

**Highland Central School District**

**MINUTES**

Board of Education Business Meeting

**Tuesday, May 19, 2015**

6:00 pm Executive Session

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



MEETING AVAILABLE VIA LIVESTREAM  
THANKS TO STUDENT  
DAN RUSSO

**ATTENDANCE:**

Board Members: Alan Barone, President, Sue Gilmore, Vice President, Tom Miller, Debbie Pagano, Mike Reid, Mike Bakatsias (absent), Heather Welch

Administrators/Principals/Directors: Deborah Haab, Superintendent of Schools; Sarah Dudley-Lemek, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Louise M. Lynch, Business Administrator; Carol Potash, Director of Technology; Debbie Tompkins, Assistant Director of Transportation; Pete Harris, High School Principal; Bill Zimmer, Assistant High School Principal; Dan Wetzel, Middle School Principal; Meghan Connors, Middle School Assistant Principal; Joel Freer, Elementary School Principal; Kathleen Sickles, Elementary School Assistant Principal

Student Representative: Danielle Stoner

**Motion made at 6:05 pm by Debbie Pagano; Second by Heather Welch to go into Executive Session; Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** (6:05 pm)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Highland Central School District conduct an Executive Session to discuss one or all of 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 7:18 pm by Heather Welch to go into Open Meeting; Second by Debbie Pagano; Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.**

### **APPOINTMENT OF CLERK PRO TEMPORE**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education appoints Sarah Dudley-Lemek as Clerk Pro Tempore to preside in the absence of Lisa Cerniglia who is placed at the polling site.

**Motion made by Sue Gilmore; Second by Heather Welch; Discussion: none; Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.**

### **CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (7:18 pm)**

Board President Alan Barone called meeting to Order at 7:18 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

### **SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

- 1) The presentation by Mary Leahy's 8<sup>th</sup> grade students was a video based on the book, "The Cage". The story is based on Holocaust victims.
- 2) Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, building principals and Director of Student Services, presented on the 2013-2014 School Report Card results.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

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

- Tom Schloppich, Varsity Lacrosse coach, shared the following:
  - Agenda item being tabled from May 5<sup>th</sup> BOE meeting;
  - Teamwork, perennial playoff team;
  - Students at Division I, II, III colleges playing lacrosse;
  - GPA higher than other Section 9;
  - Large roster, 18 Highland / 5 Marlboro;
  - Youth growth;
  - Field access at Marlboro High School (turf field)
- Andy Hollway, parent of a lacrosse player, shared the following:
  - Asked for continued support for Highland High School lacrosse team

### **ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS:**

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

- a) Board of Education Meeting Minutes – April 22, 2015

**Motion made by Sue Gilmore; Second by Tom Miller; Discussion: none; Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.**

- b) Attendance & Enrollment Report Dates: Period 8 – 4/1/2015 – 4/30/2015 - **Tabled**

**Motion made at 8:56 pm by Tom Miller to take a brief recess to retrieve results from the Annual Budget Vote and Board Elections; Second by Debbie Pagano; Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.**

**At 9:29 pm meeting reconvened.**

### **CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION:**

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

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

Joel Freer, Elementary School Principal, updated the Board on the following events/topics:

- Recognized Hannaford's for their generous donation of \$1,000.00;
- Two (2) new students registered;
- New playground

Dan Seyler-Wetzel, Middle School Principal, updated the Board on the following events/topics:

- Referral Updates – September 2010 – May 19, 2011      571 referrals  
   September 2014 – May 19, 2015      225 referrals

Pete Harris, High School Principal, updated the Board on the following events/topics:

- Thanked Pattie Steffens, Food Service Department, Interact Club for their contribution for the Senior Prom.
- Congratulations to the HHS Chorus and Band for their recent performance.
- Thanked Dan Russo and Jared Sprague for their enthusiasm during Sprit Week.
- May 29<sup>th</sup> SADD club and Patti Steffens will present a Pre-Prom assembly.
- May 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 am will be ceremony to acknowledge Memorial Day.

