

Approved at the December 19, 2017 meeting.

## **Board of Education Minutes- Regular Meeting (Thursday, November 16, 2017)**

Generated by Shelli Reickert on Thursday, November 16, 2017

Present: Christian Olsen, Michael Tuttle, Michael Hiser, Mary Yurista, Bruce Romanchak, and Charles Peter

Absent: Paul Puccio, Daniel Grandinetti, Daniel Grandinetti

Also present: Jason Chevrier, Jacquelin Hill, Jodi Sullivan, Michael Bennett, James Derby and Michele Reickert

### **1. MEETING OPENING:**

A. President Olsen called the meeting to order at 6:06 PM.

B. President Olsen asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

C. Mary Yurista moved for approval of the Present Agenda, Michael Hiser Seconded, all present in favor.

D. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular, Workshop and/or Special Meeting(s):

Michael Hiser moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 19, 2017, Mary Yurista seconded, all present in favor.

Michael Tuttle move to approve the meeting of the workshop meetin of November 2, 2017, Bruce Romanchak seconded, Michael Hiser abstained, all others present voted in favor.

### **2. REPORTS:**

A. **Questar Presentation:** New Business Partnership Program

Gladys Cruz spoke about the changing landscape of the administrative roles of numerous schools in the area, as well as at the BOCES Level. There was discussion on Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and how the data could be used. The board was given an overview of the services that Schodack purchases from BOCES and other services available. Harry Hadjoannou talked about the Business and Education Partnership Program and its benefits to the district and community. Questar would serve as a facilitator between businesses,

chambers of commerce and districts. Teachers could have internship opportunities through these partnerships with businesses. New instructional initiatives were shared: Heavy Equipment, Human Services, Coding / Robotics, and Health Technician / Services.

B. **Questar Presentation:** Update on the New Questar CTE Center

Harry Hadjoannou shared that a RFP was done, but they were unable to reach an agreement for the new location of the Rensselaer Education Center. There was brief discussion of how a Capital Project by a BOCES would affect the Tax Cap of the district.

C. **Capital Project Update**

Jason Chevrier talked about a recent meeting with the construction team. The science wing is scheduled to be completed by December 22, 2017. He shared that the Town is going to be starting the Sewer project and the district has submitted paperwork to State Ed. for

approval of the project, the district is hopeful that the project will be approved and coincide with the Town's project completion. There was discussion of the current septic and if it could handle the increase in students at the high school until the sewer hook-up is complete.

D. **Assessment Review**

Members of the Administrative team shared State assessment data for ELA and Math Assessments for grades 3-8 and where Schodack students fall with regards to proficiency. There was discussion of how the district can help students to reach increased percentages.

Teachers and administrators use the data from iReady testing as an intervention tool to help struggling students. Using the data, the district has implemented additional Academic Intervention Services, a new Math program in 6th grade to align with the CES program and

curriculum work. The district received a National Blue Ribbon School 2017 award for high performing schools.

### **3. DISTRICT NEWS:**

A. **District and Building News**

#### **District Office:**

Mr. Chevrier thanked the Board for allowing administrators to go to Washington to receive the National Blue Ribbon School award. The designation stays with the school, once you are designated as a Blue Ribbon School you remain a Blue Ribbon School.

Chevrier expressed that if you are not following the School on Twitter, you should. He congratulated the athletes for their successes and Mr. Austin for a great job. Winter sports are starting. Good luck to Kylie Salerno who will be swimming the back stroke in state

championships. Update on Mr. Puccio and his recovery. Mr. Chevrier shared a spreadsheet showing extracurricular payments and what it would look like if the district funded all extracurricular activities on the appendix.

**Castleton Elementary School:** Science in grade 1, students are learning about cooking and making healthy snacks

**Maple Hill Middle School:** Karen Harris has started working at the Middle School and is doing a great job. Kids are excited. The school held its 18th annual wall of honor took place last week, run by the 7th grade students. Drama auditions have started, Capital Rep will be performing a Shakespeare play at the MS.

**Maple Hill High School:** A local political Candidate forum was held at the HS by students in Mr. Frese's Government class. Sports awards took place, and at the end of the night, students shared the inspirations their coaches are to them.

