BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA
FEBRUARY 12, 2014

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

ABSENT: Mr. Colin Campbell

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

ALSO PRESENT: Mrs. Loran Carter, GLP Principal; Mr. Jeff Cervoni, Jr./Sr. High School Principal; Mr. Marc Graff, Eden Elementary School Principal; Ms. Rose Heckathorn, Transportation Director; Mrs. Shawn Johnson, Director of Pupil Personnel; Mrs. Lucinda Karstedt, Director of Information Technology; Mr. David Martin, Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds; Miss Patricia Menkiena, Jr./Sr. High School Assistant Principal; Mrs. Kelly Morgan-LaRosa, Director of Curriculum & Instruction and Staff Development Intern.

**Called to order**

At 7:09 p.m., Mr. Byrnes called the meeting to order and asked those present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Motioned to enter executive session**

At 7:09 p.m., Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Henry that the Board of Education enter executive session to discuss the confidential clerical contracts, CSEA contracts, and the proposed teacher early retirement incentive. Motion tabled until the end of the meeting.

**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. Henry that the following consensus items be approved as listed in the Administrative Memorandum (IV. A. – M.):

Minutes of the January 15, 2014 Regular Board of Education Meeting.

Revenue Budget Status Report for the period ending December 31, 2013.

Treasurer's Report for the period ending December 31, 2013.

Multi Fund Warrant for the period ending January 31, 2014 in the amount of **$826,135.18**. This Warrant is broken down as follows: General Fund portion **$691,422.73**, Cafeteria Fund portion **$27,571.36**, Federal Fund portion **$3,279.00**, and Trust & Agency Fund portion **$103,862.09**.

ACH/Wire Transfer Warrant for the period ending January 31, 2014 in the amount of **$714,170.13**. This Warrant is broken down as follows: General Fund (Debt Service) portion **$695,812.63** and General Fund (Health Ins) portion **$18,357.50**.

Extraclassroom Activities Fund Report for the period ending December 31, 2013.

Budget Transfers for January 2014.

January 2014 Claims Auditor Report.

CSE/CPSE Recommendations.

**Appointed substitutes**

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 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Steven Siracuse | PK-12 Teacher, HI | February 13, 2014 | SS7-12 |

**Appointed supplemental activities advisors & coaches**

The following personnel be appointed as Supplemental Activity Advisors and Coaches for the 2013-2014 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:
See list.

**Approved extension of LOA – M. Nowicki**

Medical leave of absence be extended for **Mary Nowicki** from March 8, 2014 through June 30, 2014.

**Approved policies**

The following policies be approved:

1. #3282 Use of Facilities by the Boy Scouts of America and Patriotic Youth Groups
2. #3280 Use of School Facilities, Materials and Equipment

**Consensus items III. A-M carried unanimously.**

**Comments**

At 7:10 p.m., Mr. Byrnes asked for comments from the public.

- Pat Profic stated her concern about the cost of supplies, but she was not referring to the supply lists that teachers send at the end of each school year. She spoke of wants versus needs and waste. She showed examples of school- purchased workbooks with fewer than 14 pages used.

- Gary Haag, a Viet Nam veteran, talked about the proposed school tax exemption for veterans. He stated that the money the veterans could potentially save in taxes could be used for the veterans' memorial at Sprague Brook Park. He expressed appreciation for anything that can be done.

Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Henry that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, **Michelle Switzer** be appointed as a School Psychology intern effective February 13, 2014 through May 30, 2014. Carried unanimously. **Appointed psychology intern – M Switzer**

*Note: This is an unpaid position.*

Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Henry that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, **Deborah Asboth** be appointed as a Part-time 1:1 Teacher Aide for three (3) hours per day effective February 13, 2014 through June 30, 2014. Salary is based upon **CSEA Contract, Level 4, Step 1.** Carried unanimously. **Appointed teacher aide – D. Asboth**

Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Henry that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, **Charles Schuster** be appointed as a Part-time Bus Driver for two (2) hours per day effective February 13, 2014 through June 30, 2014. Salary is based upon **CSEA Contract, Level 10, Step 1**. Carried unanimously. **Appointed bus driver - C. Schuster**

Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Henry that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the donation of a desk for use at GLP Primary School valued at $400 be accepted from Robert Zimmerman, Jr. Discussion ensued. Carried unanimously. **Accepted donation of desk**

Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Henry that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Interscholastic Athletics Sharing Agreement combining Eden and North Collins football be approved. Discussion ensued. Carried unanimously. **Approved athletics sharing agreement**

Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Henry that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the World of Technology overnight trip to participate in the Donnie Smith Chopper Challenge in St. Paul, MN March 27-31, 2014 be approved. Carried unanimously. **Approved World of Tech overnight trip**

Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Henry that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the change in hours for the following bus drivers be approved: **Approved change in hours**
**Dawn Preischel -** increase .50 hours to 4.5 effective January 24, 2014
**Mary Banko -** increase .50 hours to 4.75 effective January 27, 2014
Discussion ensued. Carried unanimously.

**Approved FBLA overnight trip**

Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Henry that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the FBLA overnight trip to the State Leadership Conference in Rochester, NY April 9 – 11, 2014 be approved. Carried unanimously.

**Approved appropriations increase**

Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Henry that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2013-2014 appropriations be increased by **$3,318.49 to $25,744,523.37** to account for increased revenues Carried unanimously.

