

**PARSIPPANY-TROY HILLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

WORK SESSION MEETING OF
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2013

The Parsippany-Troy Hills Board of Education held a Work Session Meeting on Thursday, February 21, 2013 at the Board of Education Building, 292 Parsippany Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

CALL TO ORDER**CALL TO ORDER**

President Golderer opened the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

President Golderer stated that in compliance with Chapter 231, Public Law 1975 entitled Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided as specified in the Act. A meeting notice was published in the Daily Record on January 31, 2013. Additionally the Notice of Meeting was posted at the Municipal building and copy of Notice filed with the Township Clerk on February 21, 2013. This notice was also transmitted on February 21, 2013 to the Daily Record, The Star Ledger, and the school district website at www.pthsd.k12.nj.us. This is an official meeting.

MEETING NOTICE**FIRE NOTICE****FIRE NOTICE**

The Fire Notice was read by President Golderer.

ROLL CALL**ROLL CALL**

Present: Dr. Frank Calabria
Mr. James Carifi
Mr. Gary R. Martin
Mrs. Fran Orthwein
Mr. Michael Strumolo
Mr. Sharif Shamsudin (arrived @ 7:45 p.m.)
Mrs. Susy Golderer

Absent & Excused: Mr. Anthony Mancuso

Also Present: Dr. LeRoy Seitz, Superintendent
Mrs. Robin Tedesco, Business Administrator
Mr. Mark A. Tabakin, Esq., Board Attorney
Mrs. Joni Benos, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent
Mr. Tom Gaveglio, Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds

SALUTE TO THE FLAG**SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

President Golderer led the assembly in a salute to the flag.

President Golderer described the format of the meeting stating the school district needs to move forward and during discussion to respect all comments.

Dr. Seitz talked about the facts involving the fields: the football fields and tracks have been a problem for years and they are not safe; determine as a Board how to repair the tracks and fences for a long term solution; Rutgers University and Trugreen will do an evaluation of the fields and their suggestions should be taken into consideration; maintaining the fields does cost a lot of money.

President Golderer opened the meeting to the public at 7:20 p.m.

**PUBLIC PORTION
(Only 2 members of the public signed in)**

PUBLIC PORTION

Tom Bluj – asked if the top soil quality should be looked at prior to aeration and seeding that is done in March.

Jim Fox – noted the Parsippany High School track is not safe to run on.

Roman Hoskowsky – the track has been an ongoing problem; he offered ways to do fund raising; consider a committee to oversee the fields project.

Bob Venezia – looking for options to get the fields done; possible funding options include fund from the regular budget, private funding, to out to referendum again using refinancing bond savings.

Hank Heller – if you want to appeal to the voters of Parsippany, need more than one consulting firm and not just one architect firm; ask companies to sponsor the fields.

Mark DeAngelis – thought the money set aside for the fields was for some kind of green acre or open space fund that could be used for fixing the fields but was turned down by the Board.

Dr. Seitz explained what happened with these funds and the position of the Board.

Beth Bluj – seems as if we re going to start taking the condition of the fields seriously and should look at the field at Parsippany Hills High School and the tract at Parsippany High School.

Michael Speidel – need to consider a needs only wish list for the fields and tracks.

Mike Pedawicz – there is a general recognition that something has to be done with the fields; Little Vikings don't want to play at the Parsippany Hills High School fields as they have their own fields; the fields need to be fixed; bring an engineer and risk manager into these discussions; also need to be ADA compliant; need to develop a capital improvement 5 year plan; issues should go to the Morris County Improvement Authority to help funding of these fields.

Julie Peterson – the fields need to be maintained.

Pat Petaccia – let people volunteer to help take care of the fields; put another scaled down referendum on the November election ballot.

Bruce Barn – noted that everyone in the audience is on the same page.

Rick Negara – suggested a website be set up to talk about the fields; Township has a \$4.5 million field proposal and the Board has a \$7.7 million field proposal so can the Township proposal be viewed?

Dr. Seitz explained that he is not sure if there is a proposal at the Township.

Gil DiSilva – there is no preventative maintenance being done on the fields and tracks; it is unbelievable that the tracks have gotten to the point of damage that exists; need to respect the students and athletes and fix the tracks immediately.

Steve Smith – we are back to square one with the fields; discussions shouldn't be just about the football fields, it should be about the Board of Education fields; someone will get hurt and the fields only get worse every year; for the short term, we need to bus the Field Hockey teams to other turf fields in the town.

Valerie ? – need to petition for corporate funds to help redo the fields.

Scott Dean – need to for a committee about the field situation.

Mike Segado – fields are bad at all the schools; has the Board ever acquired quotes for sod? There is dirt being driven out of Parsippany with good soil from construction sites.

Mrs. Orthwein – maintenance focus has been on the buildings, heating, roofing, windows; the Board is now looking into the field maintenance issues.

Mr. Carifi – agrees with the audience that the fields need to be fixed and the Board is looking for funds to fix the fields and fencing.

Dr. Calabria – it is great what we are hearing from the audience and agrees with the good idea to make an advisory committee to come up with a plan to be put into effect and acted upon; need a timeline to get things done.

Mr. Shamsudin – corporate sponsors are out there as well as grants to fix the fields for our children and their future.

Mr. Strumolo – should remand this to multiple committees such as critical issues and communications; an immediate fix, short term solution is to set-up a committee to work with the town and meet with them to see if we can develop immediate ideas to fix the fields as well as ideas for long term improvements.

Mr. DeIntinis – important that the fields get fixed; petition corporate companies to help with the fields; audience has excellent ideas.

Mr. Martin – still believes the fields need to be fixed immediately but the town voted down; we should go to the November ballot with just two fields on the vote; have additional phases to address the other items that were voted down on the referendum.

Dr. Seitz – discussed utilizing funds and determining how to use between securing the schools or fixing the fields; set specific directives about the fields and you will get things done; need to work on the facts and develop a process.

Mrs. Golderer – would like to get people together on a committee to work on the fields; get Board member from each of the Board committees and members of the public to come together and create this committee; need people to be committed and as a community we all have to make it happen together.

A motion was made by Mr. Shamsudin, seconded by Mr. DeIntinis and unanimously approved by voice vote to hold a Special Meeting on Tuesday, March 5, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Board of Education Building for the purpose of voting to adopt the Preliminary Budget to send to the State.

ADJOURN

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There being no further business the Work Session meeting was adjourned at 9:48 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Carifi and unanimously approved by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin C. Tedesco
Board Secretary