

Highland Central School District

MINUTES

Board of Education Workshop Meeting

Tuesday, November 6, 2012

5:30 Elementary School Building Tour

7:00 pm Regular Meeting held in the Elementary School Gymnasium



ELECTION DAY

ATTENDEES

Board Members Present: Alan Barone, Sue Gilmore, Kim Sweeney, Mike Bakatsias, Tom Miller, Debbie Pagano, Mike Reid

Administrators Present: Deborah Haab, Superintendent of Schools; Louise M. Lynch, Business Administrator; Barbara E. Chapman, Director of Student Services; Pete Ferguson, Athletic Director; Carol Potash, Technology Director, Maria McCarthy, Food Service Director; Debbie Tompkins, Assistant Director of Transportation; Pete Miller, Director of Buildings and Grounds; Pete Harris, High School Principal, Sarah Dudley-Lemek, High School Assistant Principal; Daniel Seyler-Wetzel, Middle School Principal; Megan Connors, Middle School Assistant Principal; Joel Freer, Elementary School Principal; Rosann LaManna, Elementary School Assistant Principal

Student Representative: Nikhil Tikoo

TOUR BUILDING (5:30 pm)

Elementary School grounds tour took place among Board members and Administrators.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE 7:00 pm

Board President, Alan Barone, called meeting at 7:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Jeff Paladino, Town Planning Board member, reminded Board and public that their budget meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 7, 2012 at 7 pm. Jeff also thanked the Board for allowing the Planning Board to present their presentation on Economic Development.

APPRECIATION:

- Superintendent, Deborah Haab, recognized Board Appreciation Week by presenting Board members certificates as well as thanking the Board for their volunteer service and commitment to the school Board.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

a) **ECG / Johnson Controls** – Energy Performance Project

David Newman, ECG Engineering, and Johnson Controls, presented a power point on their proposal of a comprehensive performance engineering of all buildings. Items of discussion included:

- Project not indicated as a capital project therefore does not need voter approval to move forward;
- Project gets “paid back” from anticipated savings which will pay principal and interest therefore taxpayers will not be affected;
- Timeline;
- Project size \$1,639,571;
- Reduction in energy cost will be estimated at 23.4 % which is a total savings of \$195,000 in one year;
- Facility improvements for all three buildings include lighting, pipe and valve insulation, walk-in cooler controls, etc.

The Board had the following questions/concerns/comments:

- Breakdown cost of each facility improvement measure (FIM);
- Why new windows could not be included;
- Measurement and verification services;
- Yearly checks on building are imperative in order for project to have successful results and to ensure savings;
- Longevity of Johnson Controls;
- Contract discussed regarding any “fine print” issues;
- Further discussion will take place at future Board meeting.

b) **Girl’s Lacrosse**

Kim Caso, along with students, discussed the following:

- Over the past three weeks \$3,995 has been raised;
- Twenty (20) girls committed to playing on team;
- Deadline for scheduling is November 12th;
- Benefits of sports for teenage girls;
- Questions and/or concerns can be addressed to the middle school phys. ed. teacher, Terry Cilento, who is knowledgeable with lacrosse.

The Board had the following questions/comments/concerns:

- Kim Sweeney asked about transportation costs and if boys and girls team could share cost. Athletic Director Pete Ferguson explained due to scheduling, most of their games could not be shared.
- Alan Barone inquired about uniform costs. Kim Caso stated that money raised will cover the uniform costs. Alan reminded the Board that for the 2013-2014 school year the sport will have to be funded by school. Deborah Haab also reminded Board that due to state law, pay-to-play, is not permitted. Booster clubs can donate to the district; however it cannot be guaranteed for one particular sport.

After discussion, and a straw poll taken place, it was decided unanimously to move forward to have Athletic Office schedule girls varsity lacrosse. Future discussion in upcoming board meeting to take place.

ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education acknowledges reviewing the following reports:

- a) Board of Education Meeting Minutes – October 2, 2012 (revised) and October 16, 2012
- b) Treasurer's Report – August 2012

Motion made by Sue Gilmore; Seconded by Mike Bakatsias; Motion carried unanimously with a 7-0 vote. Discussion: Stipend amount for mentors.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION:

- a) Director's Report - Each month the Director's provide the Board with an update.

The Board had the following questions/comments/concerns:

- Sue Gilmore recognized in Carol Potash's report (Director of Technology) the dated equipment.
- Kim Sweeney stated a survey will take place among students in November at the high school cafeteria food items. Kim Sweeney also thanked Maria McCarthy (Director of Food Services) for speaking to the BLT committee at high school on the new state mandates for food services.
- Alan Barone asked Board to pay particular attention to the findings in the BOCES Environmental Hygiene Report from Pete Miller (Director of Buildings and Grounds).

PERSONNEL:

Motion made by Mike Bakatsias to move personnel items "b-f" as a block; Seconded by Mike Reid; Motion carried unanimously with 7-0 vote. Discussion: Teacher Assistant position created due to increase class size in k-2 level. Leave Replacement position created

due to the combination of a leave replacement from another T.A. and a newly classified student at middle school. Short discussion took place about cost involved with mentor program.

Motion made Kim Sweeney for personnel item “a”; Seconded by Mike Reid; Motion carried unanimously with a 7-0 vote. Discussion: Joel Freer recognized and congratulated the tenure appointments of Laura Gertler and Debra Maietta.

Alan Barone thanked, on behalf of the Board, the dedication of these two employees.

a) **Tenure Recommendation**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the tenure appointment for the following individuals:

Laura Gertler
Tenure Area: K-12 Special Education Teacher
Effective Date: November 18, 2012

Debra Maietta
Tenure Area: Teaching Assistant
Effective Date: November 18, 2012

b) **Appointment**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the appointments for the following individuals with an Emergency Conditional Appointment consistent with SAVE legislation requirements.

Jeanette Paladino
Position: Teaching Assistant
Effective Date: November 7, 2012
Salary: Step 1: \$16, 796 (pro-rated)
Probationary Period: November 7, 2012 – November 6, 2015
Tenure Area: Teaching Assistant

Sara Giglio
Position: School Psychologist
Effective Date: September 11, 2012
Salary: MA 30 Step 5: \$61,181.00 (pro-rated)
Probationary Period: September 11, 2012 – September 10, 2015
Tenure Area: School Psychologist
Purpose: To replace Dorianne Brown

c) **Leave Replacement**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following leave replacement for the following

individual with an Emergency Conditional Appointment consistent with SAVE legislation requirements:

Alan Benson	
Position:	Teaching Assistant
Effective Date:	November 7, 2012 – June 30, 2013
Salary:	Step 1: \$18,475.60 (pro-rated) Base \$16,796 + 10% differential
Purpose:	Leave replacement

d) **Committee on Special Education Appointment:**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following individual to serve on the Committee on Special Education for the 2012-2013 school year:

Chairperson	Sara Giglio
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e) **Committee on Preschool Special Education Appointment:**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools approves the following individual to serve on the Committee on Preschool Special Education for the 2012-2013 school year:

Chairperson	Sara Giglio
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f) **Mentors**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following individuals as mentors for the 2012-2013 school year:

Lionel Heath	
Mentor for:	Foreign Language
Stipend Amt.	\$500.00

Lisa Neer	
Mentor for:	School Psychologist
Stipend Amt.	\$1,000.00

BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS:

a) **Orange Ulster School Districts Employees Health Plan**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Highland Central School District is a member of the Article 47 municipal cooperative health plan known as Orange Ulster School District Employees Health Plan, a self-funded plan, and

WHEREAS, the Plan's Board of Directors has amended the Municipal Cooperation Agreement to be in conformity with Article 47 of the New York Insurance Law; now therefore,

RESOLVED, that the Municipal Cooperation Agreement Amended as of today's date is ratified and accepted by the district's Board of Education.

