

*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

December 20, 2007

Maple Hill High School Library

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES - REGULAR

Present: Paul Puccio, Phyllis Scannell, Paula Noll, President; Ricardo Cosgrave, Susan Megna, Vice President; George Warner (7:36pm), Seth Hendrick (8:30pm)

Absent: Robert Hamilton.

Also Present: Doug Hamlin, Superintendent; Sherri Fisher, Director of Business and Support Services; Robert Horan, MHHS; Roger Gorham, MHMS; Jason Chevrier, CES; Lori Colistra, Director of Pupil Personnel Services; Liz Chipman, District Clerk.

1. Meeting called to order by President Noll at 7:06 p.m.
2. Approval of present agenda. Paul Puccio moved to approve present agenda. Ricardo Cosgrave seconded. All present in favor.
3. Approval of minutes of regular meeting of November 15, 2007 and special meeting of December 6, 2007 and
Changes to November 15, 2007 minutes: Approval of salary adjustment for Network **System Engineer** to include overtime payments and designate as overtime exempt. Phyllis Scannell moved to approve minutes of November 15, 2007 with change, and special meeting of December 6, 2007. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
4. Meeting open for public discussion. None.
5. Reports
 - A. Capital Project
 - (1) Construction Oversight - Ed Goodwill, Clerk of the Works reported. Weekly foreman's meetings taking place; three so far. These are coordination meetings between the trades working at CES. Some asbestos piping will be removed. Groundwater issues, compaction for foundation. Water main break in old galvanized pipe. Project is ahead of schedule on some components. Project may be completed sooner than originally anticipated. Discussion, comments, questions from board members.
 - (2) Project Update - Phil Snyder, SSA. Sherri Fisher outlined recommendation to

board for handling change orders during construction. Unanticipated changes during construction. Contingency change allowances have been built into the budget. Board Project Oversight Committee. Sherri highlighted recommendation to the board. Questions, comments from board members. Paul Puccio, George Warner are BOE member representatives on Project Oversight Committee. Rigorous, due diligence approach to vetting change orders. Anecdotal information on process for change orders with gravel and stone to increase compaction for footings. Verification of pricing /time/labor/materials on any change order. Other options are evaluated, as well. Timely notice to Board Oversight Committee necessary to review changes appropriately. Board consensus is to set change orders allowance to \$40k.

Paul Puccio moved approval as amended in the amount of \$40,000. Ricardo Cosgrave seconded. All present in favor.

Phil Snyder updated board on Phase III of project. Outline of proposed project schedule for Phase III. Interior/exterior work at MHMS, MHHS, bus garage. Most work should be finished by September 2008. Summer programs have been contacted in anticipation of working around construction. Pending and approved change order log. Omissions/clarification, discoverable instances, add value. Piping replacement in CES. Architect recommends changing all piping in original CES building. Replace lead and iron waste pipe with PVC, replace galvanized supply pipe with copper. Questions, comments from board members. Error of omission: "value added" concept.

Ricardo Cosgrave moved to approve all pending change orders as listed. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.

Green design opportunities. Of original list, approximately eight items can be investigated. Boilers, indirect/direct lighting, linoleum, low VOC finishes, high recycled content ceilings, light shelves/shading devices, heat recovery in assembly spaces. Board consensus is to have contractors investigate prices of these options. Commissioning: discussion. Green power, solar panels. Final estimates for Phase III by next week. Standardization resolution for HVAC, security systems, mechanical systems bids for Phase III will be specified for system components that are already in place at CES so that equipment will be compatible. Security, boilers and energy management. Training, repair, maintenance will be streamlined. Best practices can be developed. Resolution to standardize equipment exception to competitive bidding law will be on agenda for next meeting.

- B. Town Re-Assessment Impact. Doug Hamlin reported. First informational sheet to be in newsletter to residents. Draft by 12/26.
- C. RCG Health Insurance Trust Agreement. Sherri Fisher reported. Discussion, questions. Collective bargaining? Uniformity across 66 districts -- same plan consortium. Difficult to get bids because consortium has such varied plans.

- 6. Audit Committee - Internal Claims Auditor. Sherri Fisher outlined position. Current incumbent is retiring February 2008. Recommendations of external auditor. Should position stay as currently structured, or try to incorporate some of the auditor recommendations? Evaluating

risk. Sherri requested guidance from board in terms of structure of the position. Discussion, questions, comments from board members. Board consensus is to maintain position as currently configured.

