OLEAN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
410 West Sullivan Street
Olean, NY 14760

The Special Meeting of the boards of Education of the Olean City School District, Allegany-Limestone Central School, Hinsdale Central School, and Portville Central School was held on Thursday, March 12, 2015, at 6:33 p.m. at Mickey's Street, Olean, NY. The meeting was started by Larry Ljungberg, Hinsdale Central School Superintendent.

PRESENT:

Paul Knieser
Paul Hessney
Ira Katzenstein
Michael Martello
Colleen Taggerty
Kathy Elser
Mia O'Brien
Victoria L. Zaleski-Irizarry
Jeff Andreano
David Lasky
Larry Ljungberg
Jay King
Laurie Cuddy
Susan Schiefley
Jennifer Jaquith
Kelsy Boudin
Karen Geelan
Maggie Nuss
Tom Simon
Chris Kock
Doug Doty
Jay Noether
John Fitzpatrick
Chris Hill

Welcome -- Hinsdale Central School Superintendent, Larry Ljungberg; introduction of Connect 4 District Superintendent's made

Welcome and Introductions

Past/On-going Initiatives:

Shared Transportation Model

- Olean, Hinsdale, and Portville currently share transportation; there have been numerous changes made and program is continuously evolving; the partnership has been truly beneficiary; Dave Young, Portville's Transportation Supervisor has done an wonderful job; partnership has kept people employed as well as supported the local economy
- Allegany-Limestone was unable to participate in the partnership due to their transportation program running at capacity
- The Olean City School District is exploring the possibility of changing the start times for the 2015-2016 school year. A change would require additional buses, therefore, Olean may need to get quotes from outside sources so that additional bus needs does not pose a hardship to either Hinsdale or Portville Central Schools. The partnership would remain as a hybrid model

Shared Calendar

- The four districts have worked collaboratively similar school calendars
- The calendars are not exact, but the majority of days in session are aligned (approximately 90%)

Dr. Bill Daggett

- Guest speaker at the October 6, 2014, staff development day hosted by Allegany-Limestone Central School
- Topics were "Preparing Students to be college and career ready" and "Addressing today's challenges within the context of emerging trends"
- Staff from all four schools attended the presentation and were very excited about the topics Dr. Daggett discuss
- Model Schools Conference – June 28th through July 1st in Atlanta – 5-10 staff from the Connect 4 district and BOCES will be attending; teachers will be trained at conference and will train other staff

Shared Grant Writer

- The Hinsdale Central School District and the Olean City School District applied for a PEP grant and was recently awarded $780,000 over a three year period of time
- Funding is for the development of new cutting-edge Phys Ed curriculum; transform spaces for interactive fitness equipment, etc.
- 1st year will focus on cardio vascular
- 2nd year will focus on weight training
- 3rd year will focus on recreational
- Both schools have purchases state-of-the-art equipment
- Olean City School District is currently working on the educational component by contracting with a nutritionist whom will work with students and families
- Portville Central School District's has a Ropes Course (courses located in the gymnasium as well as outside including low level project adventure activities as well as high level courses – rock climbing, zip line, etc.); upcoming training extended to all Connect 4 districts

Connect 4 Geometry Project

- Assistant Professor of Mathematics, Chris Hill, discussed the four districts working together to build a stage-six Sierpinski tetrahedron using Zometool

- The goal is for each school to create a stage 5 and connect to create a stage 6
- Connect 4 Superintendents thanked SBU for being a great community partner

Greater Olean Area Churches
Poverty – how it affects us, our students, our community
Katie Ralston – OCSD teacher – has provided training for staff and community. Additional training is scheduled for this summer

Efficiency Grant
Olean/Portville applied for a grant – while having received some of the highest scores for the competitive grant, the districts were not successful in obtaining monies; only $10,000,000 of the Governor's $50,000,000 grant was awarded; Olean & Portville will submit another application

NYCOSS Conference in Albany

- Congratulations to Colleen Taggerty – recipient of the NYSCOSS Service Award
- NYS public school superintendents meet and learn from each other; discuss how districts can work with each other regionally; how to be stronger together; how to be business partners - - having such discussions confirms that great partnerships the Connect 4 districts have been doing and has the many accomplishments
- No mandate relief from SED
- GEA elimination – may not see 100% phase out this year
- APPR proposal – external evaluator (could be a very expensive unfunded mandate for districts)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Zaleski-Irizarry
District Clerk

Dated: March 16, 2015