

WYNANTSKILL UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
November 21, 2013 @ 7:00 PM
Gardener-Dickinson School Media Center
Regular Meeting Minutes

1.0 Call to Order and Pledge

The meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Mrs. Paone.

1.1 Record of Attendance

Mr. Hug - present
Mr. Lanese - present
Mrs. Curran - absent
Mrs. Marsh - present
Mrs. Paone - present

1.2 Review of Agenda / Additions to Agenda

Mrs. Paone reviewed the agenda

1.3 Approval of minutes:

Mr. Lanese made a motion to approve the following minutes of the Board of Education:

October 21, 2013

Mrs. Marsh seconded the motion.
Motion Carried 4/0

1.4 Acceptance of District Treasurer's Report(s)

Mr. Lanese made a motion to accept:

- a. School Tax Report
- b. Treasurer's Monthly Report for the month ending September 30, 2013
- c. Treasurer's Monthly Report for the month ending October 31, 2013
- d. Quarterly Revenue Report
- e. Budget Calendar

Mrs. Marsh seconded the motion.
Motion Carried 4/0

1.5 Approval of building use requests

Mr. Lanese made a motion to approve the following building use request:

| <u>Group Name</u> | <u>day of week</u> | <u>dates</u> | <u>area</u> | <u>time</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Twin Town Warriors | Friday | 12/-2/28 biweekly | Gym | 7-9 |

Mrs. Marsh seconded the motion.
Motion Carried 4/0

1.6 Communications to the Board of Education

Mrs. Paone acknowledged the receipt of the following correspondences:

Email from Edward Fitzgerald
Email from Matthew Wade
Email from Amanda Rokjer

1.7 Resignation with Regret of Board Member Christina Curran

Mrs. Paone acknowledged the receipt of the resignation from Board Member Christina Curran.

Applications for the open board seat will be accepted until December 12, 2013. The position will be held until June 30, 2013. If the chosen applicant decides they would like to continue with their service they will have to run for a board seat in the next election.

1.8 Duties and Responsibilities of the Board of Education Members

Mrs. Paone read the School Board Legal Status (Board Policy #2100)

Mrs. Paone noted different months require different levels of time commitment.

Mrs. Marsh noted the benefits of giving back to the community.

Mr. Lanese noted the time commitment.

1.9 Response to the District Operational Study

Mrs. Marsh gave thanks to Mike Marcelle, the staff, and the community members for their time and input during the study. The board does feel very positive moving forward. Communication was noted as an area that needed to be looked at and worked on between the board and the parents and community. Mrs. Marsh did state that there was an issue with emails being received and the issue has been corrected. The Board will be setting a policy regarding communication using email. The board is also considering a "We are listening" section on the school's website. Mrs. Marsh spoke about trust, and discussed how the community, school families, staff, the board, and administration all have to trust one another. Mrs. Paone stated the board will be doing their part to rebuild the trust and create discussion and committees to help the process.

1.10 Proposed Administrative Reorganization Plan

Discussion on the reorganization plan will occur later in the meeting

2.0 Reports to the Board of Education

2.1 District / School Program Report

a. **8th Grade Field Trip Presentation** Mr. Bordick commended the efforts and hard work of the students in the 8th grade class. Mrs. Hancock shared the excitement of students and shared their hard work to fundraise for their trip to D.C. Serafina French – President, Jewel Evans – Vice President, Lauren Nicoll – Treasure, Natalie Stoner - Secretary spoke to the board and the community about what they would be learning and seeing on the trip, why they felt it was a great educational experience as well as a bonding experience for their class. They spoke about the chaperones, rules, and the safety precautions that were taken for the class. Fundraiser efforts were noted to reduce the price of the trip insuring all the 8th grade students were able to attend. The board responded very positively about the 8th graders going to D.C.

b. **Tax Information Programs** Mr. Bordick presented information on online tax software. Northeastern Information Center was the chosen program. The program will be brought up again in the spring to be voted on.

c. **Foster Grandparents Program** Mr. Bordick introduced the Federal Program that is run through Rensselaer County. Mr. Bordick met with Cindy Cruz the local director of the program and they did identify a need and a match with one of our volunteers.

d. **Technology Support** Dwight Grant our technology support staff from Questar III was introduced by Mr. Bordick. Mr. Bordick would like to increase the technology support hours by 1 ½ days a week, stating that there are many projects and everyday work orders that require the extra time for staff support. Mrs. Paone had questions about the placement of the 140 computers and the security of the investment.

e. **Strategic Planning Committee** Mr. Bordick is recommending a Strategic Planning Committee to look at Gardner-Dickinson School where we are today and where we want it to be in the future.

f. **Communications Committee** Mr. Bordick is recommending a Communications Committee based on the responses from the District Operational Study. Mr. Hug added there was a study group of folks who really gathered some great materials on the school and the district that getting those folks names to join these committees or using their information to help move things forward. Mr. Bordick said we will be inviting those folks to join these committees and their information will be utilized.

g. **Food Program Audit** Congratulations to Lori Audi and her staff for passing a State Education Food Program Audit. A formal report will be given to the school at a later date.

h. **Proposal from Michael Marcelle for the Special Education, Response to Intervention and Academic Intervention Services Study** Mr. Bordick recommended the study of special education services be considered as it was discussed over the 2013 summer months. Michael Marcelle's proposal was included in the board packet.

