

*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

February 12, 2015

Maple Hill High School Library

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – REGULAR

1. Meeting called to order by President, Michael Hiser at 6:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
3. Approval of present agenda
4. Approval of minutes of board meeting January 22, 2015.
5. Reports:
 - Building Reports: Mike Bennett began by discussing the where we have been, where we are, and where we want to go. He touched on the various things going on in the district, such as the Capital Project, Technology Integration, Professional Development/Collaboration and NYS Common Core Implementation. He also talked about collaborations with Questar and CASDA for Professional development. It was expressed by each administrator that a want for the future would be to have each student have access to a computer, iPad, Tablet, Etc. at all times during school.
 - CES – Jason Chevrier talked about the modules being used at the elementary level and how the programs align with the common core standards. The introduction of Common Core ELA will phase into the remainder of the elementary school next year it is currently used in K -2. Mr. Chevrier talked about the integration of Mr. Ryan as the Educational Technology Specialist position. He is active in the classrooms working with teachers to better implement technology into the classrooms. He mentioned that the elementary school is now using the iPad Minis previously used at the high school and other electronic equipment the district has come in possession of. He expressed that the kids are also utilizing video conferencing with other schools. This will allow more opportunity for collaboration and virtual field trips. He expressed the Mrs. Rattner has had students skype with authors including this year's Newbury Award recipient. Mr. Chevrier talked about how the elementary school is approaching talks about the Capital Project and how it could look and work. He expressed that they are talking in the planning committee right now and have not begun a fully engaged planning team for the future K-6 building. Mr. Chevrier further talked about where they are going. He talked about the "Next Generation Science Standards" NYS has not moved into that yet but it is very possible that they may in the near future. NYS Social Studies Framework has recently been adopted. The district will need to consider these in the near future, but right now the focus is on Common Core ELA and Math. Mr. Chevrier expressed that teacher professional development in technology is going to be necessary for teachers to learn how to integrate the new technology into the classrooms and best educate and support

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the students.

- MHMS – James Derby talked about the common core use at the middle school. The middle school has embraced the modules being used in the elementary school and have asked for the same resources to be purchased at the middle school level as well. Mr. Derby talked about the technology integration at the middle school, he mentioned a few recent presentations the board has seen using distance learning and skyping. Kids are excited about it. He talked again about Maker Space, creating more opportunity for students to connect to various technological opportunities. Teachers are now learning more about iPads and how they can utilize them in their teaching, they have been asking for iPads for their use in their lessons. Mr. Derby talked about how the middle school could be affected by the NYS Social Studies Framework and Next Generation Science Standards. Mr. Derby expressed that kids at preschool age are already technology savvy. It is important to keep that going in the classrooms. Mr. Agostinoni and Mr. Derby shared what has taken place at the recent meetings discussing the potential changes at the high school to move 7th and 8th grade into the high school, and how it could work.
- MHHS – Ron Agostinoni expressed that the high school is fully common core and is also using modules in the high school. They are using them to the extent they are able. He talked about the regents exams and how they are phasing out the old ones and introducing the common core regents exams. There was discussion about the SAT exam and how the Common Core could affect it. Mr. Agostinoni stated that next March the SAT will be redesigned to align with the Common Core. Mr. Agostinoni expressed that there are teachers in the high school tweeting homework assignments out and it has been well received by the students. Mr. Agostinoni talked about Mr. Ryan and how he now has time to do the things he was asked to do before, but now he is not having to leave a class to help someone, he has been given the time to do it and it is well received. A large number of the high school teachers are using Google Classroom and it is getting good feedback. He expressed it as “meeting students where they are”. Mr. Agostinoni expressed that the high school has moved forward with the Next Generation Science Standards and NYS Social Studies Framework. The teachers at the high school are topic specific where at the elementary level it is one teacher teaching numerous topics and it is different at the different grade levels. There was discussion about the new regents 75/80 graduation requirement, meaning that the current 5th grade class will be held to a passing grade of 75 on ELA regents and 80 on Math regents. This district does not want to take lightly preparing the students for this.
- Mid-Year Report - 2014-15 District Goals – Robert Horan expressed that the district is moving along with the goals discussed at the beginning of the year. In the presentation from the administrators, they showed how District Goal 1: Strive for Academic Excellence is being met. District Goal 2: Education and Fiscal Planning ... Mr. Horan shared the different ways the district has worked with other districts, the town, and community groups to reduce inefficiencies. He expressed that there are some potential incubator relationships being formed that would involve culinary arts. District Goal 3: Communication and Community Involvement: Mr. Horan expressed how many compliments he gets from people in the community and outside the community of the district and their use of social media. There was discussion about the infrastructure of the district and the changes that need to be made.

