

Highland Central School District

**MINUTES**

Board of Education Meeting

**Tuesday, July 15, 2014**

6:00 pm Open Meeting

6:00 pm Executive Session (Pending on Board Approval)

7:00 pm Open Meeting



**Motion made at 6:09 pm by Mike Bakatsias to go into Executive Session; Seconded by Mike Reid; Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** (6:09 pm)

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 at 6:58 pm by Debbie Pagano to exit Executive Session and go into Regular Session; Seconded by Heather Welch; Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.**

**ATTENDEES:**

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

Administrators/Principals/Directors: Deborah Haab, Superintendent of Schools; Sarah Dudley-Lemek, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Louise Lynch, Business Administrator; Barbara Chapman, Director of Student Services; Pete Miller, Director of Building and Grounds; Joel Freer, Elementary School Principal; Dan Seyler-Wetzel, Middle School Principal; Pete Harris, High School Principal;

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

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

The floor was open for public comments. The following comments were made:

- Kim Caso, community member, expressed the following:

- Impressive numbers of students played boys/girls lacrosse over the past season. Therefore, Kim is requesting the Board to consider taking players from Marlboro (girls) and merge with Highland lacrosse team;
- Offered to offset expenses by doing volunteer efforts, with approval from Board, to raise funds for a girls/boys JV spring lacrosse team;
- Kim Caso and Terry Cilento offered to coach for lacrosse.
- Expressed her concern of the new HTA contract and how it affects coaches from prior years.
- Two students from Marlboro High School spoke about the benefits of MHS and HHS merging for a JV girls lacrosse team.

The Board had the following questions/concerns/comments:

- Number of other schools (girls JV) that have lacrosse teams;
  - As of today's date, has the District receive compensation as a result of the schools merged teams;
  - Has Kim approached MHS regarding a merged JV team? Kim responded, "yes, MHS is in support of this".  
Request was made to Kim Caso to meet with Athletic Director to discuss costs involved; number of interested students; and the number of schools with teams;
  - Request was made to Louise Lynch on what the dollar amount will be and what has been paid regarding merged sports.
- Gary Pregno, former Facilities Needs Review Committee member, expressed concern about the items in report that are being dismissed from recommendation report.

### **SPECIAL PRESENTATION:**

Alan Barone thanked the members of the Facilities Needs Review Committee for volunteering their time, since April, to address the concerns from administrators and community on district needs.

- Chairman, Fred DeMaio, presented the Final Report and Recommendations for the Capital Project. Following is a summary of the draft report as it was presented which included the final recommendations:
  - Recommend a 15 million dollar bond with a 15-year amortization;
  - Recommend the 15 million dollar bond be followed up, in 15 years, by another immediate bond of at least \$10 million for a similar term.
  - Report reflects agreement on approximately 93 of the 128 bullets;
  - Items that were not recommended to voters at this time are 1) security and safety renovations; (2) Site work to school roadways, bus drop areas and parking; and (3) artificial turf field.

Discussion to move forward took place. It was agreed that a special Board meeting will take place on July 22<sup>nd</sup> to further discuss time frame and Final Report.

- David Newman, ECG, presented the status of the Energy Performance Contract. Discussion followed which included the following topics:
  - Lighting and control updates;

- Weatherization;
- Energy management;
- Burner replacement;
- Pipe and valve installation;
- Computer power management;
- Walk-In cooler and freezer controls;
- Energy efficient transformers
- After discussion about the inspection reports, it was agreed that the Board receive a weekly review of work being done.

#### **ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS:**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education acknowledges reviewing the following report(s):

- a) Board of Education Meeting Minutes – July 2, 2014 Re-Organizational Meeting and  
July 2, 2104 Regular Meeting

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

#### **CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION:**

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

- Joel Freer, Elementary School Principal, updated the Board on the following:
  - Approximately 108 students have registered for Kindergarten;
  - Recognized Rosann LaManna for her assistance with the summer school program which has approximately 63 students enrolled;
  - Two week music camp has taken place which involved approximately 70 students;
  - Interviews will soon take place for Assistant Principal

The Board had the following questions/concerns/comments:

