

The Webutuck Board of Education held their March 14, 2011 meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Webutuck High School Library.

The following Board members were present:

Dale Culver, President

Joseph Matteo

William McGhee

John Perotti

Casey Swift

Also Present:

Steven D. Schoonmaker, Superintendent

Mary Grden, School Business Administrator

Therese Trotter, District Clerk

Absent:

Joanne Boyd

Joseph Herald

### **CALL TO ORDER**

President Culver called the business meeting of March 14, 2011 to order at 7:41 p.m.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following are comments made by audience members:

- Master Class Schedule and Budget
- Administrator with no student contact
- Effect of budget on Special Education program

### **Presentation: Robert Meade BOCES Budget**

Mr. Meade explained what BOCES is and talked about the BOCES budget. He is Webutuck School District's representative on the Board at BOCES (Board of Cooperation Educational Services BOCES). There are seven trustees responsible for the vision of shared services for the Dutchess County public schools.

He noted the most common shared services which are special education, classes shared between districts and career and technical education. They also provide shared maintenance, print shop and offer adult education services. He explained that there are three pieces to the budget; administrative, capital and the third piece is everything else.

The Administrative budget is voted on directly by the Districts, everything else is in support of the programs that are being purchased by those districts. The vote on the BOCES budget and the election of two trustees will take place on Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Meade went on to say that including the part of which we have no control, retiree health costs, the charge is going to be around approximately \$100,000 this year. He explained that this is pure administration, facilities cost, and retiree health cost. Vote on just under \$70,000. The Board President questioned Mr. Meade about the capital project that was recently voted down and if BOCES was voting on that in the near future. Mr.

Meade stated that presently BOCES is negotiating rental cost at a favorable rate. He also explained that BOCES is still discussing the budget in three principal venues; brainstorming between business manager's at monthly meetings, at Chief School Officer's monthly meetings, and lastly at the County School Board Association that get together monthly. Discussion ensued.

## **PRINCIPALS' REPORTS**

### **Elementary**

Mrs. McEnroe reported that One Book One School just kicked off this past Friday with an assembly and they integrated technology with an interactive robot online. For the past three years Grades K-3 have participated in the One Book One School program, where all students and staff read the same book and discuss the content with each other. The book this year is Wonderful flight to the Mushroom Plant.

### **Jr./Sr. High School**

Mr. Sauer reported that Report Card Pick-up Night takes place tomorrow night beginning at 5:30 pm. The German Club is offering dinner. He also commented on the play "Fiddler On the Roof" that the school presented to the public this past weekend. It was a huge success and the cast did an excellent job. They sold out every night.

Mr. Sauer also reported that the Dean of Students seems to be working well. Mr. Sauer attended the CAPE Conference last Friday, where they discussed the 40 Developmental Assets, a philosophical program. Several districts in the area already have adopted these assets and Mr. Sauer would like to implement the assets at Webutuck.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

The Superintendent reported he is dealing with new State mandates such as the Common Core Standards in ELA and Math. Webutuck will need to do work in curriculum in those subjects for them to be implemented in September. He has been working on the APPR (Annual Personnel Professional Review), for teacher and administrator evaluations based on the new teaching standards that have just come out. They have been spending time understanding those new teaching standards such as what qualifies as excellence, minimal competency, needs improvement, etc. It will make evaluations much more thorough than they have been in the past. The Superintendent explained the timeline of APPR to the Board which he noted had minimal specifics from the State at this point.

Race to the Top – The District has received an allotment of money and part of that process includes having a team. Webutuck has joined with most of districts in the county as a cooperative team that BOCES will coordinate. Training for the cooperative team begins in July. The RTTT award totaled just under \$30,000, the District will only be able to use \$2,800 over four years.

The District Leadership Team (DLT) has seventeen interested volunteers that will meet this week for the first time.

Presently, the District has been working on 21 Century skills facilitated by the

Instructional Council. The District had Heidi Hayes Jacobs present at Superintendent's Conference Day. She is renowned in her curriculum work for 21 Century learning. Several teachers have sent the Superintendent exhibits of student using technologies for 21 Century learning. The new instructional techniques being used in the classroom are great.

