

COXSACKIE-ATHENS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Regular Board of Education Meeting  
November 17, 2009

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by President Garland

Roll Call

Present: Mrs. Mercer, Mr. Cardinale, Mrs. Tailleir, Mr. Nadler, Mr. Gerrain, Mrs. Hanse,  
Mr. Petramale, Mr. Garland, Mr. Wallace, Mrs. Tailleir

A motion was made by Mr. Cardinale, seconded by Mr. Petramale and unanimously passed to approve the following resolution:

Approval of Minutes

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education accept the minutes of the Committee on Special Education meeting of 10/6/09, 10/30/09; minutes of the Sub-Committee on Special Education meeting of 10/6/09, 10/27/09, 10/30/09, 11/2/09; minutes of the Preschool Committee on Special Education meeting of 10/8/09, 10/30/09; minutes of the Regular Board of Education meeting of 10/20/09; and minutes of the Special Board of Education meeting of 10/26/09.

Public Input – Agenda Items

At this point in the agenda, members of the attending public are invited to address the Board on issues that the board will be considering **on this evening's agenda**. Individuals are asked to stand, to state their name, and to summarize their concerns for the Board. Any written documents may be given to the Clerk of the Board for distribution to Board members. We request that, if at all possible, comments be kept to three to five minutes in length to afford all interested parties the opportunity to speak.

None

Public Input – Non Agenda Items

At this point in the agenda, members of the attending public are invited to address the Board on issues of general concern that the Board may wish to consider at **future** Board of Education meetings, if appropriate, or to provide information to the Board on matters of importance. Individuals are asked to stand, to state their name, and to summarize their concerns for the Board. Any written documents may be given to the Clerk of the Board for distribution to Board members. We request that, if at all possible, comments be kept to three to five minutes in length to afford all interested parties the opportunity to speak.

Jennifer Weinstein – clerk typist at the high school, student council advisor and mother of two. She told the board she loves her job and worked very hard to get a job with the school district. No day in the high school office is a “typical day”. All fifteen members of the clerical unit are residents of the school community. Currently the clerical unit is at impasse, and they are asking for the support of the Board of Education

Sharon Carloni – co-president of the CATA. She shared how important the school related professionals are to the district. Teaching assistants/aides, clerical staff and custodians keep our schools running. The tireless efforts of these staff members should be recognized.

Diane Tompkins – teaching assistant. She stated that she is speaking as a taxpayer. She does not understand why we are hiring an interim principal for the middle school, at a cost of \$400 per day? She also feels that the position of Chief of Curriculum is a non-essential position to the district.

Paula Kalney – teaching assistant. She read a statement from Annette DeLuccy (teaching assistant) who was unable to attend the meeting. She is sorry to hear that the view of assistant/aide position is that they do not spend as much time with the students. She hopes that the Board realizes how much influence the aides and assistants have on students.

Madison Economos – Senior. She shared an essay she had written for a college application regarding the new teacher contract. The longer instructional day has taken away from sports and clubs. It is hard to be a well-rounded student with the new schedule. The Board of Education has disregarded the students needs and wishes.

Patty McIntyre – high school math teacher and co-advisor of the Interact Club. The Club is currently collecting tabs from soda cans in conjunction with Catskill High School. Their goals it to fill up two pick up trucks. Please forward any tabs to her at the high school.

Erika Goldson – senior, early admit student at HVCC. It seems that the morale of the school has taken a severe drop over the last few years. L period should be for clubs and sports. With the new schedule the clubs “are not working”.

Student stated that he is in support of time for clubs and athletics. The new schedule is difficult for students to participate in clubs and sports.

Samantha Baldwin – student. She shared her concerns with L period.

Mr. Wallace – Board member. He told the group that the School Liaison Committee will be meeting in the near future to discuss L period.

Dr. Gregory stated that students should also discuss their concerns with Mrs. Germain, high school principal.

#### Communications/Board Discussion

##### “Good News”

Dr. Gregory shared the Good News for November (attached).

#### Committee Reports

Negotiating Committee – The Committee will be meeting with various units on Wednesday, November 18, 2009.

Facilities Committee – The Committee is currently working toward getting the word out regarding the renovation project. Mr. Garland explained that the money for the project is coming from building aid not the operating aid.

Future Visions Committee – The Committee is still looking at educational foundations. It has been put on hold until January.

Board Self-Evaluation – Reminder that the evaluations are due by December 3, 2009

Shared Decision Meeting – The Committee met recently, and is continuing with the C-A Star (staff recognition) Award.

