

Highland Central School District
MINUTES
Board of Education Meeting
Tuesday, October 20, 2015
5:30 Executive Session (tentative)
6:00 pm Information Education Presentation – Transgender Regulations
and Guidelines
7:30 pm Open Meeting
To be held in the High School Cafeteria



MEETING AVAILABLE LIVESTREAM
THANKS TO STUDENT
ELVIS GADTAULA

Motion made at 5:35 pm by Tom Miller; Seconded by Sue Gilmore; Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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 5:55 pm by Heather Welch to return to Open Meeting; Seconded by Debbie Pagano; Motion carried with a 6-0 vote.

ATTENDANCE:

Board Members: Alan Barone, Tom Miller, Sue Gilmore, Debbie Pagano, Mike Bakatsias, (7:10 pm); Heather Welch, Ed Meisel

Administrators/Principals/Directors: Deborah Haab, Superintendent of Schools; Sarah Dudley-Lemek, Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Louise M. Lynch, Business Administrator; Barbara E. Chapman, Director of Student Services; Carol Potash, Director of Technology; Pete Harris, High School Principal; Dan S. Wetzel, Middle School Principal; Meghan Connors, Middle School Assistant Principal; Joel Freer, Elementary School Principal; Kathleen Sickles, Elementary School Assistant Principal

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board President Alan Barone called meeting to Order at 6:15 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION (Power Point presentation available on website).

Gary Silveira from the law office of Shaw, Perelson, May & Lambert, LLP presented a power point presentation on the transgender regulations and guidelines in the schools effective July 2015.

Topics of power point included, but not limited to:

- Transgender Basics
- Transgender Legal Protections
- Transgender Guidelines
- Transgender Etiquette
- Transgender Legal Guidelines
- Common Sense Rules

The floor was open for community members to ask questions to attorney, Gary Silvia. The following topics, but not limited to, were concerns that the community expressed:

- Concern over lavatory usage;
- Concern over locker room usage;
- Creating a safe environment for **all** students;
- DASA rules and regulations;
- Dress code;
- Education on student's gender identity

In closing Alan Barone stated to community that the Board is just recently receiving the new regulations from the state. These guidelines are to establish an environment that is safe and supportive for all students. The goal of the Board is to develop a plan and to support these guidelines.

Deborah Haab said communication will be sent to families on any changes on education that develops.

Heather Welch requested the PBS presentation shown in June be posted on district website.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

The floor was open for public comments.

- Margaret Malcolm, community member, inquired about the principal's attendance at Board meetings.
- Fiona Malcolm, community member, expressed:
 - (1) Her disappointment with the Board on how a personnel matter was handled;
 - (2) Is every student held accountable for Code of Conduct policy?
 - (3) Professional Development for Special Education Staff;
 - (4) Board liaison with town;
 - (5) Recognize Wade Sargent, security officer.

- Jim Delmar, community member, inquired about applicants for coaching position.
- Jill Poluzzi, community member, asked if there will be any follow-ups with parents regarding privacy in locker rooms.
- John Marguglio, community member, spoke on
 - (1) SAT scores;
 - (2) HAA contract language;
 - (3) Per pupil spending.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE OATH OF OFFICE & COMMENTS

District Clerk administered Oath of Office to student representative Kaitlyn Poluzzi. Kaitlyn then shared a few words on her optimism as Board representative.

ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS:

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

- a) Board of Education Meeting Minutes – September 16, 2015 & October 6, 2015
- b) General Fund Budget & Revenue Status Reports – June, July and August 2015
- c) Food Service Fund Budget & Revenue Status Reports – June, July and August 2015
- d) Special Aid Fund Budget & Revenue Status Reports – June, July and August 2015
- e) Capital Project - Energy Performance Contract Budget Status Rept. – June, July and August 2015
- f) Attendance & Enrollment Report – Period 1 – September 8th – 30th, 2015

Motion made by Mike Bakatsias; Seconded by Ed Meisel; Discussion: Louise Lynch explained debt service fund chart.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION:

Principal's Reports:

- a) **Principal's Reports** (Reports are on file in District Office)
Each month the Principal's report on important information and events occurring in their schools.

