

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 7, 2009 **Maple Hill High School Library**

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES - SPECIAL

Present: Paul Puccio, Susan Megna, Vice President; Phyllis Weber Scannell, Paula Noll, President; Andrew Fleck, Kenneth Flood, George Warner, Seth Hendrick (9:25pm).

Absent: Beth Nichols Hesse.

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

1. Meeting called to order by President Noll at 7:05 p.m.
2. Approval of present agenda. Phyllis Weber Scannell moved to approve present agenda with additions and changes. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
3. Approval of minutes of regular meeting of March 19, 2009 and special meeting of March 30, 2009. Paul Puccio moved to approve minutes of 3/19/09 and 3/30/09. Ken Flood seconded. All present in favor.
4. Meeting open for public discussion. None.
5. Board Discussion. Jason Chevrier: kindergarten screening underway. Michael Bennett: drama production of Pinocchio was a success. Underground Railroad performance will come to the middle school this week. Robert Horan: science competition, finished 8th overall. Ian Walling 1st place for catapult. Finished in top half of almost every event. May awards night planning is underway. Exhibition of student art is at HVCC in library. Plaques for sports teams on display. Girls sportsmanship award. Recognition for conduct of students, players and parents. George Warner: Arbor Day celebration for winning student April 24.
6. Workshop: 2009-10 Draft #2 School District Budget. Doug Hamlin presented discussion format for budget draft #2. Minor adjustments to draft. Impact of Federal stimulus money, which offset state deficit reduction. Projected tax impact scenarios with Federal stimulus money. Emerging interpretation of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Webinar through NYSED provides broad stroke interpretations: spend quickly, save or create jobs, thoughtfully invest one-time funds, avoid tax increases, maintain local tax effort, respond to reporting requirements. Implication for tax scenarios. Questions, comments, discussion from board members. Federal recovery funds will have to be kept segregated from all other funds with strict reporting. Contradictory requirements for the stimulus money. Application of reserves to revenue side of the budget. Timing of changes in tax assessment rolls. Board requested that administration prepare two scenarios: one with revenue side of budget reduced by amount of stimulus money, a second one with ½ amount reduced on revenue side, ½ amount stored to expense side. Additional board meeting on Tuesday, April 21, 7pm. Questions from board members. Meeting needs of students with IDEA and Title 1 funds. Special education budget. Transportation issues.

Administrators are voluntarily forgoing salary increases for 2009-10.

7. Meeting open for public discussion. Linda Underwood: budget questions. Cyn Tomko: cautious about calculated risk involved in reducing revenues through withdrawing fund development. Position at bus garage. Custodian at CES. Fred Wolfe: how does stimulus \$ play out in event of contingency budget? Suzanne Pazienza: misconceptions and confusions in community - letter to the editor or op-ed piece for paper would be helpful. Could IDEA money be used to hire faculty rather than assistant? Linda Wemple: earliest learners will be in the largest class sizes in the district. Even one more year of restored faculty would be good for the children, and may carry us through to better economic times. Doug Hamlin: need decision on Tech Valley high school tuition. Discussion, questions, comments from board members.
8. Consent
 - a. George Warner moved acknowledgement of donations from Catholic Charities of Rensselaer County (Concerns U) in the total amount of \$380.00 in support of Maple Hill High School Class of 2009 Senior Trip: Check #1085 \$200.00; Check #1086 \$180.00. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
 - b. George Warner moved approval of 2009-10 Final Service Request of Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene BOCES (Questar III) in the amount of \$1,657,501.56. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
 - c. George Warner moved approval of meeting on April 21, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. to vote on 2009-10 Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene BOCES (Questar III) tentative administrative budget and elect candidates to the Board of Cooperative Educational Services. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
 - d. George Warner moved approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Schodack Central School Faculty Association regarding 2009-10 school calendar. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
 - e. George Warner moved approval of district calendar for 2009-10 school year. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
 - f. George Warner moved acceptance of donation from South Schodack Volunteer Fire Co. Ladies Auxiliary in the amount of \$100.00 in support of the Maple Hill Middle School Community Charities account. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
9. Resignations/Appointments
 - a. Phyllis Weber Scannell moved approval of Danielle Dearstyne as regular substitute teacher for Kristin Bergman-Caulkins, effective March 12, 2009. Sue Megna seconded. All present in favor.
 - b. Phyllis Weber Scannell moved acceptance of resignation of Thomas Paone, Health Teacher (.4FTE), effective April 9, 2009. Sue Megna seconded. All present in favor.
 - c. Phyllis Weber Scannell moved acceptance of resignation of Christina DelSignore, Guidance Counselor, effective April 9, 2009. Sue Megna seconded. All present in favor.
 - d. Phyllis Weber Scannell moved approval of substitute teachers: Erica Bervy, Jamie Kanterman, James Marcello, Kristina Saar. Sue Megna seconded. All present in favor.

- e. Phyllis Weber Scannell moved approval of permanent appointment of Angela Beber, Teacher Aide, effective April 17, 2009. Sue Megna seconded. All present in favor.

10. Meeting open for public discussion. Connections class.

11. Action items. Budget scenarios.

Executive session: Negotiations with SAA, CSEA; pending litigation; work history of specific employees. Phyllis Weber Scannell moved to enter into executive session at 9:31pm. Andrew Fleck seconded. All present in favor.

Following executive session, Paul Puccio moved to approve leave of absence for Brianne Collins, effective March 30 through June 30, 2009. George Warner seconded. All present in favor.

Paul Puccio moved to accept proposal from Laurence P. Farbstein, Industrial and Utility Valuation Consultants, Inc., 111 Washington Ave., Albany, NY 12210 for industrial and utility valuation consulting services at a rate of \$250.00 per hour, not to exceed 10 hours. George Warner seconded. All present in favor.

12. Adjournment. Having no other business before the board, meeting adjourned at 10:40pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elizabeth Chipman
District Clerk

ADDITIONS/REVISIONS TO BOE AGENDA 4/7/09:

- g. Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Schodack Central School Faculty Association regarding 2009-10 school calendar
- h. Approval of district calendar for 2009-10 school year
- i. Acceptance of donation from South Schodack Volunteer Fire Co. Ladies Auxiliary in the amount of \$100.00 in support of the Maple Hill Middle School Community Charities account

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