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6. Meeting open for public discussion: There was a question about students with special needs and how the new graduation requirements affect them? Mr. Bennett expressed that there is a safety net but it is unknown if that safety net will change. There was expression of concern about the security of the network by a member of the public. There was discussion about the potential sports complex on Route 9 and where it stands. There was discussion about the Ed Spec Team meeting today and it was expressed that the outcome was very good. Mr. Ryan talked in length about the technology plan for the district. He talked about professional development and expressed that there are companies out there that do it online 24/7 allowing teachers to get professional development when they are available. He commented on how our building principals have changed the flow of their faculty meetings. They have changed them to move with the way technology is moving.
7. Board discussion: There was brief discussion about testing and students that may be sick at the time of the test and don't do their best. Mr. Horan spoke about a recognition Mr. Chevrier was nominated for by Mrs. Rattner and received. He was recognized as Elementary School Principal of the Year. There was discussion about a possible additional meeting before March 19, 2015. Mr. Hiser suggested everyone save March 5th as a potential date for a budget board meeting. Mr. Warner talked praise to the administrators of their presentation and how far Schodack is in a very difficult time in education. The board extended to the administrators their help and asked if there was anything the board could do to help them. Mr. Horan talked about the positive attitudes of the employees of Schodack School District. Jacque Hill talked about her experiences in classes she attends in Graduate school. Schodack is often brought up in conversation and it is obvious that Schodack is impacting other districts to move along and take risks. Mr. Ryan expressed that the board affords the luxury to the administrators and faculty to take risks. He talked about Mr. Horan's positive attitude and thanked him for that and expressed that it adds to the successes of the district.
8. Policies:
 - a. Employee Personal Identifying Information – Victoria Adler moved for approval of 2nd reading and adoption. Bruce Romanchak seconded. All present in favor.
 - b. Information Security Breach and Notification – Victoria Adler moved for approval of 2nd reading and adoption. Bruce Romanchak seconded. All present in favor.
 - c. Disposal of Consumer Report, Information and Records – Victoria Adler moved for approval of 2nd reading and adoption. Bruce Romanchak seconded. All present in favor.
9. Consent agenda
 - a. Bruce Romanchak moved for acceptance of the Claims Auditor's Report for the month of December 2014. Christian Olsen seconded. All present in favor.
 - b. Bruce Romanchak moved for acceptance of the Treasurer's Reports for the month of December 2014. Christian Olsen seconded. All present in favor.
 - c. Bruce Romanchak moved for acceptance of the Student Activity Report for the quarter ending

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December 2014. Christian Olsen seconded. All present in favor.

- d. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of recommendation of the district Committee on Special Education regarding 2014-15 special education services for students: 000114154, 000114684, and 000114691. Christian Olsen seconded. All present in favor.
- e. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of recommendations of the district Committee on Preschool Special Education regarding 2014-2015 special education services for students: 000114719, 000114706, and 000114640. Christian Olsen seconded. All present in favor.
- f. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of a health services contract for the 2014-15 school year with Bethlehem Central School District for one (1) resident student attending a non-public school. Christian Olsen seconded. All present in favor.
- g. Bruce Romanchak moved to table item g. and request more information and possible legal advice as to what the board's options are. Christian Olsen seconded. All present in favor.

Approval of change in assessment for Hamilton Industrial Corp, for real property located at Schodack, NY (198.4-1.11) from \$2,200,000 to \$1,100,000 pursuant to Stipulation of Settlement and Order (Index No. 00247425) and approval of a refund of taxes in the amount of \$25,068.88. Christian Olsen seconded. All present in favor. Christian Olsen seconded. All present in favor.

- h. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of a motion to nominate Paul Puccio to serve as a member of the Questar III – Board of Cooperative Education Services for Rensselaer, Columbia, and Greene Counties for a term of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018. Christian Olsen seconded. All present in favor. Christian Olsen seconded. All present in favor.

10. Resignations/Appointments

- a. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of the following Coach(es) for the 2014-15 School Year:
 - i. Nathan Porter – Modified Baseball Coach
 - ii. Patrick Austin – Varsity Softball Coach. Victoria Adler seconded. All present in favor.
- b. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of the appointment of Michaela Jordan as regular substitute teacher for Tracy Arno effective January 7, 2015. Victoria Adler seconded. All present in favor.
- c. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of tutor(s): Angela Ennis, Helen Krause, Victoria Roberts, and Colleen Fratianni. Victoria Adler seconded. All present in favor.
- d. Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of the following substitute teachers: Catherine Zampier. Victoria Adler seconded. All present in favor.

11. Meeting open for public discussion.

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12. Action items. Stem Day presentation at upcoming board meeting, look into possibly having an additional board meeting on March 5th, and look into item g. of the consent agenda.
13. Executive Session: Christian Olsen moved to enter executive session to discuss mid-year evaluation of superintendent 9:10 pm. Victoria Adler seconded, all present in favor.
14. Adjournment. Having no further business before the board, President Hiser adjourned the meeting at 9:32 pm.

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