

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Regular Meeting

January 27, 2014

Library Conference room

Members Present: Frank, Kazmierczak, Fleischman, Frascella, Rogers, Jackson-McCarty

Members Absent: McCauley

Others Present: Lawton, O'Brien, Amodeo, Boberg, Jim Fleischman, Kristin Fisher, Amy Butler, Brett and Lisa Proctor, Kelly and Brian Blackmon, Kristin Heim, Leanna Pfeffer, Mindy Mellon, Connie Jo Kazmierczak, Leanne and John Pfeffer, Tracy Chai, Rob Green, John Selter, Tom and Jennifer Seltzer, Deb Randall, Art Munson, Mychelle McNeil-Wedvik, Steve Wedvik, Kevin Murray, Eric Drake, Jim Boberg, Jenn and Robert Neumann, Dave Smith, Jack Klaus

I. CALL TO ORDER

Regular Meeting called to order at 7:55pm with Frascella presiding.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE to the UNITED STATES FLAG

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

Additions –none

Deletions –none

Changes – Personnel item (A) change in resignation date March 31 to March 29th

6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

IV. Correspondence/BOE information

Topic of Discussion: Mike Frascella wanted to ask the Board members their view point on West Valley School Central School District opening the borders. Each of the members were asked and the consensus was that there is a risk, the district needs to start somewhere, this will not fix the problem totally, more research is needed and the future committee will be looking into different potential options.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mike explained the public comment section of the agenda. "When a community member comments please do not look for an immediate response. The board is very interested and encourages comments from the public. If a response is necessary it will be made once all information is collected."

Leanna Pfeffer has two teenagers that attend here and wanted to comment on the opportunities that are not offered. One is interested in broadcasting which we do not have any classes for and the other was offered enrichment at the elementary level

but nothing since. If the borders are opened what is the magic number of students in one class before a classroom would be split?

Mychelle McNeil-Wedvik handed the board a letter regarding an incident that occurred on school property. Steve Wedvik addresses the board on that same incident by reading a written statement of the occurrences in his opinion. Steve also inquired if students can lose their driving privileges on school property and if a camera could be directed right at the front parking lot. Kristin Heim wanted to know what gave him the right to take matters into his own hands on school property. He has no jurisdiction over anybody. He should have went and found administration or a staff member first before touching her son. Mike Frascella reminded everyone that the board cannot take sides. The school district has done what it needed to and if there is more of a concern maybe it can be addressed with outside agencies. Kelly Blackmon wanted to know if there is a policy regarding conduct on school property. Denise Wheeler stated that one of her children lost their driving privileges on school property due to conduct. Kristen Fisher, a member of PTO addressed the board regarding driving conduct on school property. Art Munson stated that opening the doors is not just about the numbers of students but the ability to produce a well rounded individual ready for the world.

VI. PRESENTATIONS

none

VII. REPORTS

A. Superintendent, Eric Lawton reported to the board that the capital project spread sheet will be sent to them as an excel sheet. All items need to rated as a 1,2,3,4 or 5 so an accurate tally can be given. The question of the cold weather during regents exams week was asked to the lawyer. They stated that we can just pick up the students that are scheduled to take an exam and bring them to school while calling a snowday for the rest of the students. This past week Ann, Tish, Debbie and I attended the Hodgson-Russ Educational Law Conference. Once again it was an educationally informative day. He encouraged all board members to attend the next conference day because of the educational information that is provided. As the new representative for the district on the Citizens Task Force, he was treated to a tour of the plant from 2:30pm-4:30pm followed by the meeting from 6:30pm until 9pm Wednesday. This very informative meeting made much more sense to me after the tour. They do have a plan in place to continue the long process of removing the waste. I was amazed at the amount of waste and all of the different types of waste on site. Phase one is still under way and although the budget should be \$75 million each year, they are trying to maintain their removal time line on \$50-65 million. This delays the project each year. April Preston ran a successful meeting on Thursday about the future of our athletics at West Valley. We had a full house in the library I calculated over 75 people in attendance. We reviewed the vision of each member of the committee, the enrollment

projections over the next few years and the trends in merging athletics in other local districts. There was great participation among the group of committee members. Other community members also had the opportunity to make statements and ask questions. The next meeting will be February 6th same time and location with a follow-up meeting on February 27th. The committee will report their findings back to the board in March. Andy Schwartz a local author visited our school. He presented to 2nd and 3rd grade classes and the students loved it. Thanks to Beth Roy for arranging the visit. Bonnie Frank will be retiring from her .5 Central Treasurer and Account Clerk Typist position.

