Jacqueline Edwards

President

Dr. Gary Porcelli Vice President



Gary Markowicz, Sr.
Gail Rice
Richard Ross
Rick Surprenant
Traci Welch

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2014 JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY – 6:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Ms. Jacqueline Edwards, President, Dr. Gary Porcelli, Vice President, Mr. Gary Markowicz Sr., Mrs. Gail Rice, Mr. Richard Ross, Mr. Rick Surprenant, and Mrs. Traci Welch

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 30 visitors 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

Dr. Porcelli led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.2 Acceptance of Agenda

Dr. Porcelli made the motion to accept the Agenda seconded by Mr. Markowicz.

Yes 7 No 0 Motion carried.

1.3 BOCES Update Report - Mr. Howard Mettelman, District Superintendent and Dr. Gary W. Porcelli, Vice President, Board of Cooperative Educational Services

Dr. Porcelli, Vice President of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services made the introduction for Mr. Mettelman, the District Superintendent of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services.

Mr. Mettelman thanked the New York Mills Board of Education for their BOCES participation and advocacy. He then proceeded to give the BOCES Update. Mr. Mettelman spoke about the various COSERS that BOCES offers, including Career and Technical Education. He also described the new diploma pathways. He again thanked the Board for their advocacy. Dr. Porcelli then presented Mr. Mettelman with a New York Mills' pen engraved with "Encouraging Students to Pursue Excellence" and a Marauder pride pin.

New York Mills student, Courtney Spost, a member of the Drama Club, asked the Board if they were interested in purchasing an ad in this year's program for the musical, which is scheduled for March 21st and 22nd.

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Ms. Edwards said that the Board will be buying an ad and asked Ms. Houghton to work with the Board Members to organize it.

2. Communications

2.1 From the Floor

N/A

2.2 President's Messages

Ms. Edwards reported that School Boards Institute will be sponsoring a workshop "How To Be a School Board Candidate," March 10th at Oneida BOCES at 5:30 p.m. If anyone is interested please share this information with them. She also said the Board members attend training to better serve the community and then presented Mrs. Welch and Mr. Surprenant with certificates for completing Fiscal Oversight Parts I and II. She also presented Dr. Porcelli with a certificate from the School Boards Association for earning 150 points in Board Training.

Dr. Porcelli then presented Ms. Edwards with a Mastery Award for Leadership Development from New York State School Boards Associations.

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

No report

2. Policy Committee – J. Edwards

Ms. Edwards appointed Mrs. Welch as the new Chairperson for the Policy Committee.

3. Survey Committee – Dr. Porcelli

Dr. Porcelli reported that he met with Mr. Ross and Mr. Surprenant and they have made a great deal of progress on the District Survey. He is hoping to have a survey available for the May Budget Vote. He has put together a draft for the Board to review. The committee will get together, sit down and finalize the survey. When the Board meets in March, he will ask that they make a motion to decide on how to administer with the survey.

4. Transportation Committee- Dr. Porcelli

No Report

- b. Board Calendar
 - c. BOCES Representative Report Dr. Porcelli

3. Consent Agenda

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Mrs. Rice made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda seconded by Mr. Surprenant which includes:

- 3.1 Board of Education Minutes
 - a. Minutes of Meeting held January 7, 2014
 - b. Minutes of Meeting held January 15, 2014
 - c. Minutes of Meeting held January 22, 2014
- 3.2 Business Office Reports for Month ending December 2013
- 3.3 CSE Reports
 - a. Minutes of meeting held 1/9/14
 - b. Minutes of meeting held 1/10/14
 - c. Minutes of meeting held 1/15/14
 - d. Minutes of meeting held 1/16/14
 - e. Minutes of meetings held 1/17/14
 - f. Minutes of meetings held 1/24/14
 - g. Minutes of meeting held 1/27/14

Yes 7 No 0 Motion carried.

