

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

**August 20, 2009**

**Maple Hill High School Library**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – REGULAR**

Present: Linda Underwood, Ken Flood, Seth Hendrick, Paul Puccio, Michael Hiser, Andrew Fleck, President; Susan Megna, Vice President.

Absent: George Warner, Phyllis Weber Scannell.

Also Present: Doug Hamlin, Superintendent; Sherri Fisher, Director of Business and Support Services; Michael Bennett, MHMS; Jason Chevrier, CES; Lori Colistra, Director of Pupil Personnel Services; Robert Horan, MHHS (8:00pm); Liz Chipman, District Clerk.

**Audit Committee:** Internal Auditor Report – Stacey Mackey, Rensselaer City School District. Sherri Fisher introduced Stacey Mackey. Risk assessment and historical report. Ms. Mackey outlined risk assessment report to board. Questions, discussion. Sherri asked board to consider other areas for audit in 2009-10. Information technology.

1. Meeting called to order by President Fleck at 7:20 p.m.
2. Approval of present agenda. Seth Hendrick moved to approve present agenda. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
3. Approval of minutes of regular meeting of July 2, 2009 with revisions: (16j) Approval of three-year probationary appointment of Alissa Leavitt (certification: Childhood Education [Grades 1-6]; Literacy [Grades 5-12]; Students with Disabilities Gr. 1-6 [Concentration-Childhood Education] as reading teacher, effective **July 1, 2009**. Salary for the 10-month position is MA Step 3. (16k) Approval of Patrick Austin (certification: social Studies 7-12; Social Studies 5/6 Extension pending) as extended term substitute teacher for Brianne Collins, effective **July 1, 2009** through June 30, 2010. Salary for the 10-month position is BA Step 2. Seth Hendrick moved approval of minutes of July 2, 2009 with revisions. Sue Megna seconded. All present in favor.
4. Meeting open for public discussion. Stimulus funds may warrant internal audit. Change from Questar providing internal auditor. Thankful for the fence by the bus garage driveway. Computer lease plan.
5. Board discussion. Linda Underwood: questions from community. Bus drivers concerned about losing health care. Consolidation with Ichabod Crane rumor needs to be addressed. Number of consultants. Sue Megna: Meeting schedule, meeting topics. Discussion. Workshop sessions to be added to schedule? Community meetings scheduled for the year. Doug Hamlin: no unilateral removal of health care from anyone. Research on whether there are areas of considerable savings could be found with the two districts consolidating services. There is no discussion or consideration of merger of the two districts. Will be in September newsletter and on website for clarification to community. District hires an occasional consultant, not used as long-term employees.
6. Reports
  - a. 2009-10 Tax Levy – Sherri Fisher. Sherri outlined options for tax levy. Twelve million loss in tax assessment. Keep tax levy at 0%, there will be a 2.11% increase in tax rate. To keep tax rate increase at 0%, must reduce tax levy. Impact of change in tax levy on eligibility for stimulus funds. District has been unable to get a firm answer on the issue. Questions, discussion. STAR exemptions will be reduced in the coming year. Sue Megna moved to add public discussion to agenda at this point. Ken Flood seconded. All present in favor. Public discussion: average person hears

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“no tax increase” when board says “no tax levy increase.” Close public discussion. Paul Puccio moved adopt tax rate proposal Option 2. Seth Hendrick seconded. Voting yes: Paul Puccio, Susan Megna, Michael Hiser, Seth Hendrick, Linda Underwood, Andrew Fleck. Voting no: Ken Flood. Motion carries.

- b. School Transformation and Leadership Development: 2008-09 Middle School Faculty/Staff, Parent and Student Survey Analysis. Doug Hamlin reported. Survey initiated in 2007, repeated in 2008. Doug outlined format of report, cited example. Board members will be provided electronic version of full report. Michael Bennett reported on initiatives to be continued within the middle school. How survey information will be used to inform processes and initiatives in the middle school. Superintendent extended thanks to teacher team leaders and Mr. Bennett. Sue Megna made a motion to move Maple Hill Youth Lacrosse/Title IX to follow. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
  - c. Maple Hill Youth Lacrosse/Title IX – Dave Sherwood/Mark Bubniak. Dave Sherwood reviewed history of youth lacrosse club and process of being recognized as club sport within the district. Title IX compliance questions have been raised. Fundraising goal has been reached. Mark Bubniak reported on implications for Title IX compliance. Three standards of compliance. Results for each test. Maple Hill does not appear to pass any of the three tests for compliance. Questions, comments, discussion from board members. Ken Flood moved to open floor to public discussion. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor. Addition of JV girls lacrosse? Lacrosse club has raised money in good faith. Cost to add any new winter sports. Comments, discussion from public. Close public discussion. Board questions, comments. Paul Puccio moved to table decision until next board meeting. Sue Megna seconded. All present in favor.
  - d. H1N1 Notifications/Advisory. Doug Hamlin reported. Anticipation of Swine flu season. Letter has been sent home to parents regarding district plan. Flu.gov website for information and guidance.
  - e. 2009-10 District Communications Plan – Jason McCord. Presented draft District Communications Plan. Jason highlighted plan to board. Questions, comments from board members.
  - f. Maple Hill Youth Lacrosse/Title IX – Dave Sherwood/Mark Bubniak. Item moved up on agenda to follow item b.
7. Meeting open for public discussion. Communication to faculty and staff.
8. Policies. None.
9. Consent agenda
- a. Paul Puccio moved acceptance of Treasurer’s Report for the months of May and June 2009. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
  - b. Paul Puccio moved acceptance of Claims Auditor’s Report for the months of May and June 2009. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
  - c. Paul Puccio moved acceptance of Revenue and Budget Status Reports for the months of May and June 2009. Discussion. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
  - d. Paul Puccio moved acceptance of Extra-Classroom Activity Report for the months of May and June 2009. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
  - e. Paul Puccio moved acceptance of donation from Catholic Charities of Rensselaer County in the amount of \$460.00 in

