

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 11, 2011

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

Board Members Absent: – none

Guests: – Sean Farley, Nicole Wicks, Mrs. Cornell, Mr. Eastman, and Mr. Haff

1.0 Call to Order – Mr. Brian Getty, Board of Education President at 7:07PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

2.0 Prayer – Mr. Fish

3.0 Welcome – Mr. Getty

3.1 Student Recognition – A number of students received recognition for their performance in either baseball or softball. As their names are called, I would ask they come forward to receive their certificate. Softball ADK League **Brittany Brayman** MVP, **Christina Petteys** 1st Team Adirondack, **Morgan Wicks** 2nd Team Adirondack, **Rachel Liebig** and **Gwenn Harsha** Honorable Mention Adirondack. Post Star **Brittany Brayman** and **Christina Petteys** 1st Team Post Star. Baseball ADK League **Phil Cassella**, **Robert Petit** and **Charles Cornell** 1st Team ADK, **Zach Tripp** 2nd Team ADK, **Jon Louie** Honorable Mention ADK

3.2 Public to be Heard

4.0 Review and Approval of Minutes

***4.1 Minutes from the June 20, 2011 Regular Board of Education Meeting** – The Board of Education approved the minutes from the June 20th meeting. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas Approved 5-0

5.0 Financial Reports

***5.1 Treasurer's Report**

***5.2 Warrants**

***5.3 Cafeteria Report**

***5.4 Student Activity Account**

The Board of Education approved the financial reports. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 5-0

6.0 Superintendent's Report

6.1 Graduation Report – On June 24, 2011, the 75th Graduation Ceremony was held at Hartford Central School District. There were a total of 40 Diplomas or Certificates handed out to students. Of the 40 diplomas/certificates, seventeen regent diplomas were awarded (40%), eleven advanced regent diplomas were awarded (27%), five regent diplomas with advanced honors were awarded (12%) and eight local or IEP diplomas were awarded (20%). Please note that the last category is not considered a graduate by SED.

***6.2 Hartford Landfill Property Update** – As the board is aware, there is a sizeable amount of property within the boundaries of the Town of Hartford that was designated as a landfill. The landfill permit has expired. There is a serious question whether the counties will allow the permit to permanently expire. While the Town Supervisor was exploring this issue and discussing it with me, he requested

information regarding taxes in lieu. The school district has not received any taxes in lieu on the property since 2005. Depending on how negotiations go regarding the permit issue, the county could owe the school district some back tax money.

6.3 Update on January Regent Exams – Earlier this year, the Board of Regents announced it was eliminating January Regent Exams as a cost savings attempt. Well as usual they followed the Doctrine of Unintended Consequences. The Board of Regent as well as the State Education Department was unaware of how many schools are on a semester schedule for many of their courses. By eliminating the January Regent Exams, these schools had no way to give a final state assessment on a course and students would have to wait a full semester without reinforcement before taking the state assessment.

The board is now considering re-establishing the January Regent Exams, which they cannot fund. So they are contemplating back billing districts for the exams anywhere from \$6 to \$8 per exam.

***6.4 Informational Packet** – There are several items in your packet for review.

Item #1 – Legal Notes for Education

Item #2 – School Law Bulletin (2)

Item #3 – Jointa Galusha Scholarship Awards – When the stone quarry was opened, part of the agreement with the company dealt with the awarding of annual scholarships. I have enclosed a copy of an announcement which indicates the students that received the scholarships. Some of the scholarships went to students who are currently in college.

Item #4 – Graduation Cohort Data – These graphs indicated various comparison data within the component schools of our BOCES.

Item #5 – News Article from the Democrat and Chronicle (Rochester) – The article outlines the issue of superintendents' salaries.

Item #6 – News Article From the Post Standard (Syracuse) – Article outlines how the elimination of the January Regent Exams will hurt students.

Item #7 – Commissioner's Decisions – There were twenty-seven appeals heard by the Commissioner. Seven appeals were sustained during this process. The last appeal in your packet regarding the annual vote for a particular district is interesting.

Item #8 – News Article on Ranking of Teachers – This is a newspaper article on the process districts will be under to grade teachers under the new state guidelines.

6.5 Board of Education Questions, Comments, and/or Concerns – Brian Getty wanted to bring attention to the elementary door needs weather stripping and a new light bulb needs to be put in the outside light.

7.0 Principals' Reports

7.1 Elementary Report – Mrs. Mannix – Camp Read-A-Lot Summer Program is going well. Shelley Dupuis is doing an internship this summer. The theme each week is cape related and finishes each day sitting around “campfire” reading a detective chapter book. Sue Matthews organized Ranger Jamie and Smokey Bear to speak to the children. There are 39 participants total. Several applicants have been received for the elementary position. Kerry Babson will be moving to grade 4. Interviews will be conducted this week and next. The playground signage was shown to the board for review and several changes were made. Next month the board will vote on updates.

7.2 Secondary Report – Mr. Cook – Friday, June 24th was Hartford's 75th commencement ceremony. I would like to publically thank Mrs. Parrott for all her hard work organizing the program, diplomas, and scholarships; Mrs. Harrington for helping coordinate the rehearsals and dealing with all my neuroses, and all the faculty members who took part in the faculty procession, including: Mrs. Barnard, Mrs. Dougher, Mr. Farley, Ms. Krychear, Ms. McGuirk, Mr. Nerp, Ms. Naumann, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Hemsing, Mrs. Curran, Ms. Stewart, Mr. Sutliff, Mrs. Harrington, and Mr. Whitney. Also, as Mr. Abraham mentioned, I would just like to reiterate that having 40% of our students graduate with an advanced Regents diploma with 27% of those students graduating with an advanced Regents with honors; is a great accomplishment and speaks to the level of work of our faculty and staff and the dedication to academics that our students are displaying. A copy of the tentative June 2010 Regents results and as you will see, I believe that our students did an excellent job on these assessments and we should be very proud. I would like to congratulate all our faculty members who worked extremely hard throughout the year in order to prepare our students for these "high-stakes" exams.