4. Old Business

4.2 2nd Reading of Policy #1001, Community Use of School Facilities; Regulation #1001.1, Building Use Application Form, 1001.2 School Use Release from Liability (Group); 1001.3, School Use Release From Liability (Individual); Policy #1002, Visitors to the Schools; 1003, School Volunteers; Regulation #1003.1, Volunteer Application Form; Policy #1101, Records Management Program; 1102, School Sponsored Media; 1200, Parental Involvement in Title I Programs; Regulation #1200.1, Annual Notification of Teacher Qualifications; Policy #1300, Policy for Handling and Disseminating Information Received Regarding Sex Offenders; Regulation #1300.1, Notification of Sex Offenders; Policy #1400, Policy on Constitutionally Protected Prayer in the Schools Certification; Policy #1500, Senior Citizen Involvement in District Activities; Policy #5006, Tobacco and Nicotine Use - Action

Mrs. Welch made the motion to approve the 2nd reading of the above policies seconded by Dr. Porcelli.

Yes 7 No 0 Motion carried.

5. New Business

4.1 Personnel Report – Action

Dr, Porcelli made the motion to approve the Personnel Report below seconded by Mrs. Rice:

EMPLOYEE	CERTIFICATION AREA	CERT	SALARY*	EFFECTIVE DATE	
I. Instructional Substitutes					
Surrett, Amy	Music	Y	\$80.00	2/5/2014	
Cooley,	Childhood Ed. (Grades 1-2) and Students with Disabilities (Grades 1-6				
Christopher	and 7-12)	Y	\$80.00	2/5/2014	
Nackley, Stephanie	English Language Arts 7-12	Y	\$80.00	2/5/2014	
II. Non-Instructional Substitutes					
Swancott, Kayla	School Monitor		\$8.00/hour	2/5/2014	
III. Coaching Res	signation				
Galimo, Dominick	Modified Baseball Coach			1/30/2014	
IV. Coaching Appointments					
Lasek, Audrey	Varsity Softball Coach	Т	\$3,634.00	2013-14 School Year	
Lasek, Edward	Volunteer Varsity Softball Coach	T	~0~	2013-14 School Year	
Nicotera, John	Varsity Girls Track Coach	С	\$3,634.00	2013-14 School Year	
Salamy, Michael	Volunteer Varsity Baseball Coach	T	~0~	2013-14 School Year	
Hadfield, Gary	Volunteer Modified & Varsity Boys & Girls Track and Field Coach	С	~0~	2013-14 School Year	
Dziekan, Andrew	Modified Boys Baseball Coach	T	\$1,942.00	2013-14 School Year	

V. Leave of Absence

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	Unpaid Child Care	On or about
Galime, Jody	Leave	4/7/14-6/27/14

Dr. Porcelli asked if we tracked coaches' certification and if they were fingerprinted.

Ms. Houghton reported that we have records of all coaches' certification status and all coaches are fingerprinted including volunteers.

Yes 7 No 0 Motion carried.

5.2 Agreement for Fuel Purchase from Town of New Hartford - Action

Mrs. Edwards asked if Mrs. Price or Mr. Abel wanted to speak about the fuel Agreement.

Mr. Abel said once he discovered that we were looking for a new location to purchase fuel he spoke to the Town of New Hartford. They have no problem with the school district purchasing fuel from them. They gave us their standard Agreement, which does terminate in three years. The purchase price per gallon is the price they receive from a state bid plus 5¢ per gallon as a user fee. That fee covers keys, maintenance, and all other expenses. He believes this to be an extremely good price. Mr. Abel also mentioned that once the New York Mills School Board approve the agreement, it will have to go before the New Hartford Town Board for their approval.

Mrs. Price said that this is more cost effective as well because we are much closer to the Town of New Hartford pumps than we were to Whitesboro's.

Dr. Porcelli said that he has nothing against the fuel Agreement but he said it is rather obvious that this will benefit the taxpayers of New Hartford. However, the savings will also be passed along to the Town of Whitestown and he would like to add the phrase "in partnership and collaboratively with the town of New Hartford and Whitestown" at the end of the second paragraph.

Ms. Edwards disagreed. They are looking at a partnership with the municipality. It has to do with municipalities.

Ms. Houghton suggested the addition of "the New York Mills Union Free School District" in the lieu of town of adding "Town of Whitestown."

