

*IT IS THE MISSION OF THE SCHODACK CENTRAL SCHOOLS  
to develop our students to become "...active, reflective, creative learners. In our schools, they will engage in rewarding work and  
practice behaviors that are intelligent in both an academic and a practical sense. Students will develop the attitudes, skills and  
understandings that will allow them to fulfill their potential and to function successfully in their individual and social roles."*

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SCHODACK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
1216 Maple Hill Road, Castleton, New York 12033-1699

**January 19, 2017**

**Maple Hill High School Library**

Present: Michael Hiser, Michael Charsky, Paul Puccio, Christian Olsen, Victoria Adler, Mary Yurista, Michael Tuttle, and Bruce Romanchak

Absent: Daniel Grandinetti

Also Present: Lee Bordick, Monica Kim, Michael Bennett, Jason Chevrier, Ron Agostinoni, Jacqueline Hill and James Derby

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – REGULAR**

1. Meeting called to order by President, Michael Hiser at 6:05 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
3. Christian Olsen moved for approval of present agenda. Bruce Romanchak seconded, all present in favor.
4. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of minutes: December 15, 2016 meeting. Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.
5. Reports:
  - a. Futures Presentation – Michael Bennett talked about a report that was given to the district on its Special Education Program. He shared the different recommendations in the report and how the district has addressed those recommendations. The district has made changes to their Professional Development offered to involve more Special Ed. areas to help with this. Behavioral issues have increased and they will be focusing more on assisting students with behavior issues. Response to Intervention also being an area that needs improvement, identifying students that need intervention is being improved. There are three Tiers of services: Tier 1 involves additional classroom level help, Tier 2 involves Title I help, and Tier 3 involves multiple interventions including Special Education Services. He spoke about surveys that the district is required to ask parents to complete. The information from the survey is sent to the State. Staffing was also an area that they looked at, the district was understaffed in some areas and overstaffed in others.
  - b. Transportation / Facilities / IT Presentations:

Rhonda Greenway shared the staffing in the transportation department, the fleet managed through transportation and the number of runs both inside the district and outside the district as well as the total miles driven in a school year. There was discussion about the areas that will effect and increase in the transportation budget, fuel costs and bus replacements being two.

Matt LaClair shared information about the size of the facilities, the equipment and staffing used to maintain the buildings and grounds as well as the different responsibilities of the facilities department. He shared the challenges that the department will face for 2016 through 2020 and what is needed to continue to maintain the building and grounds.

Jim Yox talked about the IT department and the number of devices they currently maintain as well as additional devices that will be purchased for the next school year. He spoke about the different IT services that will be enhanced and changes to equipment for teachers. Old equipment is being replaced instead of repaired to stay in line with the changes that will take place with the capital project. He shared information about the Smart Schools Bond Act and what stage that the district is in in the process, he expressed it is a slow process and plans have had to be adjusted as needed.

- c. 2017-18 Preliminary Budget Presentation – Lee Bordick and Monica Kim - It was expressed that budget development is a year round process, and a month to month timeline that is used by the district to develop the budget was shared. Budget development goals and enrollment history were discussed as well as some key facts that affect the budget. The tax levy calculation as of January 19, 2017 was presented, but it was noted that it was not complete, more information will be collected before it is finalized.
  - d. Capital Project – update – Lee Bordick shared information about an owners meeting coming up on January 24, 2017 at 11:00 am. He shared the progress of the additions to the building.
    - i. Sewer project update – Lee Bordick shared that the sewer project progress and that it is anticipated that it will be completed in 2018.
6. Meeting open for public discussion: None.
7. District news / Committee Reports:
- District News:
    - CES – James Derby shared events that have been taking place at the elementary school: author visit, author skypes, and the library activity has been high.
    - Middle School – Quarter two is wrapping up, Assemblyman McLaughlin visited the school, there was an author visit, unplugged events have taken place, kids play board games, and put aside electronics.
    - High School – Blue Ribbon School nomination, wrestling tournament well attended by area schools.
    - District – Mr. Bordick expressed that the district is a very active school for its size, and shared information about where the Superintendent Committee selection stands.
  - Committee Reports:
    - CES Building Planning Committee – Michael Tuttle – The first meeting took place 1/18/17 to discuss a plan for moving forward. The Capital project was discussed.
    - MS/HS Building Planning Committee – Paul Puccio and Michael Charsky – Working on how to combine and hold activities at two levels once the Middle School and High School combine into one building once the capital project is completed. How to still work STEM Day.
    - Professional Development Planning Committee – Bruce Romanchak – They will be reviewing the different types of training that could be offered.
    - Technology Committee – Christian Olsen and Mary Yurista – Mr. Chevrier expressed that the work is exciting. Discussion took place about where the different skill levels should be at the buildings and to develop a plan that will be used.
    - NYSSBA Legislative Liaison – Michael Hiser – NYSSBA is in the process of reviewing the Governor’s budget proposal. There was discussion of asking that the levy not be allowed to fall below 0, but it may not see change as schools last year passed budgets with levy’s below 0. He discussed the Spring conference offered to Board Members and asked if anyone else would be interested in going.

