

Jacqueline Edwards
President

Richard Ross
Vice President



3.1

Rick Surprenant
Traci Welch
Janet Wroblecki

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2016
JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY – 6:30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Ms. Jacqueline Edwards, Mr. Richard Ross, Mr. Jonathan Fiore, Mr. Steve King, Mr. Rick Surprenant, Mrs. Traci Welch, and Mrs. Janet Wroblecki

ALSO PRESENT: Ms. Kathy Houghton, Mr. Michael Spost, Dr. René Wilson, Mrs. Lisa Stamboly, Mr. William Lachut, Mrs. Debbie Price, Mrs. Paula Ann May, and 14 visitor and guests

1. Meeting Call to Order

Ms. Edwards called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

1.1 Pledge to the Flag

Mr. Ross Led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.2 Acceptance of Agenda

Mr. King made the motion to accept the Agenda seconded by Mrs. Wroblecki.

Yes 7 No 0
Motion carried.

1.3 Teacher/Leader Report – New Staff: Mandy Bara, Laura Ciaccia, Ellen Diskin, Joseph Ducato, Bernice Edwards, Jessica Powers, Mary Sroka, Cynthia St. James

Our new School Monitors and Teacher Assistant staff members introduced themselves and told the Board of Education a little about their background and their job duties in their new positions.

1.4 StuCo Report –Jordyn Keeck-Beach, Marissa Kulesa, Megan Crist, Adrianna Perretta, and Ms. Viel


The Student Council Members present provided a PowerPoint presentation to the Board of Education about the Niagara Falls Leadership Conference they attended earlier this school year. Jordyn explained how she helped plan the state conference. Jordyn and Shawn spoke to Common Core Representatives in Albany and shared some local concerns. All Student Council Members attended workshops and roundtable discussions. They thanked the Board of Education for giving them the opportunity to attend this conference.

NYM STUDENT COUNCIL EXPERIENCED...

THE POWER OF LEADERSHIP!

2012-2013
 www.nysstudentcouncil.org


ON THE BUS WITH POLAND AND WATERVILLE



Attendees:

Andrew Albert	Marissa Kulesa	Shaun Crist
Gracie Essoff	Kaitlyn DiNicola	Anthony Gualini
Jordan Keech-Beach	Melissa Quinlan	Casey Abright
Dakota Henry	Megan Crist	Natasha Perrotta

THE CONFERENCE CENTER – SHERATON AT THE FALLS



500+ students in attendance
 12 breakfasts and 26 different schools

NYS REPRESENTATIVE JK B AS THE FAKE SUPER HERO/LEADER – PLUNGER GIRL!

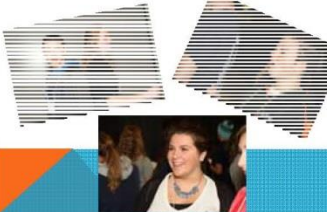


Jordan helped plan the entire student lac state conference! Here, she is seen with Bobby Kinland from Lindenturk High School. Bobby was Tim Koll Man. They shared how we can all be super leaders.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS JESSIE FUNK, STU SAUNDERS, AND HUSTON CRAFT!



ROUNDTABLE ACTIVITIES



LEARNING THE SUPER POWERS OF LEADERSHIP!



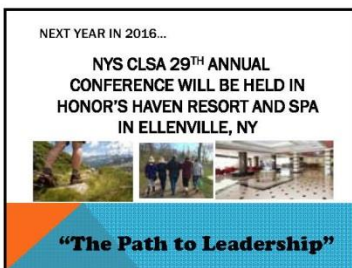
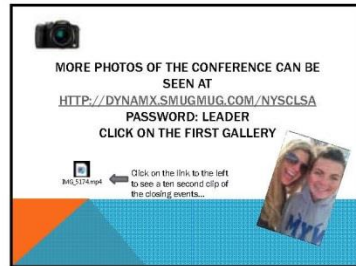
NYM LEADERS IN ACTION...



