

**Beekmantown Central School District**

**Board of Education Meeting**

**Place: MS/HS Library**

**May 12, 2009**

**Minutes**

**Call to Order**

President Stan Kourofsky called the meeting to order at 6:21 pm and Richard LaVigne led the pledge of allegiance.

**Members Present**

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Karen Armstrong         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frank Hay      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard LaVigne                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Guy Falcon                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leonard King   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> George Palmer ( <i>arrived 6:30 pm</i> ) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kathleen Grinberg-Funes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stan Kourofsky | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Trombley                           |
- Nathan Bull, Ex-Officio, Student Board Member

**Others Present**

**Present**

**Absent**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Scott Amo, Superintendent                                       | Sandra Gardner, BE Principal                              |
| Garth Frechette, HS Principal                                   | Gary Lambert, Educational Technology Coordinator          |
| Sue Coonrod, MS Principal                                       | Ed Cook, Director of PE, Athletics, Health, & Health Svcs |
| Diane Fox, CH Principal   |   |
| LeeAnn Short, Director of Special Services                      |   |
| Donna Eggleton, Director of Curriculum & Instruction            |   |
| Joha Battin, Assistant Principal HS                             |   |
| James Knight, Assistant Principal MS ( <i>arrived 6:40 pm</i> ) |   |
| Daniel Noonan, Supt. of Buildings & Grounds                     |   |
| Shane Brink, Transportation Supervisor                          |   |
| Roxann Barnes, School Lunch Manager                             |   |
| Ron Clamser, Business Manager                                   |   |
| Joseph Lavorando, School Attorney                               |   |
| Joanne Menard, District Clerk                                   |   |

**Visitors**

**Visitors**

- |             |                |                 |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Susan King  | Robert King    | Gail Giroux     |
| Carole Race | Ricki Marin    | Richelle Beach  |
| Ed Marin    | Kathy Hay      | Patty Gallagher |
| Lucy Giroux | Mary L. Blaine | Jerry Ross      |
| Jackie Wnuk | Cathy Buckley  | Erika Milton    |

**Approval of Agenda**

**Approval of Agenda**

It was moved by Kathleen Grinberg-Funes, seconded by Richard LaVigne and unanimously carried that the Board of Education approve the agenda.

Board Recognition

**Presentation**

The Board President stated he would personally deliver Guy Falcon's plaque for serving on the Board since he was not in attendance this evening.

Reports

**Reports**

*Scott Amo, Superintendent of Schools* reported on the following:

- Mr. Knight of Knight's Cadillac dealership has donated a 1996 Buick Regal Sport car which will be awarded to a lucky individual attending the After Prom Party. Many thanks to Mr. Frechette for contacting Mr. Knight, researching the possibilities and securing the gift. The car is displayed at the entrance to the high school.
- Some of Miss Baker's science students recently participated in the Regional Science Fair at Clinton Community College. Ryan Munson and Nick Danussi took first place, Rachel Wnuk and Kristine McKinley took second place and Brynn Cairns received honorable mention.
- Simone Lutz encouraged several students to submit original poems for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual North Country Schools Peace Poetry contest sponsored by SUNY Potsdam. Of the 800+ submissions read, six students from the Beekmantown Central School District were selected for publication. The students are: Jacob Phaneuf (Gr. 4 CH), Alexis Marking (Gr. 4 BE), Kitara Myatt (Gr. 3 BE), Paige Dixon (Gr. 4 BE), Gabrielle Rowell (Gr. BE) and Skyler Resendez (HS). Congratulations to all!
- The district will be participating in a drill of our emergency evacuation procedures sometime this week. All students and staff at BE, MS & HS will participate. Cumberland Head will conduct its drill in late May/early June. The drill will involve bussing the MS & HS students and staff to a safe location while BE students and staff will walk to the designated safe area. Traffic control will be in place and enforcement by Sheriff and State Police personnel. Newspaper and radio announcements have already been released as well as notification on our website. It is only a drill so people are asked to stay away from the school sites and not call students on the cell phones.

*Ron Clamser, Business Manger* reported on the following:

- The District was the recipient of \$300 for a scholarship on behalf of the NYS Association of School Business Officials.
- The District went out for bid on the financing for the remaining \$6,000,000 EXCEL project. The interest rate will be 1.5%.
- Just received the Draft Risk Assessment Report from Carl Seyfarth of Seyfarth & Seyfarth. This report will be brought forward to the 6/9/09 Audit meeting, then the Board of Education meeting.
- The insurance company reimbursed the district \$18,600 for the internet worm.

