

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Borough of Manasquan

*The Special Action Meeting of the Manasquan Board of Education was held in the Manasquan High School Auditorium, 167 Broad Street, Manasquan, New Jersey, on Tuesday, September 3, 2013.*

*Mr. Bauer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and read the Opening Statement.*

### **1. Call to Order**

Opening Statement: Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-10, notice of this meeting has been provided by publication in the Asbury Park Press, the Coast Star and posted in the Borough Hall of Manasquan and in the schools within the time limits prescribed by law.

Call to Order

*Mr. Bauer requested that everyone join in the Pledge of Allegiance.*

### **2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Pledge of Allegiance

### **3. Roll Call**

*Julia Barnes (Brielle)  
Thomas Bauer  
Jack Campbell  
Kenneth Clayton*

*Linda DiPalma  
Michael Forrester (SLH)  
Mark Furey (Belmar)  
Thomas Pellegrino*

*Michael Shelton  
Katherine Verdi  
James Walsh - absent  
Patricia Walsh*

Roll Call

*Also Present: Renae LaPrete, Interim Superintendent of Schools, Margaret M. Hom, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Michael Gross, Board Attorney.*

*Mr. Bauer read the Mission Statement and Statement to the Public.*

### **4. Mission Statement**

Manasquan School District's mission is to empower students to reach their potential and become life-long learners. We strive to ensure that students play an active role in their education, are guided by rigorous academic standards aligned with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards, and function within the community that regards student, educators, and parents as full participants in the educational process. We dedicate ourselves to the realization of a supportive learning environment that nurtures growth, personal integrity and mutual respect.

Mission Statement

### **5. Statement to the Public**

Often times it may appear to members of our audience that the Board of Education takes action with very little comment and in many cases by unanimous vote. Before a matter is placed on the agenda at a public meeting, the administration has thoroughly reviewed the matter with the Superintendent of Schools. If the Superintendent of Schools is satisfied that the matter is ready to be presented to the Board of Education, it is then referred to the appropriate Board committee. The members of the Board committee work with the administration and the Superintendent of Schools to assure that the members fully understand the matter. When the committee is satisfied with the matter, it is presented to the Board of Education for discussion before any final action is taken. Only then is it placed on the agenda for action at a public meeting. In rare instances, matters are presented to the Board of Education for discussion at the same meeting that final action may be taken.

Statement to the Public

*Mr. Bauer read the following statement prior to opening the Public Comment on Agenda.*

**6. Public Comment on Agenda**

Time may be allocated for public comment at this meeting. Each speaker may be allotted a limited time when recognized by the presiding officer. Individuals wishing to address the Board shall be recognized by the presiding officer and shall give their names, addresses and the group, if any, that they represent. Although the Board encourages public participation, it reserves the right, through its presiding officer, to terminate remarks to and/or by any individual not keeping with the conduct of a proper and efficient meeting. During the public participation portions of this meeting, the Board will not respond to questions from the public involving employment, appointment, termination of employment, negotiations, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance of, promotion or disciplining of any specific or prospective or current employee. This public forum is limited to comment on items included in this agenda only.

Public  
Comment on  
Agenda

*Michelle LaSala, 44 Parker Avenue, Manasquan, referred to information she found on-line relating to a condition for the ROD grants requiring districts to have 60% of the money for the project applied for within 18 months of applying. She asked where this money would come from with no tax increases for the next three years, no tuition increases and a multi-million dollar field project. Mr. Bauer replied that at this time the Board did not know.*

*Ms. LaSala asked if there was any intention to bring MagnaCare back into the picture. Mr. Bauer replied not to his knowledge.*

*Mrs. LaSala's comments on the retaining wall being removed from the ROD grant would be taken up at the Public Forum.*

*Dick Meinke, 36 N. McClellan Avenue, Manasquan, representing the Manasquan Taxpayers Association, asked if there would be a time for discussion of topics other than what is on the agenda. Mr. Bauer replied in the affirmative.*

*Ron Villano, 813 Riverview Drive, Brielle, spoke on the resignation of Mrs. Peg Hom and addressed his comments directly to Mrs. Hom. He spoke of his acquaintance with her over the past 25 years and said that it is with deep regret that he read of her resignation. He commented that he always found her to be the consummate professional and believes that she is the best he has ever seen at her job. He said that her loss will be deeply felt by the district and wished her well.*

