

# Beekmantown Central School District

## Board of Education Meeting

Place: **MS/HS Library**

**September 9, 2008**

### Minutes

#### Call to Order

President Stan Kourofsky called the meeting to order at 6:18 pm and led the pledge of allegiance.

#### Members Present

Karen Armstrong                       Frank Hay                       Richard LaVigne  
 Guy Falcon                               Leonard King                 George Palmer  
 Kathleen Grinberg-Funes(arrived 6:24 pm)  Stan Kourofsky               Steve Trombley

Nathan Bull, Ex-Officio, Student Board Member

#### Others Present

##### **Present**

Scott Amo, Superintendent  
Garth Frechette, HS Principal  
Sue Coonrod, MS Principal  
Sandra Gardner, BE Principal  
Diane Fox, CH Principal  
LeeAnn Short, Director of Special Services  
Donna Eggleton, Director of Curriculum & Instruction  
Don Strong, Supt. of Building & Grounds  
Gary Lambert, Educational Technology Coordinator  
Shane Brink, Transportation Supervisor  
Roxann Barnes, School Lunch Manager  
Ed Cook, Director of PE, Athletics, Health, & Health Services  
Joha Battin, HS Assistant Principal  
Ron Clamser, Business Manager  
Joseph Lavorando, School Attorney  
Joanne Menard, District Clerk

##### **Absent**

#### Visitors

##### **Visitors**

Susan King                      Lucy Giroux                      Tracy Downey  
Patti Gallagher                Kathie Fuller                      Cathy Buckley  
Robert King                      Teri LaMora

### Approval of Agenda

#### Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Steve Trombley, seconded by Richard LaVigne and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education approve the agenda with the following changes: an executive session be added after the second Public Comment and the exempt contracts be tabled until after the executive session.

#### Public Comment

**Public Comment** *None at this time.*

## Presentations

**a. Topic:** Opening of School Report      **Presenter:** Administrators & Supervisors

Garth Frechette, High School Principal reported on the following:

- Freshman Academy purpose is to establish appropriate cultural for students as rising 9<sup>th</sup> graders
- twice as many students in 15:1:1 class passed the regents
- balance class roosters
- Professor Wiley from PSUC spoke to 9<sup>th</sup> grade class
- repositioned supervisors for bus duty

Sue Coonrod, Middle School Principal reported on the following:

- 11 fewer students as of yesterday
- 20 students transferred in and 28 transferred out
- Small 6<sup>th</sup> grade class this year
- 7<sup>th</sup> grade has 170 students and 8<sup>th</sup> grade has 162

Kathleen Grinberg-Funes arrived at 6:24 pm.

- MS bell schedule is 3 minutes forward
- No one missed the bus
- Parent drop off in MS loop going very well
- Video Production class has 2 sections and would like to show the work later in the year
- 10<sup>th</sup> period is a supervised homeroom which is offered 5 days per week due to Title I funds
- Literacy lab is in its second year and is full
- Alternative education for 8<sup>th</sup> grade this year has 11 students which is the same as last year.

Sandra Gardner, Beekmantown Elementary Principal reported on the following:

- Enrollment stayed the same
- Scheduling changes with 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade using the MS gym
- Chorus and band start at 9:05 am
- Thank the Board for the new math series
- ELA – Scott Foresman – 1<sup>st</sup> year to gather data with 4's & 5's weak and the 1's and 2's baseline coming in strong
- This year's theme "Positive Action" and distributed a bracket to the board.

Diane Fox, Cumberland Head Elementary School Principal reported on the following:

- Distributed pins to the Board which stated "Great Students, Great Community, Great School and Great Staff"
- Received good reviews on Open House
- 495 students at CH
- Alternate exit plan was good

Ed Cook, Athletic Director reported on the following:

- Season started on 8/11/08
- No transportation or scheduling issues
- Football program has grown
- Football season opens on Saturday against Saranac.

Shane Brink, Transportation Supervisor reported on the following:

- This was my first opening day
- Couple of minor issues with buses over heating
- Buses unloading and loading up front went very well
- MS bus loop went well for parents
- Had very few telephone calls.

Roxann Barnes, School Lunch Manager reported on the following:

- Opening day went well
- Received 2/3 of free and reduced applications
- Point of sale went well with 347 families paying on line or prepayments
- We will again be offering fresh fruits daily
- A big hit last year was 5 different kinds of pizza on Friday
- Worked on preventive maintenance over the summer.

