

# Schuylerville Central School

## Board of Education Meeting Minutes

February 10, 2014

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Board Members Present: Stan Barber, Mike Booth, Becky King, Jack Macica, Lou Maggiore, Robert Thivierge, Veronica Wood and Dr. Sherman

Administration Present: Gregg Barthelmas, Eric Blakely, Laura Delair, Aaron Grady, John Haggerty, Lynn Mastrianni, and Matt Sickles

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE

At 7:00 p.m. President Stan Barber called the meeting to order and led the pledge.

II. \*PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

III. STA REPORT

Beth Roberts reported the following:

- Donations were given for the nonprofit organization "To Love a Child" where members travel to Africa and Haiti providing support in education and health care.
- Eighteen students attended All County
- Beth Roberts and Amy Jordan's class went on a snow shoe adventure.
- The high school held a dance to raise money for Mr. Hayes' son. Approximately 150 students attended collecting \$1000.
- The Middle School FBLA has partnered with Aeropostale at the Wilton Mall to collect gently worn jeans for the homeless. The program, [www.TeensForJeans.com](http://www.TeensForJeans.com) runs January 20<sup>th</sup> through February 28<sup>th</sup>. Each student that donates to the program is given a discount coupon for the next purchase.

IV. PEP REPORT

None at this time.

President Stan Barber explained that currently the United Methodist Church is negotiating space near Subway to open a slightly used clothing store in June. Ten percent will go directly back to the community.

V. BOARD DISCUSSION

- Gregg Barthelmas gave an overview of the Special Education Audit Committee Report. Mr. Barthelmas reviewed the previous meeting outcomes. September – goals of the committee, October – departmentalization, December – review data, review special class offerings, January – mapped out continuum of services. The emphasis of the committee within this first year was to review present continuum of services and the elementary co-integrated program. Con-integrated program, consultant teacher services and special class offerings were reviewed. Future task force discussions will include middle school review and high school review over the next two years. Dr. Sherman reminded the Board the Dr. Levay's recommendation was a 3 year plan. Board Member Becky King asked if Dr. Levay is still involved and Mr. Barthelmas explained she would be brought back to review changes. Board Member Veronica Wood asked with the universal IEP if study lab would be recognized from other schools. Community member Sue Palmer stated that NYS does not recognize study lab. Mrs. Mastrianni reviewed the study lab offering as a program modification. She stated the State had reviewed this offering and participated in a review. Board Member Jack Macica asked Mrs. Mastrianni what that outcome was; she indicated that there was no non-compliance found within that review and discussion of

study lab. Board Member Mike Booth stated that families from other schools want to have our special education services. He is pleased where our special education currently is and the fact that we are looking to improve it even more makes him happy.

- Dr. Sherman explained the current Veterans' Exemption for school districts. Districts have until February 28, 2014 to decide if they will authorize the exemption to benefit veterans in their districts. For those districts that choose to provide the exemption, the tax levy will not change, but the tax rate will increase for non-veteran property owners. Board member Jack Macica stated that although he agrees with the credit for veterans he is concerned with shifting the costs on to other taxpayers. Other board members agreed, stating currently they will not authorize the exemption.
- Matt Sickles and John Haggerty gave a presentation on the Proposed Course Enrollment Criteria for grades 9-12 for the Class of 2018 and beyond. The goals are to set students up for success by placing them in appropriate courses, based on prior academic performance and or teacher recommendation. Additionally, provide students with opportunities to challenge themselves within realistic parameters. Placement will be based on course grade/regents grade and or teacher recommendations. Community member Kathryn Leopold voiced her concern that parents will be left out of process. Mrs. Leopold feels that individual cases need to be addressed. Mr. Sickles stated that course placement is appealable to the principal.

#### VI. BOARD ACTION

- A. J. Macica moved, seconded by R. Thivierge to approve the following consent business items as presented:
  - To accept the regular minutes of January 27, 2014 as presented.
  - To accept the December 2013 Financial Report as presented.Motion carried unanimously. (7-0)
- B. J. Macica moved, seconded by R. Thivierge to approve the CSE/CPSE Section 504 recommendations as presented. Motion carried unanimously. (7-0)
- C. J. Macica moved, seconded by R. Thivierge to accept the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board hereby appoints Alan Kortokrax as a temporary 4 hour bus driver in the non-competitive class of the civil service, to serve as a leave replacement for Thomas McCall effective February 3 through October 3, 2014 at a salary of \$12,461 pro-rated. Motion carried unanimously. (7-0)
- D. J. Macica moved, seconded by R. Thivierge to accept the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Board hereby appoints Karzi Hume as an educational aide in the non-competitive class of the civil service, to serve a 52 week probationary term, commencing on, February 10, 2014, at a salary of \$14,011 annually. Motion carried unanimously. (7-0)
- E. J. Macica moved, seconded by R. Thivierge to approve Dave Connelly's AP Biology class field trip to the New England Aquarium in Boston, MA on May 28, 2014. Motion carried unanimously. (7-0)
- F. J. Macica moved, seconded by R. Thivierge to approve Dave Connelly's Living Environment class field trip to attend Captain John Whale Watching Tour in Plymouth, MA on May 21, 2014. Motion carried unanimously. (7-0)
- G. J. Macica moved, seconded by R. Thivierge to accept the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby applies for full membership in the Foothills Council beginning in the 2014-2015 school year. Motion passed (6-1 Veronica Wood opposed).

#### VII. \*PUBLIC COMMENTS

Anthony Carpenter voiced his support for offering hockey or combining with other schools to support a team with the recent move to the Foothills Council. Dr. Sherman stated that he would have Mr. Morris research the cost and possibilities.

VIII. ANTICIPATED EXECUTIVE SESSION/ADJOURNMENT

At 7:38 p.m. J. Macica moved, seconded by R. Thivierge to enter executive session to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

At 9:15 p.m. J. Macica moved, seconded by R. Thivierge to return to public session and adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. (7-0)

\* A public comment period not to exceed thirty (30) minutes each shall be provided at each business meeting. In an effort to provide an opportunity for all interested speakers, all speakers shall be limited to three (3) minutes during the public comment period. When members of the public speak to the Board, they shall state their name and address, the name of the organization (if any) which they represent, and the agenda item they wish to comment on. Please be aware that by law individual student information or particular personnel issues cannot be discussed at public sessions of the board. The Board will not permit interruptions, slanderous remarks or "name-calling" by speakers or the audience. We take public comment very seriously and careful notes will be taken. However, the board generally does not respond while the meeting is in public session.

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Judi Dunkel, District Clerk