

Schuylerville Central School

Board of Education Meeting Minutes

June 16, 2014

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, Katie Elsworth, 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

Sue Palmer asked if there was a determination regarding her question about a resource room at the March board meeting. President Stan Barber stated there would be no changes. Superintendent Sherman replied that the Board does not mandate courses and/or services for Special Education programs. All parents have individual meetings and due process rights are afforded.

Mark Sullivan acknowledged that a lock down did not occur during the Yik Yak incident and asked when the procedure would be used. Dr. Sherman explained he cannot comment on the District's safety plans. However, after consulting with the State Police they advised a normal dismissal. Dr. Sherman gave a brief explanation of the incident that occurred with the Yik Yak app. Board Member Becky King asked if the cell phone policy would be revised due to the incident. High School Principal Matt Sickles explained it currently is "off and away"; however, they would be consulting with our attorneys and administration regarding possible changes. Board Member Jack Macica stated after he researched Yik Yak in his opinion it was built to create havoc. Board Member Mike Booth spoke to college students which were unaware of the app. Stan Barber feels parents want kids to have phone for convenience but now many opinions are changing. Community member Julie McBath stated that the "off and away" policy should be enforced with teachers as well.

III. STA REPORT

Matt Becht reported the following:

- Beth Robert's Life Skills II class participated in Animal Day at the Capital in Albany on April 29th. The event was sponsored by Assemblyman Jim Tedesco. The students listened to speeches made by animal advocates, learned about animals in service positions in NYS, learned about pending legislation and met local politicians. In addition, Kevin Bounds (a post grad in the Life Skills program) signed the petition to help get legislation created which would create an animal abuse registry.
- Chad Jorgensen's Life Skills class and Life Skills Class II provided a days' worth of volunteer service at Double H in Lake Luzerne on June 3rd.
- The senior class would like to recognize and send a thank you to the following people to help make the senior's activity day a success: Kristy Wilbur, Wendy Sullivan, Mary Marshall, Steve Cass, Denise Young, Scott Stiassney, Pete Relyea, Kim Gamache, Tj Baldwin, Peter Riggi, Rob Dewey, Pat Toomey, Dave Zielnicki, Matt Sgambati, Lynn Sorrentino and Heath Morris. Also, Pam Bonesteel for the wonderful slide show.
- The First Grade will be taking their annual Great Escape field trip.
- Second Grade raised \$168 for the Wilton Preserve.
- The Second Grade also attended their annual field trip to the Olde Bryan Inn Restaurant.
- Mr. Carner, Mr. Duncan and Mrs. Parker brought their students to the Middle School Technology Room for a demonstration of Solidworks Software and the Makerbot 3D Printer. Mr. Belden showed the students how to design 3 dimensional objects in Solidworks and save them. Each of the elementary students received a turtle produced on the Makerbot.

Elementary Yearbook Advisors Matt Becht and Shannon Vallee presented the Board of Education with a copy of the Elementary/Middle School Yearbook. This year they

purchased 700 copies. Matt and Shannon thanked Wendy Morris, Gregg Barthelmas and Katie Elsworth for their help and support throughout the year. They gave a special thank you to Chad Jorgensen's class. Chad trained his students to use the camera and took pictures at many functions. This year the yearbook included Camp Chingachgook, Alps, and Green Ribbon Schools to name a few. Becky King asked if there was a donation procedure for yearbooks. Matt and Shannon stated they would discuss it for next year.

IV. PEP REPORT

Colleen Early stated that PEP would be hosting the 5th grade Celebration on Friday night.