Don Strong, Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds reported on the following:

- The EXCEL Project is 30 days away from being sent to the State Education Department for approval
- The new cafeteria line under the Excel project is functional and user friendly to staff
- The entrance to Cumberland Head has a few items left to complete
- Installing valve on Thursday, then the heating will be ready to go
- Working on work orders, district office conference room and projection units.

The Board stated the school looks good and they have received positive feedback from the community.

Gary Lambert, Educational Technology Coordinator reported on the following:

- One of the Technology goals was to install LCD projectors in every instructional classroom. The middle school and high school is almost complete and will be starting with Beekmantown Elementary, then Cumberland Head
- Finalizing the schedule for the K-5 Computer Resource Teacher who is shared between Beekmantown Elementary and Cumberland Head.

LeeAnn Short, Director of Special Services reported on the following:

- 21 new students transferred in with a few more coming and 8 or 9 transferred out
- Working with teachers to fix glitches in schedules.

Donna Eggleton, Director of Curriculum & Instruction reported on the following:

- Science Curriculum for the 15:1:1 class contains objectives & assessments
- Working on the Video Production curriculum.

Presentation  
General Science HS  
Curriculum

**b. Topic:** General Science HS Curriculum      **Presenter:** Kathie Fuller & Teri LaMora

Kathie Fuller and Teri LaMora presented the General Science HS Curriculum for the 15:1:1 class.

Reports

Superintendent of  
Schools

### **Reports/Presentations**

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

- The Battle of Plattsburgh, the War of 1813, and life in the 1800s will be explained to K-3 students at CH through eight interactive learning stations as a result of the \$750 grant received from the North Country Teachers Resource Center by Sara Chapman, Hilarie Dickson, and Jon Chapman. This “Bright Ideas” grant will also support the “encampment” scheduled on September 15 to coincide with the celebrations of the Battle of Plattsburgh. Board members are invited to attend and period dress is optional!
- The NYS Art Teacher’s Association has selected high school teacher June Levenson as the Art Educator of the Year for Region Five! In addition to this distinction, Mrs. Levenson’s name will be submitted in a pool of nine other regional winners to be considered for the NYS Art Educator of the year. Mrs. Levenson will receive her award at the NYSATA conference in Rochester on Sunday, November 23.
- The chief inspector of busses from the NYS Dept. of Transportation was in the district to observe the inspection process in the garage and commented on how well the bus garage operations function.
- The district has received notice of preliminary approval for a Teacher Mentor Grant in the amount of \$50,000 for 2008-09! This is the same amount awarded to the district last school year and we are very pleased that this grant will be awarded to the district for the next three (3) consecutive years, subject to funding restrictions that may be imposed by the State. Diane Fox was the chief grant writer for both last year and this year, and she has obviously done a fine job!
- The NYSSBA Area 6 dinner meeting will be held on Thursday, September 25 at the Malone Country Club. Guest speakers will include Wayne Schlifke, NYSSBA President and David Albert, NYSSBA Director of Communications. Regent James Dawson will also be present to discuss Board of Regents matters. Please let the District Clerk know by Friday if you wish to be registered.
- The Department of State is planning to offer 15 regional workshops/presentations on the Local Government Efficiency grants that are available for districts considering shared services with municipalities. The two closest to our area are October 1 at the Comfort Inn in Plattsburgh and October 10 at the University of Albany.
- The administrators and supervisors are preparing short presentations to make to the Board throughout 2008-2009 to share program evaluations, updates of current programs, and other school information. The list of possible topics is long enough to suggest the use of Board work sessions as well as regular Board meetings. Before we complete our presentations schedule, I wanted to get your wishes on particular topics you would like

presentations on as well as when to have these presentations made (work sessions and/or regular Board sessions).

*Business Manager*

Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to take advantage of regular board meetings and limit times and occasionally use work sessions with specific guidelines (shorter) and have more student presentations.

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

- the assessed value of the new Target Store on the 2008 tax roll is \$2.5 Million and \$2.1 Million for the new cinema.

*Approval of Minutes*

**Minutes**

It was moved by Frank Hay, seconded by George Palmer and roll-call voted that the minutes of 8/26/08 be amended to reflect that the Board President resign because he misled the Board on 7/1/08 regarding the filling of the vacant Board seat. The roll-call vote was as follows:

Roll Call Vote

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

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

August 26, 2008 Board of Education Meeting/Work Session

Frank Hay and George Palmer voted no with Kathleen Grinberg-Funes and Karen Armstrong abstaining.

