

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."

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SCHODACK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
1216 Maple Hill Road, Castleton, New York 12033-1699

**October 20, 2010**

**Maple Hill High School Library**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – REGULAR**

Present: Andrew Fleck, President; Chris DiGiulio, Michael Hiser, George Warner, Lisa Lafferty, Bruce Romanchak.

Absent: Paul Puccio, Sue Megna, Kenneth Flood.

Also Present: Donna Watson, Director of Staff Development and Pupil Personnel Services; Ron Agostinoni, MHHS; Michael Bennett, MHMS; Robert Horan, Superintendent; Sherri Fisher, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Support Services; Liz Chipman, District Clerk.

1. Meeting with counsel 6:00 p.m. (High School Conference Room)
2. Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Fleck.
3. Approval of present agenda. Michael Hiser moved to approve present agenda. George Warner seconded. All present in favor.
4. Approval of minutes of regular meeting September 16, 2010. Michael Hiser moved to approve minutes of 9/16/2010. Lisa Lafferty seconded. All present in favor.
5. Meeting open for public discussion. None.
6. Board Discussion. In honor of Board Appreciation Week, proclamations presented to board members on behalf of administrators. Bob Horan extended thanks to board members on behalf of the District. George Warner recognized Paul Puccio for his contributions to the board of education in Schodack, BOCES and Tech Valley.
7. Reports / Presentations:
  - a. Student Program – Maple Hill Middle School Connections. Chris Fowler and students present to report to the board. Full year, language arts based course, focus on research based learning and community service projects. Students told about their experiences and varied projects in Connections class.
  - b. Independent Auditors Report – Marvin & Company. Sherri Fisher distributed auditor's report to board members. Casey Dare present to highlight reports to board members. Auditor rendered an unqualified opinion to District on their financial statements. Questions, comments from board members. Sherri extended thanks to her staff for their work in finance administration. Board also expressed thanks to central office staff for finance administration, leaving them able to focus on education and program.

- c. Fellowship to China and impact on Schodack - Mark Hoyt reported. Bob Horan introduced Mark to the board. Awarded fellowship to China for seven weeks over this past summer. Rotary Roundup hosted by Schodack, 16 exchange students stayed with 9 host families in town over sports weekend. Slideshow and presentation on his time in China on fellowship with the State Department.
  - d. Race to the Top - Update and Work Plan – Administrative Team. Bob Horan introduced report on Race to the Top fund requirements. Regents goals in four reform areas: internationally benchmarked standards, instructional data systems, effective teachers and principals, and turning around lowest achieving schools. Teacher evaluation. RTTT Timeline. Questions, comments, discussion from board members.
8. Meeting open for public discussion. Laura Cooke: such an uncertain time regarding RTTT mandates and teacher evaluation. Inclusion of special education students in the process. Oct 12 meeting with District, Town, Village and Rensselaer County Chamber of Commerce. Property tax cap issue in gubernatorial election.
9. Policies. None.
10. Consent Agenda: Bruce Romanchak moved to add item w. Christine D seconded. APIF
  - a. Michael Hiser moved acceptance of Revenue and Budget Status Reports for the months of July 2010. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
  - b. Michael Hiser moved acceptance of Extra-Classroom Activity Report for the months of July 2010. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
  - c. Michael Hiser moved approval of a resolution accepting the Internal Audit Report for 2009-10. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
  - d. Michael Hiser moved approval of resolution accepting the Independent Audit Report of the Financial Statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
  - e. Michael Hiser moved acceptance of a donation from Maureen Strainge and Colin Strainge in the amount of \$410.00 in support of the Class of 2011. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
  - f. Michael Hiser moved acceptance of a donation from Target Take Charge of Education in the amount of \$301.89 in support of the Maple Hill Middle School PAC account. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
  - g. Michael Hiser moved acceptance of a donation from Target Take Charge of Education in the amount of \$342.07 in support of the Maple Hill High School PAC account. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
  - h. Michael Hiser moved acceptance of donation of 1 LCD Projector and 23 LCD Projector bulbs from The College of St. Rose at an estimated value of \$7,000.00. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.

