

Eden Central School

TO: ALL STAFF

FROM: RONALD K. BUGGS, SUPERINTENDENT

DATE: MAY 22, 2008

RE: *“Highlights” of the April 23rd Special Board of Education Meeting and May 21st, 2008*
Regular Board of Education Meeting



1. Ms. Almasi Administered the Oath of Office to Newly Elected Board of Education Members:

- ◆ Mr. Brian Burgstahler
- ◆ Mr. Andy Breier

2. From Administration & Staff and Delegates

◆ **Transportation Study Results:**

- Mr. Mike Dallessandro from Lake Shore Central Transportation Department reported on his findings of a transportation study of the Eden Transportation Department. The District scored well on permanent pay and average on substitute pay. Repair and maintenance staff did a great job. DOT gave Eden a 96.8% rating for March 07 and a 100% rating for March 08. Due to the increased size of today's buses, it would be beneficial for the work bays to be larger to accommodate repair and maintenance issues. It was also recommended that the District purchase some new, more modern commercial-grade tools each year. Our fuel island was in excellent condition. In addition, it was suggested that a ten-year replacement cycle be used for vehicles, with a minimum of five vehicles being replaced each year. Overall, the rating for the Eden Transportation Department was very good.

◆ **GLP Presentation:**

- Mrs. Carter introduced second grade teachers, Erin Radke, Sandra Wess-Rishel, Ann Preischel and Carol King.
- Mrs. Wess-Rishel discussed flexible reading groups, which are based on ability and what is needed to be a successful reader. Comprehension, fluency, phonics, spelling, writing and language arts centers are important components of reading.
- Mrs. King presented the “Step Up to Writing” program. Emphasis is placed on basic organization. Students are writing seven-paragraph essays in second grade. Color-coding is used as a visual reminder for students to organize their papers. A culmination of their writing throughout the school year is the Author's Tea in May, where they can share the “published” books with others.
- Mrs. Wess-Rishel also presented Language Arts, where emphasis is placed on word patterns, phonics, vocabulary, and fluency for reading success.
- Mrs. Radke reviewed Math. Skills practice, “Every Day Math” games, journals, manipulatives, and parent involvement are used in the Math curriculum. Parents learn the Math games at Math Game Night and are encouraged to play the games with their children at home. Manipulatives are important tools for the students to use; tools such as calculators, rulers, money, clocks and number grids.
- Mrs. Preischel presented the Science and Social Studies curriculums. Students are taught to observe, classify and sort data. Dinosaur digs were used to incorporate both Science and Social Studies. The children excavated bones of a model T-Rex and located digs across the globe. They then sequenced the era of dinosaurs and where they lived.
- Mrs. Carter explained that good teachers no longer teach to the whole group, but to each group of learners – differentiated instruction. Creative teaching requires much planning and preparation on the teacher's part. It is much more conducive to learning than teaching from a textbook.

◆ **Employee of the Month Awards:**

- Mrs. Carter presented an Employee of the Month Award to Art Teacher, Mary Ellen Bossert.
- Mr. Schaefer presented an Employee of the Month Award to Physical Education Teacher, Marisa Fallacaro.
- Mrs. Karstedt presented an Employee of the Month Award to Teaching Assistant, Susan Schnauffer.

♦ **Cheerleaders Presentation**

- o Mrs. Texter thanked the Board of Education and the Administration for allowing the cheerleaders to attend a competition in Florida for the fourth time. They did an outstanding job, finishing in fourth place.
- o Mrs. Carter attended as a chaperone. She commented that the students were very respectful and polite. She praised them for their very positive behavior.

♦ **FBLA Presentation**

- o Mr. Bugenhagen, FBLA Co-advisor with Mrs. Nowicki, introduced Jaimy Sessanna and John Malayny, who presented the FBLA history and events. Eden finished in sixth place for Chapter of the Year. The students created scrapbooks, detailing their events and activities. In September, they attended a Youth Conference at Erie 1 BOCES. They enjoyed movie and game nights. This year, they attended a Fall Leadership Conference in Buffalo in November, took of tour of New York City in December, hosted a Sabres Alumni basketball game, raised money for the March of Dimes, attended a career fair at Erie 1 BOCES in March, attended a state leadership conference in the Catskills, went on a jet boat trip in the Niagara and had several guest speakers. Eden's Jessica Kramer was elected District 12 State Vice President.

