

COXSACKIE-ATHENS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Board of Education Meeting
September 16, 2008

The mission of the Coxsackie-Athens Central School District is to provide a comprehensive education program for all students to compete successfully and contribute to a global society.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 p.m. by President Garland

Roll Call

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

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

Approval of Minutes

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education accept the minutes/action of the Subcommittee on Special Education meeting of 8/28/08; minutes of the Committee on Preschool Special Education meeting of 7/31/08 and 8/14/08; minutes of the Regular Board of Education meeting of 8/19/08.

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. Cindy Kniffen - She stated that she has driven a school bus for the past 28 years in this District. The new Transfinder system has created a transportation dilemma. Right now it is not working, not even close. To save fuel costs the district has eliminated bus runs. Now the buses have sixty students to a bus. Where do you put all the students that stay ninth period? Most drivers are working over their 5 hours a day. It seems like something else could be done to make this work, possibly have the drivers work together to come up with some solutions.

Communications/Board Discussion

Energy Stewardship Award – Mr. Charles Fasnacht, Energy Education

Mr. Fasnacht from Energy Education presented the Energy Stewardship Award to the District for significant progress and savings of over \$180,000 in energy savings since the district began the program. It is a team effort, led by Leslie Copleston, Eric Besenfelder and David Proper. Mr. Fasnacht read the award and presented it to President Garland. Mr. Proper thanked the Board for agreeing to participate in this program.

Press Release was faxed on Friday 9/12/08 to Daily Mail – stated they received the press release today, Tuesday 9/16/08, therefore it was not put in the newspaper The press release was published on Wednesday 9/17/08..

Scope of Construction and Renovation Project

At the last Special Board of Ed meeting the Board received a report from the Building Advisory Committee. Some Board members wanted further discussion at this meeting. Dr. Gregory reminded the Board that if a vote were to be held in December – the Board would need to adopt a resolution in October upon which voters would cast a ballot. If there are considerable differences from what the Advisory Committee suggested, then the Board needed to discuss them now. Dr. Gregory thinks that the Board needs to be very much aware of what the cost is, he counseled not to push the cost above \$20 million. This proposal will probably not give us everything we need and/or want, though we have to look at the dollar total. The project should be somewhere over 90% aidable per the architect. The district is currently in the process of looking at publicizing and how to best communicate the proposed building project. The Board agreed that they support the 19.8 million dollar building project proposal.

Committee Reports

The Policy Committee agreed to schedule meetings on September 30 and October 7 at 6 p.m.

The Shared Decision Making Committee met Monday, September 15. The Committee came very close to finalizing the plan. The Building Level Committees should be meeting in November.

Good News

See attached – Next month “District” will also be added to the Good News

Superintendent’s Staff Reports

Therapeutic Crisis Intervention (TCI) – Mrs. Castle & Ms. Evans

Mrs. Castle and Ms. Evans received very intensive training in Therapeutic Crisis Intervention over the Summer. A copy of their presentation is attached. Mrs. Castle and Ms. Evans are both turnkey trainers. In order for TCI to be implemented the district would need to adopt a policy. They both stated that the training has already been helpful for them in looking at different ways to deal with students. Ideally over time they would like to have as much staff as possible trained. Dr. Gregory explained to the Board that we wanted to make them aware of this since a policy would have to be adopted. What is so critical is that there is a tremendous emphasis on de-escalation. The essence of the program is that you learn how to help students move through the various stages of crisis. Mrs. Castle or Ms. Evans cannot provide any training until a policy is in place.

Title I Summer Program Report – Mr. Posillico

Report attached. Mr. Posillico stated that there was an increase in the enrollment this year. Thirty-one students completed the program this Summer. He recommends continuing the program for the Summer of 2009. He proposed offering it to Title 1 students first, and if those numbers were low extend it to other students in need.

Facilities Report – Mr. Besenfelder

See attached report. Mrs. Copleston thanked Mr. Besenfelder and all of the custodial staff for all of their work over the Summer.

Superintendent's Recommendations

Personnel Matters

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

Resignations

Jennifer Clark – Food Service

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the resignation of Jennifer Clark from her position as food service worker in the Coxsackie-Athens Central School District effective August 18, 2008.

Leave of Absence

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

Nicole Conte – Reading K-12

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approve a leave of absence to Nicole Conte from her position as reading teacher in the Coxsackie-Athens Central school District effective September 26, 2008 through January 30, 2009 for child rearing purposes.

Probationary Appointments

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

Barbara Spataro – Library Media Specialist

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and pursuant to Education Law, provide a probationary appointment to Barbara Spataro who holds permanent New York State certification as a library media specialist to the library media specialist tenure area in the Coxsackie-Athens Central School District effective September 1, 2008 through August 31, 2010, remunerated in accord with the contract currently in effect between the District and the Coxsackie-Athens Teachers' Association.

Robin Evers – Reading K-12

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and pursuant to Education Law, provide a probationary appointment to Robin Evers who holds initial New York State certification as a reading teacher to the Reading K-12 tenure area in the Coxsackie-Athens Central School District effective September 1, 2008 through August 31, 2011, remunerated in

accord with the contract currently in effect between the District and the Cossackie-Athens Teachers' Association.

Cynthia Donovan – 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 Cynthia Donovan as a teacher aide in the Cossackie-Athens Central School District effective September 1, 2008 through February 28, 2009, remunerated in accord with the contract currently in effect between the District and the Cossackie-Athens Teaching Assistants/Teacher Aides Association.

Agenta Russo – 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 Agenta Russo as a teacher aide in the Cossackie-Athens Central School District effective September 1, 2008 through February 28, 2009, remunerated in accord with the contract currently in effect between the District and the Cossackie-Athens Teaching Assistants/Teacher Aides Association.

Laura Fiato – Elementary N-6

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and pursuant to Education law, provide a probationary appointment to Laura Fiato who holds initial New York State certification as an elementary teacher to the Elementary N-6 tenure area in the Cossackie-Athens Central School District effective September 29, 2008 through September 28, 2011, remunerated in accord with the contract currently in effect between the District and the Cossackie-Athens Teachers' Association.

Part Time Appointments

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

Larry Geberth – Spanish 7-12

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and pursuant to Education Law, provide a part time appointment (.6FTE) to Larry Geberth as a Spanish teacher in the Cossackie-Athens Central School District effective September 4, 2008 through June 30, 2009, remunerated in accord with the contract currently in effect between the District and The Cossackie-Athens Teachers' Association.

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 part time (3 hours per day) appointment to Patricia Peck as a teacher aide in the Cossackie-Athens Central School District effective September 1, 2008, remunerated in accord with the contract currently in effect between the District and the Cossackie-Athens Teaching Assistants/Teacher Aides Association.

Kimberly Carter – Food Service Worker

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and pursuant to Civil Service Law, provide an appointment (3 hours per day) to Kimberly Carter as a

food service worker in the Cossackie-Athens Central School District effective September 17, 2008, remunerated in accord with the contract currently in effect between the District and the Cossackie-Athens Food Service Employees Association.

Regular Substitutes

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

Nicole Beaulac – Social Studies

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and pursuant to Education Law, provide a regular substitute appointment to Nicole Beaulac who holds initial New York State certification as a social studies teacher, effective September 1, 2008 through November 7, 2008, remunerated in accord with the contract currently in effect between the District and the Cossackie-Athens Teachers’ Association.

Courtney Wheat – Elementary N-6

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and pursuant to Education Law, provide a regular substitute appointment to Courtney Wheat who holds initial New York State certification as an elementary teacher, effective October 6, 2008 through June 30, 2009, remunerated in accord with the contract currently in effect between the District and the Cossackie-Athens Teachers’ Association.

Other Appointments

A motion was made by Mrs. Tailleu, seconded by Mrs. Mercer (with Mr. Garland abstaining) and all other members voting unanimously to approve the following resolution:

Substitute Personnel

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and pursuant to Education Law, approve the following substitutes for the 2008-2009 school year:

Matthew Brooks	Teacher/Teaching Asst.
Brittany Brooks	Teacher/Teaching Asst.
Annette DeLuccy	Teacher/Teaching Asst.
Louise Deyo	Teacher/Teaching Asst.
Bonnie Ecker	Teacher/Teaching Asst.
Jean Ann Frattini	Teacher/Teaching Asst.
Caitlin Laux	Teacher/Teaching Asst.
Eliza McErlean-Certified	Teacher/Teaching Asst.
Abigail Morehouse	Teacher/Teaching Asst.
Shawn Mousseau	Teacher/Teaching Asst.
Sheila Wixon	Teacher/Teaching Asst.
Karen Bennett	Teacher/Teaching Asst.
Stacey Nelson	Teacher/Teaching Asst.
Kyle Garland	Teacher/Teaching Asst.
Cristie Simboli	Teacher/Teaching Asst.

