

*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

October 15, 2015

Maple Hill High School Library

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – REGULAR

1. Executive Session 6:00 – 6:30pm: To discuss an employee personnel matter and SFA Negotiations.
2. Meeting called to order by Board President, Michael Hiser at 6:29 pm.
3. President Hiser asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
4. Christian Olsen moved for approval of present agenda, Jeanne Strazza seconded, all present in favor.
5. Paul Puccio moved for approval of minutes of regular meeting: September 17, 2015 with revision to the wording in action items, Michael Tuttle seconded, all present in favor.
6. Reports:
 1. External Audit Report – Tim Reynolds from Marvin & Company shared the findings of the 2014-15 Audit of the school finances, what they look for and what the audit process entails. The audit report showed that there were no compliance issues or issues with internal control. He said the district does a good job.
 2. Questar III Report – Gladys Cruz talked about the changes in education landscape both at a state level, BOCES and in the administration of districts within BOCES. She shared the changes that districts can expect from SED: Review of Common Core Standards, District will be urged to administer computer based testing and changes to state testing. There will be changes to APPR in 2015, APPR will be based on only two categories: Student Performance and Observations. Mr. Sloane answered questions that the board had given Questar to answer. He gave an overview of the Special Education services the district uses from Questar. He expressed that the district is doing a good job working with students in-house and only using outside services when necessary. He shared the types of schedules students receive in a Questar program. He talked about the increased graduation requirements for the different CTE programs to further student's knowledge and help them become more efficient in their field. Mr. Hadjioannou talked about the enrollment through the Rensselaer Columbia Green BOCES. The board learned the cost breakdown for the services that the district uses from Questar, and the cost savings the district sees by using the services rather than keeping the services in-house. He expressed that they are always looking for new ways to help districts and provide cost savings.
 3. Indoor Track Update – Robert Horan updated the board of the status of the potential of an indoor track program. He explained that there is a process to follow to add a new athletic program to the district and gave step by step details of the process. He talked about a feeder

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program, getting younger students interested in the sport so there is a constant flow of participants, interest within the students of Schodack, community support, fund raising, and student surveys. Dave Austin shared information about the different public school classifications and which ones have indoor track. Schodack's enrollment has dropped and is continuing to drop which has made it difficult to make the numbers to support the athletic offerings. Mr. Horan continued with the results of a survey that was conducted in the district and shared information that has been shared with the district.

7. Meeting open for public discussion: Kristen Lankenau expanded upon the track and field events only being offered in the fall, and that there is a difference between track and field and cross country. She didn't think the survey asked if the students would participate in a sport that they participated in again. Scott Hanrahan wanted to clarify comments about boys sports since Lacrosse has been added, boys tennis has suffered by forfeiting points for not having a full team and baseball has been struggling to fill JV and Varsity teams, he expressed that it could have been the addition of lacrosse but he cannot say for sure. He read a letter he wrote after having numerous conversations with people in the community and giving thought to the possibility of adding an indoor track program. Jim Farrell spoke in support of what has been presented tonight and said that our district has a heavy running population, he feels that if the sport was available students that are on other teams would participate in the sport of their choice instead of choosing one that they may be on because there is not another option. Seth Hendrick also expressed that he felt the district numbers don't support an additional athletic team. He shared some of his concerns of adding an additional team. He talked about space and how it might affect the feeder program of basketball, CYO uses the facilities and is the feeder program for the district basketball program. Andrew Charsky talked about the list that was shared by David Austin listing the public school classifications. He shared the different options that the supporters of indoor track have researched and are what they are continuing to pursue for indoor practices.

8. Board Discussion: Mr. Puccio discussed the possibility of adding a new team, and said the Administration makes decisions about what classes are offered if enrollment is low. Mr. Agostinoni explained how the district decides which electives they will offer. Chris Olsen talked about his concern of supporting a team that has not yet met its full funding obligation and the deadline to add a sport into the conference is tomorrow, he spoke of sports that have been offered that are no longer offered and that he would like to see some of them come back, he also felt that since the district is so small, it is not fair for one sport to take two pieces of the pie. Mr. Charsky discussed his experience with sports in the past and the participation and size of the teams. He felt if someone wants to do something they should be able to choose what they want to do. Dan Grandinetti asked about the students that do not participate in a sport referring to the results of the survey, and which of the students that played a sport then chose not to play it again. Bruce Romanchak expressed the board needs to step back and look at this objectively, set a policy for how the district handles athletic teams in the future, and that the district cannot have teams of one. Mr. Puccio reminded the board that they don't get involved in the decision of what classes are offered, they trust the administrators to make decisions for the district in the best interest of the students. He reiterated what Mr. Romanchak said about setting up a policy of how the district will handle situations like this in the future. Mr. Hiser addressed the concerns of some of the public of allowing too many self-funded groups, he does not feel there is a concern there since the district has only had two experiences with self-funded programs. Self-funded programs do not have say of how the program is run, the district

