

*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

**April 11, 2017**

**Maple Hill High School Library**

Present: Michael Charsky, Mary Yurista, Bruce Romanchak, Daniel Grandinetti, Michael Tuttle and Christian Olsen (arrived at 6:10)

Absent: Michael Hiser, Paul Puccio and Victoria Adler

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

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – REGULAR**

1. Meeting called to order by Vice-President Charsky at 6:04 p.m.
2. Vice-President Charsky asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
3. Mary Yurista moved for approval of present agenda, Bruce Romanchak seconded, all present in favor.
4. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of minutes of regular meeting (with a revision to the number of candidates interviewed in the first reports in the reports section for the Superintendent position from 6 to 5 in the March 23, 2017 minutes): March 2, 2017 and March 23, 2017, Mary Yurista seconded, Michael Tuttle abstained from the March 23, 2017 minutes, all others in favor.
5. Reports: Bruce Romanchak moved to amend reports to add letter a. Indoor Track Update, Mary Yurista seconded, all present in favor.
  - a. Indoor Track Update – Andy Basile spoke about the accomplishments of the Indoor Track team and the benefit to students of having an additional winter sport. He expressed that the Indoor Track Team had scholar athletes on the team this year, and that the group hoped that the school would consider taking indoor track on as a school sport. He thanked the board for hearing their presentation. The Superintendent recommended allowing indoor track to continue as a self-funded team, with the understanding that the board would consider funding the sport. There was discussion about developing a policy that would deal with allowing self-funded groups and activities to function as self-funded with the potential of becoming a school funded sport.
  - b. Capital Project Update – Jim Graham and Marty Griffin – Marty Griffin talked about the progress of the capital project and the projects that are underway in the building. He expressed that the project is in a good place and on time. Jim Graham shared the upcoming scope of the job and submissions to the State for additional projects as part of the project. The kitchen upgrade and Auditorium are two of the projects being submitted to State Ed. for approval, and that the approval time at State Ed is currently 6 months out. The Technology area was discussed briefly and it was said that there is still work to be done on the planning. The project at the bus garage is on target. The sewer line and track will be addressed once that is underway. There was discussion about how the remaining funds

can be handled, whether it be another project or used to pay down debt as well as about the new sign at the high school and a demo of the equipment on Thursday, April 13, 2017.

- c. 2017-18 Superintendent's Recommended Budget - Mr. Bordick expressed that the budget presented is below the tax cap. He explained that the original estimate for State Aid was slightly less than what the runs came in as and that the district proposed to use the aid not originally budgeted for to reduce the levy. It is estimated that taxes on a home assessed at \$200,000 could increase by 108 per year. There was discussion about areas the district saved through reductions in positions as well as a reduction in Questar's Central Business Office. Smart Schools Bond has been reviewed and returned to the district with questions, administration is working on the answers and the district is hoping to receive the money soon. The District reserves and fund balances were shared. There is a plan to use some money from the reserves to set aside to use in the next few years to help offset when the debt spikes. There will be two propositions and three seats open for the board, petitions to run for board member are due April 17, 2017 by 5:00 pm.
6. Meeting open for public discussion: Tim Ryan asked about digital signage and whether it would be internal and external. Auditorium equipment was recently purchased at the high school, he asked if that would be incorporated into the project. He offered suggestions about how we could do the project to include a sound room; and there was discussion about further planning for the Auditorium.
  7. District news / Committee Reports:
    - District News:
      - CES – Mr. Derby talked about the recent Lip Sync performances, State Assessments (The Elementary school was audited by the State during the testing to be sure they comply with State Ed. Regulations), Grandparents day is this week, Kindergarten Orientation and current enrollment for Kindergarten.
      - Middle School – Ms. Hill shared about the Middle School Drama Performance and expressed that the performance was successful. School dances have been coupled with Parent information nights, informing parents about drug use prevention. She talked about the upcoming Senior Citizen Dance and lunch.
      - High School – National Honor Society Induction inducted 8 juniors. Blue Ribbon Competition Application has been submitted, Capital Project is continuing, he shared that the staff is adjusting to distractions and doing well. College acceptances have been rolling in.
      - District – The District is still going full bore and working on tying up loose ends so Jason can begin the new school year fresh.
    - Committee Reports:
      - CES Building Planning Committee – Michael Tuttle – Meeting will take place next month.
      - MS/HS Building Planning Committee – Paul Puccio and Michael Charsky – Meeting will take place after break.
      - Professional Development Planning Committee – Bruce Romanchak – nothing new to report, next meeting after break.
      - Technology Committee – Christian Olsen and Mary Yurista – scheduled to meet but had to cancel, will update at next board meeting.
      - NYSSBA Legislative Liaison – Michael Hiser – nothing new at this time.
      - Health and Safety / SAVE Committee – Victoria Adler – Meeting took place on April 10<sup>th</sup>, there were changes made to our policy and the use of training videos was discussed, the district received new AED machines. The district received the Safety Excellence award from Utica National insurance for the 11<sup>th</sup> straight year. There was discussion about a Power Committee

and what happens if we lose power and how to handle sending students home to homes without power. The district participated in a Lockdown drill with Schodack Police and NYS Police departments.

- Audit Committee – Daniel Grandinetti, Mary Yurista, and Christian Olsen nothing new at this time.
- Policy Committee – Bruce Romanchak and Victoria Adler nothing new at this time
- Building Visitation Committee – All members as a whole, nothing new at this time.
- Capital Project Representation Committee – Michael Hiser, Christian Olsen, Michael Charsky and Paul Puccio - The presentation tonight from the architects was what was discussed at the meeting this month. The project is on time and on budget.
- Schodack Wildcat Foundation, Inc. – Paul Puccio – nothing new at this time.

