

Beekmantown Central School District

Board of Education Meeting

Place: **MS/HS Library**

March 24, 2009

Minutes

Call to Order

President Stan Kourofsky called the meeting to order at 6:17 pm and Nathan Bull 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 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kathleen Grinberg-Funes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stan Kourofsky | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Trombley |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nathan Bull, Ex-Officio, Student Board Member | | |

Others Present

Present

Absent

Scott Amo, Superintendent
Ron Clamser, Business Manager
Joanne Menard, District Clerk

Visitors

Visitors

- | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Renee Wooster | Susan King | Patrick Sullivan |
| Kathy Hay | Robert King | Mary LaValley Blaine |
| Carrie Trombley | Jerry Ross | Richelle Beach |
| Lucy Giroux | Cathy Buckley | Ricki Marin |
| Ed Marvin | Raegan Tetreault | |

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Steve Trombley that the Board of Education approve the agenda. It was moved by Frank Hay, seconded by George Palmer and unanimously carried, that an executive session be added after the first public comment.

Public Comment

Public Comment (None at this time.)

Executive Session to discuss contracts

Executive Session

It was moved by Steve Trombley, seconded by Richard LaVigne, and unanimously carried that the Board enter executive session to discuss contracts. Time 6:20 pm

It was moved by George Palmer, seconded by Frank Hay, and unanimously carried, that the Board return to regular session. Time 6:38 pm.

Reports

Scott Amo, Superintendent of Schools reported on the following:

- received information today from Tetra Teach that the EXCEL Project has received final approval. Bid documents will be made available by 4/1. There will be a prebid walkthrough on 4/7 with bid openings on 4/29.
- had the opportunity to attend the musical production Beauty and the Beast at Chazy HS on 4/22. Several of our students, including Nathan Bull participated.
- the high school initiated an action consistent with our Emergency Plan Guide this morning.
- on 4/3/09 we will initiate a K-12 Early Release Drill. Students will be released 30 minutes earlier than their normal times. We can test our departure times needed under an emergency situation, as well as our bus response system. Notification will be given to everyone.
- In May, we are scheduling a drill on getting students to a safety zone and returning back to school.

Ron Clamser, Business Manager reported on the following:

- the audit committee met this evening with Carl Seyfarth on the Corrective Action Plan. Mr. Seyfarth will be on site next week to test items corrected in the Action Plan.

Discussion followed on the Corrective Action Plan with the Business Manager highlighting items needing Board action. The Board questioned when Mr. Seyfarth would be back to give a full report to the Board. The Business Manager stated Mr. Seyfarth would attend any meeting.

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

- Beekmantown received over 10 awards from the North Country Model United Nations Conference recently held at NCCS.
- The 11th Grade Peer Connectors and upcoming 10th Grade Peer Connectors attended a leadership conference at Clinton Community College to prepare for next year on mentoring the freshman class.
- The following Beekmantown students and staff, including himself, participated in the Chazy Musical Beauty and the Beast: Lauren Grinberg-Funes, Nick Trombley, Mike Nystoriak, Morgan Duprey, and JoLee Yeddo.
- asked what input the Board would like from the student body since term on the Board as the Student Ex-Officio, Student Board Member would be ending soon. Several ideas were discussed from graduation to lunch, making sure student are registered to vote, and feedback from the year on what worked well and what did not.

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:

3/10/09 Board of Education Meeting

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Kathleen Grinberg-Funes and unanimously carried that the Board of Education does hereby accept the minutes of the Operations Committee held on:

3/10/09 Operations Committee

**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 3/24/09.

**Appointments
District Treasurer
Blaine, Mary**

Appointments

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Leonard King and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education appoint Mary LaValley Blaine to serve as Treasurer of this District effective April 6, 2009 during the 2008-2009 fiscal year at an annual salary of \$52,500 (prorated) with an indemnity amount of \$1,000,000. Ms. Blaine's *Civil Service probationary* appointment will be from 4/6/09 to 10/5/09.

Mary LaValley Blaine was introduced.

**Designation of
Signatures on Checks**

Designation of Signatures on Checks

It was moved by Leonard King, seconded by Richard LaVigne, and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education designate Mary LaValley Blaine, District Treasurer, to sign all checks of this District during the 2008-2009 fiscal year with Ron Clamser, Jr., acting in her absence.