*Mr. Bauer asked if there were any other comments from the public. Seeing none, he moved to General Items.*

*Mr. Bauer asked for a motion to approve Manasquan Motion – Item #7.*

*Prior to the roll call vote, Mrs. Walsh asked if there was a ball part estimate for the cost of the items in Item #7. Mr. Bauer explained that it was just learned that the district could apply for the grants and the application is being submitted tomorrow. Mr. Bauer confirmed that the state would fund up to 40% of the total cost and that the district was not required to implement the project should the district receive the grant.*

Manasquan  
Motions

*Motion was made by Mr. Shelton, seconded by Mr. Campbell, it was carried by roll call vote to approve Manasquan Motion – Item #7. (MEB)  
Ayes (7), Nays (0), Abstain (1) - Mrs. Walsh*

Item #7  
ROD Grant  
Submission

**General Items**

7. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the District's architects, Fraytak Velaz Hopkins Duthie, P.C. be authorized to submit applications for a Regular Operating District (ROD) Grant for the following projects to the New Jersey Department of Education on the District's behalf for the Manasquan Elementary School:

- a. Security Camera
- b. Entrance Modifications
- c. Replacement of Phone System/PA System
- d. Addressable Fire System
- e. Card Reader Entry Access System
- f. Replace Windows – 1953 Section
- g. HVAC Controls

Item #7  
ROD Grant  
Submission  
(continued)

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an amendment to the Long Range Facilities Plan by Fraytak Velaz Hopkins Duthie, P.C. to incorporate the above project be approved.

*Mr. Bauer asked for a motion to approve Manasquan/Sending District Motion – Item #8.*

Manasquan/  
Sending  
District  
Motions

*Prior to the vote Mrs. Walsh asked if these projects were considered maintenance projects for which the sending districts would be required to contribute or were outside sending district funding. Mrs. Hom explained that if a grant is received the two of the top three sending districts would have to approve to share the cost.*

*Motion was made by Mr. Shelton, seconded by Mrs. DiPalma, and carried by roll call vote to approve Manasquan/Sending District Motion – Item #8. (MEB/SDR)  
Ayes (9), Nays (1) – Mrs. Verdi, Abstain (1) – Mrs. Walsh*

Item #8  
ROD Grant  
Submission

#### **General Items**

8. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the District's architects, Fraytak Velaz Hopkins Duthie, P.C. be authorized to submit applications for a Regular Operating District (ROD) Grant for the following projects to the New Jersey Department of Education on the District's behalf for the Manasquan High School:

- a. HVAC – Main Building and 1995 Addition
- b. HVAC – Science/Gym/Music Wing
- c. Entrance Modifications
- d. Modifications & Rehabilitation of Science Laboratories
- e. Replacement of Phone System/PA System
- f. Addressable Fire System
- g. Card Reader Entry Access System

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an amendment to the Long Range Facilities Plan by Fraytak Velaz Hopkins Duthie, P.C. to incorporate the above project be approved.

*Mr. Bauer asked for a motion to approve Item #9.*

*Motion was made by Mrs. Barnes, seconded by Mr. Shelton, and carried by roll call vote to approve Manasquan/Sending District Motion – Item #9.  
Ayes (11), Nays (0)*

Item #9  
M. Hom  
Resignation

*Mrs. Verdi voted yes with regret.*

*Prior to her vote, Mrs. Walsh commented that she is very tempted to vote no. She said she has worked with Mrs. Hom for over 14 years and as pointed out by Mr. Villano, her work is impeccable and she leaves a great pair of shoes to be filled and wished her well and will vote yes.*

#### **Personnel**

9. **Recommend** approval to accept the resignation of **Margaret Hom**, School Business Administrator, effective **November 1, 2013 (or sooner)**.