THE WHOLE GROUP VISITS THE FALLS



www.nysstudentcouncil.org
 2014-2015
 www.nysstudentcouncil.org



1.5 Capital Outlay Project – N/A

1.6 Sitrin Equili-BRAIN-Ium Program – Dr. James V. Wallace

Dr. James Wallace spoke to the Board about the Equili-Brain-Ium Program. Sitrin has collaborated with Herkimer County Community College's Physical Therapists Assistant program to train them to administer baseline concussion assessments to local teams at no cost. Currently Sauquoit Valley is using this assessment for their athletes.

Board members asked which grade levels or groups should be tested and how often.

Dr. Wallace said football, hockey, soccer are all sports where you see concussions occur. School teams receive free assessments. Every two years is sufficient for testing.

2. Communications

2.1 From the Floor

N/A

2.2 President's Messages

Ms. Edwards said that is a webinar from Utica National on Transgender Individuals in Public Schools will take place on January 22 from 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Sign up with Mrs. May

Ms. Edwards presented Mrs. Wroblicki and Ms. Houghton with Certificates of Attendance at School Board Institute's "New School Board Member Academy."

- a. Committee Report(s)
 - 1. Facilities Health & Safety Committee

Mr. Ross reported that the next meeting is January 19th at 6 p.m.

- 2. Policy Committee

Mrs. Wroblicki said that the next meeting is scheduled for next week and that committee will continue with the 6000s.

- 3. Transportation Committee

Mr. Surprenant said there is nothing new to report.

- 4. Survey Committee

Mrs. Welch said the Survey Committee met on December 9th and discussed a couple of different ideas for gathering public input, including Survey Monkey. At some point, they would also like the Board to do a self-evaluation. Mrs. Welch also asked that Mr. King become the Chair of the Survey Committee.

Ms. Edwards appointed Mr. King Survey Committee Chairperson.

5. Finance Committee – T. Welch

Mrs. Welch said that the Finance Committee did not have a meeting in December. Financial paperwork was distributed to Committee members, reviewed, and questions were emailed to Mrs. Stamboly. Mr. Ross did not receive his answers yet. The meeting to discuss the Budget process is scheduled for January 11th at 6:00 p.m.

b. Board Calendar

Mrs. Wroblecki suggested that the Board start looking into and thinking about a Superintendent's search. The process may take a while.

c. BOCES Representative Report will be forwarded in update

3. Consent Agenda

Mrs. Welch made the motion to accept the Consent Agenda seconded by Mrs. Wroblecki:

- 3.1 Board of Education Minutes for December 1, 2015
- 3.2 Business Office Reports for Month ending November 2015
- 3.3 CSE Reports
 - a. Meeting held 11/20/15
 - b. Meeting held 11/23/15
 - c. Meeting held 11/24/15
 - d. Meeting held 11/30/15
 - e. Meeting held 12/01/15
 - f. Meetings held 12/07/15
 - g. Meetings held 12/10/15
 - h. Meeting held 12/17/15

Yes 7 No 0
Motion carried.

4. Old Business

- 4.1 2nd reading of Policy #6100, Job Descriptions; Regulation #6100.2, Job Description: Athletic Director; #6100.3, Job Description – Guidance Counselor; #6100.5, Resource Room/Consultant Teacher; 6100.6, Special Education Teacher 12:1:1; and #6100.4, Job Description: Library Media Specialist

Mr. King made the motion to approve the above named polices seconded by Mr. Fiore.

Yes 7 No 0
 Motion carried.