Tara Holloway – Certified Teacher/Teaching Asst.
Barbara Clements Teacher/Teaching Asst.

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

Annual Appointments

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and pursuant to Education Law, appoint the following as coaches and advisors for the 2008-2009 school year:

Peter Hoffman	Odyssey of the Mind
Jaime Rubin	National Honor Society
Shauna Evans	National Honor Society

Volunteer

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and pursuant to Education Law, appoint the following as a volunteer for the 2008-2009 school year:

Michael McHale	Modified Soccer
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Substitute Building Principal

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and pursuant to Education Law, appoint Anthony Welcome as a substitute building principal in the Cossackie-Athens Central School district at a rate of \$400 per day plus mileage, effective September 29, 2008.

Business Matters

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

Donation

Be it RESOLVED, the Board of Education accept the donation of a 25 inch TV valued at \$250 from Matt Seekamp.

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

Project Scope & Lead Agency for SEQRA

WHEREAS, on May 14, 2008 the Board of Education authorized proceeding with the planning phase of a capital construction and renovation project anticipated to result in little or no increase in cost to the taxpayer; and

WHEREAS, on June 17, 2008 the Board of Education authorized CSArch Architecture and Construction Management, in cooperation with the Building Advisory Committee, to proceed expeditiously with the pre-referendum services phase of such project; and

WHEREAS, the Building Advisory Committee in its report at a special Board meeting held September 9, 2008, recommended a project with an approximate cost of \$19.8 million, which will involve a greater increase in cost to the taxpayer than originally anticipated; and

WHEREAS, having reviewed and considered the recommendations of the Building Advisory Committee and CSArch Architecture and Construction Management made at such special meeting, the Board of Education believes that the recommended change in scope of the project is appropriate and in the best interests of the School District.

Now, therefore, be it resolved as follows by the Board of Education of the Coxsackie-Athens Central School District:

The recommendation of the Building Advisory Committee with respect to the scope of the capital construction and renovation project initially authorized on May 14, 2008 is hereby accepted, and CSArch Architecture and Construction Management is hereby authorized to proceed expeditiously with the pre-referendum phase of a capital project of approximately \$19.8 million in projected cost; and

The Board of Education of the Coxsackie-Athens Central School District hereby designates itself lead agency for the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) with respect to this project.

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

CSArch Architecture and Construction Management to serve as Construction Manager

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent hereby designates Collins & Scoville Architects PC (dba CS Arch Architecture and Construction Management) to provide Construction Management services for a construction and renovation project in the amount of approximately \$19.8 million subject to agreement on the terms, preparation, and execution of the final written form of agreement between the Coxsackie-Athens Central District and CS Arch Architecture and Construction Management.

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

Bill Schedule

General Account Bill Schedule #3 in the amount of \$793,917.80

Federal Account Bill Schedule #3 in the amount of \$94,982.48

Financial Reports

July 2008

Student Activities Report

August 2008
Treasurer's Report
Revenue Budget Status Report – All Funds
General Fund Appropriation Status Report
Federal Fund Appropriation Status Report
Trial Balances – All Funds
Student Activities Report
Internal Claims Audit

Public Input

None

Request for Reports

Establish of Future Meetings

Special Board of Education Meeting, Tuesday September 30, 2008, 7 p.m. Middle School Library

Special Board of Education Meeting, Tuesday, October 7, 2008, 7 p.m. Middle School Library

Regular Board of Education Meeting, Tuesday, October 21, 2008, 7 p.m. Edward J. Arthur
Elementary School

Mr. Petramale left at 9 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Cardinale, seconded by Mrs. Hanse and unanimously passed to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:03 p.m. to discuss matters related to a specific student and discussion regarding proposed, pending or current litigation.

A motion was made by Mr. Cardinale, seconded by Mr. Nadler and unanimously passed to adjourn Executive Session and return to the regular meeting at 10:38 p.m.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Mrs. Tailleir, seconded by Mrs. Mercer and unanimously passed to adjourn the meeting at 10:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith Zoller
District Clerk

One District, One Mission, One Vision for Every Student