

PRESIDENT’S REPORT
4/29/20
GLASSBORO BOARD OF EDUCATION

INSTRUCTION	OPERATIONS	ADMINISTRATION
Elizabeth Volz – Chair	Chris Esgro – Chair	June Longley – Chair
Ray Cibo	Michele Ricci	Ben Stephens
Ryan Hughes	Ray Cibo	Stacie Tattersdill

PUBLIC NOTICE OF MEETING OR WORK SESSION

Public notice of this meeting or work session has been made in accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Law of 1975.

Advanced public notice of this meeting was given January 8, 2020 (As amended on 3/16/20). Notice including the time, date and place of the meeting.

Said public notice has been made as follows:

Notice has been posted in the Board of Education Office, Carpenter Street and Bowe Boulevard, Glassboro, NJ and **on our website for the webinar link.**

Notice has been communicated to the following newspapers:

- a. South Jersey Times
- b. Courier Post

Notice has been filed with the Clerk of the Borough of Glassboro

Glassboro Municipal Building, 1 South Main Street, Glassboro, NJ

Flag Salute

The COVID-19 coronavirus is affecting every aspect of our lives in real time, and this puts us all in an unfamiliar place. Using all the technology we have at our disposal; thankfully, we can continue to reach out and hold public meetings. We appreciate everyone’s participation.

The board and administration remain in constant contact with the Mayor and the Director of the Office of Emergency Management. We are diligently working to provide you with the most current and accurate information. We will continue to keep you updated as more information is provided, through the district website, the borough website, and on social media.

I want to comment the administration for promoting ongoing communications. The staff for being creative in offering continued lessons, the parents for working together through social media to share resources, along with the borough and Rowan for working with us during this difficult time.

Beyond our regular agenda items, tonight’s meeting will also include a public hearing in the 2020/2021 school budget. Dr. Silverstein will present the budget during his report and we will accept public questions, prior to board of education deliberation and adoption.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT
4/29/20
GLASSBORO BOARD OF EDUCATION

After last month's meeting, we had received an email from a parent wondering if there would be any consideration given to a property tax reduction. He further asked us to publish how much money the district has saved through this unfortunate crisis we are experiencing since not all employees are required to be paid. He concluded that, any savings should be passed onto the taxpayers!

During tonight's budget presentation, the public will witness how savings is being returned and otherwise reallocated to cover expenses for next year. This budget represents the 3rd consecutive year of without a property tax increase, and moreover, this year represents a decrease in taxes. The school budget for 2020-2021, applies savings from fund balance representing 15% of the total cost, the highest level in the history of the Glassboro school district.

On April 14, 2020, the governor passed Assembly Bill 3904 which not only permitted use of virtual or remote instruction to meet minimum 180-day school year requirement and also required districts to continue to compensate District staff as though they are continuing to work while schools are closed. I applaud the measure as taxes and budgets already account for the compensation and it allows all staff to continue promoting remote instruction without fear of layoffs.

Legislators are now proposing a new bill – A3902 which proposes to allow municipalities to delay the quarterly transmission of property tax revenues to school districts during gubernatorial-declared emergencies. Our resolution opposes bill. We believe that any delayed payments from municipalities would result in a financial crisis for school districts, seriously disrupting the educational process, and worsen the situation for our community.

Resolution – Move the resolution.

Lastly, as it stands now, Governor Murphy as closed schools until at least May 15th, and based on actions of neighboring states, the closures may continue. Should schools be reopened for the end of the current school year, certain social and health measures will have to be taken. This could include continued social distancing and the use of face masks. Additionally, we will need to review procedures for school sanitation and cleaning.

The Governor and Commissioner of Education will likely issue additional guidance with respect to these measures. However, we will also need to consider the number of students per classroom and size of classrooms to determine how best to ensure social distancing. This may include restrictions on certain activities that require close contact of students such restricting the number of students in the cafeteria at a single time. Therefore, this may require different assignment of staffing and alternative schedules to accommodate social distancing rules that the District will need to spend some time planning for. We expect the administrative council of the Glassboro School District will work diligently to draft plans for a potential reopening this school year and present their proposed plan to the board of education for comment not later than the next scheduled board meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT
4/29/20
GLASSBORO BOARD OF EDUCATION

1. Board Committee Reports/Action Items

a. Instruction (Ms. Volz, Chair)

- Amended School Calendar – by popular demand, spring break has been shortened so that the end of the school year can be moved from June 17 to June 11. The calendar needs to be updated accordingly
- Grading During COVID-19 – The administration has proposed a modified grading policy to accommodate distance learning. Similar to the New Jersey Student Learning Assessment scoring rubric, students will receive final course marks as partially proficient, proficient, or highly proficient. No student will earn an official grade lower than partial proficiency, or 60%. Those who demonstrate proficiency will earn an 80%. Highly proficient students will earn a 100% for students in grades 4-12.

b. Operations (Mr. Esgro, Chair)

- The treasurers report for January and February lists a deposit in transit from 12/30 in the amount of \$890.21. Please clarify why this has not cleared.
- Schools Health Insurance Fund (SHIF) Grant – The administration is proposing to submit a grant to for the funding of an updating initiative for the Glassboro High School weight room to transform it into a Wellness Center. At this time, no proposal has been drafted, and as such, I am not sure what the board will be approving. The application packet is dated from last year. Clarification is needed.
- Memorandum of agreements – affect of changing the school calendar. In essence, the parties have agreed that all twelve (12) month employees who are now required to report to work during the shortened spring break will be entitled to four (4) additional vacation days that must be used by June 30, 2021. No agreement posted from GPSA...
- CSA proposed to contract with Pitt Bull Secure Technologies on a consulting agreement in support of IT infrastructure. No recommendation included in the report.
- Board needs administration notes on decision to address payroll issues with transportation employees.

c. Administration (Ms. Longley, Chair)

- CSA Recommendations
- Calvo and others – Abstain on 3E3 – Staff Reappointment List

Old Business

- The Board is considering an extension of the CSA's contract which expires on June 30, 2022, through 2025. We have received approval from the Executive County Superintendent. We will provide public notice accordingly, prior to taking any action.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT
4/29/20
GLASSBORO BOARD OF EDUCATION

- Citizens Advisory Committee for the Bond Referenda is placed on hold until further notice. No action will be taken until the committee meets again to vet the recommendations for updated projects. We may want to schedule a webinar regarding this matter.

New Business

- Committee meetings will continue be help via webinar until we are back to normal.