Dr. Porcelli made the motion to accept the fuel Agreement allowing the Superintendent to sign the agreement, but adding the School District at the end of the second paragraph. Mr. Markowicz seconded the motion.

Yes 7 No 0 Motion carried.

6. Building Reports

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- 6.1 Elementary Building Report
- a. Kindergarten Registration

Dr. Wilson apologized that she did not have exact numbers for this meeting. We have had some incidents "pop" up at the elementary putting her out of the office and into classrooms, or interviewing candidates for our long term sub opening: that being said she thinksthe cold weather initially hindered the registration process, but she would guess we have had about 20 students enrolled so far. She can have exact numbers ready for your update this week if you would like.

c. Science Fair

Dr. Wilson said that the Science Fair was changed from March to January to avoid sectional and regional competition because of how successful our sports teams are. We never know if there will be a big game on the same weekend as the Science Fair. Many of the Elementary faculty and staff were present to support their students. She said that she loves this event because it allows students to practice their skills of inquiry and hands-on learning while at the same time collaborate with peers or family members. We had 29 projects and about 50 participants. Projects touched on various scientific domains ranging from forming mineral deposits, sugar crystals, and egg geodes, to studying the intellect of hamsters, understanding cats, and learning about gargoyle geckos, to understanding the five senses, heat absorption, the functionality of the lungs, and how a piano works. It is one of our favorite events because it celebrates learning and education, and allows students a chance to engage in investigation, analysis and synthesis.

c. Creating a Culture of Academic Excellence

Dr. Wilson said that our two main school improvement goals this year are:

- 1. Accept responsibility for creating the conditions in writing so that each student is successful and committed to continuous improvement and
- 2. Accept responsibility for creating a culture that puts academic excellence and growth at the forefront of our school and community.

One of the actions under that plan was to create an academic honor roll celebrating the successes of our students. For the first quarter 63 students in grades 2-6 placed on the high honor roll, which means they earned a GPA of a 90% or higher and 83% on honor role: which means they earned a GPA of an 80 or higher. Sixty-four percent of our students have earned an 80 or above for the first quarter. Dr. Wilson said that if you would like to see the highest achievers or the valedictorians of each class, they are on display in our case in the elementary lobby. We are hoping to see that percentage increase as we continue to stress the importance of learning within our culture.

6.2 Secondary Building Report

a. Semi-Formal

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Mr. Spost reported that the Semi-formal was held on 1/11/14 from 7-10pm. It was well attended with 113 students present at this event. It went very well and students seemed to enjoy themselves. It was actually so popular that we had staff members show up unannounced to join the fun.

b. Social Studies Staffing Proposal

Mr. Spost is proposing to maintain the same number of staff within the Social Studies department next year. It will allow us to maintain an AP U.S. History as well as a Dual Credit Economics. In addition, he is proposing to move Psychology to Distance Learning. We have attempted to pursue Dual Credit Psychology in house, but since we have not been successful up to this point; I believe we should offer it through Distance Learning. We have not yet abandoned hope on approval in the future, but it still remains uncertain. This would allow for another elective to be developed that could be offered. We are considering adding a Senior Seminar course as the elective that would be open to juniors and seniors. Mr. Spost firmly believes that this is the best plan forward for NY Mills students in the 2014-2015 school year. Essentially, we would be able to maintain the same number of staff and enhance the program at an overall lower cost than the previous year.

Ms. Edwards asked to see the number of students that will be taking these classes.

c. Mid-Terms/January Regents

Mid-terms and January Regents went relatively well. Our staff was fully ready and prepared for the testing season. Significant time was invested reviewing protocols and procedures. It was good to gather the experience of administering state exams on a smaller scale in January in order to prepare for the wider scale in the spring and in June. Mr. Spost learned there would be bumps in the road with students missing exams for various reasons. We have successfully managed the various student needs. We will be gearing up soon to prepare for the spring testing season.

7. Superintendent's Report

7.1 Capital Project Planning

Ms. Houghton reported that Hunt-EAS, the firm chosen to proceed with the capital project planning would like to proceed to the next step. She asked the Board if they would like to meet with the architect themselves or delegate it to the Facilities Health and Safety Committee.

