

Holmdel Township Board of Education  
**BOE Community Relations Committee**

**Meeting Notes**

**July 21, 2009 9:30-11:00AM**

Central Office Conference Room

**Present**

Board Members: Chiung-Yin Liu, Barbara Garrity, Jim Shelton

Administrators: Barbara Duncan

**Absent**

Mike Collins

The committee met to construct a calendar responding to the Board's input during its June 10 open meeting in which members discussed priorities for the committee. We have learned that we need more work in order to reach a consensus on the calendar.

The committee discussion included these items:

- a. District Goals and Board Goals arise from all committees and are addressed in Committee of the Whole.
- b. The diversity of the members of the Board is a core asset in understanding and involving the community in advance of the Board's taking actions.  
We value meeting notes of all committees because they record new issues as they arise in committees from Board members and from the Administration. They keep all Board members better informed and can spur input from community members.
- c. Wanting community input on matters of interest to them, we will reexamine our outreach to non-parents. This may benefit from web-based presentations and from more widely publicized invitations to school events. Events targeted to community members have included Community Day, an Open House for Holmdel's Half Century Club at HHS, participation in the VS classrooms during Read Across America, and the Gold Card Program (reduced-price admission for Holmdel senior citizens to all district fine arts and sports events).
- d. We discussed looking into personal individual outreach from Board members including support for the budget proposed by the Board.
- e. We discussed revisiting our conversation with the community on the budget, considering broadening it to include successes, and challenges, and what we've been doing to meet them, along with the community support needed to help us in our mission so that our students achieve their full potential.  
Additions under consideration include (1) supplementing web-based power-point presentations with tapes of meeting presentations & discussions for the benefit of those who can't attend in person, and 2) instituting a monitored discussion blog for more immediate interaction eliciting thoughtful, targeted input.
- f. We will continue to foster on-going efforts to make our email and web site more user-friendly, informative, and efficient.

**The next meeting:** scheduled for **10:00 AM Fri, July 31** in the Central Office.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Shelton, Chair