

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 9, 2012

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

Board Members Absent – Mrs. Beth Steves

Guests – Mr. Smith and Mr. Farley

1.0 Call to Order and Pledge – Board of Education President – Brian Getty

2.0 Prayer – Mr. Fish

3.0 Welcome – Board of Education President

3.1 Student Recognition – **Brittany Brayman** has been named to the First Team All State Class D Softball Team. Brittany was also named to the Post Star First Team in Softball. **Morgan Wicks and Gwenn Harsha** received Post Star Honorable Mention recognition.

3.2 Public to be Heard

4.0 Review and Approval of Minutes

***4.1 Minutes from the June 18, 2012 Regular Board of Education Meeting** – The Board of Education approved the minutes from the June 18, 2012 Regular Board of Education meeting with a minor correction. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0

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

***5.4 Quarterly Report** – Student Activity Account – This information is provided for your review and inquiry. Two items to bring to your attention: (a) With the abolition of the Elementary Student Government, the funds within the account will have to be moved (when this happens, I would recommend they be transferred into either the Middle School Student Government or High School Student Government and be accounted for separately within those accounts so the funds can be used by the elementary school as needed), (b) the senior class has donated \$1,000 to the Hartford Volunteer Fire Department and has requested the balance of the account go to the School Yearbook account. – No Action Necessary At This Time.

6.0 Superintendent's Report

6.1 Graduation Report – The seventy-sixth graduation ceremony for the Hartford Central School District was held on Friday June 22nd. Thirty-three students received diplomas and recognition. Mr. Getty

received a number of gifts from the graduating students. I would like to thank Mr. Cook for the organization and process for graduation.

6.2 Update on the Hill Project – All of the required applications and paperwork has been filed with the DEC and now we wait for approval. Once the approval is granted, the project can begin.

***6.3 Informational Packet**

Item #1 – Lawsuit on School Aid – Following the example of NY City, a number of districts have filed suit against the state of NY regarding the way in which aid to schools is calculated. The state asked the suit be thrown out because the formulas had been redone a few years ago. The court ruled the suit can move forward. In all likelihood, the schools will win their case and the state, as it did with NYC, will ignore the court order.

Item #2 – Picture of Graduating Class of 1939 – A picture of this class was recently dropped off at my office by Mr. Hollis Palmer.

Item #3 - Mr. Abraham told the board that Senator Little introduced a Bill in the State Senate for schools to be exempt from getting electronic voting machines – the schools can continue using the lever voting machine.

6.4 Board of Education Questions Comments and/or Concerns – Mr. Fish commented on the NEC conference – he found it to be very helpful and could see that it would be helpful for teachers. Mrs. Thomas wanted to know if the lawsuit on school aid will impact the small schools. Mr. Abraham suggested that the state would be apt to continue looking at consolidation of schools because of the lawsuit. Mrs. Thomas also wanted to know how the graduation rate was calculated. Mr. Cook answered that when a student enters 9th grade they show up on the 9th grade cohort. As this child moves thru the grades on to graduation depending on the type of diploma they receive they are considered either a graduate or a dropout. If they receive a general or regent diploma or are home schooled they are a graduate – but if they receive an IEP or GED or drop out then they are considered dropouts.

7.0 Principals' Reports

7.1 Elementary Report – Mrs. Mannix - Ended the year strong with Field Trips, 5th Grade Moving Up Ceremony, Kindergarten Graduation and Pre-K Graduation; June Citizens' of the Month; Chronicle and Lake George-Adirondack Visitors Guide entries June and July: Alex Backus, Corey Colvin, Tyler Granger, Emily O'Neill, Kathryn Smith, Isabella French, Kailey Gayton, Brennan Card, Alicen Barker, Joshua Wilson, Kaylin Holcomb, Lucas Casey, Robby Wilson, Alexandria Wade. Kindergarten Orientation: August 16th.

7.2 Secondary Report – Mr. Cook – This was the 76th graduation – 33 students graduated. A special thank you to Linda Parrott-Fuller and Wendy Harrington for all they do for graduation. There were 18 faculties in attendance at the graduation.

Mr. Farley wanted to know if there something could be done regarding the students “burning rubber” in the school parking lot after graduation? Mr. Cook said that the authorities are notified prior to the graduation – he said that he would try to notify the authorities with regards to the students that he did know were “burning rubber.”