V. BOARD DISCUSSION

- ✓ Levi Cahan introduced Eighth-grader Johnathan King to recite his "People in Agriculture" that earned him first place in New York State for his public presentation. FFA President Janet Hanehan reviewed Sundae of the Farm and the plant boxes the FFA will maintain over the summer. Future plans include the FFA Olympics and Saratoga and Washington County Fair. Levi Cahan explained the purpose of the FFA Advisory Committee. The committee will give evaluate the current agricultural education program, help secure training stations and assist in the placement of program graduates, and provide input and support for legislation and corresponding funding at the local, state and federal levels to name a few. Advisory Members Kathy Hanehan and Laurie Griffen both acknowledged how excited they are for the opportunity to be involved and help the District. Debbie Bartolucci will be a Co-Advisor for the FFA with Levi Cahan. Debbie stated how proud she was of the students that attended the State Convention. She felt the end of the year banquet was well attended and looks forward to next year.
- ✓ Guidance Counselor John Guay gave a presentation of an overview of the senior class. Mr. Guay stated the following statistics:
138 students (73 male/65 female)
64 Regents diplomas, 55 Regents with Advanced Designation, 8 Local, 1 GED, 18 BOCEDS CTE Technical Endorsements, 13 NYS Mastery in Science, and 10 Mastery in Math
62 students attending four year colleges, 54 attending two year colleges, 5 military, 16 employment and one trade school.
Popular majors: Biology/Pre-Med, Nursing/Medical field, Graphic Design, Engineering, Criminal Justice, and Business
Mr. Guay reviewed the college application and financial aid process. Many students waited to decide until the end of April.
Five Fun facts for the graduating class:
 1. 2 sets of twins;
 2. One Division 1 athlete;
 3. One student has been a member of the USA Junior National Olympic Luge Team for 4 yrs;
 4. First senior to graduate as a 2 year participate in the TECH SMART program; and
 5. 54 graduating with college credit
- ✓ High School Principal Matt Sickles reviewed the graduation plans which include "Operation Recognition." Six veterans will receive diplomas which is the largest number the district has graduated in any previous year. Additionally, there will be live feed available for a student to share their graduation with a parent serving overseas.
- ✓ Middle School Principal Katie Elsworth gave a recap of the sixth grade Outdoor Education Program at Camp Chingachgook. Schuylerville celebrated its 43rd year with 134 students attending. Activities included geocaching, yoga, rock wall, first aide, and hiking. Mrs. Elsworth provided a short video showing the week of events.
- ✓ Business Manager Wendy Morris gave current enrollment numbers for Matrix and PPO. Currently, 14 retiree and 14 active members have switched from Matrix to PPO. There are a remaining 120 members on Matrix.

- ✓ Laura Delair, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Development gave a presentation on 2013-2014 Curriculum Overview. The presentation included some of the following:
 - K-5 Math – second year implementing Pearson’s Envision math program;
 - K-2 ELA – pilot year with Core Knowledge program introducing Listening and Learning Strand along with Skills Strand;
 - 3-5 ELA – First year adapting the NYS modules through Expeditionary Learning;
 - 6-8 Curriculum – reading teacher providing services as well as push-in AIS support 7/8 and use of iPads in 6th grade across all subject areas;
 - 6-8 Math – second year implementing Digits (Pearson) as well as NYS modules;
 - 6-8 ELA – first year adapting the NYS modules through Expeditionary Learning;
 - 9-12 Curriculum – work on including literacy with each department and identifying how to support struggling readers;
 - 9-12 ELA – incorporating more nonfiction material and pairing nonfiction with fiction;
 - 9-12 Math – work on bridging the gap between NYS standards and Common Core.
 Mrs. Delair also reviewed Professional Development for the 2013-2014 school year. Areas covered were K-8 Literacy Consultant Dr. Stephanie Affinito, iPads, Network Team Institute: NYSED, BOCES Library Specialist, and workshops. The future plans and initiatives for the 2014-2015 school year were discussed.
- ✓ Dr. Sherman reviewed the results of the Annual Vote on May 20, 2014. The budget overwhelming passed with 80% approval.
- ✓ Dr. Sherman gave a presentation on a CSE Chairperson/Dean of Students position. The presentation included the requirements (NYS Special Ed certified), rationale, job description, primary function, responsibilities, and work schedule. Board Member Veronica Wood stated the duties seem fit for an assistant principal. Dr. Sherman stated that observations are not part of the responsibilities and cost savings measures are also a factor. Mrs. Wood agreed with the idea of a CSE Chairperson being held by a teacher. Becky King asked what training would be available. Dr. Sherman explained the training our current CSE Chairperson had would be available again. Board Member Robert Thivierge asked for clarification on coverage when the principal is out of the building. Dr. Sherman explained the Dean of Students would be present. Board Member Lou Maggiore asked if that would cause any liability and Dr. Sherman stated it would be no different than that of an administrator being out of the building. President Barber stated to try and alter if needed next year. Mrs. Wood asked what the plan or timeline is. Dr. Sherman stated he would like to advertise the position and hire with a start date of September 1, 2014. Second Grade Teacher Terri Sullivan asked, “If a teacher takes the position and changes their mind can they return back to the classroom?” Dr. Sherman explained they could. Community Member Sue Palmer asked if the CSE Chairperson position is K-12. Dr. Sherman stated yes.