#### Repair/Renovation Project

Dr. Gregory shared the handouts that have been developed for the project. Two copies of a proposed newsletter, one in black and white, and one in color were distributed to Board members for their review. Dr. Gregory asked the Board to contact him with any changes or suggestions they might have. The Board agreed to have the newsletter printed in color.

#### Board Development Opportunities

Strategies for Surviving and Thriving in a Financial Crisis – Questar III B.O.C.E.S. – November 21, 2009 – 8:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

The following plan on attending the meeting scheduled for November 21: Dr. Gregory, Leslie Copleston, Mike Petramale, Seph Garland, and Bart Wallace.

Annual Board Retreat – January 5, 2010 – 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The Board was reminded of the Board Retreat scheduled for January 5, 2010.

#### Superintendent's Staff Reports

Middle School Assessment Report – Mr. Posillico

Due to illness Mr. Posillico was not in attendance at the Board meeting; therefore Mrs. Long, Chief of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment presented the report on middle school assessments. (Attached)

Energy Educator Report – Mr. Proper

Mr. Proper presented his Energy Education report (attached).

Interscholastic Athletics Report – Mr. Proper

Mr. Proper presented the Fall Athletic Report (attached).

#### Superintendent's Recommendations

Program Matters

The Board approved the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the following policies:

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Policies

#5311.2 Automobiles

#5420 Health Services

#6055 Petty Cash Funds

#6650 Internal Claims Auditor

A motion was made by Mr. Cardinale, seconded by Mr. Gerrain and unanimously passed to approve the following policy:

3<sup>rd</sup> Reading Policy

#4740 Policy Regarding Independent Educational Evaluations for Students with Disabilities

A motion was made by Mr. Nadler, seconded by Mrs. Mercer and unanimously passed to approve the following field trip:

Field Trip Grade 7 to Plymouth & Boston, Massachusetts

Personnel Matters

A motion was made by Mrs. Tailleur, seconded by Mr. Gerrain and unanimously passed to approve the following resolution:

Resignation

Sally Gill – Teaching Assistant

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and pursuant to Education Law accept the resignation of Sally Gill from her position as teaching assistant in the Cossackie-Athens Central School District effective November 27, 2009 for retirement purposes.

A motion was made by Mr. Wallace, seconded by Mr. Gerrain and unanimously passed to approve the following resolution:

Eliminate Position

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and pursuant to Education Law eliminate one full-time Teaching Assistant position since it is no longer needed.

A motion was made by Mr. Cardinale, seconded by Mr. Gerrain and unanimously passed to approve the following resolution:

Create Position

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and pursuant to Civil Service Law create one full-time Teacher's Aide position.

A motion was made by Mr. Nadler, seconded by Mr. Wallace and unanimously passed to approve the following resolution:

Probationary Appointment

Patricia Peck – Teacher Aide

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and pursuant to Civil Service Law, provide a probationary appointment to Patricia Peck as a teacher aide effective October 21, 2009, remunerated in accord with the contract currently in effect between the District and the Cossackie-Athens Teaching Assistants/Teacher Aides Association.

A motion was made by Mr. Gerrain, seconded by Mrs. Mercer and unanimously passed to approve the following resolution:

Leave of Absence

Heather Roberg – English

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and pursuant to Education Law, approve an unpaid leave of absence to Heather Roberg from her position as English teacher effective November 3, 2009 through November 27, 2009, for child rearing purposes.

A motion was made by Mrs. Tailleux, seconded by Mr. Gerrain and unanimously passed to approve the following resolutions:

Other Appointments

Substitutes

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and pursuant to Education and Civil Service Law, approve the following as substitute personnel for the 2009-2010 school year:

Bonnie Btag	Teacher Aide
John Tulloch – Certified	Teacher/Teaching Asst.
Jonnie Olivero	Teacher/Teaching Asst.
Brittany Lang	Teacher/Teaching Asst.

Annual Appointments

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and pursuant to Education Law, approve the following annual appointments for the 2009-2010 school year:

Debbie Lagas	EJA Safety Patrol
Melissa Durant	(Co) CE Community Service
Chris Byas	(Co) CE Community Service
Jacqueline Wolfson	CE Student Activities
Stephen Kowalski	Co-Musical Artistic Director
Charles Herwick	Co-Musical Artistic Director

Volunteer

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the following as a volunteer for the 2009-2010 school year:

Brianna Breault	Varsity Wrestling
-----------------	-------------------

Business Matters

A motion was made by Mr. Gerrain, seconded by Mr. Petramale and unanimously passed to approve the following resolution:

Donation

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent accept the donation of hat and gloves sets for Coxsackie Elementary students valued at \$30 from Cathy Hallenbeck.

