

PARK RIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Date: September 16, 2020

Public Started: 7:00 P.M.

Public Ended: 9:03 P.M.

High School Little Theater

I. Roll Call

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|------------|---------------|----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| N. Triano | D. Bradler | B. von Bradsk | R. Sileo | A. Wagner | J. Pierotti | F. Church |
| X | X | X | X | X | X | X |

Also Present:

| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| R. Gamper | R. Wright |
| X | X |

II. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board President, Frank Church.

III. Open Public Meetings Statement was read by Board President, Frank Church.

This is to advise the general public and to instruct that it be recorded in the minutes that in compliance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, entitled the "Open Public Meetings Act," the Park Ridge Board of Education on September 3, 2020 caused to be posted at the Office of the Board of Education located at 85 Pascack Road, Park Ridge, New Jersey and on September 3, 2020 sent to The Record, 1 Garret Mountain Plaza, P.O. Bo 471, Woodland Park, NJ 07424-0471 and The Ridgewood News, 41 Oak Street, Ridgewood, NJ 07450-3805 and on September 3, 2020 delivered to the Office of the Municipal Clerk of Park Ridge and the Park Ridge Public Library a meeting notice setting forth the time, date and location of this meeting.

IV. EDUCATION RESOLUTIONS

E1. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the goals set for the Board of Education for the 2020/21 school year.

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E2. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the goals set for the district for the 2020/21 school year.

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Mr. Matt Lee from NJ School Boards gave a (virtual) presentation to the Board on Goal setting. Mr. Lee reviewed the Benefits of Goal setting such as Effective Policy Development, Optimizing Resource allocation and evaluating the Superintendent. Next, he reviewed the Board Governance cycle, which culminates in Goal setting. Mr. Lee then reviewed several data sources that are used in this process such as School Performance reports, Graduation data and HIB statistics. He then spoke about Core Benchmark Standards such as curriculum and instruction, and how they factor into the Goals setting process.

He explained there are two basic types of goal. District Goals and Board Goals. District goals happen on a “day by day” basis. The Board supplies the “what” and the Superintendent supplies the “how.” Board Goals revolve around tasks owned by the Board. An example would be examining committee structure for effectiveness. Other places where Goal development is used are in the Vision for the District, and the Strategic Plan.

Mr. Lee stated that the essential question for District Goals is what the focus for the upcoming year will be, that will have the most dramatic impact on student learning. The District should also review the mission statement.

After goals are adopted the Superintendent puts together action plans on how to achieve the goals. The district needs to decide what are the metrics, how do you measure the success, and what are the resources needed. This process should be periodically reviewed throughout the year.

After the presentation, the Board had a discussion. Ms. Wagner spoke about the district’s equity policy. Mr. Pierotti and Mr. Triano felt that school security should be revisited. The Board then discussed the new construction and the impact it may have on the schools. Enrollment projections were discussed as a way to see where things will stand five years from now. Dr. Gamper was asked to look into firms who do enrollment forecasts.

The Board discussed the impact of tax increases due to the new development on the district. Mr. Wright explained it was more of a public relations concern than an operational issue for the

district. The Board discussed the "Downtown" project. They felt it could bring more students into district by next year thus creating a problem for East Brook school.

The Board also spoke about revisiting the discussions with the Borough for running FIBER between the schools. Other possible areas included revising the mission statement, social reform, review the committee structure, and student mental health.

The Board decided on two District Goals and two Board Goals. Dr. Gamper agreed to take the topics and develop the goals for the Board to review. For District Goals he will work on Equity/Diversity and Social/Emotional wellness. For Board Goals he will work on Enrollment and Security.

V. Hearing of Citizens

Ms. Agoos commented that she is grateful for the thought everyone is putting into these decisions. She felt Dr .Gamper is doing a great job. In conversations with other parents, she found that no one is doing as well as Park Ridge. She recalled her initial conversations with him on the one to one laptop program. Feels his initiative on this was very forward thinking. She hopes that the Board takes this opportunity to put things back together differently.

A question was asked about the vacant spots on the ballot. Dr. Gamper responded that whoever has the most write-in votes would win. If a spot remains then the Board will interview possible candidates.

VI. Adjournment – 9:03 p.m.

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Robert Wright
Business Administrator/Board Secretary