

Highland Central School District

MINUTES

Board of Education Meeting

Tuesday, November 3, 2015

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

7:00 pm Open Meeting

To be held in the Board Room (E-32 @ High School)

ELECTION DAY

Motion made by Tom Miller at 6:05 pm to go into Executive Session; Seconded by Ed Meisel; Motion carried.

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 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 by Heather Welch to adjourn Executive Session and return to Open Meeting; Seconded by Mike Bakatsias; Motion carried.

ATTENDANCE:

Board Members: Alan Barone, President, Tom Miller, Vice President, Sue Gilmore, Debbie Pagano, Mike Bakatsias, Heather Welch, Ed Meisel

Administrators/Principals/Directors: Deborah Haab, Superintendent of Schools; Sarah Dudley-Lemek, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Louise M. Lynch, Business Administrator; Debbie Tompkins, Assistant Director of Transportation; Maria McCarthy, Director of Food Services; Frank Alfonso, Athletic Director

Student Representative: Kaitlyn Poluzzi

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board President Alan Barone called meeting to Order at 7:15 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

- Mark Harris, teacher from Ulster BOCES and student in program, shared information about their project. BOCES recently received the Lemelson-MIT grant award. This grant will enable the InvenTeam to invent a robotic exoskeleton of a hand to help people

with paralyzed hands regain use of their hands and recover from paralysis. The device will be a glove-like exoskeleton that will be fitted with electronics and mechanics so that it can be programmed to move the hand and fingers of the patient. The device is intended to improve grip strength, flexibility, adduction, and abduction in the paralyzed hand.

The Board had the following comments:

- Commended BOCES on their project and requested to see presentation at future board meeting.
- Great opportunity for students.
- Dr. Charles Khoury, District Superintendent, presented power point on the functions of Ulster BOCES and its budget. Topics included, but not limited to, were:
 - Post Retirement Shift;
 - BOCES Financial Participation 2011-2016;
 - BOCES CTE Participation 2015-2016;
 - BOCES New Visions, Special Education and P-Tech Participation 2015-2016;
 - Design Thinking & Innovations Lab at CTE;
 - P-Tech Program, explained in further detail.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

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

- Margaret Malcolm, community member, recognized BOCES presentation for the Lemelson-MIT program. Margaret also inquired about the volunteer coaching position on agenda.
- Fiona Malcolm, community member, inquired about:
 - The pending service contract agreement between HCSD and Abilities, Inc.;
 - New vending machines;
 - Shadow agreement for a student vs. a school sports merger.

ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS:

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

- a) Board of Education Meeting Minutes – October 20, 2015
- b) Treasurer's Reports – September 2015
- c) General Fund Budget & Revenue Status Reports – September 2015
- d) Food Service Fund Budget & Revenue Status Reports – September 2015
- e) Special Aid Fund Budget & Revenue Status Reports – September 2015
- f) Capital Project - Energy Performance Contract Budget Status Rept. – September 2015

Motion made by Ed Meisel; Seconded Heather Welch; Discussion: Students accepting the "no charge" policy on Food Service Fund Report; Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION:

Directors' Reports: (Reports available on website)

Each month the Directors of Technology, Food Service, Transportation, Facilities and Athletics provide the Board with a written update.

The Board had the following questions/concerns/comments:

- Request was made that a report be generated from Mr. Miller and Ms. Tompkins regarding bus inspection failure.
- Request was made for Director's to be present at meeting and/or contact Superintendent with their availability.
- Review of the fall athletic season.

PERSONNEL:

Motion made by Mike Bakatsias to move items “a-g” as a block; Seconded by Ed Meisel; Discussion: none; Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.

Superintendent recognized and congratulated Jeanette Paladino on her tenure appointment.

a) Resignation

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

Employee: Nathaniel Heidt
Position: School Monitor – High School
Effective: October 23, 2015
Purpose: Resignation

b) Retirement

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

Employee: Margaret Fuhrmann
Position: Teacher Aide – Elementary School
Effective: December 1, 2015
Purpose: Retirement

c) Child-Bearing Leave

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the request for medical leave as follows:

Employee: Rebecca Dudar
Position: Elementary Teacher
Effective: On or about January 31, 2016 for approximately twelve (12) weeks
Purpose: Child-Bearing Leave

d) Leave - Unpaid

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the follow leave of absence request as follows:

Employee: Miranda Doherty
Position: Bus Driver
Effective: November 9, 2015 till approximately June 15, 2016
Purpose: Unpaid leave of absence

e) **Tenure**

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

Employee: Jeannette Paladino
Position: Teaching Assistant
Effective: November 7, 2015

f) **Amendment**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following amendment (*reflects earlier start date*):

Kelly LaRocca
Position: RN – Elementary School
Salary: Nurse, Step 11 / \$40,014
Effective: November 16, 2015
Probationary Period: November 16, 2015 – May 16, 2016
Purpose: Replacing Lisa Machin, retirement

g) **Coaching - Volunteer**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following coaching position on a volunteer basis:

