

**Special Meeting  
July 8, 2015  
6:07 P.M.**

A Special Meeting of the Kearny Board of Education was held in the Board Room, 172 Midland Avenue, on the evening of the above date.

President Doran called the meeting to order and announced that in accordance with Chapter 231, Laws of 1975, Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of the meeting was provided to the Star Ledger and Jersey Journal, filed with the Town Clerk, and posted on the District website.

**ROLL CALL**

On roll call, the following members were present: Mr. Granelli, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Mc Donald, Mrs. Sherry, Ms. Lindenfelser, President Doran.

Mrs. Patricia Blood, Superintendent of Schools, and Mr. Michael De Vita, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, were also present.

Also present were the First Ward representatives from the Kearny Town Council: Albino Cardosa and Marytrine De Castro.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Doran led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**PURPOSE OF THE MEETING**

The purpose of the meeting was the discussion of Board-owned property encompassing Town playgrounds: Rogers Playground (at Hickory Street), and Pettigrew Playground (at Washington School).

**BOARD MEMBER, TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS ARRIVE AT MEETING**

Samantha Paris, Board of Education member, and Michael Landy, 4<sup>th</sup> Ward Councilman arrived at 6:14 p.m. and 6:11 p.m., respectively. Councilwoman Susan Mc Currie arrived at 6:18.

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

Mrs. Davidson and Mr. Viscuso were unable to attend the meeting.

**BOARD PRESIDENT SPEAKS**

President Doran addressed the intent of the joint meeting as a clarification of the planned improvements to the playgrounds, with a discussion of a few issues contained within the preliminary plans.

**DISCUSSION**

Councilman Landy, speaking as a member of the town's Recreation Commission, referred to parental complaints over the years regarding the negative impact on the basketball program due to a lack of basketball courts. Councilpersons Cardosa and De Castro both believe that the Washington School location is ideal for expanded basketball courts, and stated that, following community meetings, there were no objections from area residents to the proposal.

However, the Board has concerns regarding use of the courts by older youths during evening hours and the potential disruption to the neighborhood, from noise, etc. The Board was assured that the playground would be locked "at sundown", and installation of security cameras is included in the proposal. The Board of Education had also requested a revision of the driveway configuration as a safety concern for students, since the district's school buses are housed at the Washington School property.

There was limited discussion regarding the proposal for Rogers Playground, since Town Council members were unaware that the Board of Education had never received any plans and/or drawings. There was generally less concern from the Board about expanding basketball courts in that area since the playground is slightly more remote from residences. President Doran requested the Board be furnished with the most recent plans so they can be reviewed and discussed by the Facilities Committee and brought forward to the full Board at the July 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**MOTION RE: ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Mrs. Mc Donald, seconded by Ms. Lindenfelser and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Business Administrator/  
Board Secretary