

*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 7, 2008

Maple Hill Middle School Library

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES - SPECIAL**

6:15 p.m. - Claims Auditor Interview

Present: Seth Hendrick, George Warner, Beth Nichols Hesse, Paul Puccio, Ricardo Cosgrave, Phyllis Weber Scannell, Paula Noll, President; Andrew Fleck, Susan Megna, Vice President.

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

1. Meeting called to order by President Noll at 7:05 p.m.
2. Approval of present agenda. George Warner moved to approve present agenda with additions. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
3. Meeting open for public discussion. Tammy Rossiter present to discuss proposed plans for playground at new CES building. Questions, discussion. Options of moving playground equipment to CES that is currently at modular village; or leave equipment at modular site, purchase new for CES.
4. Reports
  - A. 2008-09 Budget: Academic Program Enhancements. Doug Hamlin introduced report on academic program enhancements for 2008-09 budget. Donna Watson highlighted enhancements to School Information System. Problems with current system, demands/needs for information at present, reports at local and state level. Process for selection of new system. Improved capabilities of new system. Roger Gorham highlighted need for addition of .5FTE Middle School Guidance Counselor. Increased expectations/responsibilities for MS guidance office. Unique circumstances at MS: Wildcat Pride prevention systems, scheduling initiative in grades 5-8, accountability for student achievement. Potential for preventive vs. reactive guidance. Questions, comments, discussion from board members. Doug Hamlin highlighted need for a summer school principal. Expansion of summer school hours/days/length. Planning and coordination, communication and reporting of student progress. Administrative interns are available and interested in position. No impact on current budget. Discussion. Jason Chevrier reported on need for enhanced CES/MS Library program. Proposal to move the current shared library

media specialist to MS full time. Reassign a TA to the CES library full time. No impact on current budget. Lori Colistra reported on proposed increase in PPS Equipment line. Staffing costs have increased without a corresponding increase in IDEA grant funds. Questions, comments, discussion. Sherri Fisher reported on addition of dedicated equipment line in budget, and instructional equipment replacement line.

B. Dual Tax Structure. Sherri Fisher reported. Deadlines/timelines for District to implement dual tax structure. Homestead v. non-homestead. Requirements for establishing dual tax rate. Board consensus is to file notification of intent by March 1 deadline. Discussion. Seth Hendrick moved to change meeting from 2/28, 7:00pm to Wednesday, 2/27 at 7:30pm. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.

5. Consent agenda

A. Seth Hendrick moved approval of resolution authorizing the district to increase the 2007-08 General Fund budget to pay for unanticipated expenses associated with the repair/replacement of Maple Hill Middle School loading dock and stairs, to be offset by fund balance, in the estimated amount of \$11,054. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.

B. Seth Hendrick moved approval of contract with Averill Park Central School District for transportation of two (2) students from Schodack Central School District to Averill Park Middle School effective January 7, 2008 through June 26, 2008 at a total anticipated cost of \$3,064.17 (\$32.47 per-diem; 111 days) to be billed to Averill Park Central School District. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.

C. Seth Hendrick moved acknowledgement of donation from Maple Hill Music Parents Association in the amount of \$10,000.00 in support of Music Department trip to Williamsburg, VA in March 2008, on behalf of Maple Hill High School Student Council. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.

D. Seth Hendrick moved acceptance of a non-cash donation of three (3) complimentary two-day conference passes to the NYC Teaching and Learning Celebration Conference March 7-8, 2008 from Jon Rubin, Director, State and Local Education Services, valued at \$350.00. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.

E. Seth Hendrick moved acceptance of insurance proceeds from Center for Disability Services, Inc. Insurance Carrier (Philadelphia Indemnity Insurance Company) in the amount of \$2,759.67 to cover repairs to Bus No. 110, resulting from an accident caused by a Center for Disability Services, Inc. vehicle backing into Bus No. 110 while it was parked at their facility on November 19, 2007. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.

