

*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, 2016

Maple Hill High School Library

Present: Michael Hiser, Michael Tuttle, Victoria Adler, Paul Puccio and Jeanne Strazza

Absent: Bruce Romanchak, Michael Charsky, Daniel Grandinetti and Christian Olsen

Also present: Robert Horan, Monica Kim, Ron Agostinoni, Michael Bennett, Jason Chevrier, James Derby and Michele Reickert

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – REGULAR

1. Meeting called to order by President, Michael Hiser at 6:06 p.m.
2. Paul Puccio moved to enter Executive Session to discuss superintendent contract negotiations. Michael Tuttle seconded, all present in favor.
3. President Hiser asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
4. Paul Puccio moved for approval of present agenda. Victoria Adler seconded, all present in favor.
5. Michael Tuttle moved for approval of the minutes of regular meeting November 19, 2015, workshop meeting December 3, 2015 and regular meeting December 17, 2015. Jeanne Strazza seconded. All present in favor.
6. Reports:
 - Student Presentation – Christine Fowler and Students: Kaelyn Kulpa, George Isbester, Alexis Tedford, Meghan Bennett, Tyler Dorn and Jenna Hoffman. Mr. Derby introduced the students and Mrs. Fowler and shared briefly about the program they became involved in after reading *A Long Walk to Water*, a book about the lack of clean water for villagers in South Sudan, a village in Africa. They shared that they are raising money for an organization called The Iron Giraffe, Water for South Sudan to help build wells to supply clean water. The Sky is Not Limited, a Wynantskill, NY based organization run by Kevin Vailey spoke to the class and shared how he is helping to build water wells in Africa as well. Students shared their Elevator Speeches, which are short speeches that summarize important information about a topic. Builders Club has started to help with collecting donations, and students are also using money from a school dance. Their efforts have raised \$812.42.
 - 2016-17 Budget:
 - Health Insurance Report – Monica Kim and Marc Quinlan from Benetech, Inc. Mr. Quinlan shared the specifics of the Insurance Consortium and how a district benefits from it. Mrs. Kim explained about how the district costs are affected by retirees, insurance buyouts and insurance enrollment. Mrs. Kim shared the premiums for the plans that the district currently offers, the trends of enrollment over a 4 year period, Retiree contributions and how they affect the district.
 - Budget Presentation – Mr. Horan spoke briefly about the first draft of the budget and the changes that can still take place. Mrs. Kim expressed that the budget process is a year round process, through the year Administrators are always reviewing and looking for ways to improve the current budget and plan for the future. She shared and commented on an

annual timeline for budget planning and the goals that are used in planning a budget. She informed the board of current budget facts that will affect the budget, such as, ERS and TRS will have slight decreases in their rates, health insurance will increase, CPI will be .0012%, and that the district has lost debt which reduces building aid. She said that there is a large push to restore Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA). There was discussion about how much of the early projected increase in budget is mandated and how much is program enhancements.

7. Meeting open for public discussion: Mary Yurista asked about the health insurance for retirees and asked how Medicare affects their health insurance? Mr. Puccio explained that the way it is setup, it is a mathematical formula to keep things steady.
8. Board discussion:
 - New Policy Process – Mrs. Kim explained to the board the process we are undertaking to redo our district policies.
 - Tax Freeze Rebate – Mrs. Kim shared that rebate checks are being mailed and some residents have received theirs.
 - Additional meeting in February – board discussed that they will hold an additional meeting on February 25, 2016.
 - State Aid – Mrs. Kim shared that the state aid runs are in and a printout is in the board folders for review.

Mr. Horan shared that the Kiwanians will be having their Chicken Barbecue on Sunday, January 31, 2016. He also shared that the Chinese students will be in the area starting January 31, 2016, and will have a reception that night at Tech Valley High School. Students will then be visiting local schools, and touring the capital throughout the week. Mr. Horan also talked about a problem with the roof at the high school that was discovered, he wanted everyone aware that there will be a crane on the grounds to begin repairs to the roof. Mr. Horan shared thank you letters that were sent to faculty members for their hard work, and to the residents that donated money for each student at CES to receive an autographed book from Chris Grabenstein. Mr. Chevrier also extended thanks to the entire elementary school faculty and staff for the work that was put into preparing for the visit. Mrs. Strazza talked about a weather van that was donated by Curtis Lumber to News Channel 10. She shared that they are willing to visit schools and air a weather forecast from the school.