5. New Business

5.1 Personnel Report – Action

Ms. Edwards made the motion to approve the following Personnel Report: Items #I, II, IV, V , VI and resolution seconded by Mr. King:

NAME	TENURE AREA/CIVIL SERVICE TITLE	ASSIGNMENT	CERTIFICATION	SALARY/RATE OF PAY	EMPLOYEE REPLACING	EFFECTIVE DATE
I. Resignation						
Diamond, Delana	School Monitor					12/7/16
II. Unpaid Medical Leave						
West, Kelly	School Monitor		Civil Service			12/7/15 - 1/28/16
IV. Coaching Appointments						
Smith, Jr, Gerald		Varsity Softball Coach	T	\$7,818.00	Raymond Cooney	2015-16 School Year
V. Substitute Appointment						
Pardi, Marc	Bus Driver		19A Certified	\$13.00/hour	N/A	12/7/2015
Minosh, Alana	School Monitor			\$9/hour	N/A	1/6/2016
Morris, Marilyn	School Monitor			\$9/hour	N/A	1/7/2016
Diamond, Delana	School Monitor			\$9/hour	N/A	1/8/2016
Souza, Maria	Teacher Assistant		CTA I	\$60	N/A	1/6/2016
Lisov, Diana	School Nurse RN		Registered Professional Nurse	\$16.00/hour	N/A	1/6/2016
Mackos, Linda	Teacher		N/A	\$60	N/A	1/6/2016
Salerno, Rebecca	Teacher		Childhood Education (Grades 1-6) Initial Certificate	\$80	N/A	1/6/2016
Nacklev, Jessica	Teacher		N/A	\$60	N/A	1/6/2016
VI. Non-Instructional Correction						
Ducator, Joseph		3 hrs. per day Monday - Friday for a total of 15 hours from 3.5 hours daily	Civil Service	12.68/hour		1/5/2016

Be It Resolved that the New York Mills Union Free School District Board of Education create one Part-time School Monitor Position.

Yes 7 No 0

5.2 Ice Control Agreement between the Town of New Hartford and the New York Mills Union Free School District

Mr. King made the motion to approve the Ice Control Agreement between the Town of New Hartford and the New York Mills Union Free School District seconded by Mr. Fiore.

Yes 7 No 0
Motion carried.

5.3 Affiliation Agreement between New York Mills Schools and State University of New York Polytechnic Institute – Action

Mrs. Welch made the motion to approve the Affiliation Agreement between New York Mills Schools and State University of New York Polytechnic Institute seconded by Mr. Surprenant.

Yes 7 No 0
Motion carried.

5.4 1st reading of Regulation # 6100.07, Class Advisor Grade 6; 6100.08, Class Advisor Grades 7, 8, 9; #6100.09, Class Advisor Grade 10; Class Advisor Grade 11; #6100.11 Class Advisor Grade 12; and #6100.12, School Yearbook Advisor; #6100.13, Newspaper Advisor; #6100.14, National Honor Society Advisor; 6100.17, Student Council Advisor

5.5 Memorandum of Understanding between 3-142 AHB, New York Army National Guard (NYARNG)

Captain Crowell of the Army Reserve was present at the meeting and provided a short description of the upcoming March 13th training drill that will include the landing of Army helicopters at the New York Mills Union Free School District property.

Mrs. Wroblicki made the motion to approve Memorandum of Understanding between 3-142 AHB, New York Army National Guard (NYARNG and the building use for March 13, 2016 seconded by Mr. Fiore.

Yes 7 No 0
Motion carried.

6. Building Reports

6.1 Elementary Building Report
a. School Report Card

Dr. Wilson provided a PowerPoint Presentation with Mr. Spost on the School Report Card. She said looking at grade 3 and 4 specifically: in both math and ELA our students were above the state average in receiving 3s and 4s on the assessments. Fifty percent of students taking the assessments scored above the state average in the three to four range in ELA, and 58% of the students in math. Clearly there is some issue with validity based on the amount of students that took the assessments, however we are always focusing on student learning and looking to improve student mastery- of-standards so we are implementing after school tutoring this semester, we are still exploring standard based grading which is a more authentic way to look at student learning and understanding of standards and content, we meet often at child study team in order to implement prescriptive interventions, and have formed an ELA committee to explore other curricular resources in order to best meet student learning styles, and the standards, while adhering to rigor and relevance.

