

Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting
April 22, 2014

The Webutuck Board of Education held their April 22, 2014 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
Judy Westfall

Also Present:

James Gratto Jr., Superintendent
Therese Trotter, District Clerk
Jon Zenz
Laura Vautour (BoardDocs presenter over phone)
Nancy Gagne
Cindy D. Smith
Trini Stevens

Absent:

John Perotti

1. CALL TO ORDER

President McGhee called the business meeting of April 22, 2014 to order at 7:33 p.m.

2. PRESENTATION

BoardDoc Presentation – Laura Vautour

Laura Vautour explained about accessing information with BoardDocs, a cloud based solution to Governance, and how it works. The District will not have to purchase servers, manage software or have IT people oversee it. The public will be able to access BoardDocs from the school website. It is fully secured and encrypted so information will be secure. It is device and platform independent therefore no matter what device someone is on, they will be able to access BoardDocs. Ms. Vautour went over the process of building an agenda, what the Board members will be able to view versus the public, how to search for information within our own agendas and also search nationwide on topics such as bullying to see what other schools are doing. She discussed the 24/7 support BoardDocs gives to districts and the free upgrades that will be available for lifetime. The cost to the District will be a \$1000 startup fee and a \$2700 annual cost thereafter. Discussion ensued.

3. STUDENT REPORT

Representative Coon stated that AP tests will be May 7-14. The spring concerts are May 7 for grades 6-8 and May 14 for the high school. He reported the baseball team has a record of 3 and 3 with two games coming up, and the softball team is also doing well. He announced that there are 67 days until graduation. Representative Coon announced he will be going to Cornell University in the fall. The Board members and Superintendent

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congratulated him.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

-3020-a expense, money could be spent on our students and teachers

5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Updated Budget Information

Mr. Gratto stated that there had been additional retirements since the last meeting which provides budget flexibility with breakage dollars. We may be able to add back in some of the potential reductions. Discussion ensued.

6. CONSENSUS AGENDA VOTE

Mr. Mayville made and Mrs. Westfall seconded the following motion as amended.

A consent agenda is a single vote, which approves all asterisked items. 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 amendments called for removing #7.A, 8.D., 10.A. from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

Mrs. Panzer stated that her children did not have Ms. Harrington but did have Mrs. Benken, and Mrs. Hendricks. She felt they were great teachers, and their retirement is a loss to our District. Ms. Moran stated her son did have Mrs. Harrington and she was very instrumental in making him part of the group and getting him to open up. She was an excellent teacher. The Board members accept their resignations with regret.

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

7. DISTRICT CLERK'S REPORT

A. Approval of Minutes for April 7, 2014 Board meetings.

This item was removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

Board members agreed that the motion for the MES building will include "the 2014-2015 school year".

Ms. Moran made and Mrs. Panzer seconded a motion to approve the minutes as amended.

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

B. Delegations – None

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8. PERSONNEL

***A. Instructional Resignation**

Mr. Mayville made and Mrs. Westfall seconded the following motion:

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

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Cheryl M. Benken | French Language Teacher |
| Effective: June 30, 2014 | |

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Susan J. Harrington | German Language Teacher |
| Effective: June 30, 2014 | |

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Mary Hendricks | Family and Consumer Science Teacher |
| Effective: June 30, 2014 | |
| Ayes 5 Nays 0 | The motion carried. |

***B. Instructional Resignation**

Mr. Mayville made and Mrs. Westfall seconded the following motion:

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

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Kristen Gil | Guidance Counselor |
| Effective: June 30, 2014 | |
| Ayes 5 Nays 0 | The motion carried. |

***C. Support Staff Resignation**

Mr. Mayville made and Mrs. Westfall 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:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| ToniAnn Peterson | Teacher Aide (3 hour) |
| Effective: April 24, 2014 | |
| Ayes 5 Nays 0 | The motion carried. |

D. Instructional Reappointment

This item was removed from the consent agenda for further discussion in Executive Session.

