

Webutuck Board of Education held the June 23, 2008 meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Webutuck High School Library.

The following Board members were present:

Dale Culver, President

Joseph Herald

Andrew Jablonsky

Susan Lounsbury

William McGhee

Joseph Matteo

John Perotti

Also Present:

Dr. Richard N. Johns, Superintendent

Linda Peters, School Business Administrator

Therese Trotter District Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

President Culver called the Business meeting of June 23, 2008 to order at 7:37 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

DISCUSSION

1. Sports Reduction

The Board asked for information on the football program before any decision is made to cut a sport, which they received. The Board made the decision to field a Varsity Volleyball team only and a JV Field Hockey team only. A Board member questioned if the integrity of our budget and vote is intact if the Board does not reduce two sports. It was stated there would be two coaching reductions and one full sport. The elimination of football actually is the most expensive sport to run. Discussion ensued.

2. French Trip

The Board did not receive the requested information on the trip. This item will move to the next agenda.

3. Summer Hiring Program

There was a question on the legality of the District hiring process of the summer workers. The summer workers are not civil service employee or union employees. The EEOC is not driven technically by did the District follow the hiring process of the union or civil service however it looks at is the District excluding a federally protected group (race, creed etc.). The Superintendent stated that in the future the hiring process would be done in a standardized way. A Board member stated going forward we should look to hire through the NECC program first. The District legal council stated that the key in any vacancy would be to look at the bargaining units, does it invade their contract. In this case it does not. The process should be open to all and it should be fair and consistent.

What is the response to the District if someone in the community challenges the hiring of these individuals this year. The Legal Council stated the District would have to see what the challenge was. Discussion ensued.

CLERK'S REPORT

1. Delegations

There were none.

2. Non-Staff Communications

There were none.

BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS

1. Authorization to increase the 2007-2008 Budget

Mrs. Lounsbury made and Mr. Matteo seconded the following motion:

The School Business Administrator explained the two options for purchasing the servers. The District could purchase the servers out right or could enter into a three-year lease with BOCES. At the end of those three years the District gives the servers back to BOCES and receives new ones. The District is updating its technology every three years. A Board member asked if the money was to be used specifically for technology. The answer was yes. The Board requested information on what will be done with the money if we lease the servers. The Superintendent recommended spending the Leibell grant money first and the remainder should be used instructionally. Discussion ensued.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby increases the 2007-2008 Budget in the amount of \$75,000.00, in Budget Code A2630.200.05 as a result of a grant from Senator Leibell, to be recorded in Revenue Account Code A3289, with such funds to be expended from A2630.200 05.

The seven Board members present voted to approve the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

1. Authorization of Sport Program Reductions

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

A Board member asked if the motion should be amended to say this year. It is this years' budget it cannot be carried forward.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Webutuck Board of Education hereby authorizes the elimination of the following athletic programs: Football and JV and Modified Volleyball and Modified and Varsity Field Hockey in conjunction with the Board's proposed 2008-2009 budget and the election results of May 20, 2008.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

1. Approval of French Trip to Europe

This item was removed from the agenda. The Board is waiting for further information.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the Europe Trip scheduled for April 5 – April 15, 2009 as a school field trip, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following are comments made by audience members:

- What are the academic plans for next year? We are working within the confines of the WTA contract with regards to teacher load. The Principals and Superintendent are working towards who is teaching what.
- What is happening with the Science next year? Discussion is still taking place.
- Audience member would like to make comments in Executive Session about student behavior issues.
- The CSEA President stated Rick Ackerman has stepped down as Vice-President and Jerry Heiser has been voted in as the new Vice-President.

BOARD MEMBER QUESTIONS

The Board President thanked Mr. McCaffrey for his presentation at the last Board meeting.

Are there preliminary results on the regents yet? The Superintendent stated there was no information yet.

There were questions on the sports camp brochure and on the general camps offered by the District. The Board requested information in their Board packets

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Herald made and Mr. McGhee seconded a motion to adjourn to executive session at 8:29 pm for the purpose of discussing personnel issues. The seven Board members present voted. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Lounsbury made a motion to adjourn the executive session and reconvene the public session at 10:40 pm. The seven Board members present voted. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Perotti made a motion to adjourn the meeting of June 23, 2008 at 10:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Trotter
District Clerk