Joel Freer, Elementary School Principal:

- Fundraiser to take place on October 23rd for playground equipment;
- Recognized Rotary Club for providing 3rd graders with dictionaries;

The Board had no questions.

Dan S. Wetzel, Middle School Principal

- Headless Horseman of Port Ewen, will be volunteering to assist 6th graders with a presentation called, "Don't Be a Monster Bully".
- Math Information Evening to be held on November 4th;
- Email received from a community member in New Paltz regarding the recent display of positive behavior in students.

The Board had no questions.

Pete Harris, High School Principal

- French Club hosting fundraiser with the Harlem Wizards on December 1st.
- Dr. Michael Rosenburg presented a PBIS presentation to the faculty;

The Board had no questions.

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

Barbara E. Chapman, Director of Student Services, reported on the operations of the Student Services Department. Topics mentioned were:

- Invitations were sent to Board members to request their presence to join District-Wide PBIS team;
- Recognized Patrick Boyd for his contribution to the department.

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 August 24th, September 25th, 28th, October 1st, 8th, 9th, and 13th, 2015, and the amendment agreement no meetings of September 2nd, 8th, 11th, 14th, 21st, 24th, 25th, 29th, 30th, October 1st, 6th, 7th, and 8th, 2015, and authorizes the arrangements for such students' special education programs and services.

Motion made by Ed Meisel; Seconded by Debbie Pagano; Discussion: none; 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 Preschool Special Education according to the minutes of the CPSE meetings of September 22nd, 2015, and the amendment agreement no meeting of October 9th, 2015, and authorizes the arrangements for such students' special education programs and services.

Motion made by Debbie Pagano; Seconded by Sue Gilmore; Discussion: none; Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.

PERSONNEL:

Motion made by Mike Bakatsias to move items "a-h" as a block; Seconded by Tom Miller;

Roll call took place:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Aye/Nay</u>
Heather Welch	aye (abstained on item "a")
Ed Meisel	aye
Mike Bakatsias	aye
Tom Miller	aye
Alan Barone	aye
Sue Gilmore	aye (abstained on item "f")
Debbie Pagano	aye

a) **Coaching Appointments**

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

Tom Rozzi

Position: Junior Varsity Girls Basketball Head Coach

Stipend: \$2,781.00
Effective: October 20, 2015

James Malak
Position: Varsity Girls Basketball Head Coach
Stipend: \$3,975.00
Effective: October 20, 2015
Motion carried with a 6-0-1 vote (Heather Welch abstained).

b) **Amendment to Appointment**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following revised appointment (*Amendment reflects Probationary Period 4 years*):

Employee: Linda More
Position: Teaching Assistant
Effective Date: October 7, 2015
Salary: Grade 7A, Step 1 / \$17,563
Probationary Period: October 7, 2015 – October 6, 2019
Purpose: Replacing Deb Maietta, transfer to ES
Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.

c) **Appointment - CPSE Chairperson**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following employees to act as CPSE Chairperson for the 2015-2016 school year:

Dr. Michael Paff
Lisa Neer
Sara Moore

Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.

d) **Appointment - Multi-Cultural Club Advisor**

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

Employee: Kelly Santana
Position: Advisor to the Multicultural Club – Middle School
Stipend: \$1,146

Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.

e) **Appointment**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following appointment based on an Emergency Conditional Appointment consistent with SAVE legislation requirements:

Kelly LaRocca
Position: RN – Elementary School
Salary: Nurse, Step 11 / \$40,014

Effective: November 18, 2015
Probationary Period: November 18, 2015 – May 18, 2016
Purpose: Replacing Lisa Machin, retirement

Danielle Garcia

Position: Behavior Intervention Specialist – District-wide
Salary: \$65,489
Effective: November 9, 2015
Probationary Period: November 9, 2015 – May 9, 2016
Purpose: New position

Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.

f) **Supplemental Memorandum of Agreement**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the Supplemental Memorandum of Agreement for the following individuals:

Employee: Linda Calvo / School Bus Dispatcher
Employee: Wade Sargent / Senior Security Guard

Motion carried with a 6-0-1 vote (Sue Gilmore abstained).

f) **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.

Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.

g) **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.

Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.

