

Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting
May 7, 2012

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

The following Board members were present:

Dale Culver, President
Joanne Boyd
Judy Moran
Kristen Panzer
John Perotti
Robert Trotta

Also Present:

James Gratto Jr., Superintendent
Mary Grden, School Business Manager
Therese Trotter, District Clerk
Jay Curtis, EBIS Principal
Katy McEnroe, WES Principal
Kayla Smith, Millerton News
Sue Pomeisl
Judy Westfall
Laure Calabrese, PTA President
Jon Zenz
Community Members

Absent:

William McGhee
Brian Christofel, Student Representative

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Culver called the business meeting of May 7, 2012 to order at 7:38 p.m.

2. 2012-2013 PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING

Ms. Moran made and Mr. Perotti seconded a motion to open the Public Budget Hearing.

Ayes 6 Nays 0 The motion carried.

Mr. Gratto summarized the 2012-2013 Budget through a Power Point presentation. He stated that the adopted 2012-2013 budget is \$20,115,852; a reduction of \$111,918 which equals .55% decrease. He pointed out that although the budget is decreasing from the previous year, the tax levy line has increased by \$233,870 which equals 1.93%. Mrs. Grden addressed the reasons for this i.e., loss of federal stimulus funding, health insurance rate increases, building debt payments increases, workers compensation premium increases, teacher step payments, addition of alternative education placement at BOCES and decreases in investment rates. It was also noted that the State Aid increase that was less than \$70,000. Mr. Gratto explained what the District has been doing to control costs, and also addressed plans for 2012-2013. The District is eliminating the GED program, 2 elementary teaching positions (through attrition), 1 physical education

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position (through attrition) and eliminating 1 Earth Science position for 1 year. Mr. Gratto explained the contingency budget elements if the adopted budget did not pass. Mrs. Panzer pointed out that it could have been a higher tax cap with all of the variables involved, however the Board kept the budget under 2%. She questioned if that information would go out to the public. Mrs. Grden stated the public has been focused on the 2% tax cap. President Culver asked for a finalized list of how we will arrive at the contingency budget. Mrs. Moran questioned the fact that Districts need a 60% victory margin for the second budget to pass. Mrs. Grden stated it was on State Aid Planning services document. President Culver asked for that to be clarified in the next Board packet.

Ms. Boyd made and Mr. Trotta seconded the motion to close the Public Budget Hearing.

Ayes 6 Nays 0 The motion carried.

3. PRINCIPALS' REPORT

Jay Curtis, Intermediate Principal – AIS & RTI Plans

Mr. Curtis provided hand outs of the Response to Intervention Plan (RTI) Plan and Academic Intervention Plan (AIS) Plan and spoke briefly on each. AIS services are based on different assessments and testing at each grade level. In Grades 4 through 9, AIS Services are based on performance on the ELA and Math State exams, in grades K through 3 services are based on teacher assessments, kindergarten screening and DRAs, in grades 10 through 12 services are based on Regents exams and teacher recommendations. He pointed out that the AIS plan is clear on how a student enters and exits the AIS services.

Mr. Curtis commented that RTI and AIS are not the same thing but they fit together. Next year the plan is to have a formal meeting with students' AIS and general education teachers to stay on top of how those students are doing.

RTI M Direct is the company that supports the AIS and RTI programs. AIS teachers enter scores into RTI M Direct system and parents receive a separate AIS report each quarter. Mr. Curtis stated they will be doing a trial this year with NWEA testing which will be implemented next year. Discussion ensued.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following topics were commented on by the public:

There were no comments from the public.

Mr. Trotta attended the PTA meeting before the Board meeting. He stated that the PTA would like to see more Board members as PTA members. Ms. Moran stated that the PTA supports the District by hosting many events for students. President Culver invited the PTA to come to future Board meetings a couple of times during the year to let the public know what the PTA is doing and what events are happening. It was also noted that Meet the Candidates Night will take place tomorrow at 7:00 pm in the auditorium and the DLT will also meet tomorrow at 6:30 pm in the Library. Discussion ensued.

5. STUDENT REPORT

Brian Christofel was absent from the meeting.

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6. CONSENSUS AGENDA VOTE

Mr. Perotti made and Ms. Moran seconded the following motion to approve the Consent Agenda (as amended). Mrs. Panzer commented that she was not in attendance at the April 23, 2012 meeting and she would like the minutes to reflect that.

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.

Ayes 6 Nays 0 The motion carried.

7. DISTRICT CLERK'S REPORT

***A.** Approval of Minutes for April 17 and 23, 2012 Board meeting.

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

Ayes 6 Nays 0 The motion carried.

B. Delegations - none

8. PERSONNEL

***A. Substitute Instructional Appointments**

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 substitute instructional appointments:

James Marshall	Substitute Teacher
Effective: May 8, 2012	Salary: \$85/day

Lisa Kristofik	Substitute Teacher
Effective: May 8, 2012	Salary: \$75/day

Tanya Patrick	Substitute Teacher
Effective: May 8, 2012	Salary: \$90/day
Ayes 6 Nays 0	The motion carried.

