

Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting  
June 4, 2012

The Webutuck Board of Education held their June 4, 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  
John Perotti  
Robert Trotta

Also Present:

James Gratto Jr., Superintendent  
Mary Grden, School Business Manager  
Therese Trotter, District Clerk  
Brian Christofel, Student Representative  
Kenneth Sauer, WHS Principal  
Community  
Kristen Panzer  
Jennifer Jaffee  
Lynn Buckley  
Beth Murphy  
Jon Zenz  
Sue Pomeisl  
Judy Westfull  
Marilyn Unger  
Kayla Smith

Absent:

Kristen Panzer

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

President Culver called the business meeting of June 4, 2012 to order at 7:40 p.m.

**2. PRINCIPALS' REPORT Kenneth Sauer:**

Mr. Sauer reported on the High School's trial with NWEA testing. There was a power outage that affected student's computers however; Mr. Sauer stated that the students were able to pick right up where they had left off after the electrical shortage. It was a good run through as the high school prepares to implement NWEA next year. He commented that there were no computers for classes available when testing students recently. There was conversation about how better to organize testing next year to avoid shutting down the library for long periods of time and also to prevent occupying all the computers in the District. Mrs. Boyd questioned if the results from the testing would be immediately available. Mr. Gratto stated they are immediately available; however, they are still implementing the NWEAs and the next step is training faculty to learn how to assess and utilize the results. That will happen the week of June 18.

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Social Studies Elective Proposal

Mr. Sauer recently attended a meeting at BOCES with area school principals and he asked his colleagues if they had a Documentary Film Making course in the high school. He stated many schools offer the course but it is a full year course. Mr. Sauer recommended not offering the course this coming school year because Mr. Kleespies will be teaching two new AP courses. Discussion ensued.

President Culver questioned how many students will be graduating this year. Mr. Sauer stated there are several students that are on the fence about graduating; several have to pass the Regents exams. Discussion ensued.

Secondary Summer Program

Mr. Sauer explained the two choices for the summer program. 1.) Hire a teacher for grades 7 – 12 for Regents Review and Credit Recovery for English and Social Studies; and hire another teacher for grades 7-12 for English and Math. Mr. Sauer stated it was the least expensive way to go but not the best way to go, given the age range. The second proposal presented was to seek approval for a middle school program and a high school program hiring four teachers. If the number of students needing to take the courses is lower than expected, the number of teachers could be scaled back based on the need. Discussion ensued.

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 approves hiring three (3) teachers for the Summer Credit Recovery and Regent Courses,  
FURTHERMORE, that the possibility exists for providing instruction for Grades 6-12 however, no mixing should occur between Grades 9-12 and Grades 6-8; distribution of teaching duties will be determined at a later date.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following topics were commented on by the public:

- data for summer school program
- E2s data

**4. STUDENT REPORT**

Brian Christofel

Mr. Cristofel reported that the seniors came back from the senior trip late Sunday. Everyone had a great time. He mentioned several things that they saw on their trip. National Honor Society induction is tomorrow night. The Elementary concert is Wednesday, June 6 and Regents week begins shortly. Senior Yearbook breakfast is tomorrow morning. Khan Academy provides internet review on many different subjects. Mr. Christofel reported that he has used the Khan Academy to review for his tests and he recommends the summer school program use it. Brian thanked the Board for his time as Student Representative. Discussion ensued.

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**5. CONSENSUS AGENDA VOTE**

Mr. Trotta made and Mr. Perotti 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 6 Nays 0 The motion carried.

**6. DISTRICT CLERK'S REPORT**

**\*A.** Approval of Minutes for May 21 and May 30, 2012 Board meeting.

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

Ayes 6 Nays 0 The motion carried.

**B.** Delegations

Marilyn Unger, representative of the Playground Committee, spoke about history of the Committee raising funds to replace aging playground equipment. They recently donated funds for paving the walkway down to the playground at WES. The Committee would like to provide swings on the west side of the building and shade for the playground. The Committee targeted swings specifically for many reasons which Mrs. Unger explained. She stated that the cost of six (6) swings will be approximately \$2400 - \$3600. She appealed to the Board of Education for support for the project by providing surface underneath the swings, assembling, and installing the swings. She estimated the surfacing would cost \$1500 to \$1750 delivered. She asked the Board to please give consideration to her request. Discussion ensued.

**7. PERSONNEL**

**A.** None

**8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

**A.** Revisions to Amenia Elementary Lease Agreement

Mr. Gratto spoke about the revised sections of the Lease which were highlighted in the Agreement. He discussed the changes noted. He commented that the District could use the room in the basement as a computer training room for teachers. The other room would be used for storage. It was suggested that the Town be responsible for the cost of preparing the room for computer use. Board members were in agreement. Discussion ensued.

**9. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

**\*A.** Approval of the Music Electives

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 approves the following electives:

Music History

Vocal Jazz Ensemble

Ayes 6 Nays 0 The motion carried.

**B. Discussion of Secondary Summer School Proposals**

Discussion and approval of resolution took place earlier in the meeting.

**10. BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS**

**\*A. Approval of Elevator Inspection**

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 approves the elevator inspection for Millerton Elementary School performed by ThyssenKrupp Corporation at a cost of eight hundred fifty dollars (\$850) for the 2012-2013 school year.

Ayes 6 Nays 0 The motion carried.

**11. BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**\*A. Second Reading and Adoption of 5000 Series (Students)**

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 approves the second reading and adoption of Policy #5000 Series (Students).

Ayes 6 Nays 0 The motion carried.

**B. Reschedule June 18, 2012 Board of Education meeting to June 25, 2012.**

Mr. Gratto suggested moving the June 18 Board meeting.

Mr. Perotti made and Mr. Trotta seconded a motion to move the June 18, 2012 Board of Education meeting to Monday, June 25, 2012

Ayes 6 Nays 0 The motion carried.

C. Mrs. Boyd asked members if anyone was going to the Dutchess County School Board dinner this Thursday. Ms. Moran thought she would go.

Mr. Trotta spoke about videotaping the Board meetings. He stated he had brought it up about six months ago but nothing has happened thus far. He would like the next Board meeting taped. Discussion ensued.

**12. PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following topics were commented on by the public:

-Beth Murphy had an intern from Maplebrook, recognition dinner at Maplebrook.

**13. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. McGhee made and Mr. Perotti seconded a motion to adjourn to executive session at 9:09 pm for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person or persons.

Ayes 6 Nays 0 The motion carried.

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**RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION**

Mr. McGhee made and Mrs. Boyd seconded a motion to adjourn the executive session and to reconvene the public session at 11:04 pm.

Ayes 6      Nays 0      The motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mr. Perotti made and Mr. McGhee seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting of June 4, 2012 at 11:05 pm.

Ayes 6      Nays 0      The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Therese M. Trotter  
District Clerk