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the reinstated instructional appointment from .6 to 1.0:

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Sam Fitzgerald | Art Teacher 1.0 FTE |
| Effective: July 1, 2014 | Tenure Area: Art |
| Annual Salary = \$107,514, Step 19 | Position Increased to Full Time |
| (replaces Mary Molloy) | |

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9. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

***A. Approval of Summer School Programs**

Mr. Mayville made and Mrs. Westfall seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the 2014 Summer School Programs listed below at a cost not to exceed \$19,858.10:

Special Education Extended School Year (grade K-3)
Special Education Extended Year (grade 4-6)
English as a Second Language (ESL) (grade K-6)
Summer Math Readiness (grade 4)
Summer Reading Boost (entering grade 2)
Summer Reading Boost (entering grade 3)
Summer Writing Institute (grade 4-8)

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

***B. Approval of District Plans**

Mr. Mayville made and Mrs. Westfall seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the following 2014 – 2015 District Plans:

Academic Intervention Plan (AIS)
Professional Development Plan
Special Education Plan
Technology Plan

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

10. BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS

A. Authorization to Declare Surplus Items

This item was removed from the consent agenda for further discussion.

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education declares the following vehicle surplus and authorizes its sale through public bid:

| Vehicle | Year | Model | Vin # | Mileage | Min. Bid |
|-----------------------|------|-------|-------------------|---------|----------|
| Flat Bed DumpTruck | 2003 | F-550 | 1FDAF57F83EA93931 | 25,600 | \$18,000 |

Mrs. Westfall questioned why we have a minimum bid for \$18,000 when Mr. Heiser suggested \$12,000. Mr. McGhee stated we did not want to start too low.

Mrs. Westfall made and Mrs. Panzer seconded the above motion.

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

***B. Acceptance of Internal Audit**

Mr. Mayville made and Mrs. Westfall seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby accepts the Internal Audit Report for 2013-2014 as presented.

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

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11. BOARD OF EDUCATION

A. BOCES Board Member Election for 2014-2015

Ms. Moran made and Mr. McGhee seconded the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby nominates two candidates for two vacancies on the Dutchess County Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES).

The candidates are listed in alphabetical order:

Thomas Hurley

Michael Riehl

Robert Rubin

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby nominates Thomas Hurley and Michael Riehl for the two vacancies on the Dutchess County Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES).

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

B. BOCES BUDGET VOTE FOR 2014-2015

Ms. Moran made and Mrs. Westfall seconded the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the Dutchess County BOCES Administrative Budget in the amount of \$4,233,350 as presented.

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

***C. Appointment of Officials and Election Inspectors for the May 20, 2014 School Budget Vote for the 2014-2015 School Year**

Mr. Mayville made and Mrs. Westfall seconded the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the appointment and authorizes payment for the following persons for the May 20, 2014 School Budget Vote,

PERMANENT CHAIRPERSON & CHIEF ELECTION INSPECTOR:

Richard G. Howard set up of 2 voting machines \$75.00 each
\$10.00/ per hour

INSPECTORS OF ELECTION \$8.00/per hour

Pat Boice

Joan Murphy

Helene Mann

Jane Rossman

Jean DeWitt

Bonnie Howard

Frieda Thompson

Arlene Iuliano

Rudy Eschbach

Rosanna Hamm

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education requires the Chairperson and each Election Inspector to sign a statement certifying receipt of the "Responsibilities and the Rules of Conduct for School Board Elections",

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education authorizes the District Clerk to appoint additional officials and inspectors if necessary.

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

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***D. Second Reading and Adoption of Series 8000 Support Services Goals**

Mr. Mayville made and Mrs. Westfall seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the second reading and adoption of Series 8000

Support
Services.

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

E. Committee Reports

1. Finance Committee

Mr. Gratto stated that he received the audit report and it was a clean report.

Mrs. Panzer questioned about the CAPE program and how the District is doing with Dignity For All Act. She questioned the Superintendent about when parents come with concerns about social media issues and if he feels parents think they are being heard. Mr. Gratto stated that no parent has come to him regarding those issues and because of that he feels that it is being taking care of at the building level.

Ms. Moran stated that Board policy states that a report has to be filled out with every instance of bullying. The Board would like a monthly summary regarding issues in each building that principals have been made aware of.

Mr. Gratto stated that Ms. Caldiero has reached out to CAPE and they know we are interested.

Mrs. Panzer questioned if there was any other information on the social media issue in the middle school. Mr. Gratto stated he doesn't know any further information than what the Board knows already. Discussion ensued.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following topics were commented on by the public:

- Process of parents bringing issues to District
- Election Inspectors can be school employees

Approval of BoardDocs

Ms. Moran made and Mrs. Panzer seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the purchase of BoardDocs program at a cost of \$1000 start up fee for the first year only and \$2700 each year from this point forward.

Mrs. Panzer questioned how much current Board packet assembly costs and how we will handle agendas for the public. Discussion ensued.

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

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12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Mayville made and Mr. Panzer seconded a motion to adjourn to executive session at 9:00 pm for the purpose of discussing litigation and the employment history of a particular person or persons.

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

13. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION

Mrs. Westfall made and Ms. Moran seconded a motion to adjourn the executive session and to reconvene the public session at 10:12 pm.

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

Mrs. Westfall made and Mr. McGhee seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the reinstated instructional appointment from .6 to 1.0:

Sam Fitzgerald

Art Teacher 1.0 FTE

Effective: July 1, 2014

Tenure Area: Art

Annual Salary = \$107,514, Step 19
(replaces Mary Molloy)

Position Increased to Full Time

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

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Acceptance of 3020A Hearing Officer's Opinion and Decision

Ms. Moran made and Mrs. Westfall made the following motion:

WHEREAS, on June 27, 2013 the Board of Education of the Northeast (Webutuck) Central School District, located in Amenia, New York, determined that probable cause existed to prefer disciplinary charges against Kenneth Sauer, a tenured administrator, pursuant to Education Law Section 3020-a; and,
WHEREAS, on July 29, 2013, the Board of Education determined that probable cause existed to prefer additional charges against Mr. Sauer, and that a Motion was subsequently made and granted consolidating the additional charges with those previously preferred by the School District; and,
WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Education Law §3020-a, a hearing has been held on said Charges before a duly appointed Hearing Officer; and,
WHEREAS, the Hearing Officer's Decision dated April 15, 2014 was received by the School District from the New York State Education Department on April 16, 2014; and,
WHEREAS, the Hearing Officer concluded that Mr. Sauer is guilty of certain Charges and Specifications against him and imposed a penalty pursuant to said findings.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) The Decision of the Hearing Officer in the matter of Board of Education of the Northeast (Webutuck) Central School District v. Kenneth Sauer (SED File No. 22,765) dated April 15, 2014, is hereby acknowledged and implemented.
 - (2) Pursuant to said Decision, the Hearing Officer concluded that Mr. Sauer is guilty of four (4) sub-specifications of misconduct as set forth in the Charges dated June 27, 2013, and five (5) sub-specifications of misconduct as set forth in the Charges dated July 29, 2013, as further detailed in the Hearing Officer's Decision dated April 15, 2014.
 - (3) The penalty set forth by the Hearing Officer is as follows:
"In the Hearing Officer's Opinion, a thirty (30) day suspension without pay is the appropriate penalty. Progressive discipline is appropriate where an employee has never been disciplined and the misconduct entails correctable deficiencies. The parties should arrange the Respondent's schedule so that his thirty (30) calendar day suspension without pay is served during the summer months so as to be least disruptive to a School District with only one (1) High School Principal."
 - (4) The Superintendent of Schools and Board Counsel are directed to take the necessary steps to implement this Decision.
- Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

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Mrs. Panzer made and Mr. Mayville seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED that the Webutuck School District Board of Education hereby terminates the probationary employment of Gregory Gray, effective April 22, 2014.

Ayes 4 Nays 0 The motion carried.

Mr. McGhee abstained from the vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Mayville made and Mr. Moran seconded a motion to adjourn to executive session at 10:17 pm for the purpose of discussing litigation and the employment history of a particular person or persons.

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION

Mrs. Westfall made and Mr. McGhee seconded a motion to adjourn the executive session and to reconvene the public session at 10:34 pm.

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

14. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Ms. Moran made and Mrs. Panzer seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting of April 22, 2014 at 10:35 pm.

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Therese M. Trotter
District Clerk