It was moved by Leonard King, seconded by Steve Trombley and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education does hereby accept the minutes of the Operations Committee held on August 26, 2008.

*CSE  
Recommendations*

**New Business**

**CSE Recommendations**

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Leonard King, and unanimously carried that the Board of Education approve the CSE recommendations dated 9/9/08.

## Personnel

### Resignation

*Matott, Lori*

#### Resignation

It was moved by Leonard King, seconded by Richard LaVigne and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education accept the following resignations on the date indicated:

Name	Position	Effective Date
Matott, Lori	School Monitor (Cafeteria)	8/26/08

#### Appointments

### Appointments

*Brown, Rebecca*

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Guy Falcon and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education continue the appointment of Rebecca Brown as a part-time typist in the CSE office from 9/2/08 to 10/3/08 or until a replacement is put in place at \$10.65 per hour which is grant funded.

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:

### Substitutes

Name	Substitute	Effective Date
Wentzel, Helen	Non-Instructional	9/11/08
Wang, Lynn	Non-Instructional	9/10/08
Bushey, Linda	Non-Instructional	9/15/08
Kie, Beverly	Instructional	9/15/08
Schares, Paula	Instructional	9/15/08
Lovett, Whitney	Instructional	9/15/08
Drake, Barbara	Instructional	9/15/08
Streker, John	Instructional	9/15/08

### Letter of Agreement between Karen Peper, Autism 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 Karen Peper, Autism Consultant and the Beekmantown Central School District to provide consultation services for one (1) full day in September as indicated on the student's IEP, at a rate of \$800 per day plus \$400 per visit for travel. Stan Kourofsky abstained.

### Extra Duty Assignments

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Steve Trombley and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education approve the following *extra duty assignment* for the 2008-2009 school year at a salary of (per negotiations) as indicated:

Building	Assignment	No.	Name
<b>Intramurals</b>			
CH	Intramural (CH)	1	John McCarty

### Approval of Interns

It was moved by Frank Hay, seconded by Steve Trombley and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education approve the following interns from 9/2/08 until 6/26/09:

Name	Position	Terms	Amount
Skiff, Katherine	School Psychologist Intern	2 days @ CH & BE & 1 day @ MS/HS	\$7,000
Smith, Kayla	School Social Worker Intern	2 days @ CH	\$2,000
Castine, Jessica	School Psychologist Intern	4 half days @ BE	\$2,000

### Miscellaneous

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Kathleen Grinberg-Funes and roll-call voted, that the following resolution be approved.

*SEQR – Type II  
Action*

Resolution: State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) - Type II Action

#### **Renovations and Additions to:**

Main Building K-12 and Cumberland Head Elementary School  
Beekmantown Central School District

**Town of Beekmantown and Town of Plattsburgh, Clinton County**

**Whereas:** The Beekmantown Central School District is considering proposed renovations to the Main Building K-12 facility and the Cumberland head Elementary School, to include:

1. rehabilitation of various building components including heating, ventilation and air conditioning, plumbing and electrical systems;
2. selective repair and replacement of roofs;
3. replacement of selected windows and exterior doors and door hardware;
4. selective replacement of floor and ceiling tiles;
5. selective repairs to masonry walls;
6. selective removal or replacement of concrete walkways and curbing;
7. installation of security cameras and exterior building lighting;
8. renovation to various interior spaces.

**Whereas:** the Board has received and reviewed the proposed scope of the Project and has determined that it does fit one or more of the following criteria for a Type II action set forth in 6 NYCRR Part 617.5 - State Environmental Quality Review (SEQRA):

1. maintenance or repairs involving no substantial changes to an existing structure or facility, or
2. replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or facility, in kind, on the same site, including upgrading a building to meet building or fire codes, or
3. expansion of an existing school facility by less than 10,000 square feet.

**Now Therefore Be It Resolved:** the Board hereby determines in accordance with 6 NYCRR Part 617.5 that the Project is a Type II action for the purpose of SEQRA review, which will not have a significant impact on the environment and hence is not subject to review under 6 NYCRR Part 617.5.

