

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
HOLLAND PATENT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2008
HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM – 6:00 P.M.

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Holland Patent Central School District was held in the high school auditorium, located outside the village of Holland Patent, New York on Wednesday, October 15, 2008. Board Vice President Mrs. Evans called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mark Kennedy, President
Karen Evans, Vice President
Traci Boris
Anne McGahey
Everett Stalker
Bradley Ashcroft
Kathleen M. Davis, Superintendent of Schools
Mary B. Mandel, Assistant Superintendent
Wendy A. Lloyd, District Clerk

ALSO PRESENT

Nancy Nowicki
John Egresits
John Bubb
Andrew Goodelle
Allen Hyde
Kristy McGrath
David Russo
Charles Pratt

VISITORS

75

ABSENT

Cheryl Venettozzi

08-080

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 4:32 p.m. Mrs. Evans made the motion, seconded by Mrs. McGahey to enter into executive session to discuss negotiations.

Yes – 3

No – 0 Motion Carried

The Board invited Melinda Burdick into executive session.

Mrs. Boris and Mr. Kennedy entered executive session after 4:32 p.m.

At 6:00 p.m. the board entered open session.

08-081

DISTRICT UPDATE – READING PROGRAM

At 6 p.m. the board convened in the high school auditorium for the annual reading program awards ceremony. Mrs. Davis announced that approximately 120 students committed to reading during the summer. She thanked the parents and staff for their support and the children and program. Mrs. Davis congratulated the children on their efforts. Mrs. Davis reviewed that each child's name would be

called and at that time would proceed to the stage to receive a certificate and t-

shirt. She introduced Mark Kennedy, president of the Board of Education. Mr. Kennedy introduced board members Traci Boris, Anne McGahey, Karen Evans, and Dr. Stalker. Mrs. Davis introduced Mr. Allen Hyde, Holland Patent Elementary Principal, and David Russo, General William Floyd Elementary Principal.

Mr. Hyde thanked the parents and children for their efforts and welcomed everyone to the program. Mr. Hyde announced that cider and donuts would be served in the cafeteria after the ceremony.

Mr. Russo and Mr. Hyde introduced the students by grade to receive their certificates and t-shirts. Mr. Russo thanked all the students who participated and asked for a round of applause. He thanked the parents. He reminded everyone that cider and donuts would be available in cafeteria.

08-082

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. Evans made the motion, seconded by Mrs. McGahey, to approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on September 17, 2008.

Yes – 5
No – 0 Motion Carried

Mrs. Evans made the motion, seconded by Mrs. McGahey, to approve the minutes of the Project Vote held on October 7, 2008.

Yes – 5
No – 0 Motion Carried

08-083

POSITIVE THOUGHTS

Mrs. Davis commented that it has been a pleasure working with Mrs. Mandel. She is an outstanding administrator and will be a great loss to the district.

Mrs. Davis noted it is Board Appreciation Week. She thanked the board for their efforts. They spend many hours working to make school better for children. We are pleased to have such wonderful board members. The number one goal is what is best for children. They are a good example of this. Each building gave each board member a gift to thank the board members for their service to the district.

General William Floyd Elementary Principal David Russo wrote a thank you letter to Patricia VanHatten for her continued support and taking a lead role in helping to make some of our classrooms Nut Free.

Middle School Principal Kristy McGrath wrote a thank you to Foothills Community Action Group for thinking of Holland Patent Middle School students with their donation of backpacks, notebooks, pens, colored pencils, scissors, glue sticks, folders, loose leaf paper and book covers.

General William Floyd Elementary Principal David Russo wrote a thank you letter to Anne Edwards, Susan Doolittle, Nora Foley, Katherine Squire and Greg Squire for organizing and directing General William Floyd's Constitution Program.

General William Floyd Elementary Principal David Russo wrote a thank you letter to Reverend William Mudge for the recent donations of backpacks and school supplies.

Superintendent of Schools Kathleen M. Davis received a letter from Senator Joseph A. Griffo informing the district that we will receive a \$25,000 grant.

Middle School Principal Kristy McGrath and Dean of Students Charles Pratt wrote a thank you to Will Streiff and Bus Drivers for Bus Driver Appreciation Week for the care and extra effort they give everyday to our students.

High School Principal John Egresits and Assistant Principal intern John Bubb wrote a thank you letter to Chelsea Hoffman, Jacob Kotwica, David Coe, Jeffrey Amos, and Rebecca Felt for helping out at the Open House.

