

*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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Michael Hiser, Victoria Adler, Jeanne Strazza, Paul Puccio, Christian Olsen, George Warner, Bruce Romanchak (arrived 6:04 pm) and Michael Charsky (arrived (6:05 pm)

Absent: Daniel Grandinetti

Also present: Robert Horan, Monica Kim, Ron Agostinoni, James Derby, Michael Bennett, Jason Chevrier, Michele Reickert and Matt LaClair

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

**September 25, 2014**

**Maple Hill High School Library**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – WORKSHOP**

1. Meeting called to order by President, Michael Hiser at 6:01 p.m.
2. President Hiser asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
3. Christian Olsen moved for approval of present agenda. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
4. Workshop Topic:
  - a. Capital Project Update – Robert Horan, Monica Kim, Jim Graham, and Volker Husel  
Robert Horan and Ron Agostinoni shared a brief video of Technology in Education in the future showing students doing hands learning in state of the art science labs. Mr. Horan expressed that he felt that is what Schodack will be in the future. Jim Graham from Synthesis presented to the board the projects to be included in the Capital Project. He shared that he has had conversations with State Ed. and that they have said they will aid the sanitary hookup and will not require it to be part of the maximum cost allowance for the high school. There was confirmation that the amount proposed for sanitary sewer lines includes the hookup of the high school, middle school and transportation department. There was discussion about the cost breakdown of the CES project as well as the possibility of new furniture to more adequately accommodate lunches at the elementary school. The presentation continued with a cost breakdown of the middle school/high school portion of the capital project. There was talk about the construction contingency and if it should be more than 10%; the architects felt it was. Monica Kim presented the potential increases in taxes showing two different scenarios, one with track resurface only and another with a new track. There was continued discussion about the track and if a new track is the right decision or if it should be resurfaced only. The board extensively discussed communication to the public and how to effectively explain the project and effect on taxes to the community. There was extensive discussion about the existing track being resurfaced or

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

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completely rebuilt, and how the proposal should be handled on the ballot.

5. Bruce Romanchak moved to open Public discussion, Michael Charsky seconded. A member of the public expressed the importance of explaining in more detail the academic benefits to the students. Not just say it is a zero impact on your taxes but be open and transparent about the impact give monetary examples like presented in the powerpoint. There was encouragement to the board to make the “whole kid”, and keeping this area a community centered area, moving the soccer fields to the track since the middle school is being closed, will keep everything together.
6. Board Discussion. There was extensive discussion about the “mistrust” that some of the community has towards the district for past projects and increased taxes over the years. Mr. Horan expressed that communicating with the public is important, he mentioned the CES Community Fair being the next weekend and felt it would be a good time to be present to answer questions that the community members might have.

Bruce Romanchak moved to that the board have two separate propositions to be voted on by the board at the next board meeting and if they pass, they will be presented to the public as two separate propositions for the Capital Project Vote. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.

7. Policies: None
8. Consent agenda: None.
9. Resignations/Appointments: None.
10. Meeting open for public discussion. None.
11. Action items. Resolutions for the proposals voted on tonight
12. Adjournment. Having no further business before the board, President Hiser adjourned the meeting at 8:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Michele A. Reickert*  
District Clerk