*Nathan Bull, Ex-Officio, Student Board Member* reported on the following:

- The Junior Honor Society inducted 37 MS students and the National Honor Society inducted 44 juniors at the induction ceremonies held on 5/3/09. Faculty appreciation awards were given to Linda DiStefano and Karin Ryan.

*Dr. George Palmer arrived at 6:30 pm.*

*Nathan Bull, Ex-Officio, Student Board Member* finished his report with the following:

- The Clinton County School Boards recognized the top 10% of the senior class at a dinner held on 5/7/09. Recognized were:

Christopher Barnes	Emily Fesette
Stephen Barnes	Meghan LaValley
Sean Bradley	Garret Peterson
Nathan Bull	Priscilla Shivokevich
Stephanie Bushey	Hillary Sponable
Tyler Chatelle	Bethany Trombley
Rachel Crepeau	Nicholas Trombley
Brian Drollette	Christopher Witkowski

- Beekmantown students participated in the NYS School Music Association which was held at Stafford Middle School the first weekend of May. Based upon NYSSMA evaluation scores, the following students were automatically accepted in to the Area All-State Chorus 2009 - Cherie Passno, Lauren Grinberg-Funes, and Alexandra Roser.

Based upon NYSSMA evaluation scores, the following students were automatically accepted into Area All County for 2010 - LilyAnne Styles, Matt LaClair, Anna Stitt, Tamarra Cook, Nicholas Hebert, Maegan Bull, Andrew Peryer, and Sharon Rock.

- The North Country Regional Blood Drive at CVPH held a blood drive at school on 5/11/09. Students 16 years or older with parental consent could donate.
- The Junior Prom is scheduled for 5/16 with the theme “Life is a Masquerade”.
- The MS Spring Concert is scheduled for 5/14 and the HS Spring Concert is 5/19.

#### Approval of Minutes

#### Minutes

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Leonard King and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Education held on:

4/21/09 Board of Education Meeting  
4/23/09 Board of Education Special Meeting

#### CSE Recommendations

#### New Business

#### **CSE Recommendations**

It was moved by Leonard King, seconded by Richard LaVigne, and unanimously carried that the Board of Education approves the CSE recommendations dated 5/12/09.

#### Resignation

*Brinson, Albert*

#### Personnel

#### Resignation

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Steve Trombley and carried, that the Board of Education accept the following resignation on the date indicated:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Brinson, Albert	School Monitor (Cafeteria)	5/08/09

## Appointments

### Appointments Elections

It was moved by Karen Armstrong, seconded by Richard LaVigne and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the following appointments for the May 19, 2009 Annual Meeting:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Appointment</b>	<b>Rate</b>
Hicks, Jennifer	Permanent Chairperson	-0-
Inhelder, Eleanore	Chief Election Inspector	\$12.00/hr.
Parrott, Gary	Election Custodian	\$200

### Civil Service Probationary Appointment Brinson, Linda

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Steve Trombley and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education appoint the following *Civil Service probationary* appointments as indicated:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Salary (08-09)</b>	<b>Contract</b>
Brinson, Linda	School Monitor (Cafeteria)	5/11/09 – 1/11/10	\$8.44/hr.	10 months

It was moved by Leonard King, seconded by Richard LaVigne and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education approve the following *substitute* appointments beginning on the date indicated:

### Substitute Appointments

<b>Name</b>	<b>Substitute</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Peryer, Neal	Non-Instructional	5/13/09
Hughes, Gregory	Non-Instructional	5/18/09
Baker, Dean	Instructional	5/18/09
Fessette, Kevin	Instructional	5/18/09
Bushey, Mandy	Instructional & Non-Instructional	5/18/09

### Unpaid Leave Brown, Thomas

## Unpaid Leave

It was moved by Steve Trombley, seconded by Richard LaVigne and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education accept the unpaid leave of absence from Thomas Brown as a custodial worker from 4/21/09 – 10/21/09.

*James Knight, Assistant Principal for the MS arrived.*

## **Miscellaneous**

### CVES Board Election

It was moved by Karen Armstrong, seconded by Richard LaVigne that the Board of Education of the Beekmantown Central School District cast one vote for the vacancy (run-off election due to 4/23/09 vote resulting in tie) on the Clinton-Essex-Warren-Washington Board of Cooperative Educational Services (Champlain Valley Educational Services) Board.

