

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 6, 2008

Maple Hill Middle School Library

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES - SPECIAL

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

Absent: Sue Megna, Vice President.

Also Present: Doug Hamlin, Superintendent; Sherri Fisher, Director of Business and Support Services; Donna Watson, Director of Curriculum and Staff Development; Roger Gorham, MHMS; Robert Horan, MHHS; Liz Chipman, District Clerk.

1. Meeting called to order by President Noll at 7:00 p.m.
2. Approval of present agenda. Seth Hendrick moved to approve present agenda. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
3. Meeting open for public discussion. Kevin Donnelly expressed concern as tax payer regarding contracts awarded for construction of CES, change in contracts to standardize. Discussion. Andrea Fareo invited Board Members to NHS induction ceremony. Ed Roxter (TBS) present to ask about change to standardization.
4. Reports
 - A. Capital Project - Phil Snyder, SSA/Ed Goodwill, CTW. Bids will be solicited for Phase III of construction. This phase of construction will take place during summer break. Exterior work could occur while school is in session. Middle school, high school and bus garage. Mr. Snyder recommended that district make opportunity for contractors to work double shift if necessary. Questions, comments, discussion from board members. Project estimate, scope of work. Changes in estimates for specific work to be done in phase III. Disposal of run-off water from bus garage. Add/deduct options for estimates. Standardization. Process for moving toward standardization. Specific items for temperature control, alarm systems and boilers are itemized in the contracts to be bid. Present subcontractors process of being "made whole" on work done to date. Discussion. Update on drainage at CES. Groundwater/run-off on site. Work will accelerate in April when frost leaves the ground. Ed Goodwill reported on progress of construction to date. Overall, project is ahead of schedule at this point.
 - B. 2008-09 Budget - Draft One. Sherri Fisher reported. Highlighted key assumptions for

draft 1 of budget. Program enhancements: new student information system, mandarin chinese instruction increase, tech valley high school additional student tuition. K-12 distance learning program. MHMS transformation initiatives. Compliance with new tax sheltered annuities. CES transition costs. Projected staffing changes. Special education tuitions. Career and technical education placements. Technology replacement. Equipment replacement. BOCES services. Health and dental insurance. Medicare reimbursement. Insurances. Social security payroll taxes. Retirement system employer contributions. Building debt service on bonds, epc and bus bans. Energy costs. All other expense areas. State aid. Assessments. Hannaford pilot. Appropriated fund balance. Sherri highlighted increases in specific budget lines. Revenue budget areas. Property tax cap pros and cons.

C. 2008-09 Budget Communication Plan - Linda Underwood, Director of Community Education. Linda Underwood outlined plan for communicating budget process with community. Press releases, town hall meetings, newsletters, presentations to community groups. Identify 3-4 key issues to communicate. Phone survey after the budget vote.

5. Consent agenda. No items.
6. Resignations/Appointment. None.
7. Retirements. None.
8. Board discussion. Rik Cosgrave: accounting classes excellent at MHHS. Meet the coaches night at the middle school. Robert Horan: girls basketball team did extremely well. Odyssey of the Mind this weekend in Tamarack. Roger Gorham: Music in our schools Friday night. Science Olympiad. Paul Puccio: thank you to Rik for his contribution to Schodack/Castleton Community Partnership. Seth Hendrick: commended Mark Bubniak for his work with girls basketball team. Discussion on target budget. Consensus is to get contingency budget expenditure cap.
9. Meeting open for public discussion. Ed Roxter: budget costs, scheduling concerns for capital projects. Standardization. Possibilities for delays, etc. due to standardization. Construction manager for TBS present to speak. Kevin Donnelly: standardization removes fair bidding process.
10. Action items.
11. Motion to go into executive session to discuss work history of specific employee, negotiations with SCFA. No executive session.
12. Adjournment. Having no other business before the board, meeting adjourned at 10:46pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Chipman
District Clerk