

**SOUTHERN CAYUGA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2008
HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice President Dean Winspear called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. All Board members were present at the start of the meeting except Leonard Jordan.

OPEN SESSION/ROLL CALL

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

Board members absent: President Leonard Jordan

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

Others present: Nynette Adams, Jason Benedict, Bruce Besner, Tricia Bowman, Julie Burnham, Mary Burns, Becky Davis, John DeBois, Bernie DeGraw, Phil Donovan, Mary Ferro, Susan Gloss, Sandra Groth, Robb Jetty, Carin Kopp, Deborah Mann, John Miller, Peter & Lisa Morris, Anto Parseghian, Roberta Parseghian, Heather Snyder, Ann Teeter, Mike VanAusbury, Cynthia Warn, John Wells, and others

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ted Rejman noted that Board members should speak respectfully to each other during the meeting. Dean Winspear agreed.

On a motion by Ted Rejman, seconded by Teresa Lipfert, the Board of Education approved the agenda.

Motion carried: Yes – 6 No – 0

The calendar was reviewed. It was noted that the SCCS/Wells Partnership meeting would be held on Tuesday, September 30, at 6:30 at SCCS.

PRESENTATIONS –

-- English teacher Bill Zimpfer gave introductory background information on the Literacy Self-Study Team. Foreign Language teacher Peg Herstine reported on the team's work in 2007/08 on literacy across the curriculum in grades 7-12. Their work will continue this year, with a K-12 focus on writing.

-- Tricia Bowman and Heather Snyder reported on the K-8 Math Self-Study team's work from 2006/07 and 2007/08. Three goals were reviewed; Prioritize Math Curriculum; Determine Instructional Needs for Each Student and Plan Interventions; Develop a System for Communication. The team's work will continue this year, with plans to incorporate grades 9-12 into the program. A suggestion was made to send representatives to the department coordinators meetings.

-- Jason Benedict of King & King Architects reviewed the preliminary timeline for the long-range facilities planning; this is an intense process with many decisions to be made, including enrollment projections, the big question of the future of the Emily Howland building and the completion of the long-range educational planning. All district buildings will be looked at and all alternatives considered. It was the consensus of Board members to put out an RFP to secure consultant services to help with long-range facilities planning.

VISITOR RECOGNITION –

-- John Miller cautioned the Board to take their time in the process, to consider the costs, the students, the community and the consequences of their decisions. Be sure the administration and the faculty agree with decisions and the community knows the reasons for this important decision. Joe Lonsky responded that the Emily Howland building needs much work and a decision needs to be made more quickly than it would if the building was already in good condition. Carin Kopp noted that he should be careful saying he thinks he knows what the community wants. John Wells commented that the Board should make sure the community understands what's going on; give more details to the wider community. John DeBois asked if money would be needed to adapt the Poplar Ridge building if Emily Howland is closed. He suggested better communication to the community. Dean Winspear said the Board will look at all options before a decision is made. Julie Burnham asked where do the figures come from that Joe quoted. Ted Rejman noted that all options must be looked at; no presumptions to be made. Emily Howland is a family of its own; it is the reason people move here. Julie Burnham received an email from a town Board member. Superintendent Worth was made aware of the email; it is partially caused by community uncertainty of the Board's intentions; people are hearing pieces and making many assumptions; one person is needed to make the public statements and it should be the Superintendent as Chief School Officer. Ted Rejman wants school/community collaborations to continue; we have things that are working well. John DeBois asked if there would be a community vote or if the Board would make the decisions. Superintendent Worth noted the three community forums suggested by King & King before the Board even decides; there will be a public vote on a capital project. John DeBois asked how the Board plans to get community input. Superintendent Worth noted the process that has been used for the long-range education planning; representatives from various stakeholder groups were solicited; 19 people are now on committee; a similar process will be used for the long-range facilities group. It's important to have a representative group. A suggestion was also made that the BOE should understand what would happen to the Emily Howland building if left empty.

-- Ted Rejman noted a positive comment heard at a recent sports event. He then gave birthday greetings to Elementary Principal Mary Lou Cronin.

BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTION ITEMS --

Minutes: Motion made by Ted Rejman, seconded by Teresa Lipfert, to approve the minutes of the **September 8, 2008**, regular meeting.

Motion carried: Yes – 5 No – 0
Abstain – 1 (SM)

CSE Recommendations: On a motion by Ted Rejman, seconded by Teresa Lipfert, the Board of Education approved the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education.