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 May 12, 2014.
 - To declare the following obsolete/surplus:
 - Kleanline Pressure Washer / Model # KS2004 / Serial # 0866
 - Science book: Discover the World by Scott Foresman 28 copies ISBN: 0-673-40141-3
 - To accept the April 2014 Treasurers Report as presented.
 - To accept the Annual Vote results of May 20, 2014 as presented.
 - To approve a contract for health and welfare services for 3 students for the 2013-2014 school year with Albany City School in the amount of \$2,118.75.
 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 approve the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Schuylerville Central School District hereby approves the Ground Lease Agreement with Vertical Bridge Towers, LLC,

dated May 22, 2014, and authorizes the Superintendent's signature on the agreement, along with any other documents necessary to finalize the transaction. Motion carried unanimously. (7-0)

- D. J. Macica moved, seconded by R. Thivierge to accept the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board hereby appoints Katie Gallagher, possessing an Initial Mathematics 7-12 Certificate, to a three year probationary term as a Math teacher, in the Mathematics tenure area, effective September 2, 2014 through September 2, 2017 at an annual salary in accordance with the Teachers' Collectively Negotiated Agreement at Step 1 BA of the Salary Schedule for the 2014-2015 school year. Motion carried unanimously. (7-0)
- E. J. Macica moved, seconded by R. Thivierge to accept the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board hereby appoints Ross Marvin, possessing an English Language Arts 7-12 Initial Certificate, to a three year probationary term as a English teacher, in the English tenure area, effective September 2, 2014 through September 2, 2017 at an annual salary in accordance with the Teachers' Collectively Negotiated Agreement at Step 2 MA of the Salary Schedule for the 2014-2015 school year. Motion carried unanimously. (7-0)
- F. J. Macica moved, seconded by R. Thivierge to accept the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Schuylerville Board of Education hereby recognizes the FFA Advisory Board effective June 16, 2014. Motion carried unanimously. (7-0)
- G. J. Macica moved, seconded by R. Thivierge to approve the following resolution: WHEREAS, there are presently pending before the New York Supreme Court, Saratoga County, a tax certiorari proceedings commenced under the caption of Thompson Island, LLC and George Story v. Town of Northumberland, et. al. and bearing Index Nos. 2012/2499 and 2013/2497; and

WHEREAS, the proceeding contests the real property tax assessments of property designated as tax map number 105-1-32.1 on the Tax Map of the Town of Northumberland; and

WHEREAS, the proceeding challenges the assessment of the subject property appearing on the 2012 and 2013 final assessment rolls; and

WHEREAS, the Schuylerville Central School District has, by its attorneys, appeared in the pending proceedings; and

WHEREAS, proposed terms of settlement have been formulated providing for the disposition of the proceeding; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has obtained the advice and assistance of its attorneys with respect to the terms of the proposed settlement and have duly considered the same; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the terms of settlement, the projected tax refund to be paid by the District will be \$8,849;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education authorizes the settlement of the proceedings so as to adjust the assessment of the property designated as tax map number 105-1-32.1 for the 2012 and 2013 assessment year as follows:

Roll Year	Assessment	Revised Assessment	Reduction	Tax Rate	Refund
2012	\$469,500	\$250,000	\$219,500	\$20.067	\$4,405
2013	\$469,500	\$250,000	\$219,500	\$20.246	\$4,444

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that counsel for the District, together with District Administration, is hereby authorized to undertake such action as are necessary to effectuate this settlement, including the execution of any Stipulation and Order and the payment of any and all refunds required under the above authorized terms of settlement. Motion carried unanimously. (7-0)

- H. J. Macica moved, seconded by R. Thivierge to appoint the 2014 extended school year personnel as presented. Motion carried unanimously. (7-0)
- I. J. Macica moved, seconded by R. Thivierge to accept the first reading of Policy # 6111 Testing Misconduct and Mandatory Reporting Requirements. Motion carried unanimously. (7-0)
- J. J. Macica moved, seconded by R. Thivierge to approve Matt Becht as a volunteer coach for the boys basketball program for the 2014-2015 season. Motion carried unanimously. (7-0)
- K. J. Macica moved, seconded by R. Thivierge to accept Patricia Bialahoski's resignation for retirement purposes effective June 28, 2014. Motion carried unanimously. (7-0)
- L. J. Macica moved, seconded by R. Thivierge to appoint Christen Porpora as JV Field Hockey coach for the 2014-2015 school year. Motion carried unanimously. (7-0)
- M. J. Macica moved, seconded by R. Thivierge to accept the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED,

BOND RESOLUTION DATED JUNE 16, 2014 OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE SCHUYLerville CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AUTHORIZING GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO FINANCE THE ACQUISITION OF SCHOOL BUSES, AUTHORIZING BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES IN CONTEMPLATION THEREOF, THE LEVY OF TAXES IN ANNUAL INSTALLMENTS IN PAYMENT THEREOF, THE EXPENDITURE OF SUCH SUMS FOR SUCH PURPOSE, AND DETERMINING OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

WHEREAS, the qualified voters of the Schuylerville Central School District, New York, at the annual meeting of such voters duly held on May 20, 2014, duly approved a proposition authorizing the levy of taxes to be collected in installments, in the manner provided by the Education Law, for the class of objects or purposes hereinafter described; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS BOARD OF EDUCATION AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Schuylerville Central School District has undertaken or shall undertake certain capital expenditures, as more particularly described in Section 3 hereof.

