

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

January 21, 2010

Maple Hill High School Library

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – REGULAR

PRESENT: Andrew Fleck, President; Susan Megna, Vice-President; Kenneth Flood; Seth Hendrick; Michael Hiser; Paul Puccio; Phyllis Weber Scannell; Linda Underwood; George Warner

ALSO PRESENT: Douglas Hamlin, Superintendent; Sherri Fisher, Director of Business and Support Services; Jason Chevrier, CES Principal; Michael Bennett, MHMS Principal; Robert Horan, MHHS Principal; Lorraine Colistra, Director of Pupil Personnel Services; Donna Watson, Director of Curriculum and Instruction; Matthew LaClair, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds; Mary Mabb, Transportation Supervisor; Joyce Romanowski, Substitute District Clerk

1. Meeting called to order by President Fleck at 6:10 p.m.
2. Phyllis Scannell moved to enter executive session to discuss negotiations with CSEA, work history of specific employee, Superintendent search. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
3. George Warner moved to re-enter regular session @ 7:10 p.m. Ken Flood seconded. All present in favor.
4. Seth Hendrick moved approval of present agenda with additions/revisions. Susan Megna seconded. All present in favor.
5. Michael Hiser moved approval of minutes of workshop meeting of December 16, 2009. George Warner seconded. All present in favor. Paul Puccio moved approval of minutes of workshop meeting of January 6, 2010. Seth Hendrick seconded. Seven in favor; Linda Underwood and Michael Hiser abstained. Paul Puccio moved approval of minutes of regular meeting of December 17, 2009. Seth Hendrick seconded. All present in favor.
6. Meeting open for public discussion: Positive comment on thank you notes received from CES students in response to donation of books.
7. Board discussion: George Warner and Linda Underwood reported on recent Columbia County School Boards meetings with Assemblyman Gordon and Assemblyman Molinaro. Meeting scheduled with Senator McDonald week of January 25. Andrew Fleck asked for Board participation at International Dessert Night on February 3, 6:30 p.m. at MHMS. Susan Megna will invite Ken Slentz, Assistant Commissioner for District Services at SED, to attend upcoming Board meeting.
8. Reports
 - a. Process for Selection of an Alternate to the Core Reading Program – Donna Watson reported on need for alternate program and committee review/selection process. Alternate program meets five key elements of reading instruction, has language approach, is flexible and designed to accelerate growth of struggling readers. Funded through ARRA, Title I, 619 special education grants. Questions, comments, discussion.

b. 2010-11 Program Reports

- (1) Operations & Maintenance Program – Matt LaClair reviewed current staffing, district square footage, staffing ratios, responsibilities, budget, efficiency initiatives. Indicated capital priorities of phone system, energy management, security portion (camera/buzz-in system) most important. Questions, comments, discussion.
- (2) Transportation Program – Mary Mabb presented overview of current staffing, bus fleet, budget. Proposed two options for bus replacement in 2010-11 and provided update on modified routing. Questions, comments, discussion.
- (3) Special Education – Lori Colistra reported on current and projected special education enrollment and services - direct consultant, alternate services (FIL), related services (speech, OT, PT). Currently 169 students receive services; 14.2% of enrollment. State average 11-12%. Questions, comments, discussion.
- (4) Revenue Projections for 2010-11– Sherri Fisher provided state aid projections based on Governor's budget proposal and outlined impact of reductions on district - dramatic and problematic. Foundation aid frozen through 2011-12. Gap elimination adjustment - complicated formula would reduce each district's aid after formulas are calculated. Reduction for Schodack: -\$750,527. STAR floor lowered from 89-82% results in increased taxable assessed value for homeowners resulting in higher taxes for taxpayers. Maximum reduction in STAR benefits with change in assessed/market value would be increased from 11 to 18%. Summer special education placements reimbursement decreased from 80% to 59%. Some pre-school special education costs shifted from county to school. Wicks Law reform/repeal would lower construction costs. Other mandate relief initiatives. Transportation and bus maintenance - may allow to contract with other entities. Contingency budget cap based on CPI - negative .4%. Aid caps for 2009-10 and 2010-11 aid, based on data displayed in Governor's proposal (proposal will be on district website). Projected aid difference from 2009-10: -\$987,661. Beginning of state budget process. May not have clear revenue information by budget adoption. Questions, comments, discussion.

9. Meeting open for public discussion: Question to clarify Governor's budget proposal. Parent asked Board for positive consideration of alternate to core reading program. Question to clarify contract for occupational therapy services with Advanced Therapy and restoration of physical therapy services for special education students. Comment in favor of bus replacement plan.

10. Policies – Acceptable Employee Use and Internet Safety Policy (#7-202) – 1st Reading. Comment regarding length of password: consider 8 characters rather than 6.

11. Consent agenda

- a. George Warner moved acceptance of treasurer's report for the month of November 2009. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
- b. George Warner moved acceptance of Claims Auditor's Report for the month of November 2009. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
- c. George Warner moved acceptance of Revenue and Budget Status Reports for the month of November 2009. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.

