

Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting
June 25, 2012

The Webutuck Board of Education held their June 25, 2012 meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Webutuck High School Library.

The following Board members were present:

Dale Culver, President
William McGhee
Judy Moran
Kristen Panzer
John Perotti

Also Present:

James Gratto Jr., Superintendent
Mary Grden, School Business Manager
Therese Trotter, District Clerk
Kenneth Sauer, WHS Principal
Jay Curtis, EBIS Principal
Katy McEnroe, WES Principal
Michelle Smith, Kaylan Smith, Millerton News
Judy Westfall
Bob Eastman
Barbara Riley
Al Barros

Absent:

Joanne Boyd
Robert Trotta
Brian Christofel, Student Representative

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Culver called the business meeting of June 25, 2012 to order at 7:33 p.m. Mr. Gratto introduced Felice LaPietra as the new Secondary English teacher. Ms. LaPietra spoke about this year as a substitute long-term English teacher at Webutuck High School and some of the things that she was able to accomplish this year.

Mr. McGhee presented Dale Culver with a plaque and thanked him for his dedication and time as a member and President of the Board of Education. Mr. Gratto also expressed his thanks to President Culver for his dedication to the Board.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from the public.

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3. PRESENTATION:

Dignity for All Students Act – J. Gratto

Mr. Gratto reported that a draft was presented to the Board some weeks ago and additional revisions have been made. It has now fallen into line. He stated that Dignity for All Students does comply with New York State law. He commented that each principal will speak on the programs each building will implement (or have been ongoing) that support Dignity for All Students Act.

Responsive Classroom – K. McEnroe

Ms. McEnroe explained Responsive Classroom that has taken place for many years in her building. It builds and promotes a school community feeling. The Program has a foundation that allows students to develop rules for their classroom and the school at large. There are events that take place on a consistent basis that build character and confidence in students. There are morning meetings every day that make students aware of what will be happening in the day or week. There are assemblies during the month that allow students to showcase their talents and build confidence in those students. Ms. McEnroe commented that new teachers need to be trained and updated on the program. Mrs. Panzer commented that it is a wonderful program and suggested communicating to the parents things that are happening in relation to Responsive Classroom. Discussion ensued.

Leader in Me – J. Curtis

This Program is based on Steven Covey's book 7 Habits of Highly Effective People. Mr. Lynch, who replaced Mr. Geraghty this past winter, had used it in North Carolina and made Mr. Curtis aware of it. Mr. Curtis stated the Program intends for students to set goals and self reflect on what they are doing in the classroom. Each student will receive a data notebook. They will set goals for their behavior and academics and write it in the notebook. The goal is to have students **run** the parent teacher conferences through self reflection. It is an effective program. The first habit they work on is being proactive; teachers read stories in any given subject area and incorporate who was being proactive in that lesson. As the program progresses students will learn how to self reflect if they have not reached their goal. Discussion ensued.

Developmental Assets – K. Sauer

Mr. Sauer noted that self reflection is a consistent thread through all three schools as the High School also instituted self reflection in ISS this year. Mr. Sauer spoke to Elaine Trumpetto, Director of CAPE, who is also a trainer of the 40 Developmental Assets. Ms. Trumpetto is putting together a proposal to come into the school to train staff and students in the Developmental Assets. He noted that we will need to develop teachers or the Program probably will not be successful. Ms. Trumpetto would come in for staff development in the beginning of the year, she then would come in to train a student cohort, and come in later in the year to do some retraining and reflection with students and staff. Mr. Gratto noted that the staff is already scheduled for bullying and harassment training for next school year. Discussion ensued.

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Graduation Results and HS Improvement Progress Report – K. Sauer

Mr. Sauer reported that the High School met with success with the committees he established at the beginning of the year. He commented that he does not see the possibility of continuing these committees because of the implementation of APPR. Mr. Sauer stated he felt Developmental Assets will take the place of the Committees. Mr. Sauer shared statistics on Regents' results from June. He explained some of the figure fluctuations in different subject areas. He suggested that the Board of Education not take the figures at face value, there are many caveats, from the number of students who took the test to a change in teachers from one year to the next, that impacted those percentages. Discussion ensued.

4. 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.

The amendment by Mrs. Panzer called for pulling B and C under Business and Operations for further discussion. President Culver recognized The Class of 2012 for their generous donation.

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

5. DISTRICT CLERK'S REPORT

*A. Approval of Minutes for June 4, 2012 and June 18, 2012 Board meetings.

Mr. Perotti made and Ms. Moran seconded a motion to accept the minutes as submitted:

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

B. Delegations - None

6. PERSONNEL

***A. Instructional Appointment**

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 instructional appointment:

Felice LaPietra	Secondary English
Effective: September 1, 2012	Tenure Area: Secondary English
Probationary Period: September 1, 2012 – August 31, 2015	
Annual Salary = \$51,357, Step 1	New position
(includes graduate hours)	

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

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***B. Approval of Individual Terms and Conditions**

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Webutuck Central School District hereby approves the changes set forth in the addendum to the employment agreement of the Superintendent, James Gratto, dated June 22, 2012 and authorizes the Board President to execute the addendum to the contract.

