

Webutuck Board of Education held the April 20, 2009 meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Webutuck High School Library.

The following Board members were present:

Dale Culver, President
Joseph Herald left at 10:10 pm
William McGhee
Joseph Matteo
John Perotti

Also Present:

Dr. Richard N. Johns, Superintendent
Linda Peters, School Business Administrator
Therese Trotter, District Clerk

Absent:

Andrew Jablonsky
Susan Lounsbury

CALL TO ORDER

President Culver called the business meeting of April 20, 2009 to order at 7:42 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following comments were made by audience members:

- I need to go into Executive Session regarding a staff issue.
- You have budget discussion tonight so we will be back next month.
- Will there be an ad in the paper for substitute nurse? Has it been filled or did you run it for only one week?
- You should be working alternative budgets at this point? A budget that shows the students back in the elementary schools and close EBMS. It might be even a better budget.

JACK BIASOTTI – WHS Update

Last January we had two Regents exams that were postponed due to bad weather. There will be a five month gap until they take the June Regents. The ELA refresher course will start tomorrow and the students will be able to take the 3:30 bus home. He has met with the students and the parents have been sent a letter home explaining the refresher course, time and place.

Earth Science will begin tomorrow until the exam is given in June. The students again will be able to take the 3:30 bus home. A letter was sent home to parents and the students were spoken to explain the situation. A Board member asked if the ELA students will be able to learn the grade they received on the first part of the exam they took in January. Mr. Biasotti will give them that.

The HS staff has come up with 26 new electives. They have selected 11 of the 26 courses to prepare for this coming school year. Discussion ensued.

DISCUSSION

1. Budget

The Board President stated that this budget has adjustments from the Superintendent's Budget due to the Finance Committee meeting that took place before the BOE Meeting tonight.

-The Board decided to include the following in the Board's proposal:

Bus Garage: extension of the bays; improve the plug in facility for the diesel buses and add safety features into the gas distribution areas – that will be approximately \$20,000 addition to this area in the budget.

-The Superintendent's Budget reduces a typist - this has been upgraded to a senior typist.

- The Board has decided to place kindergarten go to WES so we would not add an additional teaching assistant.

- We will not hire two teacher aides we will hire only one teacher aide.

-Yearbook stipend will be removed from the budget and we will add the course.

-Librarian will not be reduced.

-Added the potential of resurfacing the track into the Budget. It has not been determined definitely- the Board will have more discussion on this before taking action next summer

-UPK program has not maxed out in the years since it was started. This year 45 students have applied; the Board decided to add two teaching assistants for each class of 20 students.

-These changes reduce the budget by \$20,000; unemployment compensation is amply funded and we can make this reduction. The Board discussed a tax levy increase that should be right at 0% increase. Discussion ensued.

2. Track Top Coat

There are concerns of the expense of the track coating because when it was originally laid it was suppose to have a longer lifespan.

A Board member asked if the architect that recommended this would be held accountable. Mr. Lounsbury is looking into it. Discussion ensued.

The School Business Official handed out revisions to the proposed budget (since changes had taken place during the Finance Meeting earlier in the evening) and further discussion took place on the budget.

How is the STAR program being affected? The rebate check we received last year is in jeopardy this year. That amounts to about \$500,000.

The appropriated fund balance that we had on the financial analysis in the Finance Committee meeting was \$2,269,188 now it is at \$2,297,928. Discussion took place on why the numbers changed. We will be between 0.4% to 0.5% tax levy. The Contingency Budget will be approximately 4% increase.

Kitty Visconti and Joel Minton: Presentation on Defense Mechanics

The course is a self defense course specifically designed for women. Women are at a higher risk for sexual assault than men. The course targets high school females particularly high school seniors to first year college students. The course is designed around women's natural strengths, i.e. lower body strengths. He explained how these moves were designed and spoke about high risk behavior and how it has an affect on

environment. The presenters asked the Board to consider providing the course during the school day or after school. A Board member asked what the program costs? It is \$75 per module for 6 to 7 hours. The Superintendent will bring this program in front of the Curriculum Council. It was suggested that if the District offers this course to girls the District would have to offer a course to boys for self defense. Discussion ensued.