controls that. He is concerned with any sport having more than one season, also with the funding, there is only \$3,500 committed as of now, who will pay for the difference? He does not want to see the district have to pay the difference if the full funds do not get raised. Mr. Lankanau expressed that they cannot plan more fundraisers unless they know if they are approved. They would be planning additional fundraisers and are not looking for a financial backing from the district; they did approach Sports Boosters for assistance. Jeanne Strazza spoke about the enrollment numbers and how the district should handle this in the future. Mr. Hiser asked Mr. Horan to make a decision for indoor track. Mr. Horan said he likes opportunities for kids that he sees 64 kids that might be participating in a sport, he understands that some teams could potentially struggle, and that he was bothered that the district did not revisit how decisions for sports have been made such as Lacrosse and Volleyball. He read this statement he wrote down during the meeting: Looking at the information provided to the district, I am comfortable moving forward with an indoor track team contingent upon language related to funding for the 15-16 school year, to be revisited in June prior to moving into the 2016-17 school year. He also said the district will look into policy so the district is never in this situation again. Monica informed the board that our efficiency plan has been approved by the State and checks should be in the mail soon. Mr. Puccio updated the board as to the status of the Schodack Wildcat Foundation, Inc. and that it is up and running and that a donation has already been made through the foundation and is being acknowledged on tonight's consent agenda. Mr. Horan wanted to publically thank the Sports Boosters for everything they do; they work hard for the students and athletic program and encouraged the board to send a letter thanking them for what they do.

9. Policies: None.

10. Consent agenda

- a. Michael Charsky moved for acceptance of Treasurer's Reports for the month of August 2015. Christian Olsen seconded, all present in favor.
- b. Michael Charsky moved for acceptance of Claims Auditor Report for the month of August 2015. Christian Olsen seconded, all present in favor.
- c. Michael Charsky moved for approval of recommendations of the district Committee on Pre-school Special Education regarding 2015-2016 special education services for students: : 000114809, 000114800, and 000114810. Christian Olsen seconded, all present in favor.
- d. Michael Charsky moved for approval of recommendations of the district Committee on Special Education regarding 2015-2016 special education services for students: : 000113785, 000114822, 000114821, 000114820, 000114796, 000114054, 000113665, 000114578, 000114804, 000114805, and 000114686. 000114253. Christian Olsen seconded, all present in favor.
- e. Michael Charsky moved for approval of a resolution accepting the Independent Audit Report of the financial statements of the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015. Christian Olsen seconded, all present in favor.

- f. Michael Charsky moved for approval for Application for Corrected Tax Roll for Peter Knapp & Gisela Demant, for real property located in Schodack, NY (208.-5-2) for reduction in taxes of \$752.90 due to clerical error. Christian Olsen seconded, all present in favor.
- g. Michael Charsky moved for approval for Application for Corrected Tax Roll for Peter Knapp & Gisela Demant, for real property located in Schodack, NY (208.-2-1) for a reduction in taxes of \$524.01 due to clerical error. Christian Olsen seconded, all present in favor.
- h. Michael Charsky moved for approval of an agreement with Synthesis, LLP to conduct a Building Condition Survey at a cost of \$48,625. Christian Olsen seconded, all present in favor.
- i. Michael Charsky moved for acknowledgement of a donation of a tree by the Schodack Wildcat Foundation, Inc. in memory of Jeri Lynn Puccio. Christian Olsen seconded, all present in favor.
- j. Michael Charsky moved for approval for Application for Corrected Tax Roll for Clark & Regina Bulan for real property located in Castleton, NY (188.-5-7.2) for a reduction in taxes of \$150.70 due to clerical error. Christian Olsen seconded, all present in favor.

11. Resignations/Appointments

- a. Michael Charsky moved for approval of the appointment of Jessica Minbiole as regular substitute teacher for Caitlin Colwell, effective September 1, 2015. Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.
- b. Michael Charsky moved for approval of a change in hours for Jennifer Davids, Health Care Aid, from 6.0 hours per day to 7.0 hours per day effective September 8, 2015. Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.
- c. Michael Charsky moved for approval of the appointment of Elizabeth Berry, Teaching Assistant, for 4 hours per day at a rate of \$16.74 per hour, effective September 14, 2015. Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.
- d. Michael Charsky moved for approval of a change in hours for Deborah Hammond, School Bus Attendant, from 5.25 hours per day to 5.75 hours per day, effective September 14, 2015. Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.
- e. Michael Charsky moved for approval of a change in hours for Jennifer Campbell, School Bus Driver, from 5.50 hours per day to 6.0 hours per day effective September 14, 2015. Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.
- f. Michael Charsky moved for approval of a change in hours for John Carl, School Bus Driver, from 4.75 hours per day to 5.0 hours per day effective September 14, 2015. Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.
- g. Approval of a change in hours for Cheryl Bickford, School Bus Attendant, from 4.75 hours per day to

5.25 hours per day effective September 14, 2015. Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.

