

**Highland Central School District**

**MINUTES**

Board of Education Business Meeting

**Tuesday, September 4, 2012**

6:00 pm Anticipated Motion to go into Executive Session

7:00 pm Regular Meeting held in the High School Cafeteria



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

Administrators/Directors/Principals Present: Deborah Haab, Superintendent of Schools; Roseann Bayne, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Louise Lynch, Business Administrator

**Executive Session: Anticipated upon Board Approval**

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

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.

**Motion made by Kim Sweeney to exit Executive Session; Second by Mike Bakatsias; Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.**

**Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance 7:25 pm**

Board President, Alan Barone, called meeting to order at 7:25 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Public Comments:**

Any topic related to the agenda may be addressed except for personnel or specific student issues.

- Jeff Paladino, Highland Town Planning Board, requested to be on October board agenda, regarding their suggestions on promoting businesses to reside in the Highland community.

**Acceptance of Reports:**

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

- DOT Bus Inspection – August 2012

**Motion made by Sue Gilmore; Second by Debbie Pagano; Motion carried unanimously with a 7-0 vote.**

**Personnel:**

**Motion made by Mike Reid to move items “a-k” as a block, with the exception of item “e”; Second by Mike Bakatsias; Motion carried unanimously with a 7- 0 vote.**

**Discussion: Kim Sweeney asked about the 2012-2013 Leave Replacement Foreign Language appointment. Roseann Bayne explained that this appointed employee is certified as a Teacher of English as a Second Language. This individual has the most requirements completed to apply for supplemental Spanish certification. The district extensively recruited foreign language candidates and had received no qualified applicants as of August 24, 2012.**

a) Elimination of Stipend Position:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the elimination of the following stipend position effective August 29, 2012:

Claims Auditor

b) Ulster BOCES Appointment:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the appointment of Ulster BOCES as the Claims Auditor for Highland and New Paltz, through the Centralized Business Office, effective August 30, 2012.

c) Lead Evaluator Appointments:

BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to the requirements of Education Law Section 3012-c and Part 30-2.9 of the Regents Rules, the following persons, having completed all of the required training to be certified by the Board of Education as “Lead Evaluators” for classroom teachers:

Superintendent of Schools:	Deborah A. Haab
Assistant Superintendent of Schools:	Roseann Bayne

d) Coaching Appointments for fall 2012 Sports Season:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the appointment of the following individual for the fall 2012 sports season:

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Boys Soccer	JV	Kevin Brennie	Coach	\$1,992.00
Boys Soccer	Modified	Nicole Rivera	Coach	\$1,688.00
Girls Soccer	Modified	Ashley Thorpe	Coach	\$1,688.00
Football	Modified	Richard Morris	Volunteer Assistant	

e) Probationary Teaching Appointments:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the teaching appointment of the following individual with an Emergency Conditional Appointment consistent with SAVE legislation requirements:

Kevin Brennie  
Position: Social Studies Grade 7-12  
Salary: MA Step 6; \$60,177  
Effective Date: September 1, 2012  
Probationary Period: September 1, 2012 – September 1, 2014  
Tenure Area: Social Studies  
Reason: Replace Sarah Dudley-Lemek

**Motion made by Mike Bakatsias; Second by Mike Reid; Motion carried 6-0-1 (Sue Gilmore opposed). Discussion: none.**

f) Request for Leave of Absence

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the request for a leave of absence for one (1) year as Teaching Assistant at high school:

Alisabeth Loewenthal  
Position: Teacher Assistant  
Effective Date: September 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013  
Purpose: Leave replacement for Silvia Daole

g) Leave Replacements:

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

Alisabeth Loewenthal  
Position: Foreign Language Teacher High School/Middle School  
Salary: MA Step 1; \$47,175  
Effective Date: September 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013  
Purpose: Leave replacement for Silvia Daole

Mary Vona  
Position: Registered Nurse  
Salary: Nurse Schedule, Step 10; \$38,174 (will be pro-rated)  
Effective Date: September 1, 2012 – November 26, 2012  
Purpose: Leave replacement for Aron Harrington

Chelsea Cartica  
Position: Sixth (6) Grade Teacher  
Salary: BA Step A; \$40,153 (will be pro-rated)

Effective Date: September 1, 2012 – October 22, 2012  
Purpose: Leave replacement for Nicole Montaperto

Rachel Fisher  
Position: Math Teacher  
Salary: BA Step 1; \$43,945 (will be pro-rated)  
Effective Date: October 3, 2012 – November 29, 2012  
Purpose: Leave replacement for Shamien Jansen

Heather Bragg  
Position: Guidance Counselor  
Salary: MA Step 1; \$47,175  
Effective Date: September 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013  
Purpose: Leave replacement for Kristen Candia

h) Part-Time Teaching Appointments:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the teaching appointment of the following individual with an Emergency Conditional Appointment consistent with SAVE legislation requirements:

