

Highland Central School District
AGENDA
Board of Education Meeting
Tuesday, April 8, 2014
6:00 p.m. Open Meeting
6:00 p.m. Executive Session (Pending on Board Approval)
7:00 pm Open Meeting held in the High School Cafeteria

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:

- Collective Negotiations pursuant to Article 14 (Taylor Law) of the Civil Service Law;
- 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

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

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

Protocol for Public Comment

The school board encourages public participation at its meetings. To allow for efficiency in conducting meetings and to give each speaker a fair opportunity to present his/her views the following shall apply to the public speaking portion of the agenda.

- *Each speaker shall state their name;*
- *Any questions/concerns be submitted in writing with speaker's contact information (name/address/phone number);*
- *Each speaker shall be limited to a time agreed upon by the Board;*
- *The Board will not permit discussion involving individual personnel or students;*
- *Direct all remarks to chair. Community members may not poll individual Board members nor debate other community members in attendance.*

Members of the community are encouraged to also present their comments in writing. Undue interruption or other interference with the orderly conduct of the Board of Education business will not be allowed. Defamatory or abusive remarks are always out of order.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

United Nations Competition

Steve Masson will be joined with students that participated in the recent UN Competition in Boston.

Elementary Staff

Selected teachers will demonstrate a math manipulative.

April 8, 2014 Agenda

Budget Workshop and Presentation
Budget Presentation for the 2014-2015 school year

ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education acknowledges reviewing the following reports:
a) Board of Education Meeting Minutes – March 18, 2014, March 25, 2014 & April 1, 2014

DIRECTORS' REPORTS:

Each month the Directors of Technology, Food Service, Transportation, Buildings & Grounds, and Athletics will provide the Board with a written update.

PERSONNEL:

a) **Resignation**

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

Employee: Rachele Corcoran
Position: Bus Driver
Effective: April 11, 2014

b) **Appointments – Coaches**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following coaches that have volunteered for the Spring 2014 season:

Ben Smith / Varsity Boys Lacrosse
Rich Esposito / Varsity Girls Lacrosse

c) **Appointment- Part-Time**

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

Florence Young-Davis
Position: Food Service Worker, 10 month, Part-time, 2.5 hours per day
Salary: Grade 1; Step 1
Effective Date: March 17, 2014
Probationary Period: March 17, 2014 – September 17, 2014
Reason: To replace Nicole Wood (resignation)

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS - Priyanka Dongare

BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS:

a) **Budget Transfers**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the budget transfers totaling \$44,627.02 as follows:

- Budget Transfer Number 7554 \$19,627.02
- Budget Transfer Number 7555 \$25,000.00

b) Kingston City School District – Health & Welfare Contract

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the 2013-2014 Health & Welfare Contract for three (3) students at a cost of \$731.00 per student for a total of \$2,193.00 with the Kingston City School District and authorize the Board President and District Clerk to execute the contract.

c) Hyde Park Central School District – Health & Welfare Contract

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the 2013-2014 Health & Welfare Contract for nine (9) students at a cost of \$746.17 per student for a total of \$6,715.53 with the Hyde Park Central School District and authorize the Board President and District Clerk to execute the contract.

d) Adoption of the General Budget for the 2014-2015 School Year

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has received and carefully reviewed a proposed 2014-15 school budget from the Superintendent of Schools; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has held several budget hearings regarding the proposed 2014-15 school budget; and

WHEREAS the Board of Education concurs with the administration's recommendation on the contingency budget information to be presented on the School District Budget Notice regarding the 2014-15 school budget;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Highland Central School District adopts the proposed 2014-15 school budget in the amount of \$39,961,276 to present to the voters at the Annual Meeting on May 20, 2014, and approves the following proposition:

“Shall the Board of Education of the Highland Central School District be authorized to expend for budgetary purposes in the school year 2014-15 the sum of \$39,961,276 and to levy the necessary tax therefor upon the taxable property of the School District?”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Property Tax Report Card is hereby approved by the Board of Education for submission to the State Education Department.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS:

BOARD OF EDUCATION:

New Business:

- a) **BOCES Annual Budget Vote** – Vote is scheduled April 23, 2014.

- b) **Correspondence** – Any correspondence received by the Board may be discussed.
- c) **Future BOE Agenda Items** – Items for following Board meeting is to be submitted to Central Office the Tuesday (week before) Board meeting.

Old Business:

- a) **Capital Project** - Discussion

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION: (Anticipated upon Board approval)

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. Collective Negotiations pursuant to Article 14 (Taylor Law) of the Civil Service Law;
6. 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 or securities held by such public body, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value thereof.

