

May 6, 2010

A Special Joint Meeting of the Lafayette Township Committee and High Point Regional High School Administration was held on Thursday, May 6, 2010 at 7:00pm. in the Municipal Building, 33 Morris Farm Road, Lafayette, NJ.

Members Present Mayor Bruning, Committeemen Hughes, Corcoran,
D'Angeli and Sweeney

Members Absent None

Also Present Clerk Fedish
John Hannum, Superintendent
Linda Alvarez, Board Administrator
Walter Stumpf, President/Lafayette Representative

Mayor Bruning stated the Township Committee does not have any recommendations for cuts at the moment but wanted to discuss some items.

Health Benefits - Mrs. Alvarez said new employees, in their first three (3) years, can buy up into the health plan. Discussion ensued regarding the cost of the program. Committeeman Corcoran said the State health plan is the cheapest and asked why they involve a broker. Mr. Hannum said the broker is not paid by High Point School. The insurance company pays the broker's fee.

Tuition Reimbursement - \$100,000 is contractual with nine (9) credits per year; and they reimburse using the Jersey City College rate, which has the lowest college costs). Professional development training is mandated.

Teacher's Aides - Currently, 18 are employed (four (4) are LPN's) and are required per the students' IEP.

Enrollment/Staff - It was noted that the enrollment is down; however, the staff is increasing. Mr. Hannum said the class sizes will be increasing due to the reduction of 27 staff members from the payroll. They currently employ 14 administrators.

Buildings and Grounds - There is one (1) full-time working supervisor. In the summer they hire additional part-time help. Mrs. Alvarez said the Buildings and Grounds crew are used seven (7) days per week. Committeeman Corcoran suggested hiring an outside source to do the entire job.

Guidance Counselors - Mayor Bruning questioned the need for seven (7) guidance counselors. Mrs. Alvarez said they reduced the counselors by one and a half (1.5). The Supervisor will be picking up the workload.

Curriculum Coordinator - This position has been eliminated from the 2010-2011 budget.

Vice Principals - Mr. Hannum said they need two (2) Vice Principals as there is much work to be done. Committeeman Sweeney asked about secretaries doing the attendance. Mr. Hannum said the secretaries are involved in making phone calls. Mrs. Alvarez said one (1) Vice Principal handles the adult school; and the other handles extra curricular activities. Mr. Hannum does not feel they can eliminate one (1) Vice Principal position.

Class Size - Currently, the average class size is 19-20 students per class. Dr. Hannum said the average class size will increase due to the cuts.

Contract Negotiations - Mr. Hannum said the current contract ended June 20, 2009; and they are still in negotiations

Mr. Hannum said one (1) Resource Room teacher is retiring and will not be replaced. They are reducing one (1) Special Education teacher. They employ three (3) Information Technicians. None are teachers; however, one (1) sets everything up for

after hours seminars. Mr. Hannum does not recommend reducing the technicians as they do everything from repairs to maintaining the schools' website.

Athletic Secretary - Mr. Hannum said this is a full-time position, with benefits, as this person handles scheduling and the payment of officials.

In-School Suspension - This is a part-time position.

Mr. Hannum assured the Committee that they are always looking at class size and schedules.

Adjournment

With there being no further business, motion by Hughes, seconded by Corcoran, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

ANNA ROSE FEDISH, RMC
Municipal Clerk