

Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting
January 29, 2013

The Webutuck Board of Education held their January 29, 2013 meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Webutuck High School Library.

The following Board members were present:

William McGhee, President
Joanne Boyd
Kristen Panzer
John Perotti
Judy Westfall

Also Present:

James Gratto Jr., Superintendent
Therese Trotter, District Clerk
David Paciencia
Michael Needham
Trini Stevens
Ella Stevens
Al Barros
John Eboli
Amanda Forbes

Absent:

Mary Grden, School Business Manager
Judy Moran
Robert Trotta

1. CALL TO ORDER

President McGhee called the Business meeting of January 29, 2013 to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. SCHOOL SAFETY

President McGhee pointed out Dover School now has police officers in their schools. He commented he would like to see an SRO in the District who implements programs beneficial to our student body.

Mike Needham from Needham Risk Management gave an overview on what the District has done to be in compliance with New York State safety regulations. He has been the District's safety consultant for the last three years. He stated that school safety is broken into three categories Prevention, Response, and Post Incident. He touched on Dignity for All Students that relates to school safety, access control and explained that they do everything for schools that a person would do for their own home security in relation to lock outs, lock ins and lock downs. As far as someone trying to harm individuals in a school, he explained that it begins by having a district-wide school safety plan. There are building level plans that address bomb threats, individual threats, and natural disasters. He spoke about specific drills that are performed and the procedures that happen, which people would be involved and follow up on how the drill went. Public Schools follow New York State Police drills when there is an intruder in the building.

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B. Update on the New York Power Authority

Mr. Gratto reported the New York Power Authority will send us a report by Monday, February 4 and will have all the contracts ready to sign in three weeks. They are proposing solar panels outside EBIS between the bus garage and the building itself, as well as the elementary building. Mr. Antcil reported to Mr. Gratto they have been working with a different company and the savings are going to be significantly more than initially projects. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Gratto reported Mr. Lounsbury's concern with the baseball fields not being dry enough, particularly the right field. Mr. Zenz contacted the Town of Amenia to inquire if the District could use their fields for the upcoming season. Engineers are examining it, it is not a septic system issue because that was shut off last baseball season. It is a drainage system problem. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Gratto reported the School was out of water here late in the day today. One of the lines had a crack in it. There is a temporary fix until tomorrow when the company comes to replace the line. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Gratto commented on merging with Dover High School's football team with our students joining their team. Mr. Zenz will provide cost figures which will be in the upcoming Board packet. Title IX questions arose in relation to the number of girls' teams and boys' teams in the District. Discussion ensued.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following topics were commented on by the public:

- Audience member thanked Board members for discussion
- Math and Science Night is March 21

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Perotti made and Mrs. Boyd seconded a motion to adjourn to executive session at 8:54 pm for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person or persons.

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

8. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION

Mr. Perotti made and Mrs. Westfall seconded a motion to adjourn the executive session and to reconvene the public session at 9:40 pm.

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Perotti made and Mrs. Panzer seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting of January 29, 2013 at 9:41 pm.

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

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Respectfully submitted,

Therese M. Trotter
District Clerk