support of Maple Hill Middle School Work Study Program. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.

- f. Paul Puccio moved acceptance of donation from Castleton Kiwanis in the amount of \$800.00 in support of Maple Hill Middle School Work Study Program. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- g. Paul Puccio moved approval of change in assessment, due to clerical error, for Lillian Peter, for real property located on 1803 Brookview Road, Castleton, NY (199.-3-43.11) from \$62,000 to \$54,700 pursuant to Real Property Tax Law Section 550 2(a), resulting in 2008-09 property tax refund of \$133.61. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- h. Paul Puccio moved approval of revised contract agreement with Delta Dental of New York for the period July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 for dental insurance for SCSFA membership at a monthly rate of \$32.98 for single coverage and \$80.92 for family coverage. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- i. Paul Puccio moved approval of contract with On-Site Testing Services, Inc. from, July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 for Administration of Drug and Alcohol Testing based on the following fee schedule: NIDA Urine Drug Test - \$59 per screening; Breath Alcohol Screen - \$29 per screening. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- j. Paul Puccio moved approval of representation letter/agreement dated July 29, 2009 from David Wukitsch, McNamee, Lochner, Titus & Williams, P.C., 677 Broadway, Albany, NY 12201-0459, for legal services in connection with the Hannaford Brothers 2009 tax certiorari proceeding, at a rate of \$175.00 per hour for attorney fees and \$75.00 per hour for paralegal fees. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- k. Paul Puccio moved approval of contract for special education services with Wildwood Programs for one (1) pupil for the period July 6 through August 14, 2009, in the amount of \$7,136.00. (Note: This is the current 2008-09 rate. 2009-10 rate is pending upon final SED approval.) Questions, discussion. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- l. Paul Puccio moved approval of Independent Contractor Agreement with 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, commencing July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- m. Paul Puccio moved approval of Certificate of Acceptance for Free and Reduced Price Meal or Special Milk Program related to the operation of the National School Breakfast and Lunch Programs. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- n. Paul Puccio moved approval of 2009-10 Child Nutrition Program Recipient Agency Annual Renewal for School Breakfast and Lunch Programs. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- o. Paul Puccio moved approval of 2009 tax warrant for the Town of Schodack in the amount of \$10408674 ( -2.06% decrease) and for the Town of Stuyvesant in the amount of \$93065( -2.33% decrease). Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.

- p. Paul Puccio moved approval of Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) for bus purchase pursuant to a Serial Bond Resolution dated June 18, 2009 with Key Bank at a rate of 2.65% in the amount of \$235,858.12. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- q. Paul Puccio moved approval of Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) in the amount of \$133,479.83 for renewal of existing Bond Anticipation Note pursuant to a Serial Bond Resolution dated July 12, 2007 with Key Bank at an annual interest rate of 2.65%. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- r. Paul Puccio moved approval of resolution authorizing District Treasurer to transfer an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 from 2009-10 Debt Service Fund to 2009-10 General Fund Unreserved Fund Balance, in support of 2009-10 capital project debt service expenditures. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- s. Paul Puccio moved approval of recommendations of district Committee on Pre-School Special Education regarding 2009-10 special education services for students #000113517, #000113548, #000113546, #000113547. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- t. Paul Puccio moved approval of recommendations of district Committee on Special Education regarding 2009-10 special education services for students #000011117, 000113536, 082490001, 000011415, 000113610, 000011191, 000113503, JFJFJFJ. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- u. Paul Puccio moved approval of Change Orders for construction contract of Gallo Construction Corp. (Capital Improvement Project Phase 3- to be added to general construction contract; new contract sum will be \$1,627,880.81: (Capital Improvement Project Phase 3-Project #4915-01-04-0004-010 - MHMS) Change Order #012 in the amount of \$4,062.35 Change Order #013 in the amount of \$10,424.00. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- v. Paul Puccio moved approval of Change Orders for construction contract of Brownell Electric Corp. (Capital Improvement Project Phase 3- to be deducted from electrical construction contingency; \$0.00 change to revised contract sum of \$728,680.46: Change Order E-#011 in the amount of \$1,731.87 (Project #4915-01-04-5005-007 – Bus Garage) Change Order E-#012 in the amount of \$339.00 (Project #4915-01-04-0002-017 – MHHS) Change Order E-#013 in the amount of \$638.50 (Project #4915-01-04-0004-010 – MHMS) Change Order E-#014 in the amount of \$10,291.27 (Project #4915-01-04-0002-017 – MHHS). Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- w. Paul Puccio moved approval of contract for special education services with Parsons Child and Family Center for two (2) students for the period July 6 through August 14, 2009 in the amount of \$9,266.00 (\$4,633.00 per student) and for the period September 9, 2009 through June 24, 2010, in the amount of \$58,378.00 (\$29,189.00 per student); based on 2008-09 NYS Education Department tuition rates. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
- x. Paul Puccio moved approval of resolution and contract dated August 20, 2009 with Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene BOCES (Questar III) for lease of: (104) HP Compaq dc5850 Small Form Factor Computers, (4) Phaser 3600DN

