

Superintendent – Thomas W. Abraham
Elementary Principal – Bethellen Mannix
High School Principal – Andrew Cook

HARTFORD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Hartford, New York

Minutes of Regular Board of Education Meeting July 12, 2010

Board Members Present: – President Brian Getty, Vice President Mrs. Janine Thomas, Philip Jessen, Mrs. Beth Steves, and Adam Fish

Board Members Absent: – None

Guests: – Mr. Flower, Maggie Cosey, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Farley, Wendy Harrington and Mr. Smith.

1.0 Call to Order – Board of Education President Brian Getty

2.0 Prayer – Mr. Jessen

3.0 Welcome – Board of Education President

3.1 Public to be Heard – Maggie Cosey asked to address the board in executive session.

4.0 Review and Approval of Minutes – The Board of Education approved the minutes from the June 21, 2010 Regular Board of Education Meeting. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Steves. Approved 5-0

5.0 Review and Approval of Financial Reports

***5.1 Treasurer’s Report**

***5.2 Warrants**

***5.3 Cafeteria Report** – The Board of Education approved the financial reports as presented. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Steves. Approved 5-0

***5.4 Budget Transfers** – There are a few budget transfers that need to be made in order to close out the 2009-10 School Year financial reports. – The Board of Education approved the requested budget transfers. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0

***5.5 Final Budget Status 2009-10 School Year** – No Action Necessary.

6.0 Superintendent’s Report

***6.1 Update on Re-siding the Technology Building** – As I indicated to the board in June, we have received a proposal to re-side the technology building. The proposal for the work is \$24,377. Dutch Valley Construction is very interested in beginning the work, but is having some difficulty with Citadel Corporation. Citadel has agreed to supply the siding at no cost to either the school or contractor, but there appears to be a significant amount of footwork and paperwork required by the contractor. The contractor apparently was dealing with a secretary versus the owner of the company. I have provided the e-mail address of the company’s owner to the contractor, which should allow for easier communications.

***6.2 Update on State Budget** – The legislature has finally approved a budget and sent it on to the governor. The budget called for approximately 40% of the education cuts to be restored to districts with conditions on how the funds were to be used. Governor Paterson used his line item veto to eliminate this provision. While the votes exist in the Assembly to override the veto, there are not enough votes in the Senate to override the veto.

While I would like to see more funds come back to the District to alleviate property taxes, a restoration after budgets are approved doesn't make financial sense and there would be no guarantee that the funds wouldn't be reduced mid-year anyways.

6.3 Follow-up on 2010 Graduation – I believe graduation went well. There was a slight hiccup with the power point presentation, but the issue was solved. A new screen was used to aid in the visual presentation. Mr. Cook should be commended for his organization of the ceremony.

***6.4 Informational Packet** – There are a few items for your review this month.

Item #1 – School Law Bulletin

Item #2 – Court Decision on Teacher Termination – This court decision will affect the way in which districts will move forward with termination processes against teachers.

Item #3 – Regents Action for Cost Cutting – As everyone is aware; the state has significant budget issues. As part of the governor's proposal, the State Education Department suffered significant cuts. In an attempt to address the cuts, the Regents have moved on reducing costs. As you can see, most of the cuts will reduce regent exam testing scheduling. A number of tests will be eliminated and some will be scaled back.

Item #4 - Commissioner's Decisions – The commissioner sustained three of thirteen appeals this past month. The sustained appeals are in your packet. The most significant appeal that was sustained was 16082.

6.5 Board of Education Questions, Comments and/or Concerns

7.0 Principals' Reports

7.1 Elementary Report – Mrs. Mannix

June 22nd Pre-K Graduation, as always was well attended. Students did a great job, June 23rd Kindergarten had their 1st annual graduation, both were very well attended. We're already planning for next year. August 2nd and August 4th the teachers will be working with Dr. Axelrod. Other technology conferences in August – will be well-attended. We are looking for volunteers to be involved with Junior Achievements. Article regarding Tanager Tiles was in the Post Star on June 22nd.

7.2 Secondary Report – Mr. Cook

Regents Results - the June regents' results were very good.

A couple of key statistics:

- 6 exams had a proficiency percentage above 85%
- 8 exams had a mastery percentage above 20%
- 7 exams increased their scores from the previous year
- 100% proficiency on the Math B exam for the first time ever

Friday, June 25th was the graduation ceremony. I am proud to announce that all 46 seniors graduated from HCS. I would also like to thank all the faculty members and administrators who participated in the ceremony, Mrs. Parrott for organizing the scholarships and creating the program, and Mrs. Harrington for her help in managing the rehearsals. Thank you to Ms. Tricia Stewart and members of the FFA for organizing and cleaning the courtyard. Initial reports for our Science 8 and Social Studies 8 state exams show that we had proficiency rates of 91% and 85% and mastery rates of 20% and 26%, respectively. If our projections hold true, this year's Social Studies 8 results will be our highest proficiency rate in years, possibly ever. Congratulations to Mr. Cournoyer and Mr. Whitney for their excellent job. I would just like to thank all the faculty and staff members for their hard work this past year. I think that we are making great progress and it is due to all of their commitment and dedication to our students.

