

Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting
March 19, 2012

The Webutuck Board of Education held their March 19, 2012 meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Webutuck High School Library.

The following Board members were present:

Dale Culver, President
Joanne Boyd
William McGhee
Judy Moran
Kristen Panzer
John Perotti
Robert Trotta

Also Present:

James Gratto Jr., Superintendent
Mary Grden, School Business Manager
Therese Trotter, District Clerk
Katy McEnroe, WES Principal
Michelle Smith McLaughlin
Jennifer Jaffee
Al Barros

Absent:

Brian Christofel, Student Representative

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Culver called the business meeting of March 19, 2012 to order at 7:42 p.m.

2. PRINCIPALS' REPORT

K. McEnroe: WES BET Update

Mrs. McEnroe, as Director of Special Education, spoke about the curriculum program and planning for next year. The Department is continuing many of the programs next year. There is a group of students here and out of District that need specialized instruction. They are looking at creating a 15:1 at WES, and the EBIS building. It will allow students currently in the co-teaching classes to receive more specialized instruction for their core academics. This will also allow the District to bring students back that would have stayed in District if we had a specialized instruction in a self contained environment. She noted they have nine to ten students in each class. She noted that this year the Special Education Directors have met during the Eastern Dutchess Schools (Millbrook, Pine Plains, and Dover) meeting to discuss shared services. Mrs. Boyd questioned if the self contained classroom teacher would co-teach also. The answer was no there will be two different teachers. Discussion ensued.

Mrs. McEnroe spoke about Theme Day. She noted that Jen Jaffee took charge of the activity after Mrs. Murphy was moved to the EBIS/HS Library at the beginning of this year. With Mrs. Murphy's help this year's Theme Day was a huge success.

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Mrs. Jaffe presented photos and spoke about the day. The theme was "Once Upon a Time". The halls and classrooms were creatively decorated with fairy tale themes. Mrs. Jaffee noted that all of the teachers and staff pitched in to make the day the success that it was. It gives the building a feeling of community and family. Theme Day is a lead into PARP and Mrs. Jaffee commented that out of 276 children, 225 are participating in PARP.

Ms. McEnroe announced the International Pot Luck Dinner coming up this Thursday at WES.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following were topics commented on by the public:

- What happened with regards to grades 4, 5, and 6.
- Status of televising Board of Education meetings

4. STUDENT REPORT

Brian Christofel

Mr. Christofel was absent. Ms. Moran commented on how wonderful the play was this year.

5. CONSENSUS AGENDA VOTE

Mr. Trotta made and Ms. Moran seconded the following motion to approve the Consent Agenda. 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.

Ayes 7 Nays 0 The motion carried.

6. DISTRICT CLERK'S REPORT

***A.** Approval of Minutes for March 5 and 12, 2012 Board meeting.

Mr. Trotta made and Ms. Moran seconded a motion to accept the minutes as submitted:

Ayes 7 Nays 0 The motion carried.

B. Delegations - None

7. PERSONNEL

A. Leave of Absence

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

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby denies the following unpaid Leave of Absence:

Brenda Jackson

Bus Driver

Effective: March 12, 2012 – June 4, 2012

Ayes 5 Nays 2 The motion carried.

Mr. Culver and Mr. McGhee were the dissenters.

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B. Authorization to Purchase Buses

Mrs. Boyd made and Mrs. Panzer seconded the following motion:

Shall the Board of Education of the Webutuck Central School District be authorized to:

(a) acquire school buses at a maximum aggregate cost of \$191,263; (b) expend such sums for such purpose; (c) expend from the Bus Purchase Reserve Fund an amount not to exceed \$128,987 for such purpose; (d) levy the necessary tax therefore, to be levied and collected in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education taking into account state aid received and amounts disbursed from the reserve fund; and (e) in anticipation of the collection of such tax, to issue bonds and notes of the District at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed \$191,263, and to levy a tax to pay the interest on such obligations when due?

Mrs. Boyd commented that it is not clear what type of buses will be purchase. President Culver stated that we are still investigating our options. It was noted that the choices will be named in the budget newsletter. Discussion ensued.

Ayes 7 Nays 0 The motion carried.

C. NECC: Summer Meals Program, Extra Room Request, Sign Request

Mrs. Grden reported that NECC has asked for additional rooms upstairs to use and to also display signs at Millerton School. She explained that the contract needs to be renegotiated and at that time the District can incorporate the new requests into the contract. It was noted that the District should be in communication with the town about any future plans with NECC and Millerton building. Mr. Culver commented that if there are rooms we are not using he has no problem letting the community use it. Mrs. Panzer stated she will not comment or vote on this topic because she is a Board member of NECC. Ms. Moran stated that there will be a children's center closing in Sharon and it will be a loss for parents. President Culver suggested approaching them about the Millerton building. Discussion ensued.

With regard to the Summer Meals Program, Jenny Hansell is willing to work with us in any capacity we need. She approached several other entities to use their facilities but they were not adequate. Ms. Moran had concerns that someone on our staff be on site and making meals. Also, she noted that our kitchen is certified and questioned what will it take to have these people trained. It was suggested to check with legal council and the Department of Health. Discussion ensued.

11. BOARD OF EDUCATION

A. Approval of Board of Education Calendar Change

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

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the Board of Education meeting change to reflect the scheduled Monday, April 16, 2012 meeting moved to Tuesday, April 17, 2012.

Ayes 7 Nays 0 The motion carried.

B. Discussion of proposed 2012 -2013 School Calendar.

Discussed previously in the meeting.

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C. Committee Reports:

1. Finance

Mrs. Grden reported the Finance Committee discussed revenue and State aid. At this time, there is nothing substantial coming out of the State. She commented that there are rumors that there will be an increase in State aid. The Committee focused on different programs and options on the revenue side. Mrs. Grden stated the District is working at 7% decrease in State Aid. There will be budget discussion next week at the Board meeting. Discussion ensued.

2. Policy

Mr. Gratto commented that the Policy Committee meets most weeks. They are waiting for the 4000 series to come back from NYSSBA to be approved. In April, there will be a list of policies coming to the Board that will need input from the whole board.

3. Mr. Gratto will be speaking about Dignity for all Students at the next Board meeting. Mr. Perotti spoke about a DCC article in the paper; we should look to them to see if they are interested in having a site out here. Mrs. Grden has spoken to them twice. They have budget issues that need to be solved first before thinking about satellites. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Trotta spoke about the SAT information that was in the packet a short time ago. He was concerned that few students took the exam. Mr. Gratto felt it was a success because it was a new program this year and twenty students took the course. The Instructional Council has proposed that next year we offer two sessions of the course if there are students who are interested. Discussion ensued.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following are topics commented on by the public:

- Merit Pay
- data on students who stay in college for 4 years

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Moran made and Mr. Perotti seconded a motion to adjourn to executive session at 9:23 pm for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person or persons.

Ayes 7 Nays 0 The motion carried.

RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION

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

Ayes 7 Nays 0 The motion carried.

Discussion of proposed 2012-2013 Budget took place.

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Ms. Moran departed at 10:15 pm.

Mr. Perotti departed at 10:15 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Culver made and Mrs. Panzer seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting of March 19, 2012 at 11:17 pm.

Ayes 5

Nays 0 The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Therese M. Trotter
District Clerk