

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

**September 16, 2010**

**Maple Hill High School Library**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – REGULAR**

Present: Andrew Fleck, President; Paul Puccio, Christine DiGiulio, Michael Hiser, Bruce Romanchak, Sue Megna, Vice President; George Warner, Kenneth Flood, Lisa Lafferty (7:30pm).

Also Present: Robert Horan, Superintendent; Sherri Fisher, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Support Services; Donna Watson, Director of Curriculum, Staff Development and Pupil Personnel Services; Ron Agostinoni, MHHS; Liz Chipman, District Clerk; Michael Bennett, MHMS (8:40pm); Jason Chevrier, CES(8:40pm).

1. Executive Session 6:00 p.m. (High School Conference Room)
2. Meeting called to order by President Fleck at 7:00 p.m.
3. Approval of present agenda. Sue Megna moved to approve present agenda with additions and changes. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor.
4. Approval of minutes of regular meeting of August 19, 2010. Kenneth Flood moved approval of minutes of August 19, 2010. George Warner seconded. Yes: Paul Puccio, Christine DiGiulio, Bruce Romanchak, Susan Megna, George Warner. Abstain: Michael Hiser, Andrew Fleck. Not yet present: Lisa Lafferty.
5. Meeting open for public discussion. Mark Hoyt: introduced two exchange students, one from Turkey, one from France. Oct 7 MHHS will host a "round-up" of all 22 Rotary exchange students in the area.
6. Board discussion. Christine DiGiulio proposed resolution to congratulate Mr. Gillespie on his years of service and nomination to the sports Hall of Fame. Paul Puccio seconded. All present in favor. Andrew Fleck: draft of superintendent evaluation in packets. Any questions on process and evaluation tool. Bruce Romanchak moved to table discussion of superintendent multi-year evaluation tool. George Warner seconded. All present in favor. Kenneth Flood: Race To The Top funds – any changes considered by SED or federal gov't that might affect Schodack. Board requested any summaries or info administration might have access to. No guidelines have been released to schools yet. Reductions in STAR are forthcoming in adopted state budget. Discussion of allocation of RTTT funds. Sue Megna: attended SCCP meeting. Bi-annual survey given to students in district. This district has shown improvement over the past two years in student substance abuse, feelings of safety, etc. Andrew Fleck: Tech Valley High School. Had budgeted for three students. One student is attending, two others are not. Discussion of billing, admission, etc. Billing for Tech Valley will be rolled into CTE 5-year average. Per student cost will be the same for any student involved in CTE, New Visions and Tech Valley. Bruce Romanchak moved to offer three slots to Tech Valley High School for 2010-11 school year, with the two extra slots offered to 1 sophomore, 1 freshman. If sophomore doesn't accept, offer to 2 freshmen. Paul Puccio seconded. Discussion. All present in favor.

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## 7. Reports

- a. Athletic Program Review/Lacrosse Program – Mark Bubniak/Bob Horan. Back up notes in board packets. Bob Horan outlined lacrosse timeline to date. Title IX allows for 1-2% difference in opportunities for males and females. Currently, Schodack is 3-4% out of compliance. School districts must show effort to move in to compliance. Lacrosse is a growing sport throughout the country. Impact of lacrosse on facilities, maintenance and enrollment. These costs have been added to estimated cost of lacrosse. Survey results for 5-11 grade males interest in varied sports opportunities.
- Proposed resolution to support and approve the addition of a junior varsity boys' lacrosse team to athletic program distributed to those present. Discussion, questions, comments from board members. Breakdown of initial cost of establishing team. Bruce Romanchak moved to remove lacrosse item from consent agenda. Discussion. Motion not seconded. Board extended thanks to administration and staff for their work on the issue.

