

**NEW HOPE-SOLEBURY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**July 1, 2015**

A special meeting of the New Hope-Solebury School District Board of Directors was held in the District Office Conference Room on Wednesday, July 1, 2015. Mr. Adar, Vice President, called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m. and announced the meeting was being audio recorded. Mr. Yanni led members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Secretary then called roll.

Members present: Mr. Adar, Mrs. Deussing, Mr. Dougherty, Mr. Hayden, Mr. Kearney, Mr. Kelley, Mrs. Keyes, Mrs. Weisbrot

Members absent: Mr. Harraka

Administrators present: Dr. Boccuti, Dr. Cortellessa, Mr. Hansel, Mr. Lieberman, Mr. Rivera, Mr. Yanni

Mr. Adar added Public Comment (Non Agenda Items) to the end of the agenda.

**Old Business**

Mr. Adar stated the reason for this meeting is to discuss the Campus Revitalization Plan. He stated that there was lively dialogue at the joint Facilities and Finance Committee meeting prior to the Board meeting regarding current budget status for the next two years, as well as discussion of potentially reconfiguring the Campus Revitalization Project. This meeting would be a continuation of that dialogue.

**- Review Campus Revitalization Project**

Mr. Yanni recapped that the Finance/Facilities Committee discussion centered on the current plan and analyzing all of the pieces via a subcommittee.

Mr. Adar asked the Board to discuss what they would like to do going forward.

Mr. Dougherty said that he is not in favor of a subcommittee; stated the architectural firm has already drawn up the project and came up with at least five various we need to reduce to commitment to the size of the project; stated that Mr. Godshall already drafted a plan that will contain most of everything we need; stated that the communication between the Facilities administration and the architecture firm with oversight by the Board would be enough; stated he felt it would needlessly complicate the process to bring in a new group to review and reassemble everything that has been done up to this point.

Mr. Hayden asked if Mr. Dougherty wanted to stay with the current plan or consider other versions of the plan.

Mr. Dougherty said he is recommending a smaller plan but feels that the smaller plan has already been drafted.

Mrs. Keyes asked Mr. Dougherty if he meant the Leadership Team could narrow down the list of essential needs.

Mr. Dougherty agreed that they could narrow down the list to what is absolutely essential; stated that the document has already been sent to PlanCon and does not contemplate the change of sending third grade to the LES.

Mr. Kelly stated he suggested a subcommittee is to keep the ball rolling during the summer months; suggested Mr. Godshall go back to the office with administrators and see if there is any low hanging fruit that we really don't need.

Mr. Adar asked if he wanted a subcommittee to act quickly and all agreed.

Mrs. Keyes asked if there would be a due date and to whom would the information come back.

Mr. Adar stated the information would come directly back to the Board.

Mr. Kelly stated that the operating budget and the project are linked, we need to be mindful of both, keeping them on parallel tracks, but need to worked on separately.

Mr. Dougherty said we need to go after the budget; all agreed.

Mr. Hayden asked if class size (total numbers/enrollment) was considered when the plans were developed.

Both Mr. Adar and Mr. Dougherty said that enrollment was monitored. There was a brief discussion about the grade configuration at the LES. Mr. Adar said that we need to continue to monitor enrollment.

A discussion ensued about enrollments at grade levels as well as state and federal funding.

Mr. Dougherty said that direction is needed for the architecture firm and administration.

Mr. Kelley asked if Mr. Godshall would be comfortable with the process.

Mr. Godshall stated he would be comfortable with the process and did not see a lot of fresh design work.

Mr. Kelley asked if it was reasonable to ask to have a revised plan by August 17<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

Mr. Kearney asked if the goal would be to come back with a smaller project.

Mr. Dougherty stated it would be a smaller project, meeting the needs, and be noticeably less expensive and make a significant impact on the budget.

A discussion ensued relative to project savings and debt over the long term.

Mr. Dougherty asked Mr. Godshall about a grade configuration of the LES.

Mr. Godshall stated that Plan Con A was submitted months ago and gives parameters for the project; basic parameters are set and one of those is grade configuration; stated we could refile the Plan Con A if we wanted to consider a grade reconfiguration but the state has since put a moratorium in effect on Plan Con and will not receive a new Plan Con A.

### **Public Comment**

None

### **Action Items**

Mr. Kelley made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Weisbrot, to convene a committee of Mr. Yanni, Mr. Godshall, Mr. Hansel, and all other critical personnel to review the Campus Revitalization Project; it is further recommended that Godshall Kane cease all land development pending further review of the project.

### **Public Comment**

None

Upon a motion made by Mr. Hayden, seconded by Mr. Dougherty, the Board voted to amend the agenda to add the motion.

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Wesibrot, seconded by Mr. Hayden, the Board voted to convene a committee of Mr. Yanni, Mr. Godshall, Mr. Hansel, and all other critical personnel to review the Campus Revitalization Project; it is further recommended that Godshall Kane cease all land development pending further review of the project.

**New Business**

**Board Discussion (Agenda Items Only)**

None

**Public Comment (Agenda Items Only)**

**Agenda Action Items**

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Keyes, seconded by Mrs. Weisbrot, the Board voted as follows:

**A. Finance**

1. Approve the revised Homestead/Farmstead Exclusions Resolution to update the number of eligible homestead properties to 3,177, combined with the 22 eligible farmstead properties, for a total of 3,199 eligible properties for the 2015-2016 fiscal year.
2. Approve the renewal of a transportation agreement with Plumstead Christian School for the transportation of their students at a cost of \$7.92 per student per day for the 2015-2016 school year.

**B. Personnel**

1. Ratify/approve the following personnel actions, contingent upon meeting all requirements of law and district policy:

RESIGNATIONS	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Lopez-Pratdesaba, Ligia	Non-Instructional Assistant- 4 hr. UES	6/17/15

APPOINTMENTS	POSITION	REASON	EFFECTIVE	SALARY	BENEFITS
Allan, Jacquelyn	Special Education Teacher- Grade 3 LTS UES	Leave - Abt	8/25/15-1/25/16	\$51,376 (prorated) B+24, Step 01	Yes
Barberides, Katherine	Special Education Teacher LTS MS	Leave – Brown-Carraccio	9/22/15-3/1/16	\$61,675 (prorated) M, Step 2	Yes

### **Public Comment (Non Agenda Items)**

Mr. Melvin Band commented on Policies 121 and 231—Trips; disagrees with the way the district pays for academic competitions; stated that the families should take the district to small claims court; stated this issue is tailor-made for 60 Minutes and 20/20—Academics versus Athletics; stated Mrs. Miniti would fulfill the district's obligation of having a chaperone on the trip but Dr. Boccuti wanted her to pay her own way.

### **Board Discussion**

Mr. Adar asked Mr. Yanni to comment. Both Mr. Yanni and Mr. Kearney talked about the policy development. Several board members provided feedback and suggestions.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Adar adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven M. Yanni  
Board Secretary