Bryan Garvey  
David Hall

The roll-call vote was as follows:

Frank Hay – David Hall  
Kathleen Grinberg-Funes – Bryan Garvey  
Leonard King – Bryan Garvey  
Karen Armstrong – David Hall  
Stan Kourofsky – Bryan Garvey

Richard LaVigne – Bryan Garvey  
 George Palmer – David Hall  
 Steve Trombley – Bryan Garvey

Therefore, Bryan Garvey received 5 votes and David Hall received 3 votes.

Nathan Bull, Ex-Officio, Student Board Member introduced Brett Palmer as the new President to the Student Council effective the 2009-2010 school year.

*Novel List*

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Leonard King and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education approve adding this novel to the approved novel list:

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Book Title</u>	<u>Copyright Date</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>
English	Don't You Dare Read This, Mrs. Dunphrey	1996	Margaret Peterson Haddix	9

*Advisory Solutions*

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Steve Trombley and roll-call voted, that the Board of Education approve the contract with Advisory Solutions, the New York State School Boards Association consulting service for a study on Demographics/Enrollment Projection, Facilities Capacity Study & Analysis Report for the Beekmantown Central School District. The cost not to exceed \$19,200. Any anticipated expenses beyond this allowable amount requires Board approval. The Superintendent is hereby authorized to execute said agreement on behalf of the District.

The roll call vote was as follows:

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard LaVigne | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frank Hay               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Karen Armstrong |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> George Palmer   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kathleen Grinberg-Funes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Trombley  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Guy Falcon                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leonard King            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stan Kourofsky  |

**Financial**

*Donations*

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Steve Trombley and roll-call voted that the Board of Education accept the following donations and approve amending the District budget to be increased in the amount of \$5,104.50.

<b>From</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Casella Waste Systems, Inc.	Cafeteria Trays	\$ 250.00
Beekmantown Elementary FSO	Cafeteria Trays	\$2,952.00
Beekmantown Booster Club	Replacement of JV Baseball Backstop	\$ 900.00
Beekmantown Booster Club	Baseball Equipment	\$1,002.50

The roll call vote was as follows:

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard LaVigne | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frank Hay               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Karen Armstrong |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> George Palmer   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kathleen Grinberg-Funes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Trombley  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Guy Falcon                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leonard King            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stan Kourofsky  |

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Leonard King and roll-call voted that the Board of Education award the following bids regarding Tt Project Number 08188-08002:

*Award of Bids*

<u>General Work</u>		<i>Murnane Building Contracting</i>
Base Bid		\$1,257,449
Alternate No. G-1	Additional Floor Replacement	\$ 54,930
Alternate No. G-3	Card Access	\$ 2,940
Alternate No. G-4	Additional Floor Replacement	\$ 14,395
Alternate No. G-5	Ceiling Replacement	\$ 5,900
	<i>Total Award</i>	<u>\$1,335,614</u>

<u>Heating Work</u>		<i>K &amp; L Plumbing &amp; Heating</i>
Base Bid		\$ 320,000
	<i>Total Award</i>	<u>\$ 320,000</u>

<u>Electric Work</u>		<i>Mountain Lake Electric</i>
Base Bid		\$ 467,450
Alternate No. E-1	800 Kw Emergency Generator	\$ 170,450
Alternate No. E-2	Card Access Reader	\$ 1,800
	<i>Total Award</i>	<u>\$ 639,700</u>

<u>Plumbing Work</u>		<i>K &amp; L Plumbing &amp; Heating</i>
Base Bid		\$ 95,000
	<i>Total Award</i>	<u>\$ 95,000</u>

<u>Roofing Work</u>		<i>Apple Roofing Inc.</i>
Base Bid		\$ 639,937
	<i>Total Award</i>	<u>\$ 639,937</u>

The roll call vote was as follows:

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard LaVigne | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frank Hay               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Karen Armstrong |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> George Palmer   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kathleen Grinberg-Funes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Trombley  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Guy Falcon                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leonard King            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stan Kourofsky  |

**Additional Items to Discuss**

- *Operations Committee Update*

*Operations Committee Update*

The bids on the EXCEL Project came in below projections; therefore, the district was going back to Tetra Tech to see what they recommend the District complete from the District's 5-year plan with the remaining \$2,364,449.

