BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
MARCH 18, 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Steven Cerne, Mr. Michael Breeden, Mr. Michael Byrnes, Mr. Colin Campbell, Mr. Scott Henderson, Mrs. Barbara Henry, Mrs. Kristen Pinker

ABSENT:

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mrs. Sandy Anzalone, Superintendent; Mrs. Loraine Ingrasci, Interim Director of Finance; Mrs. Barbara Thomasulo, District Clerk

ALSO PRESENT: Ms. Marisa Fallacaro, Director of Athletics; Mr. Marc Graff, Jr./Sr. High School Principal; Mrs. Shawn Johnson, Director of Pupil Personnel, Mrs. Lucinda Karstedt, Director of Information Technology; Mr. David Martin, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds; Andrew Rakiecki, Student Representative

Call to Order

At 7:03 p.m., Mr. Cerne called the meeting to order and asked those present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Administered Oath of Office to Mrs. Anzalone

Mr. Cerne administered the Oath of Office to Mrs. Anzalone, who was appointed as Superintendent.

Administered Oath of Office to Mrs. Thomasulo

Mr. Cerne administered the Oath of Office to Mrs. Thomasulo who was appointed as District Clerk of the Board.

Request to withdraw items

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

Approved consensus items

Mrs. Henry made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden that the following consensus items be approved as listed in the Administrative Memorandum (III. A –Q):

Minutes of the February 11, 2013 Regular Board of Education Meeting.

Minutes of the February 15, 2013 Special Board of Education Meeting.

Minutes of the February 25, 2013 Special Board of Education Meeting.

Minutes of the February 27, 2013 Special Board of Education Meeting.

Revenue Budget Status Report for the period ending February 28, 2013.

Treasurer's Report for the period ending February 28, 2013.

Multi Fund Warrant for the period ending February 28, 2013 in the amount of **$563,861.84**. This Warrant is broken down as follows: Cafeteria Fund portion **$30,730.25** Federal Fund portion **$6,692.56**, and Capital Fund portion **$526,439.03**.

ACH Wire Transfer Warrant for the period ending February 28, 2013 in the amount of **$562,219.92**.

Appropriation Status Report for the period ending February 28, 2013.

Extraclassroom Activities Fund Report for the period ending February 28, 2013.

Budget Transfers for February 2013.

February 2013 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
Jean Mejia	Bus Attendant	March 19, 2013	None
Cindy Reisch	Clerk Typist	March 19, 2013	None
Susan Roseman	PK-2 Teacher	March 19, 2013	None
Abigail Roza	T. Aide, Mon	March 19, 2013	None
Trena Mooar	PK-12 Teacher	March 19, 2013	Special Ed/SDA

Supplemental activities

The following personnel be appointed to Supplemental Activities positions for the 2012-2013 school year as presented.

The following policies be approved:

1. #1338 Duties of the School Physician/Nurse Practitioner
2. #5640 Smoking/Tobacco Use
3. #6130 Evaluation of Personnel
4. #7320 Alcohol, Tobacco, Drugs and Other Substances (Students)
5. #7513 Administration of Medication

Consensus items A-Q carried unanimously.

Comments

At 7:06 p.m., Mr. Cerne asked for comments from the public present.

