

## OFFICIAL MINUTES

**Regular Meeting**

**November 4, 2013**

**Library Conference room**

Members Present: Frank, McCauley, Fleischman, Frascella, Jackson-McCarty, Kazmierczak, and Engels

Members Absent: none

Others Present: Lawton, Amodeo, O'Brien, Boberg, Kris Fuller, Leslie Durandetto, Amy Butler, Danielle Stenbakken, Paul Bembia, Linda Kay, Amy Rupp, Chad Erlandson, Lynda Quick, Chelsea Gerwitz, Ruth Ann Courtney, Michelle Enser, Leanna Pfeffer, Deb Randall, Aron Cole, Joe Gerwitz, Derek Gerwitz

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Regular Meeting called to order at 7pm with Frascella presiding.

### **II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE to the UNITED STATES FLAG**

**III.** Moved by Engels, Seconded by Jackson-McCarty to **ADOPT** the amended agenda.

Additions –New Business item (E) Wildcat Volleyball Club, New Business item (F) Wildcat Volleyball club work out time and Personnel item (G) Brian Clayback substitute teacher

Deletions –none

Changes – New Business item (A) wording changes

7 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

### **IV. Correspondence/BOE information**

Dennis McCauley thanked our technology department for setting up the equipment for him to be able to attend the meeting, via video conferencing, while he was in Florida.

### **V. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Amy Butler handed out a copy of a referendum of a moratorium regarding overreliance on standardized tests. She hopes the board would consider making a motion on this topic. Amy Rupp thanked the board of education and Dan Amodeo for addressing a couple of items brought up at the last board meeting. The Tom Lockwood sign has been removed from the press box. She was notified that Driver Education could be a possibility offered to WV students. Danielle Stenbakken voiced her concern about students not being interviewed for an incident that happened at school but she is happy about how the situation was resolved.

**VI. PRESENTATIONS***Wildcat Way Above and Beyond Award*

Was presented by Eric Lawton, Superintendent, Michael Frascella, BOE President and George Kazmierczak, Vice President to the following recipients:

*Chelsea Gerwitz*

She is an eighth grade student here at West Valley and was recommended by Leanna Pfeffer and Jim Howe for this award and recognition. Chelsea has been helping in the cafeteria several weeks ago with the Kindergarten through 4<sup>th</sup> grade students. She assists students with opening lunch items, keeps them in their seats, encourages students to eat their lunch and clean tables up after they leave. The young students relate to Chelsea very well. They enjoy her company and like having her there. She always comes in with a smile and has a great work ethic. Congratulations Chelsea!

*Linda Kay*

She has been working in the District's Business office for the last 22 years and will be retiring on December 31, 2013. She was recommended by Ann O'Brien for this award and recognition. Over the years, Linda took over many new responsibilities and grew to become one of the best Treasurers a Business Official could ever hope to have. Linda's job is very demanding. She must juggle a variety of tasks each and every day like payroll, bookkeeping, banking, federal funds management, and employee benefit coordination. With all she has to accomplish in the course of the day she is always willing to assist those in need of information, or help. In the business office there is always something new to learn, or a problem that needs a solution. Linda is never afraid to dig in. If there is a penny missing on the books she will find it. If there is an initiative to benefit the District she will implement it. She has participated in the mentoring program for many years and doesn't mind stepping out of her comfort zone to help a student in need. She treats her coworkers with the utmost respect each and every day. And finally, she cares deeply about the West Valley School District, its students, staff and residents. Congratulations Linda!

*Kathleen Larsson*

She has been the school nurse at West Valley since 2003 and recommended by Eric Lawton to receive this award and recognition. She has always been student centered and focused on safety. She continually gives updates to the teachers and staff on student health needs. On Thursday October 17<sup>th</sup>, Mrs. Larsson was chaperoning the modified boys soccer game in the lower field, a man came to the field yelling for an EMT and that there was a serious emergency. She told him that she was a nurse and he advised her of a neck injury on the upper field and that the ambulance had not come yet. She went to the scene and assessed the player from the other team. He eventually related in the ER that he was hit in the back by an opposing player and described hyperextension to his back. Kathie gave Mr. Lawton specific write up about the

condition of the athlete and all the actions that were taken. She was very thoughtful in her approach, but what impressed him the most, was when she was finished with her chaperoning duties, she drove to Springville Bertrand Chaffee Hospital to check on the student. Needless to say she made a positive impression on a friend of the Silver Creek parent. Congratulations Kathie!