#### Roll Call Vote

- |                                                     |                                                             |                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guy Falcon      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leonard King            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stan Kourofsky  |

*General Science HS Curriculum for 15:1:1 class*

It was moved by Steve Trombley, seconded by Kathleen Grinberg-Funes and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education approve the General Science High School Curriculum for 15:1:1 class as of 9/3/08.

*Field Trip to Granite Quarry, Barre, VT*

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Leonard King and carried, that the Board of Education approve a field trip to the Granite Quarry in Barre, Vermont on 10/17/08 for the high school science class.

**Policy**

*Policy*

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Steve Trombley and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the *first reading* on the following policy:

*Determination of Residence*

<u>Name</u>	<u>Policy #</u>
Determination of Residence	TBA (First Reading)

**Financial**

*Financials*

It was moved by Steve Trombley, seconded by Leonard King and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education accept the following reports as presented by the Audit Committee:

- Appropriation Status Report – (June & July)
- Treasurer’s Revenue Report – (June & July)
- Cafeteria Revenue & Expense Report - (June & July)
- Treasurer’s Monthly Report – (June & July)
- Trial Balance – (June & July)
- Warrant Report – (June & July)
- Extra-Curricular Activities Account – (June)

*Donations*

It was moved by Leonard King, seconded by Richard LaVigne and roll-call voted carried, that the Board of Education accept the following donation and approve amending the District budget to be increased in the amount of \$2,100.

<b>From</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Beekmantown Booster Club	Soccer Goals	\$2,100.

Roll Call Vote

- |                                                     |                                                             |                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <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 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 Steve Trombley and roll-call voted, that the Board of Education approve the following transfer over \$5,000:

<b><u>Legal Salary to Legal Contractual</u></b> (School Attorney’s Salary to Contractual)		
<b>From:</b>	<b>To:</b>	<b>Amount:</b>
A14201600000	A14204000000	\$18,637.00

Roll Call Vote

- |                                                     |                                                             |                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guy Falcon      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leonard King            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stan Kourofsky  |



*Bond Resolution*

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Steve Trombley and roll-call voted, that the Board of Education approve the Bond Resolution of the Beekmantown Central School District, Clinton County, New York, adopted September 9, 2008 authorizing a capital improvement project at a cost not to exceed \$6,655,455 and the issuance and sale of serial bonds or notes in anticipation of such bonds in the aggregate principal amount of \$6,655,455

Roll Call Vote

- |                                                     |                                                             |                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guy Falcon      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leonard King            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stan Kourofsky  |

**Additional Items to Discuss**

*Request Board Member Resignation*

*Request for Board Member Resignation*

Karen Armstrong moved that due to the unprofessional behavior of Frank Hay, Board Member that he be requested to resign from the Board of Education. The motion was seconded by Richard LaVigne and roll-call voted as follows:

Roll Call Vote

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

*High School Schedules*

*HS Schedules*

Discussion followed on the lateness in mailing out the high school schedules and the schedules of the postal delivery.

**Public Comment**

A parent spoke and raised a question about confidentiality concerns as it relates to a special needs child.

*Public Comment*

Respectfully Submitted,  
Joanne Menard, District Clerk

**Executive Session**

*Executive Session Exempt Contracts*

Time 8:20 pm. It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Leonard King and unanimously carried, that the Board enter executive session to discussion exempt contracts.

Time 9:35 pm. It was moved by Steve Trombley, seconded by George Palmer, and unanimously carried, that the Board return to regular session.

*Clerk Pro-tem*

It was moved by Frank Hay, seconded by Guy Falcon and unanimously carried, that Stan Kourofsky be appointed to serve as Clerk Pro-tem.

*Exempt Contracts*

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Leonard King and roll-call voted that the proposed exempt contracts be postpone pending more information. The roll-call vote was as follows:

Roll Call Vote

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

It was moved by Steve Trombley, seconded by Frank Hay and roll-call voted that the following negotiated contracts be and are hereby approved commencing July 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2011:

- Business Manger
- Confidential Secretary to the Superintendent
- Payroll Clerk
- District Treasurer

Roll Call Vote

- |                                                        |                                                             |                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Richard LaVigne ( <i>No</i> ) | <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guy Falcon         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leonard King            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stan Kourofsky  |

Richard LaVigne voted no because he wanted more information before he could support the resolution.

*Adjournment*

**Adjournment**

It was moved by Steve Trombley, seconded by Frank Hay, and unanimously carried, that the meeting be adjourned. Time 8:29 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Stan Kourofsky