Sharon Adams  
Position: Part-Time Foreign Language (.80)  
Salary: MA Step 1; \$37,740 (pro-rated at 80% of the 100% salary)  
Effective Date: September 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013  
Purpose: Replacement for Alexandra Walsh

i) Resignation

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, accepts, with regrets, the following resignation:

Dorianne Brown  
Position: School Psychologist  
Effective Date: August 30, 2012  
Purpose: Resignation

j) Separation Agreement

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the separation agreement between the Highland Central School District and employee number 01188 effective September 4, 2012.

k) Advisors to Community Outreach Program

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following individuals for the position of Community Outreach Organization Representatives through the School In Need of Improvement (SINI) grant:

Christina Osburn

Kevin Rizzo

**Business and Operations:**

a) **Bus BANS:**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves authorizing the purchase of school buses for use by the highland central school district, Ulster county, New York, at a maximum estimated cost of \$707,153.24 and authorizing the issuance of obligations of said school district in the amount of \$707,153.24 to pay the cost thereof.

**WHEREAS**, at the 2010, 2011 and 2012 Annual School District Elections and Votes on the Budget of the Highland Central School District, duly called, held and conducted, a majority of the duly qualified voters of said School District voting thereat approved propositions authorizing the purchase school buses and passenger vehicle, as follows:

May 18, 2010 - four (4) school buses at a maximum estimated cost of \$357,887.81  
May 17, 2011 - four (4) school buses, at a maximum estimated cost of \$201,568.84,  
and May 15, 2012 - one (1) school bus and one (1) passenger van, at a maximum estimated cost of \$147,696.59, for a maximum aggregate estimated cost of \$707,153.24; and providing for the levy of a tax therefor to be collected in annual installments, with obligations of said School District to be issued in anticipation thereof; and

**WHEREAS**, it is now desired to provide for the financing thereof and for other matters in connection therewith, in accordance with said proposition;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Education of the Highland Central School District, Ulster County, New York, as follows:

Section 1. The purchase of nine (9) school buses and one (1) passenger van, for the use of the Highland Central School District, which is not an assessable improvement, is hereby authorized as follows:

One (1) 66-passenger bus, at a cost of \$105,172.69;

Three (3) 65-passenger buses, at a cost of \$94,077.44 each, for an aggregate amount of \$282,232.32;

Three (3) 30-passenger buses, at a cost of \$47,280.50 each, for an aggregate amount of \$141,841.50;

One (1) 22-passenger wheelchair bus, at a cost of \$59,727.34;

One (1) 20-passenger bus/van, at a cost of \$43,639.67; and

One (1) 7-passenger vehicle, at a cost of \$42,524.00.

Section 2. The aggregate maximum estimated cost of the aforesaid specific purchases is \$707,153.24 and the plan for financing thereof is by the issuance of serial bonds of said School District in the amount of \$707,153.24, hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to the Local Finance Law and this resolution. An annual appropriation shall be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such obligations becoming due and payable in such year. Such obligations shall be payable from amounts which shall annually be levied on all the taxable real property in said School District, and the faith and credit of said Highland Central School District are hereby pledged for the payment of said obligations and the interest thereon.

Section 3. The bonds, described above, shall be of the denomination of \$707,153.24 and shall bear interest at such rate as may be necessary to sell the same, which rate shall be determined in the manner provided in Section 59.00 of the Local Finance Law. Principal and interest on the obligations shall be payable in lawful money of the United States of America, in Federal Funds, at a banking institution to be determined. Such bonds shall be executed in the name of the Highland Central School District by the President of its Board of Education, or the Vice-President in the President's absence, and the corporate seal shall be imprinted thereon and attested by the School District Clerk.

Section 4. It is hereby determined that the period of probable usefulness applicable to the aforesaid specific class of objects or purposes is five (5) years, pursuant to subdivision 29 of paragraph (a) of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law. The proposed maturity of the obligations authorized by this resolution will not be in excess of five (5) years.

Section 5. Subject to the provisions of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and sale of the serial bonds herein authorized, including renewals of said notes, is hereby delegated to the President of the Board of Education, the Chief Fiscal Officer, or to the Vice-President of the Board of Education in the President's absence. Such bond anticipation note and any renewals shall bear interest and shall be of such terms, form and contents, and shall be sold in such manner as may be prescribed by said President of the Board of Education, consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law. There are presently no outstanding obligations which have been issued in anticipation of the sale of such obligations.