**Permanent Civil
Service Appointments**

**Drapeau, Denise
King, Tina
Riley, Barbara
Brow, Johanna**

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

Name	Civil Service Title	Probationary Period	Initial Board Meeting	Permanent Date
Drapeau, Denise	Teacher Aide	9/2/08 – 3/24/09	8/26/08	3/25/09
King, Tina	Teacher Aide	9/2/08 – 3/24/09	8/26/08	3/25/09
Riley, Barbara	Teacher Aide	9/2/08 – 3/24/09	8/26/08	3/25/09
Brow, Johanna	Bus Driver	9/2/08 – 3/24/09	8/26/08	3/25/09

**Spring Athletic
Appointments**

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Steve Trombley and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education approve the following spring athletic positions for the 2008-2009 school year effective 3/17/09 as indicated:

Sport	Name	07-08 Salary	08-09 Salary
Softball - Modified (Team 2)	Downey, Tracy	\$2,404	Per Negotiations
Softball – Assistant	Bergevin, Heather	\$0	Volunteer

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

Substitute Appointments

Name	Substitute	Effective Date
Brockway, Melanie	Instructional	3/30/09
Fortin, Rebekah	Instructional	3/30/09
Goddeau, Ashlee	Instructional	3/30/09
LaDue, Kelly	Instructional	3/30/09
White, Bethany	Instructional	3/30/09
Poissant, Pamela	Non-Instructional	3/30/09
Trombley, Carrie	Non-Instructional	3/30/09
LaPorte, Carla	Non-Instructional	3/30/09

Letter of Agreement with Christina Work, Teacher of Visually Impaired

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Guy Falcon and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education approve the Letter of Agreement with Christina Work, Teacher of the Visually Impaired and the Beekmantown Central School District to provide tutoring services for not more than two (2) one and half (1½) hour sessions per month as indicated on the student's IEP at the rate of \$41.43 per hour for the remainder of the 2008-2009 school year.

Civil Service Probationary Appointments

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:

LaPorte, Clara Menard, Kayla

Name	Title	Period	Salary (08-09)	Contract
LaPorte, Carla	School Monitor (Cafeteria)	3/16/09 – 11/30/09	\$8.44/hr.	10 months
Menard, Kayla	School Monitor (Cafeteria)	3/16/09 – 11/30/09	\$8.44/hr.	10 months

Miscellaneous

Athletic Mergers

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Steve Trombley and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education approve the following athletic mergers for the 2009-2010 athletic season:

Sport	School
Cross County Ski	Saranac Lake Central School District
Gymnastics	Saranac Central School District
Varsity Boys Hockey	Chazy Central Rural School
Girls Hockey	Chazy Central Rural School

Hours for Annual Meeting on May 19, 2009

It was moved by Guy Falcon, seconded by Richard LaVigne and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education set the hours of the Annual Meeting of qualified voters for the Beekmantown Central School District of the Towns of Beekmantown, Plattsburgh, Chazy and Altona on May 19, 2009 from 11:00 am to 8:00 pm in the middle school gymnasium.

Policies

Policies

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Leonard King and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education discuss the following policies:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Policy #</u>
Home School Students	1741 (Final Reading)
Relations with Parents' Organizations	1221 (1 st Reading)
Relationship with Booster Organizations	1222 (1 st Reading)
Relationship with NonPublic Schools	1740 (1 st Reading)
Communication Among Individual Board Members	2710 (1 st Reading)
Disclosure of Wrongful Conduct	9645 (1 st Reading)
Compensation and Benefits	9500 (Revised)
Compensation and Benefits Regulation	
Employment Status Determination	9500-R

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Policy #</u>
Home School Students	1741 (Final Reading)
Compensation and Benefits	9500 (Revised)
Compensation and Benefits Regulation	
Employment Status Determination	9500-R

Financial

Transfer

It was moved by Steve Trombley and seconded by Richard LaVigne, and roll voted that the Board of Education approve the following transfer over \$5,000:

Fuel Oil to BOCES (Cover repair to computer servers caused by virus)
From: A16204790000 **To:** A26304900000 **Amount:** \$30,000.00

Roll Call Vote

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard LaVigne	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frank Hay	<input type="checkbox"/> Karen Armstrong
<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

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Steve Trombley and roll-call voted that the Board of Education recommends to the voters of the District at the Annual District Meeting on May 19, 2009 the following proposition:

Proposition Bus Purchases

Proposition – Bus Purchases

To purchase (4) 65-passenger school buses to replace existing ten-year-old buses. The total cost not to exceed \$375,798, including trading in 4 buses, shall be raised by a tax on the taxable property of the School District to be collected in annual installments and to issue obligations in accordance with the Education Law and Local Finance Law. As part of the district's ongoing replacement plan, this purchase enables the district to obtain a potential State reimbursement rate of approximately 78.7%.