Ms. Edwards said "Although we might support the visions of the committee, the Board wants to be involved with all steps in the process. We would prefer to meet with the architects." She asked Ms. Houghton to schedule a preliminary meeting.

Ms. Houghton said that Dave Adams, the Principal, proposed March 5, 13 or 14. She will poll the board.

7.2 Veteran's Exemption

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Ms. Houghton asked the Board of Education how they would like to proceed with the Veteran's Exemption. We have three choices: approving it by March 1 for this year, slowing down the process to

study the financial impact and approve it for next year, or taking no action on the exemption. If the Board wants to approve the exemption for 2014-15, you must hold the required public hearing in February. You need to approve this resolution to hold the hearing tonight, and set a special meeting in February to hold the hearing and approve the exemption. If you want to consider approving the exemption for 2015-16, you can hold a hearing at any time.

Dr. Porcelli asked if we could place a straw poll on the budget ballot in May. Ms. Houghton referred them to the NYSSBA Advocacy Alter, which described that option.

She reminded the Board that when you approve this exemption, it exempts the Veterans from school taxes but spreads their exempted amount among the rest of the taxpayers. This year, that amount would increase the levy 1.5% to the non-veteran taxpayers prior to any budget increases.

Ms. Edwards said that she thinks it is a good move for all but she is just one voice, one vote.

Dr. Porcelli said that time-wise they put us under a lot of pressure. The time frame is ridiculous.

Mr. Markowicz said that 255 people are eligible for this exemption. If the Board says "no" he would like the list of those people to make sure they are personally contacted.

Mrs. Rice said the Board makes the decision.

Mr. Markowicz said that this puts us in a bad situation. He wants the names and number of the 254 (because he is one of them) if the majority of the Board says no and tell them why it happened.

Mr. Ross said if you hold off until next year you are in the same place. It is difficult to put into place this March.

Discussion continued with the Board Members.

Mr. Markowicz said that if you don't pass this, you will get phone calls from every veteran.

Mrs. Stamboly said that you will also receive phone calls when the tax bills come out because of the 1.5% increase to the other taxpayers.

After much more discussion it was decided to put a straw poll on the ballot in May and have the community decide.

Ms. Edwards asked Ms. Houghton to work with our attorneys to prepare a resolution for a hearing in April, a ballot proposition in May, and a resolution to approve the exemption if the voters are in support of it.

7.3 School Physician

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Ms. Houghton said that BOCES does offer the service of the School Physician with a Nurse Practitioner. It would be cost effective. We did have one school district resident express interest in the position, but he does not feel he can give the time necessary to meet our needs. Another area physician has called about the job, but due to the savings we would realize by going through BOCES, she is recommending that we contract for the service beginning 6/1/1/14 and assess its effectiveness during this first year.

The Board agreed that we should try the BOCES service.

7.4 Residency Investigation Procedures

Ms. Houghton asked the Board for guidance regarding the use of a private investigator when document evidence is insufficient in proving residency. She told the Board that she would confer with counsel prior to using this service and would only take this route when all other avenues were exhausted and questions still remain about the address where the student is resides. She suggested to the Board that they may wish to review, and possibly revise our Residency Policy. Ms. Edwards agreed and referred this policy to Mrs. Welch in her new role as Policy Subcommittee Chair. Mrs. Rice said that this procedure should be used in general when it is warranted and not just in certain cases. Ms. Houghton said that because the average is cost for a private investigator is approximately \$1,500 per residency case, she would use it only when she and our school attorneys agree that it is absolutely necessary. The Board agreed with this approach.

7.5 Legislative Advocacy Efforts

Ms. Houghton thanked Ms. Edwards, Mrs. Rice, and Mrs. Welch for attending the January 23rd School Boards Institute Legislative Forum with her on behalf of the School District. She also wanted the Board and public to know that she recently met with Senator Joseph Griffo and Assemblyman Anthony Brindisi to communicate our concerns about state aid and the Governor's preliminary budget run, the need to eliminate the Gap Elimination Adjustment to school districts, the urgency to stop the continued addition of unfunded and underfunded mandates to schools, as well as our wish to be allowed to make our own community decisions regarding the size of our school district instead of being continually pushed towards consolidation. Our cabinet legislative committee will also meet with Assemblywoman Claudia Tenney later this month. Upcoming state advocacy events include a BOCES Advocacy Day at the end of February, a NYS Council of Superintendents Mid-Winter Institute and Advocacy Day at the beginning of March, and a NYS School Boards Association Capital Conference and Lobby Day on March 9th and 10th. She thanked all Board members that are involved in our school district advocacy efforts.