8. Meeting open for public discussion. Dave Sherwood, Program Director for Maple Hill Youth Lacrosse: opportunities can be skewed by fact that some teams do not turn anyone away. Maintenance issues have not been raised in the past. Would club be able to find alternative funding for equipment and/or uniforms? Must meet Section II approval, and timeline for team formation. Any donated equipment becomes the property of the school district. Dan Gillespie, current soccer and track coach: each season we prepare a budget, are we hurting sports that are already in district by adding an additional sport. Long term plan for equipment replacement will be formulated. Kyle Randall, lacrosse coach at Columbia High School, parent of youth lacrosse player: equipment, every three years helmets must be re-certified. Don't have a problem with the resolution. District's known costs v. equipment, uniform costs. Lisa Lafferty: change wording to read "cash or material donations for three full years to fully support the lacrosse program", and in 2011-12 "junior varsity or varsity." Kolby Flack, resident of village, member of SCCP: some details are foggy, insurance concerns, is the district willing to open the door to other private sector organizations to dictate what they are going to do for the district. George Warner asked that resolution be modified as discussed.

## 9. Policies. None.

## 10. Consent agenda

- a. Sue Megna moved acceptance of Treasurer's Report for the month of July 2010. Kenneth Flood seconded. All present in favor.
- b. Sue Megna moved acceptance of Claims Auditor's Report for the month of July 2010. Kenneth Flood seconded. All present in favor.
- c. Sue Megna moved acceptance of donation from Catholic Charities of Rensselaer County (Concerns U) in the amount of \$224.00 in support of Maple Hill Middle School Work Study Program. Kenneth Flood seconded. All present in favor.
- d. Sue Megna moved approval of a resolution authorizing the engagement of MacKay's Driving School to provide driver education instruction services to the District's Continuing Education program for the 2010-2011 school year, with consideration for such services established as 95% of the continuing education tuition collected by the District from each enrolled student, and authorizes and directs the Superintendent of Schools to enter into a

contract with MacKay's Driving School for said services upon approval of the contract by the school attorney. Kenneth Flood seconded. All present in favor.

- e. Sue Megna moved approval of a contract with Delta Dental of New York, Inc. through the NYSUT Member Benefits Trust, Group Number 1382, effective July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2012 at a rate of \$34.89 per month for single coverage and \$85.61 per month for dependent/family coverage. Kenneth Flood seconded. All present in favor.
- f. Sue Megna moved approval of recommendations of the district Committee on Preschool Special Education regarding 2010-2011 special education services for students: # 000113756, # 000113778, #000113758, and # 000113779. Kenneth Flood seconded. All present in favor.
- g. Sue Megna moved approval of contract for special education services with Wildwood Programs for one (1) pupil for the period September 8, 2010 through June 24, 2011 in the amount of \$43,867 (based on 09-10 SED tuition rate – 10-11 rate pending). Kenneth Flood seconded. All present in favor.
- h. Sue Megna moved approval of a contract for special education services with Parsons Child and Family Center for one (1) pupil for the period **July 06, 2010 through June 23, 2011**, in the amount of \$41,939 (Note: 6 week 2010 summer and 40 week 2010-2011 school year are included in one contract). Kenneth Flood seconded. All present in favor.
- i. Sue Megna moved approval of change in assessment for Timothy Adalian and Vanessa Gamarra, for real property located at 908 Ridgeview Circle, Castleton, NY (199.-17-1.51) from \$271,000 to \$237,000 pursuant to Small Claims Assessment Review Case 2010-066 and approval of a reduction in taxes billed in the amount of \$640.44. Kenneth Flood seconded. All present in favor.
- j. Sue Megna moved approval of Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) in the amount of \$40,434.73 for renewal of existing Bond Anticipation Note pursuant to a Serial Bond Resolution dated August 3, 2006, with Key Bank at an annual interest rate of 2.83%. Kenneth Flood seconded. All present in favor.
- k. Lisa Lafferty moved approval of a resolution authorizing the creation of a high school boys lacrosse team for the 2010-11 through 2012-13 school years, to be fully funded through donations from the Maple Hill Youth Lacrosse Club in the 2010-11 through 2012-13 school years. Christine DiGiulio seconded. Discussion. Encouraged by the efforts of community. All present in favor.
- l. Christine DiGiulio moved approval of change in assessment for Jeffrey Montie, for real property located at 525 Knickbocker, Schodack Landing, NY (218.-5-4.11) from \$275,000 to \$242,500 pursuant to Small Claims Assessment Review Case 2010-0082 and approval of a reduction in taxes billed in the amount of \$612.19. Michael Hiser seconded. All present in favor.

