

*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

**January 17, 2013**

**Maple Hill High School Library**

Present: J. Andrew Fleck, Christine DiGiulio, Bruce Romanchak, Paul Puccio, Michael Charsky, George Warner, Lisa Lafferty, and Mary Yurista.

Absent: Michael Hiser

Also present: Robert Horan, Monica Kim, Donna Watson, Ron Agostinoni, Jason Chevrier, Mike Bennett, Michele Reickert, Tim Ryan, Kelsey Roman, Clarence Lebrecht, Matt LaClair, and Mary Mabb.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – REGULAR**

1. Meeting called to order by President, J. Andrew Fleck at 6:02 p.m.
2. Christine DiGiulio moved to enter executive Session to discuss contract negotiations. Michael Charsky seconded. All present in favor.
3. Bruce Romanchak moved to reenter regular session. Michael Charsky seconded. All present in favor.
4. Meeting called back to order by President, J. Andrew Fleck at 6:32 m.
5. President J. Andrew Fleck asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
6. Michael Charsky moved for approval of present agenda. Lisa Lafferty seconded. All present in favor.
7. Christine DiGiulio moved for approval of minutes of regular meeting November 15, 2012 and December 20, 2012. Bruce Romanchak seconded. George Warner abstained, all others present in favor.
8. Reports:
  - a. Transportation Budget Report – Mary Mabb  
Mary Mabb gave an overview of her employment experience and current duties: she has worked in transportation since 1989 and became a transportation supervisor in 1995 and holds many certifications. She also gave an overview of the composition of the transportation department: Full and part-time employees including (5) substitute drivers totaling 27 and a Fleet totaling 22 vehicles, runs include 6 single route bus runs and 6 tiered route bus runs and 4 out of district and runs to CTE 4 times a day. She expressed the need to purchase two replacement vehicles, one large school bus and one 7 passenger suburban for transporting out of district and also to be shared with facilities for plowing and maintenance. The State Aid ratio is currently 67% aid therefore; the two vehicles would cost the district approximately \$9,860.00 per year for 5 years. Mary Mabb also

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talked about propane fueled school buses versus diesel fueled. She has been talking to other districts that currently use the propane fueled buses and is researching the cost savings. She talked about the various ways the transportation department has made changes for cost savings: currently the district contracts with New Lebanon to repair buses, combines parts bid to get better pricing, share substitute drivers with New Lebanon, has eliminated 1 bus run and driver position in 2012-13, has reduced work hours for staff, continue to share transportation supervisor and mechanical work.

b. Facilities, Buildings and Grounds Budget Report – Matt LaClair

Matt LaClair gave an overview of the composition of the facilities and buildings and grounds: 262,904 square feet, 64 acres, 64 parking spots, 8 tennis courts, 4 soccer fields, 3 baseball fields 3 basketball courts and 1 playground. He talked about changes that have taken place over the last 6 years that have affected the facilities department and thereby affecting the district as a whole: staff cuts, equipment that is outdated and requires constant costly upkeep, equipment that has not been replaced as it is no longer useful or repairable. He requested that the board consider restoring the grounds keeper back to fulltime, mechanic back to full time, restore 1 full time custodian, currently, custodians are expected to clean on average 29,000 square feet of space each on a daily basis. He also requested that the board consider purchasing a plow truck (suburban to be multi-purposed as transportation vehicle as presented in report a. Transportation Budget Report), purchasing a tractor for mowing and maintaining grounds, current tractor has outlived its useful life, as well as purchasing a new floor scrubber. He expressed that due to staff reductions and dated and un-repairable equipment the facilities department faces many challenges such as: maintaining cleanliness, maintaining physical plants, grounds and equipment, meeting state and local requirements and serving the after school community needs.

c. WRAPS Update – Donna Watson and Mike Bennett

Mr. Bennett talked about the process followed by the district once they were notified that they had received the grant for WRAPS committees were formed in the areas of Writing and Reading, Advisory, PBIS and STEM to bring ideas together on how to best use the grant and benefit students. Committees are reaching out to students for their input through surveys. Orientation for incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders and parents is being looked at to better acclimate parents and students into the building. The middle school has been able to reintroduce peer mentoring groups and job shadowing opportunities. They are looking into utilizing the project adventure course again; Mr. Bennett expressed that it is a great team building experience. Mr. Bennett talked about an upcoming STEM day at the Middle School allowing students hands on experiences with Science, Technology and Math through experiments that they would not be exposed to in their day to day educational experiences. Donna Watson expressed that they have looked at things that have been cut over the years that they are bringing back but doing it in a way that once the grant money is gone, the opportunities can be maintained. She mentioned that they are continually looking for grants and ways to fund more opportunities. The district has been able to obtain mobile iPad carts to be used in the district enhancing educational and staff opportunities, video conferencing will allow virtual field trips, expanded programming, and professional development for faculty. She expressed that the district is at a point where they are trying to decide if they should purchase more iPads for virtual textbooks or textbooks, more and more publishers are turning to virtual textbooks.