ADJOURNMENT

HIGHLAND CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

INTRADISTRICT COMMUNICATION

To: Ms. Haab, Superintendent of Schools
From: Ms. Maria McCarthy, Food Service Director
Date: March 20, 2014
Subject: Food Service Department Activity Report – February 2014

A) Meal Counts

- 1) Breakfast – average meal count is now 248 per day. Participation was 14%.
- 2) Lunch – average meal count is now 945 per day. Participation was 51%.

These figures only include reimbursable meals, not a la carte sales.

B) Free/Reduced Statistics

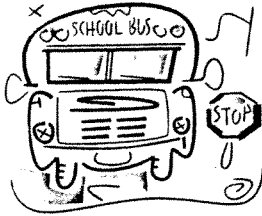
- Currently, 34.9% of our enrolled students qualify for the free or reduced meal plan.

C) Highlights

- Our estimated entitlement money for the 2014/2015 school year is \$46,648.00. This will be used to order food items from approved processors and brown box items offered through OGS Donated Foods (Office of General Services).
- The high school students participated in a pizza tasting offered by Schwann's. Many expressed that they enjoyed the pizza. I will order this product for next school year.
- Attended the Wellness Committee meeting.
- Met with the Middle School Student Council.

If you need further information, please contact my office.

TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT HIGHLAND CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



TO: Deborah Haab
Sarah Dudley- Lemek

FROM: Debbie Tompkins

RE: Report to BOE April 3, 2014

1. Thursday April 3, 2014 was "Operation safe Stop Day" Highland School Bus Drivers along with State Police and Town of Lloyd Police took place in a state wide effort to keep motorists from passing stopped school buses while loading and unloading children. Bus Drivers give information to police of areas (Hot Spots) where motorists are frequently passing stopped school buses with their red lights flashing police then stake out the area and issue tickets.
2. The Transportation Department mourned the loss of retired school bus driver Lynn Perkins who worked in the district for thirty years.
3. Invitation still remains for the BOE to visit Bus Garage and view bus camera demonstration.

School Bus Safety is One bus stop at a time



Instructional Technology Services

Instructional and Technical Services

We continue to deploy and support iPads throughout the buildings - once we get caught up, another update arrives!

We are now looking to move to Office 365 – Microsoft Office in the Cloud. Time has been spent on some training webinars and working with Microsoft to get this to happen. Potentially this means that every student and faculty member in the district can have access to Microsoft Office either free or at a low subscription cost, depending on the licensing we are receiving through BOCES. We will continue to examine this.

Computing in the Cloud – in addition to Microsoft Office, the Tech. Dept. is working to use SharePoint – which many districts have but we have yet to utilize. This would be a way to build an online learning platform for students and teachers that is within Highland's structure. Everyone can have their files when and wherever they need them.

March – Help Desk

More Access Points were deployed in the ES, as we continue to expand our wireless capabilities.

Help Desk Tickets – 55 received electronically in the last month. 42 Completed. 18 Work in Progress.

Tech. Services Concerns

- As we utilize personnel to provide more network services such as accessibility and flexibility, we need to be creative in diverting this time from desktop and instructional support. Currently I am reviewing any programs we use to see if we can spend less and work more efficiently.
- All of us continue to strive towards the purpose of increasing the appropriateness and number of devices available to students and teachers. We are continuing to update our knowledge base and experiences with new technologies as best that we can. This includes a server upgrade plan to a newer Server Operating System over the summer.
- A major concern is the age of the teacher computers and resources will be spent this summer on an upgrade path. Most of the teacher computers were purchased in 2008 – 2009.

Highland Central School District

Pete Watkins, Athletic Director
845-691-1031
FAX 845-691-1033

To: Mrs. Haab
From: Pete Watkins
Date: April 3, 2014
Subject: Board Update

- Hopefully winter is over, we are finally on our fields and we have also been using Tony Williams Park to get our teams ready.
- Presently, we have 178 JV and Varsity athletes and 86 Modified athletes participating in spring sports.
- Varsity and Junior Varsity schedules are beginning this week. The modified schedule will begin on April 22nd.
- The Girls Varsity Lacrosse team won their first game in their short history by beating Valley Central 11-10.
- The Boys Varsity Baseball team will play FDR on May 1st at Dutchess Stadium at 6pm. There will be no cost to the District. Admission will be \$3.00 for students and \$5.00 for adults.
- Jim Delmar and John McFarland will be named Poughkeepsie Journal "Coaches of the Year" in their respective sports.
- Shannon Ward will be chosen as a Poughkeepsie Journal first team All-Star.

