

**EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF RIDGEWOOD
BERGEN COUNTY, N.J. AS RECORDED IN THE
OFFICIAL MINUTE BOOK**

The Board of Education of Ridgewood, in the County of Bergen, New Jersey, convened in public session Monday, February 22, 2010, at 7:30 p.m. in the Education Center, 49 Cottage Place, Ridgewood, New Jersey.

The following members of the Ridgewood Board of Education were present:

Ms. Sheila Brogan; Ms. Laurie Goodman; Ms. Michele Lenhard; Mr. Robert Hutton, Vice President

The following members were absent: Mr. Joseph Vallerini, Board President

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PARAMUS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, every school district in the State of New Jersey is endeavoring to successfully provide a quality education to all students and,

WHEREAS, this endeavor necessitates the financial support from all areas and,

WHEREAS, the preponderance of funding emanates from the local school district tax levy and,

WHEREAS, support for funding from Trenton has been and continues to be inadequate, thereby creating an even greater burden on the local taxpayer to support the mission of educating all children and,

WHEREAS, local school districts are the conduit for funding to nonpublic schools through a variety of sources including NJ State Chapter 192-193 monies which are used to support the significant expense of Child Study Team evaluations, reevaluations and annual reviews for parentally placed students in nonpublic schools within the State of New Jersey and,

WHEREAS, the Paramus Public Schools has raised the matter of use of Chapter 192-193 funding for *out-of-state* students parentally placed in nonpublic schools within the State of New Jersey and,

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Education has determined that local school districts *cannot* use Chapter 192-193 funds to support Child Study needs of *out-of-state* students placed in New Jersey nonpublic schools and,

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Education has determined that districts may use local funds or allowable IDEA funds, thereby redirecting these local and federal resources away from New Jersey students to out-of-state students and increasing the tax burden of providing these services to the local taxpayer and,

WHEREAS, Paramus is the home to eleven (11) nonpublic and five (5) private schools, with one school having at least eighty-seven (87) residents of New York,

WHEREAS, the Paramus Board of Education does hereby voice its opposition to using local tax monies for support services to out-of-state students and,

WHEREAS, the Paramus Board of Education hereby requests legislative correction to cure this additional tax burden and unfunded mandate, and

WHEREAS, the Paramus Board of Education hereby requests that other school districts so affected contact their legislators in an effort to attain a corrective legislative response,

ADDITIONALLY, WHEREAS, the law requires a local board to provide transportation aid to non-public students as part of its general fund budget, and

WHEREAS, the Maximum Permitted Net Budget when all other non-public aids are provided by the State of New Jersey as grants in the Special Revenue Fund are outside the general fund budget and the Maximum Permitted Net Budget and have no impact on the local tax levy, and

WHEREAS, this inconsistency in the source of funds and in the accounting for this aid versus all other non-public school aids is an additional burden on local taxes,

THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, that the Ridgewood Board of Education requests relief from this burden on behalf of itself and all other school districts impacted by this inconsistency in transportation funding and accounting for aid to non-public students, and

THEREFORE, IT IS ALSO RESOLVED, that the Ridgewood Board of Education supports Paramus and all districts so affected by this unfunded mandate and non-public transportation aid, by ordering the Superintendent of Schools to forward this resolution of support to Assemblymen Rumana and Russo, Senator O’Toole, and Governor Christie.

Ms. Lenhard moved approval of the Resolution Supporting Paramus Public Schools.

Ms. Brogan seconded the motion, which carried by the following roll-call vote:

AYES: Ms. Brogan, Ms. Goodman, Ms. Lenhard, Mr. Hutton

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mr. Vallerini

I certify that this is a true and correct excerpt from the Ridgewood Board of Education minutes.

Date

Jennifer Daviet
Assistant Board Secretary