

Sussex-Wantage Regional School District  
June 22, 2011  
Work Session Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Sussex-Wantage Regional School District Board of Education was called to order by Mr. Card, Board President, on June 22, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Wantage School all-purpose room, Route 23, Wantage, NJ.

**Roll Call**

**Roll Call**

Members Present: Mr. Craig Coykendall, Mrs. Alba Martinez, Mr.. Lisa Frisbie, Mr. Thomas Card, Robert Heiden, Mrs. Marina Krynicky, Mr. Walter Krynicky

Members Absent: Mrs. Jenny Craig, Mrs. Tammy Pastore

Also in attendance were Dr. Edward Izbicki, Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Christina M. Riker, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

The meeting opened with the flag salute.

The following statement was read by Mr. Card

Open  
Public  
Meetings  
Act

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of the Act, the Sussex Wantage Regional School District Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted in the school buildings and notice of said meeting sent to the New Jersey Herald and The Star Ledger.

Mr. Card read the Sussex Wantage School Mission Statement: The Sussex Wantage Regional School District is a responsive, caring, child-centered community. Our mission is to educate each individual to become a confident, competent, lifelong learner and productive, responsible citizen, by providing challenging opportunities in a safe environment through a partnership of families, schools and communities.

Mission  
Statement

**Presentation of Healthy Schools Grant by the YMCA**

**Buildings and Grounds - presented by Mr. Allen Matthews.**

- Upgrade of Wantage School playground
- Replacement of Wantage School chain link fence

- Lawrence School playground mulch spread
- Lawrence School closet lighting switched from T1 to 58 bulbs - energy savings
- Switched burglar alarm monitoring company for savings
- Replaced the Sussex Middle School range in the kitchen
- Summer cleaning
- SWAP painted 3 Sussex Middle School classrooms and lines at the Lawrence School
- Graduation setup - may be moved inside if inclement weather
- Natural gas line update - will be at all three schools sometime in the future.

**Finance/Transportation - presented by Mrs. Christina Riker**

Mrs. Riker reviewed and covered the following items:

- Bills List - end of May 2011
- Bills List - June 1 to 30, 2011
- Financial Reports - May 2011
- Financial Update - Mrs. Riker updated the board that the final two state aid payments in June have been withheld and will be paid in July. The district will carry over large accounts payable balances into the new year in order to make the final payrolls and not borrow monies. The Township of Wantage has notified us that they should maintain their tax payment schedule without delays and as such, the district will payout the retirees on schedule in July.
- Solar RFP Update - Mrs. Riker announced that the RFP opening on was June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011. One company out of the 15 that obtained RFPs submitted a proposal. After review, PCC is recommending that the district move forward with Nautilus. In summary, the district will reduce costs by 24.8% and in total save \$565,942 over 15 years. In addition, Wantage Elementary will receive a new roof. This will be a shared project with Sussex Fire Department and Wantage Township who will have their own savings.
- Workshop 2011 - Mrs. Riker announced that this will take place October 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011 in Atlantic City, NJ. Board members will need to decide upon attendance as soon as possible.
- Transportation - Purchase vs. Lease - Mrs. Riker reviewed the option of either buying or leasing the two needed busses to replace # 22 and #24 who are both at the end of their useful life. The district can afford to buy outright from 2010-2011 funds one of the busses and from 2011-2012 funds the other bus through MRESC.