The Holland Patent Free Library is donating 40 posters and a Teacher Resource book to the middle school.

08-084

REVIEW OF UPCOMING DATES

October 16, & 17, 2008	HPE & GWF Picture Day (individual & group)
October 17, & 18, 2008	Purple & Gold Weekend
October 18, 2008	Purple & Gold Dance, 7 – 9 p.m.
October 20 – 24, 2008	Bus Safety Week
October 21, 2008	HS Picture Make Up Day MS Picture Make Up Day
October 26, 2008	Community Education Halloween Carnival
October 28, & 29, 2008	HPE Book Fair

October 30, 2008

HPE Book Fair/Family Night
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

October 31, 2008

HPE & GWF Cross Country
Meet at GWF, Gr. 3-5

November 1, 2008

Winter Sports Begins Modified

November 4, 2008

Superintendent's Conference Day

November 5, 2008

HS Veterans' Day Concert
HS Auditorium, 7 p.m.

November 6, 2008

HPE & GWF Parent Teacher
Conferences, Dismissal at 11 a.m.

November 7, 2008

End of 1st Marking Period

November 10, 2008

GWF PTG Craft Night

Winter Sports Begin – High School

November 11, 2008

Veteran's Day Holiday

November 12, 2008

Teacher Center Policy Board, 3:45 p.m.

NYS SS, Part 1 Exam – Gr. 5

Board of Education Meeting
Annex Board Room, 7 p.m.

08-085

VISITORS

Mrs. Amy Boulrice asked a question regarding scheduling at GWF. Mrs. Davis will meet with Mrs. Boulrice to address her concerns.

Mr. Francis Crumb reviewed the yes and no vote counts from May 2008 and October 7, 2008. He noted the difference between the number of signatures on the petition and those who actually voted yes.

Mr. Crumb also referenced a previous FOIL request which was denied.

Mr. Crumb raised a question regarding the current project at the Westmoreland Central School District

Mr. [Ericarry](#) Moe expressed concerns with the board.

Mr. Bernard Boris stated that we are trying to do what is best for students. He said we also have to do what is best for the public. The voters showed the public did not support this referendum.

Mrs. Catherine Harter thanked Mrs. Davis and the Board of Education for putting the project back for revote. It was a very risky move. We had a very wide range response. Mrs. Harter wanted to thank them for taking that risk. She noted she would like to see everyone move forward.

Mrs. Harter also asked the board to consider adding lacrosse to the budget for the 2009-10 school year.

Mr. Kennedy thanked everyone for their comments.

08-086

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Kennedy received a letter from resident Debra Roberts supporting the district moving forward.

08-087

BOARD FORUM

Mr. Kennedy noted that items #4 2008-09 Co-Curricular/Coaching Appointments and #5 Appointments would be consent items and there was an addendum 5A Resolution of Condolence and 5B Resolution of Residency added to consent.

Dr. Stalker asked to pull #5 Appointments for discussion in executive session.

Mrs. Boris addressed the comment about negativism. She does agree as a board one needs to work as a team.

Mrs. Boris commented she did not get to participate in the Fire Prevention Week. Her children were involved and she wanted to commend the school for the role they played.

Mrs. McGahey thanked Mary Mandel. She reiterated what Mrs. Davis remarked. She thanked Mrs. Mandel for making the numbers so easy for her to understand. She commented Mrs. Mandel did an excellent job for the district.

Mr. Kennedy thanked Mary Mandel for her time with the district. He commented she did a wonderful job and it will be hard to replace her.

08-088

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

08-089

BUDGET TRANSFERS

Mrs. Evans made the motion, seconded by Mrs. McGahey to approve the budget transfers for the 2008-09 school year.

Yes – 5

No – 0 Motion Carried

08-090

BUDGET INCREASE

Mrs. Evans made the motion, seconded by Mrs. McGahey, to increase the 2008-09 budget in the amount of \$25,000, for general expenditures. The district received a \$25,000 legislative grant from Senator Joseph Griffo.

Yes – 5

No – 0 Motion Carried

08-091

BILL SCHEDULES

Mrs. Evans made the motion, seconded by Mrs. McGahey, to approve for payment bill schedule #2 General Fund in the amount of \$146,362.36, for the period ending October 15, 2008.

Yes – 5

No – 0 Motion Carried

Mrs. Evans made the motion, seconded by Mrs. McGahey, to approve for payment bill schedule #1 School Lunch in the amount of \$14,099.74, for the period ending October 15, 2008.