- i. Michael Hiser moved acceptance of a donation from Maple Hill Athletic Booster Club of a Golf Cart valued at \$2,000.00 to benefit the Schodack Central School District's Athletic Department. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
- j. Michael Hiser moved approval of recommendations of the district Committee on Special Education regarding 2010-2011 students: #000113806, # 000113238, #000113803, and # 000012272. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
- k. Michael Hiser moved approval of recommendations of the district Committee on Preschool Special Education regarding 2010-2011 special education services for students: #000113780 and #000113755. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
- l. Michael Hiser moved approval of Negative Change Order for construction contract of DelSignore Blacktop Paving, Inc. – Transportation Facility Paving - Project #49-15-01-04-5-005-007, to be deducted from the construction contract; new revised contract sum will be \$316,937.00: Change Order #GC-1 (Credit) in the amount of -\$1,063.00. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
- m. Michael Hiser moved approval of Negative Change Order for construction contract of DelSignore Blacktop Paving, Inc. – Transportation Facility Paving - Project #49-15-01-04-5-005-007, to be deducted from the construction contract; new revised contract sum will be \$296,937: Change Order #GC-2 (Credit) in the amount of -\$20,000.00. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
- n. Michael Hiser moved approval of change in assessment for Timothy Bell and Cathy Bell for real property located at 28 Clearview Blvd., Castleton, NY (210.01-3-7) from \$202,000 to \$190,000, pursuant to Small Claims Assessment Review Case 2010-086, resulting in a change in taxes due from \$3,239.89 to \$3,013.85 for 2010-11. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
- o. Michael Hiser moved approval of change in assessment for Anne Phillip for real property located at 810 Van Hoesen Rd., Castleton, NY (209.-1-22) from \$414,000 to \$370,000, pursuant to Small Claims Assessment Review Case 2010-045, resulting in a change in taxes due from \$7,233.24 to \$6,404.43 for 2010-11. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
- p. Michael Hiser moved approval of change in assessment for Stephen M. Clemente and Catherine A. Clemente for real property located at 222 Irish Hill Rd., Castleton, NY (210-7-13) from \$499,000 to \$460,000, pursuant to Small Claims Assessment Review Case 2010-048, resulting in a change in taxes due from \$8,834.35 to \$8,099.72 for 2010-11. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
- q. Michael Hiser moved approval of correction to property exemption (Aged Exemption) and change in taxable assessed value from \$124,900 to \$60,150, due to clerical error, for Russell C. Vandewal and Suzanne K. Vandewal for real property located on 19 Crescent Dr., Castleton, NY (201.1-3-2) pursuant to Real Property Tax Law Section 550 2(c), resulting in a change in taxes due from \$2,352.69 to \$1,133.02 for 2010-11. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
- r. Michael Hiser moved approval of a Memorandum of Understanding amending Article V, paragraph 5(b) of the current Employment Agreement between Schodack Central

School District and Robert Horan, Superintendent, dated February 25, 2010. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.

- s. Michael Hiser moved approval of a Memorandum of Understanding to memorialize certain actions agreed to by the parties during the 2009-10 school year and amend Section 8(b) and Section 9(b) of the Employment Agreement between Schodack Central School District and Douglas B. Hamlin, former Superintendent. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
- t. Michael Hiser moved approval of an Independent Contractor Agreement with Joseph Sweeney for the period July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011 to perform computer network and technical support services on an as-needed basis, at a rate of \$29.32 per hour. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
- u. Michael Hiser moved approval of Change Order for construction contract of DelSignore Blacktop Paving, Inc. – Transportation Facility Paving - Project #49-15-01-04-5-005-007, to be added to the construction contract; new revised contract sum will be \$298,706.50: Change Order #GC-3 in the amount of \$1,769.50. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
- v. Michael Hiser moved approval of progress payment to DelSignore Blacktop Paving, Inc. in the amount of \$282,090.15 for Transportation Facility Paving – Project #49-15-01-04-5-005-007. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
- w. Bruce Romanchak moved to accept RTTT funds with reservations about the impact on local control and the ultimate impact on the quality of education in Schodack. Christine DiGiulio seconded. Discussion. Bruce Romanchak withdrew his motion. Chris withdrew her second.
- x. Bruce Romanchak authorized superintendent to submit RTTT work plan with reservations about local control and the ultimate impact on the quality of education in Schodack. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.

