

Beekmantown Central School District

Board of Education Meeting

Place: **MS/HS Library**

January 28, 2014

Minutes

Call to Order President Debbie Passno called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m. and Leonard King led the pledge of allegiance.

Members Present

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eric Anderson	<input type="checkbox"/> Cathy Buckley	<input type="checkbox"/> Ed Marin
<input type="checkbox"/> April Bingel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Hagadorn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debbie Passno
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andrew Brockway	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leonard King	<input type="checkbox"/> Pauline Stone

Others Present **Others Present**

- Daniel Mannix, Superintendent of Schools
- Eric Bell, District Treasurer
- Mary LaValley Blaine, School Business Executive
- Joanne Menard, District Clerk

Visitors **Visitors**

John Brennan	Dorothy Brennan	Reneé Hall
Sheera Broderick	Thomas Broderick	MaryEllen McTigue
Robert Mooso	Rebecca Ketcham	Michelene DeBella
Billie VanCour	Gary VanCour	Jamie Hall
Londa Irwin	Elaine Rice	Janeann Oshier
Margaret Rabideau	Gary Genna	Nancy St. Dennis
Mary Ellen Graves	Jeannette McKinney	Martha Martin
Sally Clancy	Nancy Glode	John Clancy
Pat Andrews	Jackie Andrews	Susan King
Robert King	Elizabeth Baker	Charles H. Stone
Juanita Stone	Kitty Connery	John Connery
Evelyn Lushia	Judy Manning	D Michelucci
Sandy Lashua	Diane Haight	Doris Turbide
Clifford Engelhardt	William Miller	Bonnie Miller
Rosemary LaMarche	Norm Votraw	Lucy Giroux
Patty Gallagher	Kay Papin	Sydney Sue Garrant
Norman Vincelette	Gail Kyea	Bobbie Grindle
Linda Bechard	Judy Bechard	Earl Burnell
Gary Butler	Holly Sims	Art deGrandpre
Margaret deGrandpre	Mr. Broderick	Mrs. Broderick
Mr. Laundrie	Mrs. Laundrie	Jean Welch
Carol Robertson	Donna Eisele	Anne McGinnis
Kathy Hay	Frank Hay	Barbara Pelkey
Julie Jock	John Pelkey	Patti Cook
Judy Clark	Simone Lutz	James Bailey
Kathaleen Miller	Jerome McGovern	Sarah Vagi

Jim Maston	Shelley Keuleman	Don Levine
Anne Bailey	MaryAnn Rygaylo	Carol Solari-Rusco
Sharon Ratner	Linda Noyes	Judith Acorigliano
Miles Moody	Susan Angell	Jodi Morrow
Leslie LaValley	Joyce Bertoli	Jane Claffey
Brenda Towne	Duffy Nelson	Mary Williams
Connie Miller		

Miscellaneous

The Superintendent stated he has been reviewing the budget with his administrative team and the Budget Advisory Committee met last week.

Review BCSD Collaborative Norms

- Review BCSD Collaborative Norms

The Superintendent discussed the BCSD Collaborative Norms:

1. *Value, listen, and respect all ideas*
2. *Agree to support consensus in decision-making: here and in communication with our building colleagues and school community*
3. *Stay focused and true to our task*
4. *Be open-minded, flexible, and positive*
5. *Support each other*

The Collaborative Norms will be utilized as we move through the budget process.

Review Tax Cap Calculation

- Review Tax Cap Calculation

The District Treasurer reviewed the preliminary Tax Cap calculation. He stated this is the third year of the tax cap. The numbers are due to be reported to the State Comptroller's office by March 1st; however, amendments can be made throughout the month of March. The tax cap is an eight step formula which includes: various components such as one factor based upon the lesser of a 2% increase or annual CPI change whatever is less, real property growth factor and EXCEL aid through the building project.

Review Governance Proposal

- Review Governance Proposal

The Superintendent and School Business Executive reviewed the governor's preliminary proposal dated 1/21/14. The governor's aid run shows a proposed 6% increase for a total of \$968,000; however, the true difference is closer to 4%.

Discuss NYS Comptrollers Fiscal Stress Reports

- Discuss NYS Comptroller's Fiscal Stress Reports

The Superintendent next reviewed the Comptroller's Fiscal Stress Report. This is a snap shot in time with school districts ranked from 0 to 100%. Significant stress has a score of greater than or equal to 65% of total points. Moderate stress is greater than or equal to 45% of total points. Susceptible to fiscal stress is greater than or equal to 25% of total points. The Beekmantown Central School District is in the middle of local and regional school listings.

Briefing on past cost reductions

- Briefing on past cost reductions

The district lost 63 positions over the last three years. A comprehensive list of eliminated positions will be given to the Budget Advisory Committee. Through performance data, the district is trying to access which areas may have been over corrected. Example: Foreign language went from 8 teachers to 4 teachers. Because of this, a full credit cannot be offered in the middle school. The district has done a nice job reworking programs. Example: 50 participants were able to participate in indoor track because of current year cost savings and a contribution from the Booster Club. The Superintendent stated he met with the administrators today to review their budget requests.

Evaluate regional budgets, enrollments, staffing and BCSD class size

- Evaluate regional budgets, enrollments, staffing and BCSD class size

The District Treasurer explained the comparison slides with other school districts on the 2013-2014 budget, October 2013 Enrollment – School Year 2013-2014, Professional Staff 2013-2014.

The Superintendent explained the Average Class Size Report dated January 2014. We’re looking at providing solid offerings in all areas with limited costs.

Budget Advisory Committee Agenda

- Budget Advisory Committee Agenda

The Superintendent reviewed the list of initial suggestions from the Budget Advisory Committee.

Improvements

- Extra-Curricular
- Expand CAP, AP & Online
- Life Skills Classes – Driver’s Education, Food/Fitness Class, Money Skills, Parenting
- Computer Lab availability
- Parent/Community Assistance through the School (Technology/Parenting)
- Repair/Upgrade Maintenance Equipment
- Safety
- Athletics – modified programs (more middle school offerings)
- Foreign Language
- Supervision of afternoon custodial
- Fitness Center
- Fund Athletics

Strategies

- Central copying to include students
- Convert to Natural Gas
- Solar Power
- Teachers teach 6 periods vs. current 5 periods
- Use of part-time teachers for specialty classes
- Better high school Scheduling

Streamlining

- Utilize District Office for Students
- Share with Towns & Schools

Discuss what is Fund Balance

- Discuss what is Fund Balance

The School Business Executive explained the fund balance as of 6/30/13.

Financial overview regarding 2012-2013 revenues and expenditures

- Obtain a financial overview from School Business Executive regarding 2012-2013 revenues and expenditures

The Superintendent and School Business Executive gave an update on the current budget status. Three collective bargaining agreements have been settled in 2013-2014. The out of school suspension program has been modified with cost savings to the district. The incarcerated youth program has been reorganized. The district has filed for a grant for full day UPK programming.

BOE evaluate simple survey form

- BOE evaluate simple survey form

The Superintendent reviewed the Beekmantown CSD Constituent Suggestions Survey. The survey will be available online, and/or telephone, and in all school buildings.

Preliminary ideas/suggestions from BOE regarding areas of continued improvement

- Generate preliminary ideas/suggestions from BOE regarding areas for continued improvement

The board next generated the list below of ideas/suggestions for the 2014-2015 budget.

- Bus Purchases – rotating schedule
- List of important items from administration
- Increase CAP & online courses
- Shared Services
- Public Forums throughout the district
- Increase Foreign Language Offerings
- Energy costs improvement per study i.e. solar/wind power
- Natural Gas conversion costs
- Reduce Class Size
- Multi-Year Plan for Fund balance usage
- Bus Monitors
- Tax Levy/State Aid compared to other districts
- Budget Survey – less broad
- Work readiness credentials
- CV-TECH classes

The Board President requested the Community Telephone Survey which was completed last year be less broad this year.

Adjournment

Adjournment

It was moved by Leonard King, seconded by Eric Anderson and carried, that the meeting be adjourned. Time 7:42 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joanne Menard, District Clerk