

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
RETREAT MEETING MINUTES
March 20, 2014**

The meeting of the West Windsor-Plainsboro Board of Education was called to order by President Anthony Fleres at 6:00 p.m. in High School North's media center. The following board members were present:

Ms. Rachelle Feldman Hurwitz	Ms. Rachel Juliana	Ms. Dana Krug
Mr. Anthony Fleres	Ms. Michele Kaish	Mr. Scott Powell
Ms. Louisa Ho	Mr. Richard Kaye	Mr. Yu "Taylor" Zhong

Present also were: Dr. David Aderhold, Superintendent; Mr. Larry Shanok, Assistant Superintendent for Finance/Board Secretary; Mr. Martin Smith, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum & Instruction; and Mr. Gerard Dalton, Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Services/Planning. Also in attendance was: Rick Cave, Director of Technology; Mark Wise, Supervisor of Curriculum & Instruction; and, Russ Wray, Supervisor of Instructional Technology.

CONVENE

In accordance with the State's Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was provided by mailing a notice of the time, date, location and, to the extent known, the agenda of this meeting to the PRINCETON PACKET, THE TIMES, THE TRENTONIAN, THE HOME NEWS TRIBUNE, AND WEST WINDSOR and PLAINSBORO PUBLIC LIBRARIES. Copies of the notice have also been posted in the board office and filed with Plainsboro's and West Windsor's township clerks and in each of the district schools.

No members of the public were present.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Mr. Fleres welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their participation. The main purpose of this retreat is to develop an understanding of the direction of our district technology initiatives in support of learning and, to come to an agreement on how we plan to move the district forward.

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Dr. Aderhold also welcomed the Board to the retreat and thanked the Director of Technology, Rick Cave, Mark Wise, and Russell Wray, for their attendance. He indicated that as a result of this retreat an understanding will be reached on what we believe and value regarding the utilization of technology to support our Mission Statement; understanding the district's initiatives and programs; looking forward and setting technology parameters; and, recognize how our technology priorities impact the work of the Board Committees moving forward.

DISCUSSION

Mr. Smith reviewed the district mission and vision from the time a few years ago to the present. The Board Members separated into their respective committees and discussed the mission/vision, making comments at portions of interest and discussion. Reviewing the committee work, Mr. Smith noted that the efforts are not about the tool, though it can be transformational. The bigger picture is student engagement.

Mr. Wise emphasized that the 1:1 program initiative is not to have \$300 “pencils.” Through redefinition, modification, augmentation and substitution this is to amplify learning, not to automate it. He described the end of year assessment and noted that many board members have participated as judges. There is not a technology gap, but an engagement gap that this can serve to close.

Mr. Wray led a discussion of the utilization of technology in support of the district’s mission. He described the initiatives and programs in support of instruction and the continuum of instruction grades three through seven. He noted expectations by grade.

There was a discussion of Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC). With the 20 day window, the impact on the instructional year is significant. The Superintendent asked that Board Members go back into their committees and address PARCC from their committees’ perspectives. After a discussion by the committees, Mr. Cave spoke about achieving our goals. Issues of reliability, access, equity, and support were addressed in his discussion. Issues as disparate as storage and cooling were noted. The technology inventory and resources, especially personnel, were described.

The Superintendent encouraged clarifying questions on these subjects. Each of the committees of the board spoke of their perspectives. Constraints were noted.

Board member Krug departed at 10:07 PM.

The discussion continued.

Superintendent Aderhold and Board President Fleres thanked everyone for their participation.

Upon motion by Mr. Kaye, seconded by Ms. Kaish, and by unanimous voice vote of all present, the meeting adjourned at 10:28 p.m.

Larry Shanok, Board Secretary