A motion was made by Mr. Gerrain, seconded by Mr. Cardinale and unanimously passed to approve the following resolution:

Internal Controls Audit

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education accept the Internal Controls Audit Report (attached).

A motion was made by Mr. Gerrain, seconded by Mrs. Tailleir and unanimously passed to approve the following resolution:

Tax Collection Report

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the tax collection report for the 2009-2010 school year per the attached.

A motion was made by Mr. Gerrain, seconded by Mr. Cardinale and unanimously passed to approve the following resolution:

Budget Development

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the attached budget development calendar.

A motion was made by Mr. Gerrain, seconded by Mrs. Mercer and unanimously passed to approve the following resolutions:

Surplus Textbooks

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the disposal of science textbooks (list attached) in the best interest of the district.

Tax Refund

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the following tax refund:

Town of Coxsackie #88.18-2-37; Assessment reduced from \$210,000 to \$140,000; Refund due \$1,506.61

A motion was made by Mr. Gerrain, seconded by Mr. Wallace and unanimously passed to approve the following resolutions:

Bill Schedule

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the following bill schedule for October 2009:

General Account Bill Schedule #5 in the amount of \$2,290,960.08

Federal Account Bill Schedule #5 in the amount of \$6,200.27

School Lunch Fund Bill Schedule #5 in the amount of \$77,456.61

Financial Reports

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the following financial reports for the period ending October 2009:

Treasurer's Report  
Revenue Budget Status Report - All Funds  
Appropriations Status Report – All Funds  
Trial Balances – All Funds

Internal Claims Audit Report

A motion was made by Mr. Cardinale, seconded by Mrs. Mercer and unanimously passed to approve the following resolution:

Unemployment Insurance Payment Reserve Fund

Whereas, by resolution dated August 25, 2009, the Board of Education established an Unemployment Insurance Payment Reserve Fund (the Reserve Fund) in accordance with the provisions of General Municipal Law Section 6-m; and

Whereas, during the first quarter of the 2009-2010 school year the New York State Unemployment Insurance Fund (the State Fund) paid benefits which were charged against the District's account in the total amount of Seventeen Thousand Thirty-three and Ninety Hundredths Dollars (\$17,033.90); and

Whereas, the amount allocated for such Unemployment Insurance benefits in the District's 2009-2010 budget was \$3,000; and

Whereas, in order to reduce the amount ultimately payable by the District as a result of the accrual of interest, payment to the State Fund of the amount of benefits charged to the District's account was made immediately from the District's General Fund; and

Whereas, it is anticipated that the State Fund will charge the District's Account for additional benefits paid during the second quarter of the 2009-2010 school year; and

Whereas, payment to the State Fund of the difference between the District's budgetary allocation and the amount of benefits actually paid and charged to the District's account is the statutorily authorized use of the Reserve Fund; and

Whereas, the Board wishes to transfer funds from the Reserve Fund to replace those paid from the General Fund to the State Fund and further wishes to authorize payment of the additional charges anticipated for the second quarter from the Reserve Fund directly to the State Fund.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

The transfer of \$14,033.90 from the Reserve Fund to the General Fund is hereby approved, and budget line A9050-800-50-9000 is increased by that amount;

Payment from the Reserve Fund directly to the State Unemployment Insurance Fund of the full amount of benefits paid by the State Fund and charged against the District's account in the State Fund for the period October 1 through December 31, 2009 is hereby also approved;

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Public Input

Jennifer Weinstein – Asked the Board if the “0” tax impact for the renovation project is for the duration. Mr. Garland responded that she was correct it would be a “0” tax impact for the duration.

Request for Reports/Information

Establishment of Future Meetings

Board of Education Meetings

Regular Board of Education meeting December 15, 2009, 7 p.m. Middle School Library

Special Board of Education meeting in January re: Presentation about The Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region

Committee Meetings

Facilities Committee is scheduled to meet on December 4.

School Liaison Committee will schedule a meeting after the first of the year.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Mr. Cardinale, seconded by Mr. Gerrain to adjourn into Executive Session at 8:20 p.m. for the reason of discussing the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person or corporation.

A motion was made by Mr. Cardinale, seconded by Mr. Gerrain and unanimously passed to adjourn Executive Session at 8:51 p.m. and return to the Regular meeting.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Mr. Gerrain, seconded by Mr. Nadler and unanimously passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith Zoller, District Clerk