7. Policies. None.

8. Consent agenda

- A. Ricardo Cosgrave moved acceptance of Treasurer's Report for the month of October 2007. Phyllis Scannell seconded. All present in favor.
- B. Ricardo Cosgrave moved acceptance of Claims Auditor's Report for the month of October 2007. Phyllis Scannell seconded. All present in favor.
- C. Ricardo Cosgrave moved acceptance of Revenue and Budget Status Reports for month of October 2007. Phyllis Scannell seconded. All present in favor.
- D. Ricardo Cosgrave moved acceptance of Extra-classroom Activity Report for month of October 2007. Phyllis Scannell seconded. All present in favor.
- E. Ricardo Cosgrave moved acceptance of Tax Collector's Report for the tax year 2007 and to discharge the Tax Collector. Phyllis Scannell seconded. All present in favor.
- F. Ricardo Cosgrave moved acceptance of 2007 School Tax Relevy Certification Form for the Town of Schodack and the Village of Castleton in the total amount of \$376,614.90. Phyllis Scannell seconded. All present in favor.
- G. Ricardo Cosgrave moved acceptance of 2007 School Tax Relevy Certification Form for the Town of Stuyvesant in the total amount of \$3,951.04. Phyllis Scannell seconded. All present in favor.
- H. Ricardo Cosgrave moved acceptance of bid from Don Brown Bus Sales, Inc. in the amount of \$4,200 for Bus #80, 1997 International (operational), VIN#1HVBBAAN6VH449138, pursuant to a surplus bid opening November 27, 2007. Phyllis Scannell seconded. All present in favor.
- I. Ricardo Cosgrave moved acceptance of bid from Donald R. Kline, Inc. in the amount of \$4,862 for Bus #77, 1997 International (operational), VIN#1HVBBAANBVH449321, pursuant to a surplus bid opening November 27, 2007. Phyllis Scannell seconded. All present in favor.
- J. Ricardo Cosgrave moved acceptance of bid from Donald R. Kline, Inc. in the amount of \$252 for 1997 Chrysler-Driver Ed. Car (operational), VIN#2C3HD56F2VH518845, pursuant to a surplus bid opening November 27, 2007. Phyllis Scannell seconded. All present in favor.

- K. Ricardo Cosgrave moved approval of listing agreements with RE/MAX for residential and commercial real estate sales services in relation to District-owned property at 1943 Brookview Road, Castleton, NY. Phyllis Scannell seconded. All present in favor.
- L. Ricardo Cosgrave moved approval of Consulting Agreement with Needham Risk Management Resource Group, LLC for consultation and maintenance of health and safety programs, and for personnel and human resource management services, effective January 1, 2008 through March 31, 2008, at the rate of \$2,050 per calendar month for up to 26.65 hour per month. Authorized services in excess of total hours for three-month period (79.95 hours) at a rate of \$65/hour. Phyllis Scannell seconded. All present in favor.
- M. Ricardo Cosgrave moved approval of resolution to approve proposed amendments to Trust Agreement of the Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene Health Insurance Trust and authorize the Superintendent of Schools to execute the Trust Agreement, as amended, on behalf of the District. Phyllis Scannell seconded. All present in favor.
- N. Ricardo Cosgrave moved approval of revised resolution regarding school district compensation for ten-month employees, permitting payment of 22 or 26 paychecks each year, for compliance with IRS regulation 409-A. Phyllis Scannell seconded. All present in favor.
- O. Ricardo Cosgrave moved acceptance of non-cash donation of 16 children's books from Darlene Adams valued at \$222.70 in support of Castleton Elementary School library. Phyllis Scannell seconded. All present in favor.
- P. Ricardo Cosgrave moved approval of recommendations of district Committee on Pre-School Special Education regarding 2007-08 special education services for students #130924387, 103929395, 108927593. Phyllis Scannell seconded. All present in favor.
- Q. Ricardo Cosgrave moved approval of recommendations of district Committee on Special Education regarding 2007-08 special education services for students #000011326, 000113410, 000113424. Questions, comments, discussion. Phyllis Scannell seconded. All present in favor.

9. Retirements.

- A. Paul Puccio moved acceptance with regret and deep appreciation for many years of service, of resignation of Gail Kirsch, for purposes of retirement, effective June 30, 2008. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.

10. Resignations/Appointments

- A. Paul Puccio moved acceptance of resignation of Robert Hamilton as Board of Education member, effective January 1, 2008. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- B. Paul Puccio moved acceptance of resignation of Leonard Bacon as Varsity Girls' Softball Coach for 2007-08. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.

