

The Webutuck Board of Education held their May 28, 2013 meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Webutuck High School Library.

The following Board members were present:

William McGhee, President  
Joanne Boyd - arrived at 7:12 pm  
Judy Moran  
Kristen Panzer- arrived 7:02 pm  
John Perotti  
Robert Trotta  
Judy Westfall

Also Present:

James Gratto Jr., Superintendent  
Christine Belcher, Clerk Pro Tem  
Katy McEnroe  
Craig Trachtenberg  
Heather Farr-Kilmer  
Paige Wagner  
Michelle McLaughlin Smith  
Chris Mayville  
Tammy Nethercott  
Jon Zenz  
Marty Markonic  
Peter McCaffrey

Absent:

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

President McGhee called the business meeting of May 28, 2013 to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Approval of Clerk Pro Tem**

Ms. Moran made and Mrs. Westfall seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED the Board approves Christine Belcher as Clerk Pro Tem for the May 28, 2013 Board meeting.

Ayes 5      Nays 0      The motion carried.

**2. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Ms. Moran 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 5      Nays 0      The motion carried.

**3. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION**

Mr. Trotta made and Ms. Moran seconded a motion to adjourn the executive session and to reconvene the public session at 7:37 pm

Ayes 7      Nays 0      The motion carried.

#### **4. PRESENTATION**

**Technology Presentation** – Craig Trachtenberg 7:40pm

Craig Trachtenberg presented our estimated three year purchasing plan for the upgrade of the District Technology Infrastructure. It has been endorsed by the DLT and the Technology committees. The plan includes the deployment of a wireless network, replacement of district servers, migration to a new email client, and the upgrading/replacement of hardware and software. Some of the cost of this upgrade is state aidable and the District is also a recipient of a voucher worth an estimated \$18,000 which will be applied towards specific devices in this upgrade.

#### **5. PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following topics were commented on by the public:

- More advanced technological systems?
- Define “workstation”.
- Networked systems versus running off of a server?
- Ability to filter content?
- Chronological implementation of technology program.
- Needs of the district?
- Competitive technological advantage when compared to other districts?
- Consider goals of teachers, learning objectives, ease of use, accessibility, device choices, software, apps., platforms, Ethernet or WIFI?, cost effectiveness, protection of content.
- Suggestion to pass down older models of computers to the lower grades as they have more simple tasks.
- Cost effective means to manage our technology program? Grants available for upgrades?
- BOE meetings to be aired or televised or recorded?

#### **6. STUDENT REPORT**

Claire Markonic

Ms. Markonic reported that HS band marched in the Memorial Day Parade, alumni Andrew Schultz and Brian Christofel also participated. Upcoming events for the High School include: Regents, Jr. NHS Induction Ceremony, The Eighth grade Dinner Dance, The Senior Dinner Cruise in NYC and the Sports Banquet. Although most sports have wrapped up for the season, Webutuck Track and Field attended the State Qualifiers; four students qualified - Jessie Capallaro, Denise Ibarra, Claire Markonic and Shannon Wood. Also, Jessie Capallaro and Claire Markonic attended a MHAL brunch where they were recently honored as MHAL Scholar Athletes.

#### **7. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

##### **A. Summer Reading**

The summer reading lists were discussed. A board member felt the EBIS reading letter presented was disappointing and lacked guidance as compared to the Elementary and High School Lists. Appreciation was expressed by all for the extra help offered to our students over the summer if they need it. Mr. Trotta would like to see more Classics added to the HS list.

##### **B. Clarification of Valedictorian and Salutatorian**

Mr. Gratto wanted to clarify that the entire Board agreed with the determination that the Valedictorian and Salutatorian will be calculated at 35 weeks this year and at the very end of the school year next year. It will be after Dutchess Community College grades are

in. January is too soon. Board member concerns were: If we calculate this year at 35 weeks, would it affect the students who have already been informed that they are the Valedictorian and Salutatorian? Would this affect scholarships or financial aid for college next year? Must be accurate. Discussion ensued.

**C. Millerton Playground**

Mr. Gratto stated our options for the outdated playground: remove, dismantle or repair? Board members agreed that because of safety and liability issues, it should be taken down immediately and donated or surplused. Discussion ensued.

**D. Restructuring of Positions**

Mr. Gratto reported that the positions are listed on the consent agenda, under Personnel.

**E. Individual Contracts –** Mr. Gratto reported that the contracts were in the Board Packets for consideration.

**F. Space Concerns at WES –**Mr. Gratto removed this topic from the agenda. He will add it to a future agenda after gathering more information.

