

Beekmantown Central School District

Board of Education Meeting

Place: **MS/HS Library**

October 28, 2008

Minutes

Call to Order President Stan Kourofsky called the meeting to order at 6:24pm and led the pledge of allegiance.

Members Present

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Karen Armstrong | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frank Hay | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard LaVigne |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guy Falcon | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leonard King | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> George Palmer (<i>arrived 6:50 pm</i>) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kathleen Grinberg-Funes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stan Kourofsky | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Trombley |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nathan Bull, Ex-Officio, Student Board Member | | |

Others Present

Present

Scott Amo, Superintendent
Sue Coonrod, MS Principal
Shane Brink, Transportation Supervisor
Ron Clamsner, Business Manager
Joanne Menard, District Clerk

Visitors

Visitors

Lucy Giroux	Patrick Sullivan	Cathy Buckley	Carrie Trombley
Marilyn Dwyer	Kim Bodette	Randy LaValley	

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Guy Falcon and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education approve the agenda.

Public Comment

Public Comment

Randy LaValley addressed the Board on the following:

- stated he has not received the name of the company and/or engineer who condemn the bleachers.
- requested the board members attendance of Board meetings over the last 12 months.
- the minutes of 9/23/08 did not have many specific comments.
- requested copy of the audio tape of the 9/23/08 board meeting.

Marilyn Dwyer addressed the Board on the following:

- the audio tapes for the last three meetings were not available online and would like the audio tapes posted online.
- expressed her concerns with the top Board Goal this evening on reducing the size and restructure of the Board. This is the year you would lose Kathleen Grinberg-Funes and George Palmer who have openly disagreed with the majority of the Board. The majority of the Board 5 or 7 receive benefits directly or indirectly from the taxpayers. In addition, remaining board members would not have children in the District.

Pat Sullivan addressed the Board on the following:

- stated he was against reducing the size of the Board because in doing so it would reduce diversity. He inquired if residents could vote on two referendums: 1) community interested in reducing size of Board and 2) require all members to run again and top 7 or 9 vote getters would retain the Board seats.
- Did any Board member attend the recent convention in New York City? (The Board President stated no.)

The Board President reminded the audience that the Public Comment is not used as a question and answer period.

Presentation

Presentation

Topic: MS Literacy Goals Update

Presenter: Sue Coonrod, Principal

MS Literacy Goals

Ms. Sue Coonrod, MS Principal, gave a PowerPoint presentation on MS Literacy Goals. She stated the middle school wanted to achieve a measurable goal that everyone would work on as a team with a potential to improve achievement in all content areas. The goal was the *BMS staff wants each child to go to high school reading on grade level*. Three areas were identified to address: 1) reading comprehension, 2) content area reading, and 3) reading/writing connection. Implemented was the administration of the Gates-McGinitie Reading Assessment each April, creation of a Literacy Lab AIS class curriculum, and the faculty implemented content area reading and writing strategies. The percentage of students at Level 3 & 4 over the last three years are as follows:

School Year	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
<i>ELA</i>			
Grade 6	60%	67%	72%
Grade 7	58%	64%	73%
Grade 8	49%	63%	55%
<i>Math</i>			
Grade 6	48%	55%	80%
Grade 7	56%	75%	88%
Grade 8	48%	64%	65%
<i>Science</i>			
Grade 8	58%	72%	87%
<i>Social Studies</i>			
Grade 8	59%	66%	76%

The middle school faculty will continue to increase student achievement.

Dr. George Palmer arrived at 6:50 pm.

Minutes

Approval of Minutes

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

October 14, 2008 (Board of Education Meeting)

It was moved by Frank Hay, seconded by Leonard King and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education does hereby accept the minutes of the Operations Committee held on October 14, 2008.

New Business

Appointments

Appointments

Bouchard, Susan

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Kathleen Grinberg-Funes and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education change the appointment of Susan Bouchard from an 11-month typist to a 10-month typist effective 10/20/08 at a salary of \$16,608.

