

SPECIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA
APRIL 5, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Paul Shephard, Mr. Michael Breeden, Mr. Michael Byrnes, Mr. Jack Cuddihy, Mrs. Marlene Grunder, Mrs. Jennifer Horschel, Mr. Donald Sutfin

ABSENT:

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mrs. Sandy Anzalone, Superintendent; Mr. Thomas Murphy, Director of Finance; Mrs. Barbara Thomasulo, District Clerk

ALSO PRESENT: Mrs. Loran Carter, GLP Principal; Mr. Jeff Cervoni, Eden Jr./Sr. High School Principal; Mrs. Shawn Johnson, Director of Pupil Personnel Services; Mrs. Lucinda Karstedt, Director of Information Technology; Mr. David Martin, Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds; Mrs. Kelly Morgan-LaRosa, Director of Curriculum & Instruction;

At 7:34 p.m., Mr. Shephard called the meeting to order and asked those present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Called to
order**

- ♦ Technology Club – Chopper Class – Mr. Saramak, Mr. Smith and Mr. Jones, along with several students presented the motorcycle built this year. The Eden Chopper Class won first place in the Sportster Open Category. Students were involved in every facet of the build. The teachers and students thanked the Board, parents and community for their support. This year's team captain was Dan Hoelscher, a senior in his fifth year of being involved with the club. Clayton Williams also thanked the Board, parents, teachers and the rest of the team.
- ♦ BOCES – Tom Huebert, Allison O'Dell, Ed Stenzel, and Ron Pasqualetti from Erie 2 BOCES presented the BOCES embedded/integrated core courses. Every five years, BOCES must re-apply to NYSED. All curriculums must be up to date. There must be 108 hours of Math, Science, and English embedded in the Career and Technical curriculum. Students who fail the Regents exam work 1 on 1 with a teacher to get them to pass the exam the next time it is offered. Most students graduate with a Regents diploma. A college level technical writing class is offered. Writing assignments are paired up and co-taught with the students' Career/Technology classes. Students are taught how to create resumes and exit portfolios for internships for jobs. Reading and Writing assignments are based on college level. Reading focus is linked with the Common Core Learning Standards. Vocabulary and concepts, along with the Science and Math support the assignments. Feedback is given to the students on grammar, sentence structure and content. Because academics are integrated, BOCES is obliged to give the same grade for core courses as they do for the Career/Technology class, but there is a separate grade for Technical Writing. There are students with i.e.p.'s or 504 plans, so testing and program modifications are being followed.

**From Admin
& Staff**

- ♦ Mr. Cervoni and Mrs. Banks discussed study halls and electives. A few new electives have been added and some have been cut. If an elective has too many students registered, a second section may be added or some students may be moved out. Ninth graders usually have full schedules. Upper class students can skip their lunch and take upper level classes. They would get food from the Grab 'n Go cart, and eat on the go or in their classroom. Students taking AP courses have less flexibility in their schedules, because there is only one AP class per course. Schedules are built around the AP classes. Students meet with their counselors mid-year to start course selection. They are encouraged to take as many courses as they can.
- ♦ Mrs. Carter thanked the Board for their support of primary education and the addition of a first grade class. Parents are happy with smaller class sizes. Last year, a Kindergarten class was added a few days before school started. Many parents did not want their children to change classrooms. There was a similar problem in 2012 with first grade. If 8-15 new students enroll this summer, class sizes will be high again. We are hoping to have 16-18 students in Kindergarten and 17-19 in first grade for 2017-2018.
- ♦ Mrs. Karstedt reported that upon completion of the technology part of the Eden 2020 project, distance learning will be sustainable. Once the equipment is installed, distance learning can be offered to students, and Eden can host courses, as well. There are over 800 courses available. Zoom rooms option is \$10,000-\$15,000. The connection fee is approximately \$20,000. Classes cost \$3,200. If we host a program at \$3,200, we would get \$4,000 back the following year in State Aid for a profit of \$800 per class. The next step is to plan the curriculum, instruction and technology considerations. The District will have enough bandwidth.
- ♦ Capital Project – Mr. Martin stated that asbestos removal at Eden Elementary and the Bus Garage is complete. Asbestos removal at GLP is underway. Bids for the project came in lower than expected, allowing a number of alternatives to be added. The site contract was awarded to American Paving & Excavating; the general trades contract was awarded to Concept Construction Corporation; the mechanical/HVAC contract was awarded to D.V. Brown & Associates, Inc.; the plumbing contract was awarded to JR Swanson Plumbing Co., Inc.; and the electrical contract was awarded to CIR Electrical Construction Corporation.
- ♦ Budget Discussion – Draft 4 of the budget was presented. The 2017-2018 tax levy is \$14,275,945, which is \$578,236 over the 2016-2017 levy, or a 4.22% increase. The exact amount of the levy is unknown, because New York State has not released their budget yet. Based on current information, the year to year difference on a \$100,000 home is \$125.74 and \$251.47 on a \$200,000 home. This year, the tax rate is \$29.78; next year it is expected to be \$31.04. The tax levy is about half of the revenue stream. Adjustments from the March 11, 2017 presentation, not due to budget, are: one additional day for a BOCES senior technician, one additional microcomputer repair technician, half of a groundskeeper, the planned loss of a fifth grade class and the planned fifth first-grade class