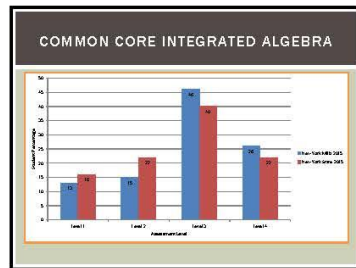
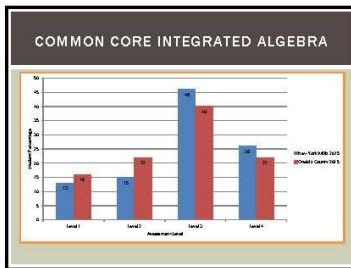
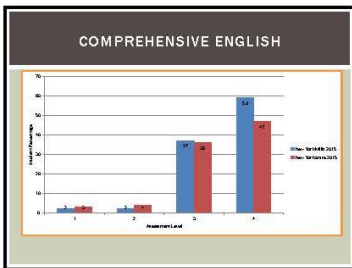
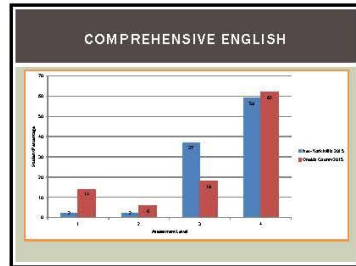
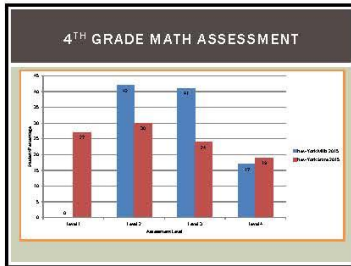
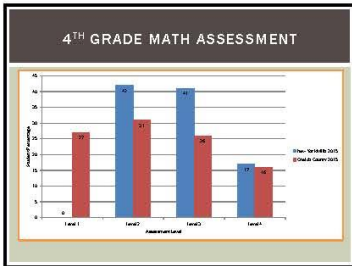
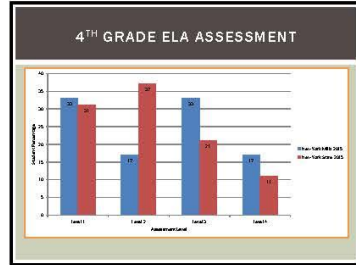
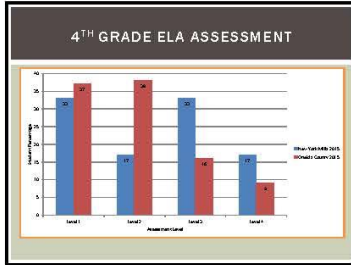
c. Elementary Science Fair

Dr. Wilson said the Elementary Science Fair is on January 29th at 6:00 p.m. She invited everyone to come and support our kids, either as spectators or active participants like judges etc. We have about 40 student participants ranging in an exploration of topics that lend themselves to inquiry and experimentation, hands on learning and problem based learning projects. It is her most favorite academic event and our t shirts this year state: Keep calm and science on,” so please come and support our kids.

d. Kindergarten Readiness

Dr. Wilson said Mr. Mettelman asked Dr. Futch from Bradley Elementary in New Hartford and her to run the regional elementary committee looking at Kindergarten readiness. For their January 19th meeting they have asked principals to bring one kindergarten teacher as well as their screening assessments such as the DIAL or Brigance. This meeting will be a collaborative effort to define and quantify kindergarten readiness so that they can work with pre-K organizations and other county social service agencies to help create programs or interventions that will help programs and families help their children be “ready” to enter kindergarten in the fall. They have dissected the New York State pre K standards and are using that as a baseline of readiness skills, and hope to have, at the end of this study a definition or check list of sorts to help determine the characteristics of readiness for kindergarten. As the District continues to study the possible options of pre-K she thinks the results will be beneficial as we move forward both as a K-6 and potential pre-K-6.

