

Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting  
October 21, 2013

The Webutuck Board of Education held their October 21, 2013 meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Webutuck High School Library.

The following Board members were present:

William McGhee, President

Christopher Mayville

Judy Moran

Kristen Panzer

John Perotti

Robert Trotta

Judy Westfall

Also Present:

James Gratto Jr., Superintendent

Therese Trotter, District Clerk

Jon Zenz

Paul Christofel

Rosanna Hamm

Gabe Napoleon

Katy McEnroe

Jennifer Chason

Kenneth Sauer

Trini Stevens

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

President McGhee called the business meeting of October 21, 2013 to order at 7:37 p.m.

**2. PRESENTATION**

**2012-2013 External Audit - Victor Churchill**

Mr. Churchill reported the 2012-2013 External Audit had a clean opinion, which every audited entity strives for. The report on compliance laws, regulations and internal controls was also a good report. That report is not an opinion on controls but identifies that there are not any deficiencies or weaknesses. Extra-Classroom Activity Report was also a clean opinion. The Management letter only referred to one follow up item from the previous year which is resolved, having to do with control structure and segregation of duties in the District Office. Mr. Churchill noted that the District received a legislative grant a few years ago which is still unused. This is not something that impacts the audit cycle. Board members recalled it was a grant from Vincent Leibel designated for technology but Mr. Churchill noted that there usually is not many strings attached to grants such as that. Discussion ensued.

**Principals Report on 2012-2013 Test Results – Kenneth Sauer, Katy McEnroe, and Jennifer Chason**

Mr. Sauer reported on AP scores and exams. He submitted statistics on the AP and regents results from the last several years. He received feedback from AP teachers regarding what they do to revise their AP programs based on their results and reviewed

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those points with the Board. Discussion took place on AP versus college courses.

Mrs. McEnroe reported on test results and noted that 2010 and 2011 scores were compared, 2012 were not because the test was very different. Mr. Trotta commented on the high and low scores for grades 3-8 and his theory for it. Ms. McEnroe explained that the tests Mr. Trotta was reviewing were 2012 results which across New York State had very poor results because they were newly implemented. Mrs. Chason and Ms. McEnroe pointed out that due to those results they are moving ahead and pointed out support and intervention that have been put in place to help their students.

Mrs. Hamm explained that the assessments were based on the Common Core which was just instituted recently. Fifth graders took assessments which included Common Core skills that they would have acquired since first grade if the Common Core had been implemented back then. Therefore the assessments were extremely challenging this year and produced lower scores across all Districts. Discussion ensued.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no comments from the public:

**4. STUDENT REPORT**

Paul Christofel

Student Representative Christofel reported the following: Community Day and Blood Drive were a huge success. Boys Varsity Soccer made sectionals. He reported the Varsity Field Hockey has a buy and if they win the game they will make sectionals. The bonfire was a great success also and there were no problems.

Mr. Trotta questioned about the protocol for the suggestion box. Representative Christofel explained the process.

**5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

**A. Table Top Drill**

Mr. Gratto followed up on last week's safety exercise drill. He reported that they went through a scenario with Millerton and Wassaic Fire Department as well as Dutchess County Sherriff's Department. Everyone felt it was worthwhile

**B. Technology Update**

Mr. Gratto reported that the Board had approved the Consultant at the last Board meeting. Reverse Polarity, our consultant, will meet with the technology department tomorrow and will provide input to them.

**C. Bus Bid**

Mr. Gratto reported that the Board is rescinding the bus bid tonight because the winning bidder saw a different bus that will be going up for bid which they really want. Bus #100 will be put out for bid again.

**D.** Mr. Gratto noted that 8C will be removed from the consent agenda because the employee does not need that leave now. We will be posting the mentor coordinator position. Discussion ensued.

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**6. CONSENSUS AGENDA VOTE**

A consent agenda is a single vote, which approves all asterisked items (as amended). Board policy (#008a) prohibits discussion of consent agenda items. Asterisked\* items can be pulled from the consent agenda for discussion by any one Board member.

The amendment called for removing #8C from the consent agenda, Mr. Gratto stated the employee does not need it now.

Mr. Trotta made and Mr. Perotti seconded the above motion as amended.

Ayes 7      Nays 0      The motion carried.

**7. DISTRICT CLERK'S REPORT**

**\*A.** Approval of Minutes for October 7, 2013 Board meeting.

Mr. Trotta made and Mr. Perotti seconded a motion to approve the minutes as submitted.

Ayes 7      Nays 0      The motion carried.

**B.** Delegations - None

**8. PERSONNEL**

**\*A. Support Staff Resignations**

Mr. Trotta made and Mr. Perotti seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby accepts the following support staff resignations:

Helen Romeo      Teacher's Aide  
Effective: October 25, 2013

Mary Brandt      Bus Driver  
Effective: October 14, 2013

Brendan Sheehan      Teacher Aide  
Effective: October 21, 2013

Ayes 7      Nays 0      The motion carried.

