

Hartford Central School District
Board of Education Meeting

Minutes

Date: January 12, 2015
Time: 7:00p.m.
Type: Regular Meeting
Location: District Library

Board Members present: Mrs. Janine Thomas, Mr. Ron Smith, and Mr. Adam Fish
Board Members absent: Mr. Brian Getty and Mr. Phil Jessen
Guests Present: Russell Wade, Emily Eastman, Misty Smith and Mike Rogers

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance
 - Vice President, Board of Education, Janine Thomas – 7:02
2. Prayer
 - ✓ Mr. Fish
3. Welcome
 - 3.1 Public to be Heard: None
4. Review and Approval of Minutes
 - 4.1 Upon the motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Fish, approval was given to accept the minutes from the December 15, 2014 Regular Meeting of the Board of Education.
Motion Carried: Ayes 3, Nays 0, Abstention 0
 - 4.2 Upon the motion made by Mr. Fish and seconded by Mr. Smith, approval was given to accept the minutes from the January 8, 2015 Special Meeting of the Board of Education.
Motion Carried: Ayes 3, Nays 0, Abstention 0
5. Review and Approval of the District's Financial Reports
 - Treasurer's Report
 - Warrants
 - Cafeteria Report
 - Upon the motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Fish, approval was given to accept the minutes from the December 15, 2014 Regular Meeting of the Board of Education.
Motion Carried: Ayes 3, Nays 0, Abstention 0
 - 5.4 Budget Status Report (*For informational purposes only*)
6. Superintendent's Report
 1. Solar Panels: The district's application for the installation of solar panels has been officially submitted to NYSED and National Grid. We have received conditional approval from National Grid and are waiting to hear back from the state. However, I did receive a notice from the State Office of Historical Preservation inquiring about past development and soil disturbance for that site.
 2. Board Policy Review: The district has received the "first draft" of our BOE policy review from Erie 1 BOCES. We will now need to review the entire document to make sure that the policies listed are in cooperation with the district's practices and procedures.
 3. Advocacy: The WSWHE BOCES lobbyist has arranged a meeting for the BOCES with the State Division of Budget. Myself, along with Jim Dexter, and a couple of other Superintendents (Queensbury, Glens Falls, Stillwater) will be attending the meeting in Albany on behalf of the BOCES on Friday. This is an incredible opportunity for us to speak directly to those who create the budget and explain how the GEA has really negatively affected upstate schools.
 4. Bus Sign: Landmark is almost done with the Bus Garage sign. They are looking to install in the near future, although a specific install date has not yet been determined.

5. Bus Garage Cameras: I have met with a number of different vendors regarding the installation of security cameras at the bus garage. So far, I have two formal quotes and I am meeting with a company from Hudson Falls tomorrow to officially receive their quote and view a demonstration of the product. We may possibly be able to retrieve aid on the purchase through the Safe Schools Act, but this may be prohibitive due to the upfront cost and our tight budget.
6. Special BOCES BOE Election: As the board is aware, there are two vacant seats in the BOCES BOE. BOCES has scheduled a special election for districts on January 9th.
7. SMART Schools Act: Unfortunately, there is still not a great deal of information regarding the SMART Schools Act. However, we do know:
 - Funds are earmarked for specific capital projects that include, pre-k classrooms, installing high-speed broadband, acquiring technology equipment or facilities, and security; and
 - Limits will be placed on funds used to purchase “short lifespan” technology (i.e. computers) We do not know the following:
 - When guidelines and a timeline for receiving the fund will be implemented;
 - Specific limitations on “short lifespan” technology; or
 - If money can be used for professional development
8. Discussion on merging Hartford soccer with Fort Ann. A survey will be given to the student body before any decisions are made.

7. Building Principals and Department Supervisor Reports

- Bus Garage Report: Mr. Mike Rogers
 1. New Cummings engine as opposed to International in Bus 78
 2. Looking into lease/purchase agreement for new lift for garage
 3. Mike requested Board to send thank you to Fort Ann Central for use of their lift for the DOT inspection
- Middle/High School Report: Mr. Brian George (*see attached*)
- Elementary Report: Mrs. Bethellen Mannix
 1. Student Recognition
 - Bus Riders of the Month (December) – see attached sheet
 - Citizens’ of the Month (December) – see attached sheet
 - Chronicle Entries: Karlee Nims, LeAnne Wilson, Levon Brooking, Mason Forbes
 - Hartford Star Fall/Winter Edition (copies to hand out) and announce Star Reporters
 - Olivia Mattison – donated her hair to *Locks of Love*
 - Tanager Voices Performers (attached)
 - *Learning Club* – Cameron’s Project (collecting new books for babies in Intensive Care)
 2. Class Recognition
 - Bus Hands Winners
 - Tied for 2nd Place: Kristy Genevick and Kerry Babson’s classes
 - 1st Place: Amy Thomas’ class
 3. Classroom News:
 - After school Enrichment starts next week (grades 3-6)
 4. Upcoming Events:
 - *Tuesday, January 20th: Wildlife Institute assembly (AM Pre-K – Grade 5)
 - *Friday, February 13th: Parents’ Breakfast