Yes – 5

No – 0 Motion Carried

Mrs. Evans made the motion, seconded by Mrs. McGahey, to approve for payment bill schedule #2 Federal Funds in the amount of \$21,713.00, for the period ending October 15, 2008.

Yes – 5

No – 0 Motion Carried

Mrs. Evans made the motion, seconded by Mrs. McGahey, to approve for payment bill schedule #2 Capital Project in the amount of \$7,056.00, for the period ending October 15, 2008.

Yes – 5

No – 0 Motion Carried

08-092

2008-09 CO-CURRICULAR/COACHING APPOINTMENT

Mrs. Evans made the motion, seconded by Mrs. McGahey to approve the following appointments:

Approve the appointment of Meghan Riley to the position of chaperone for the 2008-09 school year at the rate of \$55/event.

Approve the appointment of Suzanne Ellis to the position of chaperone for the 2008-09 school year at the rate of \$55/event.

Approve the following co-curricular/coaching appointments for the 2008-09 school year:

Rebecca Shanley	Varsity Head Cheerleading	6%	\$1,703.28 (correction)
Joseph Pisani	Varsity Alpine Ski	7%	\$1,987.16
Jordan Swalgin	JV Wrestling Coach (split with LeRoy Guyer)	4%	\$1,135.52
LeRoy Guyer	JV Wrestling Coach (split with Jordan Swalgin)	4%	\$1,135.52
Pam Stone	8/Girls Basketball	12%	\$3,406.56
Amara Hovey	JV Cheer Head	4%	\$1,135.52
Chris Roberts	7/Boys Basketball	5%	\$1,419.40 (correction)
Gina Richard	Volunteer – Girls Cross Country		
Eileen McCann	Athletic Chaperone		\$55/event
Dana Dornburgh	Athletic Chaperone		\$55/event

Yes – 5

No – 0 Motion Carried

08-093

RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCE
RESIDENCY RESOLUTION

Mrs. Evans made the motion, seconded by Mrs. McGahey to adopt/approve the following by consent:

Adopt the following resolution of condolence regarding the passing of former high school secretary Nancy Pelton:

“The Board of Education of the Holland Patent Central School District records with sorrow the passing of former high school secretary Nancy Pelton.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education express its sincere sympathy to the family of Nancy Pelton and that this resolution be spread upon the records of the district and a copy sent to her family.”

Adopt the following resolution regarding residency:

RESOLUTION

Field Cod

WHEREAS, Donald and Joan Mower (hereinafter the “Mowers”) are the current residents of 6889 Mallory Road and seek to designate the Holland Patent Central School District (hereinafter the “District”) as the District of attendance for their children in accordance with Education Law §3203; and

WHEREAS, the District has sought assurance from the Whitesboro Central School District that it shall remit to the District school taxes levied on the properties owned by the Mowers located in the Whitesboro Central School District in accordance with Education Law §3203(2); and

WHEREAS, the Whitesboro Central School District, by resolution dated September 16, 2008 has agreed to pay the Holland Patent Central School District the school taxes levied on the Mowers’ properties located in the Whitesboro Central School District.

NOW, THEREFORE be it resolved as follows:

1. The Mower children residing at 6889 Mallory Road shall be entitled to attend the District schools without the payment of tuition in accordance with Education Law §3203.
2. The Superintendent and/or her designee shall take steps to recoup from the Whitesboro Central School District the school taxes attributable to the Mowers’ properties in accordance with Education Law §3203.

Yes – 5

No – 0 Motion Carried

08-094

ENCLOSURES

There were no comments on the enclosures.

Mr. Kennedy commented on the project vote held on October 7, 2008 for the capital project. He indicated the district would send this back to committee. He said he could guarantee a project will not include a field. Mr. Kennedy indicated the district does have some urgent needs such as contaminated soil that will need to be addressed. The committee will rank needs and come back to the board to report their recommendations. Mr. Kennedy also noted that Mr. Donegan will review aid and the tax impact to the district. The board won’t be making any decisions until there is more information on the economy. He indicated that we would look into things further after February.

Mr. Kennedy also commented on the issue with the Westmoreland Central School District field project. He is the business official for the Westmoreland School District and was involved with the project. There was only a corner of the field that had to be renovated. He doesn't consider that a field renovation.

Mrs. Boris asked about an article in the *Observer-Dispatch*.

Mrs. Davis stated the OD contacted her and she stated to the press that she hadn't had time to discuss a project with the board. She stated there are no decisions but there is still contaminated soil that must be removed. She stated the *Observer-Dispatch* misquoted her. She commented that the board is not prepared to make any decisions since the district does not have any financial information or know what the economy will be in May.

