

MINUTES

Date of Meeting: February 23, 2015

Type of Meeting: Legislative Work Session

Place of Meeting: Long Beach Middle School Library

Members Present: Vice President Stewart Mininsky
Board Member Roy Lester
Board Member Dennis Ryan
Board Member Maureen Vrona

Members Absent: President Darlene E. Tangney

Others Present: Mr. David Weiss, Superintendent
Assemblyman Todd Kaminsky
Ms. Halie Meyers
Ms. Carole Butler, District Clerk

I. Call to Order/Pledge-Board President

Call to Order/Pledge

Vice President Mininsky called the meeting to order at 6:40 PM and led the community in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. Report of the Superintendent:
Legislative Work Session Topic: Education**

Report of the Superintendent:
Legislative Work Session Topic:
Education

- Superintendent Weiss presented Assemblyman Kaminsky with educational concerns. These included: GEA (Gap Elimination Adjustment), financing, Board of Regents, Social Host Law and teacher evaluations.

III. Board of Education Comments

Board of Education
Comments

- Board Member Vrona asked about the priorities of Governor Cuomo and the legislature regarding education (openness, ethics, Dream Act, investment tax credit); kiddingly asked how to eliminate GEA or Wick's Law.
- Board Member Lester stated his low expectations of success with teacher evaluations; noted financial pressures of prevailing wage on the district.
- Board Member Ryan commented on 5 year probationary period and charter schools; has concerns about sustaining teacher contracts and the budget given the 2% tax cap, forcing the use of reserve funds; unfunded mandates.

Board of Education Comments (continued)

- Mrs. Vrona voiced concerns about the validity of APPR.
- Dr. Ryan discussed the difficulties with teacher evaluations; administrators must monitor and follow through; worries about common core and its stress on students and the large amount of homework from IB.
- Mr. Lester believes that administrators should limit homework; district does not cater to highest achievers; monies go to raise the weakest performers; district needs prestige (which could be derived from having an Intel winner, for example).
- Dr. Ryan discussed property value impact of 3rd and 4th grade scores, along with 7th and 8th grade scores; district is spending \$30,000 per student; district is strongest in area of special education.
- Vice President Mininsky mentioned the positive impact of family on high achieving students.
- Dr. Ryan discussed equity vs. excellence; supports Roger Tilles; mentioned social host law; commented on need for a hospital; discussed option of consolidation, i.e., merger of districts like Island Park and Long Beach.
- Mr. Lester commented on the lack of need for financial support on social host initiative; it was generated from Long Beach.

IV. Questions and Comments from the Public on Agenda Items Only

None

Questions and Comments from Public

V. President Tangney Called for Announcements

1. Long Beach Classroom Teachers' Association – None
2. Administrative, Supervisory and PPS Group – None
3. Long Beach Schools Employees Association –None
4. Parent/Teacher Association – None
5. Student Organization – None

VI. Vice President Mininsky called for a motion to adjourn at 7:37 PM.

Motion by: Vice President Mininsky
Seconded by: Board Member Vrona
Approved: 4-0

Adjournment

Minutes submitted by: _____

Carole Butler, District Clerk
April 14, 2015