8. Old Business: No Old Business

9. New Business

- 9.1 CPSE/CSE/504 Recommendations
 - Upon the motion made by Mr. Fish and seconded by Mr. Smith, approval was given to accept the CPSE/CSE/504 recommendations at the January 8, 2015 Board of Education meeting.
Motion Carried: Ayes _3_, Nays _0_, Abstention _0_
- 9.2 First Reading – “District-wide School Safety Plan”: Pursuant to Commissioner’s Regulation 155.11, the district is required to develop and maintain a “District-wide School Safety Plan.”
 - Upon the motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Fish, approval was given to accept the first reading of the District-wide Safety Plan at the January 8, 2015 Board of Education meeting.
Motion Carried: Ayes _3_, Nays _0_, Abstention _0_

- 9.3 Tenure Recommendation: Ms. Jill Smith's probationary appointment with the district is scheduled to terminate on January 17, 2015.
- Upon the motion made by Mr. Fish and seconded by Mr. Smith, approval was given to grant tenure to Ms. Jill Smith at the January 8, 2015 Board of Education meeting.
Motion Carried: Ayes _3_, Nays _0_, Abstention _0_
- 9.4 Instrument Donation: Mr. Jeff LaVoie would like to donate two items to the district's instrumental music program: an Armstrong Flute and a Fernandes Bass with Amp.
- Upon the motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Fish, approval was given to accept the donated instruments from Mr. LaVoie at the January 8, 2015 Board of Education meeting.
Motion Carried: Ayes _3_, Nays _0_, Abstention _0_
- 9.5 Budget Transfers: Per Board of Education policy, any line item transfers exceeding \$1,000 need to be approved by the Board of Education. Included within the Board packet is a listing of recommended transfers to remove negative balances within the 2014-2015 budget.
- Upon the motion made by Mr. Fish and seconded by Mr. Smith, approval was given to accept the budget transfers at the January 8, 2015 Board of Education meeting.
Motion Carried: Ayes _3_, Nays _0_, Abstention _0_
- 9.6 Bus Garage Security Cameras: The district reached out to five companies to obtain quotes for the installation of security cameras in the bus garage. We received a quote from three of the five companies (included in the packet).
A unanimous decision was met to table purchasing of bus garage cameras at a later date when the district determines it financially feasible.

10. Executive Session:

The Board adjourned into Executive Session to discuss matters of negotiation at 7:54pm.

Motion to return from Executive Session at 9:02pm by Mr. Fish, seconded by Mr. Smith; vote 3-0

Mrs. Thomas stated that matters of pending negotiations were discussed during executive session.

Adjournment Motion to adjourn at 9:03p.m. by Mr. Fish, seconded by Mrs. Smith; vote 3-0

Secondary Report- January 12, 2015

1. The Hartford Holiday Helper program was able to help a total of 78 Hartford Central School students (33 families) have a brighter holiday. Clothes, toys and food were provided to the students with the help of faculty/ staff, local parishioners, Operation Santa Claus, community members, and Regional Radio (who does the toy drive from our students and many other school districts). The Hartford Central School Key Club also helped organize a food drive for our families. Mrs. Harrington + Mrs. Shaw
2. Middle school art club will meet to plan submissions for art to the "Horsing Around with the Arts" Juried Show at the National Museum of Racing. Several students in both Ms. Bean's Photography class and my Foundation Drawing class submitted work for the Juried Talented Unlimited show and publication. We should have results by mid-January. Chelsea Kingsley, Bailey Hasemann, and I painted sets for the Tanager Voices Holiday musical.
3. On December 23, 8 members of the Key club (Abby Boucher, Mykaela Brausdorf, Kaitlin Cochran, Jessica Getty, Jen Aubin, Abigail Robbins, Bethany Tyler, and Anna Ward) volunteered at the Salvation Army to pass out food baskets and toys.
4. Before break the 6th graders created and sent Holiday cards to the elderly who receive "Meals on Wheels" program within the Hartford community. Ms. Curran's Life Skills class made cinnamon and applesauce ornaments to go along with the cards. Thank you to Mrs. Sprague and Ms. Curran for helping with this project. We also started to correspond with students from Russia in addition to our pen pals from France.
5. Currently, the students are collecting donations from our own "clean out your closet" event. The students were asked to clean out their closets to find gently used items that could be donated to local organizations including the SPCA in Queensbury and the Unity house in Troy. The faculty and staff also contributed as well.
6. 7th grade is conducting a fundraiser for Project Frontlines until mid Feb. We have been assigned to a small platoon in Kandahar, Afghanistan. We will be shipping care packages and letters of encouragement to this platoon towards the end of Feb.
7. 6th grade will have the pleasure of speaking with a representative from US Light Energy on the basics of Solar Energy on Jan 22nd. They will also be touring the AEP building with Mr. Cook on Jan 15. This is all part of our Alternative Energy Unit.
8. NHS create-a-card workshop. We had representation from all grades 3-6 and some high school students even made a few to add to the pile! Approximately 40-50 cards were delivered to the cancer ward at GF Hospital on Christmas Eve. They were very appreciative!

Upcoming Dates:

January 22	Dime-a-Dip
January 26-29	NYS Regents Examinations- Classes still in session
January 30	Second Quarter Ends