08-095

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:30 p.m., Mrs. Evans made the motion, seconded by Mrs. McGahey, to take a short recess and to return in executive session to discuss #5 Appointments, the recommendations made by the Committee on Special Education, the recommendations made by the Committee on PreSchool Special Education, the employment history of particular people, and pending litigation.

Yes – 5
No – 0 Motion Carried

At 8:47 p.m. the Board returned to open session.

08-096

APPOINTMENTS

Mrs. McGahey made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Evans to approve the following appointments:

Approve the appointment of Eric Bulger to the position of substitute bus driver, 90% of step 1 per hour, effective October 16, 2008.

Approve, as a whole, the following current substitute teacher appointments at a per diem rate of Certified \$80 per day; Non-certified \$65 per day:

<u>Name</u>	<u><i>Certified Rate \$80/day</i></u> <u><i>Non-certified Rate \$65/day</i></u>	<u>Certified</u>
Fitts, Rosemary	PO Box 152 Forestport, NY 13338	YES
Helmer, Sarah	9935 Welsh District Road Remsen, NY 13438	NO

Hollenbeck, Gerald	10593 Miller Road Deerfield, NY 13502	NO
Humphrey, Karl	5728 Valley Road Whitesboro, NY 13492	NO
Russell, Rebecca	417 Mayberry Road Rome, NY 13440	NO
Wilczynski, Sandra	9191 Hayes Road Marcy, NY 13403	NO
Wing, Timothy	10295 Woods Road Utica, NY 13502	YES

Effective 10/15/08 – change the following to certified

Armitage, Joseph	8402 Old Poland Road Barneveld, NY 13304	YES
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08-097 **RESOLUTION OF AGREEMENT - OMNI**

Mrs. McGahey made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Evans to adopt the following resolution regarding an agreement with Omni:

The Board of Education of the Holland Patent Central School District hereby approves the service agreement and adoption agreement with Omni and authorizes the superintendent of schools to sign the agreements on behalf of the district.

Yes – 5
No – 0 Motion Carried

08-098 **RESOLUTION OF AGREEMENT – NIMO**

Mrs. McGahey made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Evans to adopt the following resolution regarding an agreement with Niagara Mohawk Power Corp., d/b/a/ National Grid:

WHEREAS, Niagara Mohawk Power Corp., d/b/a National Grid, has commenced tax certiorari proceedings challenging the tax assessments of properties owned by National Grid situated in the Town of Marcy; and

WHEREAS, these proceedings present a substantial challenge to the tax base in the Town of Marcy and an adverse decision would have a significant financial impact upon the Holland Patent Central School District; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Holland Patent Central School District has agreed to share in the legal costs and expenses including, but not limited to, the appraisal fees necessary to the defense of such proceedings; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Holland Patent Central School District has agreed to hire the law firm of Hancock & Estabrook to represent them in the defense of these proceedings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. The Board of Education of the Holland Patent Central School District hereby agrees to hire the law firm of Hancock & Estabrook to represent them in the defense of the tax certiorari proceedings brought against the Town of Marcy and authorize the law firm to appear and intervene on their behalf.
2. The Board of Education of the Holland Patent Central School District hereby agrees to pay and be responsible for 6% of the legal services of Hancock & Estabrook in the defense of the tax certiorari proceedings, to include necessary appraisals and other costs and expenses related to the defense of those proceedings. Said bill shall be itemized for legal services and disbursements on a monthly basis and will indicate the charges made to each municipality based upon the percentages set forth.
3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Yes – 5
No – 0 Motion Carried

08-099 **RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION**

Mrs. McGahey made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Evans to approve the recommendations made by the Committee on Special Education which are on file.

Yes – 5
No – 0 Motion Carried

08-100 **RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE COMMITTEE ON PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION**

Mrs. McGahey made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Evans to approve the recommendations made by the Committee on PreSchool Special Education which are on file.

Yes – 5
No – 0 Motion Carried

08-202

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business to discuss at this time, Mrs. McGahey made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Evans, to adjourn the meeting.

Yes – 5

No – 0 Motion Carried

Mrs. Davis invited Mr. Crumb to meet with her and Mr. Kennedy after the meeting to address their issues and issues the district had with them regarding their correspondence.

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:50 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Wednesday, November 12, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Annex Board Room.

Wendy A. Lloyd
District Clerk