

Highland Central School District

**MINUTES**

Board of Education Meeting

**Tuesday, June 17, 2014**

6:00 pm Open Meeting

6:00 pm Executive Session

7:00 Open Meeting to be held in the High School Cafeteria



**Motion made at 6:12 pm by Debbie Pagano to go into Executive Session; Seconded by Mike Bakatsias; Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: (6:12 pm)**

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.

**Motion made at 6:59 pm by Tom Miller to go into Open Session; Seconded by Mike Bakatsias; Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.**

**Attendees:**

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

Administrators/Principals/Directors: Deborah Haab, Superintendent of Schools; Sarah Dudley-Lemek, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Louise Lynch, Business Administrator; Pete Harris, High School Principal; Daniel Seyler-Wetzel (Middle School Principal); Joel Freer (Elementary School Principal); Roseann LaManna, Elementary School Assistant Principal; Meghan Connors, Middle School Assistant Principal; Maria McCarthy, Director of Food Services; Carol Potash, Director of Technology

Student Representative: Priyanka Dongare

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (7:06 pm)**

Board President, Alan Barone, called meeting to order at 7:06 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

**APPOINTMENT OF CLERK PRO TEMPORE**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education appoint Louise Lynch as Clerk Pro Tempore to preside in the absence of Lisa Cerniglia, District Clerk.

**Motion made by Tom Miller; Seconded by Mike Bakatsias; Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.**

**PERSONNEL:**

**Motion made by Mike Reid to move items, “a-f” as a block; Seconded by Mike Bakatsias;**

**Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.**

**Elementary School Principal Joel Freer recognized Angela Brogan for her contributions in the Speech Department at the Elementary School.**

a) **Maternity Leave – Extension**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following request for an extension of current maternity leave:

Employee: Jessica Cozzolino  
Position: Elementary Teacher  
Effective Date: current – February 2, 2015

b) **Vacation Days**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following request for vacation days from the 2013-2014 school year to be added to the 2014-2015 school year as follows:

Employee: Barbara Klotz  
Amount of Days: Three (3) vacation days

c) **Vacation Days – Compensation**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the request for compensating Louise Lynch five (5) unused vacation days from the 2013-2014 school year and Deborah Haab four (4) unused vacation days at the 2012-2013 rate.

d) **Tenure Recommendation**

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

Employee: Angela Brogan  
Tenure Area: Speech - remedial  
Effective Date: September 1, 2014

Employee: James Conklin  
Tenure Area: Home Economics – General  
Effective Date: September 1, 2014

e) **Resignation**

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

Employee: Jenny Merrill  
Position: Bus Driver  
Effective Date: June 30, 2014

f) **Retirement**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, accepts, with regrets, the resignation for the purpose of retirement from the following individuals:

Employee: Joseph A. Martellaro  
Position: Music Teacher  
Effective Date: June 30, 2014

Employee: Timothy Bradley  
Position: Bus Driver  
Effective Date: August 30, 2014

Employee: Mary Ann DuFrane  
Position: Teacher Assistant  
Effective Date: June 30, 2014

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION:**

A short reception took place to recognize the following:

- a) Recognition of Priyanka Dongare, Student Representative
  - b) Recognition of Maxwell Rogers, Tech Services
  - c) Recognition of AP Scholars
  - c) Tenure employees from the 2013-2014 school year
  - d) Retirees from the 2013-2014 school year
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- Elementary School Principal Joel Freer recognized Angela Brogan for her contributions in the Speech Department at the Elementary School.
  - Middle School Principal Daniel Seyler-Wetzel recognized James Conklin and his contributions to the middle school home and career program.
  - Board President Alan Barone recognized the following retirees and how they touched the lives of the children in our community:
    - Lisa Barone / Math Teacher / 32 years
    - Tim Bradley / Bus Driver / 12 years
    - Mary Ann DuFrane / Teacher Assistant / 15 years
    - Linda Noe-Grotto / Courier/Food Service / 10 years
    - Rosann LaManna / Teacher/Assistant Principal / 30 years
    - Joseph Martellaro / Music Teacher / 27 years
    - Stephen Passante / Custodial Worker / 10 years
    - Vincent Wyant / Head Custodian / 10 ½ years

*At 7:45 a short reception took place.*

*At 7:59 meeting reconvened.*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

The floor was open for public comments. No comments were made at this time.

**ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS:**

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

- a) Board of Education Meeting Minutes – 5/20/2014, 5/28/2014, 6/3/2014 and 6/10/2014
- b) Claim Auditor Report – March, April, May 2014
- c) Treasurers Reports – May 2014
- d) General Fund Budget & Revenue Status Reports – May 2014
- e) Food Service Fund Budget & Revenue Status Reports – May 2014
- f) Special Aid Fund Budget & Revenue Status Reports – May 2014
- g) Attendance and Enrollment Report – Period 9 – 05/01/2014 – 5/30/2014

**Motion made by Sue Gilmore; Seconded by Debbie Pagano; Discussion: Sue Gilmore questioned Serial Bond expenditures - Louise Lynch to follow-up at a later date; Food Service budget ERS and non-instructional salaries; Enrollment decline – impact of State Aid; Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.**

**CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION:**

- a) **Principal's Report:**

Each month the Principals will report on important information and events occurring in their schools.

Elementary School Principal Joel Freer and Middle School Principal Daniel Seyler-Wetzel spoke about year events.

- b) **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 May 29<sup>th</sup>, and June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014, and authorizes the arrangements for such students' special education programs and services.

**Motion made by Tom Miller; Seconded by Mike Bakatsias; Discussion: none;**

**Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.**

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS**

Priyanka Dongare thanked the Board for allowing her the opportunity to act as student representative for the Highland Board of Education.

**BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS:**

- a) **ERS Reserve Resolution**

BE IT RESOLVED that based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Board of Education of Highland Central School District, hereby authorize the establishment of an Employee Retirement Contribution Reserve. The purpose of this reserve is to finance retirement contributions. This reserve must be accounted for

separate and apart from all other funds and will be funded by excess fund balance or budgetary appropriations.

**Motion made by Sue Gilmore; Seconded by Mike Bakatsias; Discussion: none; Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.**

b) **Report of Examination** from the Office of the State Comptroller

c) **Dishwasher Bid**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education award the Purchase and Installation of commercial Conveyor Type Dishwasher and Hot Water booster System bid 13-14 02 to Dutchess Restaurant Equipment in the amount of \$27,670.

**Motion made by Sue Gilmore; Seconded by Mike Reid; Discussion: none; Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.**

d) **Budget Transfers**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following budget transfer totaling \$87,568.00:

- Budget Transfer Number 9910                      \$ 12,500
- Budget Transfer Numbers 9494 & 9909            \$15,068
- Budget Transfer Number 9911                    \$60,000

**Motion carried by Sue Gilmore; Seconded by Mike Reid; Discussion: none; Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.**

#### **ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Assistant Superintendent of Schools updated the Board on the following:

- June 3<sup>rd</sup> testing day;
- Wellness committee
- Memorial Day celebration;
- Summer work planned

#### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

Superintendent of Schools updated the Board on the following:

- Recognized the National Honor Society;
- Moving-Up ceremonies are forthcoming;
- Choral events were outstanding;
- Thanked everyone for another memorable school year.

#### **BOARD OF EDUCATION:**

##### **New Business:**

a) **Establishment of Student Clubs at Middle School**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the establishment of two student clubs at the middle school as follows:

- Chess Club

- Dignity For All Club Gay, Straight Alliance

**Motion made by Sue Gilmore; Seconded by Debbie Pagano; Discussion: none; Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.**

- b) **Correspondence** – Debbie Pagano mentioned she had been approached by a community member who inquired about donating an air conditioner for classroom.
- c) **Future BOE Agenda Items** – To be submitted the Tuesday prior to following Board meeting.

**Old Business:**

- a) **Re-Organizational Meeting** – Date scheduled is Wednesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 pm.
- b) **Capital Project / Facilities Committee** – Meeting scheduled for June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4:00 pm.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

No comments were made at this time.

**CLOSING COMMENTS:**

Board President, Alan Barone, recognized Kim Sweeney as school board member over the past three years and thanked her for all she has done as board member.

**Motion made at 8:53 pm by Mike Bakatsias to go into Executive Session; Seconded by Mike Reid; Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: (8:53 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 of securities held by such public body, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value thereof.

**Motion made by Tom Miller at 10:32 pm to adjourn Executive Session; Seconded by Mike Bakatsias; Motion made by Tom Miller to adjourn meeting; Seconded by Tom Miller; Meeting adjourned.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Minutes recorded by Louise Lynch (Clerk Pro Tempore)**

**Minutes submitted by Lisa M. Cerniglia (District Clerk)**