- NYS testing and concern on special education enrollment numbers.
  - Daniel Seyler-Wetzel, Middle School Principal, updated the Board on the following:
    - As a result of the 9 period day, interviews are currently taking place;
    - Curriculum writing currently taking place;
    - 16 sections of AIS math and 8 sections running daily
    - Hopes to have the AIS reading teacher present her program in one of the future Board meeting
  - . The Board had no questions.
  - Pete Harris, High School Principal, updated the Board on the following:
    - Regent exams taking place in August;
    - Scheduling instruction, thanks to MaryAnn Ingraham, is just about completed;
    - Advanced Placement conference recently took place in Philadelphia;
    - High School grounds being utilized for work-out sessions with Keith Duarte, Hudson Valley Orthopedics, and a selected few school employees, to work with students in 7-12 grade. There is no fee for this.
    - Summer school taking place;
- The Board had no questions.

b) **Director of Student Services Report**

Barbara Chapman updated the Board on the following:

- Year-End data reporting still taking place for year-end;
- STAC (System to Track and Account for Children);
- IEP Direct reporting;
- State Performance Plan
- Attendance and Enrollment Report for August will be forthcoming.

The Board had the following questions/concerns/comments:

- What is the reimbursement from state for students that “go-out” of district? Louise Lynch stated that this information is available. Louise will supply Sue Gilmore with an overview of this reimbursement amount. Barbara Chapman will include this percentage as well in her updated report.

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 June 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and the 20<sup>th</sup> and authorizes the arrangements for such students’ special education programs and services.

**Motion made by Tom Miller; Seconded by Mike Bakatsias; Discussion: Debbie Pagano questioned about “standard to ratio time”; Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.**

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education according to the minutes of the CPSE meetings of June 16<sup>th</sup>, and authorizes the arrangements for such students’ special education programs and services.

**Motion made by Debbie Pagano; Seconded by Tom Miller; Discussion: none; Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.**

**PERSONNEL:**

a) **Non-Teaching Appointments**

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

Employee:	Elizabeth Ward
Position:	Custodial Worker / H.S. evenings
Salary:	Grade 8A, Step 4; \$26,260.00
Effective Date:	July 16, 2014
Probationary Period:	July 16, 2014 – January 16, 2015
Purpose:	Replace Donna Carroll (resignation)

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

**BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS:**

Louise Lynch, Business Administrator, informed Board budget transfers will be on next agenda.

### **SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS**

Deborah Haab informed the Board of the following:

- Thanks to grant funding, summer curriculum is ongoing.
- Administrator Retreat took place July 14th and July 15<sup>th</sup>
- Working on plans for Opening Day
- Requested Board to consider workshop meeting to discuss report from Facilities Committee
- Requested Board to think about dates to set for Board retreat, preferably late September
- Highland Public Library will be holding a Public Forum on July 17<sup>th</sup> and July 18<sup>th</sup>
- Law conference August 1<sup>st</sup>

The Board had the following questions/comments/concerns:

- Safety components of project

### **ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS**

Sarah Dudley-Lemek informed the Board of the following:

- Due to the STAL grant, opportunities are available for teachers to work with technology;

The Board had the following questions/concerns/comments:

- Due to request from Board, Deborah Haab will supply them the list of employees that have been involved with this above mentioned education.

### **BOARD OF EDUCATION:**

#### **New Business:**

- a) **Correspondence** – As a result from a letter from a community member, Louise Lynch will put together information regarding property taxes for veterans.
- b) **Future BOE Agenda Items** – Please provide to District Office the week prior to Board meeting.

#### **Old Business:**

- a) **Capital Project / Facilities Committee** – Board agreed to hold a workshop meeting on Tuesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 pm.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

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

**Motion made by Mike Bakatsias at 8:55 pm to go into Executive Session; Seconded by Mike Reid; Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.**

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION: (8:55 pm)**

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 at 10:53 pm to adjourn Executive Session by Mike Bakatsias; Seconded by Mike Reid; Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.**

**Motion made to adjourn meeting by Mike Bakatsias; Seconded by Mike Reid; Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.**

**ADJOURNMENT (10:53 pm)**

Minutes recorded and submitted by Lisa Cerniglia, District Clerk