8.0 Old Business

- ***8.1 Memorandum of Agreement with the Elementary Principal** – At the last board meeting, this item was tabled for further discussion. – That, the Board of Education approved the MOA with the Elementary Principal. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0

9.0 New Business

- ***9.1 CPSE/CSE Recommendations** – There are a few recommendations for your consideration this month. Should there be any question or questions regarding a recommendation(s), the item should be tabled for discussion in Executive Session. – The Board of Education accepted the recommendations of the CPSE/CSE Committee. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0
- ***9.2 Resignation – Teacher Aide** – The Board of Education accepted the resignation of Ms. Diane O'Connor as a teacher aide with the district with regrets. The resignation is effective July 1, 2011. Motion made by Mrs. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Jessen. Approved 5-0
- ***9.3 Appointment of Teacher Aide** – Due to the absence of Ms. O'Connor, Melissa Howard has been in as a substitute. Mrs. Mannix has recommended that Mrs. Howard be hired to replace Ms. O'Connor. – The Board of Education appointed Mrs. Melissa Howard as a full time teacher aide. Salary will be per contract of agreement. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0
- ***9.4 Appointment of Summer School Aides** – As the board is aware, Hartford is running a summer school program through a special Title I School Improvement Grant. As such, there is a need for two classroom aides to be appointed. – The Board of Education appointed Stephanie Chadwick and Kendra Hamilton as teacher aides for the 2011 Summer School Program. Salary for both will be based on an hourly rated per their base salaries. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 5-0
- ***9.5 Appointment of Elementary Summer School Teacher** – At the last board meeting, the board appointed four of the five teachers necessary to run the summer program. Mrs. Mannix has interviewed and made a recommendation for the fifth. – The Board of Education appointed Ms. Megan Wordelmann as an elementary summer school teacher for the 2011 Summer Session. Salary will be based on the contractual hourly rate. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 5-0
- ***9.6 Memorandum of Agreement – Head Bus Driver** – The MOA is consistent with the salary freezes as per the 2011-12 Budget Development. – The Board of Education tabled the MOA with the Head Bus Driver. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0
- ***9.7 Memorandum of Agreement – Bus Mechanic** – The MOA is consistent with the salary freezes as per the 2011-12 Budget Development. – The Board of Education approved the MOA with the Bus Mechanic. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 5-0
- 9.8 Extra-Curricular Appointments** – There are a few more extra-curricular appointments that need to be made for the upcoming school year. – The Board of Education tabled the following individuals to the positions listed. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 5-0
Gwynne Cosh and Lynnette Dougher – Chorus Leaders
Louise McGuirk – Yearbook Advisor
- 9.9 Tenure Award** – The Board of Education awarded tenure to Mrs. Lynnette Dougher effective September 1, 2011. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0
- 9.10 Establishment of Board of Education Meeting Dates** – During the Re-Organizational Meeting, the board established the third Monday of each month as the dates for the regular board meetings. I have listed below the actual dates for your approval. There is one exception noted. – That, the Board approved the following dates as the regular Board of Education meetings. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 5-0

August 15, 2011
September 19, 2011
October 17, 2011
November 21, 2011
December 19, 2011

January 16, 2012
February 13, 2012 (second Monday)
March 19, 2012
April 16, 2012
May 21, 2012
June 18, 2012

In addition to the above dates, May 8th will be a public hearing at 7pm and May 15th will be the budget vote. The BOCES Budget Vote will occur in April, but the date has not been set. Please note that at the June Board meeting, the board established July 25th as a tentative board meeting date, with the time of the meeting being 7:30am.

***9.11 Memorandum of Agreement** – Computer Technician – As per the budget development for 2011-12, the salary for the District IT individual was frozen at the 2010-11 amount. – The Board of Education tabled the MOA with the District’s Technician. Motion made by Mr. Fish and seconded by Mr. Jessen. Approved 5-0

10.0 Executive Session – Recommend the Board of Education adjourn to Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 5-0 at 7:58 pm.

11.0 Adjournment – Board returned to open session at 9:20 pm on a motion from Mr. Jessen second by Mr. Fish. Approved 5-0. Mr. Getty announced the board discussed specific personnel issues and the potential for litigation regarding the landfill.

Items of Action

***9.6 Memorandum of Agreement – Head Bus Driver** – Motion by Mr. Jessen seconded by Mrs. Thomas to approve the MOA with the Head Bus Driver. Approved 3-2.

9.8 Extra-Curricular Appointments – Motion by Mrs. Thomas second by Mr. Fish to appoint Gwynne Cosh and Lynnette Dougher as Chorus Leaders. Tabled the appointment of the Yearbook advisor until August meeting. Approved 5-0.

***9.11 Memorandum of Agreement** – Motion by Mr. Jessen second by Mr. Fish to approve the MOA with the District IT Technician. Approved 5-0.

***9.12 Juul Letter** – Motion by Mr. Jessen second by Mrs. Thomas to approve the Juul Letter extending to a fourth year the probationary appointment of Mr. Steven Frampton. Approved 5-0.

Board adjourned at 9:30 pm on a motion from Mrs. Thomas seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie M. Durling
District Clerk