- d. George Warner moved acceptance of Extra-Classroom Activity Report for the month of November 2009. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
- e. George Warner moved approval of Memorandum of Understanding Between Schodack Central School District and Civil Service Employees Association, Inc., Local 1000, AFSCME, AFL-CIO (Schodack Central School District Unit of the Rensselaer County Education Local #871) . Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
- f. George Warner moved approval of International Club trip to Montreal, Quebec Canada, on April 16-17, 2010. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
- g. George Warner moved approval of Senior Class trip to Virginia Beach, Virginia, on June 18-20, 2010. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
- h. George Warner moved acknowledgement of donation from MHMS PTO in the amount of \$116.00 in support of the 6th Grade Student Activity Account. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
- i. George Warner moved approval of final payment to Brownell Electric Corp., in the amount of \$10,291.27 for the completion of an electrical contract, completion date November 5, 2009 – Phase III – Project #49-15-01-04-0002-017 (MHHS); #49-15-01-04-0004-101 (MHMS); #49-15-01-04-5005-007 (Bus Garage) . Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
- j. George Warner moved approval of Negative Change Order for construction contract of Sano-Rubin Construction Co. - Phase II - Project #49-15-01-04-0-001-014, to be deducted from the construction contract; new revised contract sum will be \$6,543,640.00: Change Order P-#061 (Credit) in the amount of -\$12.00. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
- k. George Warner moved adoption of revised resolution authorizing the district to increase the 2009-10 General Fund budget to pay for unanticipated expenses associated with repairs to Bus. No. 102, to be offset by insurance proceeds in the amount of \$6,877.70 from Utica National Insurance Group and the remainder in the revised amount of \$583.00 to be offset by fund balance (original resolution adopted November 19, 2009) . Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
- l. George Warner moved adoption of resolution to purchase the Sopris West, Read Well and Language Program and associated professional development as alternate to The Core Reading Program, at an estimated cost of \$29,821.51. Question regarding cost and type of professional development. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
- m. George Warner moved approval of agreement for special education services under IDEA with Wildwood School for the 2009-10 school year. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
- n. George Warner moved approval of agreement for special education services under IDEA with Capital District Beginnings, Inc. for the 2009-10 school year. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
- o. George Warner moved approval of agreement for special education services under IDEA with Neil Hellman School – Parsons Child and Family Center for the 2009-10 school year. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
- p. George Warner moved approval of contract between Advanced Therapy and Schodack Central School District for occupational therapy services two days a week for the period of 1/26/10–6/24/10 at a cost of \$11,550.00. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.

- q. George Warner moved approval of recommendations of district Committee on Preschool Special Education regarding 2009-10 special education services for students #000113680, 000113681. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
- r. George Warner moved approval of recommendations of district Committee on Special Education regarding 2009-10 special education services for students # 082410000, 000011025, 078922832, 000113361. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
- s. George Warner moved approval of agreement for special education services under IDEA with Story Place Preschool, Inc. for the 2009-10 school year. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
- t. George Warner moved approval of agreement for special education services under IDEA with Early Childhood Education Center for the 2009-10 school year. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
- u. George Warner moved acknowledgement of donation from Future City Competition Albany NY in the amount of \$800.00 in support of the Middle School Technology Ed. Programs. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
- v. George Warner moved acceptance of donation from CES PTO in the amount of \$350.00 to cover the cost of a virtual field trip to Mt. Washington, NH weather observatory. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
- w. George Warner moved acceptance of donation from Names Project – NY Capital Region Chapter in the amount of \$200.00 to cover the transportation cost of a field trip to World Aids Day. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
- x. George Warner moved acceptance of resolution authorizing the district to increase the 2009-10 General Fund Budget to reflect the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$200.00 for the cost of transportation for a field trip to World Aids Day to be offset by the receipt of a donation from Names Project – NY Capital Region Project. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
- y. George Warner moved acceptance of resolution authorizing the district to increase the 2009-10 General Fund Budget to reflect the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$350.00 for the cost of a virtual field trip to Mt. Washington, NH to be offset by the receipt of a donation from CES PTO. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
- z. George Warner moved approval of health services contract with South Colonie Central School District for the 2009-10 school year in the amount of \$572.62 for one (1) resident student attending nonpublic schools. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.

12. Resignations/Appointments

- a. Paul Puccio moved acceptance of resignation of Dale Hills, Secondary English teacher, for purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2010 with much regret and many thanks. Phyllis Scannell seconded. All present in favor.
- b. Paul Puccio moved acceptance of resignation of Sharon Hall, Account Clerk/Typist, for purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2010. Phyllis Scannell seconded. All present in favor.

- c. Paul Puccio moved approval of leave of absence for Christine Sussman, Secondary Science teacher, effective September 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. Phyllis Scannell seconded. All present in favor.
 - d. Paul Puccio moved approval of substitute teachers: David Budes, Erin (DeKorp) Heid, Marjorie Olsen-Isbester, Dawn Renslow, Lauren Stennie, Kristen VanDyke, Samantha Worley, Mallory Baughman, Kayla Chambers, Patrick Connors, Ryan Palmer. Phyllis Scannell seconded. All present in favor.
 - e. Paul Puccio moved approval of non-instructional substitutes: Dawn Renslow. Phyllis Scannell seconded. All present in favor.
 - f. Paul Puccio moved approval of extracurricular advisors/coaches for 2009-10: Leonard Bacon, Boys JV Tennis Coach. Phyllis Scannell seconded. All present in favor.
13. Action items
- a. Budget development
 - b. Mandates "under radar" for Assemblyman Molinaro
14. Seth Hendrick moved to enter executive session at 9:50 p.m. to discuss work history of specific employees. George Warner seconded. All present in favor.
15. Adjournment. Having no other business before the Board, meeting adjourned at 11:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Romanowski
Substitute District Clerk