



## Canandaigua City School District Board of Education Budget Workshop

Minutes for March 5, 2015  
Canandaigua City School District  
Middle School, 215 Granger Street

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The Budget Workshop meeting of the Canandaigua City School District Board of Education was held on Thursday, March 5, 2015 at 7:01 p.m. in the Canandaigua City School District Middle School, President Grimm presiding.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeanie Grimm, Joe Delforte, Jeannie Kesel, John Patrowicz, John Polimeni, Michelle Raeman, Tom Reho, Beth Thomas

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Michelle Pedzich (*excused*)

LEADERSHIP TEAM PRESENT: Lynne Erdle, Mark Lavner, Carleen Pierce, Julie Winston

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM PRESENT: John Arthur, Dan Bowman, Maaike Burr, Stephanie Knapp, John LaFave, Mike McClain, Brian Nolan, Jim Simmons, Andy Thomas, Marcie Ware

BOARD DISTRICT CLERK: Deborah Sundlov

OTHERS PRESENT: Kris Betlem, Sharon Boedo, Deb Bowen, Scott Chappell, Karl Dueland, Greg Kane, Steve Schlegel, Mike Sisson, Danielle Zatkowsky, Robotic students, other faculty, staff and community members

### ***Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag***

Mrs. Grimm convened the meeting at 7:01 p.m. and asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

### ***Robotics Presentation***

Mr. Steve Schlegel along with several students provided the Board an overview of their most recent robot. Each sub team leader provided an overview of their areas such as the drives, mechanical, electrical, promotion, field construct and website. This year the event is a Recycle Rush, a recycling-themed game played by two Alliances of three robots each. Robots score points by stacking totes on scoring platforms, capping those stacks with recycling containers and properly disposing of pool noodles, which represents litter. After the presentation of their robot, the group provided the Board with a brief demonstration.

***Those not participating in the rest of the meeting left at 7:25 p.m.***

### ***Administrative Appointment***

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion was made by Mr. Reho, seconded by Mr. Polimeni, with all present voting yes, the Board of Education approved the appointment of **Mr. Brian Nolan** to the position of Assistant Superintendent of Personnel and Support Services effective July 1, 2015 and further, that permission be granted for the Superintendent and Board President to execute an individual contract that is filed in the Supplemental Minutes File.

### ***Budget Presentation***

Superintendent first thanked the Canandaigua School family, local and surrounding communities for their help in rallying for one of our own, Courtney Wagner who is battling stage 4 brain cancer. Courtney had her dream fulfilled by making it to the *Ellen* show earlier in the week. The district and several neighboring schools will be dressing in cherry and gray Friday, March 6 to continue showing their support for Courtney. Even our school buses will be adorning a cherry and gray ribbon created by Ms. Reggie Wharthy of the Transportation Department.

***Academic success for every child we serve and the development of good character in all students***



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Superintendent began the 2015-2016 budget presentation by reviewing the Board of Education Guidelines:

- Maintain a commitment to the Plan for Excellence as is reasonable and appropriate in today's financial climate.
- Make staffing decisions that meet the intellectual, social and emotional needs of students that reflect enrollment data and that prepare them to be successful 21<sup>st</sup> century learners.
- Continue to reduce costs through budget efficiencies, partnerships and shared services.
- Utilize fund balance and reserve funds conservatively with a financial plan to transition back to a budget that does not rely on reserves.
- Maintain a transparent system of continual communication with the public.

Early on in the budget process, even though the Governor hasn't released State Aid runs, we were told to expect a 1.7% increase. As always being conservative we figured a 1.5% increase in State Aid. Late last week we were told not to depend on either, but instead a 0% increase unless the demands the Governor is making are met. The overall budgets for each building, music and Office of Instruction were reviewed. Each of the below provided overviews of their department budgets:

- Ms. Stephanie Knapp, Director of Special Education
- Mr. Dan Bowman, Director of Technology
- Mr. Jim Simmons, Athletic Director
- Dr. Mark Lavner, Assistant Superintendent of Personnel and Support Services for Transportation
- Mr. Mike McClain, Director of Building and Grounds

Mrs. Carleen Pierce, Assistant Superintendent for Business, provided the board the proposed three part budget breakdown:

- Administration \$4,922, 293 (8.55% of budget)
- Program \$53,122,323 (75.50% of budget)
- Capital \$11,165,759 (15.95% of budget)
- Total Expense \$70,210,375

The board had in-depth discussion on the use of fund balance and reserves. They felt that without information from the state, they could not make a decision on the amount to use. The calculation of the tax levy cap is dependent upon the State Aid runs because there are variables included within the exclusion calculation that come directly from the State Aid runs. Mrs. Pierce provided that currently the allowable tax levy cap is 4.41%.

Four different scenarios were presented to the Board:

- 4.41%; increase of .85 per thousand; tax rate \$19.92; \$750,000 of reserves and \$190,000 fund balance
- 4%; increase of .77 per thousand; tax rate \$19.84; \$750,000 of reserves and \$360,000 fund balance
- 3.5%; increase of .68 per thousand; tax rate \$19.75; \$750,000 of reserves and \$570,000 fund balance
- 2.88%; increase of .56 per thousand; tax rate \$19.63; \$750,000 of reserves and \$830,000 fund balance

Mrs. Grimm asked the Board what they would be comfortable with presenting to the public on May 19. Most felt they were not able to make a decision based on the little information provided from the state on aid. One thought that was the general feeling was if the state does not provide any increase in aid, to go out at the tax cap. If we get 1.7% go out at 3.8%. Others thought was even at 1.7% this doesn't meet our expenses because of the increases that we do not control, (such as health insurance and TRS), so we should go out at the tax cap levy limit. Concern was raised over keeping pace with the Plan for Excellence and meeting students' needs if we do not consider that in crafting a budget.

When further information is received from the state a separate budget workshop meeting may be planned to review and discuss.

### **Public Comments**

There were no public comments.



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***Adjournment***

Upon a motion made by Mr. Reho, seconded Mr. Patrowicz, with all present voting yes, the Board of Education approved the adjournment of the Regular meeting at 9:20 p.m. The next Regular meeting will be on March 12, 2015 at the Operations Center at 7:30 p.m.

**APPROVED:**  
**ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Sundlov  
District Clerk