**Finance Committee** – Mr. Matteo reported on the Committee which met before the Board meeting tonight. They had continued discussions of additions and subtractions on the upcoming budget and their impact on the students. They will meet again next Monday night 4:00 – 6:00 pm and again on Tuesday night at 6:30 pm. Mr. Matteo invited all Board members again to attend these meetings if they can.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **1. Building Use**

The Business Manager reported to the Board that there were a couple of red flags on the building use process that caught her attention. One program flyer stated that it was charging an amount to participants. The Business Manager has not been signing off on these forms per a directive from a former administrator. The Business Manager wanted to be sure that proper insurance was in place and what was happening with the money being charged. A baseball clinic, which has run for the past five years, is taking place presently; the money for the clinic is collected and given to the Booster Club to be used for baseball. The individuals running the clinic were under the impression that the school is sponsoring this clinic which translates to them being covered by our insurance. Another program that is presently using our building was sponsored by Town of Amenia but the Town ceased sponsoring the program, however the program continued using our building with no insurance and collecting monies.

The individuals running the Baseball Clinic explained how the clinic worked for the last five years and that the Booster Club had previously sponsored it. The Business Manager will look into if the Booster Club is listed as an entity on our insurance policy. The Board will approve the Business Manager having final approval of all building use requests.

Lastly, Jenny Hansell contacted the Business Manager to question what the Board is looking at with NECC renting space next year at MES. Ms. Hansell suggested maybe a month to month rent. The Business Manager noted there are other individuals that are looking at renting space at MES as well as the American Legion who is interested. She will be in contact with those individuals for further information.

## **CONSENSUS AGENDA VOTE**

Mr. Perotti made and Mr. McGhee seconded the following motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. McGhee asked questions about a Substitute under personnel. 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 5      Nays 0      The motion carried.

## **CLERK'S REPORT**

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

Mr. Perotti made and Mr. McGhee seconded the following Financial Reports as submitted:

Treasurer's Report for the month ending January  
Comprehensive Budget Status Report ending January  
Comprehensive Revenue Status Report ending January  
Warrants #51-60

Ayes 5      Nays 0      The motion carried.

### **2. Delegations**

### **3. Non-Staff Communications**

## **PERSONNEL**

### **\*1. Instructional Substitute Leave Replacement Appointments**

Mr. Perotti made and Mr. McGhee 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 Substitute Leave Replacement appointments:

Danielle Weckesser      Substitute Leave Replacement  
Effective: approx. Feb. 22, 2011-May 16, 2011      Art (M. Molloy)

Jason Gray      Substitute Leave Replacement  
Effective: approx. Mar. 7, 2011- April 25, 2011      Elementary (Margaret Brizzie)

Corinna Deigan      Substitute Leave Replacement  
Effective: approx. Mar. 3, 2011- June 24, 2011      Elementary (Jamie Quaranto)

Ayes 5      Nays 0      The motion carried.

### **\*2. Substitute Instructional Appointments**

Mr. Perotti made and Mr. McGhee 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:

Margaret Runge      Substitute Teacher  
Effective: March 15, 2011      \$85/day

Louis Simmons      Substitute Teacher  
Effective: March 15, 2011      \$75/day

Ayes 5      Nays 0      The motion carried.

### **\*3. Substitute Support Staff Appointments**

Mr. Perotti made and Mr. McGhee 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:

Kenneth Birdsall      Substitute Bus Driver

Effective: March 15, 2011

\$16.80/hour

Vicky Couglar

Substitute Food Service Helper

Effective: March 15, 2011

\$10.69/hour

Louis Simmons

Substitute Teacher Aide/Assistant

Effective: March 15, 2011

\$11.96/hour

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

#### **\*4. Instructional Resignations**

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

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby accepts the Instructional Resignations, of the following individuals:

David Friedmann

Special Education Teacher

Effective: August 30, 2011

Julie Taft

Guidance Counselor

Effective: June 30, 2011

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

#### **\*5. Extra-Curricular Appointment for the 2010-2011 School Year**

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

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the following extra-curricular appointment for the 2010-2011 school year:

Barbara Riley

Student Data Coordinator

Stipend: \$1,500

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

#### **6. Amend Extra-Curricular Appointment**

Mr. Matteo 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 approves the amendment of mentor as follows:

Susan Harrington (was David Reagon)

Robert Bredow

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

#### **7. Support Staff Resignation**

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

Board members stated thanks for Mrs. Place's years of service.