Mr. Lawton hopes to have more teachers, staff or students recommended to receive this award each month.

## VII. REPORTS

A. Superintendent, Eric Lawton reports that the Tom Lockwood sign has been removed from the press box for repair and will be replaced by track season. We have attempted to receive letters of resignation from substitutes. We have had no luck and they are on the agenda with a verbal resignation. Leanna Pfeffer will ask in the future for a written resignation. Julie Barber ½ time nurse is accepting a full time position at Holland Central School. Her resignation is on the agenda and we wish her luck. Brian Clayback is on the agenda for approval to be a basketball coach and substitute teacher. Congratulations to our Boys' soccer team, Girls' soccer team and Varsity Volleyball team for their seasons and trying their hardest in the playoff games. We also had one student play field hockey in Pioneer and one student play football in Ellicottville, congratulations to them also. The Common Core State Standards for English language arts are designed to ensure that students fully understand what they read and can effectively talk and write about it. These are the basic reading comprehension skills needed to succeed in K-12, college, and beyond – regardless of career path. While the old standards focused on simply expecting students to recite facts learned through reading textbooks passages, the new standards expect students to read books and textbook passages that are more challenging than what was previously read in each grade level – including reading more original writings whenever possible, such as President Abraham Lincoln's "The Gettysburg Address" or Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "Letter from Birmingham Jail." Students are then asked to show a deeper understanding of this material than has previously been required of them, demonstrating greater critical thinking and analytic skills. In math, students will need to accurately calculate equations, understand concepts not just memorize answers, and accurately select the best mathematical concept or equation to solve real-world problems, while demonstrating why the method or equation they selected is accurate. The new standards make sure students are learning and absorbing the critical information they need to succeed at higher levels.

1. Lynda Quick, District Superintendent discussed with the Board of Education and Administration options for a long range plan study for West Valley Central School District. She was here 2 yrs ago and has been asked to discuss more specific ideas. Shared services, opening borders and tuition students out are the areas for

discussion. Most school districts across New York State are experiencing student enrollment declines. Shared Administrators – Instructional leadership in the special education department, Curriculum/Staff Development, Instructional technology, Superintendent, Athletics, sharing management functions and Business official are areas that have been tried. The problem with some of these is not much money is saved for the district or tax payer. In smaller school districts usually the administrators wear more than one hat and if shared between districts generally another administrator is usually hired to pick up those extra jobs. Opening borders is an option; a district can refuse to take in a student if it will cause the district to hire another teacher within the grade level or course. Mergers are on the decline for districts because they have not been found to be very successful. When students tuition out the district pays for the student to attend and you're at the mercy of that school district. Regionalization has been discussed; passed by the Senate, but it has not made it to the House for a vote. Lynda Quick stated that many districts are currently holding on as a District, as long as they can provide a high quality education to their students. Lynda Quick notified the board that they can have one person do a study and an RFP is not needed. The board will discuss and get back to Lynda.

B. Principal, Daniel Amodeo reported that the Collaborative Groups met again on 10/31/13 and made progress towards our end goal. The end goal for each team is to develop no more than three goals including specific actions for implementation by the end of our 4<sup>th</sup> meeting in March. Currently on pace to accomplish this task and to merge the work of our three groups into one overarching plan. When the information from the work of our groups is completed he will provide a summary of the actions taken thus far. 3-8 Math and ELA, 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Science and January Regents Exams have been ordered. We have ordered enough Comprehensive English Regents exams to have our 11<sup>th</sup> grade students take this assessment in January. CA BOCES is again offering us their Regional Scoring service that will ensure our teacher's do not have a vested interest in the scoring process. When the approval of our five ½ days in our school calendar, concern was expressed over our BOCES students having the opportunity to attend their program. Therefore, he created a schedule for our BOCES students that attend the half day Vo-Tech program to be able to access their program as much as possible as was past practice for previous years with multiple half days.

C. Business Official, Ann O'Brien reported that there will be a first reading for an amended version of Policy #5620 that covers Inventory and Fixed Assets. Information in Policy #5511 has been incorporated into Policy #5620 so we will be able to delete that policy. Eric, Ann and Mike Frascella will meet tomorrow morning to review the comptroller report. Ann will write a response to their comments. We have 30 days to prepare the response and have it approved by the Board of Education. The audit committee will be meeting this Thursday to go over the report.

## VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Moved by McCauley, Seconded by Jackson-McCarty to approve the unofficial Board of Education minutes from October 7, 2013 regular meeting and October 21, 2013 extra regular meeting, September Treasurer's reports, budget status, revenue status, extra classroom activities, September Warrants and September Bank Reconciliations. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

## IV. PERSONNEL

A. Moved by Jackson-McCarty, Seconded by Engels to remove Kate Morris, Jolene Wulff and Sarah Koch, per verbal request, from the substitute teacher and teacher aide list, effective November 5, 2013. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

B. Moved by Jackson-McCarty, Seconded by McCauley to accept with regret the resignation of Linda Kay from the Senior Account Clerk and District Treasurer, effective December 31, 2013. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

C. Moved by Frank, Seconded by Jackson-McCarty to accept with regret the resignation of Julie Barber from the .5 nurse position, effective November 8, 2013. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

D. Moved by Fleischman, Seconded by Jackson-McCarty to approve Bryan Clayback, recommended by April Preston Athletic Director, as the Boys' JV Basketball coach for the 2013/2014 winter sports season. Fingerprint clearance is complete and on file. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

E. Moved by Jackson-McCarty, Seconded by Fleischman to approve the amendment, to the employment agreement dated August 8, 2011, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2013, by and between the Board of Education of the West Valley Central School District and Daniel L. Amodeo, Principal. The parties agree to amend Article III Compensation, Section 2 of the employment agreement as stated in document. **(attached)** 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

F. Moved by Jackson-McCarty, Seconded by McCauley to approve the amendment, to the employment agreement dated August 20, 2012, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2013, by and between the Board of Education of the West Valley Central School District and Ann M. O'Brien, Business Official. The parties agree to amend Article III Compensation, Section 2 of the employment agreement as stated in document. **(attached)** 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

G. Moved by Engels, Seconded by Jackson-McCarty to approve Brian Clayback as a substitute teacher, recommended by the Superintendent, for the remainder of the 2013/2014 school year. Fingerprint clearance is complete. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

**X. OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**XI: NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Moved by Jackson-McCarty, Seconded by Engels to approve a building use request for the ~~Varsity and Modified Girls Soccer team~~, WVCS athletics: Girls' Volleyball, Girls' Soccer, Girls' and Boys' track and Boys' track under the supervision of Cara Abbey, Kris Fuller, Diana Frank and Amy Butler, to use the gym and locker rooms every Sunday starting November 10<sup>th</sup> through the month of June 2014 from 2-8pm. April Preston, Athletic Director will make a schedule for each Sunday to designate the time slot for teams to use facility. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

B. Moved by Frank, Seconded by McCauley to approve **first reading** of the Board Policy "Inventories and Accounting of Fixed Assets" #5620 revised under the Non-Instructional/Business Operations section of the Policy Manual. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

C. Moved by Frank, Seconded by McCauley to approve **deleting** Board Policy "Capitalization" #5511 under the Non-Instructional/Business Operations section of the Policy Manual. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

D. Moved by Fleischman, Seconded by Jackson-McCarty to approve the CSE recommendations. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

E. Moved by Kazmierczak, Seconded by Jackson-McCarty to approve the Wildcat Volleyball Club to use the gym and auditorium starting November 10<sup>th</sup> through the end of June 2014 from 12-2pm, every Sunday. The club will be for WV girls' and other district girls'. Each player will be covered by WEVA (Western Empire Volleyball Association) insurance. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted.

F. Moved by Kazmierczak, Seconded by Jackson-McCarty to approve an after school volleyball fitness section to meet on Mon, Wed, Thurs and Friday, each week from 3 to 4pm in Aron Cole's classroom. This is only for WV students. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

Moved by Jackson-McCarty, Seconded by Engels to go into Executive session at 8:23pm for the purpose of three personnel reasons; contractual issue, former employee and to review the Superintendent evaluation, there will be no business conducted afterwards. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

Moved by McCauley, Seconded by Jackson-McCarty to come out of Executive session at 9:42pm. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

Moved by McCauley, Seconded by Jackson-McCarty to **ADJOURN** the meeting at 9:43pm. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

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District Clerk