Mr. Surprenant left the meeting at 7:54 p.m. because of another event that he needed to attend.

7.6 Centennial Celebration

Ms. Houghton shared with the Board and guests that next Thursday, February 13th, there will be two 100th Day/100th Year Assemblies to celebrate our centennial with our elementary and secondary

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students. At 1:30 p.m., grades 7-12 students will enjoy presentations by their peers about the history of NYMUFSD, as well as the opening of our 1957 time capsule. At 2:20 p.m., the K-6 students will have a similar assembly; however, it will include presentations by Kindergarten and 6th grade. On

March 29th, there are alumni basketball games starting at noon and a Centennial Dinner Dance planned beginning at 6:00 p.m. April 25th is our last planned Centennial event, and includes an assembly to present the contents of a new 2014 time capsule and place both the 1957 and 2014 capsules back into our building cornerstone where we found the original time capsule earlier this year. There is a full-page Centennial article in the current issue of our district newsletter. There are also posters distributed throughout the school and community that include contact information for the NYM School District Foundation members coordinating these special events. Thank you to our School District Foundation for their hard work with the rest of the members of our Centennial Celebration Planning Committee. The Foundation is the coordinating group for all of our Centennial events this year.

7.7 Internet Safety & Cyberbullying Workshop

Ms. Houghton shared copies of a flyer for an upcoming workshop for parents regarding internet safety and cyberbullying. Greg Auffrey from BOCES CORE will present the workshop on Thursday evening, February 13^{th} at 6:30 p.m. in our auditorium. We have invited all 12 of our BOCES component school districts through their superintendents. This workshop is part of our Dignity for All Students anti-bullying education and awareness efforts.

7.8 Preliminary Budget Information

Ms. Houghton told the Board that our state aid numbers and tax levy limit are still preliminary in nature, but we will be prepared with a full first budget workshop presentation on March $4^{\rm th}$. However, she asked Mrs. Stamboly to present a brief budgeting overview about creating a school budget.

Mrs. Stamboly shared the following PowerPoint slides on "Creating a School Budget" with the Board of Education.

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Roles and Function

- Teachers/Department Leaders
- Principals
- Business Office
- Superintendent of Schools
- Board of Education
- Taxpayers

2

The School Budget

What is a School Budget?

A complete financial plan for specific period of time based on estimates of expenditures and revenues.

Budget Development

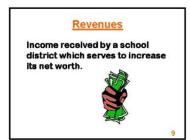
 A Centralized budgeting approach is used. This involves the building administrators, department heads, and teachers. Staff input is prioritized and included or excluded by the superintendent.











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Revenues

- State Aid
- Miscellaneous Revenues
- Fund Balance
- Monies raised through Taxes

State Aid

Miscellaneous Revenues

Any other sources of revenue

- other than: 1) State Aid
- 2) Property Tax Levy 3) Fund Balance

Examples: Interest Earnings, Tuition, Commissions, Admissions, Property Rental

Fund Balance

Two (2) types of Fund Balance:

- 1) Unappropriated Unexpended surplus funds. This can equal 4% of current budget.
- 2) Appropriated Segregated and restricted for a future use. (i.e. offset tax levy)

Property Tax

Expenditures (Spending Plan)

- Revenues

Tax Levy



Expenditures

Classify budget items through the function and object in accordance with the Uniform System of Accounts and the State Education Department

This is the District's spending plan.



A Line Item Budget Organical Adultura Aliangei Brande Brandend Addition Company 2000 6 8 2500 Miles 1900 1900

- Line item budgeting: each line item receives separate consideration and may be increased or decreased by different amounts.
- In any given district, administration and/or clerical may receive a monthly appropriation status report to review.