and specials foregone. Reductions of \$594,919 built into the appropriation budget include, additional non-staff reductions of \$75,000, reduction in private school placements, decreased athletic trainer cost, and the pool sound system funded from the 2016-2017 budget. Reductions by tenure area are: two Aides, half Laborer, two Elementary teachers, .5 specials teachers, .415 English teacher, 1.085 Social Studies teachers, .67 Math teacher, .5 Science teacher, .17 Technology Teacher, .33 FACS teacher, one Administrator, .07 Librarian and .5 Business Teacher. Appropriations since March 11th include the addition of a nurse and grade 1 and specials, the reduction of school sponsored field trips, an increase in building use cost and an additional P-Tech BOCES slot – three students already in the program will be staying with the program and moving on. The cost is \$19,000 per student. There will be no new students accepted into the program for next year. The appropriations budget is \$29,017,733, which is \$1,648,502 over last year, or a 6.02% difference. The 2017-2018 revenue budget is \$27,557,733, which is \$1,460,000 less than the appropriation budget. Anticipated State Education revenues total \$9,446,257. The 2% tax cap for next year is estimated to be \$14,275,945 or 4.22%. The shortfall of \$1,460,000 will be settled by increasing dependence on use of reserves and fund balance, a 46% increase from last year. Should the budget fail twice, a contingent budget would be in place. Cuts would be a small portion from the administrative cap, six salaries would be held flat, capital (except for health, safety and welfare, as well as hardware purchases) and program. The final legal date for budget adoption is April 21, 2017. The property tax report card must be submitted to State Education by April 24, 2017. The public budget hearing is May 2, 2017, and the budget vote is May 16, 2017.

At 9:18 p.m., Mr. Shephard asked for comments from the public.

Comments

- ◆ Mr. Chris Archabald stated he would have liked 15 minutes to present Eden's English program, including rubrics and samples of assignments. The job of Eden's English teachers is to deliver the best program they can offer, so students are prepared to meet the challenges they will face. He asked that the Board of Education reconsider the decision to abolish English for vocational students.
- ◆ Mrs. Amy Banks stated that staff reductions have negatively impacted the total number of electives offered over the past few years, especially in Agriculture, Social Studies, Technology, Business, and Family and Consumer Science. Without teachers available to teach electives, it does not matter how many students request the class. During the past seven years, departments have continued to offer more rigorous courses to students despite faculty cuts; however, elective options for middle-of-the-road students have declined. Greater numbers of students have opted to take AP and college level courses. Additional sections of these courses have been added, and electives have declined. Teachers and Counselors have offered as much as they can to as many students as they can. Departments have continued to increase the rigor of academic programs. There is no way to continue this without significant and additional funding.

- ◆ Mrs. Sue Schnauffer invited everyone to come to Shea's Theatre on May 13th from 10 am – 4 pm to watch students perform six minutes of the Shrek musical. Tickets are \$8 pre-sale or \$10 at the door. She also thanked the Board for considering the addition of another nurse for the time when one of the nurses must ride a bus with a student.
- ◆ Mrs. Kathy Klopp thanked the Board for hearing concerns about proposed cuts and how they might increase the number of students in study halls. Vocational English was added back to the High School scheduled in response to graduates who reported they had to pay to take High School level English at college based on their entrance exams. Sherri Stoneberg, FACS, is certified to teach Career Exploration Internship programs. It would work the same way here, for example having students take CAD with Mr. Jones, Math with Mr. Wall, English with Mr. Archabald, Career Financial Management with Mrs. Ramaekers and clock 52 hours of internship. There would be no Co-ser paid or refunded. Money spent on Personalized Learning could have been spent on saving academic programs. The savings on administrative retirement could be shifted over to train people on teaching impoverished students. She asked the Board to consider waiting to approve the budget to allow the community a chance to respond to the proposed cuts.
- ◆ Mrs. Colleen Gaglione thanked the Board for coming to the STEAM presentation at Eden Elementary.
- ◆ Mrs. Lisa Alessi Nicastro asked whether the HV/AC improvements would extend to the Art rooms in the Jr./Sr. High School. She also inquired who would be teaching the two new Art programs mentioned by Mr. Cervoni.