#### 4. BOARD DISCUSSION / COMMITTEE REPORTS:

##### Committee Reports:

- K - 6 Building Planning Committee – Michael Tuttle and Charles Peter – 2nd meeting, charge for the committee is to go through Code of Conduct, the next step is to develop a student handbook at CES.
- 7 – 12 Building Planning Committee – Paul Puccio and Michael Charsky – met last night, working on code of conduct and possibly blending the current MS, HS and District code of conducts.
- Professional Development Planning Committee – Bruce Romanchak – no meeting, next meeting Dec. 14, 2017.
- District Communication Committee – Paul Puccio and Bruce Romanchak – nothing to report.
- Technology Committee – Mary Yurista – meeting will be in a couple weeks.
- NYSSBA Legislative Liaison – Michael Hiser – NYSSBA is working on the new budget and expect resolutions from annual meeting will be released in the next couple weeks. More Foundation Aide, full formula, and movement to have School Districts involved when IDA or PILOT payments are to be negotiated and a push for more dedicated resources for increased areas of student need and growing need in mental health and Opioid abuse. Not instructional but dedicated resources.
- Health and Safety / SAVE Committee – Michael Tuttle and Michael Hiser – No new information, next meeting December 18, 2017. The District does now have NARCAN in the district.
- Audit Committee – Daniel Grandinetti, Mary Yurista, and Christian Olsen – nothing new.
- Policy Committee – Bruce Romanchak and Charles Peter – District just received the Policy series 5000, and will be scheduling a policy committee meeting.
- Building Visitation Committee – All members as a whole – took a tour of the new spaces at the HS tonight.
- Capital Project Representation Committee – Michael Tuttle, Christian Olsen, Michael Charsky, Michael Hiser and Paul Puccio – nothing new
- Schodack Wildcat Foundation, Inc. – Paul Puccio – Doodle poll went out to schedule the next meeting. Mr. Chevrier expressed that there are 4 grants that were approved for this year.

**Board Discussion:** December we will begin planning the budget process and will be on the agenda. Mid-year evaluation for Mr. Chevrier. The board meeting in the month of December will be moved to December 19th. No Friday update this week or next week.

#### 5. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mary Mosher expressed she enjoyed the assessment presentation. Cassidy asked about the assessment information and if it could be used to help in college applications. Having a student member on the board and the process of election was talked about a little more.

There was discussion about student involvement in clubs and the decline in interest.

#### 6. POLICIES: None.

#### 7. FINANCE: Michael Tuttle moved to approve items A. through C. Mary Yurista seconded, after discussion about the change orders in item c., all present in favor, all motions pass.

A. Acceptance of the Tax Collector's report for tax year 2017 and discharge of the Tax Collector for the 2017-18 school year.  
B. Approval of a Special Education Services contract with Averill Park Central School District for the 2017-18 school year at a base rate of \$85,125.78, plus services.

C. Approval of Change Orders in accordance with Turner Construction's potential change order approval log dated November 16, 2017.

#### 8. OTHER ACTION: Bruce Romanchak moved to approve items A & B, Michael Tuttle seconded, all present in favor, all motions pass.

A. Approval of the recommendation of the District Committee on Special Education and/or Preschool Education for the following student(s): 2017-2018 Preschool Education student Id(s): 000114862, 000115043, 000115062, and 000115012 and 2017-2018 Special

Education student Id(s): 082490001, 000113865, and 00014944.

B. Approval of a Memorandum of Agreement between Schodack Central School District and the Schodack Faculty Association.

#### 9. RESIGNATIONS / APPOINTMENTS: Bruce Romanchak moved for approval of items A through E. Charles Peter seconded, all present in favor. Motions pass.

A. Acceptance of the Resignation of Brenda Cole, Teaching Assistant, effective November 17, 2017.

B. Approval of the Appointment of Non-instructional substitute(s): DianaLynn Connelly, Donna Pickard, Cynthia Lovegrove, and Noah Roberts.

- C. Approval of the Appointment of Driver Trainee: Joanna Wolfe
- D. Approval of the Appointment of Substitute Teacher(s): Ying He
- E. Approval of the Appointment of Volunteer Assistant Coach(es) Andrew Basile

10. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** - None

11. **ACTION ITEMS;** – District Communication Committee, assessment data comparison with similar schools, Saturday workshop information, policy committee, 5 year growth for students for college, student council meeting and SPED Reports for agenda

12. **ADJOURNMENT:** Having no further business before the board, President Olsen adjourned the meeting at 9:04 PM.