

*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, 2012

Maple Hill High School Library

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – REGULAR

1. Meeting called to order by President, J. Andrew Fleck at 6:04 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
3. Christine DiGiulio moved for approval of present agenda. Bruce Romanchak seconded. All present in favor.
4. Approval of minutes of regular meeting : None.
5. Reports:
 1. 2012-13 Professional Development Plan – Heather Flood, Liz Krizar and Donna Watson gave a presentation outlining professional development goals.
 - a. Review, align and develop 21st Century Curricula to inform instruction and assessment as outlined in the district-wide curriculum management system by reviewing the district’s curriculum and align it with the Common Core as well as be sure it has emphasis on STEM.
 - b. To improve the academic achievement of students with disabilities and students academically at risk by having small learning communities at all levels, utilizing Apex (online learning program)a/k/a PASS, IReady and by reviewing RTI process. The district is constantly reviewing curriculum to be sure we are keeping our students college and career ready.
 - c. To improve the teaching and learning of Reading and Writing within the District. The approach to teaching reading has changed tremendously over the past 8 years. The district has added programs to obtain data to see where changes should be made (DIBELS, IReady, NYS ELA and others as necessary).
 - d. To recruit and retain highly qualified faculty members and provide support throughout a teacher’s career by utilizing various programs: Mentor Teacher Internship Program, APPR, Google, IReady, Teachscape, and SLOs. Donna Watson spoke to the “dynamic” Mentoring Program at Schodack and to Carol Lovelett as a coordinator and the commitment she has to mentor new teachers.
 - e. To promote a safe and secure environment for all students, district employees and visitors by participation in drills constantly throughout the year and for all situations. Table top exercises, DASA (Dignity Act) and Suicide Prevention (Sources of Strength).
 - f. To continue to promote increase technology integration throughout the district by

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maximizing existing programs (ESD, Teachscape, Google); bring your own device and blended learning as well as I-Pad deployment, carts at the middle school and WRAPS.

- g. To improve teaching and learning related to the SCSD 21st Century Library Media Program by collaboration within the district and with other districts, job shadowing project through Tech Valley High School and Higher Level Questioning – Student Research.
2. Budget Presentation – Monica Kim presented information about State Aid, Gap Elimination Adjustment (“GEA”) and Expense Driven Aids. GEA was put into place in 2009-10 to balance the NYS budget. It increased in 2010-11 and 2011-12 and then decreased a bit in 2012-13. The state uses one of five complex formulas to calculate the GEA. Of those five formulas, the one producing the highest number is the one used. Expense driven aid is aid based on what you spend. As the district becomes more efficient, expense driven aid gets reduced. ERA and TRA have increased already putting the district’s budget close to the tax cap. Monica shared good news of some grants the district have received: Performance Grant \$600,000 over a 3 year period, Efficiency Grant \$297,000 over a 3 year period, Toshiba Grant \$14,200 for Science Equipment and also a Settlement of \$105,000 for the School Lunch program (can only be used for school lunch program: cafeteria, tables, equipment and school lunch related costs). She expressed that all grants have limitations as to what they can be used for and violating can require the district to repay the grant. There was discussion of the Facilities Committee and the potential of a Capital Project which would replace a current Capital Project that will be paid off. If the district was to not take another Capital Project on, there would be a dramatic shift in the taxes only to change again when another Capital Project is undertaken. It is a good idea to take on a capital project to replace the one being paid off. The district will continue to educate the public on tax rate, tax cap, tax levy, gap elimination etc. Mr. Horan talked about an advocacy meeting in January, it is a state wide effort; there will be two locations locally containing a total of 47 school districts each bringing approximately 20 people. The intent is to educate communities and the legislature on schools and how they are being effected. The legislature is going to be there to listen not to speak.
6. Board Discussion: A member of the board talked about the agreement with China, and suggested it be approved by the board at the meeting. Mr. Horan explained the agreement and that both parties are not in a position to spend money in this partnership but are beginning electronic communication (electronic pen-pal) and voice conferencing relationships. Different stories about the China Delegate’s visit were shared and all were similar in that the Chinese were very impressed with our district. Mr. Horan mentioned the upcoming WRAPS day taking place at the Middle School and Mr. Bennett went into brief detail of what the day would entail. The intent is to bring in opportunities for kids throughout the day to expose them to 6 different activities based around STEM Technologies.
7. Meeting open for public discussion: A member of the public questioned the use of iPad versus Kindle. There was discussion about the pros and cons of each and why the district chose iPads. Discussion continued of whether State testing could be completed on iPad’s, Donna Watson expressed that at a recent meeting she attended, they were informed that ability is coming soon. The community member also expressed that, in light of the recent tragedy in Connecticut, the public would like to hear from the

