

The Webutuck Board of Education held their March 28, 2011 meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Webutuck High School Library.

The following Board members were present:

Dale Culver, President

Joanne Boyd

Joseph Herald

William McGhee

John Perotti

Casey Swift

Also Present:

Steven D. Schoonmaker, Superintendent

Mary Grden, School Business Administrator

Therese Trotter, District Clerk

Absent:

Joseph Matteo

CALL TO ORDER

President Culver called the business meeting of March 28, 2011 to order at 7:38 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following topics were commented on by audience members:

- Staff members have helped potentially 3 Eagle Scouts
- Teachers slated to be cut told too early
- Compromise to find a resolution
- Superintendent told teachers early
- Budget vote & public comment on budget
- Vacant titles cancelled
- How does school come up with cuts
- Did teachers have meeting to discuss cuts
- Amount to keep programs as is
- Hurting program for a 21 Century School
- Mother heard from son about cuts
- Son takes Spanish worried about French cut
- Look at reserves to offset budget
- What foreign language is being reduced and why
- Programming electives available to our students
- Are electives heavy math and science
- How practical is German compared to French
- Language is required for college
- French trip next year
- French historically has full enrollment
- German regents has been eliminated, reduces choices for students if French cut too
- Capital project produced technology and Home and Careers rooms-

- Librarian not being replaced; not doing justice for students
- Enrollment of Home & Careers has grown
- Student concerned about elective choices for next year.
- Afraid teacher's course will be cut, a teacher can teach one course out of their certification

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Superintendent spoke about the most recent information on the State budget. He named a few of the items that he has heard would not be cut i.e., pre-k aid, merging of hardware and software aid, building aid formula will remain stable, summer programs for child with disability has been restored, and BOCES services will remain aidable. He mentioned a couple of grants such as efficiency in operations and academic improvement that that are options for additional monies for the District.

The Superintendent reviewed the new common core curriculum process in ELA and math. A number of our staff members have received training on the new core curriculum which is significant because by law it will need to be implemented by September 1st. He noted another piece that is being created is APPR which is the evaluation of teachers and administrators. This program needs to be implemented by July 1st; however, this will need to be negotiated with the union before implementing. There is also a program for administrative evaluation and a requirement that administrators need training to be able to do evaluations. He noted that there is a big focus at the state level to push requirements to lower grades as in math or ELA. There will be higher demands and with those will be benchmarks that will be established by an outside company. He noted positive and negative of testing in earlier grades. Discussion ensued.

DISCUSSION

1. 2011-2012 Budget Discussion

The Business Manager asked if anyone had questions on the data provided in Friday's packet. She stated we are in a holding pattern until the State makes some decision. She spoke about using reserves noting if they were to be used it would be a one-time fix. She cautioned that we should have long term plan on using reserves.

Central Hudson will be doing an audit review this coming Wednesday at no cost to the District. The Power Authority will also be suggesting ways to help us keep our energy cost at the lowest amount possible. Discussion ensued.

2. MES Building

The Board President had concerns regarding #4a under Business. He stated it was necessary not to exclude any entity. He would rather it not specify who the school would donate the building too. Discussion took place on the revision of the wording of #3, 4, 5, 6, 7 (which became 4 a, b, c, d) under Business.

It was also decided by the Board members that #4 (Transportation Vehicle Proposition) under Business would be separated into two propositions of one bus each.

The Business Manager asked if all members were comfortable with her recommendations on the requests for rental of space at MES. Board members were in agreement.

CONSENSUS AGENDA VOTE

Mr. Herald made and Mrs. Swift seconded the following motion to approve the consent agenda (as amended). The amendment, by Board members, revised the language of # 3,4,5,6, and 7 under Business as discussed under Millerton Elementary building discussion. 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.

CLERK'S REPORT

1. Delegations - None
2. Non-Staff Communications -None

PERSONNEL

***1. Approval of Impartial Hearing Officer**

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

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves Robert Briglio as the Impartial Hearing Officer, at a rate of pay not to exceed \$100.00 per hour plus expenses, pursuant to Part 200 of New York State Commissioner Regulations.

Ayes 6 Nays 0 The motion carried.

BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS

1. Acceptance of Federal Compliance Audit

Mr. Herald made and Mrs. Boyd seconded the following motion:

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education accepts the Federal Compliance Audit dated June 30, 2010 for the 2009-2010 school year.

Ayes 6 Nays 0 The motion carried.

***2. Notice of Annual Meeting Authorization**

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

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes and directs the District Clerk to give notice to the qualified voters of the School District of the Annual Public Hearing on the Budget on Monday, May 9, 2011 at 7:30 p.m., for the purpose of presenting the budget document for the 2010-2011 School Year and the Annual Meeting, School District Election and Vote on the Budget to be held on Tuesday, May 17, 2011.

Ayes 6 Nays 0 The motion carried.

3. Approval of Millerton Elementary as Surplus Property

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

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education

declares Millerton Elementary School, located at 5833 South Elm Street, Millerton, New York as surplus property.

