

*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."*

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

April 24, 2014

Maple Hill High School Library

Present: J. Andrew Fleck, Michael Hiser, Mary Yurista, George Warner, Jeanne Strazza, Paul Puccio and Michael Charsky (arrived at 6:34)

Absent: Daniel Grandinetti and Bruce Romanchak

Also Present: Robert Horan, Monica Kim, Michael Bennett, Ron Agostinoni, James Derby and Michele

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BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING

1. Meeting called to order by President Fleck at 6:00 p.m.
2. Michael Charsky moved to enter executive Session to discuss Superintendent Contract Negotiations. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
3. Mary Yurista moved to enter regular session at 6:19 pm. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
4. Meeting called back to order by President Fleck at 6:32 pm.
5. President Fleck asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
6. Mary Yurista moved for approval of present agenda, Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
7. Michael Hiser moved for approval of minutes of workshop meeting March 13, 2014, regular meeting March 20, 2014 and April 8, 2014. Mary Yurista seconded. All present in favor.
8. Reports:
 - a. Budget Presentation – Monica Kim and Robert Horan. Mr. Horan expressed that there are no changes from Draft 3 to the final Superintendent Recommended Budget. There was brief discussion about the capital project proposition that will appear on the ballot, and what if any information could be at the budget vote to explain the need for the critical issues in proposition. Monica Kim also pointed out information about the Governor's proposed tax rebate and how it will offset what taxpayers pay. Ultimately it looks like taxpayers may be get \$2.00 more back in the form of the rebate than they will be paying in a tax increase.
9. Board discussion: None.
10. Meeting open for public discussion: Gary Roberts expressed his disappointment of how the district

Every child will be challenged, and every child will challenge every assessment.

handled omitting boys' volleyball. He expressed that he felt the district usually does a good job communicating, but felt there was a lack of communication, especially to the students, in the decision to omit boys' volleyball. There was additional discussion about the handling of the omission of boys' volleyball and a request for more discussion and more communication in the future especially with the students that will be affected.

11. Board discussion: Mr. Puccio spoke about boys' volleyball and expressed that he remembered discussions that took place and further expressed that he made a decision that he felt comfortable with and felt it was a good decision. Mr. Charsky spoke about his involvement with sports past and present. He expressed that he also supported the decision and explained that volleyball would have needed to move to fall to be successful and the numbers were not there to support the change. Mr. Hiser talked about why volleyball was not moved to the fall, the reason being that the numbers were not there to support volleyball, cross country and soccer, each sport would be taking place in the fall. George Warner spoke to the volleyball generations, in the past, volleyball was omitted and brought back again by Coach Cononica, as well as football. He was part of bringing football to Schodack and it is no longer offered as a sport here. He expressed that outcomes are not always what we want but decisions have to be made. Sports have come and gone in the past and it is never easy to make that decision, people get hurt and disappointed and it is not easy for the board to make these decisions. There was discussion about how the district handled refusals for State exams. It was explained that parents are contacted, a discussion ensues explaining the importance of the exam and how the district uses the information, and what will happen the day of exams. Students who refuse are placed in a room away from students taking the exam and they are allowed to read a book. It was expressed that our numbers were very low. The board briefly talked about the Town Center Planning Presentation that recently took place in the Town and discussed that there is no economic benefit for the Schodack School District, but more benefit for the Northern portion of the Town of Schodack and East Greenbush School District.
12. Policies:
 - a. Workers' Compensation – Michael Charsky moved to approve 1st Reading, Michael Hiser seconded. Moved by consensus to 2nd reading and adoption.
 - b. Non-Sufficient Funds Checks – Michael Charsky moved to approve 1st Reading, Paul Puccio seconded. Moved by consensus to 2nd reading and adoption.
13. Consent agenda
 - a. Paul Puccio moved for acceptance of Treasurers report for the month of February 2014. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
 - b. Paul Puccio moved for acceptance of Claims Auditor Report for the month of February 2014. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
 - c. Paul Puccio moved for acceptance of Student Activities report for the quarter ending December 2013. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.