Motion carried: Yes – 6 No – 0

Poplar Ridge Fire Company: Motion made by Ted Rejman, seconded by Steve Morse, to approve the request of the Poplar Ridge Fire Company to purchase an excessed school bus for \$1,000 plus the training to be provided for the SCCS transportation department employees. Superintendent Worth reviewed the request. Then Bruce Besner, Poplar Ridge Fire Company Chief, explained how the bus would be used for training, involving the SCCS transportation department and other local fire departments in a two-day staged drill. He asked that the fluids be drained from the bus first. Board members asked why we want them to pay for the bus; we should just give it to them and let them give us money when they scrap the bus after the drill. On a motion by Teresa Lipfert, seconded by Ted Rejman, the Board revised the motion to read: The Board of Education approved the request of the Poplar Ridge Fire Company to purchase an excessed school bus for the value of training to be provided for SCCS transportation department employees.

Motion carried: Yes – 6 No -- 0

Personnel Agenda

RESIGNATIONS – none

LEAVE OF ABSENCE – none

CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT STATUS – none

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.

-- Monitor: On a motion by Ted Rejman, seconded by Steve Morse, the Board of Education approved the appointment of **James Haring** of Lansing as part-time Monitor in the Poplar Ridge building, for the 2008/09 school year, effective September 23, 2008, working Mondays and Tuesdays from 7:30 am to 3:00 pm, at a rate of \$9.01 per hour, with a 52-week probationary period.

Motion carried: Yes – 6 No – 0

-- Monitor: On a motion by Ted Rejman, seconded by Steve Morse, the Board of Education approved the appointment of **Sherry Sayre** of Aurora as part-time Monitor in the Emily Howland building, for the 2008/09 school year, effective September 23, 2008, from 11:15 am to 2:15 pm, at a rate of \$9.01 per hour, with a 52-week probationary period; she is replacing Elizabeth Frazier who resigned.

Motion carried: Yes – 6 No – 0

-- Food Service Helper: On a motion by Ted Rejman, seconded by Teresa Lipfert, the Board of Education approved the appointment of **Shirley Dunn** of Moravia as Food Service Helper, three hours per day, effective September 23, 2008, at a rate of \$8.82, with a 52-week probationary period. She will replace Lynn Ryan who is now in a four-hour position, replacing Charlotte Bancroft who retired.

Motion carried: Yes – 6 No – 0

-- CoCurricular: On a motion by Ted Rejman, seconded by Steve Morse, the Board of Education approved the following co-curricular items for the 2008/09 school year

Motion carried: Yes – 6 No – 0

- Amendment: **Frank Benenati**, Science Olympiad Co-Advisor, \$539
- Appointment: **Mike Dempsey**, Science Olympiad Co-Advisor, \$539
- Appointment: **Rebecca Davis**, Foreign Language Club Advisor, \$862
- Appointment: **Jolie White**, Musical Costume Director, \$690

-- Practicum Student: On a motion by Ted Rejman, seconded by Steve Morse, the Board of Education approved the placement of **Erin Farmer**, SUNY Cortland practicum student, adolescent education English major, to work with Bill Mullarney in the Poplar Ridge building for 25 hours in the fall 2008.

Motion carried: Yes – 6 No – 0

-- Student Teacher: On a motion by Ted Rejman, seconded by Teresa Lipfert, the Board of Education approved the placement of **Kristen Hultz**, Wells College student, student teaching with Lin Jetty, from October 27 to December 19, 2008.

Motion carried: Yes – 6 No – 0

-- Student Teacher: On a motion by Ted Rejman, seconded by Teresa Lipfert, the Board of Education approved the placement of **Gregory Frank**, SUNY Cortland student, student teaching with Donna Riester, from October 20 to December 17, 2008.

Motion carried: Yes – 6 No – 0

-- Volunteers: On a motion by Ted Rejman, seconded by Steve Morse, the Board of Education approved long-term volunteers in the Emily Howland building for the 2008/09 school year. They will each receive a thank you note.

Motion carried: Yes – 6 No – 0

- Mary Hebbard with Cindy Krause
- Anne Reynolds with Trish Bowman
- Amy Mantey with Trish Bowman
- Nancy Valentine with Bonny Blair

-- Substitutes: On a motion by Ted Rejman, seconded by Steve Morse the Board of Education approved the appointment of substitutes as listed, for the 2008/09 school year.

Motion carried: Yes – 6 No – 0

- Kelly Burchim, substitute teacher, teacher aide, clerical
- Denice Stockton, substitute bus driver
- Laura Abraham, substitute teacher
- Linda Anthony, substitute teacher aide, clerical, food service
- Amy Beaudin, substitute teacher and teaching assistant
- Lindsay Beiswenger, substitute teacher
- Rachael Fulmer, substitute teacher
- Timothy Jedra, substitute teacher
- Catherine Komarisky, substitute teacher aide, clerical, food service
- Anne Littlejohn, substitute teacher
- Deanna (Dee) Nance, substitute teacher, teacher aide, teaching assistant
- Shawn Schmitt, substitute teacher
- Joseph Sullivan, substitute teacher
- Melissa Swartz, substitute teacher aide, clerical, monitor, food service,
bus attendant
- Tonya Willis, substitute teacher

Teresa Lipfert left the meeting.