NEW YORK MILLS
 ASSESSMENT DATA
 January 5, 2016



6.2 Secondary Building Report
a. School Report Card

Mr. Spost said the two measures on the report card that he brings to the Board's attention are two measures that the state consistently uses to compare and assess our school district with others. One is the Integrated Algebra Common Core exam that is typically taken at the end of ninth grade or the end of tenth for some students in the two year Algebra CC course. Students must pass one math state exam in order to graduate with a Regent's diploma. This is the one that 99% of all students take to satisfy the requirement. That is because it is first in the sequence and an actual score of between 30-35% skews up to a 65%. Our results exceed both the county and state averages for students scoring at the highest proficiency levels. This is typically the case, but will vary based on student population. Additionally, we have the results for the ELA state assessment that students take at the end of 11th grade. This is also a required exam for graduation with a Regent's diploma. Our results again exceed both the county and state averages for those scoring at the highest proficiency levels. This year the students in 11th grade are required to take the more rigorous and challenging Common Core assessment and pass it in order to attain a Regent's diploma. He suspect that since the rigor and challenge is increasing, the conversion scale, or skew of results, will add a significant curve. You consistently hear that the exams are more rigorous and academically challenging, which they are, but you don't typically hear about the conversion scales which convert a low 30 to a passing grade. Our State Education Commissioner said "I've never heard anyone say that we should expect less from our students" in an effort to defend the rigorous Common Core standards. Well, he never heard a teacher say "If you are able to understand what was taught one out of every three days, you will pass." He is asking the Board of Education to be cautious when interpreting scores because there are all types of mathematical massages that go into creating them. Regents exams have long provided a reliable and easily understood gauge of student achievement, but expect that to be changing as we are faced with the new Common Core expectations.

b. Everybody Thinks Assembly

Mr. Spost said on December 2nd we had an assembly that we called "Everybody Thinks." It was facilitated by our PBIS Specialist, Mr. Mark Zalocha. Schools are thought of as places to grow the academic and social abilities of students. One of the lifelong skills we teach is for students to think critically and effectively in all aspects of school life. From academics to sports, to what clubs and organizations they may join, students are afforded opportunities to learn new skills and grow both in and out of school. Thinking critically and effectively assists a student in making good decisions, whether it is studying for a test, practicing for a play, or understanding how their behavior adds to or detracts from a positive school climate and culture.

Creating a positive school climate and culture benefits not only the student, but the whole school community as well. Some ways a student can add positively to their school climate and culture can include:

- Creating a welcoming space for all students

- Understanding how the power they possess can influence the choices they make in creating a
- safe environment for all students
- Celebrating diversity with respect
- Becoming a positive role model
- Being empathetic to the negative effects of bullying, harassment and discrimination on both students and the climate and culture of the school
- Being mindful in the language they use
- Having an awareness of the different cultures and nationalities in their school
- Valuing each staff member and student as an important member of their community
- Have a positive outlook

The goal of the assembly was to maintain a positive school climate and a great community in which students act as good human beings to each other. It will hopefully make us all a little bit better as a community and overall more socially and emotionally healthy as we head into 2016.

c. Winter Ball

Mr. Spost said on January 23rd from 7:00 – 10:00 p.m. we will have the Winter Semi-formal. This is open to all students' grades 9-12. Tickets are \$25 stag and \$40 as a couple. It will be held in the cafeteria with tables set up in the lobby for snacking and relaxing a bit. Typically, students go to dinner in advance of the event and then come here to dance. Included with the purchase of a ticket are appetizers, snacks, desserts, and drinks. Students bringing a guest from another school must have their home school administrator sign off to verify that they are in good standing and approve of their attendance here at NYM. All schools in the area tend to follow this procedure.