**\*B. Support Staff Resignation**

Mr. Trotta made and Mr. Perotti seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby accepts the following support staff resignation for the purpose of retirement:

Debra Kornelli      Bus Driver  
Effective: October 9, 2013

Ayes 7      Nays 0      The motion carried.



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**\*F. Extra-Curricular Appointments for the 2013-2014 School Year**

Mr. Trotta made and Mr. Perotti seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby accepts the following extra-curricular appointments for the 2013-2014 school year:

Pete Iuele	Boys' Varsity Basketball
Jon Zenz	Girls' Varsity Basketball
Tim McEnroe	Boys' JV Basketball
Julianne Flood	Modified Girls Basketball
Michele Adrian	Varsity Cheerleading
Jessica Thomas	JV Cheerleading

Ayes 7      Nays 0      The motion carried.

**\*G. Amendment of Extra-Curricular Appointment for 2013-2014 School Year**

Mr. Trotta made and Mr. Perotti seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby amends the Class Year of the following extra-curricular co-advisors for the 2013-2014 school year:

Evelyn Brennie	Co-Advisors for the Class of 2020
Denise Conway	Co-Advisors for the Class of 2020

Ayes 7      Nays 0      The motion carried.

**10. BUSINESS and OPERATIONS**

**\*A. Acceptance of External Audit**

Mr. Trotta made and Mr. Perotti seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby accepts the External Financial Audit for 2012-2013.

Ayes 7      Nays 0      The motion carried.

**\*B. Mr. Trotta made and Mr. Perotti seconded the following motion:**

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has certified that duplicate/overpayment tax payments have been made on the 2013-2014 school taxes regarding the following taxpayers and property and that refunds for overpayment of such taxes be issued:

<u>Taxpayer</u>	<u>Grid No.</u>	<u>Amount of Refund</u>	<u>Refund To</u>
Federal Home Loan Mtg Corp Servicing	132000-7264-00-170360-0000	2,712.66	Ocwen Loan
Chantal Hardy Solutions	133889-7169-00-036921-0000	3,659.44	Home Select
William Hewitt Chase	135200-6868-00-823138-0000	389.32	JP Morgan

Ayes 7      Nays 0      The motion carried.

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**\*C. Rescind Surplus Vehicle Bid Award from August 19, 2013**

Mr. Trotta made and Mr. Perotti seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby rescinds the bid for surplus vehicle as follows:

<b>VEHICLE</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>VENDORS</b>
2004 International Bus #101	\$2708.00	P&B Auto Sales
Ayes 7      Nays 0	The motion carried.	

**11. BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**A. Committee Reports**

**1. Policy**

Policy Committee worked on teacher and principal APPR scores. A draft will go to NYSBA for input and then it will be sent to Board members. The Committee is working on scholarship guidelines and is inviting the Scholarship Committee to meet with the Policy Committee.

Board Policies are being added to the website and the Committee is currently working on the 8000s.

**2. Finance**

It was noted that a meeting needs to be scheduled.

**3. Facilities**

It was noted a meeting needs to be scheduled as well as a walkthrough of the facilities. It was decided to walkthrough the buildings and have a Committee meeting on October 30 at 6:30 p.m. at Katy's office. It was noted that an RFP will be solicited for an appraisal of the Millerton Elementary Building. It was decided to hold off on a Finance meeting until after a Committee member is back.

**B.** Mrs. Panzer spoke about the Special Education Committee that she is on and about the reports she gets every month. She stated she doesn't understand what the Committee was formed for because they don't ever report to the Board and they have no decisions for the Special Education Plan. Discussion ensued.

Mrs. Panzer would like follow up on field trips in the near future. She is still concerned there are no trips to cities taking place. She wants to make that happen. Discussion ensued.

Mrs. Panzer would like to know what the DLT is working on. Mr. Gratto will add DLT minutes to the Board packets going forward. She also spoke about brainstorming to find a relevant project that could be funded through a known source.

Ms. Moran questioned about the mice situation. Mr. Gratto updated the Board.

Mr. Perotti questioned about the drivers room at the bus garage. It was decided to discuss it at a later date.

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Mr. Trotta spoke on the table top exercises which he attended. He stated that the focus was what to do after a gun was brought into the school. He asked what we can do to keep guns out of the school. Mr. Needham stated that we have pretty good control due to the single entry access. He suggested we would have better security system if our entrance alcove was larger and if we had a security window with a monitor seated there. Discussion ensued.

**8. BOARD OF EDUCATION**

A. Other

**11. PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following topics were commented on by the public:

- update on where we are with the septic project
- meeting at Spackenkill about AIS shrinking

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mr. Perotti made and Mr. Trotta seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting of October 21, 2013 at 9:23 pm.

Ayes 7      Nays 0      The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Therese M. Trotter  
District Clerk