#### 11. Resignations/Appointments

- a. Paul Puccio moved acceptance of the resignation of Richard McLoughlin, School Bus Driver, effective August 31, 2010. Sue Megna seconded. All present in favor.

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- b. Paul Puccio moved approval of substitute school bus driver(s): Richard McLoughlin. Sue Megna seconded. All present in favor.
  - c. Paul Puccio moved approval of substitute teacher(s): John A. Morris, Joseph M. Maybee, **Christina Genovesi**. Sue Megna seconded. All present in favor.
  - c. Paul Puccio moved approval of appointment of Susan Peter, Teacher Assistant, for 6.0 hours/day at a rate of \$18.02 per hour, effective September 1, 2010, with tenure (reinstatement from 7/1/10 Teacher Assistant Preferred Eligibility List). Sue Megna seconded. All present in favor.
  - d. Paul Puccio moved approval of appointment of Rachel Wemette, Teacher Assistant, for 6.0 hours/day at a rate of \$18.02 per hour, effective September 1, 2010, with tenure (reinstatement from 7/1/10 Teacher Assistant Preferred Eligibility List). Sue Megna seconded. All present in favor.
  - e. Paul Puccio moved approval of the emergency conditional, provisional appointment of Kelly Halpin, Occupational Therapy Assistant, for 12 hours per week at a rate of \$19.91 per hour **effective 9/1/10**, subject to compliance with Rensselaer County Civil Service requirements. Sue Megna seconded. All present in favor.
  - f. Paul Puccio moved approval of a change in hours for Catherine Hogan, Teacher Assistant, from 6.25 hours/day to 6.5 hours/day, effective September 7, 2010. Sue Megna seconded. All present in favor.
  - g. Paul Puccio moved approval of a change in hours for Lynn Donnelly, Teacher Assistant, from 7.0 hours/day to 6.5 hours/day, effective September 7, 2010. Sue Megna seconded. All present in favor.
  - h. Paul Puccio moved approval of extracurricular advisors/coaches for 2010-11:
    - a. Freshman Class Co-Advisors: Heather Flood and Pat Wood
    - b. Maple Hill High School Visual Aide Co-Advisors: Tim Ryan and Kelsey Roman
    - c. CES Co-Computer Specialists: Kathy Malloy and Rachel Murphy. Sue Megna seconded. All present in favor.
  - i. **Paul Puccio moved approval of a change in hours for Pam Seiden, Teacher Aide, from 2.0 hours/day to 1.0 hours/day, effective September 7, 2010. Sue Megna seconded. All present in favor.**
  - j. **Paul Puccio moved approval of an increase in one part-time position in the tenure area of music K-12 from .75 FTE to .85 FTE, effective August 30, 2010 and approval of addition of employment to .85 FTE of the part-time incumbent in the tenure area of music K-12, effective August 30, 2010: Leah Phillips. Sue Megna seconded. All present in favor.**
  - k. **Paul Puccio moved acceptance of revised resignation date for Kenneth Boel, Jr., Custodial Worker, for the purpose of retirement, revised effective date of October 28, 2010. Sue Megna seconded. All present in favor.**
12. Meeting open for public discussion. Thanks from youth lacrosse. George Warner: Ichabod and Schodack grant? October 21 presentation to the board. Where are state education/school report scores. How do national standards correlate to international standards? Work and college readiness testing. Change in how information on special education students is disseminated to the board. Board members to let Shelli know if they would prefer board materials via email or hard copy. Board extended thanks to Mr. Horan for his work on lacrosse issue. Suggestions for improving BOE function:

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reconfigure seating so that audience is facing board, opening board with some kind of formal procedure (perhaps Pledge of Allegiance), formalization of oaths of office (recitation), reports to the board disseminated to board prior to meeting so that board members can begin to react to them. Discussion. Equity issues regarding Tech Valley.

13. Action items. Briefing on significant changes contemplated by SED or Feds that would have significant impact. District scores from State Education Dept (workshop topic?).

14. Executive Session: work history of specific employees and litigation. None.

Adjournment. Having no other business before the board, meeting adjourned at 9:27pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Elizabeth Chipman*  
Elizabeth Chipman  
District Clerk