3. High School Course Offerings

This was reviewed in Mr. Biasotti's presentation earlier in the meeting.

4. MES Building Plans

The Board is still discussing the use of the Millerton building.

CONSENT AGENDA VOTE

Mr. Perotti made and Mr. Matteo seconded the following motion to approve the consent agenda.

The following asterisked items can be consent agenda items. 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 seven Board members present voted to approve the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CLERK'S REPORT

***1. Acceptance of Financial Reports as Submitted**

Mr. Perotti made and Mr. Matteo seconded a motion to accept the Financial Reports as submitted:

Treasurer's Report for the month ending February and March.

Comprehensive Budget Status Report ending February and March.

Comprehensive Revenue Status Report ending February and March.

Warrants #53-64

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

2. Delegations- None

3. Non-Staff Communications- None

PERSONNEL

***1. Non-Instructional Substitute Appointments**

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the following Non-Instructional Substitute Appointments, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools:

Virgil Shook

Substitute Bus Driver

Effective: April 21, 2009

Bonnie Mead
Effective: April 21, 2009

Substitute Bus Driver

Jan Smalley
Effective: April 21, 2009

Substitute Teacher Aide

David Weinstein
Effective: April 21, 2009

Substitute Teacher Aide

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

***2. Approval of After Hours Nurse**

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the addition of an After-Hour Nurse from 3:30-5:00 pm at a rate of \$27.00 an hour for the remainder of the 2008-2009 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

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

***3. Instructional Substitute Appointments**

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the following Instructional Substitute Appointments, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools:

Christopher Shamkin
Effective: April 21, 2009

Substitute Teacher

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

***4. Approval of Tenure Recommendations for Teaching Assistants**

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby appoint the following teaching assistants to tenure, effective August 30, 2009, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

NAME	CERTIFICATION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Ruth Ramos	Level I	August 30, 2009
Jacqueline Woodruff	Pre-Professional	August 30, 2009

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

***5. Approval of Tenure Recommendations for Teacher**

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby appoint the following teacher to tenure, effective August 30, 2009, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Teacher	Tenure Area	Effective Date
T. Craig Morton	Library Media Specialist	August 30, 2009

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

***6. Extra-Curricular Appointment for the 2008-2009 School Year**

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the following Extra-Curricular appointment for the 2008-2009 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools:

Mentee	Mentor
Gina Tauro	Cindy Dietter-Smith

Effective: February 2, 2009

Lee Stowe	Nancy Gagne
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Effective: February 2, 2009

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

***7. Approval of Tenure Recommendations for Teacher**

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby appoint the following teacher to tenure, effective August 30, 2009, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Teacher	Tenure Area	Effective Date
Karen Thompson	Speech Teacher	August 30, 2009

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

***8. Instructional Resignation**

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the following Instructional Resignation, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools:

Jay Posephney	High School Principal
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Effective: July 1, 2009

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

*** 9. Approval of Interim Principal Appointment**

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the following appointment, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

John Biasotti
Effective: March 31, 2009

Interim High School Principal
Salary: same per diem that he receives as
Curriculum Coordinator

Replaces: Jay Posephney

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

***10. Amendment of Resolution**

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the following amendment for the 2008-2009 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

John Merwin
Replaces: John Biasotti

Title IX Investigative Officer

Rosanna Hamm
Replaces: John Biasotti

Interim Curriculum Coordinator

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

11. Non-Instructional Appointment

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the following Non-Instructional appointment, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools:

Sherry Justry
Effective: April 21, 2009

Part-Time Monitor

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

BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS

***1. Acceptance of Obsolete Computers and Related Equipment**

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby declares the list of computers and related equipment (list attached) obsolete, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools:

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

***2. Adoption of Revised Budget Development Calendar for the 2008-2009 School Year**

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the Revised Budget Development Calendar for the 2008-2009 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

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

unanimously.