**Approved
budget transfers
over \$10,000**

Mrs. Horschel made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the budget transfers over \$10,000 be approved as presented. Carried unanimously.

**Appointed
ELS, D.
Halewski**

Mrs. Horschel made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, **Dan Halewski**, who is certified in Social Studies, be appointed as an Extended Leave Substitute Teacher, replacing Mrs. Pace effective March 6, 2017 through April 10, 2017. Salary is \$95 per day. Carried unanimously.

**Appointed
substitute bus
attendant, N.
Schmitt**

Mrs. Horschel made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, **Noelle Schmitt** be appointed as a substitute bus attendant effective March 31, 2017. **Salary is \$9.70 per hour.** Carried unanimously.

**Approved
site work
contractor**

Mrs. Horschel made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, American Paving & Excavating, Inc., be appointed as the contractor for the Capital Improvement Project, Eden CSD 2020, Phase 3, Award of Contract #301 – Site Work in the amount of \$3,784,000 for base bids; and \$56,660 for alternates (#3); for a total contract amount of \$3,840,660. Carried unanimously.

Mrs. Horschel made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Concept Construction Corporation, be appointed as the contractor for the Capital Improvement Project, Eden CSD 2020, Phase 3, Award of Contract #302 – General Trades in the amount of \$2,874,000 for base bids; and \$170,100 for alternates (#2, 4, 11); for a total contract amount of \$3,044,100. Carried unanimously.

**Approved
general
trades
contractor**

Mrs. Horschel made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, D.V. Brown & Associates, be appointed as the contractor for the Capital Improvement Project, Eden CSD 2020, Phase 3, Award of Contract #303 – Mechanical/HVAC in the amount of \$2,868,000 for base bids; and \$574,500 for alternates (#2, 5, 6, 8); for a total contract amount of \$3,442,500. Carried unanimously.

**Approved
mechanical/
HVAC
contractor**

Mrs. Horschel made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, JR Swanson Plumbing Co., Inc., be appointed as the contractor for the Capital Improvement Project, Eden CSD 2020, Phase 3, Award of Contract #304 – Plumbing in the amount of \$834,200 for base bids; and \$82,785 for alternates (#2, 6, 18); for a total contract amount of \$916,985. Carried unanimously.

**Approved
plumbing
contractor**

Mrs. Horschel made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, CIR Electrical Construction Corporation, be appointed as the contractor for the Capital Improvement Project, Eden CSD 2020, Phase 3, Award of Contract #305 - Electrical in the amount of \$3,752,000 for base bids; and \$171,500 for alternates (#1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8); for a total contract amount of \$3,923,500. Carried unanimously.

**Approved
electrical
contractor**

Mrs. Horschel made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden that the 2017-2018 budget in the amount of \$29,017,733, (subject to change) representing a 6.02% increase (subject to change) be adopted as presented. Discussion ensued. Mr. Shephard, Mr. Breeden, Mr. Cuddihy, Mrs. Grunder, and Mr. Sutfin voted yes. Mr. Byrnes voted no. Mrs. Horschel abstained. Motion carried.

**Adopted
2017-2018
budget**

- ◆ Regular Board of Education Meeting – Tuesday, April 18, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. in the JSHS Cafeteria.

Future dates

At 9:43 p.m., Mrs. Horschel made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden that the Board of Education enter Executive Session to discuss the employment history of a particular person(s). Carried unanimously.

**Executive
session**

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara J. Thomasulo

Barbara J. Thomasulo
District Clerk

**Regular
session**

At 11:11 p.m., Mr. Shephard made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden to return to regular session. Carried unanimously.

Adjourned

Mr. Shephard made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sutfin to adjourn. Carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Shephard", written in a cursive style.

Paul Shephard
Board President

PS/bt