

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 March 19, 2012

Board Members Present – Mr. Brian Getty, President, Mrs. Beth Steves, Mr. Philip Jessen and Mr. Adam Fish

Board Members Absent – Vice-President Mrs. Janine Thomas

Guests: – Sean Farley, Mrs. Combs, Mr. Smith, Mr. Gibson, C. Talmadge, K. Whitney, J. Lawrence, C Bryant, Tim Place (BOCES), J. Lourie, A. Thomas, A. Stoddard, B. Naumann, L. McGuirk, M. Hemsing and students from Mr. Farley’s class. (Families of student recognition for awards)

1.0 Call to Order – Mr. Getty – Board of Education President – 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

2.0 Prayer – Mr. Fish

3.0 Welcome – Mr. Getty

3.1 Student Recognition – With the completion of the winter sports season, accolades for members of our sports teams are beginning to come in. The Varsity Girls’ Basketball Team has been recognized by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association as a scholar athlete team. I would ask that the following members of the team come forward to receive a certificate and pin: **Katherine Frye, Alison Parrott, Hannah Clearwater, Molly Spear, Brittany Brayman, Morgan Wickes, Morgan Mercure and Jaclyn Lavin.**

The Post Star has announced the Adirondack League All Stars for Girls’ Basketball and two members of this year’s squad have been recognized. **Brittany Brayman** has been named to the first team All Adirondack League and **Morgan Mercure** has been named to the All East Team.

3.2 BOCES Presentation – Tim Place from BOCES gave a presentation regarding the opportunities (classes) offered at the local BOCES. **Patrick Delacruz** spoke regarding his classes in Cosmetology. He stressed the need to be there ever day. After completion of this 2 year program he will have a resume completed, part-time job through the internship program, a career with a license and the confidence and leadership skills needed because of SkillsUSA Leadership program. The next student was **Ryan Swain** who spoke regarding his class in welding. He was encouraged by his brother’s experience with BOCES. Ryan felt that he wanted to get some education relating to working with his hands. He liked the class because the instructor would show them how to go about working out the project one their own but was always available for help. This has given Ryan the confidence to tackle the projects. In the second year the class will add more skills with different welding materials.

3.3 Public to be Heard – Mrs. Combs wanted to know if there was going to be a line item budget to be voted on or just the budget number. Mr. Abraham said that the line item budget would be out later because they were still waiting for some numbers. Mrs. Combs said that as a taxpayer she was concerned that there is no line items put to the Board. She asked Mr. Getty what he thought about her concern. Mr. Getty said that he was not concerned because line items can change through the school year, due to students coming and going within the district, but the budget doesn’t change. We have to work with that final number no matter what.

4.0 Review and Approval of Minutes

- ***4.1 Minutes from the February 13, 2012 Regular Board of Education Meeting** – The Board of Education approved the minutes from the February 13, 2012 Regular Board of Education Meeting. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Steves. Approved 4-0

5.0 Financial Reports

- ***5.1 Treasurer's Report**

- ***5.2 Warrants**

- ***5.3 Cafeteria Fund**

The Board of Education approved the financial reports. Motion made by Mr. Fish and seconded by Mr. Jessen. Approved 4-0

- ***5.4 Student Activity Account** – This report is generated for your review and inquiry. – No Action Necessary.

6.0 Superintendent's Report

- 6.1 State Evaluation Process** – The State Education Department and the New York State Teachers Association have reached an agreement on the evaluation process to be implemented next year. While all of the details have yet to be released, the framework for an agreement is in place. Both building administrators have gone through at least the first required training for lead evaluator training. I have completed not only the lead evaluator portion of the training for teachers, but for administrator evaluation as well.

- ***6.2 Informational Packet** – There are several items for your review this month.

- Item #1 – CASDA Shared Services Power Point** – As the board is aware, there is a process underway for Washington County Schools to explore the sharing of services. The effort is being spearheaded by the Capital Area School District Association and our BOCES. I have enclosed a copy of the power point from the last meeting.

- Item #2 – Letter from the Governor** – This governor, unlike those of the past, has discovered the internet and posts letters highlighting his accomplishments.

- Item #3 – Letter and Charts from the NY State Health Department** – As the board may be aware; a new requirement has been placed on schools related to student health. Schools are required to participate in a body mass index development survey. The data indicates the percentage of students with various body mass statistics. The information is provided for your review.