Jordan Depuy
Position: Boys Basketball Volunteer Assistant Coach
Effective: November 6, 2015

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS

Kaitlyn Poluzzi, updated the Board on the following events/topics in the school:

- Interact Club raised \$2,500 to assist an international charity rebuild in the city of Nepal.
- December 16th there will be a talent show fundraiser for a high school student that is battling non-Hodgkin's lymphoma;
- December 1st there will be a basketball game with Harlem Wizards vs. Faculty;
- November 13th there will be a Senior vs. Junior Varsity Flag football game;
- November 14th Model UN is going to compete at Bard college to discuss the Safety of journalists in foreign countries. Model UN also raised \$3,000 to pay for BOSMUN (conference they attend yearly).

The Board had the following comments:

- Heather Welch recognized the well-organized Pumpkin Run.

BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS

a) **Abilities, Inc. d/b/a Kornreich Technology Center Consultant Services Contract – TABLED**

b) **Budget Increase**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, accepts the donation from the Highland Music Boosters

in the amount of \$75.00.

FURTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED that based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Board of Education approve the budget increase of \$75.00

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|---|----------------------|
| <u>Appropriations</u> | <u>Total \$75.00</u> |
| HS Instructional Equipment A2110-200-01-0000 | \$75.00 |

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| <u>Revenues</u> | <u>Total \$75.00</u> |
| Donations A2701 | \$75.00 |

Motion made by Debbie Pagano; Seconded by Ed Meisel; Discussion: acknowledged booster club; Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.

c) **HAA Contract – Added Language**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the addition of the following language to the HAA contract language approved on October 20, 2105:

“The parties agree that they will continue to meet and negotiate concerning the Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR) pursuant to Education Law Section 3012-d. The parties hereby agree to conduct such negotiations in an expeditious manner so that an APPR plan consistent with Education Law Section 3012-d and Part 30-3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents can be submitted to the Commissioner of Education for the purpose of securing the additional State Aid that was part of the 2015-16 budget bill.”

Motion made by Ed Meisel; Seconded by Tom Miller; Discussion: Agreed that parties will continue to negotiate on APPR concerns. Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Deborah Haab updated the Board on the following events/topics occurring in the school:

- APPR hardship waiver approved;
- Continue with discussion on APPR negotiations;
- On October 26th New York Assemblyman Frank Skartados visited Highland. An additional \$100,000.00 aid was granted to district.
- On October 26th the Assessment Committee held its first meeting.
- Steps are moving forward for additional private lavatories/changing rooms at the middle and high school.
- On October 27th attended Expo at Ulster BOCES about Assistive Technology.
- Expect 1st Reading on Health Policy for early December.

The Board had the following concerns/questions/comments:

- Hardship waiver process – negotiations will continue to take place.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Sarah Dudley-Lemek updated the Board on the following events/topics occurring in the school:

- Tech Fest at BOCES was well represented by Mr. Witte and Mr. Cozzolino with their presentation on “Flipped Classrooms”.

- Superintendent's Day (1/2 day) scheduled for October 30th;
- Extra-activity report to be expected on November 17th agenda;
- Draft LAP plan distributed to Board. The plan for approval is scheduled for the November 17th meeting;
- Attendance Policy Review committee;
- November 6 Audit Committee scheduled at 4 pm.

The Board had the following concerns/questions/comments:

- Requested from Joel Freer his direction on Elementary School LAP report from last year.

BOARD OF EDUCATION:

New Business:

- a) **UCSBA** – Monday, November 9th at 6:00 pm. RSVP required.
- b) **Highland Varsity Wrestling**
BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves a Marlboro Middle School student to participate in "shadowing" the Highland Varsity Wrestling team.
Motion made by Debbie Pagano; Seconded by Mike Bakatsias; Discussion:
(1) Student was approved through Marlboro's selective classification policy.
(2) Travel expenses are to be arranged by family. Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.
- c) **Correspondence** – No correspondence at this time.

Old Business:

CLOSING COMMENTS:

- Board acknowledged Deborah Haab for her recognition in the October 26th edition of OnBoard newspaper.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

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

- Margaret Malcolm, inquired about routine annual bus replacement plan.
- Fiona Malcolm, recognized Model UN club

Board member Heather Welch stepped out of meeting at 8:50 pm to vote and returned 8:57 pm.

Motion made at 9:00 by Mike Bakatsias to go into Executive Session; Seconded by Heather Welch; Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: (9:00 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. _____ 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 10:08 pm by Mike Bakatsias to adjourn Executive Meeting; Seconded by Debbie Pagano; Motion carried. Motion made at 10:08 pm by Mike Bakatsias to adjourn Open Meeting; Seconded by Debbie Pagano; Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT (10:08 pm)

Minutes recorded and submitted by Lisa M Cerniglia, District Clerk