Thank you,

Pete Watkins
PW/esm

HIGHLAND CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

320 Pancake Hollow Rd., Highland, NY 12528

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT
Peter D. Miller, Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds

(845) 691-1046 - Fax (845) 691-1016

BOARD OF EDUCATION

April 8, 2014

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE REPORT

GENERAL

- Now that winter may finally be over, we are beginning to clean up around the buildings, parking lots, playgrounds and walkways. This cleanup also intends to minimize the amount of “dirt” carried into the school buildings on shoes.
- Grounds, Maintenance and Custodial personnel are moving forward with spring sports and preparing for events leading up to the end of the school year. There are consistently over three hundred (300) building/facility use requests each month over the three (3) buildings for the months of March through June each year.

GROUNDS

- Spring sports began as the snow continues to melt. This has left the fields very soft and muddy as the frost leaves the ground. Every effort is being made to accommodate outside practices with an interest in not causing too much damage to the fields. As of April 7th very little to no grass has grown this spring and once the turf is dug up with cleats, the grass will never grow – as an FYI our fields will struggle to recover at all this spring/summer. This could lead to very poor playing surfaces in the fall, especially at the middle school.
- Grounds men are working all the baseball/softball diamonds to make the playable. LAX fields will start to be lined midweek (April 9).
- Grounds men are repairing damaged lawns due to snow removal and will “cold Patch” some of the larger pot holes.

FACILITIES

- As mentioned at the last BOE meeting, the hot water system (28 yrs old) used in the H/S for the non-heating season has failed. We are looking at options to repair/replace or substitute something so we do not have to run boilers during the non-heating season to make hot water.
- The roofs fared well during the winter. As soon as we get a little sun on them (now that the snow is off) we will return to our monthly program of walking and caulking them to maintain their integrity.

EQUIPMENT

- No new or additional issues.

SCHOOL BUS MAINTENANCE

- Eighty-eight (88) buses have been inspected for this year's inspection cycle ending March 31, 2014. Six (6) buses failed initial inspections. 93.18% passing rate.
- A number (5 of 9) of the buses equipped with Caterpillar engines are experiencing some type of fuel supply issue; IE: injectors or pumps. We are attempting to determine the most economical and best way to accomplish the needed work on these buses to keep them in service.

PERSONNEL

- Two (2) custodial worker positions, one (1) retiree and one (1) resignation currently remain unfilled.

HIGHLAND CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Business Office, 320 Pancake Hollow Road, Highland, New York 12528
Phone: (845) 691-1008 ~ Fax: (845) 691-1003

TO: Deborah Haab, Superintendent of Schools
FROM: Louise M. Lynch, School Business Administrator
DATE: March 27, 2014
RE: Kingston City SD ~ Health & Welfare Contract

Louise M Lynch

The District is in receipt of the 2013-14 health & welfare contract from the Kingston City School District for services for resident students of the Highland Central School District. Pursuant to Education Law §912, the district of origin is responsible to reimburse the District where the students are attending for health & welfare services.

Please have the Board of Education adopt the following resolution.

BE IT RESOLVED that based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Board of Education approve the 2013-14 health & welfare contract for three (3) students at a cost of \$731.00 per student for a total of \$2,193.00 with the Kingston City School District and authorize the Board President and District Clerk to execute the contract.

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Phone: (845) 691-1008 ~ Fax: (845) 691-1003

TO: Deborah Haab, Superintendent of Schools
FROM: Louise M. Lynch, School Business Administrator
DATE: March 27, 2014
RE: Hyde Park Central SD ~ Health & Welfare Contract

Louise M Lynch

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Please have the Board of Education adopt the following resolution.

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HIGHLAND CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Business Office, 320 Pancake Hollow Road, Highland, New York 12528
Phone: (845) 691-1008 ~ Fax: (845) 691-1003

TO: Deborah Haab, Superintendent of Schools
FROM: Louise M. Lynch, School Business Administrator
DATE: March 13, 2014
RE: **BUDGET TRANSFERS ~ 2013-14 school year**

Louise M. Lynch

Please have the Board approve budget transfers totaling \$44,627.02 at the next board meeting.

- Budget Transfer Number 7554 \$ 19,627.02
- Budget Transfer Number 7555 \$ 25,000.00

If you have any questions, let me know.