## 9. Board Discussion:

Mr. Warner talked about the sister school in China and “why Schodack” he had asked them and their response was Mr. Horan’s enthusiasm and the relationship they saw between students and teachers. He thanked the district and community for supporting his children and their successes. There was talk about the Modified Sports Program and to how teams are chosen and at what point are cuts made. Mr. Horan asked that administrators look into the answer to that and report back to him. There was discussion about a language program at the elementary school that was successful and that there has been an interest from a Drama group to offer classes in the evenings with elementary school students. There was concern about students that may not be able to afford to take the classes and what could be done for them.

## 10. Meeting open for public discussion:

Tim Ryan expressed that the pressures of the Common Core Standards and APPR are being felt by faculty and the atmosphere is being affected. He asked that people be careful with comments because there is a lot going on right now. Mr. Ryan extended invitations to everyone to attend STEM Day, and that it is a great opportunity for students. Andrew Fleck expressed that the board appreciates everything that the teachers are going through and expressed that the Board has had a lot of presentations on APPR and The Common Core in order to try and understand everything that teachers, students and administrator are going through; and also expressed the board’s appreciation for the teachers efforts.

## 11. Policies: None.

## 12. Consent agenda

- a. Paul Puccio moved for acceptance of Treasurers report for the months of October and November 2012. Michael Charsky seconded. All present in favor.
- b. Paul Puccio moved for acceptance of Claims Auditor Report for the month of November 2012. Michael Charsky seconded. All present in favor.
- c. Paul Puccio moved for approval of an agreement by and between the Chief Executive Officer of Schodack Central School District and the Schodack Administrator’s Association for the period of 2012-2015. Michael Charsky seconded. All present in favor.
- d. Paul Puccio moved for approval of recommendations of the district Committee on Preschool Special Education regarding 2012-2013 special education services for students: 000114054, 000114169, 000114114 and 000114115. Michael Charsky seconded. All present in favor.
- e. Paul Puccio moved for approval of recommendations of the district Committee on Special Education regarding 2012-2013 students: 000113440, 000114146, 000113266 and 000011192. Michael Charsky seconded. All present in favor.

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- f. Paul Puccio moved for acknowledgement of a donation from South Schodack Volunteer Fire Company in the amount of \$300.00 in support of the Community Charities Account. Michael Charsky seconded. All present in favor.
- g. Paul Puccio moved for acceptance of a donation from Maple Hill Athletic Booster Club in the amount of \$5,000.00 in support of the Maple Hill Modified Sports Program. Michael Charsky seconded. All present in favor.
- h. Paul Puccio moved for approval a resolution authorizing the District Treasurer to accept a donation in the amount of \$5,000.00 and to increase the General Fund Revenue Code A2705 and Expense Code A2855 400 00 0000 in support of the modified sports program. Michael Charsky seconded. All present in favor.
- i. Paul Puccio moved for acknowledgement of a donation from Box Tops for Education in the amount of \$254.80 in support of the Maple Hill Middle School PAC Account. Michael Charsky seconded. All present in favor.
- j. Paul Puccio moved for approval of an overnight trip for the 2013 senior class to Ocean City, Maryland from June 7, 2013 through June 9, 2013. Michael Charsky seconded. All present in favor.
- k. Paul Puccio moved for acceptance of lease agreement with Questar III in the amount of \$9,800.00 plus \$3,150.00 per classroom for ancillary services for the rental of two (2) classrooms (201 & 202) at Maple Hill Middle School for the period of December 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013. Michael Charsky seconded. All present in favor.
- l. Paul Puccio moved for approval of the following items to be declared surplus and to be disposed of by the district in accordance with district policy:
  - 6 Dell PC
  - 9 HP PC
  - 1 IBM PC
  - 2 Dell printers
  - 2 HP printers
  - 5 32 inch Panasonic TV'
  - 5 metal TV carts
  - 10 overhead projectors
  - 2 Sam sung er-4900 cash register
  - 2 Ultimate Technology POS terminals
  - 5 Silent Witness bus video systems
  - 11 two way bus radios
  - 3 15 year old high jump pit mats 5'x8'x2'. Michael Charsky seconded. All present in favor.

13. Resignations/Appointments:

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- a) Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of a correction to the appointment of Tara Davis, Secretary II, as probationary effective January 2, 2013 through July 2, 2013 (original appointment was incorrectly entered as 2012 for both dates) and to add the following language to appointment: position is 12 month less 10 days, at a start rate of \$19.17 dollars/hour for 7.5 hours/ day. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
  - b) Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of a correction to the change in hours of Tracy Sukup to be from 6.75 hours/day to 7.0 hours/day effective December 21, 2012. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
  - c) Bruce Romanchak moved for acceptance of the resignation of Rachael Kerner as Girls Modified Track and Field Coach. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
  - d) Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of non-instructional substitute(s): Michelle Epting (Substitute Bus Driver), Michelle Epting (Substitute Bus Attendant), Linda Meinhart (Clerical), Marcia Rossetti (Teaching Assistant), JoAnna Finkle (Teaching Assistant) and Gerald O'Neil (Substitute Bus Driver). Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
  - e) Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of substitute teacher(s): Dustin Gervais, Bryan Smith, Sharon Bordeau, Lydia Cappadonia and Marcia Rossetti. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
14. Meeting open for public discussion. None.
15. Action items. None
16. Adjournment. Having no further business before the board, Bruce Romanchak moved to adjourn. Mary Yurista seconded. All present in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:09 pm.