7. Superintendent's Report

7.1 District Report Card

Ms. Houghton shared with the Board a copy of the 2014-15 District Report Card, which includes all district students; including those that attend classes in outside placements for special or alternative education. She asked the Board if they would like her to plan a Board workshop to more thoroughly discuss the Report Card; the Board agreed with this idea and Ms. Houghton said that she would contact Mr. Marc Crouse, our Data Analyst to work with us to develop a workshop focused on this document sometime during the next few months. She will work with the Board President to find a workable date and time.

7.2 APPR Update

Ms. Houghton told the Board that the PEC (Professional Education Committee) continues to meet at least monthly to negotiate in good faith a 3012 (d) compliant Annual Professional Performance Review Plan. She also shared with the Board and public the PEC's experience during the process of submitting the district's local assessments for use with Student Learning Objectives last month. Last, she described the teacher and principal workshop sessions that were provided at this month's faculty

meetings regarding APPR and 3012 (d). She also provided for the board information from NYSED Commissioner Elia regarding the use of state-provided growth scores in teacher and principal evaluations and the Department's plans to continue to review and revise the learning standards, the state's assessments and the current educator evaluation system.

7.3 Common Core Task Force Final Report Recommendations

Ms. Houghton gave the Board a summary of the New York Common Core Task Force Final Report Recommendations, which were released in December. There were twenty-one recommendations, focusing on four central issues:

1. Establishing new high quality NYS standards
2. Developing better curriculum guidance and resources
3. Significantly reducing testing time and preparation and ensuring tests fit curriculum and standards
4. Ensuring a successful transition to a new evaluation system.

7.4 Budget Development

The principals and supervisors will be meeting with the Finance Committee during January and February and discussing their building and department budgetary recommendations with this subcommittee prior to the first Board Budget Workshop on March 1st. This process will allow for additional, more in-depth discussion of budget items in addition to the workshop presentations to the full board during March and April.

7.5 Pre-K Sustainability

Ms. Houghton told the Board that she had listened to their input during previous discussions about Pre-K financing. She then asked Lisa Stamboly, District Treasurer to provide several possible scenarios using additional fund balance each year to ensure that if the district implements a Pre-K program; we will be able to sustain it over time without negatively impacting our taxpayers.

Mrs. Stamboly shared with the Board that if we take a snapshot in time right now, you could sustain the program for several years out but any variable could change that. \$100,000 is annually added to the available debt service funds, the program can be sustained for 7 years after the start-up year at no cost to the taxpayer.

Ms. Edwards informally polled the Board and five members were in favor of moving forward to implement the program. Ms. Houghton told that Board that she would place this item on the agenda for the Board to take formal action on next month.

The Board wanted to make sure that if they considered Pre-K it was not done by a lottery system. How long is it doable and what are the other financial implications? There is a realm of unknowns for the sustainability. We have a pool of money we need to use and we can use it to build a program. How long can we sustain it without impact?

Ms. Houghton said the realm is unknown. We have a pool of money we need to use and we can use it to build a program.

Mr. Ross said he would be comfortable with a Pre-K program if there were zero cost to taxpayers.

Mrs. Wroblecki said the last Pre-K program lasted 4 to 6 years. Why wasn't it sustainable before?

Ms. Houghton said she has not been able to find any written information regarding a previously functional Pre-K program at New York Mills. She said she spoke to retired Kindergarten teacher Mrs. Booras who said Pre-K may have been provided at the Main Street building and was not brought up here to the new building.

Mr. King said we definitely need this program, what about easing the burden to the taxpayer?

Mrs. Stamboly said you could taper it in and absorb \$50,000 or \$100,000. That is something you definitely could do.

Mr. Surprenant asked if we had classrooms available.

Ms. Houghton said we would need to have a teacher share a room with another if we run two half-day classes.

Ms. Edwards said the idea is good but wants to make sure we are not going to add a tax burden to the taxpayers that are so over taxed. This is the only budget they get any say in. She is torn.

Mrs. Wroblecki agreed.

Mr. Ross asked if we could sustain the program for 10 years. We may never need the taxpayers to pay.

Mr. Surprenant thinks it's a good idea.