- Superintendent recognized and welcomed Kelly LaRocca to district.

BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS

a) **Budget Transfer**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the budget transfer totaling \$81,927 for the 2015-2016 school year.

- Budget Transfer Number 3740 \$81,927

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

b) **Budget Development Calendar for the 2016-2017 School Year**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the attached budget development calendar

for the 2016-2017 school year.

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

- c) **RFP** – Louise Lynch updated the Board that proposals are due in business office on November 13, 2015.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

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

- October 26th 1st Assessment committee meeting held;
- October 19th NYSSBA attended meeting on state's assessment;
- Attended conference on APPR;
- Hardship waiver filed;
- Building project process;
- Attended Law Conference Workshop on October 18th accompanied by Sue Gilmore and Debbie Pagano. Any of the presentations can be requested from Technology Department;
- An addendum will be on next agenda if any changes to APPR;
- Assemblyman Skartados will be in District on October 26th, if any Board members would like to meet with him.

The Board had no questions.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

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

- Math strategies (flipped classroom) will be held November 4th for parents;
- River of Dreams initiative still continuing in buildings;
- Visit to Gomez House;
- ½ day Superintendent's Day scheduled for October 30th – agenda forthcoming.

The Board had no questions.

Comment made by Technology that the audio is not available for Livestream due to technical issues.

BOARD OF EDUCATION:

New Business:

- a) **Code of Conduct for the 2015-2016 School Year** – 2nd Reading

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, adopts the 2015-2016 School Year Code of Conduct Policy.

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

- b) **Board Policy #4100** (Organizational Chart) 2nd Reading

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, adopts Board Policy #4100 titled "Organizational Chart".

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

c) **Class Trip – High School**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following overnight class trips to take place for the 2015-2016 school year:

Trip Name: Canada Trip

Dates: December 4-6, 2015

Motion made by Heather Welch; Seconded by Ed Meisel; Discussion: organized through the French Club; Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.

d) **Agreement – HAA**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education, approves the Collective Negotiations Agreement between the Highland Central School District and the Highland Administrator's Association effective July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2017.

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

e) **Correspondence** – no correspondence discussed at this time.

f) **Future BOE Agenda Items**

g) **Initiate Club**

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

Club Name: The Highland Baseball Club

Effective: October 21, 2015

Purpose: To promote positive involvement through volunteer efforts to help subsidize equipment needs and expense of tournaments.

John Buonamano, Physical Education teacher and Varsity Baseball coach, presented to the Board a proposal to establish a baseball club. Discussion then followed. Discussion included the club being directed by designated students vs. a letter club which is not run by the students. Mike Bakatsias inquired about the number of clubs that are currently in place.

Motion made by Tom Miller; Seconded by Ed Meisel; Discussion: (1) what are the fundraising efforts from other clubs; (2) Status of the Letter Club; (3) criteria of all clubs; and (4) Board requested more information regarding spring trip. Motion carried with a 6-1 vote (Mike Bakatsias opposed due to limited time to review material).

Old Business:

- Mike Bakatsias (liaison for the Legislative Action Committee) verified with the Board that topic, "Gap Elimination", is a top priority for discussion.

a) **Policy Review**

Bill Zimmer expressed interest on overseeing the policy committee. Deborah Haab asked Board for their suggestions on how they would like to see policy review take place. One suggestion was to have district attorney review for a pre-approval prior to Board approval.

b) **Attendance Policy**

Board has reviewed updated attendance procedures. Reductions of excessive unexcused absences and tardiness have been noted. The Attendance Policy will be reviewed in November.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

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

- Margaret Malcolm, community member, requested the Board to be considerate in approving clubs that would have a stipend amount.
- Fiona Malcolm, community member, suggested utilizing the site, "Grapevine", to include on-going topics. For example, "State Regulations on Transgender".

Motion made by Heather Welch to go into Executive Session at 9:50 pm; Seconded by Mike Bakatsias; Motion carried with a 7-0 vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: (9:50 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. _____ 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 Mike Bakatsias at 10:55 pm to adjourn Executive Session and Open Meeting; Seconded by Tom Miller; Motion carried and meeting was adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT (10:55 pm)

October 20, 2015 Minutes -

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