

Hartford Central School District
Board of Education Meeting

MINUTES

Date: July 14, 2014
Time: 7:06p.m.
Type: Regular Meeting
Location: District Library

Minutes of Regular Board of Education Meeting July 14, 2014

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

Board Members Absent: None

Guests: None

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance
 - Brian Getty, President, Board of Education at 7:06 pm
2. Prayer
 - Mrs. Thomas
3. Welcome
 - 3.1 Presentation: U.S. Light Energy – Michael Finguard presented another version of the proposed Solar Panels. After inspecting the school and bus garage (original proposal was based on satellite photos) US Light Energy made some changes. The board was pleased with the increased excess generation of energy from the remote site (bus garage) but they would like to see a little change in the plan at the bus garage to remove the proposed solar arrays in the front of the property. In a few days, Michael said that he would be sending a couple of different plans to Mr. Cook for the board's approval. When the board approves all, they will submit it to SED for their approval. This presentation was about 40 minutes and board members were able to ask questions.
 - 3.2 Public to be Heard – None
4. Review and Approval of Minutes
 - 4.1 Minutes from the Regular Meeting of Board of Education held on Monday, June 16, 2014. The Board of Education approved the minutes from the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education held on June 16, 2014. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0.
5. Review and Approval of the District's Financial Reports
 - 5.1 Treasurer's Report
 - 5.2 Warrants
 - 5.3 Cafeteria Report. The Board of Education approved the financial reports as presented. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0.
6. Superintendent's Report
 1. Included within the Board agenda are two separate fiscal resolutions calling on New York State to eliminate the GEA, provide fiscal equity for school districts, and to create a commission to study the distribution of aid among the state. These are incredibly important issues to districts throughout the state that need to be addressed in order to help the long-term financial stability of schools. Each district in the BOCES, and all member schools of the Rural Schools Association throughout the state are passing similar resolutions this month and sending the resolutions to a number of politicians, including the Governor, to show how important this is to schools.
 - a. In addition, I am part of a Superintendent's Sub-committee on advocacy and we have started to explore the idea of hiring a professional lobbyist for the component school districts to help advocate for our needs. Sadly, we have heard from our politicians that we need to be a strong

force in Albany in order to enact change and this would be the first step toward accomplishing this goal.

2. STLE Grant: Last year, five of the schools within the Washington County Consortium were awarded with the STLE 3 Grant. This grant will allow for potential teacher and principal leaders to expand their professional development opportunities and develop into district and consortium wide leaders through PLCs facilitated by CASDA, enrollment in the SUNY Plattsburg teacher-leader certificate program, and hiring a shared Curriculum Coordinator position. Over the past few months teacher and principal candidates have applied for the program and I am proud to announce that the following faculty members from Hartford have been accepted:
 - Teacher-Leader Certificate Program: Mrs. Cosh, Mrs. Kelly, Ms. Harke, and Ms. McGuirk
 - PLCs: Mrs. Winchester, Mrs. Babson, Mrs. Burch, Mr. George, and Mrs. Mannix
 - Curriculum Coordinator: Mrs. Dupuis
3. Bullet Aid: As typical, the district has received a notice from Senator Little's office that we have been assigned additional "Bullet Aid" for the 2014-2015 school year. While it is nice to receive additional monies, I am very frustrated that our legislators can allocate "pork" money to districts after the budget is developed and approved but refuse to look at the GEA or the freeze in foundation aid.
4. DL Room: Over the summer, we will be installing air conditioning in the DL room. This was a recommendation when the room was originally installed, but with the Washington County Consortium schools all installing DL rooms and the necessary technology upgrades for the existing clients, this was not possible.
5. Additional Computers: I would like to publically thank Mrs. Jones-Howe (our BOCES technology person) who worked with BOCES to give the district 80 plus computers for free. These were computers coming off leases in larger school districts that are fully functioning and an upgrade over some of our classroom computers. We will be installing these in classrooms for student and teacher use.
7. Building Principals and Department Supervisor Reports
 - 7.1 Middle/High School Report: Mr. Brian George
 - Distance Learning 2014-2015
 - Up to 7 classes this year (French II, Intro to Psychology, SAT Prep, Music in our Lives, Current Events/History of Sports, ENG 101/108, Nanotechnology, MAT 121/125)
 - Update on Some Recent Graduates:
 - Miriam Nestle & Suzanne Foote - Dean's List SUNY Brockport
 - Morgan Wicks - Dean's List SUNY Canton
 - Ashley Medick- President's and Dean's List at Sienna
 - Alicia LaCross (Earth Science Education) & Brittany Hamelin (Art) graduated this Spring from SUNY Oneonta.
 - 7.2 Elementary Report: Mrs. Bethellen Mannix
 - Student Recognition
 - Bus Rider Awards
 - Safety Awareness
 - Most Improved
 - Citizens' of the Month
 - Chronicle Entries
 - Lake George-Adirondack Visitors Guide Entries
 - Perfect Attendance Award for 2013-14 - 3 Students (Madalyn Benson grade K, Carson Strainer grade 3, Dakota Morrow grade 4)
 - Excellence in Attendance Award for 2013-14 - 8 Kindergartners, 7 first graders, 6 second graders, 8 third graders, 10 fourth graders, 8 fifth graders
 - Classroom/School News: Field Trip - Grade K
 - Upcoming Events:
 - August 26th - Pre-K Open House 9:00-10:30am
 - August 27th - Kindergarten Orientation 6:00-7:00pm
8. Old Business: *There is no old business to conduct*
9. New Business
 - 9.1 CPSE/CSE/504 Recommendations. The Board of Education tabled the recommendations of the CPSE/CSE/504 Committee. Motion to table made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0.