Ayes 6 Nays 0 The motion carried.

4. Authorization of the following Propositions to be placed on the ballot at the Annual Meeting of the qualified voters on May 17, 2011.

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

2011-2012 TRANSPORTATION VEHICLE PROPOSITION

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following proposition be placed on the ballot at the Annual Meeting of the qualified voters of the Webutuck Central School District, to be conducted on May 17, 2011:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Webutuck Central School District, Dutchess and Columbia Counties, New York, be authorized to (1) purchase one 65-passenger school bus at a maximum estimated cost of \$110,000 each, for an aggregate maximum estimated cost of \$110,000, (2) equipped with radios and cameras (3) expend such sum for such purposes, (4) levy the tax necessary therefore, to be levied and collected in annual installments in such years in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education, taking into account state aid received, and (5) in anticipation of the collection of such tax, to issue bonds and notes of the District at one time or from time to time in the principal amount at a maximum estimated cost of \$110,000 and levy a tax to pay the interest on said obligations when due.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following proposition be placed on the ballot at the Annual Meeting of the qualified voters of the Webutuck Central School District, to be conducted on May 17, 2011:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Webutuck Central School District, Dutchess and Columbia Counties, New York, be authorized to (1) purchase one 65-passenger school buses at a maximum estimated cost of \$110,000 each, for an aggregate maximum estimated cost of \$110,000, (2) equipped with radios and cameras (3) expend such sum for such purposes, (4) levy the tax necessary therefore, to be levied and collected in annual installments in such years in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education, taking into account state aid received, and (5) in anticipation of the collection of such tax, to issue bonds and notes of the District at one time or from time to time in the principal amount at a maximum estimated cost of \$110,000 and levy a tax to pay the interest on said obligations when due.

a.) Approval of the Donation of the Millerton Elementary Building

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Webutuck Central School District declares the Millerton Elementary School surplus and approves the proposition to be placed on the May 17, 2011 ballot for the donation of the real property commonly known as the Millerton Elementary School located at 5833 South Elm Street, Millerton, New York to the Village of Millerton, or the Town of North East or any other Public Entity as approved by the Board.

b). Authorization of the Creation of Bus Purchase Reserve

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education is hereby authorized and directed to:

(1) establish a reserve fund to be known as the Bus Purchase Reserve Fund effective July 1, 2011, the purpose of which is to finance the cost of acquisition of school buses and vehicles, and (2) commencing with the 2011-2012 school year and in each of the next nine fiscal years, deposit into said Bus Purchase Reserve Fund the amount received from the State of New York as transportation aid, such portion of the unallocated fund balance as determined by the Board of Education or any other amount authorized by the District voters. The ultimate amount of such Fund is \$2,000,000.00. The probable duration of such Fund is ten (10) years.

c.) Approval of Capital Reserve Fund Transfer

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the authorization to transfer the remaining monies from the Bus Garage Construction Reserve Fund, to the Bus Purchase Reserve fund.

d.) Authorization to Expend Bus Purchase Reserve

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the authorization to: (a) acquire school buses at a maximum aggregate cost of \$220,000; (b) expend such sums for such purpose; (c) expend from the Bus Purchase Reserve Fund an amount not to exceed \$220,000 for such purpose; (d) levy the necessary tax therefore, to be levied and collected in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education taking into account state aid received and amounts disbursed from the reserve fund; and (e) in anticipation of the collection of such tax, to issue bonds and notes of the District at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed \$220,000, and to levy a tax to pay the interest on such obligations when due.

Ayes 6 Nays 0 The motion carried

BOARD OF EDUCATION

1. A Board member questioned the document in the Board packet on buses which led him to believe the District would be purchasing propane buses. The Business Manager stated that that discussion still needed to be had on the type of buses to purchase. It was noted that diesel buses now cost more than propane buses. Discussion ensued.

A Board member also commented on the NutriKids proposal in which the convenience fee was \$1.75. He felt that was high while another Board member felt it was fair. He had concerns about the safe and harmless liability wording on the contract. The Business Manager stated they have not signed any documents yet and she will discuss that contract language with the company and the District lawyer. Discussion ensued.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following topics were commented on by audience members:

-What happens to bus garage after transferring money

- Think about type of bus we buy, stay with standard fleet
- Mr. Roccanova and Mrs. Hendricks helping student with Eagle Scout badge
- Before conclusion of cuts have to speak with teachers

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Perotti made and Mr. McGhee seconded a motion to adjourn to executive session at 9:16 pm for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person or persons.

Ayes 6 Nays 0 The motion carried.

RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION

Mr. Herald made and Mr. McGhee seconded a motion to adjourn the executive session and to reconvene the public session at 11:04 pm.

Ayes 6 Nays 0 The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Herald made and Mrs. Boyd seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting of March 28, 2011 at 11:05 pm.

Ayes 6 Nays 0 The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Therese M. Trotter
District Clerk