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 April 17, 21, 24, 27, 29, 30 and May 1, 5, 6, 11, 12, & 13, 2015 and the amendment agreement no meetings of April 7, 10, & 17, and May 5, 2015, and authorizes the arrangements for such students' special education programs and services.

**Motion made by Debbie Pagano; Second by Tom Miller; Discussion: "No Meeting for April 10<sup>th</sup>" added; Page Two (2) missing student id #; Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.**

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

No CPSE minutes this month.

**PERSONNEL:**

**Motion made by Tom Miller to move items "a-e" as a block; Second by Debbie Pagano; Discussion: Board recognized and thanked Ray and Deborah for their years of service; Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.**

a) **Resignation:**

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

Employee:                      Raymond Owen  
Position:                      School Bus Driver  
Effective Date:              May 31, 2015

Employee: Deborah Owen  
Position: School Bus Driver  
Effective Date: June 30, 2015

b) **Performance Payment**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the maximum performance payment per the personal service agreement with the District for employee Carly Jacobsen.

c) **Vacation Days – Compensation**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the request for compensating Louise Lynch eight and a half (8.5) unused vacation days from the 2014-2015 school year at the 2014-2015 rate of pay.

d) **Substitute Teaching Appointments**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the attached revised substitute teaching list with an Emergency Conditional Appointment consistent with SAVE legislation requirements.

e) **Non-Teaching Substitute Appointments**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the attached revised Non-Teaching substitute list with an Emergency Conditional Appointment consistent with SAVE legislation requirements.

**BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS:**

a) **Capital Project Resolution Bond**

Bond resolution dated May 19, 2015 of the board of education of the Highland Central School District authorizing not to exceed \$17,500,000 aggregate principal amount of serial general obligation bonds to finance the construction of additions to and the reconstruction of various school district buildings and facilities at an estimated aggregate maximum cost of \$17,500,000, levy of tax in annual installments in payment thereof, the expenditure of such sum for such purpose, and determining other matters in connection therewith.

WHEREAS, the qualified voters of the Highland Central School District (the “District”), at the special meeting of such voters duly held on the 28th day of October, 2014 duly approved a proposition authorizing the issuance of serial general obligation bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$17,500,000 to finance the construction of additions to and the reconstruction of various school district buildings and facilities, including necessary site work, acquisition of original furnishings, equipment, machinery or apparatus required for the purposes for which such buildings and facilities are to be used, the expenditure of such sum for such purpose, and the levy of the necessary tax therefor, to be levied upon the taxable property of the District and collected in annual installments as provided by Section 416 of the Education Law; and

NOW THEREFOR, BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS BOARD OF EDUCATION AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The District shall construct additions to and reconstruct various school district buildings and facilities, including necessary site work, acquire original furnishings, equipment, machinery or apparatus required for the purposes for which such buildings and facilities are to be used, and pay incidental costs related thereto, at cost not to exceed \$17,500,000, as more particularly described in Section 3 hereof, and as generally outlined to and considered by the voters of the District at a special District meeting held on October 28, 2014.

Section 2. The District is hereby authorized to issue its serial general obligation bonds (the "Bonds") in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$17,500,000 pursuant to the Local Finance Law of New York, in order to finance the class of objects or purposes described herein.

Section 3. The class of objects or purposes to be financed pursuant to this Resolution (the "Purpose") is the construction of additions to and the reconstruction of various school district buildings and facilities, including necessary site work, acquisition of original furnishings, equipment, machinery or apparatus required for the purposes for which such buildings and facilities are to be used.

Section 4. It is hereby determined and declared that (a) the maximum cost of the Purpose, as estimated by the Board of Education, is \$17,500,000, (b) no money has heretofore been authorized to be applied to the payment of the cost of said Purpose, and (c) the District plans to finance the cost of the Purpose from funds raised by the issuance of the Bonds and bond anticipation notes hereinafter referred to.

Section 5. It is hereby determined that the Purpose is one of the class of objects or purposes described in Subdivision 97 of Paragraph A of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law, and that the period of probable usefulness of the Purpose is thirty (30) years.