**G. Other – Bus Stop in Amenia, Jerry Heiser**

Jerry Heiser raised a concern about the safety of the bus stop located on Route 44/343 and the corner of Mechanic Street. Since the re-designing of the walkways along 44/343, along with the increased availability of parking on both sides of the streets, there are more cars and less visibility, in particular, for some of the residential driveways. Students have to walk between cars. Mr. Heiser tried to relocate the bus stop, however, too many other safety factors come into play. A suggestion made to reach out to the Town, which is already aware of the problem, and County Planning Board for immediate assistance. Discussion ensued.

**8. CONSENSUS AGENDA VOTE**

Mr. Perotti made and Ms. Moran 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.

Mr. Trotta called for removing 10C and 12C for further discussion.

Ayes 7      Nays 0      The motion carried.

**9. DISTRICT CLERK’S REPORT**

**\*A.** Approval of Minutes for May 13, 2013 Board meeting.

Mr. Perotti made and Ms. Moran seconded the following motion to approve the minutes as submitted.

Ayes 7      Nays 0      The motion carried.

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

Mr. Perotti made and Ms. Moran seconded the following motion to approve the financial reports as submitted.

- Treasurers Report for the month ending April.
- Comprehensive Budget Status Report ending April.
- Comprehensive Revenue Status Report ending April.
- Claims Auditor Report Warrants #53-58

Ayes 7      Nays 0      The motion carried

**C. Delegations**



Effective: July 1, 2013-Aug. 9, 2013      Salary: \$35.08/hour  
Not to exceed 30 days  
Jennifer Chason      Special Education  
Effective: July 1, 2013-Aug. 9, 2013      Salary: \$35.08/hour  
Not to exceed 30 days

Karen Kleespies      Elementary Teacher  
Effective: July 1, 2013-July 25, 2013      Salary: \$35.08/hour  
Not to exceed 12 days

Stefanie Hoelderlin      Elementary Teacher  
Effective: July 1, 2012-July 25, 2013      Salary: \$35.08/hour  
Not to exceed 16 days

Monica Baker Boszik      ESL Teacher  
Effective: July 1, 2012-July 25, 2013      Salary: \$35.08/hour  
Not to exceed 30 days

James Orr      ESL Teacher  
Effective: July 1, 2012-July 25, 2013      Salary: \$35.08/hour  
Not to exceed 30 days

Ayes 7      Nays 0      The motion carried

**\*E. Reduction of Instructional Positions**

Mr. Perotti made and Ms. Moran seconded the following motion:  
Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Webutuck Central District hereby reduces the following instructional positions from 1.0 FTE to 0.6 FTE:

Art      Effective: July 1, 2013  
Biology      Effective: July 1, 2013  
Music      Effective: July 1, 2013  
Foreign Language: German      Effective: July 1, 2013

Ayes 7      Nays 0      The motion carried

**\*F. Creation of Instructional Position**

Mr. Perotti made and Ms. Moran seconded the following motion:  
Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Webutuck Central School District hereby approves the creation of the following .6 FTE instructional position:

(0.6 FTE) Secondary Earth Science      Effective: July 1, 2013

Ayes 7      Nays 0      The motion carried

**\*G. Leave of Absence**

Mr. Perotti made and Ms. Moran seconded the following motion:  
Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the following paid Leave of Absence for the purpose of FMLA:

Evelyn Brennie      Elementary School Teacher  
Effective: May 24, 2013-June 21, 2013

Ayes 7 Nays 0 The motion carried

**\*H. Approval of Individual Terms and Conditions**

Mr. Perotti made and Ms. Moran seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the terms and conditions for Treasurer, Deputy Treasurer, Personnel Assistant/Administrative Clerk, Superintendent’s Secretary/District Clerk, Athletic Director, Director of School Facilities and Operations, School Lunch Manager for the 2013-2014 school year.

Ayes 7 Nays 0 The motion carried

**\*I. Approval of Consultant**

Mr. Perotti made and Ms. Moran 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 Business Office Consultant, Mary Grden, effective July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014 at an hourly rate of \$50 per hour with no benefits not to exceed \$30,000.

Ayes 7 Nays 0 The motion carried

**\*J. Abolishment of Support Staff Position**

Mr. Perotti made and Ms. Moran seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Webutuck Central District hereby abolishes the following position, (.5 FTE) Custodial Worker, effective June 30, 2013 as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Ayes 7 Nays 0 The motion carried

**\*K. Creation of Support Staff Position**

Mr. Perotti made and Ms. Moran seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the creation of one (1.0 FTE) Custodial Worker position, effective July 1, 2013.