8.0 Old Business

8.1 Request Concerning Cross Country – At the last Board of Education Meeting a number of parents requested consideration be given to establishing a cross country team to represent the district as a competitive sport. There are several factors that had to be considered before Mr. Abraham makes the recommendation that: First, there were four extra-curricular activities eliminated during the

development of the 2012-13 School budget. Each of those activities had student involvement to various degrees and it would not be appropriate to add an extra-curricular activity in light of those others being eliminated. For example cheerleading was eliminated. There are a large number of students that participate in youth commission cheering that would filter into our program and they would want the program re-established. Secondly and more importantly, we reduced five instructional positions during the budget process, if additional funds are to be found and expended, they should be used for academic purposes NOT extra-curricular activities. Third, establishing cross country as a club not a sport (in order to avoid a stipend) would eliminate the ability to participate competitively with other schools. And finally, since cross country was a sport previously at Hartford, a stipend for coaching would have to be established. – No Action was taken. Mr. Jessen commented that if the parents and girls were serious about a “running club” there were many avenues they could take, one being start their own club or join in with another club in the area. This would not cost very much money.

9.0 New Business

***9.1 CPSE/CSE Recommendations** – There are a significant number of recommendations for your consideration this month. As always, should there be a question or questions regarding any of the recommendations, the item or items should be tabled for discussion in Executive Session. Mrs. Mannix asked for #002019066 to be tabled. – The Board of Education accepted the recommendations from the CPSE/CSE Committee with the exception of. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0

***9.2 Appointment of Long-Term Substitute – Instrumental Music** – As the Board of Education is aware; Mr. Nerp has been approved for an unpaid leave of absence for the 2012-13 School Year. Ms. Jill Smith filled in during the second half of the 2011-12 School Year and did an excellent job and has expressed a desire to continue this upcoming year. – The Board of Education appointed Ms. Jillian Smith as a long term substitute in the certification and tenure area of Instrumental Music for the 2012-13 School Year. Ms. Smith’s Salary will be based on Step 2 of the Salary Schedule (\$37,342) with a Master’s Degree (\$1,100) and 36 Graduate hours (\$2,160) for an annual salary of \$40,602. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 4-0

***9.3 Establishment of 2012-13 Regular Board of Education Meetings** – The Board of Education established the following dates for their regular meetings for the 2012-13 School Year:

August 20, 2012	January 21, 2013
September 17, 2012	February 11, 2013 (2 nd Monday)
October 15, 2012	March 18, 2013
November 19, 2012	April 15, 2013
December 17, 2012	May 20, 2013
	June 17, 2013

Please note there will be a special board meeting in April to review and vote on the BOCES Administrative Budget. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 4-0

***9.4 Excess Surplus Property** – The computers in the technology building have been replaced with new computers. The hardware being replaced in approximately 15 years old (plus the computers were refurbished prior to being put in the building) and are no longer serviceable. They will be sent to BOCES for E-cycling. – The Board of Education declared the equipment as excess surplus property and allows for the e-cycling to be finalized. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 4-0

9.5 Appointment of Dignity for All Students Coordinator – Under the legislation that was passed and signed by then Governor Paterson, the Dignity for All Students Act officially went into effect on July 1, 2012. The required changes in policy and discipline code were finalized earlier in the year. The district is responsible for appointing a coordinator regarding the training and investigation into

complaints. Trish Shaw has been trained through our local BOCES and can service as the coordinator. – The Board of Education appointed Mrs. Trish Shaw the DASA Coordinator and Andrew Cook as back-up for the 2012-13 School Year. (No Stipend). Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 4-0

***9.6 Contract for Internal Auditor** – Legislation excluding small schools from Internal Audit expenses failed to pass in the State Assembly (it did pass in the State Senate). Therefore, we are obligated to once again enter into a contract with an internal auditor. The Board of Education approved the contract with Mr. Prindle to provide internal audit services (Annual Update) at a fee of \$1,600. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 4-0

***9.7 Gasification Cleaning Payment** – The Board of Education approved the payment to Matt Jones if the bill did not exceed the PO. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 4-0

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 4-0 at 7:52pm.

11.0 Adjournment – Board returned to open session at 8:25 pm on a motion from Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas Approved 4-0. Mr. Getty indicated the board discussed personnel issues and a student issue. Board then took up the tabled student issue from 9.1. Motion by Mr. Jessen to accept the Extended School year placement for student #002019066, but tabled the 2012-13 School Year placement seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 4-0. Board adjourned at 8:26 pm on a motion from Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 4-0

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie M. Durling
District Clerk