

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA
MARCH 13, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Michael Byrnes, Mr. Michael Breeden, Mr. Colin Campbell, Mr. Scott Henderson, Mrs. Patricia Krouse, Mr. Paul Shephard. Mrs. Barbara Henry arrived at 6:15 p.m.

ABSENT:

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

ALSO PRESENT: Mrs. Loran Carter, Ms. Marisa Fallacaro, Mr. Marc Graff, Ms. Rose Heckathorn, Mrs. Shawn Johnson, Mrs. Lucinda Karstedt, Mrs. Kelly Morgan-LaRosa

At 6:00 p.m., Mr. Byrnes called the meeting to order and asked those present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Called to
order**

Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mr. Campbell that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Gap Elimination Adjustment Resolution be approved as presented. Discussion ensued. Carried unanimously.

**Approved
resolution to
end GEA**

At 6:05 p.m., Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mr. Campbell that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education enter Executive Session to discuss the employment history of a particular person. Carried unanimously.

**Entered
executive
session**

At 6:23 p.m., Mr. Byrnes made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Henry to return to Regular Session. Carried unanimously.

**Returned to
regular
session**

- ◆ Review of Proposed Budget Adjustments. There is a budget gap of approximately \$2.1 million. Revenues remain fairly static, so expenses must be reduced. The Administration has come up with ideas to reduce expenses by about \$2.1 million. These ideas are up for discussion. The GEA is worth about \$1.1 million to the District. Most districts budget for what they need and contractual issues. Our tax cap is set at 1.78%.
- ◆ Information regarding proposed cuts from the previous budget meeting was reviewed. (See Budget Advisory Team minutes from 3/5/14).
- ◆ There were a few new discussion items, such as, cutting summer days for the Assistant Principal, eliminating non-mandated electives and additional credit hours over the state mandate of 22. Having students from the Weller Development walk to school could possibly eliminate two bus runs. Another possibility is to have students walk to Main

**Budget
review**

Street vs. door to door pick up. There are two large pieces of equipment – a printing press and an enlarger – that can be auctioned off. Mr. Breeden suggested looking into outsourcing busing and maintenance. Ms. Heckathorn suggested leasing buses. Advertising in schools was a topic for discussion. State guidelines must be followed – kids cannot be used to sell advertising. Mrs. Krouse suggested charging for sporting events. New for this round is the addition of a Special Education Teacher, who is to be split between GLP (.4 FTE) and JSHS (.5 FTE). There is a proposed reduction of a Teaching Assistant and aides (1.45 aides). Other staffing reductions are a bus attendant, based on student needs, a bus mechanic, but a bus mechanic helper could be added, saving about \$20,000. Mr. Byrnes and Mrs. Krouse would like to add the part-time Technology Teacher.

- ◆ Senator Gallivan will be sending someone to the Community Forum on March 15, 2014.
- ◆ Adding modified lacrosse to the sports schedule would cost approximately \$10,000.
- ◆ Transportation and Athletics will present at the BAT meeting on March 19, 2014.
- ◆ The Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA) is aid that should have been given to public schools, but the Governor has taken it back to help close the State budget gap and has distributed much of it downstate. The Governor has offered an incentive to taxpayers in districts where the district does not go over the tax cap.

**Motioned to
adjourn**

Mr. Campbell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Byrnes to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara J. Thomasulo

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District Clerk