Ayes 7 Nays 0 The motion carried

**\*L. Increase of Instructional Positions**

Mr. Perotti made and Ms. Moran seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Webutuck Central District hereby increases the following instructional positions:

|               |                        |                         |
|---------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| ESL           | From .7 FTE to 1.0 FTE | Effective: July 1, 2013 |
| Social Worker | From .6 FTE to 1.0 FTE | Effective: July 1, 2013 |
| Ayes 7        | Nays 0                 | The motion carried      |

M. Other

**11. CURRIUCULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

A. Other

**12. BUSINESS and OPERATIONS**

**\*A. Approval of Budget Transfer**

Mr. Perotti made and Mr. Trotta seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the attached budget transfer schedule #12 (over five thousand dollars \$5,000).

Ayes 7 Nays 0 The motion carried

**\*B. Lump Sum Payment**

Mr. Perotti made and Mr. Trotta seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the one time lump sum payment in the amount of \$750.00 to the following employees Christine Belcher, Val Burdick, Mary Clinton, Sheila Moran, Tracy Trotter.

Ayes 7 Nays 0 The motion carried

**C. Approval of Agreement with CBIZ**

This item was removed from the Consent agenda for further discussion.

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the Agreement with CBIZ for electronic Update Service for Fixed Asset Inventory.

Mr. Trotta needed clarification on CBIZ services. Discussion ensued. Mr. Gratto will provide more information in the Board packet next week.

**D. Other**

**13. BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**A.** Open Administrative Position at EBIS – This item was removed from the agenda.

**B. Acceptance of Vote Results**

Ms. Moran made and Mrs. Boyd seconded the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED, the Webutuck Board of Education accepts the following vote results from the May 21, 2013 vote: 2013-2014 School Budget Vote, Transportation Vehicle Purchase Vote and Board Member Vote as follows:

Ayes 7 Nays 0 The motion carried

**PROPOSITION I: 2013-2014 SCHOOL BUDGET**

Shall the 2013-14 Budget in the amount of \$20,493,269 adopted by the Board of Education with anticipated revenue exclusive of taxes in the amount of \$7,923,893 and the amount to be raised through taxes of \$12,569,376 be approved?

**VOTE RESULTS:**

**PROPOSITION I**

|             |     |
|-------------|-----|
| YES         | 264 |
| NO          | 69  |
| TOTAL VOTES | 333 |

**PROPOSITION II: 2013-2014 TRANSPORTATION VEHICLE PURCHASE**

Shall the Board of Education of the Webutuck Central School District be authorized to: (a) acquire one (1) seventy-one passenger bus, one (1) sixty-five passenger bus and one (1) twenty-eight passenger bus at a maximum aggregate cost of \$206,300; (b) expend such sums for such purpose; (c) expend from the Bus Purchase Reserve Fund an amount not to exceed \$40,000 for such purpose; (d) levy the necessary tax therefore, to be levied and collected in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education taking into account state aid received and amounts disbursed from the reserve fund; and (e) in anticipation of the collection of such tax, to issue bonds and notes of the District at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed \$206,300, and to levy a tax to pay the interest on such obligations when due?

**VOTE RESULTS:**

**PROPOSITION II**

|             |     |
|-------------|-----|
| YES         | 218 |
| NO          | 90  |
| TOTAL VOTES | 308 |

**VOTE RESULTS FOR TWO BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER SEATS**  
**MAY 21, 2013**

**BOARD MEMBERS**

|                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| William McGhee       | 192 |
| Christopher Mayville | 180 |
| Amanda Rhodes        | 161 |
| Dale Culver          | 120 |

C. Other

- Congratulated and welcomed new board member Christopher Mayville.
- Mr. Trotta would like to see the *Great Gatsby* added to the reading list.

**14. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**15. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. McGhee made and Ms. Moran seconded a motion to adjourn to executive session at 9:48 pm for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person or persons.

Ayes 7      Nays 0      The motion carried.

**16. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION**

Mr. Perotti made and Ms. Panzer seconded a motion to adjourn the executive session and to reconvene the public session at 10:38 pm.

Ayes 7      Nays 0      The motion carried.

**16. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mr. Perotti made and Mrs. Panzer seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting of May 28, 2013 at 10:39 pm.

Ayes 7      Nays 0      The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Therese M. Trotter  
District Clerk