BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA
FEBRUARY 11, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Michael Byrnes, Mr. Michael Breeden, Mr. Colin Campbell, Mrs. Barbara Henry, Mrs. Patricia Krouse

ABSENT: Mr. Scott Henderson, Mr. Paul Shephard

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

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; Mr. David Martin, Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds; Miss Patricia Menkiena, JSHS Assistant Principal

Called to order

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

Enter executive session

At 7:02 p.m., Mrs. Henry made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden that the Board of Education enter executive session to discuss a level 4 grievance with the ETA, a student issue, and a possible employee negotiation update. Carried unanimously.

Return to regular session

At 7:59 p.m., Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mr. Byrnes to return to regular session. Carried unanimously.

From Admin and Staff

- Mr. Graff, Chairman for the Capital Project - Academic Organization Committee, gave an overview of the committee's purpose. The AOC was charged with bringing ideas to the Board regarding what to do with GLP – i.e. sell, lease or keep as is, and whether or not a middle school concept should be pursued. The AOC has met four times. The architectural firm of Young & Wright developed four options from the information they received as a result of those meetings. Option four was to close GLP. The committee decided that Option four was not a viable option. Young & Wright came up with a hybrid option of two and three. Hybrid option one was for GLP to house Pre-K-4, make the Elementary School a middle school (5-8), and the High School would be 9-12 and District Offices. There would be modest renovations needed at the GLP and Senior High School and major renovations at Eden Elementary. Hybrid option two was for GLP to house Pre-K-2 and community lease space, the Elementary School would be grades 3-5 and District Offices and the Jr./Sr. High School would be grades 6-12. GLP would need minor renovations, while the Jr./Sr. High School would need major renovations in order to create a "separate middle school". Both options use current enrollment projections, allowing for student growth. The consensus of the AOC was that GLP should remain open in its current or a reconfigured format and that a middle school model, either grades 5-8 or 6-8 was needed to meet the academic, social and emotional needs of middle school aged students.

- Primary Teachers, Mrs. King and Mrs. LaVerdi presented solid reasons in the interest of the children why GLP should remain as a primary school. Children must grow within a physical environment that facilitates problem solving, collaboration, emotional and social development, activity and the arts. They must be actively engaged, and their classrooms must be large enough and allow for hands-on experiential learning. The current outdoor space contains four age appropriate playgrounds, specifically designed to fit the physical needs and safety requirements of the younger students. Moving the youngest students to the Elementary School would present several obstacles – stairs would be cumbersome, they would not have enough space, there are no lavatories in the classrooms, and costs to renovate the Elementary School would be significant.
- Jr. High School Teachers, Mrs. Berne and Mrs. Porter presented reasons why the middle school concept should be used. They reviewed the seven essential elements put forth by the New York State Education Department. These elements for a middle school include: 1) A philosophy and mission that reflect intellectual and developmental needs of young adolescents; 2) An education program that is comprehensive, challenging, purposeful, integrated, relevant and standards based; 3) Organization and structure that support academic excellence and personal development; 4) Classroom instruction appropriate to the needs and characteristics; 5) Strong educational leadership that encourages, facilitates and sustains involvement, participation and students; 6) A network of academic and personal support for all students; and 7) Professional learning and staff development for staff, which is ongoing, planned, purposeful, and collaboratively developed.
- Matthews Buses, Inc. – Aaron Morrow presented a suggested purchase plan for the District. Currently, one 66-passenger Matthews bus is on loan to the District. They are willing to loan three additional 66-passenger buses from April 1st to June 30th. Matthews suggests proposing a purchase of six 66-passenger buses next year (2015-2016). Their ten-year replacement plan suggests purchasing three additional buses (some type C/D, some type A) annually over the next nine years. The net cost after State Aid reimbursement would be approximately $72,458.
- Leonard Bus Sales, Inc. – Dave Rindo presented recommendations for buses. From March to June 2015, they suggested borrowing or purchasing buses from neighbors or renting/leasing. For 2015-2016,

they suggested either using a reserve fund or borrowing funds to purchase three buses and lease three buses. Their long-range plan recommends purchasing six buses for the 2015-2016 school year, and three C type buses annually through 2025, plus eight A type vehicles over the course of ten years.

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

Request to withdraw items

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

Approved consensus items

Minutes of the January 21, 2015 Regular Board of Education Meeting.

Revenue Budget Status Report for the period ending January 31, 2015.

Treasurer's Report for the period ending January 31, 2015.

Multi Fund Warrant for the period ending January 31, 2015 in the amount of **$440,703.45**. This Warrant is broken down as follows: General Fund portion **$368,882.65**, Cafeteria Fund portion $25,417.24, Federal Fund portion $14.00, and Trust & Agency Fund portion $46,389.56.

ACH/Wire Transfer Warrant for the period ending January 31, 2015 in the amount of **$627,398.98**. This Warrant is broken down as follows: General Fund (Debt Service) portion **$608,670.88** and General Fund (other) portion **$18,728.10**.

Extraclassroom Activities Fund Report for the period ending January 31, 2015.

Appropriation Status Report for the period ending January 31, 2015.

Budget Transfers for January 2015.

Claims Auditor Report for November 2014.

Claims Auditor Report 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:

Name	Area	Effective Date	Certification
Katilyn Hood	PK-6 Teacher	February 12, 2015	None
Barbara Hall	Bus Driver	February 12, 2015	CDL

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. Andy Minier, Boys Lacrosse Assistant
2. Larry Millson, Boys Track Assistant
3. Brian Smith, Girls Track Assistant and Sporting Event Worker
4. Kevin Armbrust, Boys Modified Lacrosse
5. Matt Haier, Girls Modified Basketball
6. Sandra Pintabona, Music Events Security/Supervision

An unpaid Leave of Absence be granted to Jr./Sr. High School Nurse, **Kelly Ray**, from February 19, 2015 to February 27, 2015.

All consensus items IV. A-N carried unanimously.

Comments

At 9:12 p.m., Mr. Byrnes asked for comments from the public.

- Mrs. Klopp, Health Teacher, recommended that the Board of Education read the Civility Policy prior to the start of each meeting. She was concerned that some adults were verbally abusive at prior board meetings, which set a bad example for students, who learn from our behavior.
- Mrs. Kot, Physical Education Teacher, encouraged parents, educators and legislators to attend a rally at West Seneca West High School on February 26, 2015 from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. to fight Governor Cuomo and save public education. The theme of the rally is to stand up to Cuomo's threat to hold school funds hostage, his push to weaken local control of schools, and his school and teacher-bashing.
- Adam Henrich, veteran, spoke out about the Veterans' Tax Exemption. He would like to see the Veterans' receive the Level E exemption on their school taxes.
- Bob Stickney, veteran, also expressed that he would like the Level E exemption on school taxes for veterans.
- Mrs. Wilhelm, Teacher, thanked the Board for all they do for the District, dealing with issues and making difficult decisions. She added that the veterans should not make anyone feel bad for their freedom and asked that they respect the rights of the Board for the unpaid job they do.

Approved 2015-2016 School Calendar

Mrs. Henry made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2015-2016 School calendar be approved. Discussion ensued. Carried unanimously.

Mrs. Henry made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2014-2015 appropriations be increased by **$635.53 to $26,469,731.04** to account for increased revenues. Carried unanimously.

Approved increase in appropriations

Note: The District received $35.53 from Ohiopyle for school spirit products and $600.00 from Eden Elementary for field trip donations.

Mrs. Henry made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, two 19.5 hour per week Teacher Aide positions be created effective January 28, 2015 through June 30, 2015. Carried unanimously.

Created TA positions

Mrs. Henry made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, **Kathryn Brown**, who is initially certified in Earth Science and General Science (Grades 7-12) be appointed as an Extended Leave Substitute Science Teacher effective January 13, 2015 through approximately February 13, 2015 or upon the return of Mrs. Rockwood-Klute. Carried unanimously.

Approved extended leave substitute – K. Brown

Mr. Murphy reported the following:

Business report

- Budget – Governor's Budget Proposal Impact – The Governor's executive budget did not indicate projections for the coming year. It is tied into initiatives – i.e. APPR and other things he is looking for. The Governor has stated that he will only give about $300,000,000 for all NYS school districts if his initiatives are not passed. This money would be for Categorical Aid, which is for things districts have spent. Categorical Aid is reimbursed the following year for things like transportation and building aid. Districts would get that either way, so there is no additional increase. The Foundation Aid, the bulk of aid, is held flat at this point. It appears no answers will be available until at least April 1st. The Governor is not willing to restore the Gap Elimination Adjustment.
- Mrs. Anzalone stated that the Foundation Aid is still less than what was received in 2008-2009. The Governor stated publicly that his goal last year was to cut the number of NYS school districts in half. All the merger proposals she is aware of have not been passed for various reasons; therefore, he is putting the squeeze on the districts in other ways. This puts us at a critical point to lose valuable things, like smaller class size, sports, AIS, bus rides of less than one hour, specials, electives, and extra credits for students.
- Two bus presentations were heard. The Board needs to think about what direction they would like to go for a long-term plan regarding buses. There will be more discussion about this on March 4th.

Supt. report

Mrs. Anzalone reported the following:

- There is now a speed zone of 25 mph on Schoolview. There are restrictions on the length. It will start on Main Street, past the Elementary School and GLP, close to near where the curb is on Weller. It will pick up again on the other side of Weller and travel up past the crosswalk. Our gratitude to the Town of Eden for passing the resolution to the State and the County. Signs will be installed when the snow is gone. The reduced speed will be from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Mrs. Anzalone read an e-mail from Sue Wilhelm regarding the success of the Learning Lab. Many students are using the Lab during their lunch hours. The availability of teachers, technology and textbooks does translate to higher levels of success for the students.

Board report

- Mr. Byrnes extended his thanks to the Boy Scouts for inviting him and Mrs. Anzalone to the Pinewood Derby. Mr. Byrnes, Mrs. Anzalone and Mr. Henderson picked the top three "Best of Show".

Future dates

- Budget Advisory Team Meeting Wednesday, February 25, 2015 – 5:45 pm JSHS Cafeteria
- Community Forum Wednesday, February 25, 2015 – 6:30 p.m. JSHS Library
- Special Board of Education Meeting Wednesday, February 25, 2015 – 7:30 pm JSHS Cafeteria
- Budget Advisory Team Meeting – Wednesday, March 4, 2015 – 5:45 pm JSHS Cafeteria
- Budget Community Forum – Saturday, March 14, 2015 at 10:00 am.
- Regular Board of Education Meeting – Wednesday, March 18, 2015 – 7:00 pm JSHS Cafeteria

Adjourned

Mr. Campbell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden to adjourn. Carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara J. Thomasulo

Barbara J. Thomasulo
District Clerk

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