

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA
JANUARY 21, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Michael Byrnes, Mr. Michael Breeden, Mr. Colin Campbell, Mr. Scott Henderson, Mrs. Patricia Krouse, Mr. Paul Shephard

ABSENT: Mrs. Barbara Henry

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, JSHS Principal; Ms. Marisa Fallacaro, Athletic Director; Mr. Marc Graff, Eden Elementary School Principal; Ms. Rose Heckathorn, Director of Transportation; Mrs. Shawn Johnson, Director of Pupil Personnel; Mrs. Lucinda Karstedt, Director of Information Technology; Mrs. Kelly LaRosa, Director of Curriculum & Instruction and Staff Development; Miss Patricia Menkiena, JSHS Assistant Principal

At 7:00 p.m., Mr. Byrnes called the meeting to order and asked those present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Called to
order**

- ♦ Elementary Music – Mrs. Uhlman introduced fifth grade students, Danielle Gephart, Jennifer Kappus, Samantha Crowe, Danielle Answeeney, Elle Noecker, Katie Donovan, and Julia Kuster, from the fifth grade orchestra. The group played a piece they had rehearsed for the Erie County Solo Music Festival, which was cancelled due to weather.
- ♦ Transportation – Mr. Murphy stated that due to unplanned failures, the District is low on available buses. He arranged for representatives from Matthews Buses and Leonard Buses.
- ♦ Matthews Buses, Inc. – Dave Christopher, Operations Manager, talked about bus purchases and the importance of replacing buses on a regular basis. Options are: A one-year lease for emergency situations without voter approval; A lease up to five years with voter approval; a five year replacement purchase. If the district chose to lease buses, Eden drivers would be used. Bus purchases receive aid at a rate of approximately 75%.
- ♦ Leonard Bus Sales, Inc. – Dave Rindo, Partner, reviewed the municipal financing options, including purchase – cash/bonding, lease, and lease/purchase. There are short term leases for less than one year and long term leases for one to five years available. Mr. Rindo presented several scenarios of cost breakdown estimates per year, including an estimated total purchase payment per year and state aid reimbursement figures. A fleet replacement plan allows for predictable equipment costs, reduced parts inventory, reduced repair costs, newer and safer equipment, as well as a steady stream of state aid coming back to the district at a rate of 74.6%.

**From Admin
and Staff**

**Request to
withdraw
items**

Mr. Breeden asked if anyone wished to remove any items from the consensus items. There were no consensus items removed.

**Approved
consensus
items**

Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Krouse that the following consensus items be approved as listed in the Administrative Memorandum (#IV. A.-L.):

Minutes of the December 2, 2014 Regular Board of Education Meeting.

Minutes of the December 17, 2014 Regular Board of Education Meeting.

Revenue Budget Status Report for the period ending December 31, 2014.

Treasurer's Report for the period ending December 31, 2014.

Multi Fund Warrant for the period ending December 31, 2014 in the amount of \$532,742.45. This Warrant is broken down as follows: General Fund portion \$367,853.42, Cafeteria Fund portion 95,576.92, Federal Fund portion \$32,866.44 and Trust & Agency Fund portion \$36,445.67.

ACH/Wire Transfer Warrant for the period ending December 31, 2014 in the amount of \$993,946.25. This Warrant is broken down as follows: General Fund (Debt Service) portion \$410,201.25, General Fund (ERS) portion \$583,595.00, General Fund (other) portion \$150.00.

Extraclassroom Activities Fund Report for the period ending December 31, 2014.

Appropriation Status Report for the period ending December 31, 2014.

Budget Transfers for December 2014.

CSE/CPSE Recommendations.

The following personnel are appointed as substitutes, provided that these appointments will not be effective and service to the District pursuant thereto shall not begin until there has been compliance with statutory and regulatory provisions for fingerprinting/certification and clearance for employment:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Certification</u>
Shannon Lafferty	PK-12 T, TA	January 22, 2015	None
Lindsey Cox	PK-6 Teacher	January 22, 2015	None
Julee Klopp	PK-12 Teacher	January 22, 2015	None
Miriam Harms	7-12 Teacher	January 22, 2015	None
Karen Gross	Cleaner	January 22, 2015	None
Ashley Preston	Nurse	January 22, 2015	RPN

The following personnel be appointed as Supplemental Activity Advisors and Coaches for the 2014-2015 school year, provided that these appointments will not be effective and service to the District pursuant thereto shall not begin until there has been compliance with statutory and regulatory provisions for fingerprinting/certification and clearance for employment:

1. James Ehrig IV, HS Musical Lighting Advisor
2. Dana Bennett, HS Musical Pit Director

All consensus items IV. A-I carried unanimously.

At 7:32 p.m., Mr. Byrnes asked for comments from the public.

