

BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF THE VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOLS
IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY

MINUTES OF MARCH 4, 2015 – SPECIAL MEETING

The Board Meeting of March 4, 2015 was called to order by President Albert Pitman at 8:02 am. The meeting took place at the Mercer County Vocational-Technical Schools, 1085 Old Trenton Road, Trenton, New Jersey. The President read the following statement:

“In accordance with the State’s Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was provided. This meeting was advertised in the Trenton Times newspaper on February 25, 2015. This notice was also posted in the Board Office and a copy has been filed with the County Clerk of Mercer.”

Roll Call:	Mrs. Iszard - Present	Ms. Stinger – Absent	Dr. Morana - Present
	Mr. Zoller - Present	Mr. Pitman - Present	

The Board noted the resignation of Mr. Joseph Murphy effective February 25, 2015.

Tanya Dawson, Business Administrator/Board Secretary presented the budget for the 2015-2016 school year. Enrollment for the 2015-2016 school year was discussed; projection for shared time students to remain the same. The 2014-2015 school saw a slight increase in the full time academy. Funding sources was discussed, with a focus on the tax levy. An increase in the tax levy support of 2.5% would help with capital lease purchase payment. Ms. Dawson reminded the Board that there was no increase in the tax levy last budget year. The eight year revenue and enrollment data was reviewed. Ms. Dawson stated, even though MCTS is asking for a 2.5% increase in tax levy for 2015-2016, the total amount is still not at the 2008-2009 level. Expenditures were reviewed, noting no major increases across the board, other than budgeting for the ROD grant local share. A three year General fund analysis was presented. Ms. Dawson noted that State aid remained flat for most districts in Mercer County. There is a concern that the Governor may look to districts to make up for the obligated pension payment. Ms. Dawson will keep the Board informed.

Dr. Morana stated from the Department of Education level, nothing has been received on that issue. Dr. Morana also suggested that MCTS should present the grants received and our partnership in the community.

Mr. Pitman suggested that the County be contacted and advised that MCTS is requesting a 2.5% increase in our tax levy, before the Board of School Estimate meeting.

Ms. Dawson stated she will add an additional slide to her presentation to show grants and community partnership and contact the County per Mr. Pitman’s suggestion.

Dr. Schneider said she wanted to thank Tanya for her hard work in preparing the budget. Dr. Schneider further stated that Ms. Dawson is diligent and innovative in her approach and she has been training new staff during this process, so thank you for your hard work.

Mr. Zoller said, I agree. You handle yourself with authority. Good job.

NEW BUSINESS

Business Administrator recommended the Board approve the following:

- IIA. Resolve to approve the 2015-2016 Tentative School District Budget for approval by the Executive County Superintendent (attached)

Ms. Iszard introduced a motion for the Board to approve the aforementioned. Mr. Zoller seconded the motion and it was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mrs. Iszard - Yes Ms. Stinger – Absent Dr. Morana - Abstain
 Mr. Zoller - Yes Mr. Pitman – Yes

There being no further business to come before the Board, Ms. Iszard introduced a motion the meeting be adjourned at 8:24 am. Mr. Zoller seconded the motion and it was carried by roll call vote.

Roll Call: Mrs. Iszard - Yes Ms. Stinger – Absent Dr. Morana - Yes
 Mr. Zoller - Yes Mr. Pitman – Yes

The next meeting of the Board shall be Tuesday, March 24, 2015 at 4:00 pm at the Assunpink Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Tanya Dawson
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary