

Beekmantown Central School District

Board of Education Meeting

Place: **Auditorium**

February 25, 2014

Minutes

Call to Order President Debbie Passno called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. and Eric Bell led the pledge of allegiance.

Members Present

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eric Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cathy Buckley (<i>arrived @ 6:20 pm</i>)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ed Marin
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> April Bingel	<input type="checkbox"/> Michael Hagadorn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debbie Passno
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andrew Brockway	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leonard King	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pauline Stone

Others Present **Others Present**

- Daniel Mannix, Superintendent of Schools
- Amy Campbell, MS Principal
- Roxann Barnes, School Lunch Manager (*arrived @ 6:25 pm*)
- Shane Brink, Transportation Supervisor
- Dan Noonan, Director of Facilities II
- Joseph Lavorando, School Attorney
- Eric Bell, District Treasurer
- Mary LaValley Blaine, School Business Executive
- Joanne Menard, District Clerk

Visitors

Sue LaVigne	Bobbie Grindle	Bruce Grindle
Betty Turoff	Sydney Sue Garrant	Robert King
Susan King	Randy Hart	Elizabeth Baker
Charlie Stone	Evelyn Lushia	Gary Sargeant
Norman Vincelette	Lucy Giroux	Pat Baker
Susan Chilson	Ken Maurer	Rygaylo
J. Andrews	Nancy Glode	Kay Papin
Donna Austin	Marie Manor	Charlotte Racine
Billie VanCour	Gary VanCour	Ken Cook
Wayne Dumont	Susan Angell	Judy Clakr
Jean Welch	Nona Garrant	Janet Connors
Terry Hicks	Linda Noyes	Vickie Howard
Ron Howard	Martin Jabaut, Jr.	Ashleigh Livingston
Laraine Locklin	Sherra Broderick	Dorothy Brennan
John Brennan	Juanita Stone	Richard LaVigne
Linda Bechard	Arlene Defayette	James Defayette

Robert Joyce	Donna Elselie	David Tallman
Carol Solari-Rusco	Kathaleen Miller	John Clancy
Sally Clancy	Margaret Rabideau	Robert Mooso
Cindy Rock	Margaret deGrandpré	Art deGrandpré
Dianne Cook	D. Michelucci	Margaret Drobnik
Earl Burnell	Sarah Vagi	Kelly Newell
Beverly Brown	Shirley Darrah	Norm Votraw
Miles Moody	Kelly Moody	Betty Heywood
Jeannette McKinney	Donna Fregore	Leo Deyo
M. Elaine Rice	Mary Ellen Cleveland	Patty LaFlam
Steve LaFlam	Judy Paquette	Carolyn Slick
Gil Murray	Ron Moss	Nancy McCormick
Margaret Gannon	Paul Wnuk	Alice Connors
Mabel King	Sharon Ratner	Connie Miller
Glenda Smith Rowe	Jerry Ross	Beverly Leege
Doreen Burke	David Kretser	Simone Lutz
Avis Smalley	Carrie Favaro	Gary Butler
Shelley Keuleman	Cassandra Hewson	Calvin Hewson
James Bailey	Patti Cook	Charles McKinney
Roxie Deyo	Jamie Hall	Mary Williams
Barb Stone	Charlie Stone	

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Eric Anderson, seconded by Leonard King and unanimously carried, that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of School, the Board of Education recommends the approval of the agenda.

Retiree Health Insurance Options

Discussion: Retiree Health Insurance Options

- Rate Increases
- Final Determination

The Superintendent informed the Board that at the CEWW Health Insurance Consortium Board of Directors 2014-2015 rate setting meeting the Board of Directors previously allocated unused fund balance of 3% and approved a drug cap of \$500 per individual. It was reported that hopefully another plan would be offered in the near future.

Cathy Buckley arrived at 6:20 p.m.

Several options were discussed with the Board taking no action on switching retirees from Platinum Plan 1 to Platinum Plan 2; therefore, the window for an unilateral move has been closed.

Board members, retirees and the Superintendent will meet to discuss other options for retirees i.e. voluntary movement, HRA, Medicare, communication to keep retirees informed, joint efforts to work together.

Public Comment

Public Comment

The following individuals thanked the Board: Ken Maurer, Syd Garrant, Gary VanCour and Dave Tallman.

Marty Jabaut, Health Insurance Agent, commented that the district needed someone to educate their members, an agent or broker to help people understand the program.

Reports

Reports

Daniel Mannix, Superintendent of Schools reported on the following:

Veterans Exemption

- Veterans Exemption

The Superintendent commented that he would like to recognize those who have served our country. If the school district provided exemptions on school taxes, then the taxes would be reallocated to certain groups and exemptions to others. The deadline for the 2014 school taxes is March 1; therefore, this was tabled until summer pending a review on the impact on taxpayers.

Shared Service Study

- Shared Service Study – 4/28/14

A Joint Shared Service Study Meeting with the Plattsburgh City School District and Educational Consultant Alan Pole and Jessica Cohen of Castallo & Silky has been schedule for 4/28/14.

Transportation Study

- Transportation Study

The Transportation Study is being mailed today and presented to the Board on 4/8/14. The Superintendent stated he was using the draft transportation study for the bus replacement schedule.

School Business Executive Report

Mary LaValley Blaine, School Business Executive reported on the following:

- The internal draft audit report will be unloaded to the BOE portal
- February financial reports will be reviewed the 1st week of March
- There will be a large budget transfer at the next BOE meeting which will utilize reserve funds for the announced retirements.

New Business

It was moved by Eric Anderson, seconded by Leonard King and unanimously carried, that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following resolutions on this consent agenda (*Resignation and Appointment*):

Resignation

Personnel

Thompson, Jason

Consent Agenda - Resignation

Approve the following resignation on the date indicated:

Name	Position	Effective Date
Thompson, Jason	Custodial Worker	2/14/14

Civil Service
Probationary
Appointment

Orr, Karisa

Consent Agenda – Appointment

Approve the following Civil Service probationary appointment as indicated:

Name	Title	Period	(Based on 2013-2014 Salary Schedule)	Contract
Orr, Karisa	Registered Professional Nurse (School)	2/26/14 – 6/18/15	\$26,763	10 months

Miscellaneous

NYS Math
Assessment

- NYS Math Assessment - MS Principal Amy Campbell

Amy Campbell, MS Principal informed the Board that the MS recommendation for the 2013-2014 school year for students in 8th Grade enrolled in Common Core Algebra (Accelerated Program) is to take the NYS 8th Grade Math Test, NYS Common Core Algebra Regents and Integrated Algebra Regents. The reasons for this are: 1) Students should take both the Common Core Algebra Regents and the Integrated Algebra Regents because the Integrated Algebra Regents provides a safety net in case the student does not score a passing grade on the Common Core Algebra Regents. 2) If the student does not take the 8th Grade NYS Math Test, then his/her Common Core Algebra Regents cannot count towards High School Accountability and Performance Index requirements. This means the student will have to take either the Geometry or the Algebra II/Trigonometry Regents in high school. Currently, a student who passes the Algebra Regents in 8th Grade would have met the requirements for participation in mathematics and would only have to take another math regents exam to obtain an Advance Regents Diploma. 3) If the student takes the 8th Grade NYS Math Test then his/her performance on the Common Core Algebra Regents would count towards the High School Accountability and Performance Index requirements. This would mean the student would not have to take another regents exam in high school.

Tax Cap
Calculation

- Tax Cap Calculation – District Treasurer Eric Bell

Approximately one month ago, the tax cap calculation was 1.68%. The State Comptroller’s office came in last Tuesday and the figure came in at 1.77%. Friday, the State Comptroller released an interpretation by the State Education Department which had a negative effect on the district. The tax cap calculation went from 1.77% to 0.77%. This is a decrease of \$190,000 on the previously calculated tax levy limit. The current tax levy limit allows for an increase of \$144,669 over the prior year tax levy.

The Superintendent stated he has sent a letter to Senator Little and Assembly Duprey notifying them of the adverse effect on the school district by the State Education Department and asked them to continue to work on the Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA). If the district exceeds the tax cap, then the taxpayers wouldn’t receive the refund that Governor Cuomo is proposing.

The District Treasurer informed the Board that our Pilot payments are down \$170,000 and the capital exclusions this year are zero versus last year’s \$426,746.

Review of Details of
Budget Spending
Plan

- Review details of budget spending plan – Superintendent Dan Mannix

Due to the changes on Friday, the full spending plan will be presented later.

The Board has previously establish reserve accounts and will look at why we have reserves and the use of reserves will be discussed at the next BOE meeting.

*Maintenance and
Buildings &
Grounds Equipment*

- Maintenance and buildings & grounds equipment – School Business Executive Mary LaValley Blaine

The district is looking at a long term replacement schedule for maintenance, custodial and transportation equipment.

Bus Proposal

- Bus Proposal (to be considered on 3/11/14) – School Business Executive Mary LaValley Blaine

The School Business Executive commented that the proposed bus purchases minors the transportation study. The district presently has 44 vehicles for student transportation. Of that, 22 vehicles have approximately 120,000 to 170,000 miles with 22 other vehicles having approximately 60,000 to 80,000 miles. The proposal is to purchase 4 new buses and trade 5 buses.

Discussion followed on a 12 passenger van versus an 8 passenger van. The cost differential is approximately \$800. The 12 passenger van will allow the transport of 11 students and can be used by the athletic department.

The Superintendent informed the Board a lot of research has been done on propane buses. Presently propane is higher than regular gas. There has been a short spike in propane, and the question is whether the rate will stay or change.

To be considered on 3/11/14 BOE meeting

Recommend to the voters of the District at the Annual District Meeting on May 20, 2014 the following proposition:

Proposed Proposition – Bus Purchases

To purchase (3) new 65-passenger school buses, (1) new 45-passenger school bus with wheelchair station and (1) new 12-passenger van. The total cost not to exceed \$470,584, shall be raised by a tax on the taxable property of the School District to be collected in annual installments and to issue obligations therefor in accordance with the Education Law and Local Finance Law and offset by the trade, auction or sale of 5 current buses. As part of the district's ongoing replacement plan, this purchase enables the district to obtain a potential State reimbursement rate of approximately 72.4%.

Public Comment

Public Comment (None at this time.)

Adjournment

Adjournment

It was moved by Leonard King, seconded by Eric Anderson and unanimously carried, that the meeting be adjourned. Time 7:57 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joanne Menard, District Clerk