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***B. Substitute Support Staff Appointments**

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 substitute support staff appointments:

James Marshall	Substitute Teacher Aide/Assistant
Effective: May 8, 2012	Salary: \$11.96/hour

Lisa Kristofik	Substitute Teacher Aide/Assistant
Effective: May 8, 2012	Salary: \$11.96/hour

Tanya Patrick	Substitute Teacher Aide/Assistant
Effective: May 8, 2012	Salary: \$11.96/hour

Herbert Day, III	Substitute Bus Driver
Effective: May 8, 2012	Salary: \$16.80/hour

Lyla Milton	Substitute Bus Driver
Effective: May 8, 2012	Salary: \$16.80/hour

Lynn Spacchini	Substitute Bus Monitor
Effective: May 8, 2012	Salary: \$11.29/hour

Ayes 6	Nays 0	The motion carried.
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***C. 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 unpaid Leave of Absence:

Kathleen Sullivan	Health Aide
Effective: September 1, 2012 – October 26, 2012	

Ayes 6	Nays 0	The motion carried.
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***D. Support Staff Resignation**

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 accepts the following support staff resignation for the purpose of retirement:

Donna Heck	Custodial Worker (.5FTE)
Effective: August 31, 2012	

Ayes 6	Nays 0	The motion carried.
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9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Instructional Council request to amend the 2011-2012 School Calendar

Mr. Gratto explained the request from the Instructional Council for the amendment to the School Calendar. The request is for early dismissal on June 8 for grades 4 through 8 at 11:30 am and also June 18 – 22 for Grades K-8 at 11:30 am. Teacher training will take place during the half days of June 18-22. It was stated that it is not to be precedent setting. President Culver suggested that there should be a refresher course before school opens up on all of the items learned during the June 18-22 training. Discussion ensued.

B. Exit Survey

Ms. Moran had a comments about the questions on the survey. Mr. Gratto will revise the survey for the Friday packet.

C. Schedule Board of Education meeting on May 30

Mr. Gratto stated a Board meeting needs to be scheduled for May 30.

10. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

A. Mr. Gratto stated that the Instructional Council will be at the next Board meeting with three topics to present to the Board; the Summer Program Proposal, the K-6 Social Studies Program, and the Spanish Textbook purchase proposal. Discussion ensued.

11. BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS

***A. Approval of Budget Transfer**

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 attached budget transfer schedule #18 over five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per Board resolution dated 7/5/11.

Ayes 6 Nays 0 The motion carried.

***B. 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, that the Board of Education hereby awards the acceptable highest bid for surplus vehicles as follows:

VEHICLE	AMOUNT	VENDORS
*2000 Inter Bus #90	No Bid	
*2000 International Bus #95	No Bid	
1999 GMC #91	\$500.00	Luis A. Merchan
1998 Chevy Bus #86	\$500.00	Luis A. Merchan

Ayes 6 Nays 0 The motion carried.

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C. Amendment of 2011-2012 District Calendar

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

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby amends the 2011-2012 District Calendar to reflect that Grades 4 -8 will have an early dismissal on June 8, 2012.

Ms. Moran made and Mr. Perotti seconded an amendment to the resolution to reflect Grades 4-8 will have early dismissal on June 8 at 11:30 am and Grades K-8 will have early dismissal at 11:30 am from June 18 through 22, 2012.

Ayes 6 Nays 0 The motion carried.

12. BOARD OF EDUCATION

A. Other

Ms. Moran made and Mrs. Panzer seconded a motion to schedule the May 30, 2012 Board of Education meeting.

Ayes 6 Nays 0 The motion carried.

Mrs. Panzer requested discussion on what happens in the classroom the last week of school and she requested teachers' perspective on that time period also.

Mrs. Panzer commented that students had said they would like to see a Photo Club at School and she questioned the status of the Photo Club.

Mrs. Panzer toured BOCES and gave feedback on what the experience was like.

Mrs. Boyd stated that Mock Court was removed from the semi-finals because of unfair play and discussed the process that was taking place to find out how that determination was made. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Perotti stated that Dave Shufelt was disappointed that Assemblyman Joel Miller had not been invited to speak at a Board meeting yet.

President Culver stated that the College Fair was last week but some students were not released from class to attend. He suggested a one-hour delay schedule so students could get to the Fair.

Mr. Trotta spoke about the facility walk through and stated that the office in the Art Room seemed to be a fire hazard.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following topics were commented on by the public:

- Ms. Panzer's tour of BOCES
- BOCES offers great programs
- Mrs. Boyd should let Mr. Pollak investigate the Mock Trial accusation
- Son went to College Fair and came away excited
- Exit Survey great idea; same with support staff and survey

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Boyd made and Ms. Moran seconded a motion to adjourn to executive session at 9:09 pm for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person or persons.

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Ayes 6 Nays 0 The motion carried.

RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION

Mrs. Boyd made and Ms. Moran seconded a motion to adjourn the executive session and to reconvene the public session at 10:37 pm.

Ayes 6 Nays 0 The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mrs. Boyd made and Ms. Moran seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting of May 7, 2012 at 10:58 pm.

Ayes 6 Nays 0 The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Therese M. Trotter
District Clerk