- Item #4 – Prior Year Adjustment** – We have been notified the audit for the 2004-05 School Year (yes, that is correct and not a misprint). Once again the state has determined it owes Hartford money. This time there is an additional amount of \$4,319 to be added to what is already owed. As you can see, the statement indicates when funds become available the amount owed will be paid. Based on previous information, the amount the state owes Hartford is approaching \$200,000 or approximately 6.1% of our tax levy.

- Item #5 – Articles on Former Hartford Student** (2) – The Granville Sentinel ran two stories on Michael Petit, who is a 1998 Graduate of Hartford and is a Captain in the Marine Corps. Capt. Petit has served two tours in Iraq and one in Afghanistan. The first article high lights his work in Afghanistan and the importance of the Hartford Community and School on his development. I am please to say that Captain Petit has completed his tour in Afghanistan and has returned to the United States. The second article examines a little more closely the work Captain Petit and his company are accomplishing.

- Item #6 – Legal Notes for Education**

- Item #7 – Legal Opinion from James Girvin and Letter to Senator Little** – As of December 31, 2012 an exemption on lever voting machine use by schools will expire. The legal opinion from Attorney Girvin clearly indicates schools will be expected to move to electronic voting machines. Such a move would require the school to implement a process to use county machines and pay for the scan ballots. I have filed a letter with Senator Little asking her to work on legislation to extend the exemption those eliminating an additional financial mandate on schools.

- Item #8 – BOCES Pricing Guide for 2012-13**

Item #9 – Letter from the Comptroller’s Office – Phase Two of school audits is underway and this is a notification we will be audited in the near future.

Item #10 – Commissioner’s Decisions – Six decisions were issued by the commissioner’s office. None were sustained.

6.3 Board of Education Questions, Comments, and/or Concerns

7.0 Principals’ Reports

7.1 Secondary Report – Mr. Cook – Wednesday, March 7th we held the Winter Sports Dessert Reception. I would like to offer my congratulations to our student-athletes who participated in the winter sports season on a successful year. I would also like to thank Mr. Capone for all his hard work in organizing and setting up for the reception. A special congratulation to the boys’ basketball team for making the sectional semi-finals; the first time since 1993 and to the girls’ varsity on their scholar athlete designation. The art department has been very busy. The graphic design students have been creating posters for the Washington County Community Action Angels Charity Art Auction and Victoria Euber’s design was selected to be used to advertise the auction. Art club students are creating art for the auction which will be held sometime in June - All proceed will benefit families within Washington County who are in need of food. This class also participated in a Washington County Fair logo design contest which is open to all residents of Washington County. Several students in this class also displayed their work at the Annual Technology Showcase at SUNY Adirondack. They also had an opportunity to see how other schools are using technology and meet with people in the community who use technology within their career. The sixth grade would like to thank school faculty and administration for their continued support with the GreenFiber recycling program. The kids are always so excited to hear that the bin is overflowing with recyclables! Keep up the good work! March is Music in our Schools month for N.Y.S. Ms. Smith and Mrs. Dougher had their students (K-12) fill in a small piano describing why Music is important to them. They are hanging in the café and on our board between our rooms. They are really interesting with the younger kids drawing pictures of instruments while the older students wrote a lengthy response. Upcoming events: March 30th: Talent Show, April 4th: Senior Class Play, April 6th - 13th: Good Friday and Spring Break’ April 16th: BOE Meeting, April 17th - 19th: 6-8 ELA Exams, April 19th: Baila Dance Contest, April 20th: Prom Crash Simulation Drill with Fort Ann for Juniors and Seniors, April 25th - 27th: 6-8 Math Exams, May 2nd and 3rd: Honor Society Induction Ceremonies, May 10th: Junior/Senior Band and Chorus Concert, May 15th: Budget Vote/ Blood Drive, May 21st BOE Meeting, May 24th Honor Society Dinner (tentative date), June 7th FFA Banquet, June 13th Regents Exams begin, June 18th BOE Meeting, June 22nd Graduation

