers 1-2 be adopted as presented:

1. Be it resolved that the Netcong Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the CSA, hereby approves Sandra Mangrella, as Administrative Assistant to the Business Administrator retroactive to November 16, 2015 through June 30, 2016, for a fixed one-year term, at the pro-rated salary of \$40,000 pending fingerprinting and background check.

2. Be it resolved that the Netcong Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the CSA, hereby approves the resignation of Kimberly LaMarco as the Speech Language Teacher effective November 11, 2015. Her last day of employment will be January 8, 2016 which is the 60 day notice requirement.

VOTE: PERSONNEL RESOLUTIONS #1-2 AS PRESENTED.

AYES: Mr. Costanzo, Mr. Kranz, Mr. Morton, Mrs. Santana, Mrs. Stephens and Mrs. Dalesandro

NAYES: None

ABSENTATIONS: None

C. Facilities/Operations- T. Morton (Chair)

Board Trustee Todd Morton reported on the facilities committee meeting which was held earlier this evening. He indicated that the committee was working towards obtaining our strategic goals, to create the school as a community center, addressing annex building concerns and having our meetings held in the library.

Mr. Morton was happy to report that the wireless access points in the Board room have been fixed. He indicated we would be looking into the cost of having the internet wires put underground for next school year to ensure that the wires that are hanging outside do not get disturbed again for the Board office to lose internet access.

Mr. Morton indicated Mrs. Sylvester gave the update on the asbestos removal project earlier and that the committee was looking into when we could have the next set of tiles removed and flooring put in. He also indicated that with the closing of referendum projects we would be looking to replace the roof over the garage, have the HVAC vents repaired and leaks taken care of. President Dalesandro indicated that the HVAC vent which was ruined during the referendum should be fixed since

Mr. Morton said we were still looking into the parking lot signs being made by other towns DPW's.

Mr. Morton reported that Mrs. Sylvester applied for a \$1,000 grant which was received and was being used to update our swing sets on the playground.

D. Curriculum/Instruction – L. Popelka (Chair)

Be it resolved that resolution numbers 1-2 be adopted as presented:

1. Be it resolved that the Netcong Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the CSA, approves the following Professional Development:

Date	Name	Workshop Conference	Location	Cost
11/16/15	Kate Walsh	The Motivation Breakthrough Morris Area Curriculum Network	Succasunna, NJ	\$149+mileage
11/19/15	Kate Walsh	PARCC Mathematics Assessments Updates for Grades 3-5	Mercer County Technical School, Pennington, NJ	Mileage
11/19/15	Mary Frances Koch	PARCC Mathematics Assessments Updates for Grades 6-12	Mercer County Technical School, Pennington, NJ	Mileage

2. Be it resolved that the Netcong Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the CSA, approves the adoption of the Stronge Evaluation model for the 2016-2017 school year. This is the evaluation model for teachers, education specialists, and principals which will replace the Danielson model.

VOTE: CURRICULUM/INSTRUCTION RESOLUTIONS #1-2 AS PRESENTED.

AYES: Mr. Costanzo, Mr. Kranz, Mr. Morton, Mrs. Santana, Mrs. Stephens and Mrs. Dalesandro

NAYES: None

ABSENTATIONS: None

President Dalesandro thanked Mrs. Walsh, for going the extra mile with Curriculum/Instruction.

X. MISCELLANEOUS

Dr. Cinotti told the Board they were e-mailed updates on the policies they previously received because Strauss Esmay updated the regulations provided. Dr. Cinotti reviewed the policies indicating that come of them were for Maschio's and for the administrative review we are undergoing this year. She also said the insurance company asked that we have an early return to work policy implemented. Lastly, she indicated the attorney's reviewed the Veteran Day proposal policy.

Board Trustee David Costanzo indicated he did not think from a legal standpoint that it would be in the best interest of the Board to implement the Veteran's Day policy. Although he fully supports all Veteran's and the service they provide, he feels this would be risk associated and lead to other groups of staff looking for days off as advised by our attorney.