2.2 Board of Education report & updates (reports from board members)

a. Gail Lathrop's Response to the Auditors Comments

Gail Lathrop spoke about the 90 day response that is required for the response to the auditor's comments. New Board policies that are on the November agenda for the first reading were recommended, the student accounts were discussed and the changes that need to be made including the students taking a greater roll in their class positions. Mrs. Paone asked if we had a sales tax number, Ms. Lathrop replied that we have applied for the number and that things were on track.

3.0 Appointments and Authorizations

3.1 Review Recommendations and Approve Resource Allocation to CSE/CPSE

Mr. Lanese made a motion to approve Mrs. Marsh seconded the motion.
Motion carried 4/0

Mrs. Paone asked when the CSE/CPSE summary was distributed; Mrs. Steffek thought it was done on a quarterly but would check on the exact timing.

3.2 Adoption of Board Policies

There are no Board Policies for November 2013

3.3 First Reading of BOE Policies

- a. **Wellness Policy**
- b. **Reserve Fund Policy**
- c. **Model Cyber Incident Response Policy**

3.4 Approval of Substitutes

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Department</u> |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Dawn Costello | Substitute Custodian |
| Alfred Dequire III | Substitute Custodian |

Mrs. Marsh made a motion to approve Mr. Lanese seconded the motion.
Motion carried 4/0

3.5 Approval of Volunteers

| <u>Volunteer</u> | <u>Teacher</u> |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Lillian Foss | Fenton/Kelleher |
| Susan Steffek | Kinley |
| Andrew Lanese | Cronin |
| Tina Turbiasz | DiSotto |
| Joe Montagna | DiSotto |

Mrs. Marsh made a motion to approve Mr. Hug seconded the motion.
Motion carried 3/0 Mr. Lanese abstained from the vote

3.6 Approval of Additional Non-Public Transportation Requests

There is no request for Non-Public Transportation

3.7 Approve 8th Grade Field Trip to Washington D.C. May 6-9, 2014

Mr. Lanese made a motion to approve Mrs. Marsh seconded the motion.
Motion carried 4/0

Mr. Hug had asked about the school liability with the approval of the trip, Mr. Bordick replied that the trip would be covered by the current insurance policy.

3.8 Approve Amended Inter-Municipal Agreement for Shared Bus Pool

Mr. Lanese made a motion to approve Mrs. Marsh seconded the motion.
Motion carried 4/0

3.9 Approve Advanced Therapy Contract Dated October 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014

Mr. Lanese made a motion to approve Mrs. Marsh seconded the motion.
Motion carried 4/0

3.10 Approve Foster Grandparents Program

Mr. Lanese made a motion to approve Mrs. Marsh seconded the motion.
Motion carried 4/0

3.11 Approve Kaelyn Kinley & Kellie Pautler Extra-Curricular appointments (Odyssey of the Mind Coach) 2013-2014 school year as per WTA contract

Mr. Lanese made a motion to approve Mrs. Marsh seconded the motion.
Motion carried 4/0

3.12 Approve Tina Turbiasz & Joe Montagna as Odyssey of the Mind Volunteer Coaches

Mr. Lanese made a motion to approve Mrs. Marsh seconded the motion.
Motion carried 4/0

3.13 Approve Proposal from Michael Marcelle for the Special Education, Response to Intervention and Academic Intervention Services Study

Mr. Lanese made a motion to approve Mrs. Marsh seconded the motion.
Motion carried 4/0

3.14 Approve an Additional 1.5 Days of Tech Support from Questar III

Mr. Lanese made a motion to approve Mrs. Marsh seconded the motion.
Motion carried 4/0

3.15 Approve Lee Bordick as Lead Teacher Evaluator

Mr. Lanese made a motion to approve Mrs. Marsh seconded the motion.
Motion carried 4/0

3.16 Acceptance of the donation from Lee Bordick toward the purchase of Hudson River Historical Series to honor the Board of Education from their voluntary service to the district. The books will be kept in the District Library.