Finance/  
Transportation

**Technology - presented by Mr. Stephen Kronski**

- Etherpoint upgrade is scheduled for the 28<sup>th</sup> of June with Pen Tele

Data

hardware/software upgrade

- Virus software upgrade - last piece of district infrastructure
  - Summer Maintenance on all PCs and laptops - approximately 500 machines
  - Smartboard moves
  - Phones - last phase of conversion of old phones to new system.
  - Administrative Software - AESOP, Transfinder and Fairsoft
- Technology
- Mrs. Frisbie asked about the integration of the new Transportation software and if it was being utilized for routing currently. Mr. Kronski answered that the district would run parallel systems initially until the new system was 100% operational.
  - Mrs. Martinez mentioned websites that she had visited that had teacher's websites where homework could be posted and parent portals. She would like to see this used in our district.
  - Mr. Heiden, Mrs. Frisbie and Mrs. Martinez all expressed interest in moving forward with teacher's utilizing the website for homework and posting grades online. Mr. Kronski advised the board the Realtime, our student information system, has a module for grade books and a parent portal.
  - Mr. Card and Dr. Izbicki pointed out that not every family in Sussex-Wantage has computer access.
  - The board directed Mr. Kronski to get the information on the module for the grade book and parent portal for discussion at the July Board Meeting, but Mr. Card reiterated that there would be no advantage to families with computers and that those without would not be at a disadvantage by not having one.

**Curriculum - presented by Mrs. Sue Petrick**

Five Areas of Revision

- Language Arts K-8 - all on file at board office
  - Science K-8
  - Social Studies K-4
  - Math K-2: focus on basic math fundamentals
  - World Language - completed 7-8; will be a more cultural experience.
- Mrs. Frisbie asked if the curriculum changes related to the NJASK readiness. Mrs. Petrick answered that the curriculum guides were

now teaching unit plans. She further stated that the state still plans to change the NJASK by 2014. Mrs. Frisbie also asked about thematic inter-related units and Mrs. Petrick answered that this was done as much as possible.

- Mr. Coykendall asked if the summer reading program was in place this year and Mrs. Petrick responded that it was.

**Special Services - presented by Ms. Nanci Valente**

Special  
Services

Goals for 2011 - 2012

- Improve individual student reading scores - look for growth in NJASK scores
- Behavioral supports / strategies for all special education and regular education teachers - schoolwide behavioral model
- Augmentative technology systems - handwriting systems, Ipads used for OT/PT
- Ms. Valente added that she would like to send out more teachers next year for Orton-Gillingham training.
- Mr. Heiden asked how the special education students were placed and participated in the summer reading program. Ms. Valente answered that the child's IEP determines the specific extended school year program that the child would participate in over the summer.
- Ms. Valente ended by reporting that the Sussex Middle School 8<sup>th</sup> grade trip to Washington DC was a huge success. Along with Mr. Schrader, they took 128 well-behaved and respectful students and had a wonderful time. They were able to learn from the first year and were much better prepared and better scheduled in this second year of this trip. She reported that the district should be proud of its students once again for their representation of the district.

**Audience Remarks:** None

Audience  
Remarks

WHEREAS, this Board is authorized, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 to exclude the public from that portion of this meeting for purposes of discussing specific matters as permitted by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12; and,

Executive  
Session  
Resolution

WHEREAS, this Board intends to discuss certain matters which are deemed confidential pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, in Executive Session,

WHEREAS, at this time the Board cannot determine the time when the discussion to be held in Executive Session will be made public, but will disclose the minutes of the Executive Session when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Sussex Wantage Regional Board of Education that this meeting shall be adjourned to an Executive Session (closed session) and the public will be excluded in order that the Board may discuss the items listed below, and upon reconvening this public meeting the Board President will announce, if possible, the time when and the circumstances under which the discussion conducted in Executive Session will be disclosed to the public. This resolution is authorized and allowed by and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-13.

Item (8) Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance of, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body, unless all the individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting.

The general nature of the subject to be discussed per N.J.S.A. 10:4-13(a):  
personnel agenda for the Regular Meeting of June 29, 2011

Moved by Mr. Coykendall, seconded by Mr. Krynicky that the Board go into executive session at 8:26 pm.

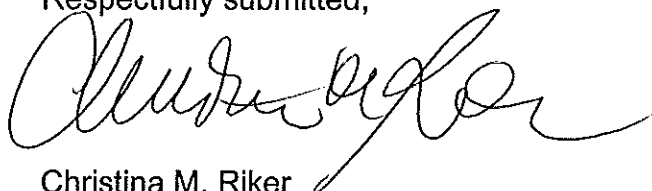
The Board returned to public session for adjournment.

**Adjournment**

Moved by Mr. Heiden, seconded by Mrs Martinez to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 pm.

**Adjournment**

Respectfully submitted,



Christina M. Riker  
Board Secretary