- Health and Safety / SAVE Committee – Victoria Adler – Nothing new to report.
- Audit Committee – Daniel Grandinetti, Mary Yurista, and Christian Olsen – the RFP is due soon and they will be opened.
- Policy Committee – Bruce Romanchak and Victoria Adler – Currently on the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of next policies to be approval.
- Building Visitation Committee – All members as a whole – nothing new.
- Capital Project Representation Committee – Michael Hiser, Christian Olsen, Michael Charsky and Paul Puccio – Chris Olsen will attend the upcoming meeting on January
- Schodack Wildcat Foundation, Inc. – Paul Puccio discussed the revised lease that will be used and how the district can enforce collecting from a tenant that becomes successful. There was discussion about the benefit to our teachers and students and how the district can recruit additional tenants.

8. Board discussion:

● Board Goals:

- Conduct an effective, transparent and successful Superintendent appointment process.
- Become more knowledgeable regarding current trends of educational advancement.
- Board of Education members to commit to personal involvement in school events of 3-5 times minimum per year.
- All Board of Education members will be fully trained as required by NYSED guidelines.
- Board of Education to evaluate and decide the question of whether the consolidation may involve a change in the school time for starting/ending.
- Board of Education to evaluate and decide whether there should be a change in the transportation of students, especially involving the consolidation, in terms of which students ride, and what distance students may walk.

There was discussion about the Rensselaer Tech Center that will be constructed and discussion of having students involved in more hands on training and to get students certified in things like forklift driver and learning about welding. There was discussion about having a presentation from Questar III on the CTE programs and opportunities for students to get jobs right out of the program. Medicaid services were discussed and how schools bill for Medicaid reimbursement. Mr. Bordick talked about the start and end times of school and stated that the administrative team is looking into the impact of changing the times. He expressed that any change should take place in 2018 if it was going to be changed. There was discussion about changing transportation runs and if there would be a financial impact, how it would affect families and the financial impact. There was discussion about holidays and the symbols that are in the classrooms and buildings. Mr. Bordick shared that the district did not violate any law. There needs to be a balance of teaching religion in the classroom like asking students to bring information into class and share their traditions.

9. A. Policies: Christian Olsen moved for approval of the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and adoption of the following policies:
- a. 4311.1 – Display of the Flag
  - b. 4315.1 – Aids Instruction
  - c. 4321 – Programs for Students with Disabilities under the IDEA and New York’s Education Law Art. 89
  - d. 4321.1 – Provision of Special Education Services in the least restrictive environment
  - e. 4321.2 – School-wide Pre-Referral Approaches and Interventions
  - f. 4321.3 – Allocation of Space for Special Education Programs
  - g. 4321.5 – Confidentiality and Access to Individualized Education Programs, Individualized Education Services Programs and Service Plan

- h. 4321.6 – Availability of Alternative Format Instructional Materials for Students with Disabilities
- i. 4321.7 – Districtwide and Statewide Assessments of Students with Disabilities
- j. 4321.8 – Impartial Hearing Officer Appointment and Compensation

Bruce Romanchak seconded, all present in favor.

- B. Policies: Bruce Romanchak moved for approval to rescind the following policies replaced by the above adopted policies:
  - a. 3-218 – Display of the Flag
  - b. 5-100 – Programs for Students with Disabilities
  - c. 5-106 – Independent Educational Evaluations
  - d. 3-102 – Student Records
  - e. 5-110 – Provision of Instructional Materials in Alternative Formats for Students with Disabilities
  - f. 5-204 – Census Registration Students with Disabilities

Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.

