

Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting  
March 11, 2013

The Webutuck Board of Education held their March 11, 2013 meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Webutuck High School Library.

The following Board members were present:

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

Also Present:

James Gratto Jr., Superintendent  
Therese Trotter, District Clerk  
Kenneth Sauer  
Katy McEnroe  
Rosanna Hamm  
Cheryl Benken  
Eric Harvey  
Sherry Fisher  
Carol Gribble  
Nancy Gagne  
Tammy Nethercott

Absent:

Robert Trotta

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

President McGhee called the business meeting of March 11, 2013 to order at 7:00 p.m.

**2. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Perotti made and Mrs. Westfall seconded a motion to adjourn to executive session at 7:01 pm for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person or persons.

Ayes 6      Nays 0      The motion carried.

**3. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION**

Mr. Perotti made and Mrs. seconded a motion to adjourn the executive session and to reconvene the public session at 7:40 pm.

Ayes 6      Nays 0      The motion carried.

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**4. PRESENTATION**

2014 French Trip – C. Benken

Madame began the presentation by stating she had taken this London and Paris trip twelve or thirteen years ago. She showed a combination of pictures from twelve years and also from two years ago when students went solely to Paris. The group will be gone from April 11-19, 2014 and will only miss one day of school. She noted that they will have plenty of chaperones including male and female. She briefly went over the itinerary where they will see many tourist attractions, including a musical, in London. There are forty-two students interested. Discussion ensued.

Proposed Course Offerings – K. Sauer

Board members offered comments such as: the offerings look exciting, liked that the vegetarian cooking course outline mentions the idea of the eating local movement and glad to see public speaking being offered. Board members had questions on the other various courses. Ms. Moran wanted to be sure students would be able to view the new courses for next year. The courses will be added to the next agenda for approval.

7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Accelerated Math – R. Hamm

The Accelerated Math Course will be based on the Common Core Curriculum. The brochure states the criteria for the course for students to be included in the Accelerated Program. Mr. Gratto noted that every school is required to offer 8<sup>th</sup> grade students the opportunity to take a ninth grade math course. We are recommending a true accelerated 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade math course. Taking this course will allow students to have more opportunities as Juniors. Mrs. Panzer questioned if students were not ready to accelerate in 7<sup>th</sup> grade would they have an opportunity to do so later on. Mrs. Hamm stated there will be options to accelerate later, possibly in 10<sup>th</sup> grade. The options are being worked out. Mr. Gratto clarified that the District will offer a combined 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Accelerated Math Program for grade 7 next year. The present 7<sup>th</sup> graders going into 8<sup>th</sup> grade next year will continue with the model we currently use. We will phase in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Accelerated Math Program. Discussion ensued.

Proposed 2013-2014 Special Education Program – K. McEnroe

Ms. McEnroe commented that she is going into her 2<sup>nd</sup> year of annual reviews. They are looking at and talking about programs. She reminded the Board members that last year the District brought back a group of students from out of district to two true self-contained classrooms. They will need more support in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Special Education is talking about how to do that and whether we can have self-contained science or social studies for next year. She noted we will continue co-teaching but it will not be in every grade. Students will still have resource room. Ms. McEnroe is reviewing all recommendations and talking with staff about what our needs will be for next year. Mr. Gratto stated we have 15:1 9<sup>th</sup> grade Math and English which will continue with the addition of 10<sup>th</sup> grade next year. Discussion ensued.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following topics were commented on by the public:

-Proposed new courses

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**6. STUDENT REPORT**

There was no student report.

**7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

**A. Budget Update**

Mr. Gratto received word that the State is reassessing the interest rate used to fund building debt. For the past ten years it has been at 4.5 % but they have reassessed the rates and starting to refunding districts at 2.375%. That is an \$80,000 reduction in state aid for Webutuck District this year and for 2013-2014. He will present the proposed Budget April 1. There is a waiver attorneys are working on which our District is a part of. Information received today stated that most districts that have refinanced will not be eligible for this waiver and we refinanced last October.

The School Safety meeting was canceled Friday due to the weather.

**8. CONSENSUS AGENDA VOTE**

Mrs. Perotti made and Mrs. Westfall seconded the following motion to approve the Consent Agenda (as amended).