7.2 Elementary Report – Mrs. Mannix – Tanager Pride Party, Alicen Barker – Grade 5 was chosen as 1 of the winners for the Iroquois Reading Council Newspaper in Education Contest, Grade 4 classroom set up Leprechaun traps, Heather Holl will be inviting 4th and 5th grades to participate in the Annual Youth Competition and Art Show. This year’s theme is “Just Down the Road: 1850-1910”, Kristilyn Breault put together a bulletin board, "Spring into Fitness with Tanager Pride". It is located in the PE hallway and has pictures of the students from the tanager pride party in the gymnasium. Also, the elementary students have worked really hard this quarter in the Movement to Music unit. Grades 3-5 will put on dance performances that were creative, fun and energetic. Some of these dance performances will be part of the elementary award ceremony in June. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

8.0 Old Business – No Old Business to Conduct

9.0 New Business

***9.1 CPSE/CSE Recommendations** – There are a few recommendations this month. As always, should there a question regarding a recommendation, 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 Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0

***9.2 Appointment of Unpaid Assistant** – Varsity Baseball – That, the Board of Education appoint Mr. Jeff Rescott as an unpaid assistant for the 2011-12 Varsity Baseball Team. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0

***9.3 Approval of Senior Class Itinerary** – At the February Board of Education Meeting, the board gave tentative approval to an itinerary for the senior class trip. I have enclosed a copy of the final itinerary

for the trip which as you can see has been modified to reduce costs. – The Board of Education approved the senior class trip for the period of April 9-11. Approval is contingent upon all Board of Education policies and procedures being adhered to. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0

***9.4 Appointment of Poll Clerks** – The Board of Education appointed the following individuals as poll clerks for the district's budget vote and board election: Becky Arlen, Ginny Robbins, Donna Burch, Karen Harington, Diane Mercure and Marjorie Durling. Motion made by Mr. Fish and seconded by Mr. Jessen. Approved 4-0

***9.5 Appointment of J.V. Softball Coach** – The Board of Education appointed Mr. Scott Hasseman to the position of JV softball coach for the 2011-12 Season. Stipend will be per Contract of Agreement. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0

***9.6 Approval of Overnight Field Trip – Senior History Class** – As the board is aware, many of our seniors participate in an advanced placement course in history through Plattsburgh College. The students act as representatives to the Organization of American States. This year our students have the ability to travel to Washington as part of their work. – The Board of Education approved an overnight field trip for the Participation in the Organization of American States efforts for the period of 3/22/12 through 3/24/12. Approval is contingent upon all Board of Education policies and procedures being followed. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0

***9.7 Approval of Leave of Absence Under FMLA** – Mrs. Suszyne Burch has requested a leave of absence under the Family Medical Leave Act on or before June 5, 2012, with the expectation of returning to work effective September 1, 2012. – The Board of Education approved the requested FMLA leave of Mrs. Burch that is to start on or about June 5, 2012 and terminates on or about June 30, 2012. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0

***9.8 Approval of Overnight Field Trip – FFA** – Each year the FFA travels to Lancaster, PA. They have again submitted a request for approval for an overnight field trip. As you can see, they will be sharing a coach with at least one other school. – The Board of Education approved the requested overnight field trip of the FFA for the period of April 12-13, 2012. Approval is contingent upon all Board of Education procedures and policies being implemented. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0

***9.9 Approval of 2012-13 School Calendar** – I have placed in your packet a draft of the 2012-13 School Calendar. This calendar is accurate as of today. It is also subject to change if the state decides to modify, change or panic about the regent examination period. There may also be some half days added due to required training under the new APPR guidelines. – The Board of Education approved the calendar as presented and allow the superintendent to modify as the state or state mandates so dictate. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0

***9.10 Approval of Employee Non-Resident Tuition Free Attendance** – Under Board of Education Policy, a non-resident employee can request his or her child attend Hartford as a non-resident student tuition free. We have received such a request from Mrs. Kristy Genevick. – The Board of Education approved the request of Mrs. Kristy Genevick for her child Madison to attend the Hartford Pre-K Program for the 2012-13 School Year. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0

***9.11 Appointment of Substitute Cafeteria Worker** – The Board of Education appointed Mrs. Susan Miller as a substitute Cafeteria Worker to be called on an as needed basis by Mrs. Howe. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0

9.12 Approval of 2012-13 School Budget – Pursuant to budget workshops and public forums, the board gave tentative approval to a 2012-13 Budget of \$10,247,157 and purchase of a bus not to exceed \$108,000. – That, the Board of Education approved a budget of \$10,247,157 and purchase of a bus

not to exceed \$108,000 for the 2012-13 School Year and to be presented for voter referendum on May 15, 2012. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0

9.13 Abolition of Full Time Teaching Positions – There are several positions reductions related to the 2012-13 School Budget. It is necessary to abolish the positions prior to the positions becoming part time. – The Board of Education abolished 1.0 FTE in each of the following curricular areas: Art, English Language Arts, Foreign Language, Social Studies and Science. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0

9.14 Creation of Part Time Positions and Appointments – The Board of Education created 0.8 FTE in each of the areas listed as well as appoint for the 2012-13 School Year the individuals listed to the certification and tenure areas consistent with the part time positions. Each individual will maintain their seniority and appropriate salary step related to the original full time position.

