

Highland Central School District

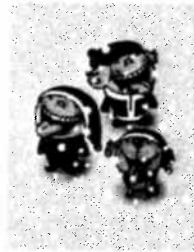
**AGENDA**

Board of Education Meeting

**Tuesday, March 4, 2014**

6:00 Executive Session Pending on Board Approval

7:00 pm Regular 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.*

BE IT RESOLVED that based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Board of Education approve the MAG contract dated February 24, 2014 and furthermore authorize the Superintendent to execute such agreement.

b) **Budget Discussion for the 2014-2015 School Year**

**SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS:**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION:**

**New Business:**

- a) **Correspondence** – Any correspondence received by the Board may be discussed.
- b) **Future BOE Agenda Items** – Items for Board meetings are to be submitted to Central Office the Tuesday (week prior) to the meeting.

**Old Business:**

- a) **UCSBA Meeting** - Thursday, March 13th at 6:00 p.m.
- b) **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. 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 or securities held by such public body, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value thereof.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Highland Central School District  
**MINUTES**  
Board of Education Business Meeting  
**Tuesday, February 18, 2014**  
7:00 pm Regular Meeting held in the High School Cafeteria



**MEETING NOT AVAILABLE VIA LIVESTREAM**

**ATTENDEES:**

Board Members Present: Alan Barone, Sue Gilmore, Kim Sweeney, Tom Miller, Debbie Pagano, Mike Reid, Mike Bakatsias (7:55 pm)

Administrators/Principals/Directors: Deborah Haab, Superintendent of Schools; Sarah Dudley-Lemek, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Barbara E. Chapman, Director of Student Services; Pete Harris, High School Principal; Daniel Seyler-Wetzel, Middle School Principal; Joel Freer, Elementary School Principal; Roseann LaManna, Elementary School Assistant Principal

Student Representative: Priyanka Dongare (absent)

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (7:10 pm)**

Board President Alan Barone called meeting to order at 7:10 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

The floor was open for public comments.

- Randi Rattick, community member, offered complimentary tickets for the Board and Administrators for the upcoming All County Musical Festival.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION:**

Due to the inclement weather this presentation will be rescheduled in March.

**ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS:**

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

- a) Board of Education Meeting Minutes – February 4, 2014
- b) Treasurer’s Report, Budget Status Report & Revenue Status Report – December 2013 & January 2014
- c) Extra-Curricular Treasurers Reports - November 1, 2013-January 31, 2014
- d) Attendance & Enrollment Report – Period 5 – 1/01/2014-1/31/2014

- Question if the Common Core has changed the teaching skills from the past to present – Pete responded the skills learned are still the same;
- Recognized Josh Tatum and the seniors in his Writing II/English 12 class. These students demonstrated college competency in writing at the UCCC placement examination at the mid-year point.
- Regent’s Examinations – acknowledged the increase in passed exams.

b) **Director of Student Services Report:**

Each month the Director of Student Services submits her department’s report on important information and events that have recently occurred. This report is on file in District Office.

Barbara E. Chapman, Director of Student Services, commented on the following:

- Scheduling meetings have been a challenge due to calendar issues with both school districts as well as the inclement weather this winter;
- If there are any particular topics that would like to be included in Board packet, please inform Barbara.

The Board had the following questions/concerns/comments:

- Digital Learning & Digital Tools – quick discussion took place recognizing the technology that is being used in the lives of students today.
- Recognized the informative articles in report (available on website) particularly on the subject of special, gifted education funding;
- Definition between resource room (generally not more than 5 students) and instructional room (typically working on specific skills) took place.

c) **Approval of Committee on Special Education Minutes**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education according to the minutes of the CSE meetings of January 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the CSE amendment meeting -new transfer of January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014, and the meeting – no meetings of January 13<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and February 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014, and authorizes the arrangements for such students’ special education programs and services.

**Motion made by Tom Miller; Seconded by Mike Reid; Discussion: ot/pt services; class settings; Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.**

d) **Approval of Committee on Preschool Special Education**

There are no meetings to report for this period for CPSE.

**PERSONNEL:**

**Motion made by Mike Bakatsias to move items a-f as a block; Seconded by Debbie Pagano; Discussion: none; Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.**

a) **Leave Replacement Appointment**

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

Employee: Elisa Silverio

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following budget transfer for the 2013-2014 school year:

- Budget Transfer Number 6350 \$ 25,000.00

**Motion made by Kim Sweeney; Seconded by Mike Bakatsias; Discussion: none;  
Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.**

b) **Tax Certiorari Judgment Rite Aid**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, authorizes its attorneys, Shaw, Perelson, May & Lambert, LLP, to execute a Stipulation and Consent Order in a tax certiorari proceeding captioned Rite Aid Corporation vs. Town of Lloyd and Highland CSD.

**Motion made by Sue Gilmore; Seconded by Mike Bakatsias; Discussion: none;  
Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.**

c) **Appoint MAGBO for Medicaid Filing Consultant**

BE IT RESOLVED that based upon the Superintendent of Schools the Board of Education approve the MAGBO contract dated January 21, 2014 and furthermore authorize the Superintendent to execute such agreement.