A consent agenda is a single vote, which approves all asterisked items. Board policy (#008a) prohibits discussion of consent agenda items. Asterisked\* items can be pulled from the consent agenda for discussion by any one Board member.

Mrs. Boyd commented on March 4<sup>th</sup> minutes for clarification and amendment. Mrs. Boyd and Ms. Moran thanked Mrs. Bayersdorfer for her years of service and accepted her resignation with regret.

Ayes 6      Nays 0      The motion carried.

**9. DISTRICT CLERK'S REPORT**

**\*A. Approval of Minutes for March 4, 2013 Board meeting.**

Mr. Perotti made and Mrs. Westfall seconded a motion to accept the minutes as submitted.

Ayes 6      Nays 0      The motion carried.

**\*B. Acceptance of Financial Reports as submitted:**

Mr. Perotti made and Mrs. Westfall seconded a motion to accept the Financial Reports as submitted.

Treasurers Report for the month ending January.  
Comprehensive Budget Status Report ending January.  
Comprehensive Revenue Status Report ending January.  
Claims Auditor Report Warrants #35-44.

Warrants #35-44  
Ayes 6      Nays 0      The motion carried.

**C. Delegations - None**

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**10. PERSONNEL**

**\*A. Substitute Instructional Appointment**

Mr. Perotti made and Mrs. Westfall seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the following substitute instructional appointment:

Ashley Jeune	Substitute Teacher
Effective: March 12, 2013	Salary: \$85.00
Ayes 6      Nays 0	The motion carried.

**\*B. Substitute Support Staff Appointments**

Mr. Perotti made and Mrs. Westfall seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the following substitute support staff appointments:

Ronnie Hall	Substitute Monitor
Effective: March 12, 2013	Salary: \$11.29/hour

Janice Hall	Substitute Monitor
Effective: March 12, 2013	Salary: \$11.29/hour
Ayes 6      Nays 0	The motion carried.

**\*C. Instructional Staff Resignation**

Mr. Perotti made and Mrs. Westfall seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby accepts the following instructional staff resignation for the purpose of retirement:

Nancy Bayersdorfer	School Social Worker
Effective: June 30, 2013	
Ayes 6      Nays 0	The motion carried.

**\*D. Extra-Curricular Appointments for the 2012-2013 School Year**

Mr. Perotti made and Mrs. Westfall seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the following 2012-2013 extra-curricular appointment:

Mark Pomeisl	Track Volunteer
Ayes 6      Nays 0	The motion carried.

**\*E. Approval of Consultant**

Mr. Perotti made and Mrs. Westfall seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby agrees to employ the following Administrative Consultant, Ophelia Richards, effective March 12, 2013 through June 30, 2013 at an daily rate of \$500 per day with no benefits.

Ayes 6      Nays 0	The motion carried.
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**10. CURRIUCULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

**\*A. Committee on Special Education Monthly Reports**

Mr. Perotti made and Mrs. Westfall seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Webutuck Board of Education hereby accepts the Committee on Special Education report for February 2013, prepared by the Webutuck Central School District Committee on Pre-School Education and by the Webutuck Central School District Committee Special Education.

Ayes 6      Nays 0      The motion carried.

**11. BUSINESS and OPERATIONS**

A. Other - None

**12. BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**A. Committee Reports**

**1. Facilities**

The Committee met today to talk about the septic issue. Mr. Gratto invited Mr. Budrow to speak next week at the Board meeting.

**2. Negotiations**

Mr. Gratto commented that the Negotiations Committee met with the WTA today and will continue to move forward informally.

**3. Policy**

The meeting is next Monday at 4:45 pm.

**14. PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following topics were commented on by the public:

-Public Speaking in 12th grade

**13. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Perotti made and Mrs. Boyd seconded a motion to adjourn to executive session at 8:30 pm for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person or persons.

Ayes 6      Nays 0      The motion carried.

**14. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION**

Mr. Perotti made and Mrs. Boyd seconded a motion to adjourn the executive session and to reconvene the public session at 9:38 pm.

Ayes 6      Nays 0      The motion carried.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mr. Perotti made and Mrs. Boyd seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting of March 11, 2013 at 9:39 pm.

Ayes 6      Nays 0      The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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Therese M. Trotter  
District Clerk