

SAUQUOIT VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL  
Sauquoit, NY 13456

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, March 10, 2015

Kind of Meeting: Regular

Presiding Officer: Kim Overrocker

Members Present: Kim Overrocker, Anthony Nicotera, Joseph Bottini, Jim Dever, Mark Evans, Lisa Frost and Dawn Miller

Members Absent: None

Administrators Present: Ronald Wheelock, Superintendent of Schools  
Charles Cowen, Business Administrator  
Peter R. Madden, Middle School Principal  
Zane W. Mahar, High School Principal

Others Present: Members of the Staff/Community

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Mrs. Overrocker.

**Pledge of Allegiance** - The pledge of allegiance was recited.

**Public to Be Heard** - Mrs. Overrocker asked if anyone wished to address the Board and one person did so. **Jeff Houck** updated and distributed to the Board the flyer being prepared by the Sauquoit Valley Teachers Association to notify community members of an educational forum concerning Governor Cuomo's reform agenda.

**Students to Be Heard** - Mrs. Overrocker asked if any students wished to address the Board and none did so. There were students were present.

**Superintendent's Report - Superintendent's Conference Day Agenda** - Mr. Wheelock provided the Board with a copy of the agenda for the Superintendent's Conference Day on Friday, March 13, 2015. In the morning staff will be at Mohawk Valley Community College to listen to a presentation by Bill Daggett, Chairman and Founder, International Center for Leadership in Education and then return to the district for Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and technology training. **Open Board Seats** - Mr. Wheelock announced there will be three open seats on the Board. The terms of Joe Bottini, Mark Evans and Lisa Frost will expire June 30, 2015. **Budget Workshop** - Mr. Wheelock said the budget workshop scheduled for Tuesday, March 24, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the high school library is canceled as we don't foresee having state aid runs by then. The committee will meet again on Tuesday, April 7, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the high school library.

**Resolution No. 55** made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mr. Bottini,

- that Richard Williams' probationary period as a bus driver become permanent effective March 11, 2015 based upon a successful completion of his probationary period.

**Resolution No. 55 (Cont'd)**

- that Nancy Chynoweth's probationary period as a school bus attendant become permanent effective March 11, 2015 based upon a successful completion of her probationary period.
- to appoint Katie Donnan as a per diem substitute teacher effective March 11, 2015.
- to appoint Bridgette Miller as a substitute teacher aide effective March 11, 2015.
- to appoint Donald (Eric) Bullock and Allan Lallier as volunteers assisting a coach in boys baseball for the 2014-15 season pending completion of adult basic CPR and approval of coaching certifications.
- that the minutes of the February 24, 2015 meeting be approved.
- that the Board of Education upon completion of its review of the IEP in accordance with Section 200.4(d)(2) of the Regulations of the Commissioner agrees to arrange for appropriate special education programs and services for students numbered 1400416, 1400058, 102553, 150027, 103285, 1400210, 103128 and 1400484 as recommended by the Committee on Special Education and agrees to arrange for appropriate special education programs and services for student numbered 1400603 as recommended by the Committee on Pre-School Special Education.

Carried: Ayes 7.

**Resolution No. 56** made by Mr. Nicotera, seconded by Mrs. Frost, resolve to approve the retirement of John Lindberg as a science teacher, with regret, effective June 30, 2015.

Carried: Ayes 7.

Mr. Nicotera said Mr. Lindberg has been an outstanding educator for the district, is respected in and out of the classroom and is an exceptional role model. Mr. Wheelock thanked Mr. Lindberg for his years of service and wished him well. Mrs. Overrocker, on behalf of the students, thanked Mr. Lindberg.

**Resolution No. 57** made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mr. Bottini, resolve to approve the retirement of Diane Lindberg as a mathematics teacher, with regret, effective September 15, 2015.

Carried: Ayes 7.

Mr. Nicotera said Diane Lindberg is also an outstanding educator, has the respect of the community and represents the district and the community very well. Mrs. Overrocker stated all students Mrs. Lindberg had respected her. Mr. Wheelock said Mrs. Lindberg is a true professional, a leader in the building and the community and it has been an absolute pleasure to work with her. He wished her and John all the best in their retirement.

**Resolution No. 58** made by Mr. Bottini, seconded by Mrs. Miller, to appoint Nicole Gibbons as girls varsity track co-head coach (with Steve Philpotts) for the 2014-15 school year contingent upon student athlete participation in the sport. Carried: Ayes 7.

Mr. Nicotera said he has heard outstanding comments from students and parents regarding Nicole Gibbons.

**Resolution No. 59** made by Mrs. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Frost, that the district establishes a feels like temperature of 20 degrees Fahrenheit and above as the threshold to allow students to have recess outside. Furthermore, the building principal, or designee, has the discretion to keep kids inside as prevailing circumstances so dictate. Carried: Ayes 7.