#### 10. Consent agenda

- a. Bruce Romanchak moved for acceptance of the Claims Auditor's Report for the month of November 2016. Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.
- b. Bruce Romanchak moved for acceptance of the Treasurer's report for the month of November 2016. Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.
- c. Bruce Romanchak moved for acceptance of the Extra Classroom Activity Report for quarter ending December 31, 2016. Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.
- d. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of recommendations of the district Committee on Preschool Special Education regarding 2016-2017 special education services for students: 968789624, 000114961, 968789622, 000114865, 968789618, and 968789617. Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.
- e. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of recommendations of the district Committee on Special Education regarding 2016-2017 student: 000114579 and 000113617. Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.
- f. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of a contract with ENTEK Environmental and Technical Services, Inc. for Asbestos Abatement – Project Management and Monitoring for the Maple Hill High School Additions and Alterations and Castleton Elementary School Alterations. Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.
- g. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of a contract with Evergreen Testing and Environmental Services for special inspections and materials testing for the Maple Hill High School Capital Project. Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.
- h. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of a contract with AccuCare Home Health Services, Inc. from January 17, 2017 through June 23, 2017 at a rate of \$33.00 per hour. Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.

- i. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of a resolution establishing the approval authority process for Change Orders for the Capital project:

Value of Change Order	Required Signatures
\$0 to \$5000	Architect Construction Manager Contractor School Business Official
\$5001 to \$35,000	Architect Construction Manager Contractor School Business Official Superintendent of Schools
\$35,001 and over	Architect Construction Manager Contractor School Business Official Superintendent of Schools President, Board of Education (following BOE approval)

Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.

- j. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of a revised lease between The Wildcat Foundation, Inc. and any sub-tenant of a Lease dated August 16, 2016, between Schodack Central School District and The Schodack Wildcat Foundation, Inc. Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.

#### 11. Resignations/Appointments

- a. Bruce Romanchak moved for the acceptance of the resignation of Patricia A. Wood for the purpose of retirement effective June 30, 2017 with appreciation of long service and regrets for the loss of a fine Social Worker. Mary Yurista seconded, all present in favor.
- b. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of a four year probationary appointment of Jillian Urbonowicz, (certification: Physical Education K-12), commencing February 27, 2017, as Physical Education Teacher and as Health Teacher , in the tenure areas of Physical Education and Health Education, at a salary of BA 1, provided that, except to the extent required by law, in order to be granted tenure, she shall have received composite or overall annual professional performance review ratings pursuant to Education Law §3012-c or §3012-d of either effective or highly effective in at least 3 of the 4 preceding years, and if she receives an ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year of the probationary period, she shall not be eligible for tenure at that time. Mary Yurista seconded, all present in favor.

~~Approval of a four year probationary appointment of Jillian Urbanowicz, (certification: Physical Education K-12), commencing on at date between January 30, 2017 and February 27, 2017 (will be amended once date is determined)), as Physical Education Teacher and as Health Teacher , in the tenure areas of Physical Education and Health Education, at a salary of BA 1, provided that, except to the extent required by law, in order to be granted tenure, she shall have received composite or overall annual professional performance review ratings pursuant to Education Law~~

~~§3012 c or §3012 d of either effective or highly effective in at least 3 of the 4 preceding years, and if she receives an ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year of the probationary period, she shall not be eligible for tenure at that time.~~

- c. Bruce Romanchak moved for the approval of a change in hours for Deborah Clifford, School Bus Attendant, from 5.25 hours per day to 5.50 hours per day effective January 20, 2017. Mary Yurista seconded, all present in favor.
  - d. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of the appointment of the following substitute teacher(s): Sara Greene and Molly Macfie. Mary Yurista seconded, all present in favor.
  - e. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of the following non-instructional substitute(s): Sara Greene. Mary Yurista seconded, all present in favor.
12. Meeting open for public discussion. There was further discussion about the bussing and why the district is discussing the impact of making changes to the bus runs.
  13. Action items. CTE Program presentation from Questar.
  14. Mary Yurista moved to enter Executive Session to discuss a disciplinary matter of a particular person and candidates of the Superintendent Search. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
  15. Bruce Romanchak moved to exit executive session and enter regular session at 9:48 pm. Michael Tuttle seconded, all present in favor.
  16. Bruce Romanchak moved to appoint Lee Bordick as protem District Clerk. Michael Charsky seconded. All present in favor.
  17. Bruce Romanchak moved to approve a resolution that upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, and based on the results of an investigation concerning the conduct of Employee #425, the Board finds that Employee #425's continued employment in the District presents a potential danger to persons, (specifically, students with disabilities) and would severely interfere with the operations of the District; and it is further  
  
Resolved, that employee #425 is hereby suspended without pay effective January 23, 2017, pending termination or the outcome of any grievance and arbitration proceeding to review proposed termination. Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.
  18. Adjournment. Having no further business before the board, President Hiser adjourned the meeting at 9:51 pm.