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

***C. 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: one, full time (1.0 FTE) *Cook Manager*, effective August 3, 2012.

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

***D. 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 of the Webutuck Central School District hereby approves the creation of one, full time (1.0 FTE), *School Lunch Manager*, effective August 6, 2012.

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Amenia Building Agreement

Mr. Gratto, Mr. Lounsbury, and Mr. Trachtenberg went to AES to view the rooms that the District would be using and spoke to Mr. Flood about what needs to be done to set one of the rooms up for computers. Mr. Trachtenberg recommended setting it up for a conference room for teachers and teaching assistants with a computer and see what the room is actually used for during the year. President Culver suggested adding a router and port switch to that room for computer use if need be. The Board directed Mr. Gratto to notify the Town that the District will give up the three rooms upstairs noted in the agreement and add two rooms for use by the District down stairs and cease mowing the lawn.

Mr. Gratto noted several of the candidates for positions of special education teacher and typist had declined the positions.

8. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

A. Other – Nothing

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9. BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS

***A. Approval of renewal of MVP Healthcare Plan**

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 renewal of the MVP Health Care Plan effective July 1, 2012

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

B. Approval Summer Food Program Agreement as Amended

This item was removed from the consent agenda.

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the Agreement for the Summer Food Program between the Webutuck Central School District and Northeast Community Council, Inc. from July 2, 2012 through August 10, 2012.

Ms. Moran made and Perotti seconded the following motion as amended:

Ayes 4 Nays 0 The motion carried.

Mrs. Panzer abstained.

C. Approval of Summer Transportation

This item was removed from the Consent Agenda.

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the Summer Day Camp Transportation (as presented) for Amenia Recreation Summer Program and North East Community Center Summer Recreation Program Transportation (as presented).

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

Ms. Moran commented for the record that District does get reimbursed for transportation.

Ayes 4 Nays 0 The motion carried.

Mrs. Panzer abstained.

***D. Approval of Surplus Vehicle Bids**

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

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby awards the acceptable highest bid for surplus vehicles as follows:

VEHICLE	AMOUNT	VENDORS
2000 Inter Bus #90	\$4,521.00	P & B Auto
2000 International Bus #95	\$4,500.00	Mathies & Sons Inc.
Ayes 5 Nays 0	The motion carried.	

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***E. Approval of Surplus Athletic Uniforms and Technology Equipment**

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

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby awards the acceptable highest bid for surplus Athletic Uniforms and Technology Equipment as follows:

ITEMS	AMOUNT	VENDORS
Lot #1 Misc. Basketball items	\$2.00	Louis Simmons
Lot #2 Misc. Sport items	no bids	N/A
Lot #3 Misc. computer equipment	\$2.00	Louis Simmons
Lot #4 Misc. equipment	\$13.00	Louis Simmons
Misc. Smart Boards	\$420.00	Pine Plains CSD
Ayes 5 Nays 0	The motion carried.	

***F. Acceptance of Donation**

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

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby accepts the following as generous donations from the Class of 2012:

\$1,000.00 towards the new school sign

\$ 800.00 towards new seating for the public lounge in the High School

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

10. BOARD OF EDUCATION

A. Committee Reports:

Finance

Ms. Grden reported the first meeting with the external auditor Victor Churchill, from Sickler, Torchia and Allen, took place. He explained the process going forward and the expectations for the Audit Committee. They will be back in August with a report to the Board of Education in September or October.

Negotiations

President Culver reported the Committee met with the Teachers' Union and set the ground rules for negotiations with a signed agreement. They are waiting for a mediator report for the CSEA negotiations and lastly, the Administrators have an agreement.

Policy

Ms. Moran stated that an upcoming Board packet should have the finalized Policies from 1000 to 5000 ready to put up on website. There will be policies that the Board will need to review and decide on specific aspects within certain policies. Discussion ensued.

As this is President Culver's last meeting before leaving the Board, he reported on a list of important topics with information that all Board members should be on the same page with moving forward.

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B. Approval of Contract

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of Webutuck Central School District approves the terms and conditions of a three (3) year (July 1, 2010- June 30, 2013 contract) with the Webutuck Administrative Association (WAA), as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following topics were commented on by the public:

- dates incorrect on summer food program
- difference in qualifications and salary between cook manager and school lunch manager

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Moran made and Mr. Perotti seconded a motion to adjourn to executive session at 9:12 pm for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person or persons.

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION

Mr. Perotti made and Mrs. Panzer seconded a motion to adjourn the executive session and to reconvene the public session at 10:24 pm.

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

Approval of Individual Terms and Conditions

Ms. Moran made and Mr. Perotti 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 School Business Manager for the 2012-2013 school year.

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Perotti made and Ms. Moran seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting of June 25, 2012 at 10:27 pm.

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Therese M. Trotter
District Clerk