Mr. Lanese made a motion to approve Mrs. Marsh seconded the motion.
Motion carried 4/0

3.17 Accept the Resignation of the Board of Education Member Christina Curran with regret

Mr. Lanese made a motion to approve Mrs. Marsh seconded the motion.
Motion carried 4/0

3.18 Acceptance of the District Operational Study

Mr. Lanese made a motion to approve Mrs. Marsh seconded the motion.
Motion carried 4/0

3.19 Approve the Creation of District Communications Committee

Mr. Lanese made a motion to approve Mrs. Marsh seconded the motion.
Motion carried 4/0

3.20 Approve the Creation of the District Strategic Planning Committee

Mr. Lanese made a motion to approve Mrs. Marsh seconded the motion.
Motion carried 4/0

3.21 Adoption of the 2014-2015 Budget Calendar

Mr. Lanese made a motion to approve Mrs. Marsh seconded the motion.
Motion carried 4/0

3.22 Approval of Power School Training

Mr. Lanese made a motion to approve Mrs. Marsh seconded the motion.
Motion carried 4/0

3.23 Whereas, the Wynantskill Union Free School District previously requested a waiver from the New York State Education Department of the requirement that the district “employ and assign” a full-time principal to the school pursuant to 8 NYCRR Section 100.2; and

Whereas, the Wynantskill Union Free School District obtained a variance from the New York State Education Department in order to create the position of Superintendent-Principal;

Whereas, the Wynantskill Union Free School District in a resolution dated July 6, 2011 created the position of Superintendent-Principal in connection with the variance granted by the New York State Education Department to be effective December 31, 2011; and,

Whereas, the Wynantskill Union Free School District no longer wishes to retain the position of Superintendent-Principal.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED:

1. That the Board of Education abolishes the position of Superintendent-Principal effective November 21, 2013, and hereby creates the position of Superintendent of Schools.
2. That the Board of Education appoints Lee Bordick as Interim Superintendent of Schools effective November 21, 2013.

Mr. Lanese made a motion to approve Mrs. Marsh seconded the motion.
Motion carried 4/0

Mr. Hug did not want this motion to be seen by a future board that this dual position was impossible, and feels that the Principal/Superintendent position as one could work. If the merged position were ever on the agenda again for a future board Mr. Hug would like them to consider all of their options and just not say no.

3.24 Whereas, the Wynantskill Union Free School District in a resolution dated July 6, 2011 created the position of K-8 Assistant Principal; and,

Whereas, the Wynantskill Union Free School District no longer wishes to retain the position of Assistant Principal.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED:

1. That the Board of Education abolishes the position of K-8 Assistant Principal effective November 21, 2013 and hereby creates the position of K-8 Principal.
2. That the Board of Education appoints Mary Yodis as K-8 Interim Principal effective November 21, 2013.

Mrs. Marsh made a motion to approve Mr. Lanese seconded the motion.
Motion carried 4/0

3.25 Approve, the Wynantskill Union Free School District Board of Education hereby nominates Matthew Wade of the Brunswick (Brittonkill) Central School District for the position of Area 7 Director of the New York State School Boards Association. The two-year term begins January 1, 2014.

Mr. Lanese made a motion to approve Mrs. Marsh seconded the motion.
Motion carried 4/0

4.0 Old Business

There was no Old Business to go over at the November Board Meeting.

5.0 New Business

There was no New Business to go over at the November Board Meeting.

6.0 Informational

- 6.1 Regular BOE Meeting December 19, 2013 at 7:00pm
- 6.2 Public Comment

Mr. Fitzgerald: Expressed his concern about communication to the board. Mr. Fitzgerald spoke about his Strategic Planning Committee concerns and not having Questar III involved, he felt they were never really a committee and there were very few accomplishments. Mr. Fitzgerald would also like to see the

parking rules enforced, there are many people parked in the fire lane. Mr. Bordick responded later in the meeting to Mr. Fitzgerald that the committees would be kept in house and he did not see a need for outside support. Mrs. Marsh responded to Mr. Fitzgerald later in the meeting about keeping the committees in house and keeping everybody connected and communicating.

Meredith Gavin: Expressed concern about her email not being received by the Board of Education. Meredith will resend the email. Meredith expressed her concern with the Common Core, APPR and standardized testing.

Jean Marie Steffek: Thanked the school for having Assembly Member John McDonald speak at the school. Jean Marie is looking forward to having more elected officials come to the school and speak. Jean Marie also spoke about the positive feeling returning to the school as a whole.

Micheline Geise: Enjoyed having Mr. Marcelle at the school and working with the group of folks who participated in the District Operational Study. Micheline also enjoyed having Assembly Member John McDonald at the school and seeing the Board of Education members at the presentation.

Sue Czubek: Spoke on the school receiving the 140 tablets and wanted to know who would be using the tablets. Mr. Bordick responded that the tablets were purchased with last years budget dollars and the school is working on setting up the tablets for the children to use.

7.0 Request for Executive Session

There was no request for executive session.

8.0 Return to Open Session

9.0 Adjournment

Mr. Lanese made a motion to Adjourn at 9:05 PM

Mrs. Marsh Seconded Motion

Motion Carried: 4/0

Respectfully submitted,



Sharon Hillis
Clerk of the Board