

To: Holmdel Township Board of Education

From: Chair, Community Relations Committee

RE: February 21, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Attending: Mr. Sockol (Chair), Mrs. Vander Woude, Ms. Garrity, Mrs. Duncan, Mr. Gattini and Mr. Petrizzo. Absent: Mrs. Pascucci.

The Community Relations Committee met on February 21, 2014, beginning at 12:35 p.m. The Committee conducted the following business:

1. Mr. Gattini provided an update on our pilot program of taping board meetings. He indicated that numerous steps have been taken to improve audio quality since the initiative began in November, and he believes we can proceed with taping in a cost-efficient manner. The Committee asked the Administration to explore an appropriate policy guiding the archiving of these recordings based upon the opinion of our legal counsel.
2. Mr. Gattini also reported that our School Messenger system has received high marks for its performance in notifying parents of key announcements, especially in light of our numerous snow-related closings and delayed openings. Social media participation has also increased, with Twitter usage doubling and indications that Twitter users are regularly “re-tweeting” our messages.
3. The Committee discussed various adjustments to streamline our Board meeting agenda, including consolidating all reports to the beginning of the meeting and establishing formalized consent agendas. The Committee asked the Administration to determine if current state statutes dictate the structure of our meeting agendas.
4. Mrs. Duncan reported that the NJASA is studying the feasibility of remote classroom time when schools are closed due to emergencies or inclement weather. New Jersey does not have any guidelines in place at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m. The next meeting of the Community Relations Committee will be on March 21 at 12:30 p.m.

Sincerely,

Mike Sockol
Chairman, Community Relations Committee.