- 9.2 Surplus Property (Textbooks): Ms. Susan Brown has submitted a list of textbooks that are outdated and is seeking to have the books identified as surplus property. The Board of Education identifies the listed items as surplus property and authorized for their proper disposal (*recycling*). Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0.
- 9.3 Financial Resolution: Included within the Board of Education packet is a proposed resolution calling for greater fiscal equity for the Hartford Central School District and an end to the Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA). The Board of Education adopted the proposed resolution. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0. *Voice Vote*: Mr. Getty, Yes, Mrs. Thomas, Yes; Mr. Jessen, Yes; Mr. Fish, Yes; and Mr. Smith, Yes.
- 9.4 Berger-type Commission Resolution: Included with the Board of Education packet is a proposed resolution calling for a Berger-type Commission to be empanelled to address the great need for reforming New York's procedures for allocating state aid to local school districts. The Board of Education adopted the proposed resolution. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0. *Voice Vote*: Mr. Getty, Yes, Mrs. Thomas, Yes; Mr. Jessen, Yes; Mr. Fish, Yes; and Mr. Smith, Yes.
- 9.5 Request for an overnight field-trip: Ms. Tricia Stewart has submitted a request for the FFA to attend an overnight field-trip to the New York State Dairy Judging Contest held at the New York State Fairgrounds from August 27th through the 28th. The Board of Education approved the FFA field trip request contingent upon the compliance with all Board of Education policies and procedures related to overnight fieldtrips. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Smith. Approved 5-0.
- 9.6 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 2013-2014 budget. The Board of Education approved the recommended budget transfers. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0.
- Motion to Un-table Item 9.1 – Motion made by Mr. Fish and second by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0. Item 9.1 Motion made by Mr. Fish and second by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 3-0-2. Mr. Smith and Mr. Jessen – Abstained.
10. Executive Session – There was no need for Executive Session
11. Adjournment – 8:40 pm motion by Mr. Jessen and second by Mr. Fish. After adjournment, Mrs. Thomas shared with the board several items. A painting by a former Superintendent given to her and felt that it would be a nice honor to him to get the painting framed and present to the school for display. The other item was a book written by a former student that is a story about her sister who has asperser syndrome. Mrs. Thomas would like to make this book available to the school and possibly have the author have a book signing.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie M. Durling
District Clerk