F. Seth Hendrick moved approval of a resolution authorizing the district to increase the 2007-08 General Fund budget to pay for unanticipated expenses associated with the repairs to Bus. No. 110, to be offset by insurance proceeds in the amount of \$2,759.67 from the Center for Disability Services, Inc. Insurance Carrier (Philadelphia Indemnity Insurance Company). Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.

G. Seth Hendrick moved approval of an agreement dated January 30, 2008 with Harbridge Consulting Group, LLC in the amount of \$2,950.00 for the initial prescription drug benefit options plus \$250.00 per hour for additional services for actuarial services in relation to prescription drug plan equivalency to Medicare Part D benefits. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.

H. Seth Hendrick moved approval of resolution to create a new, full-time position of middle school co-principal, effective March 10, 2008 within the administrative tenure area of principal and to abolish the position of middle school co-principal, effective July 1, 2008. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.

#### 6. Resignations/Appointment

a. George Warner moved emergency conditional approval of Joyce Thatcher (certification pending: School Psychologist) as regular substitute for Rebecca Blais, effective January 15, 2008. Ricardo Cosgrave seconded. All present in favor.

b. George Warner moved approval of substitute teachers: Rebecca Chapman, Paul Maher, Stephanie Malette, Theresa Sime, Meredith Freebern. Ricardo Cosgrave seconded. All present in favor.

c. George Warner moved emergency conditional approval of substitute teachers: Holly Fox, Stuart McKnight, Nicole Susser. Ricardo Cosgrave seconded. All present in favor.

d. George Warner moved acceptance of resignation of Kevin Hunter as Grade 7/8 Softball Coach for 2007-08. Ricardo Cosgrave seconded. All present in favor.

e. George Warner moved approval of extracurricular advisors/coaches for 2007-08: Kevin Hunter - JV Softball. Ricardo Cosgrave seconded. All present in favor.

f. George Warner moved approval of Laura Cook as CES computer specialist substitute for Rachel Attanasio, effective January 24, 2008 through April 4, 2008. Ricardo Cosgrave seconded. All present in favor.

G. George Warner moved emergency conditional appointment of Roberta Nicholson as Claims Auditor, at the rate of \$17.44/hour for four (4) hours/week, effective February 8, 2008. Ricardo Cosgrave seconded. All present in favor.

H. George Warner moved approval of Deborah Schecter as substitute school bus driver. Ricardo Cosgrave seconded. All present in favor.

I. George Warner moved approval of resolution to appoint Michael Bennett (certification: School Administrator and Supervisor; Special Education) on an emergency conditional,

three-year probationary basis to the position of middle school co-principal, effective March 10-June 30, 2008 and to the position of middle school principal, effective July 1, 2008. Ricardo Cosgrave seconded. All present in favor.

7. Retirements.
8. Board discussion. George Warner: guidance in the District. "Student Services" Seth Hendrick: energy management systems. George Warner: construction update. Doug Hamlin: use of email. Phyllis Scannell: New Visions on news. Thank you from Castleton Library for x-mas tree. Bob Horan: student writing contest. Students recognized: Shauna Benoit, Pooja Bhaskar, Sarah Bilodeau, Brigid Docherty, Whitney Fairchild, Chelsea Turley, Abby Hietzman, Anastasia Murphy, Jordyn Wood. Honor Roll. Distance Learning update. Roger Gorham: updates from MS. Wildcat Pride kick-off. Sunrise Scholars, Future Cities competition. Jason Chevrier: CES highlights. Third grade chorus sang National Anthem at River Rats game. Virtual field trip in DL lab to Buffalo Zoo.
9. Meeting open for public discussion. Michael Bennett: thank you for hospitality, welcomes opportunity.
10. Action items. Guidance at MS.
11. Motion to go into executive session to discuss work history of specific employee, negotiations with SCFA. George Warner moved to enter into executive session at 9:50 p.m. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
12. Adjournment. Having no other business before the board, meeting adjourned at 10:20pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Chipman  
District Clerk