HIGHLAND CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Deborah A. Haab
Superintendent of Schools

April 1, 2014

Senator Cecilia Tkaczyk
311 Legislative Office Building
Albany, New York 12247

Dear Senator Tkaczyk:

Thank you for taking the time to speak with me on Monday. I appreciate your interest in how the lack of appropriate funding affects the students of the Highland Central School District.

We have analyzed the state aid runs, comparing those numbers to what we have budgeted for state aid revenue for the current school year. Although the runs indicate that Highland will receive an additional \$994,212, or 8.61% increase, we believe that the actual increase is \$747,020. Certainly, we are happy to see aid increases. However, in light of the -\$1,153,296 Gap Elimination Adjustment that is also part of the State's budget, we are still faced with reducing expenditures for the 2014-2015 school year.


As I mentioned on Monday, we are struggling to meet the State's mandates, especially at the middle school level. We have been identified by the Comptroller's office as a district susceptible to fiscal stress. A recent Comptroller's audit criticized the district for not having sufficient fund balance. It is disappointing to think that we will have to be on the brink of collapse to get the legislature's attention (Marlboro CSD).

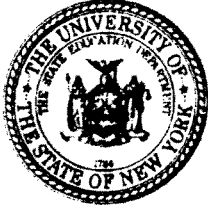
Enclosed is the letter about Excess Cost Aid that is owed to the Highland Central School District. If there is anything that your office can do to assist us in receiving that payment for the 2014-2015 school year it would certainly help us close our gap, at least for next year.

Also, if there is any way that your office could advocate for member monies for Highland, that would be greatly appreciated as well.

Thank you for your time and your support for all of New York's students, especially those in Highland.

Sincerely,


Deborah A. Haab
Superintendent of Schools



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

File State Aid
Prior Year

BUREAU CHIEF, OFFICE OF STATE AID
Tel. (518) 474-2977
Fax (518) 474-3547
e-mail: ahyary@mail.nysed.gov

March 22, 2013

TO: Superintendent of Schools
HIGHLAND

FROM: Andrea Hyary, Chief
Bureau of State Aid

RE: Revisions for 2005-06 Aid Year,
District Code 620803
Revision # C91468

The STAC Unit has made final revisions on data for the 2005-06 Aid Year. These revisions affect only the Local Share Deduct and Excess Cost Aid. Your adjustment amount is based solely on these changes and does not include prior year revisions.

This has resulted in a supplemental payment of \$204,001 in Excess Cost Aid. You will receive a check in this amount at such time as funds are made available.

This revision affected lines 6 and 134 (Local Share Deduct) and/or line 56 (Total Excess Cost Aids) on your 2005-06 GEN report.

Please print a copy of the district's 2005-06 General Formula Output Report "GEN" from our website: <http://stateaid.nysed.gov> for your records.

If you have any questions regarding this supplemental payment, please call Grant Miller at (518) 474-2977.

Highland High School Theatre Club Presents:

Flowers for
Algernon

Friday, 4/11
7 p.m.
H.S.



Admission: \$5

EDUCATION, ENJOYMENT, EDUCATION

Highland Public Library

March 11, 2014

Deborah Haab, Superintendent
Highland Central School District
300 Pancake Hollow Rd.
Highland, NY 12528

MAR 14 2014

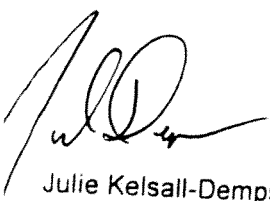
Dear Ms. Haab:

The Board of Trustees of the Highland Public Library formally approved a motion to submit a resolution increasing the library budget to the residents of the Highland Central School District. As Education Law states, the annual meeting and vote for the budget may be held in the library. The Library Board of Trustees would pay for the expenses of the Special District Meeting for library purposes.

At a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees on February 20, 2014, the date of the annual meeting was set for April 22, 2014 Tuesday at 6:00 PM. The budget vote will take place Wednesday April 23, 2014 between the hours of 11:00AM and 8:00PM. We are asking the public for \$417,185.00 tax revenue which falls within our cap of 1.45%. The total budget is \$433,645.00 a 1.89% increase over last year's. We want to continue the cooperative relationship of the past and are wondering if Mary Darcy will be serving as Chief Election inspector.

Please contact me with any concerns or questions. Thank you for your response and cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,



Julie Kelsall-Dempsey

Library Director

Cc: Louis Lynch, Business Manager

Julie Dempsey, Library Director

100 Main Street, Highland, New York 12528 tel: 518-691-2255 fax: 518-691-6102
<http://www.highlandlibrary.org>