9. Policies: Paul Puccio moved for 1st reading of the following policies:
 - a. 0000 Mission Statement and Vision
 - b. 0100 Equal Opportunity and Nondiscrimination
 - c. 0110 Sexual Harassment
 - d. 0115 Student Harassment and Bullying Prevention and Intervention
 - e. 0150 HIV / AIDS
 - f. 0300 Accountability
 - g. 0320 Evaluation of the Superintendent.

Victoria Adler seconded. All present in favor, moved by consensus to 2nd reading.

10. Consent agenda
 - a. Paul Puccio moved for acceptance of the Claims Auditor's Report for the month of November 2015. Jeanne Strazza seconded, all present in favor.

- b. Paul Puccio moved for acceptance of the Treasurer's Reports for the month of November 2015. Jeanne Strazza seconded, all present in favor.
- c. Paul Puccio moved for approval of recommendations of the district Committee on Preschool Special Education regarding 2015-2016 special education services for students: 000114857 and 000114849. Jeanne Strazza seconded, all present in favor.
- d. Paul Puccio moved for approval of an International Club trip to Europe, in April 2017, pending any international travel restrictions. Jeanne Strazza seconded, all present in favor.
- e. Paul Puccio moved for approval of a Cooperative Agreement with Hudson Valley Community College for the 2015-16 school year. Jeanne Strazza seconded, all present in favor.
- f. Paul Puccio moved for acknowledgement of a donation from Nassau American Legion Post 1268 in the amount of \$500.00 in support of the purchase of a copy of Chris Grabenstein's book *Mr. Lemoncello's Library Olympics* for each student in Castleton Elementary School. Jeanne Strazza seconded, all present in favor.
- g. Paul Puccio moved for acknowledgement of a donation from Schodack Town Police Benevolent Association in the amount of \$250.00 in support of the purchase of a copy of Chris Grabenstein's book *Mr. Lemoncello's Library Olympics* for each student in Castleton Elementary School. Jeanne Strazza seconded, all present in favor.
- h. Paul Puccio moved for acknowledgement of a donation from Bud's Florist & Greenhouses in the amount of \$250.00 in support of the purchase of a copy of Chris Grabenstein's book *Mr. Lemoncello's Library Olympics* for each student in Castleton Elementary School. Jeanne Strazza seconded, all present in favor.
- i. Paul Puccio moved for acknowledgement of a donation from Audiologic Solutions, Inc. in the amount of \$500.00 in support of the purchase of a copy of Chris Grabenstein's book *Mr. Lemoncello's Library Olympics* for each student in Castleton Elementary School. Jeanne Strazza seconded, all present in favor.
- j. Paul Puccio moved for acknowledgement of a donation from Brad Rose Landscaping, Inc. in the amount of \$300.00 in support of the purchase of a copy of Chris Grabenstein's book *Mr. Lemoncello's Library Olympics* for each student in Castleton Elementary School. Jeanne Strazza seconded, all present in favor.
- k. Paul Puccio moved for acknowledgement of a donation from Friends of the Library in the amount of \$300.00 in support of the purchase of a copy of Chris Grabenstein's book *Mr. Lemoncello's Library Olympics* for each student in Castleton Elementary School. Jeanne Strazza seconded, all present in favor.
- l. Paul Puccio moved for acknowledgement of a donation from Kasia Mello through CES PTO in the amount of \$375.00 in support of the purchase of a copy of Chris Grabenstein's book *Mr. Lemoncello's Library Olympics* for each student in Castleton Elementary School. Jeanne Strazza seconded, all present in favor.