district, what the district is doing for enhanced security. Mr. LaClair spoke for the Safety Committee and that they are currently meeting and seeing where changes might be necessary, Schodack Police have been making more of a presence in the buildings and upon the start of the school day and dismissal. Discussion ensued about different suggestions to add security. Mr. Horan expressed that Schodack has always had a Building Safety Team in each building with scheduled meetings through the year as well as a District Safety Team that meets throughout the year. The district is always reviewing their safety measures.

8. Policies: None.
9. Consent agenda:
 - a. Michael Charsky moved for acceptance of Claims Auditor Report for the month of October 2012. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
 - b. Michael Charsky moved for approval of recommendations of the district Committee on Preschool Special Education regarding 2012-2013 special education services for students: 000114167, 000114173, 000114168, 000114174 and 000114117. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
 - c. Michael Charsky moved for approval of recommendations of the district Committee on Special Education regarding 2012-2013 students: 000113680, 000113827, 000114013, 000113513, 000113770, 000114132, 000113777 and 000113503. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
 - d. Michael Charsky moved for acknowledgement of a donation from Ohiopyle Prints, Inc. in the amount of \$50.38 in support of the High School Supplemental Account. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
 - e. Michael Charsky moved for acceptance of a donation from Lydia & Samuel Markowitz in the amount of \$50.00 in support of the High School Library. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
 - f. Michael Charsky moved for approval of a resolution authorizing the District Treasurer to accept a donation in the amount of \$50.00 and to increase the General Fund Revenue Code A2705 and Expense Code A2610.462.30-0000 for use. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
 - g. Michael Charsky moved for acceptance of Tax Collector's Report for tax year 2012 and discharge of the Tax Collector for the 2012-13 school year. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
 - h. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval to add item H approval of the education partnership agreement with TinJang School 57. Paul Puccio Seconded. All present in favor.
 - i. Bruce Romanchak moved to amend the consent agenda to add the approval of the Schodack Central School District Professional Development Plan for 2012-13 which we had a presentation for tonight. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.

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10. Resignations/Appointments:
- a. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of a change in hours for Darlene Hotaling, School Bus Driver, from 5.75 hours/day to 6.0 hours/day, effective December 21, 2012. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
 - b. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of a change in hours for Tracy Sukup, School Bus Driver, from 6.5 hours/day to 7.0 hours/day, effective December 21, 2012. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
 - c. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of the probationary appointment of Tara Davis, Secretary II, effective, January 2, 2012 through July 2, 2012. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
 - d. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of coach(es)/volunteer assistant coach(es):
 - i. Lee Wetherby – Assistant Boys Varsity Track & Field Coach
 - ii. Tim Ryan – JV Baseball . Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
 - e. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of the appointment of Amy McGarvey-Roe as regular substitute teacher for Rachel Murphy effective December 10, 2012. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
 - f. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of substitute teacher(s): Lynne Skaskiw-Potter, Amanda Carroll, Sarah E. Kahrs and Jeremy Mann. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
11. Meeting open for public discussion.
12. Action items. The Board asked Superintendent Horan to report back to the board the board level approval authority vs. the Superintendent level approval authority.
13. Michael Charsky moved to enter executive Session to discuss personnel matter and SAA Contract Negotiations at 7:50 pm. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
14. Michael Charsky moved to reenter regular session at 8:16 pm. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
15. Adjournment. Having no further business before the board, Michael Hiser moved to adjourn. Michael Charsky seconded. All present in favor, meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm.