

**SOUTHERN CAYUGA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2009
HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Leonard Jordan called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. All Board members were present at the start of the meeting.

OPEN SESSION/ROLL CALL

Board members present: President Leonard Jordan, Vice President Dean Winspear, Teresa Lipfert, Joe Lonsky, Steve Morse, Ted Rejman, Jim Wilcox

Board members absent: none

Administrators present: Superintendent Mary Kay Worth, Martha Stevermer, Luke Carnicelli, Mary Lou Cronin, Patricia Reilley

Others present: Nynette Adams, James & Devin Adsitt, Sharon Botsford, Trudy Buxenbaum, Becky Davis, Bernie DeGraw, Phil Donovan, Bryan Ellis, John Gloss, Sandra Groth, June Janssen, Brett Johnson, Carin Kopp, Terry Lang, Michele & Randy Lawrence, Ann Mares, Alyssa Sunkin (*Citizen reporter*), Ann Teeter, Terry Underwood, Gary Vrabel, Jim Walker, John Wells

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion by Dean Winspear, seconded by Joe Lonsky, the Board of Education approved the agenda, as amended. President Jordan reviewed the calendar.

Motion carried: Yes – 5 No – 0

PRESENTATIONS – none

VISITOR RECOGNITION –

-- June Janssen spoke to the Board about the need for three nurse positions to remain in the budget, for the services they provide to students and staff.

Consent Agenda Action Items: Motion was made by Ted Rejman, seconded by Dean Winspear, to approve the following items.

Motion carried: Yes – 7 No – 0

- Minutes: – BOE Regular Meeting, February 9, 2009
The Board of Education approved the minutes of the BOE regular meeting of February 9, 2009.
- CSE Recommendations: The Board of Education approved the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education.

BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTION ITEMS

- Policy, Second Reading: On a motion by Ted Rejman, seconded by Steve Morse, the Board of Education reviewed for a second reading, and approved, **Policy #5310, Bonding of Employees and School Board Members**, as revised by the Policy Committee.

Motion carried: Yes – 7 No – 0
- New Policy, Second Reading: On a motion by Ted Rejman, seconded by Dean Winspear, the Board of Education reviewed for a second reading, and approved, new **Policy #5440, District Cell Phones**, as recommended by the Policy Committee.

Motion carried: Yes – 7 No – 0
- Safe Schools/Healthy Students Grant Opportunity: On a motion by Ted Rejman, seconded by Dean Winspear, the Board of Education adopted the following resolution to participate in a cooperative application for grant monies for safe schools and healthy students. Brief discussion took place, noting that this grant will not fund our SRO; however, it may fund shared SRO services for the five participating schools. The grant will complement things we are already doing.

Motion carried: Yes – 6 No – 1 (JL)
- **Be It Resolved** that on February 23, 2009, the Board of Education of the Southern Cayuga Central School District provides permission for the Superintendent of Schools to sign the Memorandum of Agreement as part of the application for Safe Schools/Healthy Students funding from the federal government. The Board understands by this action that this Memorandum of Agreement is preliminary and will be reviewed and modified if need be if and when the federal government does approve of the application for funding to implement the Central New York Rural Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative beginning in the 2009/2010 school year.

Personnel Agenda

RESIGNATIONS – none

CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT STATUS

- Tenure: On a motion made by Teresa Lipfert, seconded by Dean Winspear, the Board of Education granted a tenure appointment to **Patricia Reilley**, in the School District Administrator tenure area, as Middle School Principal, effective February 26, 2009.

Motion carried: Yes – 7 No – 0

APPOINTMENTS -- Resolution: The Board of Education hereby gives notice of its intent to appoint the following individuals to the designated positions with an emergency conditional appointment in accordance with Policy #6170, subject to their submission of clearance for employment by the State Education Department Office of School Personnel Review and Accountability (OSPRA). Upon the receipt of conditional employment clearance, the appointment shall be changed to a conditional appointment and upon receipt of final clearance for employment granted by the State Education Department, the appointment shall be changed to a regular or substitute appointment as designated below.

Consent Agenda Personnel Items: On a motion made by Ted Rejman, seconded by Dean Winspear, the Board of Education approved the following personnel items.

Motion carried: Yes – 7 No – 0

- Substitute: The Board of Education approved **Sharon Culver** as substitute Clerical for the 2008/09 school year, at a rate of \$20.42 per hour.

- Student Field Placements: The Board of Education approved the student teacher field placements for spring 2009, as listed.

- Aleshia Akers, Cayuga Community College, with TJ Barresi, 30 hours
- Evan McGonagle, TC3, with Andy Miller, 30 hours
- Eric Peterson, Wells College, with Jeanne Eisenschmidt, 20 hours

- Co-Curricular: The Board of Education approved the appointment of spring coaching positions, as follows.

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|--|------------|
| -- Chad Raner, Varsity Baseball | \$2,325 |
| -- Doug Milliman, Varsity Baseball Assistant | \$1,537.50 |
| -- Greg Harris, Modified Baseball | \$1,500 |
| -- Kathy Perez, Varsity Softball | \$2,437.50 |
| -- Matt Bancroft, Varsity Tennis | \$2,325 |
| -- Terry Underwood, Varsity Golf | \$3,130 |
| -- Chris Brozon, Modified Track & Field | \$1,537.50 |
| -- Bill Mullarney, Varsity Track & Field | \$3,496.50 |

- Occasional Driver: The Board of Education approved the appointment of **Frank Benenati** as occasional driver for the 2008/09 school year.

- CSE, CPSE Parent Members: The Board of Education approved the appointment of the following as Parent Members to the Committee on Special Education and the Committee on Preschool Special Education.
 - Carrie Brown
 - Cyndy Gardner
 - Marie Juhl
 - Anthony Ruocco
 - Kelly VanOrman

- Change in Mentor Assignment: The Board of Education approved the change in mentor assignment for the 2008/09 school year, as follows.

New Teacher
Audra Chapman

Mentor Teacher
Mary Beth Howell; appointed for second half of 2008/09 school year, at half the stipend of \$1,250

Audra Chapman

Liz Tyrrell; discontinue as of February 13, 2009, due to leave of absence

BUSINESS OFFICE REPORT/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

-- Tax Adjustment for Verizon property in the town of Ledyard; this property was reassessed and the district repaid them \$9,086.76. Having a tax certiorari reserve fund would cover payments for this purpose in the future.

-- 2006/07 Final General and Excess Cost State Aid Adjustment; we have received notice of monies owed us from the State Education Department from 2006/07.

-- Single Bus Run Study; information was provided to the BOE.

-- Bus Replacement Plan and Current Fleet Status Report; information was provided to the BOE. Discussion took place regarding the buses to be included on the ballot in May. It was the consensus of the Board to include the 9-passenger van, at \$20,000, on the ballot instead of including it in the general budget.

-- Bus Proposition: On a motion made by Ted Rejman, seconded by Dean Winspear, the Board of Education authorized, by roll call vote, the proposition to be placed on the ballot for public vote in May, *as attached*.

Teresa Lipfert, yes
Joe Lonsky, no
Steve Morse, yes

Ted Rejman, yes
Len Jordan, yes

Dean Winspear, yes
Jim Wilcox, yes

- 2009/2010 Budget Review/Discussion
- Technology (Computer-Aided Instruction)
- Library
- Teaching-Administration
- Health Services
- Guidance
- Psychologist

Discussion took place on these areas of the budget. Under the Technology section, it was noted that computers are purchased on a three-year rotating basis thru OCM BOCES. They replace any that do not work properly and handle disposals. In two more years, all our computers will be covered by one of these leases and the rotation will continue. Under the Library section, it was noted that library periodicals online are also not free. Under the Teaching-Administration section, it was noted that recommendations are based on enrollment. A further breakout of Copiers, Water, Subscriptions 9-12 will be provided next time. Under Health Services, it was noted again that modifications to the building will be needed if one nurse position is eliminated. When discussing the Guidance section, it was questioned if three guidance counselors are needed. The school social worker is paid entirely thru federal grant monies.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Teresa Lipfert, seconded by Steve Morse, the Board entered executive session at 8:15 pm for discussion of a legal matter.

Motion carried: Yes – 7 No – 0

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

On a motion by Steve Morse, seconded by Dean Winspear, the Board of Education returned to open session at 8:26 pm.

Motion carried: Yes – 7 No – 0

The budget discussion continued, with the Psychologist section. Our psychologist is on a leave of absence this year and is expected to return for next year.

After these budget sections were reviewed, Joe Lonsky put forth a motion to adopt a property tax levy cap of \$6,738,353.90 for next year, which is a zero percent increase from this year. He included a proposal to establish an alternative energy fund for the Poplar Ridge building. He noted this would provide a figure to aim for while working on the budget for next year. Dean Winspear seconded his motion. Superintendent Worth asked that Board members wait until they have reviewed all budget areas before deciding on a final number.

Motion defeated: Yes – 3 No – 4 (SM, DW, TR, TL)

Ted Rejman asked about the status of the RFP process for the health care program. There is a meeting scheduled for Wednesday and a decision will be made.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

-- Federal Stimulus Package; Superintendent Worth met with Gary Finch last week and discussed this topic; SCCS may or may not be able to access the money; conflicting information is coming forth; this money will not solve the problems with the state budget shortfalls. The COSBA legislative luncheon has been postponed indefinitely. Information was given to Mr. Finch about how a spending freeze affects the school district.

-- Annual BOCES Board of Education Elections; it was the consensus of Board members to retain Tom Gunderson as their representative on the BOCES Board.

-- A negotiating training session is being held this week. Dean Winspear and Teresa Lipfert indicated interest in attending.

-- Facilities Planning; Joe Lonsky asked about a statement in the minutes regarding "future enrollment growth."