- m. Paul Puccio moved for acknowledgement of a donation from The Foundation for Engineering Education, Inc. in the amount of \$200.00 to help offset the costs a Model Bridge student field trip. Jeanne Strazza seconded, all present in favor.
- n. Paul Puccio moved for acceptance of a donation from Maple Hill Athletic Booster Club in the amount of \$437.30 in support of the purchase of a video camera. Jeanne Strazza seconded, all present in favor.
- o. Paul Puccio moved for approval of a resolution authorizing the District Treasurer to accept a donation in the amount of \$437.30 from Maple Hill Athletic Booster Club and to increase the General Fund Revenue Code A2705 and Expense Code A2110.450.30.0000 by \$437.30. Jeanne Strazza seconded, all present in favor.
- p. Paul Puccio moved for approval of a revised 2016-17 Budget Calendar. Jeanne Strazza seconded, all present in favor. Jeanne Strazza seconded, all present in favor.
- q. Paul Puccio moved for approval of an employment agreement with Robert Horan for July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2019. Jeanne Strazza seconded, all present in favor.
- r. Paul Puccio moved for approval of Application for Refund of Property Tax for Dirk & Jennifer Geiser, for real property located in Schodack, NY (199.-6-11.1) for a refund in taxes of \$887.68 due to clerical error. Jeanne Strazza seconded, all present in favor.
- s. Paul Puccio moved for acceptance of a Memorandum of Understand between Schodack Central School District and the Schodack Faculty Association revising and replacing the language for Article 3.4 of the current agreement for the period of July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2016. Jeanne Strazza seconded, all present in favor.

11. Resignations/Appointments

- a. Paul Puccio moved for approval of a one year leave of absence of David Austin, .5 Health Teacher for the 2015-16 school year. Victoria Adler seconded, all present in favor.
- b. Paul Puccio moved for approval of the one year appointment of David Austin, .5 Athletic Director for the 2015-16 school year. Victoria Adler seconded, all present in favor.
- c. Paul Puccio moved for approval of a one year leave of absence for Timothy Ryan, 1.0 Mathematics Teacher for the 2015-16 school year. Victoria Adler seconded, all present in favor.
- d. Paul Puccio moved for approval of a one year appointment of Timothy Ryan as 1.0 Educational Technology Specialist for the 2015-16 school year. Victoria Adler seconded, all present in favor.
- e. Paul Puccio moved for approval of the appointment of Sarah Adkins as regular substitute teacher for Christine Charsky effective January 5, 2016. Victoria Adler seconded, all present in favor.
- f. Paul Puccio moved for approval of a change in hours for Katherine Matrese from 5.0 hours per day to 6.0 hours per day effective January 22, 2016. Victoria Adler seconded, all present in favor.
- g. Paul Puccio moved for approval of a change in hours for Kelly Travers-Main from 3.75 hours per day

to 4.50 hours per day effective January 22, 2016. Victoria Adler seconded, all present in favor.

- h. Paul Puccio moved for acceptance of the resignation of Robert Smith effective January 20, 2016.
- i. Paul Puccio moved for approval of the following 2015-16 advisor(s):
 - a. Sheila Golden – HS Musical Co-Director
 - b. Susan Wollner – HS Musical Co-Director

Victoria Adler seconded, all present in favor.

- j. Paul Puccio moved for acceptance of the resignation of Rachael Kerner as Boys 7th/8th grade Track Coach. Victoria Adler seconded, all present in favor.
 - k. Paul Puccio moved for acceptance of the resignation of Lucas Ashby as Boys Varsity Tennis Coach. Victoria Adler seconded, all present in favor.
 - l. Paul Puccio moved for approval of substitute teacher(s): Alexander Malsan, Daniel O'Brien, Emma Myers and Kimberly A. Stevens. Victoria Adler seconded, all present in favor.
 - m. Paul Puccio moved for approval of non-instructional substitute(s): Lori Kolb and Emma Myers
- c. Meeting open for public discussion. None.
 - d. Action items. Budget process for the next two meetings, breakout of the increase in the budget.
 - e. Adjournment. Having no further business before the board, President Hiser adjourned the meeting at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele A. Reickert
District Clerk