

In Little Ferry, kids tackle the grown-up biz of government

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LITTLE FERRY — Seven students got the chance to run their borough for a night as part of “Mayor for a Day,” a program held annually since 1982.

Each student stood in for an elected official or administrator at Tuesday night’s meeting, with Alex Severino substituting for Mayor Mauro Raguseo, Lacey Schuck for her mother, Sue Schuck, and Dante Capurso for Borough Administrator Michael Capabianco.

“We hope that this evening you will learn a little bit about how democracy works,” Raguseo told them, before they all took the “oath of office” from Borough Attorney Joseph Monaghan.

Raguseo later gave Severino a gavel, inscribed with his name, to help him preside over the meeting.

Those in the audience included state Assemblywoman Marlene Caride, Freeholder Vice Chairwoman Joan Voss, Freeholder John Mitchell, Memorial Middle School Principal Robert Porfido, Superintendent Frank Scarafilo and school board members.

The students, eighth graders at Memorial School, presided over the hearing on the borough’s \$15-million budget, adopted a slew of resolutions, and introduced a discussion for the borough to join a growing list of municipalities banning smoking in public parks.

http://www.northjersey.com/community/kids/In_Little_Ferry_kids_tackle_the_grown-up_biz_of_government.html