3. Accepted Resignations from:

- ♦ Kimberlee Texter, Elementary Teacher
- ♦ Judith (Kelly) Czechowski

4. Appointed the following:

- ♦ Robert Henry, Permanent Appointment – Laborer
- ♦ Tammy Congilosi, Extended Leave Substitute Elementary Teacher
- ♦ Anna Battista, Pre-K – 2 Substitute Teacher
- ♦ David Beyea, Substitute Bus Driver

5. Approved Excessing of Old Chairs and Desks.

6. Approved Boys and Girls Club Bus Use for Summer Field Trip Program.

7. Approved Agreement with Red Cross to Use District Buildings as Emergency Shelters.

8. Approved Increase in Rate for Home Instructors to \$20 per Hour.

9. Approved 2008-2009 BOCES Service Commitments.

10. Awarded Bid #1016 Classroom Furniture to Calloway House (\$104.90), Kurtz Brothers (\$12,029.00), and OM Workspace (HON) (\$4,553.66).

11. Awarded Bid #1018 Physical Therapy to Optimal Therapy Associates Services (\$42,410.00).

12. Awarded Bid #1019 Floor Refinishing to Allegany Building Care (\$35,400.00).

13. Awarded Bid #1020 Parking Lot Sealing to Supreme Sealing, Inc. (\$37,470.00).

14. Approved Confidential Employee Contracts.

15. Increased the 2007-2008 Budget by \$84.75 to \$23,806,792.46 to account for increased revenues – *The District received \$84.75 from Ecophones for the Elementary School.*

16. Comments: There were no comments.

17. Business Report:

- ♦ 1,279 people voted in yesterday's Budget Vote. The results are as follows:
 - o Proposition 1 – 2008-09 Budget: 719 Yes 458 No
 - o Proposition 2 – Purchase of vehicles and related equipment: 708 Yes 451 No
- ♦ Candidates for the Board of Education

- o Steven Cerne 592 votes
- o DianaRae Walker 466 votes
- o Shawna Dosser 335 votes
- o Mark Harris 365 votes
- o Andrew Breier 471 votes
- o Deborah Gardner 487 votes
- o Brian Burgstahler 593 votes
- o Michael Drumm 349 votes
- o Michael Byrnes 466 votes
- o Linda Charles-Steele 160 votes
- ◆ Brian Burgstahler will fill the three year and six week term and Andrew Breier will fill the one year and six week term. Steven Cerne and Deborah Gardner will each serve three-year terms beginning July 1, 2008.
- ◆ Bids for the Sale of Surplus Buses were opened on May 8 and awarded to:
 - o Lutz Sales Buses #150 and #152 \$ 1,378.00
- ◆ We received confirmation that the community playground grant that Mr. Schaefer applied for in 2006 from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation has finally been approved. This grant will provide \$10,000 to add to the community playground at Eden Elementary. The goal is to purchase the “PlayShaper Structure” designed for the preschoolers.

18. Superintendent’s Report:

- ◆ Mr. Buggs commended everyone for the variety and support of activities available in the District.
- ◆ He reviewed the first reading of policies:
 - o #6161 Conference/Travel Expense Reimbursement
 - o #8470 Home Instruction (Home Schooling)
- ◆ He reported that the Red Cross is interested in using our buildings as an emergency shelter, due to the co-generation plant and the ability to house the entire population of the town.
- ◆ He welcomed Mr. Brian Burgstahler and Mr. Andy Breier to the Board of Education.
- ◆ He thanked everyone for supporting the budget.
- ◆ He reported that Eden was named a high performing school district by New York State.
- ◆ Mr. Buggs hopes to have some funding from Assemblyman Quinn to help repair and pave the Legion parking area on the north side of the Elementary School, where many parents drop off and pick up their children.

19. Board President’s Report:

- ◆ Mr. Gannon thanked the community for supporting the budget. He welcomed Mr. Burgstahler and Mr. Breier and congratulated Mrs. Gardner on her re-election.
- ◆ Mr. Gannon thanked Mr. Armbrust and Mrs. Walker for their great service to the District while members of the Board of Education.

20. Future Dates:

- ◆ Board of Education Meeting – Wednesday, June 18, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the Jr./Sr. High School Cafeteria.

bjt

- **NOTE: Any item for a Board of Education Meeting Agenda must be submitted a *minimum* of ten days prior to the board meeting. This will allow the necessary time for the publishing and distribution of the agenda to the Board of Education Members, Administrative Staff, and the news media.**