Motion made by Kim Sweeney; Seconded by Mike Reid; Motion carried unanimously with a 7-0 vote. Discussion: Deborah Haab stated she and Louise will be switching to Orange Ulster for medical insurance. She also stated that she is only speaking for herself and Louise and no other personnel in HCSD.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS

Nikhil Tikoo, Student Rep., discussed the following:

- October 15 – October 19 Student Council hosted Spirit Week which was a tremendous success. This also included pep rally.
- Junior Class hosted their annual Homecoming dance which also brought a great crowd.
- The game Harlem Wizards vs. Students and Faculty is scheduled for November 27th at high school 7 pm.
- Concerns about bathroom maintenance;
- Students disappointed on not having bathroom near gym open..

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS:

Deborah A. Haab updated the Board on the following:

- She received a \$2,000 donation to be applied for interscholastic program; individual is a community member and will be recognized at upcoming Board meeting.
- The speaker at the NYSSBA Annual Workshop meeting, Aaron Glendwall, was a highly motivated speaker and more detail about conference will be at next Board meeting.

BOARD OF EDUCATION:

New Business:

- a) **School Facility Discussion with Leadership Team** – Workshop setting took place at 8:40 pm with Principals and Directors expressing their concerns of items that need to be addressed.
- b) **NYSSBA Annual Workshop** – Vice President, Sue Gilmore and Board member, Mike Reid will give a brief summary at the November 19th Board meeting.
- c) **Correspondence** – None at this time.

d) **Future BOE Agenda Items**

Old Business:

- a) **Board Retreat** - Date confirmed for November 27, 2012 at 4:30 pm at the BOCES meeting room at Highland High School.
- b) **Aged-Exemption** – Tabled for next Board meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None at this time.

ADJOURNMENT to go INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION(9:55 pm)

Motion made by Kim Sweeney; Seconded by Mike Reid; Motion carried unanimously with a 7-0 vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Highland Central School District conduct an Executive Session to discuss the following topics:

- 1. ____ Matters which will imperil the public safety if disclosed;
- 2. ____ Any matter which may disclose the identity of law enforcement agent or informer;
- 3. ____ Information relating to current or future investigations or prosecution of criminal offices, which would imperil effective law enforcement if disclosed;
- 4. ____ Discussions regarding proposed, pending, or current litigation;
- 5. x Collective Negotiations pursuant to Article 14 (Taylor Law) of the Civil Service Law;
- 6. x The Medical, financial or credit, employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation;
- 7. ____ The preparation, grading or administration of examinations;
- 8. ____ A proposed acquisition, sale, or lease of real property or the proposed acquisition of securities, or sale or exchange of securities held by such public body, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value thereof.

ADJOURNMENT to EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION (11:30 pm)

Motion made by Kim Sweeney; Seconded by Mike Bakatsias; Motion carried unanimously with a 7-0 vote.

REGULAR SESSION (11:30 pm)

Motion made by Kim Sweeney to go into Regular Session; Seconded by Debbie Pagano; Motion carried unanimously with a 7-0 vote.

PERSONNEL

BE IT RESOLVED, that Employee No. 110612 shall be suspended with pay during the pendency of said Education Law Section 3020-a proceedings.

Motion made by Kim Sweeney; Seconded by Mike Bakatsias; Motion carried unanimously with a 7-0 vote.

ADJOURNMENT to go INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION (11:40 pm)

Motion made by Alan Barone; Seconded by Mike Reid; Motion carried unanimously with a 7-0 vote.

ADJOURNMENT to EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION (12:50 am)

Motion made by Mike Bakatsias; Seconded by Mike Reid; Motion carried unanimously with a 7-0 vote.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Lisa M Cerniglia,
District Clerk