Comments

- ◆ District parent, Tracey Fest, expressed her personal gratitude to Amy Porter (Jr./Sr. High School Teacher and Coach) for her creative thinking and hard work in putting together a sports raffle to raise money for much needed sporting equipment. Despite the fact that she did not have much planning time, she quickly secured a venue and got the “ball rolling”. There were many donations. It was an amazing, very successful event. She thanked Mrs. Porter for everything she had accomplished to benefit the students of the District. Mrs. Porter acknowledged that she had support from every aspect of the community. She then thanked everyone who had helped out in any way and those who purchased tickets for the event.
- ◆ Mrs. Howard, CSEA President, stated that the CSEA legal department in Albany informed her that driving buses for the Eden Transportation Department is exclusive work of their bargaining unit, which is under contract until June 30, 2018. She suggested thinking “outside the box” and brainstorming to come up with some ideas for saving money.
- ◆ Mary Banko, Eden Bus Driver, said that drivers had volunteered their services to drive students to sites for Raiders Respond Day at no charge. The drivers were told it was against labor laws, so CSEA made a donation to Raiders Respond, thus allowing the drivers to be paid. There was a decline in field trips a few years ago, due to cost. Some drivers have gone off the clock while out on field trips, which lowered the cost of the trip(s), so that more could be offered. She said the drivers welcome the opportunity to find new ideas to help keep costs down.
- ◆ Gary Haag – A veteran, was disappointed that the Board voted to change the tax exemption level to veterans. He asked them to reconsider.
- ◆ John Bauer – A veteran, also disappointed in the exemption level passed by the Board. He stated that the Board should have done what the voters approved.
- ◆ Bob Stickney – A veteran, was unhappy with the result of the vote to lower the tax exemption level.
- ◆ Adam Henrich – A veteran, was extremely disappointed that the Board passed a lower exemption level for the veterans. He asked that the Board reconsider.
- ◆ Kevin O’Gorman – A veteran, was also unhappy that the Board passed a lower exemption level for veterans.

- Accepted resignation – Computer Teacher, A. Montoro** Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mr. Campbell that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation of Computer Teacher, **Anthony Montoro**, be accepted effective January 8, 2015. The Board and Administration wish to thank Mr. Montoro for his service to the District. Carried unanimously.
- Accepted resignation – S. Harris** Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mr. Campbell that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation for the purpose of retirement of Elementary Teacher, **Sheila Harris**, be accepted effective July 1, 2015. The Board and Administration wish to thank Mrs. Harris for her 35 years of service to the District. Discussion ensued. Mr. Breeden, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Henderson, Mrs. Krouse and Mr. Shephard voted yes. Mr. Byrnes voted no. (☺) Motion Carried.
- Accepted resignation – J. O'Brien** Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mr. Campbell that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation for the purpose of retirement of Elementary Teacher, **Janice O'Brien**, be accepted effective July 1, 2015. The Board and Administration wish to thank Mrs. O'Brien for her 25 years of service to the District. Carried unanimously.
- Appointed computer teacher – A. Sullivan** Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mr. Campbell that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, **Amy Sullivan**, who is professionally certified in Literacy B-6, Early Childhood Education B-2, and Childhood Education 1-6 be appointed as a Part-Time Computer Teacher effective January 16, 2015 through June 30, 2015. Salary is based upon ETA Contract, Master's, Step 1. Carried unanimously.
- Appointed school psychologist intern – D. Trode** Mr. Campbell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, **Danielle Trode** be appointed as a School Psychologist Intern effective January 22, 2014. Carried unanimously.
Note: This is an unpaid position.
- Accepted donation of TV for GLP** Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mr. Campbell that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a Mitsubishi 52" HD 1080 TV valued at \$250 be accepted from an anonymous donor for use in the GLP Hardwork Café. Carried unanimously.
- Approved amendment to contract** Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mr. Campbell to amend the April 14, 2014 Superintendent Contract to increase paid time off by two days each year and provide an annual salary increase of 2% effective July 1, 2014. Carried unanimously.
- Approved increase in building use rates for custodians and techs.** Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mr. Campbell that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the building use rates for the custodians and technicians will be increasing effective April 1, 2015. The custodian rate will be \$45 per hour Monday-Saturday and \$60 per hour on Sunday. The technician rate will be \$35 per hour Monday-Saturday and \$50 per hour on Sunday. Discussion ensued. Carried unanimously.

Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mr. Campbell that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, effective January 22, 2015 hours for transportation personnel be adjusted as follows due to changes in Special Education sites and student program needs:

**Approved
change in
transportation
personnel
hours**

1. Route 11 Driver – Bob Barton increase by .5 to 4.5 hours
 2. Route 19 Driver – Rosemary Peters increase by .25 to 5.5 hours
 3. Attendant – Mary Tarasiewicz increase by .25 to 7.25 hours
- Carried unanimously.

Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mr. Campbell that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, **Judy Ludwig** will serve as a consultant for the Eden Central School District to be paid in the amount of \$25/hour up to a maximum of 100 hours for the 2014-2015 school year. Discussion ensued. Carried unanimously.

**Approved
consultant –
J. Ludwig**

Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mr. Campbell that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2014-2015 appropriations be increased by \$4,835.54 to \$26,469,095.51 to account for increased revenues. Carried unanimously.