**Motion made by Mike Bakatsias; Seconded by Mike Reid; Discussion: further explanation took place; Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.**

d) **Budget Discussion for the 2014-2015 School Year**

- Discussion took place regarding the budget development for the 2014-2015 school year.
- Reduction in the Energy Performance Contract's projected debt service payment for 2014-2015 school year;
- Total estimated budget of \$40,022,917, which is a 3.89% budget increase over the current year's budget;
- Tax cap calculation is being reviewed based on numerous indicators;
- Draft proposal by March 4<sup>th</sup>;
- Anticipate receiving state aid;
- Further discussion needs to take place regarding bus and/or other propositions;
- Timeline on budget adoption;
- Reserve account.

**SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS**

Deborah Haab updated the Board on the following topics:

- Final version of Comptroller's Audit report will be received shortly;
- Letter received from Assemblyman regarding Governor's proposal;
- Trip to Mt. Academy has been rescheduled;
- Quick discussion on the clause in Common Core Learning Standards;
- Met with Ashley McGraw Architects in regards to moving forward with the Capital Project and possible suggestions for engaging and educating the community in the upcoming public discussions. One of the strategies suggested was forming a committee of approximately ten (10) community members to work

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: (9:25 pm)**

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 or securities held by such public body, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value thereof.

**Motion made at 10:58 pm by Debbie Pagano; Seconded by Mike Bakatsias; Motion carried.**

**ADJOURNMENT (10:58 pm)**

Minutes recorded and submitted by Lisa M. Cerniglia, District Clerk

## TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT HIGHLAND CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



TO: Deborah Haab  
Sarah Dudley- Lemek  
FROM: Debbie Tompkins  
RE: Report to BOE 3.3.2014

1. The Transportation Department is looking to purchase two 65 passenger buses and one 30 passenger van at a total estimated price of \$ 260,000.00. We would surplus the vehicles not being used except for one which will be used for parts. Our vehicle count has gone from forty four to forty one.
2. Ulster BOCES Drivers, Highland Drivers and Attendants completed their mandatory refresher class given on the 11<sup>th</sup> of February. The class was taught by me and Ulster County Transportation Supervisor Gianna Russo. Class Topics were Accident procedures and working with children who have special needs
3. This has been a harsh winter for our department from shoveling and roof raking the snow off buses to driving in terrible road conditions. The Drivers, Snow Removal Team, Highland Building and Grounds Department and our local Town, State and County have done an excellent job ensuring the safety of our children.

***School Bus Safety is ..... One bus stop at a time***

# 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

March 4, 2014

### OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE REPORT

#### GENERAL

- Custodians have been battling the cold, ice, and the associated “road” dirt, dust and salt dragged into the buildings. We attempt to minimize the amount of salt and sand used in the parking lots and on sidewalks to what is effective in order to control the amount of dust in the hallways and classrooms – this has been futile this year.
- Grounds, Maintenance and Custodial personnel have done an admirable job this winter in combatting the elements, keeping the parking lots, driveways, sidewalks and steps as clear as possible. Mother Nature has cooperated not one bit in the challenge.

#### GROUNDS

- Everything is buried in snow. All snow moving equipment has been taking a beating and much has suffered repeated breakdowns due to age and pure volume of snow. The grounds men have been continually repairing this equipment.
- The rented wheel loader has been operated over 114 hours so far this year. All three schools have had snow pushed back a number of times to keep parking areas clear.
- Salt for sidewalks is in short supply.
- Spring sports start on March 10<sup>th</sup> – Fields will NOT be ready.....

#### FACILITIES

- The antiquated Circon HVAC control system at the E/S has all but completely failed. Mr. Uecker has been operating the school in pretty much a completely manual mode, either through the Circon controllers or with shutoff valves in the various classroom spaces.
- The buildings continue to be operated in “occupied” mode during very low wind chill periods to avoid freezing heat pipes.
- Roofs are covered in snow with a thick layer of ice underneath. Roof drains have been mostly cleared, but due to the ice, water retention on the roofs has caused some minor leaks. When the snow melts roofs will be walked and inspected and caulked as needed. (This is a normal maintenance task which has not been able to be completed since we have retained snow on the roofs this winter. Roofs are routinely inspected every month)



Carol Potash – March 4, 2014



## Instructional Technology Services

### Excess / Surplus Equipment

See list attached.

Excess equipment can no longer be used on our network as it is obsolete or irreparable.

I will work with Louise to use a Gov't Surplus website for the switches that could be used by someone else, if possible.

### February – Help Desk

The focus this month was spent on deploying Wi-Fi Access points and iPads.

# Highland Central School District

---

Pete Watkins, Athletic Director

845-691-1031

FAX 845-691-1033

To: Mrs. Haab  
From: Pete Watkins  
Date: February 27, 2014  
Subject: Board Update

- The winter sports season is coming to end (weather permitting).
- The Varsity Wrestling team won the Sect. 9 Div. 2 title. This is a first for our program. Austin Ingraham, Mike Feliciano, Andrew Sulieman, Teddy Mapes and Sam Cruz are all representing Highland and Sect. 9 in the state tournament in Albany.
- Three members of our bowling team have qualified for the state tournament in Long Island. The students are Antonia Morano, Diana Morano, and Michael Weed.
- The Varsity Cheerleading team has returned from a successful trip to Maryland with a second place award. A great time was had by the team. They performed very well.
- We had 15 MHAL scholar athletes for the winter season. The Varsity Girls Basketball team qualified as a NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete Team.
- The spring sports season is scheduled to begin March 10<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you,

Pete Watkins  
PW/esm