

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 September 17, 2012

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

Board Members Absent – Mr. Brian Getty, President

Guests – Ron Smith, Mr. Keeley, Russell Wade, Dana Haff, Candy Combs, Sean Farley, Chip Baker, Katelyn Boucher and reporter from the Sentinel.

1.0 Call to Order and Pledge – Mrs. Janine Thomas, Vice-President

2.0 Prayer – Mr. Jessen

3.0 Welcome – Mrs. Thomas

3.1 Public to be Heard – Mr. Dana Haff presented a “Gold” Shovel to the board with the signatures of people who were at the “Ground Breaking” ceremony for the new fields on July 28th. He also indicated that the field would be planted with a cover crop for the winter to hold the fields in place. Next year they would be replanted to the standards of a playing field. Mrs. Thomas spoke to all that are involved with the “Hill” Project and thanked them for coming together and working so seamlessly and all the volunteer work, machinery and materials that have gone into the “Hill”. Mrs. Combs asked that the agenda be put on the web site on Friday.

4.0 Review and Approval of Minutes

***4.1 Minutes from the August 20, 2012 Regular Board of Education Meeting** – The Board of Education approved the minutes from the August 20, 2012 Regular Board of Education Meeting. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Steves. 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. Mr. Fish wanted to know why we were charged twice for the fire inspection at the bus garage – the answer was that the inspectors came out when no one was at the garage. Warrant Number 7 - \$139,222.32 – Warrant Number 1 - \$6,054.71 – Warrant Number 3 - \$180,553.00. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0

6.0 Superintendent’s Report

6.1 Opening Day Activities and Opening Enrollment Information – The opening day of school was a busy one for all staff as they received required training on Right to Know, Dignity for All Students and APPR. I am also pleased to announce that our opening day enrollment showed a slight increase over last year’s ending enrollment. Pre- K-12 enrollment is 470. As of today a few more have enrolled.

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

Item #1 – Affidavit of Residency – One of the issues facing districts is the issue of residency as parents who are not residents try to register their children claiming they are living with a relative or

on their own within the boundaries of the district. In the instances where there is a child “living” with someone other than a parent, I am now requiring the individual where the child is living to sign and notarize an affidavit. Should there be information that is proven to be false, the individual faces criminal charges.

Item #2 – APPR Certification Sign-Off – The District and Hartford Faculty Association finalized the Annual Performance Professional Review documentations required by the state. I have included in your packet the sign-off sheet formalizing the process.

Item #3 – Overview of Hill Project

Item #4 – Notice of Limited Appearance – This document outlines an appeal of the assessment on a property in the Town of Hebron.

Item #5 – Legal Notes for Education

Item #6 – School Alert – the Penn State Failure

Item #7 – News Article – NY Schools and Empty Seats – This article details that over the last several years the number of students attending public schools has declined by approximately 19,000. Over the same time span, employee rates have decreased by 13,000.

Item #8 – School Law Bulletin (2)

Item #9 – Commissioner’s Decisions – Since the last board meeting, there twenty-eight appeals decided by the Commissioner. Only a small number were sustained (half of which related to the same incident and district) and the majority that were sustained were on procedural violations.

Item #10 – Board of Regents Action and/or Discussion Items – The Board of Regents have acted on a few items and are contemplating making additional changes to current regulations. I have included a number of the action items in your packet.

