

**EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR PUBLIC 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 on Monday, June 27, 2011 at 7:33 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. Christina Krauss; Mr. Charles Reilly; Mr. Robert Hutton, Vice-President; Ms. Michele Lenhard, Board President

The following members were absent: None

Resolution for Regulatory Relief for America's Schools

- Whereas, The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), currently known as No Child Left Behind, is more than three years overdue for reauthorization; and
- Whereas, The current law is widely recognized as flawed and 'in need of improvement'; and
- Whereas, Current accountability requirements will result in more than three quarters of America's public schools being labeled as failing in the coming school year; and
- Whereas, Such a drastic misrepresentation of the accomplishments of America's public schools does more harm than good and undermines the hard work of millions of educators and students across the nation every day; and
- Whereas, America's public schools and the students they serve deserve relief from the onerous regulations that are widely acknowledged to be both unfair and overly burdensome; and
- Whereas, In facing the challenge of implementing these complex regulations, school districts across the nation struggle with the rigidity of regulation and are forced to spend resources, both financial and human, on compliance rather than on teaching and learning; and
- Whereas, It is increasingly unlikely that Congress will be able to complete full reauthorization before the 2011-12 school year and alleviate pressure from both current law and its related regulations. Now, therefore, be it
- Resolved, That the Ridgewood Board of Education supports reauthorization of the outdated ESEA legislation; and be it further
- Resolved, That the Ridgewood Board of Education urges – absent Congressional reauthorization — immediate regulatory relief for the 2011-12 school year, and any efforts to rescind or modify current regulations and alleviate undue pressure on the nation's schools; and be it further
- Resolved, That the Ridgewood Board of Education urges the Department of Education to exercise their regulatory authority to relieve school districts from the constraints of current statutes, keeping schools from being held hostage while Congress moves forward with complete reauthorization; and be it further
- Resolved, That the Ridgewood Board of Education requests that this relief be straight regulatory relief, not waivers. Schools deserve straight regulatory relief, and not the additional requirements or conditions that often come with waivers; and be it further
- Resolved, That the Ridgewood Board of Education specifically supports suspension of additional sanctions under current AYP requirements, effective for the 2011-12 school year. (Schools currently facing

sanctions would remain frozen; no new schools would be labeled as “In Need of Improvement’ or subject to new or additional sanctions); and be it further

Resolved, that this resolution be forwarded to Governor Christopher Christie, Commissioner of Education Christopher D. Cerf, Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver, State Senator Kevin O’Toole, Assemblyman David Russo, and Assemblyman Scott Rumana; and be it further

Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Garden State Coalition of Schools, the Bergen County Association of School Officials, the New Jersey Association of School Administrators, the New Jersey Association of School Business Officials, and the New Jersey School Boards Association; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to United States Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, United States Senators Frank Lautenberg and Robert Menendez, and Members of the House of Representatives.

Ms. Brogan moved approval of the Resolution for Regulatory Relief for America’s Schools.

Mr. Reilly seconded the motion, which carried by the following roll-call vote:

AYES: Ms. Brogan, Ms. Krauss, Mr. Reilly, Mr. Hutton, Ms. Lenhard

NAYS: None

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Jennifer Daviet  
Assistant Board Secretary