- C. Paul Puccio moved acceptance of resignation of Marsha Thomas, Claims Auditor, effective February 8, 2008. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- D. Paul Puccio moved approval of tenure appointment of Deborah Wagner (certification: Teaching Assistant Continuing) as teacher assistant, effective January 3, 2008. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- E. Paul Puccio moved approval of leave of absence for Lisa O'Leary, guidance counselor, effective January 28 through June 30, 2008. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- F. Paul Puccio moved approval of Rachel Esterly (certification: School Counselor) as extended term substitute for Lisa O'Leary, effective January 28 through June 30, 2008. Salary for the 10-month position is MS Step 1 (pro-rated). Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- G. Paul Puccio moved approval of probationary appointment of Paul Prostowich, School Bus Driver, for 4.5 hours/day, at a rate of \$18.18/hour, effective December 21, 2007 through June 21, 2008. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- H. Paul Puccio moved approval of probationary appointment of Jeannine Pond, School Bus Attendant, for 1/2 hour/day, at a rate of \$12.29/hour, effective December 21, 2007 through June 21, 2008. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- I. Paul Puccio moved emergency conditional approval of Grazyna Widmann (certification: English to Speakers of Other Languages; Kindergarten and Common Branch Subjects and Special Classes of Mentally Handicapped Children; Art; Russian 7-12), as teacher of English to Speakers of Other Languages (.55 FTE), effective October 22, 2007. Salary for the 10-month position is MA Step 1. (Emergency conditional re-appointment effective December 14, 2007). Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- J. Paul Puccio moved emergency conditional approval of Kerry Novak (certification: Speech) as speech therapist (.6 FTE), effective November 14, 2007. Salary for the 10-month position is MA Step 2. (Emergency conditional re-appointment effective December 14, 2007). Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- K. Paul Puccio moved approval of probationary, emergency conditional appointment of Richard Ostrander, Building Maintenance Mechanic, for 8.0 hours/day, at a rate of \$16.97/hour, effective October 29, 2007 through April 29, 2008 (emergency conditional re-appointment effective December 31, 2007). Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- L. Paul Puccio moved emergency conditional approval of substitute teachers (emergency conditional re-appointment effective January 4, 2008): Lucas Ashby, Alan Dellehunt, Kevin Hertzell, Victoria Roberts, William Strang, Timothy VanVliet. Seth Hendrick seconded.

All present in favor.

- M. Paul Puccio moved emergency conditional approval of non-instructional substitutes (emergency conditional re-appointment effective January 4, 2008): Janice Dikant . Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- N. Paul Puccio moved acceptance of resignation of David Austin as JV Softball Coach for 2007-08. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- O. Paul Puccio moved approval of extracurricular coaches/advisors for 2007-08: David Austin, Varsity Softball Coach. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- P. Paul Puccio moved approval of substitute teachers: Rachel Hoffman. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
- Q. Paul Puccio moved emergency conditional approval of substitute teachers: Stacey Rattner. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.

11. Board discussion. Paula Noll: 1/23 International Dessert Night at Middle School. Board table, Seth Hendrick to chair. Sue Megna: Christmas tree to Castleton Library auctioned off. Jason Chevrier: Thanks to Bob and Roger for help with grade 3 concert. Seth Hendrick: HS concert excellent. Phyllis Scannell: follow up on letter from parent re: holiday concerts. Response by Superintendent. George Warner: Community Fund. Grants and low interest loans to small businesses in town or village. Discussion. Chinese classes/cultural lessons for community. Distance learning. Communications committee. Sherri Fisher: followup on homestead issue. Paul Puccio: intermunicipal agreement regarding ball field.

12. Meeting open for public discussion. None.

13. Action items. Green design costs. Communications meeting.

14. Motion to go into executive session to discuss work history of specific employees, Superintendent evaluation, negotiations with SCFA. Ricardo Cosgrave moved to enter into executive session at 9:30pm. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.

15. Adjournment. Having no other business before the board, meeting adjourned at 9:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Chipman
District Clerk

Resignations/Appointments

- N. Acceptance of resignation of David Austin as JV Softball Coach for 2007-08
- O. Approval of extracurricular coaches/advisors for 2007-08: David Austin, Varsity Softball Coach
- P. Approval of substitute teachers: Rachel Hoffman
- Q. Emergency conditional approval of substitute teachers: Stacey Rattner