**Budget Hearing**

(High School Auditorium @ 7:00 pm)

*Budget Hearing*

The Board President called the hearing to order at 7:00 pm.

The Superintendent and Business Manger presented the 2009-2010 Budget. A question and answer period followed

Budget Hearing ended at 7:40 pm.

Kathleen Grinberg-Funes departed the meeting at 7:45 pm.

*Football Field*

The Board next discussed the football field and whether or not repairs would be made with remaining monies from the 2008-2009 school year. The estimated cost for repairs for the football field is \$150,000. After much discussion, it was the consensus of the Board that reconditioning of the football field would occur only if the proposition to transfer \$240,000 from the existing fund balance received voter approval on May 19<sup>th</sup>.

The call for a consensus was distributed as follows:

- George Palmer – Yes
- Richard LaVigne – Yes
- Stan Kourofsky – Yes
- Steve Trombley – Yes
- Karen Armstrong – No
- Leonard King – Yes
- Frank Hay - Yes
- Kathleen Grinberg-Funes – Absent
- Guy Falcon - Absent

*Policy*

- *Review of Policy #1130 News Media Relations*

Said policy was moved to the 6/9/09 meeting because of the departure of Kathleen Grinberg-Funes from the meeting.

*Board of Education Meeting Dates*

- Board Meeting Dates
  - 5/26/09 (Unused Snow Day – School Closed) No Board Meeting
  - 6/23/09 (No Board Meeting) due to graduation and awards ceremonies
  - July 2009 (Organizational Meeting)

The Board next set the date of 7/7/09 as the Organizational Meeting for the 2009-10 school year at 6:15 pm.

**Presentation**

**Topic:** Bullying Presentation

**Presenter:** Erika Milton, PSUC Student

*Bullying Presentation*

Erika Milton, PSUC student stated this semester she took a leadership class and the topic she picked was school bullying because 1 out of 5 students suffer bullying within their life.

Techniques used here and abroad that are successful are:

- 1) making classroom/parent communities
- 2) encourage positive attitude in classrooms
- 3) explore different topics in life styles
- 4) keep kids from using the web as a tool against other classmates

**Public Comment** (5 minutes)

*Public Comment*

Ricki Marin, parent of Beekmantown Elementary addressed the Board on the following:

- informed the Board and public the Press-Republican will be sponsoring a public informational session on the Freedom of Information Laws and the Open Meetings Laws on 6/3/09 in the evening for free. This will be conducted by Robert Freeman, NYS Department of State. Advertising will begin after 5/20/09. Ricki encourage Board members, school staff, and the public to attend to be better informed for open

communications.

- Prior to the last board meeting, Stan Kourofsky informed another parent and her that the FSO was not permitted to use words “school” or “elementary” when promoting the FSO for events, newsletters, etc. that they send out. She stated she e-mailed Mr. Kourofsky for a copy of the policy used in making this decision. He stated they needed to use the proper channels and the FSO is yet to receive a response. She requested that it be addressed in writing as soon as possible so the FSO can move forward.

Jackie Wnuk reported on the following:

- Thanked Richelle Beach and Carrie Trombley for a very successfully meet the candidate forum. She also thanked the candidates for participating.
- For the record, page 3 of 5 of the Board agenda referred to Beekmantown Elementary FSO

*Clerk Pro-Tem*

**Clerk Pro-Tem**

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Leonard King and carried, that the Board of Education appoint Stan Kourofsky as Clerk Pro-tem

Respectfully Submitted,  
Joanne Menard, District Clerk

*Executive Session  
Stipulation &  
Settlement*

**Executive Session**

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Steve Trombley, and unanimously carried, that the Board enter executive session to discuss proposed stipulation and settlement of two pending Article 7 Tax Certiorari proceedings: 1) Saranac Power Partners and 2) North Country Pipeline. Time 8:10 pm.

It was moved by Frank Hay, seconded by Leonard King, and unanimously carried, that the Board return to regular session. Time 8:47 pm.

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Frank Hay and carried, that the Board of Education authorize Joseph Lavorando School Attorney to sign the Stipulation Agreements on behalf of the Beekmantown Central School District to settle the tax certiorari proceedings with Saranac Power Partners, LP and North Country Gas Pipeline Company.

*Adjournment*

**Adjournment**

It was moved by Steve Trombley, seconded by Frank Hay, and unanimously carried, that the meeting be adjourned. Time 8:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Stan Kourofsky, Board President