

Special Meeting  
South Orange-Maplewood  
Board of Education  
June 13, 2016

A Special Meeting of the Board of Education of South Orange-Maplewood was held in the District Meeting Room at the Administration Building, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, New Jersey, on June 13, 2016.

Board President Elizabeth Baker called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Adequate written notice of this meeting of the South Orange-Maplewood Board of Education was sent to the Township and Village Clerks, the Libraries, The Star Ledger, the News Record and all schools.

ROLL CALL: Present: Ms. Baker, Ms. Kambili, Mrs. Lawson-Muhammad, Ms. Maini, Ms. Pai, Mr. Sabin, Ms. Smith, Mrs. Wright

Absent: Mrs. Daugherty, Ms. Jones

7 MEMBERS AND ONE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Baker explained that the purpose of the meeting was for the Superintendent's evaluation, which is required by law.

Ms. Baker asked for a moment of silence for the victims and their families of the shootings in Orlando this weekend and asked for a show of solidarity and unity with the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning (LGBTQ) community.

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS AND DELEGATIONS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Kerry Charles Maplewood	Concerned about reports of mold in the Special Dance room. Understands it's being remediated but would like to know status of addressing moisture in the room going forward when it reopens next year.
Elissa Malespina South Orange	Spoke about the Superintendent's contract and evaluation. Specifically addressed various criteria for merit pay and urged Board to consider recent budget cuts when determining the Superintendent's bonus pay.
Filip Saulean Columbia HS Student	Spoke about last week's student forum at Columbia hosted by the Superintendent. Issues raised included dissatisfaction with the CHS administration and concern about introducing a School Resource Officer (SRO) at Columbia. Postponing the introduction of an SRO is the right thing to do.
Samori Etienne Columbia HS Student	Supported comments by previous speaker and suggested that in order to increase student morale, you need to give students a voice in issues related to the school.

You need to increase student trust in the administration.

Suzanne Ryan  
Maplewood

Concerned about the access and equity policy and the ability to meet the needs of students with the staff reductions and increasing enrollments. It is a noble policy but we need to look at true ways of supporting our students.

Joe Lombardo  
CHS Teacher

Spoke about the access and equity policy. Concerned about support for the students to be successful with lack of staff and rumors or supervisor restructuring.

Ms. Baker indicated that the issue of mold and remediation in the special dance classroom is on the agenda for the Finance, Facilities, and Technology committee and can be reported on at the June 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. Ms. Baker also indicated that the steps taken on the access and equity policy are not complete and that the policy will be developed as part of the strategic plan, including the need for additional resources. Ms. Baker also responded to the comments regarding the Superintendent's merit goals and indicated that they are not being addressed tonight, but would be considered in August after the school year is complete.

Mrs. Wright commented on the importance of hearing from staff on access and equity and that more time should be given for hearings of individuals.

MOTION made by Mrs. Lawson-Muhammad, seconded by Ms. Smith that the Board of Education meet in Closed session to discuss the Superintendent's Evaluation.

MOTION made by Mrs. Lawson-Muhammad, seconded by Ms. Smith that the Board of Education adjourn. Motion unanimously approved at 7:36 p.m.

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Cheryl Schneider, Board Secretary