#### 11. Appointments / Resignations:

- a. Bruce Romanchak moved acceptance of the resignation of Kathy Malloy as CES Co-Computer Specialist effective September 17, 2010. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
- b. Bruce Romanchak moved approval of probationary appointment of Stephen Soltys as Custodial Worker, for 8.0 hours/day, at a rate of \$15.09/hour, effective October 21, 2010 through April 21, 2011. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
- c. Bruce Romanchak moved approval of Christina Genovesi (certification: School Psychologist) as regular substitute teacher for Jennifer Delaney, effective September 20, 2010. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
- d. Bruce Romanchak moved approval of a change in hours for Lisa Clevenger, Teacher Assistant, from 6.0 hours/day to 6.25 hours/day, effective October 21, 2010. Christine

DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.

- e. Bruce Romanchak moved approval of a change in hours for Marcia Rossetti, Teacher Assistant, from 6.0 hours/day to 6.25 hours/day, effective October 21, 2010. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
- f. Bruce Romanchak moved approval of a change in hours for Jennifer Simmons, Teacher Assistant, from 6.0 hours/day to 6.25 hours/day, effective October 21, 2010. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
- g. Bruce Romanchak moved approval of a change in hours for Deborah Hammond, School Bus Attendant, from 5.25 hours/day to 5.75 hours/day, effective October 21, 2010. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
- h. Bruce Romanchak moved approval of a change in hours for Darlene Hotaling, School Bus Driver, from 6.0 hours/day to 6.5 hours/day, effective October 21, 2010. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
- i. Bruce Romanchak moved approval of a change in hours for Tracy Sukup, School Bus Driver, from 5.5 hours/day to 6.0 hours/day, effective October 21, 2010. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
- j. Bruce Romanchak moved approval of a change in hours for Pam Seiden, School Bus Attendant, from 4.75 hours/day to 5.5 hours/day, effective October 21, 2010. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
- k. Bruce Romanchak moved approval of extracurricular advisors/coaches for 2010-11:
  - i. Sheila Golden – Cheerleading
  - ii. Mary VanVliet – Odyssey of the Mind
  - iii. Sue Gomes – Key Club
  - iv. Kolby Flach – Boys Varsity Tennis
  - v. Michael Warner – Boys 7<sup>th</sup> / 8<sup>th</sup> grade (modified) Wrestling
  - vi. Americo Frese – Boys Varsity Baseball
  - vii. Tony Purificato – Boys 7<sup>th</sup> / 8<sup>th</sup> grade (modified) Baseball
  - viii. Dave Austin – Girls Varsity Softball
  - ix. Jackie Dunn – Girls JV Softball
  - x. Jillian Post – Girls 7<sup>th</sup> / 8<sup>th</sup> grade (modified) Softball
  - xi. Dan Gillespie – Boys Varsity Track & Field
  - xii. Sheila Golden – Girls Varsity Track & Field
  - xiii. Rachael Murphy – CES Computer Specialist (modified from CES Co-Computer Specialist , effective September 17, 2010)
  - xiv. Jake Colwell – Boys Varsity Volleyball. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
- l. Bruce Romanchak moved approval of Volunteer advisors/coaches for 2010-11 pending fingerprint clearance:
  - i. Geoff Scheilding – Volunteer Assistant Wrestling Coach
  - ii. Kyle Evans – Volunteer Assistant Wrestling Coach . Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.

- m. Bruce Romanchak moved approval of substitute teacher(s): Ruth Piperata, Justin Mulvey, Nathaniel A. Coyne, Carrie Hall, Tara C. Draper, James Coupland, Jonathan R. Wicks, Shana N. Dean. Christine DiGiulio seconded. All present in favor.
12. Meeting open for public discussion. None.
  13. Action items. Postpone board workshop until December. Charter school discussion.
  14. Executive Session: work history of specific employees and litigation. Michael Hiser moved to enter executive session at 9:55pm. Bruce Romanchak seconded. All present in favor.
  15. Adjournment. Having no other business before the board, meeting adjourned at

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Elizabeth Chipman*  
District Clerk