

*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

November 15, 2012

Maple Hill High School Library

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – REGULAR

1. Meeting called to order by President, J. Andrew Fleck at 6:07 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
3. Mary Yurista moved for approval of present agenda. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
4. Michael Charsky moved for approval of minutes of regular meeting October 18, 2012 and workshop meeting November 1, 2012. Bruce Romanchak seconded. All present in favor.
5. Reports:
 1. SFA Book Donations – Florence Heeder – The Schodack Faculty Association recognized the time and dedication of the Board Members by presenting books to each library in honor of the Board of Education. The books donated were: CES – Chloe and the Lion and Wonder, Middle School – Insurgent and Divergent, and High School – The Fault in Our Stars, Legend and Prodigy. Andrew Fleck thanked the Faculty Association for their efforts and for the donation of the books.
 2. IReady – Jason Chevrier presented a module of a program that will assess students, the program is called IReady. He expressed that there was extensive research done before choosing the program. It is one of the third party vendors approved by State Ed for student assessment. It is aligned with the Common Core and assesses students using an adaptive measure. Meaning as a student answers questions, it adapts up or down in difficulty as the answers are recorded giving a good picture of what the student understands and where the students strengths and weaknesses are. Students will be assessed three times a year. The mid-year assessment will allow teachers to see where they might need to make changes to help struggling students. Mr. Chevrier also expressed that there is a tremendous amount of data that is collected which can be used to both challenge and assist students. There is an instruction module that the district is looking into purchasing, which would allow struggling students to complete practice sessions in the areas they are weak in.
 3. TeachScape – The Administrative Team presented the teacher evaluation program chosen by the district to aide in the observation of Teachers and Principals. They expressed that the new evaluation process required by the State will require about 4 – 5 hours of time each year for each teacher in the district, thereby stretching administrators even more thin and taking them away from their other duties/responsibilities to complete numerous evaluations. Questions were asked about the Administrator evaluations. Administrators will be evaluated using a combination of measurements, depending on the grade level in the buildings, including scores

Every child will be challenged, and every child will challenge every assessment.

from the State depending on how the students and teachers do, IReady for overall student body growth and achievement, evaluations by observations using the agreed to Rubric, and Student Learning Objectives. Overall, the evaluation process for Administrators will be similar to the process used for teachers.

4. Budget Calendar – Robert Horan and Monica Kim presented the proposed budget calendar outlining important dates and deadlines for the upcoming budget planning and the election/budget vote. Monica Kim expressed that it is early in the budget process and there are still a lot of unknowns. There was discussion about the statistics from the 2012-13 budget votes for New York State: 678 spending plans voted on; 96.5% or 654 were approved; 7% or 48 districts' plans exceeded the tax cap; of those 48, 60% or 29 were approved; of those 29, 21 had caps below 2%. Monica expressed that there is a large increase in TRS/ERS costs, and health insurance. There are unknowns such as what the winter will be and other unexpected weather related costs. State aid is another big unknown, there was a lot of destruction to schools downstate from hurricane Sandy and we are not sure if state aid will shift to downstate. Monica also stated that the district is starting the budget process earlier this year. The district will be conducting a budget survey looking for feedback and suggestions from the community.

6. Board Discussion: Christine DiGiulio thanked the Administrators for all their research and work getting IReady up and running and also thanked the teachers for their time and input. There was discussion of the efficiency grant that the district was awarded and how it was being used. The grant was written to install wireless throughout the district as well as replace gymnasium lighting with high efficiency lighting fixtures and bulbs. Mr. Horan expressed that grants must be used for what they were written and awarded for; if there is misuse of the grant money the State can make the district repay the money.

7. Meeting open for public discussion: Laura Cook asked that there be a timeline for teachers to have their information submitted to administrators and that the teachers have more time to work on their budget requests. There was discussion about a change in the supply budgeting for the buildings. Teachers will request only supplies for their classroom instruction; general supplies (pens, pencils, etc.) will be budgeted at building levels. Laura Cook expressed that the TeachScape and IReady information shared was very helpful and that she wished Mr. King and others could see exactly what goes into the state level changes and requirements. She also expressed that some of the reports from IReady do not always align with a teacher's observation of students. Testing and classroom observation by a teacher can differ. Mrs. Cook also expressed that if a report is requested, it may be best to meet with the parent and explain the results rather than have a false impression of how a student is performing. The printing process of reports is also cumbersome as each student must be printed individually. Also, teachers do not have printers in their classrooms; they have to go to the printer, located at a common area in the building, and release each job manually.

8. Consent agenda:
 - a. Michael Charsky moved for acceptance of Claims Auditor Report for the month of September 2012. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
 - b. Michael Charsky moved for acceptance of Extra-classroom Report for the quarter ended September

2012. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.

- c. Michael Charsky moved for approval of recommendations of the district Committee on Preschool Special Education regarding 2012-2013 special education services for students: 000114116
 - d. Michael Charsky moved for approval of recommendations of the district Committee on Special Education regarding 2012-2013 students: #000113340, 000114057, 000114164, 000113777
 - e. Michael Charsky moved for approval of the 2013-2014 Budget Calendar. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
 - f. Michael Charsky moved for approval of a resolution authorizing the District Treasurer to accept bullet aid from Senator McDonald in the amount of \$30,000 and to increase General Fund Revenue Code A3289 and General Fund Expense Code A2110.130.00.1000 to support the reading program. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
 - g. Michael Charsky moved for approval of an Inter-municipal Agreement with New Lebanon Central School District to provide New Lebanon with Superintendent of Building and Grounds Phase II facilities maintenance at a rate of \$75/hour plus mileage effective till June 30, 2013. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
9. Resignations/Appointments:
- a. Christine DiGiulio moved for approval of substitute teacher(s): Shealene George and Michele Fox. Lisa Lafferty seconded. All present in favor.
10. Meeting open for public discussion. None.
11. Action items. None.
12. Christine DiGiulio moved to enter executive Session at 8:46 PM to discuss contract negotiations. Mary Yurista seconded. All present in favor.
13. Mary Yurista moved to reenter regular session at 9:07 PM, Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.
14. Adjournment. Having no further business before the board, Mary Yurista moved to adjourn at 9:12 PM. Michael Charsky seconded. All present in favor.