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby accepts the Support Staff Resignation, for the purpose of retirement of the following individual:

Carol Place

Food Service Helper

Effective: March 31, 2011

Ayes 5 Nays 0 The motion carried.

## **CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

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

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

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Webutuck Board of Education hereby accepts the Committee on Special Education report for February 2011, prepared by the Webutuck Central School District Committee on Pre-School Education and by the Webutuck Central School District Committee Special Education.

Ayes 5      Nays 0      The motion carried.

## **BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS**

### **1. Authorization for Tax Adjustments**

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

WHEREAS, by Order of Honorable James V. Brands, Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of Dutchess, dated December 16, 2010, in the matter of Application for Refund of Taxes for the 2010 assessment years were adjusted in favor of petitioner, Amenia Sand & Gravel Co. Inc., for property owned in the Town of Amenia, in the Webutuck Central School District, Tax Parcel No. 132000-7267-00-325320-0000, 132000-7267-00-335155-0000, 132000-7267-00-264108-0000, & 132000-7165-00-572374-0000 said reductions in assessment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to the terms of the above referenced Order, the School Tax Collector is hereby authorized to issue a refund for the 2010-2011 school year, on Tax Parcel No. 132000-7267-00-325320-0000, said taxes should be based on assessed value of \$310,755 instead of \$382,000. The taxes levied were \$4,554.98 and should be \$3,705.45.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to the terms of the above referenced Order, the School Tax Collector is hereby authorized to issue a refund for the 2010-2011 school year on Tax Parcel No. 132000-7267-00-335155-0000, should be based on assessed value of \$1,187,606 instead of \$2,750,000. The taxes levied were \$32,791.08 and should be \$14,161.05.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to the terms of the above referenced Order, the School Tax Collector is hereby authorized to issue a refund for the 2010-2011 school year on Tax Parcel No. 132000-7267-00-264108-0000, should be based on assessed value of \$38,754 instead of \$95,000. The taxes levied were \$1,132.78 and should be \$462.10.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to the terms of the above referenced Order, the School Tax Collector is hereby authorized to issue a refund for the 2010-2011 school year on Tax Parcel No. 132000-7165-00-572374-0000, should be based on assessed value of \$781,160 instead of \$1,300,000. The taxes levied were \$15,501.24 and should be \$9,314.58.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Business Administrator is hereby authorized to correct the 2010 assessments to reflect such valuation reductions, with a notation in the margin, opposite said entries that the corrections are by authorization of the above-referenced Order; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to the terms of the above referenced Order, the School Treasurer is hereby authorized to refund any overpayments of school taxes for the above school year, said refund in the amount of \$ 26,336.90 to Amenia Sand & Gravel Inc. as stated in the agreement and reduce the tax certiorari reserve by said amount.

Ayes 5      Nays 0      The motion carried.

## **2. Approval of Business Manager Authorization**

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

Mr. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education authorizes Mary Grden, Business Manager, to sign all Building Use form requests for final approval.

Ayes 5      Nays 0      The motion carried.

## **3. Approval of Automated External Defibrillator Program**

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

All public entities are mandated to have AED and a policy/process of updating and who administers AEDs, training on use of AED etc. We spoke about training staff on one of the make-up days. Discussion ensued.

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Program.

Ayes 5      Nays 0      The motion carried.

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

1. The Board President asked for a moment to reflect two tragedies that have local connections. Zach Cuddebach who was killed in Germany and a police officer killed in Poughkeepsie saving a child.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following topics were commented on by audience members:

- Mary Hendricks and John Rocanova working with eagle scouts – good role models
- Domestic Violence

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. McGhee made and Mrs. Swift seconded a motion to adjourn to executive session at 9:30 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 Mr. McGhee seconded a motion to adjourn the executive session and to reconvene the public session at 9:42 pm.

Ayes 5      Nays 0      The motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mr. Perotti made and Mr. Matteo seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting of March 14, 2011 at 10:59 pm.

Ayes 5      Nays 0      The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Therese M. Trotter  
District Clerk