- d. Paul Puccio moved for approval of recommendations of the district Committee on Preschool Special Education regarding 2013-2014 special education services for students: 000114620 and 000114581. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- e. Paul Puccio moved for approval of recommendations of the district Committee on Special Education regarding 2013-2014: 000011383, 000011437, 000113743, 000113562, 000114080, and 000011276. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- f. Paul Puccio moved for approval of a health services contract with Rensselaer City School District for the 2013-14 school year at a rate of \$436.66 per student for 1 (one) non-resident student attending non- public schools. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- g. Paul Puccio moved for approval of a resolution adopting the 2014-15 school district budget in the amount of \$21,217,292.00 to be presented to voters on May 20, 2014. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- h. Paul Puccio moved for approval of a resolution adopting a 2014-15 school bus proposition in an amount not to exceed \$165,000.00 for the purchase of one (1) 66 passenger school bus and one (1) 32 passenger school bus, to be presented to voters on May 20, 2014. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- i. Paul Puccio moved for approval of the 2014-15 Real Property Tax Report Card. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- j. Paul Puccio moved for approval of a resolution authorizing the District to use the Best Value Award methodology in the competitive bidding process for purchase contracts. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- k. Paul Puccio moved for acceptance of a donation from the Brunswick Blazers in the amount of \$126.00 to assist in the costs associated with refinishing the gymnasium floors. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- l. Paul Puccio moved for approval of a resolution authorizing the District Treasurer to accept a donation in the amount of \$126.00 from Brunswick Blazers and to increase the General Fund Revenue Code A2705 and Expense Code A1620.400.00.0000 by \$126.00. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- m. Paul Puccio moved for acceptance of a donation from the MHYL Foundation in the amount of \$2,324.63 in support of the Maple Hill Boys Varsity Lacrosse Team. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- n. Paul Puccio moved for approval of a resolution authorizing the District Treasurer to accept a donation in the amount of \$2,324.63 from MHYL Foundation and to increase the General Fund Revenue Code A2705 and Expense Code A2855.XXX.80.00LX by \$2,324.63. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.

- o. Paul Puccio moved for acknowledgement of a donation from Tom and Michelle Bridges in the amount of \$50.00 in support of the Castleton Elementary School Agricultural Project (CESAP). Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
 - p. Paul Puccio moved for approval of an employment agreement with Robert Horan for July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2016. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
 - q. Paul Puccio moved for approval of an agreement between the Superintendent of Schools of the Schodack Central School District and CSEA, Local 1000 AFSCME, AFL-CIO; Schodack CSD Unit, Rensselaer County Educational Local 871 for a period of July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2017. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
14. Resignations/Appointments:
- a. Michael Charsky moved for approval of the change in hours of Juanita Milot, Custodial Worker, from 4 hours per day to 8 hours per day effective April 28, 2014. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
 - b. Michael Charsky moved for approval of the tenure appointment of Kim Donato, Elementary Education, at an annual salary of \$50,714.00 (MA Step 7 plus applicable graduate hour credit). Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
 - c. Michael Charsky moved for approval of the tenure appointment of Christina Yager, Elementary Education, (certification: at an annual salary of \$47,661 (MA Step 5). Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
 - d. Michael Charsky moved for approval of the one year probationary appointment of Alissa Leavitt, Elementary Education, (certification: at an annual salary of \$46,295 (MA Step 4 plus applicable graduate hour credit). Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
 - e. Michael Charsky moved for approval of substitute teacher(s): Ashley Champitto. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
 - f. Michael Charsky moved for approval of tutor(s): Elizabeth Chittenden. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
 - g. Michael Charsky moved for approval of non-instructional substitute(s): Dawn Lemdi. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
 - h. Michael Charsky moved for approval of the following Co-Curricular Advisors for the 2013-14 school year:
 - i. Pat Wood - MHHS Yearbook Photo Editor
 - ii. Kelsey Roman and Wilfred Segarra – MHHS Hillstock Event Co-Advisors

- iii. Leonard Bacon – Maple Hill Envirothon Team
 - iv. Christina Gibney – MYSSMA Competition Advisor. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
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- i. Michael Charsky moved for acceptance of the resignation of Laurie Austin Michaud effective April 18, 2014. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
 - j. Michael Charsky moved for acceptance of a settlement agreement between Laurie Austin Michaud and the District accepting the resignation of Laurie Austin Michaud effective April 18, 2014. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
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15. Meeting open for public discussion: Mrs. Crowley expressed that it would have been a good idea to involve parents and students in the decision. She expressed concern that the minutes did not contain enough information about the discussion of eliminating volleyball. She expressed that she understands the reasoning involved but that parents and students should have been heard and more involved. Laura Cook talked briefly about grade 3-8 testing and the positive aspect that we did not have a lot of students who refused to take the exams. There was a question as to long term illness or absences and tutoring, Mr. Agostinoni answered that there is tutoring available in accordance with State Law. Vicki Adler expressed that she has experienced the tutoring first hand and thanked the District for the tutors, teachers and Administrators and what they did for her daughter.
16. Action items: Propane bus update, how is it working?, presentation on digital learning, notice if there is an earlier start to the May 20th meeting.
17. Adjournment. Having no further business before the board, Michael Charsky moved to adjourn at 8:01 pm. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.