8.0 Old Business – No Old Business to Conduct

9.0 New Business

***9.1 CPSE/CSE Recommendations** – There are several recommendations for your consideration this month. As always, should there be a question regarding a recommendation or recommendations, the item or items should be tabled for discussion in Executive Session. – The Board of Education

accepted the recommendations from the CPSE/CSE Committee. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Steves. Approved 5-0

- *9.2 Appointment of Substitute Teacher Aide** – As the board is aware, approval was granted for a long-term unpaid absence of absence to one of our teacher aides. Mrs. Mannix has submitted a recommendation to me regarding a long-term substitute. – The Board of Education appointed Mrs. Melissa Howard as a long-term teacher aid substitute effective September 1, 2010 and terminating upon the return of Mrs. Diane O’Connor. (It is anticipated the leave will run through June 30, 2011, but could end January of 2011). Motion made by Mr. Fish and seconded by Mr. Jessen. Approved 5-0
- *9.3 Appointment of Cafeteria Worker** – The Board of Education appointed Mrs. Vicki Pollock as a cafeteria worker retro-active to July 1, 2010. Salary for Mrs. Pollock and her work schedule were approved by the board at the June Board of Education meeting (\$10/hour for 5.5 hours for 185 days). Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Steves. Approved 5-0
- *9.4 Appointment of Cafeteria Worker** – The Board of Education appointed Mrs. Beth Smith as a cafeteria worker retro-active to July 1, 2010. Salary for Mrs. Smith and her work schedule were approved by the board at the June Board of Education meeting (\$10/hour for 5 hours per week for 185 days). Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0
- *9.5 First Reading Revised Board of Education Policy #524 – ESEA Title I and PCEN Plan** – Consistent with the review of the consolidated grant application, the state recommended the District revise BOE Policy #524. The Shared Decision Making Committee reviewed the existing policy as well as new state guidelines for policy update. Through their efforts, a revised policy was developed for your consideration. – The Board of Education approved the first reading of revised policy #524. Motion made by Mrs. Steves and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 5-0
- *9.6 Disbursement of Funds from Student Activity Account** – Each year the board must disburse the interest earned on the student activity account. This year in addition to the interest, the board must disburse the funds from SADD. The board abolished this organization due to the lack of an advisor over the past two years. The amount to be disbursed is: \$918.04 in interest and \$398.27 from SADD for a total of \$1,316.31 – The Board of Education disbursed the funds in the following manner: \$658 to the High School Student Government, \$329.31 to the yearbook, \$165 to the Middle School Student Government and \$164 to the Elementary Student Government. Motion made that the money that was suggested to give to the Yearbook should be split between the Student Government (\$767.77 to the High School Student Government, \$274.77 to the Middle School Student Government and \$273.77 to the Elementary Student Government) by Mrs. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Jessen. Approved 5-0
- *9.7 Resignation – Special Education Department Chairperson** – The Board of Education accepted the resignation of Ms. Barbara Miner as Special Education Department Chairperson effective July 1, 2010. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Steves. Approved 5-0
- *9.8 Excess Surplus Property** – The Board of Education declared the textbooks listed on the memo from Mrs. Mannix as excess surplus property and allow for proper disposal. Motion made by Mrs. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 5-0
- *9.9 MOA with District Technician** – Pending discussions in Executive Session.
- *9.10 School Breakfast Price for 2010-11** – The Board of Education tabled the price of \$1 for student school breakfast. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 5-0
- 9.11 Authorization to Finalize Settlement** – As explained to the Board earlier, tentative agreement has been reached with Bast Hatfield regarding the claim against the District. I want to be able to wrap the process up a get BHI out of the District. I am asking the board to authorize me to complete the settlement and issue the finalized check to complete the settlement. – The board authorized the Superintendent to settle the labor claim with Bast Hatfield and sign all necessary documents and

issue the payment in the amount of \$199,999. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 5-0

9.12 Re-Siding of Tech. Building – As the board is aware Citadel Corporation has agreed to replace all of the siding on the Tech. Building. They will provide the siding panels at no cost to the District. Dutch Valley Construction has submitted a bid of \$24,377 to do the work. The District did receive one additional bid from Rebel Enterprises for \$42,500. The state has approved the project be done and assigned a project number for the work. – The Board of Education accepted the bid of \$24,377 from Dutch Valley and authorized the work to begin as soon as possible. Motion made by Mr. Fish and seconded by Mrs. Steves. Approved 5-0

10.0 Executive Session – Recommend the Board of Education adjourn to Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. Motion made by Mrs. Steves and seconded by Mr. Jessen. Approved 5-0 at 7:40 pm.

After the return to open session Mr. Getty asked for a motion to un-table the Action Items 9.9 and 9.10. – The Board of Education un-tabled items. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 5-0

***9.9 MOA with District Technician** – Board of Education approved the MOA that was presented in June. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Steves. Approved 5-0

***9.10 School Breakfast Price for 2010-11** – The Board of Education **did not** approve the increase for the Breakfast. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 5-0

11.0 Adjournment – Mr. Getty indicated while in Executive Session, the Board of Education discussed issues related to specific student issues and issues associated with negotiations. No additional business conducted. Board adjourned at 10:13 pm on a motion from Mr. Jessen seconded by Mrs. Steves. Approved 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie M. Durling
District Clerk