3. Adoption of the 2009-2010 Proposed Budget

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

The Board President explained about the reconfigured spaces.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby adopts the 2009-2010 Proposed Budget in the amount of \$20,480,000 and authorizes the Superintendent to make the necessary personnel adjustments consistent with the budget.

FURTHERMORE, the Board hereby authorizes the Superintendent to reconfigure District spaces to accommodate the budget assumptions.

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

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

***1. Committee on Special Education Monthly Reports**

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Webutuck Board of Education hereby accepts the Committee on Special Education report for March 2009, prepared by the Webutuck Central School District Committee on Pre-School Education and by the Webutuck Central School District Committee on Special Education, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

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

2. Approval of Trips to France and to Costa Rica

This was tabled until the next meeting. The Superintendent will ask the teachers to come to the next meeting.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the Trip to Paris (March 27-April 3, 2010) and the Costa Rica Trip (March 10 – March 17, 2010) as a school field trip, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION

***1. Acceptance of Donation**

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

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education of Webutuck School hereby gratefully accepts the donation of \$100 from the Eastern Provinces Photographic Society to the Digital Photography class, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

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

2. Appointment of Officials and Election Inspectors for the May 19, 2009 School Budget Vote for the 2009-2010 School Year

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the appointment of the following persons for the May 19, 2009 School Budget Vote,

PERMANENT CHAIRPERSON & CHIEF ELECTION INSPECTOR:

Richard G. Howard

INSPECTORS OF ELECTION

Joan Murphy

Diane Price

Polly Garvin

Dorothy Newvine

Jane Rossman

Helen Cook

Althea Meade

Jean DeWitt

Barbara VandeBogart

Peg Coon

Arlene Iuliano

Freida Thompson

Lee Howard

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education requires the Chairperson and each Election Inspector to sign a statement certifying receipt of the “Responsibilities and the Rules of Conduct for School Board Elections”,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education authorizes the District Clerk to appoint additional officials and inspectors if necessary.

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

3. Approval of the Curriculum Courses

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

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the eleven new curriculum courses listed below, as approved by the Superintendent of Schools.

Conflict in the Modern Middle East

Philosophy: Ethical Theory and Contemporary Issue

Forensic Science

Flight Simulation

Contemporary Literature

Literature of War

Geometry (Non-Regents)

Financial math (Non-Regents)

Topics in Math

Video Game Design

Criminal Law

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following comments were made by audience members:

- Some children are not being allowed onto the second bus. The Board will discuss tonight and develop a regulation for this.
- How many school days will each class miss? An audience member supplied the details.
- When will the teachers be coming to talk about the foreign trips? They are on a time line for collecting money for the trip. We are having a meeting next Monday and they will come at that time.
- Has it been determined what the grades 4-12 building will look like here? Not yet.

BOARD MEMBER QUESTIONS

- I was able to recently see Warren Theatre in Torrington. It was renovated recently back to its original style. He spoke about the programs that are offered at the Theatre and it is offered to NY and CT residents and students.
- Even though you don't have specifics about what the buildings will look like has anything gone home to parents to say what grades will be in what buildings. No, the budget had to be approved first and then it will follow.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Herald made and Mr. McGhee seconded a motion to adjourn to executive session at 9:25 pm for the purpose of discussing a personnel issue. The seven Board members present voted to approve the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION

Mr. Perotti made a motion to adjourn the executive session and reconvene the public session at 10:12 pm. The four Board members present voted. The motion carried unanimously.

1. Employee MOA

Mr. Matteo made and Mr. Perotti seconded the following motion.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the MOA by and between Webutuck Central School District and Arlene Tumas, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

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

2. Creation of Position(s)

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the creation of position of *Coaches Aide* for Webutuck Central School and that Coach's Aides be paid at a rate of

80% of certified rate, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

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

3. Teaching Assistant Tenure

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves a fourth year Juul extension for Kim Coons and that appropriate supervision be put in place, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

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

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Perotti made a motion to adjourn the meeting of April 20, 2009 at 10:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Therese M. Trotter
District Clerk