**Resolution No. 60** made by Mr. Bottini, seconded by Mrs. Miller, to adopt the 185 day calendar for the 2015-16 school year as recommended by the Superintendents of Oneida, Herkimer and Madison counties. Carried: Ayes 7.

**Resolution No. 61** made by Mr. Nicotera, seconded by Mr. Dever, that the following resolution be adopted:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AS FOLLOWS:

1. The following notice shall be added to the notice of annual meeting and election:

AND NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that the following proposition will be submitted for voter approval at such time:

**PROPOSITION #1**

Shall the following resolution be adopted to wit:

RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE SAUQUOIT VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO UNDERTAKE THE ACQUISITION OF ONE 60-PASSENGER SCHOOL BUS AT AN ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST OF \$113,071, ONE 36-PASSENGER SCHOOL BUS AT AN ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST OF \$105,260, ONE 20-PASSENGER SCHOOL BUS AT AN ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST OF \$45,043, AND ONE SUBURBAN AT AN ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST OF \$44,626, ALL AT AN ESTIMATED MAXIMUM AGGREGATE COST OF \$308,000, LESS TRADE-IN VALUE, IF ANY, AND THAT SUCH COSTS, OR SO MUCH THEREOF AS MAY BE NECESSARY, SHALL BE RAISED BY THE LEVY OF A TAX TO BE COLLECTED IN ANNUAL INSTALLMENTS; AND, IN ANTICIPATION OF SUCH TAX, DEBT OBLIGATIONS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AS MAY BE NECESSARY NOT TO EXCEED SUCH ESTIMATED MAXIMUM AGGREGATE COST SHALL BE ISSUED, OR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY ENTER INTO AN INSTALLMENT PURCHASE CONTRACT IF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION DETERMINES THAT IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT TO FINANCE THE PURCHASE IN THAT METHOD.

- 2. At such meeting taxes to be levied by installments will be proposed for authorized indebtedness providing for payment of the acquisition of school buses at an estimated aggregate maximum cost of not to exceed \$308,000. Such taxes shall be levied upon all the taxable property of the District, shall be levied in annual installments and shall be of such amounts and levied in such years as may be determined by the Board of Education.
- 3. The District Clerk or the Clerk's designee is hereby directed to add the above to the notice of the annual meeting of the School District.
- 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Duly put to a vote as follows:

AYES            NAYS

Carried: Ayes 7.

**Preliminary Scope of Proposed Capital Project** - Mr. Wheelock provided the Board with a needs/desires list for the capital project and discussed the reasons why some of the items listed are needed. The Board facilities sub-committee and community members will be involved in determining the final scope of the project.

**Miscellaneous Topics** - **Mrs. Overrocker** asked the Board how they felt about hosting an educational forum on Governor Cuomo's reform agenda. After some discussion, Mr. Nicotera made a motion to support and join the efforts of hosting a forum in conjunction with other school groups.

**Resolution No. 62** made by Mr. Nicotera, seconded by Mr. Bottini, that the Sauquoit Valley Central School District Board of Education supports and joins the efforts of the Sauquoit Valley Teachers Association, Fine Arts Boosters, PTO and the Sports Boosters (if they come forward) in hosting a community forum to be held at a date to be decided by the groups involved and a format determined by the organizations mentioned. Carried: Ayes 7.

**Mr. Bottini** distributed, for the Board's review, a letter he drafted to Governor Cuomo expressing his opinion on the Governor's educational reform agenda.

**Public to Be Heard** - Mrs. Overrocker asked if anyone wished to address the Board and four people did so. **Jeff Houck**, on behalf of the Sauquoit Valley Teachers Association, thanked the Board for their support. **Pete Madden** said Diane and John Lindberg are professionals in every aspect of what they do and thanked them for their years of service. **Zane Mahar** informed the Board that the United States Department of Education was at Sauquoit Valley on Monday, March 2, 2015 to administer the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) examination to seniors (of which 96% took the exam). The Department representative was impressed with our students and teachers for their politeness and cooperation. The representative said it is a rarity for the Department of Education to see this. **David Shove** reminded everyone of the following:

- Wednesday, March 11, 2015, High School Pops Concert, 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 18, 2015, Middle School Pops Concert, 7:00 p.m.
- Friday-Saturday, March 20-21, 2015, Junior High All-County Music Festival at Clinton Central School
- March is Music in Our Schools Month

**Resolution No. 63** made by Mr. Nicotera, seconded by Mrs. Miller, that the Board of Education go into executive session at 9:30 p.m. to discuss contractual matters. Carried: Ayes 7.

The executive session was declared over by the Board President at 10:43 p.m.

**Resolution No. 64** made by Mrs. Frost, seconded by Mr. Nicotera, that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 10:43 p.m. Carried: Ayes 7.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie M. Kloster, Clerk  
Board of Education