*Mr. Bauer opened the Public Forum.*

## 10. Public Forum

*Michelle LaSala, 44 Parker Avenue, Manasquan, referenced the June 24<sup>th</sup> meeting and the ROD grant that included the retaining wall and its removal from the grant on a motion by Mr. Pellegrino and seconded by Mrs. Barnes. She commented on Mrs. Hom's attempts to answer a question clarifying statements made by the Board. She referred to comments made by Mr. Shelton referring to very impossible information from a financial consultant relating to the grants and asked who the financial consultant is that provided this information. She also asked Mrs. Hom to please clarify if it was possible to get a grant on a project already in progress.*

*Mr. Shelton said that Bob Allison was hired as the financial budget consultant by the district. He said that it has been done before to go back and apply for a grant but the district is not applying for a grant on the wall. Mrs. LaSala asked if this is accurate information and asked if Mrs. Hom could be given the opportunity to answer her question. Mrs. Hom said that it was her understanding that a project should not be started until grant approval is received for the project.*

*Dick Meinke, 36 N. McClellan, Manasquan, representing the Manasquan Taxpayers Association, asked if there was any more indication from the sending districts to contribute to the athletic complex. Mr. Bauer replied that nothing firm has been received at this time and continued positive discussions are taking place. Mr. Meinke asked if a total estimate was available on the athletic complex. Mr. Bauer gave the total number of \$2.5 million plus the \$250,000. Mr. Bauer reiterated that if the cost comes in higher that the Board will not exceed this number.*

*Kirt Wahl, MEA President, thanked Mrs. Hom for her time in the district and said that she would be greatly missed and wished her the best of luck. He referred to some valued employees that have left the district and asked the Board if there is anything in place to try to keep valued employees in the district.*

*Mr. Bauer said that it is not the Board's desire to lose valuable employees and people leave for various reasons and it is their decision to leave.*

*Marilyn Jacobson, 59 McLean Avenue, Manasquan, asked what would happen if the sending districts do not approve to participate in capital improvements listed in Item #8. Mr. Bauer replied that the district would not proceed and two out of the three need to approve to move forward. She also questioned how the Board could vote on capital improvements without knowing the cost when we will be responsible for 60% of the cost. Mr. Shelton explained the ROD grant process and how the district will proceed with the projects based on the state's approval of the grants.*

*Jim Freda, 85 Cowart Avenue, Manasquan, addressed Mrs. Hom and commented that he has known her for 27 and said he is sad to see her go. He commented on her kindness to him and his family over the years and wished her the best.*

*There were no additional comments from the public. Mr. Bauer asked for a motion to adjourn.*

## 11. Sunshine Law Resolutions

The Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq. allows for the exclusion of the public from that portion of a public meeting when certain matters which might endanger the public interest or risk the deprivation of individual rights are discussed; and

The Board of Education wishes to discuss the following matters in a non-public closed meeting with the resulting discussion being made public when proper conclusion has been reached and there is no longer a need for confidentiality:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Matters rendered expressly confidential by state or federal law or a rule of court.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Matters in which the release of information would impair a right to receive funds from

Sunshine  
Law  
Resolution  
N/A

- the United States Government
3. \_\_\_\_ Any matter the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy unless the affected individual or his or her parent or guardian shall request in writing that the matter be disclosed at a public meeting.
4. \_\_\_\_ Pending or anticipated negotiations concerning a collective bargaining agreement with the MEA Association.
5. \_\_\_\_ Any matter involving the purchase of real property with public funds, the setting of banking rates or investment of public funds.
6. \_\_\_\_ Any tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public or any investigations of violations or possible violations of law.
7. \_\_\_\_ Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiations other than collective bargaining contract negotiations in which the Board of Education is or may become a party or any matter falling within the attorney-client privilege to the extent confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his or her ethical duties as an attorney.
8. \_\_\_\_ Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment and the conditions of employment, evaluation or disciplining of any specific employee, unless the individual employee requests in writing that the matter be discussed at a public meeting.
9. \_\_\_\_ Any deliberations that may result in the imposition of a civil penalty or suspension.
10. \_\_\_\_ Any appointment of a public official.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Manasquan Board of Education will hold a closed executive session immediately. It is anticipated that the closed session will not last longer than \_\_\_\_\_ minutes.[Action may be taken during the public portion of the meeting following the recess of the executive session] or [the Board of Education will not be returning to public session after the closed session].

*Motion was made by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Shelton, and carried by voice vote to adjourn the Special Action Meeting.*  
*Ayes (11), Nays (0)*

*Adjournment*

## **12. Adjournment**

Motion to Adjourn

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Margaret M. Hom  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary*