

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

March 4, 2009

Maple Hill High School Library

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – SPECIAL

Present: Paula Noll, President; Paul Puccio, Kenneth Flood, Phyllis Weber Scannell, Andrew Fleck, George Warner, Sue Megna, Vice President; Beth Nichols Hesse.

Absent: Seth Hendrick.

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

1. Meeting called to order by President Noll at 6:00 p.m. Paul Puccio moved to approve present agenda with removal of item 2. George Warner seconded. All present in favor.
2. Motion to enter executive session to discuss work history of specific employee(s).
3. Approval of present agenda. See item 1.
4. Meeting open for public discussion. Representatives of Schodack Faculty Association spoke to address proposed budget reductions. Parent spoke in regard to budget issues. Federal Economic Stimulus package. Commercial reassessment challenges.
5. Workshop: Board discussion of 2009-10 Budget: options. Doug Hamlin introduced discussion. Zero percent budget increase with stable assessments, impact of possible loss of assessment to tax levy and increase in tax rate. Use of Federal funds to supplant. District is in high risk environment. Scenarios for tax increases with zero growth budget. Uncertain economy, tax assessments, restoration of state aid. Areas to be considered for reduction. Incentive to retire as option for savings. Discussion. How to use budget advisory committee input. Prioritization of budget items. Looking at all areas of budget for reduction, not just salaries and benefits. Board consensus is for administration to produce 0% first draft budget following guidelines put forth by the board. Unfunded mandates and impact on administrative workload.
 - 1 Student enrollment.
 - 2 Class size
 - 3 Support
 - 4 Other
6. Meeting open for public discussion. Uncertainty of budget process. Adjustments year to year in response to enrollment changes. Advocate for athletics, art and music in the curriculum. Art teacher spoke to importance of art. Budget process. Community budget advisory discussions. Parent spoke to undesirability of increased class size. Projected enrollments, staffing changes. Discussion of proposed changes to middle school. Tax certiorari challenges. Historical fluctuations in class size. Questions, comments, discussion.

7. Board Discussion. George Warner: reaching out to state and federal officials for help. Presentation on buses. Usage fees. Andrew Fleck: options for utilizing space in the district differently. Phyllis Weber Scannell: special education co-op. Kenneth Flood: shared services meeting update. Paul Puccio: Tech Valley educational model. BOCES service delivery. Local school district. Thanks to Donna for write-up on the new student information system. Andrew Fleck: website "have you heard".
8. Resignations/Appointments. Susan Megna moved to remove item g. from the consent agenda. Andrew Fleck seconded.
 - a. Paul Puccio moved approval of substitute teachers: Stephanie Campbell, Colleen Horan, Lynn Keener. George Warner seconded. All present in favor.
 - b. Paul Puccio moved approval of extracurricular advisors/coaches for 2008-09:
 - (1) Lindsay Rock - JV Girls Softball Coach
 - (2) Marissa Miller - Volunteer Track Coach. George Warner seconded. All present in favor.
 - c. Paul Puccio moved acceptance of resignation of Patrick Kenna, Physical Education Teacher/Athletic Director, effective March 4, 2009. George Warner seconded. All present in favor.
 - d. Paul Puccio moved acceptance of resignation of Mark Bubniak as 7th/8th grade Boys Track Coach for 2008-09. George Warner seconded. All present in favor.
 - e. Paul Puccio moved approval of Leonard Bacon (certification: Biology 7-12; Earth Science and General Science 7-12; School Building Leader pending) as Interim Athletic Director, effective March 2, 2009 through June 30, 2009. George Warner seconded. All present in favor.
 - f. Paul Puccio moved approval of Mark Bubniak (certification: Business and Distributive Education) as Assistant Interim Athletic Director, effective March 2, 2009 through June 30, 2009. George Warner seconded. All present in favor.
 - g. Sue M. Acceptance of resignation of Patricia Gillespie, Registered School Nurse, for purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2009 acknowledge years of exceptional service in supporting our students and their parents by supporting the health of our children. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
9. Meeting open for public discussion. Thanks to principals and administrators for the work they are doing in the budget process. Phyllis: impressed with how quickly Mr. Horan deals with situations in the high school. Extended thanks. Odyssey of the Mind MS team competing this weekend. Jason: settling in at CES. PTO donated \$28,500 toward purchase of new playground equipment. Robert: Science Bowl this weekend. Girls and boys basketball teams are competing in sectionals. March 20-21 all night party. Music In Our Schools.
10. Action items. Legislative follow-up.
11. Motion to enter executive session to discuss collective bargaining with SAA, CSEA. Phyllis Weber Scannell moved to enter into executive session at 9:35pm. Andrew Fleck seconded. All present in favor.
12. Adjournment. Having no other business before the board, meeting adjourned at 10:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elizabeth Chipman
District Clerk