**Approved
increase in
appropriations**

Note: The District received \$828.20 from Box Tops for Education for Eden Elementary; \$1,914.50 from Box Tops (General Mills) for GLP; \$500.00 from WNY Retired Teachers for a Grant at Eden Elementary (Fronczak); \$500.00 from SUNY Research Foundation for Viable II Project for Eden Elementary; \$500.00 from SUNY Research Foundation for Viable II Project for the Jr./Sr. High School; \$258.86 from FBLA for Fall District Meeting Field Trip; and \$333.98 from Eden PTA for GLP Field Trip.

Mr. Murphy reported the following:

**Business
report**

- ♦ The Budget Advisory Team (BAT) met prior to the Board Meeting. Technology, Finance and Athletics presented tonight. Handouts were available for those members who could not attend. For future meetings, he asked that members please bring their handouts. The next meeting is February 11th and will involve presentations from the Superintendent, Buildings & Grounds and Transportation.
- ♦ Mr. Byrnes stated that he would love to hear any ideas that the drivers have. He stated clearly that he will keep bus drivers in-house. Our drivers know the families and roads and do a phenomenal job getting the kids to and from school safely.

Board report

Mrs. Anzalone reported the following:

Supt. report

- ♦ The 2014-2015 school calendar was addressed. Each year, districts get four Superintendent Conference days, which can be used as student attendance days. Students must be on-site a minimum of 176

days, plus the four conference days for a total of 180 days. Effective December 14th, 2014, the State Education Department changed regulations. Superintendent Conference days may no longer be used after the last Regents day in June, which is Wednesday, June 24, 2015. This alters our calendar. If make-up days are needed for excess snow days, we cannot use days after June 24th. Grades 7-12 can use the Rating Day for credit as in the past; however K-6 cannot use that day for credit. K-6 students may need to come in for a half day. Grades 7-12 have three days that they can use as make-up days for the rest of this school year. If we need to make up days, they could be made up during the spring break or on May 22nd. An appeal to NYSED will be made to use the old regulations for this year.

- ◆ The 2015-2016 school calendar shows a last student attendance day of June 22nd. Labor Day is September 7th. The last time Labor Day started late was in 2009, and we were able to use the last week in June as student attendance days. The ETA contract states that the first teacher attendance day is the day after Labor Day. The district must fit 176 student attendance days, plus four Superintendent Conference Days to attain the State minimum of 180 days. Approximately \$37,000 in State aid would be lost if the 180 minimum student attendance days are not met. Working snow days into the mix will be a challenge. Options are: 1) to ask the ETA for a Memorandum of Agreement for Superintendent Conference Days before Labor Day; 2) Bring staff in for Superintendent Conference Days during one of the winter or spring breaks. The ETA leadership stated they are not interested in a Memorandum of Agreement for next year. Two Superintendent Conference Days can be built into the February break week. If we need extra make up days, students can be brought in during that break.
- ◆ Capital Project – The Academic Organization Committee has met twice. The task they have been assigned is to present their findings to the Board of Education about what to do with GLP Primary School and whether or not to move sixth grade and create a middle school concept. The next meeting is February 3rd. The Academic Organization Committee will present their findings at the February 11, 2015 Board meeting. Should the Board make the decision to close GLP, it will have to be a resolution on the table. If it is not a decision to close GLP, then the Board does not have to take any action. The Board could choose to make a resolution to move sixth grade to a middle school. The Athletic, P.E. and Site Utilization Committee and the Infrastructure, Technology and Building Conditions Committee will be meeting on February 11th. It is expected that the committees will bring everything to the Board between now and June, so the Board has time in June, July and August to make decisions with the Facility Advisory Council. The District is anticipating a December 2015 referendum. There are things that need to be fixed in the District; leaking roofs and windows, walls that need repair, adding outlets in GLP classrooms, removal of asbestos, technology needs and more.

- ♦ Mr. Shephard stated he has received several calls regarding the Veterans' exemption. He was also insulted by the Board's action. He mentioned that the tax increase could have been a reduction on their property income tax, possibly as much as 25%. He calculated it to be about 15¢ a day under the guidelines they proposed, based on assessed value of \$120,000.
- ♦ Mr. Shephard made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Krouse that after multiple public hearings on the Veterans' Exemption, that this Board pass Level E at \$18,000/\$30,000/\$60,000 as supported by the town in a non-binding referendum. Discussion ensued. Mr. Byrnes voted yes, Mrs. Krouse voted yes, Mr. Shephard voted yes, Mr. Campbell abstained, Mrs. Henry was absent, Mr. Breeden abstained, Mr. Henderson abstained. Motion failed.

Future dates

- ♦ Budget Advisory Team Meetings – February 11, 2015 @ 5:45 p.m. JSHS Cafeteria, March 4, 2015 @ 5:45 p.m. JSHS Cafeteria
- ♦ Regular Board of Education Meeting - February 11, 2015 @ 7:00 p.m. JSHS Cafeteria
- ♦ Budget Advisory Team Meeting/Community Forum – February 25, 2015 @ 6:00 p.m. JSHS Auditorium

Executive session

At 9:11 p.m., Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mr. Campbell that the Board of Education enter Executive Session to discuss possible litigation. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara J. Thomasulo
District Clerk

BT/

Regular session

At 9:59 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. Breeden to adjourn. Carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Byrnes
Board President

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