Network Printers and (2) Phaser 8560N Network Printers through a cooperative purchasing program; annual lease cost not to exceed \$27,765.86/year for three (3) years commencing in 2009-10. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.

#### 10. Resignations/Appointments

- a. Sue Megna moved approval of one-year probationary appointment of Meghan Hitlin (certification: Reading; Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten and Grades 1-6) as reading teacher, Preferred Eligibility List (previous probationary appointment 9/1/05; previous service 9/1/05-6/30/07), effective September 1, 2009. Salary for the 10-month position is MA Step 3. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- b. Sue Megna moved approval of three-year probationary appointment of Laura Naumovitz (certification: Library Media Specialist) as Library Media Specialist, effective September 1, 2009. Salary for the 10-month position is MA Step 1. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- c. ITEM REMOVED FROM AGENDA. Approval of appointment of \_\_\_\_\_ (certification: ) as extended term substitute .5 FTE (business job share with Mark Bubniak), effective September 1, 2009 through June 30, 2009. Salary for the 10-month position is \_\_\_\_\_ Step \_\_\_\_\_.
- d. Sue Megna moved approval of permanent appoint of Matthew LaClair, Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds II, effective July 16, 2009. Discussion. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- e. Sue Megna moved acceptance of resignation of Melissa Thomas, Secretary I, effective end of workday August 27, 2009. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- f. Sue Megna moved approval of substitute teachers: Karen Holmes, Patricia Mackay, Amy Utter. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- g. Sue Megna moved approval of school volunteers: Craig Wilkinson. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- h. Sue Megna moved approval of extracurricular advisors/coaches for 2009-10:
  - (1) Candace Eustace – Girls JV Tennis Coach
  - (2) Valerie Flood – MHMS Yearbook Advisor
  - (3) Thomas Gibbons – 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Wrestling Coach
  - (4) Richard Chipman – Volunteer Cross Country Assistant.
  - (5) Holly Schultz – Volunteer Soccer Assistant
  - (6) Rachel Wemette – Volunteer Volleyball Assistant
 Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- i. Sue Megna moved approval of Science and Art Laboratory Chemical Hygiene Officer for 2009-10: Jeffrey Smith. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- j. Sue Megna moved acceptance of resignation of Deborah Huston, Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant, effective August 18, 2009. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.

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- k. Sue Megna moved approval of probationary appointment of Lisa Smith-Auer, Secretary I, for 5.0 hours/day at a rate of \$17.57 per hour, effective August 21, 2009 through February 21, 2010, pursuant to Civil Service Law. Question, comment. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
  - l. Sue Megna moved approval of change in hours for Jennifer Simmons, Teacher Assistant, from 6.25 hrs/day to 6.0 hrs/day, effective September 8, 2009. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
11. Meeting open for public discussion. Suggestions for board workshop discussions. Jason Chevrier: in good shape for opening of school. In process of filling a couple of key positions at CES. Robert Horan: custodians ahead of schedule. Screenings for guidance office and front office positions. Meet the coaches night. Michael Bennett: much better this year than last with construction. Summer school, Schodack day camp. Black top, basketball courts where modular village once was. New hires. Essay contest student placed third. Doug Hamlin: Ed Goodwill and Phil Snyder at next meeting for final meeting on capital project. Seth Hendrick: handicapped parking at Middle School. Contingency funds remaining.
12. Action items. Lacrosse. Topics for internal audit. Workshop topics. Community budget meetings.
13. Executive Session: Negotiations with CSEA; pending litigation; work history of specific employees . Seth Hendrick moved to enter into executive session at 11:15pm. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
14. Adjournment. Having no other business before the board, meeting adjourned at 12:15am. (8/21/09)

Respectfully Submitted,  
Elizabeth Chipman  
District Clerk