-- Minutes, meeting #3; February 11, 2009

-- Final Enrollment Projections Study

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

-- Cayuga-Onondaga Area School Employees' Healthcare Plan Minutes; distributed to Board members; December 3, 2008 and December 18, 2008.

-- COSBA Award Nominations: On a motion by Ted Rejman, seconded by Dean Winspear, the Board of Education endorsed the following nominations for the Cayuga-Onondaga School Board Association's Annual Dinner and Awards Night in June.

Outstanding Teachers: **Tim Amory** (MS) and **Dan Holden** (HS)

Outstanding Support Staff: **Joanne Cartner** and **Paul Radcliffe**

-- BOE Committee Reports

-- Cayuga Onondaga School Boards Association (COSBA) Executive Committee Representative; Leonard Jordan; **next meeting** is March 2.

-- District Audit Committee; Joe Lonsky, Dean Winspear; no report

-- Long-Range Facilities Planning Committee; Ted Rejman, Dean Winspear, Len Jordan

-- **Next Meeting** is February 25.

- Policy Committee; Ted Rejman, Dean Winspear
 - **Next meeting** is March 17.
- Wellness Core Committee or SubCommittees; Teresa Lipfert; Dean Winspear; no report
- Transportation Committee; Jim Wilcox, Dean Winspear; next meeting is March 3.
- Athletics; Steve Morse; the girls' basketball team won their division and will host Newfield tomorrow night for the first round of sectional play. Members of the wrestling and swim teams earned some personal bests.
- SCCS/Union Springs Merged Sports Committee; Ted Rejman, Jim Wilcox, Dean Winspear
- SCCS/Wells Partnership; Dean Winspear; next meeting is April 9 at SCCS. A review of accomplishments included the possibility of a Wells class being taught at SCCS, a senior seminar, and the booming foreign language program at Emily Howland. Ted Rejman noted that these programs are some of the things that were originally envisioned.

QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

- Sandra Groth asked about information/training sessions for prospective Board members. Our Board members expressed willingness to meet with people.

- Trudy Buxenbaum asked if the local libraries could have a copy of the final enrollment projection study. She was given one for the Hazard Library and Sandra Groth was given one for the Aurora Library.

- Phil Donovan asked about budget scenarios; will there be only one or will there be a "Plan B"? When will the public be seeing the different options? Superintendent Worth noted that we are way ahead of schedule; the first review of all budget sections will be complete by March 9; then various options will be presented and reviewed. Classroom/content area teachers will be looked at for student/teacher ratios. Bernie DeGraw noted that he works with 250 students and helped explain the college courses that are offered.

- Phil Donovan also asked about the EXCEL project; is any money left over? Why does the Middle School door not have a dedicated monitor on the secretary's desk to see who is at the door?

- Pat Reilley thanked the Board for their support of her tenure appointment. She has a great team and loves working with the students.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Ted Rejman, seconded by Steve Morse, the Board entered executive session at 9:25 pm for discussion of a personnel matter.

Motion carried: Yes – 7 No – 0

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

On a motion by Ted Rejman, seconded by Dean Winspear, the Board of Education returned to open session at 10:05 pm.

Motion carried: Yes – 7 No – 0

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Ted Rejman, seconded by Joe Lonsky, the Board of Education adjourned at 10:06 pm.

Motion carried: Yes – 7 No – 0

Respectfully submitted,
Nynette Adams, District Clerk

Bus Replacement Plan Resolution, February 23, 2009

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of Southern Cayuga Central School District, Cayuga and Tompkins Counties, New York, as follows.

Section 1. The proposition hereinafter set forth is hereby authorized to be submitted for the approval of the qualified voters at the annual school district election to be held in said School District, on the 19th day of May, 2009.

Section 2. The School District Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to include as a part of the notice of the annual district meeting and election notice with reference to the submission of said proposition in substantially the following form.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that at said annual election to be held on May 19, 2009, the following proposition will be submitted.

PROPOSITION

Shall the following resolution be adopted, to wit:

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Southern Cayuga Central School District, Cayuga and Tompkins Counties, New York, is hereby authorized to pay the cost of the purchase of school buses, including incidental expenses in connection therewith, at a maximum estimated cost of not exceeding **\$318,500**, and that said amount or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and collected in annual installments as provided by Section 416 of the Education Law; and, in anticipation of such tax, obligations of said School District shall be issued.

If necessary due to space constraints on the voting machines, said proposition may be presented in substantially the following abbreviated form.

PROPOSITION

Shall the following resolution be adopted, to wit:

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Southern Cayuga Central School District, Cayuga and Tompkins Counties, New York, is hereby authorized to purchase school buses, and that the maximum estimated cost not exceeding **\$318,500**, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said District and collected in annual installments as provided by Section 416 of the Education Law; and, in anticipation of such tax, obligations of said School District shall be issued.

The School District has determined this to be a "Type II Action" pursuant to the regulations of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation promulgated pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act, the implementation of which as proposed, the regulations provide, will not result in any significant environmental effects.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.