- Tebra Howard, Microcomputer Repair Support Specialist and CSEA President, welcomed Mrs. Anzalone on behalf of the CSEA. She spoke briefly about the CSEA members and stated they are looking forward to working with her.
- Debbie Asboth, parent, spoke about the music program and the benefits hundreds of Eden students enjoy through music. She feels that the music department has had enough cuts already, since Mr. Furlong's position was not replaced when he retired last year. She feels the K-2 music should not be cut. Mrs. Asboth proposed some alternatives, such as sharing administrators, additional grant writing, negotiating with faculty over wages and other things.
- Lindsay Robinson, student, also spoke in support of the music program. She stated that Mrs. Martella, Orchestra Teacher, runs several after school music programs without receiving compensation, and that Mrs. Roberts also is involved in extracurricular music programs. Lindsay stated that seven of the top ten students in her class are music students, and she feels that bolstering the music program may help to raise test scores.
- Jacqueline Szabat, student, spoke in support of clubs, particularly the German club, which has allowed Eden students the opportunity to participate in exchange programs.
- Rodney Pierce, resident, spoke in support of the district and the budget. Mr. & Mrs. Pierce have been residents in the district for over forty years. He supports the music program and suggested that the Board have the courage to allow the taxpayers to decide if they wish to pay a little more in taxes to keep programs. Since 2001, eleven budgets have passed.
- Tim Kraska, parent, has been a resident in the district for twenty years. He supports the sports and arts and asked the Board not to let the students become the victims of program cuts.
- Nancy Koester, parent, read a letter from her son, John, a graduate of Eden. John Koester is an art major, who spoke very highly of the art classes he attended here. Mrs. Koester added that colleges are looking for well-rounded students. She understands that cuts must be made, but she asked that they be made evenly.
- Cathy Jeffers, GLP Music Teacher, spoke on behalf of Eden's Music Department. She read a letter on behalf of her mother, Joyce Maggs, who was a music teacher in Eden. She stated that music is important to reading and math, and she feels it would be a detriment if music is cut.
- Sarah Roberts, Jr./Sr. High Music Teacher, thanked the Board in advance for approving the Wind Ensemble overnight field trip. She stated that a Music Theory class is needed for a sequence in Music. Students who wish to major in music in college must take a Theory test. By not offering Music Theory, one cannot finish the sequence. She suggested excessing old instruments, thus bringing in revenue for

their sales. She also suggested a rental fee for students who can't afford to buy their own instrument.

- Dennis Brawdy, parent, stated that colleges like to see well-rounded students who take rigorous academic courses. He feels many parents may be willing to pay for this and asked the Board to give parents options.
- Patty Schenk, suggested looking at the schedule. She welcomed Mrs. Anzalone to the District. Mrs. Schenk stated she did not see any proposed cuts to the administrative and support staff.
- John Henrich, resident, agreed with Mr. Pierce. He said the school is the most important thing in the community. It is up to the Board to lead and challenge the community.
- Robert Pierce, Social Studies Teacher, welcomed Mrs. Anzalone to the District. Mr. Pierce stated that sports, music and art are important, but academic programs are the essence of what school has always been. He asked the Board not to cut academic classes.
- Pam Henrich, resident, said that every aspect of schooling is important. She asked the Board not to make cuts. She stated that cuts in the arts have been felt.
- Kathy Klopp, Health Teacher, told the Board she appreciated all that they do. WNY United indicates that the number one reason students experiment with drugs and alcohol is due to boredom. The more things students have to do, the less likely they are to do the wrong things. She also welcomed Mrs. Anzalone to the District.

Approved change in driver hours

Mrs. Henry made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden that upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, driver hours be changed as follows:
Patricia Szulewski - decrease by 1 hour to 4 hours per day effective 2/15/13
Juliann Blencowe - decrease by 1 hour to 3 hours per day effective 2/15/13
Carried unanimously.

Motion to approve transportation for Boston Rec.

Mrs. Henry made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden that upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, transportation via school bus be approved for the Town of Boston Summer Recreation Day Camp effective July 8, 2013 through August 16, 2013. No vote was taken.

Tabled motion to approve transportation for Boston Rec.

Mr. Cerne made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Pinker to table the motion to approve transportation for the Town of Boston Summer Recreation Day Camp. Discussion ensued. Mr. Cerne would like to see more information. Carried unanimously.

Approved legal notice

Mrs. Henry made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden that upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, the legal notice for the Annual District Meeting and Vote be approved as presented. Carried unanimously.