Mr. Fiore is on the fence.

Mr. Ross said he could support it unless administration comes up with a better idea.

Mrs. Welch said we need to consider it as long as other programs won't be affected.

Mrs. Wroblecki said she would like to see the research answered and agrees with Mrs. Welch about enhancing programs already established. In 7 or 8 years down the road will taxes be going up.

Mr. King would support the program. It is a great thing to enhance income property value and to him it is something we need to do.

Mr. Fiore said he would love the idea of AP Chemistry or expand art. Do you want it on the entry or exit? How many people would really gain from it.

Ms. Edwards said you would not build a house on a foundation made of sand you have to give children a solid foundation. She is very supportive of the primary grades.

- 7.6 Capital Project
 - a. Approval Status
 - b. Capital Outlay Projects
 - c. Smart Schools Bond Act Investment Plan

Ms. Houghton withdrew this item due to the fact that a representative from Hunt-EAS was not able to attend the Board meeting. She had was placed thing item on the agenda under Superintendent's Report so that she and the Board could discuss the architect's presentation. Ms. Houghton told the Board that she would hold this item until next month's meeting.

- 7.7 Use of District Newsletter to place a brief information notice pertaining to Kimberly Simon

Ms. Cynthia LaPera, Whitesboro Class of 1987, spoke to the Board of Education asking for permission to place a brief informational notice in the newsletter pertaining to Kimberly Simon.

Ms. Edwards said she was in support of honoring Kimberly Simon's memory and all Board Members were in agreement.

8. Board Discussion

Mr. Ross was wondering now that we have heard from both sides of the concussion testing if the board had any thoughts.

Mr. King said the basic difference is students vs professionals doing the testing.

9. Visitors Comments

Kristin Kelly, Administrative Intern introduced herself to the Board of Education.

Mr. Spost suggested we have discussions with the Village Board about the multi-family dwellings in the district and program incentives or tax breaks on owner occupied units. Look at strategies of families staying and investing in the community.

10. Executive Session – CSEA and Individual Agreements with Labor Relations Attorney

NYM Board of Education Minutes

January 5, 2016

Page 15 of 16

Mrs. Wroblecki made the motion to take a five-minute break and then go into Executive Session at 8:36 p.m. seconded by Mrs. Welch to discuss CSEA and Individual Agreements as well as III. of the Personnel Report.

Yes 7 No 0
Motion carried.

Ms. Edwards appointed Ms. Houghton Clerk Pro-tem.

Respectfully submitted,



Paula Ann May
District Clerk

Ms. Edwards called the meeting back into regular session at 10:04 p.m.

Mr. King made the motion seconded by Mr. Fiore to approve III. of the Personnel Report shown below:

NAME	TENURE AREA/CIVIL SERVICE TITLE	ASSIGNMENT	CERTIFICATION	SALARY/RATE OF PAY	EMPLOYEE REPLACING	EFFECTIVE DATE
III. Non-Instructional Probationary Appointments						
1 Souza, Maria	School Monitor	3.5 hrs. per day Monday - Friday for a total of 17.50 hrs. weekly An additional 6.5 hours each Friday for a weekly total of 21.25	Civil Service	\$12.68/hour	New P/T Position replacing Delana Diamond	1/6/2016
2 Edwards, Bernice	School Monitor (for Bus)		Civil Service	12.68/hour	L. Hill	1/4/2016

Voting to approve #1
Yes 7 No 0

Voting to approve #2
Yes 0 No 7

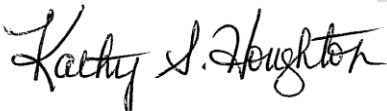
The Board wanted it known
that they were voting 'Nay' on #2
because of the total number of
weekly hours it will give
one part-time employee
Motion carried.

11. Adjournment

Mr. King made the motion to adjourn at 10:06 p.m. seconded by Mrs. Welch.

Yes 7 No 0
Motion adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathy Houghton
Clerk Pro-tem