- h. Michael Charsky moved for approval of a correction to the appointment of Melanie O'Malley, School Monitor previously appointed at the September 17, 2015 Board Meeting. Correction: Approval of the probationary appointment of Melanie O'Malley as School Monitor, for 2.75 hours per day at a rate of \$14.50 effective September 1, 2015 through March 1, 2016. Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.
- i. Michael Charsky moved for acceptance of the resignation of Erica Schneider, Teaching Assistant, effective September 30, 2015. Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.
- j. Michael Charsky moved for approval of a correction to the appointment of the following 2015-16 Transportation Personnel Hours to accurately reflect daily bus runs and late bus runs three (3) days per week:
 - i. Craig Hadley – 3.75 hours daily plus late bus run .5 hour three (3) days per week
 - ii. Kelly Travers-Main – 3.75 hours daily plus late bus .5 hours three (3) days per week
 - iii. Kara Householder – 3.75 hours daily plus late bus .75 hours three (3) days per week
 - iv. Deborah Pfeffer – 3.75 hours daily plus late bus .5 hours three days (3) per week
 - v. Jamie Pulver – 3.75 hours daily plus late bus .75 hours three (3)days per week
 - vi. Kandee Goodall – 3.75 hours daily plus late bus .5 hours three (3) days per week.

Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.

- k. Michael Charsky moved for approval of the following funded advisor(s) for the 2015-16 school year:
 - i. Memorial Day Parade – Scott Hanrahan
 - ii. HS Stage Band – Scott Hanrahan
 - iii. All County Music (Fall) - Christina Gibney
 - iv. All County Music (Winter) – Christina Gibney
 - v. HS Student Council Co-Advisor – Caitlin Colwell
 - vi. HS Student Council Co-Advisor – Melissa Golden
 - vii. HS Science Olympiad – Leonard Bacon
 - viii. HS Science Olympiad – Jeffrey Smith
 - ix. HS SADD – Carol Cusano.

Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.

- l. Michael Charsky moved for approval of the following un-funded advisor(s) for the 2015-16 school year:
 - i. HS Yearbook Photo – Patricia Wood
 - ii. HS Newspaper Technical – Heather Flood
 - iii. Peer Leadership – Patricia Wood
 - iv. HS Sports Media Club – David Austin
 - v. Intramurals – Carl Ashby
 - vi. CES Chess Club – Scott Charlebois
 - vii. CES Star Wars Club – Sid Reischer

- viii. CES Gardening Club – Christine Charsky
- ix. CES Math Olympiad Co-Advisor – Amy Hirschhoff
- x. CES Math Olympiad Co-Advisor – Janice Balogh.

Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.

- m. Michael Charsky moved for approval of the following Coach(es) for the 2015-16 school year:
 - i. Girls JV Basketball – Holly Rosenberger.

Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.

- n. Michael Charsky moved for approval of the termination of the probationary appointment of Lon T. Patterson as a custodial worker, effective October 2, 2015. Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.
- o. Michael Charsky moved for approval of the temporary appointment of Ronald LaValley as part-time automotive mechanic at a rate of \$24.78, effective October 16, 2015. Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.
- p. Michael Charsky moved for approval of the following substitute teacher(s): Jonathan Calhoun, Rachel Wood and Linda Speno. Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.
- q. Michael Charsky moved for approval of the following non-instructional substitute(s): Rachel Wood, Perry C. Tomlin, Kelly Halpin, Elizabeth Felock, Jody Sefner, Ronald LaValley, George Lussier, Jr., Cheryl Bickford, and Linda Speno. Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.
- r. Michael Charsky moved for approval of a resolution modifying the prior appointment of Kaitlyn Castle as follows:
Kaitlyn Castle is appointed to a .6 FTE position in the Math 7-12 tenure area, for a three year probationary period retroactive to September 1, 2015 and ending on September 1, 2018 at a pro-rata starting salary of \$24,959; Kaitlyn Castle is also appointed to a part-time position in the tenure area of teaching assistant, for up to 3 hours per day, at a rate of \$16.74 per hour for a four year probationary period retroactive to September 8, 2015 and ending on September 8, 2019; and that such appointment shall be deemed to have been made on June 18, 2015 (7-12 Math tenure area) and August 20, 2015 (teaching assistant tenure area). Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.
- s. Michael Charsky moved for approval of a change in hours for Diane Duffy, Teaching Assistant, from 4 hours per day to 6 hours per day effective October 16, 2015. Paul Puccio seconded, all present in favor.

- 12. Meeting open for public discussion. Matt LaClair talked about the Fall Sports Weekend and shared that the fields looked great, he said it was attributed to the new equipment and good people. James Farrell said the cross country field is the best it has ever been and it is level, fantastic job. Jeanne Strazza expressed that the PTO Community Fair was very well run and a good time.

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13. Action items. The district needs to re-convene the Athletic Committee and look at a policy on athletics, internal posting for indoor track coach, proceed with strategic planning, and discussions on the 2020 plan for technology infrastructure devices and one to one, capital project: scheduling, administration restructuring and program review, and evaluation (APPR) teacher and principal.
14. Adjournment. Having no further business before the board, President Hiser adjourned the meeting at 9:10 pm.