Section 6. 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 sale of the Bonds, including renewals of such notes, is hereby delegated to the President of the Board of Education, the chief fiscal officer. Such notes 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.

Section 7. The power to further authorize the issuance of the Bonds and bond anticipation notes and to prescribe the terms, form and contents of the Bonds and bond anticipation notes, including the consolidation with other issues and the use of substantially level or declining debt service, subject to the provisions of this Resolution and the Local Finance Law, and to sell and deliver the Bonds and bond anticipation notes, is hereby delegated to the President of the Board of Education. The President of the Board of Education is hereby authorized to sign and the District Clerk is hereby authorized to attest any Bonds and bond anticipation notes issued pursuant to this Resolution, and the District Clerk is hereby authorized to affix to such Bonds and bond anticipation notes the corporate seal of the District.

Section 8. The faith and credit of the District are hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds and bond anticipation notes as the same respectively

become due and payable. 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. There shall be levied annually on all taxable real property of the District, a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such obligations as the same become due and payable.

Section 9. This Resolution shall constitute the declaration of the District's "official intent" to reimburse expenditures authorized by Section 1 with proceeds of the Bonds and notes, as required by United States Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2.

Section 10. This Resolution shall be published in full by the District Clerk together with a notice in substantially the form prescribed by Section 81.00 of said Local Finance Law, and such publication shall be in each official newspaper of the District. The validity of the Bonds or of any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the sale of the Bonds may be contested only if such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which the District is not authorized to expend money, or the provisions of law which should be complied with at the date of publication of this Resolution 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 if said obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 11. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

**Motion made by Debbie Pagano; Second by Tom Miller; Discussion: none; Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.**

- b) **Acknowledge Energy Performance Contract Payment** - Tabled  
BE IT RESOLVED that based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Board of Education of Highland Central School District, hereby acknowledges payment application #8 in the amount of \$81,979 to Johnson Controls. My understanding is this was tabled pending a memo from Peter Miller which you should have.  
**Tabled until next Board of Education meeting pending a memo from Pete Miller.**
- c) **Donation**  
BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, accepts the generous donation from the Hillman Group, valued at \$5,200.00 to be used in District and/or Ulster BOCES.  
**Motion made by Mike Reid; Second by Heather Welch; Discussion: Recognized Jeff Paladino his donation. Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.**

### **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS**

Danielle Stoner updated the Board on the following events/topics:

- Thanked all involved for supporting the school budget;
- Underclassman awards to be held May 20<sup>th</sup>
- Field Day and Memorial Day service to be held on May 21<sup>st</sup>;
- Senior Recognition Night to be held on May 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS**

Deborah Haab updated the Board on the following events/topics:

- Concert very enjoyable;
- Senior Citizen Prom;
- Ashley McGraw will be in district Wednesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> with preliminary plans;
- My College options report.

### **ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS**

No comments for tonight's meeting.

### **BOARD OF EDUCATION:**

#### **New Business:**

- a) **Correspondence** – Any correspondence received by the Board may be discussed.
- b) **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) **Sports Mergers**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following sports merger for the 2015-2016 school year:

- Marlboro High School Varsity Boys Lacrosse merge with Highland Varsity Boys Lacrosse

**Motion made by Mike Reid; Second by Tom Miller; Discussion: Alan Barone stated he hopes that this merger will continue to grow and eventually develop into two teams. Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.**

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

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

- Jack Margulio, community member, spoke about the following:
  - Update on Foil request – Louise and Deborah responded that data research is quite extensive and should be complete in near future;
  - Mental Health Counselor position – concern for families in financial need;
  - Highland in economy decline;
  - Voter turnout on low side which Jack stated is due to democracy not working.

**Motion made at 10:19 by Debbie Pagano to adjourn meeting; Second by Heather Welch; Discussion: none; Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Minutes recorded by Sarah Dudley-Lemek, Clerk Pro Tempore  
Minutes submitted by Lisa M Cerniglia, District Clerk