

**FORT LEE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
FORT LEE, NEW JERSEY**

**MINUTES – SPECIAL PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING**

Monday, March 17, 2014

Fort Lee High School Library/Media Center,  
3000 Lemoine Ave. Fort Lee, New Jersey 07024

1. The Public Work Session was called to order at 8:00 PM by Mr. Yusang Park, President of the Fort Lee Board of Education.
2. Mrs. Candace Romba led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

3. **PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT**

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice 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 Fort Lee Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof posted in the entrance hall of the Board Office, 2175 Lemoine Avenue; published in the Board's designated online media outlet/newspapers: The Record, The Star Ledger, The Suburbanite; filed with the Clerk of the Borough of Fort Lee; and mailed to all persons, if any, who have requested said notice. Please be advised that this meeting is being taped and will be broadcasted on local TV and the district's website at a future date.

During the course of the board meeting, the Fort Lee Board of Education offers members of the public an opportunity to address issues regarding the operation of the Fort Lee Public Schools. The Board reminds those individuals who take this opportunity to identify themselves by name and address and to limit their comments to items listed on the agenda and/or items directly related to the operation of the School District. Issues raised by members of the public may or may not be responded to by the Board. All comments will be considered and a response will be forthcoming if and when appropriate. The Board asks all members of the public to be courteous and mindful of the rights of other individuals when speaking. Specifically, comments regarding students and employees of the Board are discouraged and will not be responded to by the Board. Students and employees have specific legal rights afforded by the laws of New Jersey. The Board bears no responsibility nor will it be liable for any comments made by members of the public. Members of the public should consider their comment in light of the legal rights of those affected or identified in their comments and be aware that they are legally responsible and liable for their comments.

4. **ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Mrs. Holly Morell, Mrs. Esther Han Silver, Mrs. Candace Romba, Mr. David Sarnoff, Mr. Peter Suh, Mr. Joseph Surace, Ms. Helen Yoon and Mr. Yusang Park

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mr. Paul Saxton, Dr. Sharon Amato, Mr. David L. Rinderknecht, and Mr. Dennis McKeever, Esq.

**ABSENT:** Mr. Jeff Weinberg, Ms. Helen Yoon, Mr. Michael Morell and Mr. Michael Zhadanovsky

**5. PUBLIC WORK SESSION**

- ◆ Mr. Paul Saxton spoke about the Master Plan being developed and the proposed modular classroom units. He explained the problem of not having enough classrooms to accommodate increasing enrollment and those options are being reviewed. He related the history of defeated referenda to solve the capacity problem. Those problems have not gone away. He explained why School #2 was chosen for modular classrooms. Mr. Saxton announced that the Master Plan will be presented by the SSP Architectural Group at the public meeting next week.

Mr. David Sarnoff, offered, seconded by Mrs. Holly Morell, to open the meeting for Public Comments and Questions. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

**6. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS LISTED ON TONIGHT'S AGENDA AND ANY OTHER TOPIC OF CONCERN**

- ◆ Various members of the public stated their opinions about the need for and location of modular classrooms. In response to the question of cost Mr. Saxton said that the cost would average \$170,000. per year over five years for twelve classrooms.
- ◆ Concerns and suggestions expressed by the public includes a request that the Board should go back to the drawing board and that modular classrooms were likely going to remain indefinitely, traffic congestion and safety of children, lack of adequate playground space and equipment, emergency vehicle access, lack of sidewalk and police presence and snow blocking streets and parking.
- ◆ Mr. Yusang Park and Mr. David Sarnoff explained the history of prior defeated referenda and took issue with the statement that this is being done on the sly.
- ◆ Mrs. Esther Han Silver, offered, seconded by Mrs. Holly Morell, to close Public Comment. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

**7. ALL RESOLUTIONS AND REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

<b>Buildings and Grounds</b>		
<b>#1B&amp;G</b>	<b>INSTALLATION OF TEMPORARY MODULAR CLASSROOMS AT SCHOOL #2</b>	
<b>#2B&amp;G</b>	<b>REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR FOOD SERVICE MANAGEMENT</b>	
	Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell To Approve #1B&G & #2B&G	Seconded by Mr. Peter Suh On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Joseph Surace and Mr. Jeff Weinberg were absent.

<b>Finance</b>		
<b>#1F</b>	<b>ADOPTION OF TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR</b>	
	Motion by Mr. Peter Suh To Approve #1F	Seconded by Mrs. Holly Morell On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Joseph Surace and Mr. Jeff Weinberg were absent.

<b>Personnel</b>		
<b>#1P</b>	<b>APPOINTMENT OF MARGARET ALCON AS CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY IN SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE</b>	
	Motion by Mrs. Holly Morell To Approve #1P	Seconded by Mrs. Esther Han Silver On roll call, Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Joseph Surace and Mr. Jeff Weinberg were absent.

8. **OLD BUSINESS - None**
9. **NEW BUSINESS-None**
10. At approximately 9:10 PM, Mrs. Holly Morell, offered, seconded by Mr. Peter Suh, to adjourn the Public Work Session. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

  
 MR. DAVID L. RINDERKNECHT  
 INTERIM BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

DLR/mp  
 Att. 3-20-14