Mrs. Henry made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden that upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, **Mrs. Rita Stuhr**, Head Inspector, **Mrs. Maryann Cummiskey**, **Mrs. Karen Cornell**, and **Mrs. Marion Phelan** be appointed as inspectors for the Annual Meeting and Budget Vote on May 21, 2013 at a rate of $13.40 per hour, and further authorize the District Clerk to fill any vacancies in these positions which may occur prior to May 21, 2013 with individuals from the Board of Elections Inspector Personnel List. Carried unanimously.

Approved election inspectors

The motion to nominate individuals to the BOCES Board of Education was removed from the agenda. No motion was formally made. No vote was taken.

Nominations for BOCES Board

Mrs. Henry made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden that upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, the Wind Ensemble trip to Waterbury, Vermont, Lake Placid, NY and SUNY Potsdam be approved April 13 – April 16, 2013. Carried unanimously.

Approve wind ensemble tour

Mrs. Henry made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden that upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, the District expend an amount not to exceed $32,000 from the Repair Reserve Fund, for the purpose of purchasing and installing a new catalytic converter for the co-generation plant as require by Environmental Protection Agency regulations, with such co-generation plant providing electricity to District facilities and with the result that such expenditure from the 2010 Repair Reserve Fund shall have no impact on the tax levy of the District for the 2013-2014 school year. Discussion ensued. No vote was taken.

Motion to expend money from Repair Reserve Fund

Mr. Cerne made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Henry to table the motion to expend money from the Repair Reserve Fund. Carried unanimously.

Tabled motion to expend money from Repair Reserve Fund

Mr. Campbell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Breeden that upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, the 2012-2013 budget be increased by $9,997.91 to $25,288,844.92 to account for increased revenues. Carried unanimously.

Approved budget increase

Note: The District received $999.00 from Commercial Club for Water Filling Stations and $8,998.91 from Eden All Sports Booster Club for Modified Lacrosse.

From Administration & Staff

Ms. Heckathorn and Mr. Schaefer presented information from their study regarding a single transportation loop. Eight additional regular drivers and more substitute drivers would need to be added. Seventeen fewer drivers would be eligible for health insurance. Eight more buses will be needed for routes, plus four buses and two mini vans must be replaced due to decay. There would be 366.91 fewer miles with single routing. Mr. Schaefer has inquired about single runs with other Superintendents who have researched this. Some benefits would be a possible cost savings, having older siblings home at the same time as younger ones, possibly having more time for maintenance to clear snow in the morning. Some disadvantages would be coming in on an early run or taking a later run home to work with a teacher would not be possible, transportation time would increase, students would have to wait while buses unloaded at the other schools, out of district transportation may be affected, more buses would be needed, some transportation aid may be lost, and a small cost savings may not be worth the disruption to the families. Mr. Schaefer did not feel the savings was there for Eden to realize, but a more in-depth study will be done.

Business report

Mrs. Ingrasci reported the following:

- The district received approval for the child nutrition program retroactive to October. The district's food service program will be reimbursed at a rate of .06 per meal.
- The district applied for a waiver for the retro refinancing of a building project. The State changed the interest rates on bonds. It would not pay for the District to refinance at this time. Bonds were refinanced last year.

Supt report

- Mrs. Anzalone reported that she had tours of the Elementary and Jr./Sr. High School today. In addition, she attended a District Shared Decision Making Team Meeting in the High School Library.

Board report

- Mrs. Henry asked if there was any way the district could start looking now at closing GLP.
- Mr. Cerne stated that the District received Notices of Claim regarding a $19 fee for AED/CPR certification cards from the ETA and the CSEA, one from the ETA regarding teacher aides covering study halls, and one from the ETA regarding lifeguarding.

Future dates

- Public Budget Discussion – Saturday, March 23, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. – Jr./Sr. High School Auditorium.
- Budget Workshop – Monday, April 8, 2013.
- BOCES Annual Meeting – Tuesday, April 9, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. – LoGuidice Educational Center.
- Component Vote Date – Tuesday, April 23, 2013 – 7 p.m.

