

**UNOFFICIAL**

**UNOFFICIAL**

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, February 24, 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  
Mark R. Putnam, Elementary School Principal  
Peter R. Madden, Middle School Principal

Others Present: Members of the Staff/Community

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Mrs. Overrocker.

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

**Presentation** - **2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Proposal (Beth Thomas and Students)** - Mrs. Thomas's students asked the Board to consider lowering the temperature to go outside for recess from 25° to 20° Fahrenheit as they don't get outside enough. They also informed the Board that schools in the surrounding area allow their students to go outside when it is 20°. The Board and Mr. Wheelock praised the students for bringing this to their attention and said they would give this consideration and get back to them.

**Public to Be Heard** - Mrs. Overrocker asked if anyone wished to address the Board and one person did so. **Mr. Madden** asked the Board to consider an outdoor recreation area for middle school students in the next building project.

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

**Board of Education Sub-Committee Reports** - **Technology** - Mr. Wheelock stated the committee met on Tuesday, February 24, 2015 to discuss the need to revise the technology plan and what can be purchased with the money from the Smart Schools Bond Act. The committee will meet again before April 7, 2015.



**Superintendent's Report - Staff Development Day** - Mr. Wheelock informed the Board the staff development day scheduled for Friday, March 20, 2015 has been changed to Friday, March 13, 2015 to accommodate the guest speaker's schedule. **School Boards Institute (SBI) Legal Issues Workshop** - Mr. Wheelock told the Board SBI will be sponsoring a legal issues workshop on Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel. **BOCES Annual Meeting** - Mr. Wheelock let the Board know the BOCES Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 15, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. at Oneida BOCES.

**Resolution No. 53** made by Mr. Nicotera, seconded by Mrs. Frost,

- to appoint James Gehringer as a substitute laborer effective February 25, 2015.
- that the minutes of the February 10, 2015 meeting be approved.
- that the Treasurer's Reports of Balances be approved as presented.
- that authorization be given regarding the payment of bills approved by the claims auditor.
- 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 103263, 102637, 1400557, 1400135, 1400359 and 103025 as recommended by the Committee on Special Education.

Carried: Ayes 7.

**Miscellaneous Topics - Mr. Bottini** voiced a concern regarding civility in our schools and that kindness in general seems to be a diminishing value in society. He further suggested that a Board ad-hoc committee convene to discuss how we can better infuse kindness toward one another in our schools. **Mr. Dever** inquired if the Governor's actions regarding education and the 2015-16 state budget is a violation of the Dignity Act. It is not as the Dignity Act only pertains to acts against students.

**Public to Be Heard** - Mrs. Overrocker asked if anyone wished to address the Board and three people did so. **Diane Lindberg** handed out a first draft of a "call to action" prepared by the Sauquoit Valley Teachers Association (SVTA) in response to Governor Cuomo's educational issues addressed in his state of the state for the Board to review. The SVTA is hoping to partner with the Board and the PTO to make district residents aware of what Governor Cuomo is proposing. **Mr. Nicotera** shared that while in agreement with the teacher's call to action, Albany has been rather generous toward the county and the greater Mohawk Valley region. He noted that his employer, Upstate Cerebral Palsy, is poised to receive more funding next year than they ever had in previous years. **David Shove** distributed a flyer regarding a March for Public Education on Thursday, March 5, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. from Oneida Square to the New York State office building. A rally will be held at 4:30 p.m. to show opposition to Governor Cuomo's reform agenda.

**Resolution No. 54** made by Mr. Bottini, seconded by Mrs. Miller, that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m. Carried: Ayes 7.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie M. Kloster, Clerk  
Board of Education