BUSINESS OFFICE REPORTS --

-- CBO Migration; Business Administrator Martha Stevermer reviewed the status of the move to the Common Business Office for accounts payable and payroll. A parallel payroll will be done once in October to be sure all information transfers correctly to the new software. She thanked Personnel Clerk Carol Piechuta and Treasurer Beverly Buisch for the many hours they have put into this process.

-- Health Insurance Board; the Cayuga-Onondaga Area School Employees' Healthcare Board will complete an RFP for consultant services to benchmark the services of the plan's third-party administrators through an independent review to be completed this plan year. They also will begin to have monthly meetings and address the 2009/10 rate structure and other issues on a more regular basis.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS --

-- NYS 2008 Youth Development Survey; information will be collected from students on alcohol, tobacco and drug use. A "Reality Check" resolution will be on the next meeting's agenda, asking magazines to eliminate substance use ads from editions sent to school districts.

-- EXCEL Update; a punch list has been started.

-- BOE Appreciation Week; a new program is being used this year; Board members can sign up to visit the schools the week of October 20-24, to see the instructional programs in action. They should fill out their survey forms and return them to the district office.

-- Homecoming Weekend coverage was reviewed; Superintendent Worth gave Board members her plans.

-- Enrollment & Program Report; information was shared; year began with more students than projected. Board members should call with questions or comments.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT --

-- Internal Operations; Board members reviewed this set of policies and suggested some revisions, which will be put on the October 14 agenda for a first reading. Revisions will be included in this week's update. Dean Winspear would like a committee organized to get more people interested and more involved in becoming Board members, maybe a search committee; make more people aware of what Board members do. Superintendent Worth noted that the book loaned to each of them discusses this topic.

-- Athletic Courtesy Pass; given to each Board member.

- BOCES Minutes, August 21, 2008; copy for Board members.
- BOE Committee Reports; this list was reviewed.
- Cayuga Onondaga School Boards Association (COSBA) Executive Committee Representative; Leonard Jordan
 - **First COSBA Dinner Meeting & Workshop of the School Year**
 - Thursday, October 23, 6:00, Springside Inn; reservations needed
 - Guest Speaker Bill Hayes
- District Audit Committee; Joe Lonsky, Dean Winspear; no report.
- Long-Range Education Planning Committee; Teresa Lipfert, Ted Rejman, Len Jordan
 - **Meeting Dates:** Wednesday, October 15, 4:45 to 9:30 pm
 - Monday, November 17, 8:00 to 4:00 pm
 - Wednesday, November 19, 4:45 to 9:30 pm
- Long-Range Facilities Planning Committee; Ted Rejman, Dean Winspear; no report.
- Policy Committee; Ted Rejman, Dean Winspear
 - Report on September 16 meeting; minutes will be included in this week's update.
- Wellness Core Committee or SubCommittees; Teresa Lipfert; Dean Winspear; no report.
- Transportation Committee; Jim Wilcox, Dean Winspear; minutes from September 18 meeting will be in update. Jim Wilcox would like to be sure the transportation department has the tools they need to do their jobs, such as replacing the lift. There may be money available in the fund balance; could this be a shared service with Union Springs or Moravia? There are many issues involved. The state may be more encouraging with incentives for local governments looking at shared services through Local Government Efficiency Grants; a meeting will be held in Syracuse in October; the flyer will be in this week's update. Dean Winspear will contact the towns to see if anyone would be interested in joining SCCS at this meeting.
- Athletics; Steve Morse noted the Homecoming Weekend and encouraged Board members to attend. a comment was also heard at a recent soccer game that our students are clean cut representatives of our district.

EXECUTIVE SESSION –

On a motion by Ted Rejman, seconded by Steve Morse, the Board entered executive session at 9:32 pm for discussion of a personnel matter.

Motion carried: Yes – 5 No – 0

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

On a motion by Steve Morse, seconded by Joe Lonsky, the Board returned to open session at 10:02 pm.

Motion carried: Yes – 5 No – 0

Discussion: Ted Rejman asked for information about taxable property in the village of Aurora.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Ted Rejman, seconded by Steve Morse, the Board of Education adjourned the meeting at 10:14 pm.

Motion carried: Yes -- 5 No -- 0

Respectfully submitted,
Nynette Adams
District Clerk