B. Principal, Daniel Amodeo reported on January regents. If regents are not taken in January when scheduled, it cannot be taken on another day. The next time it could be taken is when it is scheduled in June. It was decided to have a two hour delay instead of a snowday. A schedule was developed to have every period of the school day be 30 minutes long when a 2 hour delay of school is necessary. Present 10th grade students are meeting with Matt LaBrake, guidance counselor to discuss their interests in on line or distance learning courses for next year.

C. Business Official, Ann O'Brien reported on an approximate impact on tax rates if the Board were to adopt a resolution to approve the veteran's exemption that was recently approved by the legislature. This exemption does not impact our total tax levy. By allowing for the exemption the loss in tax revenue is made up by the remaining taxpayers. This is not anything the District is determining. It is simply how property exemptions work. One thing that is interesting is that NYS stands to save money from allowing schools to offer the veteran's exemption. In the calculation of the STAR exemption all other exemptions are used first. If there is not enough assessed value to cover the STAR exemption the STAR reimbursement would decrease. This cost is passed on to all remaining taxpayers as well. It also has no impact on our revenues. The District currently allows for an exemption called the aged exemption. This would be for someone 65, or older with an income of \$18,500 or less. This exemption equates to a reduction in assessed value of 50% for the homeowner. The Board will be asked to consider purchasing a 65 passenger bus. This would be put up for a vote with the budget. We are looking to trade in Bus #79. Bus #79 is a 2002 65 passenger with approximately 119,000 miles. Our plow truck has seen its day. It is a 2001 Dodge 2500 with 65,000 hard miles on it. The floor boards as well as other parts of the cab are rusting and rotting. The plow is beat up and well beyond its useful life. If we purchase the truck the recommendation would be to purchase it out of this year's budget.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Moved by Jackson-McCarty, Seconded by Fleischman to approve the unofficial Board of Education minutes from January 13, 2014 regular meeting.
6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

IV. PERSONNEL

A. Moved by Jackson-McCarty, Seconded by Kazmierczak to accept with regret, the resignation of Bonnie Frank from her position of Central Treasurer and Account Clerk Typist, effective March 31 to 29, 2014. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

B. Moved by Frank, Seconded by Jackson-McCarty to approve an extended medical leave for Carol Kruse without pay until mid April 2014.
6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

X. OLD BUSINESS:

none

XI: NEW BUSINESS:

A. Moved by Jackson-McCarty, Seconded by Frank to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the WVCS and WVTA that amends the WVCS/WVTA contract to include the Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR).
6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

B. Moved by Kazmierczak, Seconded by Jackson-McCarty to approve a change in date for the West Valley PTO to use the auditorium on Saturday March 29th instead of March 22nd from 10-11:30am for family roller skating. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

C. Moved by Jackson-McCarty, Seconded by Kazmierczak to approve the West Valley PTO to hold a Middle School (grades 6, 7 and 8th) game night in the gymnasium on Saturday March 22nd from 7-9pm. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

D. Moved by Jackson-McCarty, Seconded by Fleischman to approve the CSE recommendations. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

Moved by Jackson-McCarty, Seconded by Frank to go into Executive session at 9:35pm for a potential change of duties due to a retirement and potential legal action.
6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

Moved by Kazmierczak, Seconded by Jackson-McCarty to come out of Executive session at 10:14pm. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

XII: Moved by Kazmierczak, Seconded by Jackson-McCarty to **ADJOURN** the meeting at 10:15pm. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion accepted

District Clerk