Section 2. The Schuylerville Central School District is hereby authorized to issue its General Obligation Serial Bonds in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$262,000, pursuant to the Local Finance Law of New York, in order to finance the class of objects or purposes described herein.

Section 3. The class of objects or purposes to be financed pursuant to this resolution (hereinafter referred to as "purpose") is the acquisition of school buses.

Section 4. It is hereby determined and declared that (a) the maximum aggregate cost of said purpose, as estimated by the Board of Education, is \$262,000, and such amount is hereby appropriated therefor, (b) the Schuylerville Central School District plans to finance the cost of said purpose entirely from funds from funds raised by the issuance of said Bonds and the Bond Anticipation Notes hereinafter referred to, and (c) no money has heretofore been authorized to be applied to the payment of the cost of said purpose.

Section 5. It is hereby determined that the purpose is one of the class of objects or purposes described in Subdivision 29 of Paragraph a of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law, and that the period of probable usefulness of said purpose is five (5) years.

Section 6. The Schuylerville Central School District is hereby authorized to issue its Bond Anticipation Notes in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$262,000, and is hereby authorized to issue renewals thereof, pursuant to the Local Finance Law of New York in order to finance the purpose in anticipation of the issuance of the above described Bonds.

Section 7. It is hereby determined and declared that (a) there are presently no outstanding Bond Anticipation Notes issued in anticipating of the sale of said Bonds, (b) the Bond Anticipation Notes authorized hereby are not issued in anticipation for Bonds for an assessable improvement.

Section 8. It is hereby determined and declared that the Schuylerville Central School District reasonably expects to reimburse the general fund, or such other fund utilized, not to exceed the maximum amount authorized herein, from the proceeds of the obligations authorized hereby for expenditures, if any, from such fund that may be made for the purpose prior to the date of issuance of such obligations. This is a declaration of official intent under Treasury Regulation §1.150-2.

Section 9. The faith and credit of the Schuylerville Central School District, New York, are hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on such Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes as the same respectively become due and payable. And annual appropriation shall be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such obligations becoming due and payable in such year. There shall annually be levied on all taxable real property of said School District, a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such obligations as the same become due and payable.

Section 10. The power to further authorize the issuance of said Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes and to prescribe the terms, form and contents of said Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes, subject to the provisions of this resolution and the Local Finance Law of New York, including without limitation, the consolidation with other issues, the determination to issue Bonds with substantially level or declining annual debt service, whether to authorize the receipt of bids in an electronic format, and to sell and deliver said Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes, is hereby delegated to the President of the Board of Education or to the Vice President of the Board in the event of the absence or unavailability of the President. The President of the Board of Education and the District Clerk are hereby authorized to sign by manual or facsimile signature any Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes issued pursuant to this resolution, and are hereby authorized to affix to such Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes the corporate seal of the School District and to attest the same.

Section 11. This resolution, or a summary hereof, shall be published in full by the District Clerk of the School District together with a notice in substantially the form prescribed by Section 81.00 of said Local Finance Law, and such publication shall be in each official newspaper of the School District. The validity of said Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes may be contested only if such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which said School District is not authorized to expend money, or the provisions of law which should be complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity, is commenced within twenty (20) days after the date of such publication; or if said obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 12. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.
Motion carried unanimously. (7-0)

N. J. Macica moved, seconded by R. Thivierge to extend Krista Phelp's unpaid child care leave through the 2014-2015 school year. Motion carried unanimously. (7-0)

VII. *PUBLIC COMMENTS

None at this time.

VIII. ANTICIPATED EXECUTIVE SESSION/ADJOURNMENT

At 9:07 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 10:29 p.m. J. Macica moved, seconded by R. Thivierge to return to public session. Motion carried unanimously. (7-0)

A brief discussion was held regarding the CSE position in regards to elementary coverage and any potential liability.

J. Macica moved, seconded by R. Thivierge to create the position of CSE Chair/Dean of Students effective July 1, 2014. Motion carried (6-0) Veronica Wood abstained.

J. Macica moved, seconded by R. Thivierge to approve the placement of The FFA extra-Curricular Stipend to be placed in Group 1 in accordance with the collective bargaining agreement for the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 school years. Motion carried unanimously. (7-0)

At 10:45 p.m. J. Macica moved, seconded by R. Thivierge to 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.

Judi Dunkel, District Clerk