8. Board discussion:

- Board Goals: Nothing new discussed on the 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.
- Questar III Annual Budget Vote April 25, 2017 scheduled for 7:00 am in Middle School District Office location.
- Sewer Line Update – we are in good shape with the sewer line. A contract with the Town will be drawn up and it should get underway soon.

9. Policies:

- a. Michael Tuttle moved for approval of the following policies for 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and adoption:
    - i. 4321.9 Declassification of Students with Disabilities
    - ii. 4321.11 Public Report on Revisions to District Policies, Practices and Procedures Upon a Finding of Significant Disproportionality
    - iii. 4321.13 Preschool Special Education
    - iv. 4321.14 Special Education Personnel
    - v. 4325 Academic Intervention Services
    - vi. 4326 Programs for English Language Learners
    - vii. 4327 Homebound Instruction
    - viii. 4511 Textbook Selection and Adoption
    - ix. 4513 Library Materials Selection
- Bruce Romanchak seconded, all present in favor.

- b. Bruce Romanchak moved for the approval of the following policies for 1<sup>st</sup> reading, a brief discussion ensued:
    - i. 8121.1 Opioid Overdose Prevention  
Michael Tuttle seconded, all present in favor, moved by consensus to second reading.
10. Consent agenda: Bruce Romanchak moved to vote on the resolution adopting the 2017-18 school district budget separately, Michael Tuttle seconded, all present in favor.
- a. Bruce Romanchak moved to accept the Treasurer's Report for the month of February 2017. Michael Tuttle seconded. All present in favor.
  - b. Bruce Romanchak moved to accept the Claims Auditor's Report for the month of February 2017. Michael Tuttle seconded, all present in favor.
  - c. Bruce Romanchak moved for the approval of a resolution adopting the 2017-18 school district budget in the amount of \$23,049,965 to be presented to voters on May 16, 2017.
  - d. Bruce Romanchak moved for the approval of a resolution adopting a 2017-18 school bus proposition in an amount not to exceed \$293,000.00 for the purchase of two (2) 66 passenger school buses and one (1) 22 passenger school bus, to be presented to voters on May 16, 2017. Michael Tuttle seconded, all present in favor.
  - e. Bruce Romanchak moved for the approval of the revised school district calendar for 2017-18 school year. Michael Tuttle seconded, all present in favor.
  - f. Bruce Romanchak moved for the adoption of a resolution for the appointment of Permanent Chairperson, Chief Election Inspector, and Inspectors of Election for the annual district meeting on May 16, 2017. Michael Tuttle seconded, all present in favor.
  - g. Bruce Romanchak moved for the approval of the following items to be declared as surplus and disposed of in accordance with district policy:
    - (5) five AED machines
    - (2) two large wrestling mats
 Michael Tuttle seconded, all present in favor.
  - h. Bruce Romanchak moved for the approval of the 2017-18 Real Property Tax Report Card. Michael Tuttle seconded, all present in favor.
  - i. Bruce Romanchak moved for the approval of a refund of 2016 taxes for Schodack Associates, LLC for real property located in Schodack, NY (281.7-3.1, 3.3, 3.4) for reduction in taxes of \$2,772.54 due to court decision. Michael Tuttle seconded, all present in favor.
  - j. Bruce Romanchak moved for the approval of a resolution declaring that the \$100,000 transfer to capital project being undertaken are projects listed as Type II actions under SEQRA. Michael Tuttle seconded, all present in favor.
  - k. Bruce Romanchak moved for the approval of a retainer agreement with Whiteman, Osterman & Hanna, LLP to provide legal services for the 2017-18 school year (annual retainer \$12,000, non-

retainer work: attorney work hourly \$210; paralegal work hourly \$100). Michael Tuttle seconded, all present in favor.

11. Resignations/Appointments:

- a. Christian Olsen moved to approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the resignation of Jason Chevrier as Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment is accepted effective June 30, 2017, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Jason Chevrier is appointed as Superintendent of Schools for a three year term effective July 1, 2017 through June 20, 2020.

Mary Yurista seconded, all present in favor.

- b. Christian Olsen moved for the approval of the a three year probationary term of Laura Giorgio, in the tenure area of Art, which includes a one year Jarema Credit for the 2016-2017 school year, commencing on September 1, 2017, 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.
- c. Christian Olsen moved to approve the appointment of Ashley Cunningham as regular substitute teacher for Erika Pincher effective March 6, 2017. Mary Yurista seconded, all present in favor.
- d. Christian Olsen moved to approve the appointment of Tammy Varian, Teaching Assistant, 4 hours per day at a rate of \$16.99 per hour, effective March 27, 2017. Mary Yurista seconded, all present in favor.
- e. Christian Olsen moved to approve the following substitute teacher(s): Kirsten Dunn (Contingent upon fingerprint clearance). Mary Yurista seconded, all present in favor.
- f. Christian Olsen moved to approve the following non-instructional substitute(s): Clarence Lebrecht. Mary Yurista seconded, all present in favor.

12. Meeting open for public discussion. Mr. Ryan congratulated Mr. Chevrier on his appointment as Superintendent.

13. Action items: Publish April 25<sup>th</sup> meeting, send reminder email on Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, and formation of a committee for sports policy

14. Executive session: None

15. Adjournment. Having no further business before the board, Vice President Charsky adjourned the meeting at 7:32 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Michele A. Reickert*

District Clerk