

*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 21, 2009

MHHS Library

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES - SPECIAL**

Present: Kenneth Flood, Susan Megna, Vice President; Paula Noll, President; Beth Nichols Hesse, Andrew Flood, George Warner, Phyllis Weber Scannell (until 10:25pm), Paul Puccio.

Absent: Seth Hendrick.

Also Present: Doug Hamlin, Superintendent; Sherri Fisher, Director of Business and Support Services; Jason Chevrier, CES; Michael Bennett, MHMS; Donna Watson, Director of Curriculum and Staff Development; Lori Colistra, Director of Pupil Personnel Services; Liz Chipman, District Clerk.

1. Meeting called to order by President Noll at 7:10 p.m.
2. Approval of present agenda. Susan Megna moved to approve present agenda. Beth Nichols Hesse seconded. All present in favor.
3. Meeting open for public discussion. Cyn Tomko: Tech Valley, additional student due to reduced tuition. Voiced opposition. Deb Walling: need to look at needs of student body as a whole.
4. Board Discussion. Paul Puccio: leasing of space in District. Storage space. Jason Chevrier: wonderful spring break. Recognize Matt LaClair's efforts to move and re-erect playground at CES. Thanks to PTO for their efforts in fundraising. New exit doors look great. Michael Bennett: middle school can now see bus garage, modular village is moving.
5. Workshop: 2009-10 School District Budget - Accessing Federal Stimulus Funds. Doug Hamlin reported. Options for use of stimulus funds. External factors influencing 2009-10 budget. Two separate pools of money from American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). State stabilization aid was used to eliminate the Governor's proposed deficit reduction assessment in state budget. Guidelines and accountability standards for ARRA. Discussion, comments from board members. Requirement to maintain local tax effort equal to last year. Quarterly reporting. Interpretation issues and answers will not be clarified before budget is adopted on 4/23. Doug outlined options for 3<sup>rd</sup> draft budget. Options A, B, and C. Questions, comments. Accountability for funds spent. Board expressed frustration with unknowns surrounding stimulus funds and requirements. "Funding cliff" created when federal funds are no longer available two years from now. Comparison of Options B and C. Option B outlines restoring positions and creating positions to

address academic and programmatic need. Option C restores all positions/programs removed from draft 2. Discussion. Implementation of change. Grade 6 staffing.

Beth Nichols Hesse moved to add public discussion period before deciding on budget option. Andrew Fleck seconded. All present in favor. Public Discussion. Vicky Roberts: data analysis service for high school. Grade 3: what aid or assistance will be in those classrooms? Grade 6: team issue not most important. Consistency in instruction, etc. Changes in enrollment over several years. Linda Wemple: student access to teachers who teach outside their usual grade level. Addition of reading teacher would be beneficial. Increase in students at high school level with severe emotional needs.

Return to board discussion. Tech Valley. Option B tax rates projected out through 2011-12. Board by consensus directed administration to incorporate Option B into final draft of budget.

6. Consent. George Warner moved to vote each consent agenda item separately. Andrew Fleck seconded. All present in favor.
  - a. Andrew Fleck moved approval of 2009-10 Tentative Administrative Budget of the Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene BOCES in the amount of \$3,827,613. Ken Flood seconded. Discussion. Voting yes: Ken Flood, Paul Puccio, Susan Megna, Paula Noll, Beth Nichols Hesse, Andrew Fleck. Abstaining: George Warner. Motion carries.
  - b. Andrew Fleck moved submission of vote for election of three individuals to three-year terms, July 1, 2009-June 30, 2012, as members of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Rensselaer, Columbia, Greene Counties:
    - (1) Mrs. Erin Loffredo, Averill Park (Averill Park Central School District)
    - (2) Mr. Paul Puccio, Castleton (Schodack Central School District)
    - (3) Mrs. Edna Knabbe, Ghent (Chatham Central School District)George Warner seconded. All present in favor.
7. Executive Session. Andrew Fleck moved to enter executive session at 10:55pm. George Warner seconded. All present in favor.
8. Adjournment. Having no other business before the board, meeting adjourned at 11:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Elizabeth Chipman  
District Clerk