Roll Call Vote

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard LaVigne	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frank Hay	<input type="checkbox"/> Karen Armstrong
<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

It was moved by Leonard King, seconded by Richard LaVigne and roll-call voted that the Board of Education recommends to the voters of the District at the Annual District Meeting on May 19, 2009 the following proposition

**Proposition
Bleachers**

Proposition - Bleachers

To transfer no more than \$240,000 from the District's existing fund balance to purchase bleachers for the football field.

Roll Call Vote

Richard LaVigne
 George Palmer
 Guy Falcon

Frank Hay
 Kathleen Grinberg-Funes
 Leonard King

Karen Armstrong
 Steve Trombley
 Stan Kourofsky

Additional Items to Discuss

- *Budget Discussion*

Discussions

Budget

The Superintendent stated the special education projected savings by providing services in the district versus purchasing services from BOCES is \$118,000, not \$76,980 that includes benefits. The reason for the change is the reduction of 1.0 FTE teacher aide. The .4 psychologist position would not receive benefits. The psychologist would address compliance issues and timeline issues.

The 1.0 FTE teacher would serve the students the district would otherwise purchase services from BOCES for at a cost of approximately \$30,000 per student.

The Superintendent stated a room has been identified and the district would have a projected savings each year.

Discussion ensued on classroom availability, utilization of buildings, and the possibility that, as students leave the program, the need to maintain the staff might be reduced.

Fund Balance

Fund Balance

Discussion followed on the fund balance and the amount of money to use to apply to the proposed budget. Presently \$1.5 million is again tentatively planned to be applied. If the Board uses another \$600,000 from the fund balance, the tax rate would be the same as this year without any changes in assessed value.

Discussion followed on the amount of money in designated reserve accounts. The District could transfer fund balance monies into these designated reserve accounts, which will lower the undesignated reserve account.

The Superintendent and Business Manager will submit a recommendation for the next Board meeting on the fund balance.

Public Forum

Public Forum

Discussion followed on a public forum on the 2009-2010 proposed budget. It was the consensus of the Board that the Public Forum Presentation be scheduled for 4/7/09 at 7:00 pm in the auditorium.

Attendance at Annual Meeting of CVES

- *Attendance at Annual Meeting of CVES*

Confirmation of attendance from the Board of Education was taken for the Annual Meeting of CVES – 4/8/09 @ 7:30 pm @ Yandon-Dillon Center, Mineville.

*Vote on CVES
Tentative
Administrative
Budget & Board
Candidates*

- Vote on CVES tentative administrative budget and Board Candidates – 4/23/09

Voting on CVES tentative administrative budget and Board Candidates is scheduled for 4/23/09. The Board set the time for 7:30 am.

*Attendance at CCSBA
Annual Recognition
Dinner*

- Attendance at Clinton County School Boards Annual Recognition Dinner

Confirmation of attendance from the Board of Education was taken for the Tenth Annual Clinton County School Boards Recognition Dinner scheduled for 5/7/09 @ 6:00 pm @ Rainbow Wedding & Banquet Hall

*School Meal Prices
for 2009-2010*

- School Meal Prices for the 2009-2010 school year

The Board reviewed the 2008-2009 School Meal Price Comparisons from the School Lunch Manager and her recommendation for Proposed Meal Prices for 2009-2010 School Year. It was the consensus of the Board that the changes were okay. A resolution changing the School Meal Prices will be brought to the Reorganizational Meeting in July.

Public Comment

Public Comment (5 minutes)

Carrie Trombley spoke to the Board about pending tenure consideration. She stated there have been several principals assigned to one elementary school over the last 10 years. She also commented on the value of having open communication with the community and parents that are involved with the school including pending tenure considerations.

Ricki Marin expressed concerns about communication between the School Board, parents and the public. She requested the Board to carefully read the proposed policy “Relations with Parents’ Organization”.

Clerk Pro-Tem

Clerk Pro-Tem

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Joanne Menard, District Clerk

*Executive Session
discussion personnel*

Executive Session

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Steve Trombley, and unanimously carried, that the Board enter executive session to discuss personnel. Time 8:44 pm.

It was moved by Frank Hay, seconded by Kathleen Grinberg-Funes, and unanimously carried, that the Board return to regular session. Time 9:28 pm.

Adjournment

Adjournment

It was moved by Frank Hay, seconded by Leonard King, and unanimously carried, that the meeting be adjourned. Time 9:28 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stan Kourofsky, Board President