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

7.0 Principals’ Reports

7.1 Secondary Report – Mr. Cook – The Middle/High School had a very smooth opening of the school year. I would like to thank all the faculty, staff, and students for their hard work and cooperation to make this year’s opening a success. In addition, I would like to thank the custodial staff for all of their hard work over the summer preparing the facilities for our students. Faculty members from the Social Studies, Science, Math, Home and Careers, Technology, Health, and Foreign Languages have been working with faculty from Fort Ann, Fort Edward, and Whitehall on developing assessments to comply with the APPR regulations. I think that this has been a great experience for our faculty and one of the unintended consequences is increased communication between the departments. The sophomores will be selling apples & cider from Borden’s Orchard in Valley Falls this fall and the juniors are selling fleece blankets embroidered with a Tanager logo. Please email Ms. Naumann at bnaumann@hartfordcsd.org or contact a sophomore or junior student for details. Upcoming Events: October 2nd – QSP Fundraiser kick-off. Yearbooks go on sale September 24th for \$35 until January. Then the price becomes \$45. October 4th – Open House. October 7th – Senior Class Car Show. October 12th – FFA Chicken BBQ. October 20th – SPUD Run

7.2 Elementary Report – Mrs. Mannix – Opening day of school went very smooth – the only criers were the teachers! This is the first year Pre-K started on the opening day of school. Pre-K news from Allison Intervention services started immediately – from where students left off in June. Chronicle Entries/Fair Report: Jesse and Cody Baker, Logan Smith, Emma and Alex Wade. Brandon Tyler – won the pedal tractor pull (78 lbs) Upcoming Dates: Open House 10/4 , October: Bus Safety – drivers will be presenting bus safety info. October: Fire Prevention – Hartford Fire Fighters will be presenting info. Parent-Teacher Conferences: 11/15, 11/19, 11/20

8.0 Old Business – No Old Business to Conduct

9.0 New Business

***9.1 CPSE/CSE Recommendations** – There are a few recommendations for your consideration this month. As always, if there are any questions regarding a recommendation or recommendations the item or items in question 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 Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0

- *9.2 Probationary Appointment of English Language Arts Teacher** – As the board is aware; there was a need to fill an English Language Arts position due to the resignation of Ms. Sue Reardon. Mr. Cook conducted a number of interviews with the assistance of Mrs. McGuirk, Ms. Naumann, and Mrs. Burch. – The Board of Education appointed Ms. Katelyn Boucher to a three-year probationary appointment in the tenure and certification area of Secondary Language Arts. The probationary appointment will be retroactive to September 1, 2012 and terminate on August 31, 2015. Salary for Ms. Boucher will be Step 1, \$36,936, with 4 graduate hours \$240 for an annual salary of \$37,176. The salary will be pro-rated to \$29,741 to reflect Ms. Boucher's .8 FTE. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0
- *9.3 Superintendent's Goals and Objectives** – I have included in your packet a copy of the required goals and objectives for the 2012-13 School Year. – The Board of Education approved the goals and objectives that have been submitted. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0
- *9.4 Resignation** – The Board of Education accepted the resignation of the Superintendent of Schools effective June 30, 2013. The resignation is for the purpose of retirement. Mrs. Combs asked how the board was going to look for a new superintendent. Mrs. Thomas answered by saying that the board had already chosen someone and that it would be announced in October. Mr. Haff asked if the new person would be living in the District. The answer was that yes but it may take a while for this to happen due to selling and buying a home. Motion made, with thanks and esteem for Mr. Abraham's many years of service, by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0
- *9.5 Request for Leave of Absence Under FMLA** – Mrs. Kristilyn Breault has submitted a leave of absence request consistent with the requirements of the Family Medical Leave Act. The leave would commence on or about November 9, 2012 and terminate on or about January 8, 2013. – The Board of Education approved the request of Mrs. Breault for a leave of absence under the provisions of the Family Medical Leave Act. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0
- *9.6 Appointment of Substitute Cafeteria Worker** – The Board of Education appointed Daisie Smith as a substitute Cafeteria Worker to be called on an as needed basis by Mrs. Howe. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Steves. 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 7:40 pm.

11.0 Adjournment – Board returned to open session at 8:16 pm on a motion from Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0. Mrs. Thomas announced the board discussed personnel issues and that no further action would be taken.

Board adjourned at 8:17 pm on a motion from Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 4-0

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie M. Durling
District Clerk