Budget Review

- The Board reviewed draft 4 of the budget. Mr. Cerne said that there is a projected operating gap of $1.6 million, which would equate to about a 15-16% tax increase. Although no one wants to have their favorite programs cut, it is not acceptable to close the gap with a large tax increase.
- Mr. Schaefer reviewed the 2013-2014 budget, which included a gap of $184,461.
- Mr. Cerne clarified that a gap of $184,461 would include an extensive use of reserves.
- Mr. Schaefer stated that the administrative recommendations for the budget remained relatively unchanged. The possibility of alternating semesters of art and music was taken off the table. Grades 3-6 were unchanged. A possibility for grades 5-6, is to alternate semesters of art and music, so a five day rotation of specials would be, for example, physical education, art or music, library, physical education, and computer lab. The same could be done in 3rd-4th grade, if necessary. This would equate to a reduction of five classes in art and music, or a .105 FTE art teacher and a .105 music teacher. This would mean 20 music/art classes per year, rather than 40. At the Jr./Sr. High School, focus was on classes with enrollments of 12 or less.
- Mr. Graff looked at eliminating all non-essential electives. This would eliminate all electives and college level credit courses. Based on our current schedule, about 9.33 staff members would be affected. This would affect the college application process, because these courses set kids apart. NYS graduation requirements are 22 credits, Eden's minimum is 24. The district would have to consider lowering our graduation requirements. Courses offered would be basic Math, English, Social Studies, Science, and a single foreign language. It would maintain art and technology sequences necessary by regulation. Eliminating two foreign languages would have to be done over time. Students who are currently in a sequence would have to be given the opportunity to complete that sequence.
- Mr. Schaefer discussed reducing extraclassroom clubs and activities and eliminating the 5 pm bus run.
- Ms. Fallacaro suggested the concept of reducing JV sports, rather than Modified. In cutting JV sports, roughly 195 athletes would be lost in a given year. Students would have to be cut from teams. The District does not currently purchase uniforms. Other cost saving measures would be to reduce the number of non-league competitions and tournaments.
- Mr. Schaefer proposed eliminating some secondary pickups in the Weller sub-division and having some students walk to Route 62 for their pickups. With a reduction in athletics, there would also be a proportionate decrease in field prep in the buildings and grounds department. A clerk typist could be reduced to a ten-month school year schedule. Continuing discussions are going on with some local Superintendents around sharing a curriculum director and/or a finance director.

- Mr. Cerne stated that the new teacher at GLP should be retained, as well as, hiring a replacement for a retiring Eden Elementary teacher. However, he felt that two high school positions should be eliminated, due to the current estimated $1.6 million shortfall. The Board is still debating on the Gifted & Talented position at Eden Elementary. With Common Core making the tests harder, the RTI population is expected to increase. Mr. Schaefer reported that the District should expect a 25-35% decrease in 3's and 4's on the state tests. Thus, RTI staff needs to be increased. Mrs. Pinker asked if there were other ways to provide enrichment. Mr. Schaefer feels that Gifted & Talented is a valuable class, but the District resources are limited.
- Mr. Cerne felt that reducing the art and music at Eden Elementary to alternating semesters was not worth the savings of $25,000. Mr. Henderson & Mr. Byrnes agreed that they would prefer keeping 4th grade band & orchestra small group lessons over Gifted & Talented. Mr. Cerne stated that band & orchestra would be left on the "To be determined" list.
- Mr. Cerne asked if a 1.7 FTE Librarian (district wide) could work. Mr. Schaefer will look into the state requirements.
- Mr. Cerne stated there were 60 classes at the high school with fewer than 12 students. He asked for thoughts about cutting additional high school positions. He then suggested starting with three additional positions for a total of five from the high school. In addition, Mr. Cerne suggested making cuts of 10% in sports, clubs, music and art.
- Mr. Cerne would like to look more at reducing administration and clerical.

Adjourned Mr. Cerne made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Henry to adjourn. Carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara J. Thomasulo

Barbara J. Thomasulo
District Clerk

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