Section 6. All other matters, except as provided herein, relating to such bonds shall be determined by the President of the Board of Education, including the power to designate such bonds as "qualified tax exempt obligations" pursuant to Section 265(b)(3) of the

Internal Revenue Code of 1986, if at the time of such designation, such officer is able to certify that: (I) the School District is, and was as of October 23, 1985, a political subdivision of the State of New York; (ii) it is reasonably anticipated that (a) the amount of “qualified tax-exempt obligations”, within the meaning of Section 265(b)(3) of the Code which will be issued by the School District during this calendar year shall not exceed \$10,000,000.00 and (b) the bonds do not constitute part of an issue, and are not part of a series of issues issued for a common purpose, exceeding \$3,000,000.00 in the aggregate; and (iii) the sum of principal amount of the bonds and the principal amount of any other obligations heretofore designated by the School District during the current fiscal year does not exceed \$10,000,000.00. Such bonds shall contain substantially the recital of validity clause provided for in Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law and shall otherwise be in such form and contain such recitals, in addition to those required by Section 51.00 of the Local Finance Law, as the President of the Board of Education shall determine.

Section 7. The validity of such obligations may be contested only if:

- (a) Such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which such School District is not authorized to expend money; or
- (b) The provisions of law which should be complied with as of the date of publication of this resolution or a summary thereof are not substantially complied with and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty (20) days after the date of such publication; or
- (c) Such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 8. This resolution, which takes effect immediately, or a summary thereof, shall be published in a newspaper having general circulation in said School District, together with a Notice of the School District Clerk, substantially in the form provided in Section 81.00 of the Local Finance Law.

Roll Call from the following board members:

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Aye/Nay</u>
Mike Reid	Aye
Debbie Pagano	Aye
Sue Gilmore	Aye
Tom Miller	Aye
Mike Bakatsias	Aye
Kim Sweeney	Aye
Alan Barone	Aye

**Motion carried by Sue Gilmore; Second by Tom Miller; Motion carried unanimously with a 7-0 vote. Discussion: Sue Gilmore asked about BAN payments. Further discussion took place regarding the process of BAN payments.**

b) Prior School Year (2011-2012) Budget Transfers:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following budget transfers for the prior school year (2011-2012):

Budget Transfer Number 583	\$ 10,239.00
Budget Transfer Number 584	\$ 477,284.54
Budget Transfer Number 585	\$ 177,356.99
Budget Transfer Number 586	\$1,087,922.43
Budget Transfer Number 587	\$ 35,120.37

**Motion carried by Sue Gilmore, Second by Debbie Pagano; Motion carried unanimously with a 7-0 vote. Discussion: Mike Bakatsias questioned transferred amount from last year.**

**Superintendent Comments:**

- Successful Opening Day. Thanked board members that were able to attend as well as thanking the staff for what was an extremely positive and encouraging day.
- Dignity Act discussed.
- New APPR system discussed.
- Thanked the HTA for co-sponsoring staff luncheon.
- Student Representative for the 2012-2013 will be updated at next board meeting.
- Kindergarten population increased since last report. As of September 4th, there are 157 registered students. Strategies to support these kindergarten classes are being developed.

The board had the following concerns/questions/comments:

Kim Sweeney asked about support of enlarged kindergarten class size. Deborah Haab responded that a hall monitor will be assigned to the elementary school. Sue Gilmore asked about state aid for additional enrollment.

**Board of Education:**

**Old Business:**

- a) Concussion Policy Guidelines – A packet is currently being developed in a guideline format which will be reviewed by board.
- b) SRO – further update to follow. Mike Bakatsias asked if this SRO would be armed.
- c) NYSSBA Conference in October 2012 – State school board workshop to be held in October in Rochester. Two seats are being paid for by NYSSBA.



Sue Gilmore, Mike Reid and Mike Bakatsias expressed interest in attending.

**New Business:**

- a) Internal Audit Report Annual Risk Assessment (draft) – Discussion took place. Sue Gilmore asked about Medicaid reimbursement.
- b) Audit Committee – Tentative date scheduled September 11<sup>th</sup> or September 13<sup>th</sup> with board members Alan Barone, Debbie Pagano, Kim Sweeney.
- c) Support Services Meeting - Meeting date with committee members, Mike Reid, Tom Miller and Alan Barone scheduled for September 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm.
- d) Correspondence – none.
- e) Future BOE Agenda Items- Kim Sweeney inquired about the STAR (Senior Exemption) program. Deborah Haab is still waiting to hear from other districts. Assuming results from other districts are submitted, this will be on the September 18<sup>th</sup> agenda

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- Jeff Paladino, asked what an average kindergarten class is and if the 2012-2013 kindergarten class is higher than typical. Deborah Haab responded class size is larger than 2011-2012 school year by six (6) students.

The following board members had concerns/questions and comments:

Kim Sweeney questioned the number of children enrolled in the music program at middle school. Deborah Haab anticipated the number to be (22) twenty-two.

**ADJOURNMENT 8:10 pm**

**Motion made by Tom Miller at 8:10 pm to adjourn Regular Board Meeting and enter Executive Meeting; Second by Kim Sweeney; Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: ANTICIPATED UPON BOARD APPROVAL**

BE IT 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.

**Motion made by Mike Bakatsias to adjourn Executive Session; Second by Kim Sweeney; Motion carried.**

**ADJOURNMENT 10:50 pm**

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Lisa M Cerniglia, District Clerk