Secondary Science – Mr. Jeffrey LaVoie

Secondary Social Studies – Mr. Kendrick Whitney

English Language Arts – Ms. Susan Reardon

Art (K-12) – Ms. Sarah Bean

Language other than English (Foreign Language) – Mrs. Elizabeth Emblidge.

Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0

9.15 Abolition of 0.6 Part Time Special Education Position – The Board of Education abolished a 0.6 FTE in the tenure and certification area of Special Education K-12. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0

9.16 Creation and Appointment of Part Time Special Education Position – The Board of Education created a 0.4 Position in the tenure and certification area of Special Education for the 2012-13 School Year and appoint Ms. Maureen Curran to the position. Ms. Curran's seniority, step placement and tenure shall be unaffected by board action. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0

9.17 Abolition of Extra-Curricular Activities – As per the Budget Workshops, there was agreement to abolish four extra-curricular activities. – The Board of Education abolished the following extra-curricular activities: Intramurals, Elementary Student Government, History Club and Cheerleading. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0

9.18 Resolution to Participate in Regionalization Study Grant Application** – During the preparation of the 2012-13 School Budget there were questions regarding consolidation of services or regionalization. The Washington County Schools are cooperating in a process to apply for a grant to study regionalization and sharing of services. In order to participate in the grant application, a resolution must be approved by the Board of Education. – The Board of Education approved the attached resolution to allow for Hartford Central School District's participation as outlined in the resolution. (Voice Vote Required***). Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0 (Voice Vote: Mr. Fish – Yes, Mr. Jessen – Yes, Mrs. Steves – Yes and Mr. Getty – Yes)

9.19 Decision On Beef – Recently, there has been a story in the news regarding beef filler being used in beef. Approximately 75% of the beef purchased in super markets have this particular filler, which has been coined as pink slime. The filler is basically the connective tissue from beef cattle. Historically, the filler has been sent to companies that manufacture dog food. It has come to light the federal government has been using this filler in beef being sold to schools.

On March 14th, the FDA realized it may have been in error using the filler in beef being sold to schools so they are giving schools the opportunity for schools to purchase 100% ground beef versus the beef with filler (they maintain the 100% ground beef will have a little bit more fat in it). I am asking the board to approve the district purchase the 100% beef versus the beef with filler (let it go for what it was historically meant for – dog food). – The Board of Education authorized the Cafeteria Manager to purchase only 100% government beef versus the beef with filler. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0

***9.20 Consideration of After School Program** – In your packet is a proposal referred to as Girls on the Run. It is a national training program for training. Three staff members are requesting the board approve the program as an afterschool activity. There is no cost to the district and there is fee charged to participants of \$5. – The Board of Education approved the Girls on the Run Program. Approval is contingent upon there being no cost to the District. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0

***9.21 Extra-Curricular Activity Appointment** – The Board of Education appointed Mr. Justin Brown as Modified Baseball Coach for the 2011-12 School Year. Stipend will be per Contract of Agreement with the Hartford Faculty Association. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0

***9.22 Resolution to Participate in Energy Consortium** – Each year, the Board of Education must renew our participation in the energy consortium with the OCM BOCES. – The Board of Education approved the resolution for participation in the Energy Consortium through the OCM BOCES. Voice Vote Required). (*Voice Vote Required*). Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0 (Voice Vote: Mr. Fish – Yes, Mr. Jessen – Yes, Mrs. Steves – Yes and Mr. Getty – Yes)

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 4-0 at 8:42 pm.

11.0 Adjournment – Board returned to open session at 9:28 pm on a motion from Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish Approved 4-0. Mr. Getty indicated the board had discussed matters pertaining to negotiations and specific personnel issues. No further action taken by the board. Board adjourned at 9:29 pm on a motion from Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie M. Durling
District Clerk