Probationary Appointment

Beshon, Michael

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

Name	Title	Period	Salary (08-09)	Contract
Beshon, Michael	Bus Driver	10/29/08 - 5/4/09	\$23.74 per run	10 months

Permanent Civil Service Appointment

Brink, Shane

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Guy Falcon and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education approve the following *permanent Civil Service* appointment as indicated:

Name	Civil Service Title	Probationary Period	Initial Board Meeting	Permanent Date
Brink, Shane	Transportation Supervisor	4/23/08 – 10/22/08	4/22/08	10/23/08

The Board congratulated Shane Brink on his appointment.

Shane Brink, Transportation Supervisor departed the meeting.

Change of Appointment

Toni Mieles

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Frank Hay and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education change the appointment of Toni Mieles from a three-year probationary appointment beginning September 1, 2008 and ending August 31, 2011 from the board meeting minutes of July 1, 2008 to that of a two-year probationary appointment beginning September 1, 2008 and ending on August 31, 2010. Toni Mieles holds a permanent certificate in the area of PreK-6.

Letter of Agreement between Dr. Patricia Egan, Consultant

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Steve Trombley and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education approve the Letter of Agreement between Dr. Patricia Egan, Consultant and the Beekmantown Central School District to provide consultation services for the 2008-2009 school year for two (2) hours per month as indicated on the student's IEP for a rate of \$100 per hour.

Permanent Civil Service Appointment

Lowther, Tami

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Leonard King and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education approve the following *permanent Civil Service* appointment as indicated:

Name	Civil Service Title	Probationary Period	Initial Board Meeting	Permanent Date
Lowther, Tami	School Monitor (Cafeteria)	2/25/08 – 10/20/08	2/26/08	10/21/08

Unpaid Leave

Unpaid Leave

Trombly, Arnold

It was moved by Leonard King, seconded by Richard LaVigne and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education approve an unpaid leave of absence for Arnold Trombly as a Building Maintenance Worker effective on 10/7/08 until 10/31/08 consistent with Federal Family & Medical Leave Act of 1993, Board of Education Policy #9520.2.

Miscellaneous

Textbook Adoption

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Steve Trombly and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education adopt the following textbook:

Subject	Book Title	Copyright Date	Author	Grade Level
Mathematics	Calculus of a Single Variable 8 th Ed.	2002	Ron Larson	11 & 12

Adoption of 2008-2009 Board Goals

Discussion followed on the Board Goals and it was moved by Leonard King, seconded by Richard LaVigne and roll-call voted that the Board of Education adopt the following 2008-2009 Board Goals and District Goals:

2008-2009 Board Goals

- Seek voter approval to restructure the membership terms of service and Board membership size.
- Include all Board members and Superintendent when communicating by email to other Board members, Superintendent, or district staff.
- Limit Board of Education meetings to three hours or less as monitored by the Board President.
- Develop and implement a funding plan which addresses the priorities identified for each year of the district's 5-Year Facilities Plan.

2008-2009 District Goals

2008-2009 District Goals

- Decrease the percentages of all students in Grades 3-8 receiving a Level 1 in all content areas tested and increase the percentages of all students in Grades 3-8 receiving Levels 3 or 4.
- Conduct a facilities and programs study (including the West Chazy building) for the purpose of determining cost-effective utilizations of elementary buildings and program effective distributions of grade levels.
- Study the feasibility of using alternative fuel sources for the operation of schools and busses.
- Maximize the district's eligible share of state and federal funds to improve programs and services for special needs students.
- Increase opportunities for student presentations/forums at Board meetings.

- Increase Career Awareness/Exploration opportunities for all Grade 6-12 students.
- Study the effectiveness of the grade-reporting processes and timetables used to report K-12 grades.

The roll-call vote was as follows:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard LaVigne	<input type="checkbox"/> Frank Hay (<i>No</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/> Karen Armstrong (<i>absent</i>)
<input type="checkbox"/> George Palmer (<i>No</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kathleen Grinberg-Funes (<i>No</i>)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Trombley
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guy Falcon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leonard King	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stan Kourofsky

Policies

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Guy Falcon and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the following policies as indicated:

- Policies
- Admission of Non-Resident Students Regulation*
- Payroll Procedures*
- Contracting for Professional Services*
- Physical & Mental Exams*
- PreRerral Intervention*

<u>Name</u>	<u>Policy #</u>
Admission of Non-Resident Students Regulation	5152-R (Final)
Payroll Procedures	6800 (1 st Reading)
Contracting For Professional Services	6741 (1 st Reading)
Physical and Mental Exams	9310 (Revised)
PreReferral Intervention	TBD (1 st Reading)

Financial

It was moved by Leonard King, seconded by Steve Trombley and roll-call voted that the Board of Education accept the following donation and approve amending the District budget to be increased in the amount of \$500.