President Dalesandro asked Mrs. Sylvester to look into calling School Board's in regards to the free policy writing opportunity they provide to see if we could cut costs by using them and not Strauss Esmay.

President Dalesandro asked Dr. Cinotti if she could look into applying for the Future Readiness Grant. Dr. Cinotti indicated Mrs. Walsh and Mrs. Szarejko have already looked into this and met today to find out more about the grant opportunity.

Board Trustee Jen Santana asked if we could have more students come to the Board meetings to inform the Board of all the different clubs there are and report on what each club is doing. Board Trustee Kelly Stephens asked if we could highlight clubs in which teachers receive stipends for.

Board Trustee Kelly Stephens said that even though there was not a PTA report tonight, she did indicate they were looking for volunteers for the holiday festival being held on Friday, December 4th.

XI. PETITIONS AND REQUESTS OF THE PUBLIC

Board Trustee Todd Morton moved, seconded by Board Trustee Kelly Stephens, to open the public session at 7:38 p.m. and was approved by a Unanimous Voice Vote by all members present. President Dalesandro opened the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

The Public is invited to address the Board with any questions, comments or concerns. The Board requests that the individual address the Board, giving name and address, and asks that all remarks be directed to the Chair. The public portion shall be limited to thirty minutes with a five-minute time limit on each participant.

The Board wishes to remind all attendees at its meeting that while it subscribes without reservation to the principle of keeping the public completely informed, by policy it cannot allow public discussion of personnel matters. If a matter concerning the staff of the Netcong Public School is of interest or concern, the matter should be referred to the CSA or the Board of Education, either by telephone or letter.

Mr. Hathaway stated he was the Trustee on the Netcong Educational Foundation (NEF) and would like to ask permission to solicit donation at the winter concert for the cultural arts initiatives. Mr. Hathaway explained how the NEF would like to approach this and asked for suggestions. President Dalesandro indicated this would be discussed in public after the public session was closed and she would have the Board provide him with an answer tonight. Mr. Hathaway also asked if the Board could provide next week's regular agenda with the work session agenda. President Dalesandro indicated they could not as this was not yet available but it would be available online this Friday.

Mrs. O'Hagan and Mrs. Cinotti thanked the Board and Dr. Cinotti for their efforts in promoting the ballot questioned and came to thank them for this. They wanted to show their appreciation by attending the Board meeting and also let the Board know that they have their full support.

There being no further items for discussion, Board Trustee Todd Morton moved, seconded by Board Trustee Kelly Stephens, to close the public session at 7:45 p.m. and was approved by a Unanimous Voice Vote by all members present. President Dalesandro closed the meeting to the public at 7:45 p.m.

President gave each Board Member time to express their opinion on the soliciting of donation at the winter concert. Discussion ensued. The consensus of the Board was that they think it would be a great idea to highlight the ukuleles at the winter concert and inform the public that this was purchased by the NEF with donations from other events which the NEF has held. Also, the Board felt it would be best if they were not at the front door, but rather in the back of the room, this way no one person would feel compelled to make a donation.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Board Trustee David Costanzo, seconded by Board Trustee Kelly Stephens 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

personnel issues, negotiations and legal matters. 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 7:55 p.m. and was approved by a Unanimous Voice Vote by all members present. President Dalesandro closed the meeting to the public at 7:55 p.m. President Dalesandro stated that no action will be taken after executive session and it is anticipated the Board will be in executive session for approximately 30 (thirty) minutes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ADJOURNMENT

Board Trustee Todd Morton made a motion to come out of executive session. It was seconded by Board Trustee Kelly Stephens and carried by Unanimous Voice Vote by all members present at 8:36 p.m.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT There being no further business to come before the board, Board Trustee Todd Morton made a motion, seconded by Board Trustee David Costanzo and carried by Unanimous Voice Vote to adjourn the November 17, 2015 Work Session Meeting of the Netcong Board of Education at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



**Nicole Sylvester
Business Administrator/Board Secretary**