*Note: The District received $18.37 from Abibow Recycling for GLP; $2,879.24 from Box Tops for GLP; $2,435 Increase to Equipment for 77" Smartboard; $230.00 from Jostens for the Jr./Sr. High; and $190.88 from the Jr./Sr. High Musical (Extraclass) - Ticketing Position.*

**Business report**

Mr. Murphy reported the following:

- Budget Advisory Team – The Budget Advisory Team has heard from the Director of Curriculum and Instruction, building Principals, the Superintendent, Finance and Transportation. The next meeting will include presentations from Buildings and Grounds, Pupil Personnel Services, Athletics and Information Technology. That is a significant portion of the budget. The following meeting will cover staffing. This is a different structure from the past, where one full budget was reviewed at each meeting.
- Veterans' Tax Exemption – As of January 1st, the Governor has signed into legislation the ability to give a school-tax exemption for veterans. The legislation states that if the alternative rates exemption is offered by the county and/or town, it is something the school board can consider. Eden does fall under that category. The Board will need to look at both sides - it is offering a partial tax exemption for Veterans who served this country. The rest of the taxpayers would have to pick up the difference. For the presentation, all the assessors in the towns in the district were consulted. Taxes are based on assessed value. There is roughly $332 million of assessed value. The assessed value which would come off of the tax rolls in the town of Eden would be about $11.8 million. That does not translate into straight dollars. Evans is $1.2 million, North Collins has not furnished this information yet, Boston is $2.3 million and Concord is $81,780. The total assessed value that would come off the tax rolls is about $15 million. The total assessed property value in the district's five towns is about $504 million. That is the number used to determine the tax rate. The overall tax rate this year is 19.075 per thousand of assessed value. Each of the towns in the district has a different tax rate. Once the veterans' exemptions are applied, the total assessed property value based on this year's rates would become approximately $489 million. The tax rate of 19.07 per thousand would go up to about 19.69. The taxpayers would make up the difference. If the Board decides to pursue this, there must be a public hearing, then the Board would have to pass a resolution stating that they want the veterans' tax exemption.

All of this must be done prior to March 1st. At this point, there are many unknown variables. None of the districts have offered this exemption yet.

Mrs. Anzalone reported the following:

**Supt. report**

- Snow Days – The district has one more day that could be used for a snow day. May 23rd could be used as a make-up snow day. If an additional day is needed, it would have to be taken from the April break. It is possible to move the buy-back day to June for professional development. The administrative team has discussed using delayed starts.
- There are new speakers in the Jr./Sr. High School gym. A huge thank you to the All Sports Booster Club. New speakers will be added to the pool area.
- There was an ad in the Pennysaver from the Chamber of Commerce about the digital sign. Any non-profit group in the town would be able to use the digital sign on the Elementary School front lawn. The sign will match the décor of the Elementary School. The cost is approximately $16,000, which will be coming from fundraising.
- The district is moving forward on the concept of a needs assessment and a possible capital project. Each school has the obligation to submit a building condition survey to the State every five years. The district would like to put an RFP out for a construction management team.
- Mr. Murphy attended a reserves presentation at Harris Beach. In 2007, the district set up a million dollar capital reserve fund for funding the construction, re-construction, addition to, renovation, alteration and/or improvement to district buildings, facilities, grounds and real property. The money can only be used for the purposes stated above; however, with voter approval, the wording could be changed to include startup costs for a new capital reserve. Up to $1 million could be put into the capital reserve. Currently, the balance is approximately $400,000. Voters must approve a capital reserve fund, and they must approve expenditures out of that fund. After ten years, any unspent money can be transferred to other funds.
- Mrs. Anzalone stated that districts are creating multi-phase projects.
- Mr. Murphy said districts are breaking down larger projects into smaller ones, in part because no funding is reimbursed by the State until the project is totally done. Smaller projects are finished sooner, so reimbursement is received more quickly.
- Mrs. Anzalone expressed her thanks to Barb Henry, Paul Zittel, and Karen Hall for working with her on the concept of internships through the community.
- Mr. Breeden inquired about the announcements from the Regents about delaying the Common Core. Mrs. Anzalone said they are proposals, but it is hard to undo one without undoing the other. Common Core is not an issue to us. The APPR is the issue. The APPR is tied to the Common Core testing. Mrs. LaRosa stated that

the rate of passing will be changed from 65 to 75 on a Regents Exam with the Class of 2020. Mrs. Anzalone said there is also a proposal to delay the Data Dashboard.

- Mrs. Krouse asked if all 501C organizations in the Eden area could advertise on the digital sign. Mrs. Anzalone replied that the Board would need to approve which 501-C organizations it believes are valuable to the community.

**Board report** Mr. Byrnes reported the following:

- Mr. Byrnes presented a certificate from the New York State School Boards' Association to Barb Henry for her participation in school board conferences.

**Future dates** Regular Board of Education Meeting – Wednesday, March 19, 2014 – 7 p.m. – Jr./Sr. High School Cafeteria.

**Executive session** At 8:23 p.m., Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Henry that the Board of Education enter executive session to discuss the confidential clerical contracts, CSEA contracts, and the proposed teacher early retirement incentive. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara J. Thomasulo

Barbara J. Thomasulo
District Clerk

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At 10:14 p.m., Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shephard to return to regular session. Carried unanimously. **Returned to regular session**

Mr. Breeden made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shephard to adjourn. Carried unanimously. **Adjourned**

The meeting adjourned at 10: 14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Byrnes
Board President

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