Donation

<u>From</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Exxon Mobil	HS materials & supplies	\$500

The roll-call vote was as follows:

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

Transfers

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Frank Hay and roll-call voted, that the Board of Education approve the following transfers over \$5,000:

<u>Legal Services to BOCES CV-TEC</u> (15 Additional CV-TEC Students)		
From:	To:	Amount:
A14204000001	A22804900000	\$10,000
<u>Refund of Property Tax to BOCES CV-TEC</u>		
From:	To:	Amount:
A19644000000	A22804900000	\$15,278
<u>ERS to BOCES CV-TEC</u>		
From:	To:	Amount:
A90108002300	A22804900000	\$10,000
<u>Social Security to BOCES CV-TEC</u>		
From:	To:	Amount:
A90308002200	A22804900000	\$10,000

Unemployment to BOCES CV-TEC

From:	To:	Amount:
A90508002200	A22804900000	\$10,000

Fuel Oil to BOCES CV-TEC

From:	To:	Amount:
A16204790000	A22804900000	\$35,000

Retirement Incentives to Retirement Incentives (Incentive money from payroll to accounts payable)

From:	To:	Amount:
A21101200002	A21104000000	\$100,000
A21101300002	A21104000000	\$100,000

The roll-call vote was as follows:

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

CV-TEC

Additional Items to Discuss

- *CV-TEC*

Discussion followed on the amount the District is paying for the CV-TEC Program. The Board President stated CV-TEC was laying off a couple of teaches even though enrollment has increased. He requested that the Board authorize him to write a resolution on behalf of the Board regarding the cost of the services and the amount of increase each year. The Board requested information on what is included in the \$9,000 rate per student and what the rates have been over the years.

Public Comment

Public Comment

Kim Bodette addressed the Board stating this is her second attempt to get the Board to resolve a matter where her children are victims of racial harassment and bullying. She stated she has not had a reply from the Board following her presentation to the Board on 10/14/08. She stated the situation is very severe and feels likes she is being ignored. A meeting was arranged for 10/29/08 at 10:00 am in the Superintendent’s office to further address her concerns with the Board President and administration.

Pat Sullivan inquired if the referendum to reduce the size of the Board would be a separate vote or in tandem with existing positions. The Board President stated if there is a referendum, then it would not take affect until next year. Mr. Sullivan stated there were a few individuals who would like to run but because of the reduction of the Board, maybe it would be wise to have a total Board revote to allow participation.

Randy LaValley stated he was listening to concerns regarding the money spent to send a student to CV-TEC. He inquired if there was as much a concern by the Board to reduce the costs of health insurance as well. It is the best interest of taxpayers for students to achieve the best education possible. If you are going to take money away by not sending students to CV-TEC, there are other opportunities to free up money with one of them being health insurance.

Marilyn Dwyer noted the Board had concerns about spending at CV-TEC. The issue of who might be getting laid off and views of who shouldn't be getting laid off, shouldn't be the focus.

Clerk Pro-Tem

Clerk Pro-Tem

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Leonard King and unanimously carried, that Stan Kourofsky be appointed Clerk Pro-tem.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joanne Menard, District Clerk

Executive Session

*to discuss a
particular person or
person(s) employment
history and
Beekmantown
Teachers' contract
negotiations*

Executive Session

Time 7:55 pm It was moved by Steve Trombley, seconded by Richard LaVigne and unanimously carried, that the Board enter executive session to discuss a particular person or person(s) employment history and the Beekmantown Teachers' Association contract negotiations.

Leonard King departed the meeting at 9:00 pm.

Time 9:15 pm. It was moved by Frank Hay, seconded by Kathleen Grinberg-Funes, and unanimously carried, that the Board return to regular session.

Adjournment

Adjournment

It was moved by Frank Hay, seconded by Steve Trombley, and unanimously carried, that the meeting be adjourned. Time 9:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stan Kourofsky, Board President