Main Budget Expenditures

- Payroll
- Benefits
- BOCES
- **Debt Service** Undistributed (Liability Insurance,
- Unemployment Insurance, Legal Fees, etc.)
- Department Budgets



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CODES

- Example: A2110-450-02-0001 is first grade supplies
 - A2110 is teaching regular school
 - 450 is supplies
 - 02 is elementary school
 - 0001 is first grade

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Appropriation By Function at the Building level

- Supervision of Regular School
- Contractual
- Travel-Mileage
- Conference fees
- Dues
- Supplies

20

Teaching Regular School

- Contractual
- -Travel-Mileage
- Conference Fees
- Grade level instructional supplies
- -Special area supplies
- Textbooks by Grade level
- Consumables
- -Workbooks



21

School Library/Audio Visual
Instructional supplies
Materials
Computer Assisted instruction
Equipment
Supplies
Software



First Steps Board sets parameters Governor budget projections Principals communicate with superintendent and *SBO or treasurer Review current year's line item budget and status report Begin communication process

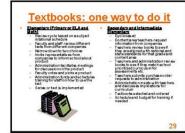
Communication Process Communicate with staff and faculty via memos and meetings. It may look like this: First request is for transportation needs Field trips Equipment Usually anything over 1,000.00

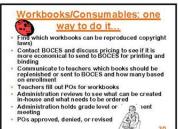




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Contractual

- Securing services from outside the district or BOCES
- Teachers may be planning events or presentations or educational projects
- Put in request for administration to review review
- Approved or denied

Staffing

- orierings Administration collaborates and meets several times during the budget cycle to determine staffing needs

Central Office Processing

- Principals and Supervisors submit budgets
- Projected expenditures compiled
- · Analyzed and compared to projected revenues
- Estimate tax impact based on current information

Central Office Process cont'd

- Present to Board of Education for input
- Present to Public
- Public Vote

Questions **Comments**

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8. Board Discussion

Mrs. Rice referenced an article in the Observer Dispatch about a \$95,000 deficit due to PILOTs. She stated that this was not the Board of Education's fault.

Mrs. Stamboly said that it was caused by the timeliness of the assessor. It is a hard subject.

Mrs. Rice said she had an issue with the headline. It may have given people the impression it was our fault.

Ms. Edwards handed out blank evaluations for the Superintendent. She would like them back before the next meeting.

Mrs. Rice has a concern that when a community member brings issues directly to someone on the Board that there is a process. We must let the general public know there is a process without being rude. There is a chain of command. The Board must be cautious when discussing personalities could put the Board in jeopardy.

9. Visitors Comments

Mr. King said that Kiddie Bingo is on the calendar but it has been cancelled because no one has stepped up to do it. The people that run the PTSO are stretched pretty thin. He also gave the bottom line profits from the Craft Fair, which for this year was \$19, 277. Mr. King reminded the Board that we are in musical season so if you can find other locations to hold public meeting, the musical staff and cast would appreciate it.

Mrs. Marley spoke on behalf of the NYMTA. She said the teachers work very hard in putting our student first. Tonight we heard the staff spoken of in glowing terms from Dr. Porcelli. The teachers would like to see an Agreement for a fair contract. It has been nearly 600 days without a contract. The next Association meeting is February 11th. She invited the Board to join the NYMTA at this meeting to discuss the contract. The district negotiations team has already been invited to attend the New York Mills teachers are proud to work here and should be compensated for the work they do.

10. Executive Session – to discuss NYMAA Negotiations and Pending Litigation

Mrs. Rice made the motion at 8:15 p.m.to go into executive session to discuss negotiations for NYMAA and NYMTA, and pending litigation

Mrs. Welch seconded the motion.

Yes 7 No 0 Motion carried.

Ms. Edwards stated that the Board would take a five minute recess and appointed Ms. Houghton the Clerk Pro-tem.

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Respectfully submitted,

Gaula an May

Paula Ann May District Clerk

Ms. Edwards called the meeting back into regular session at 9:12 p.m.

11. Adjournment

Dr. Porcelli made the motion to adjourn at 9:12 p.m. seconded by Mrs. Rice.

Yes 6 No 0 Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Houghton Clerk Pro-tem