

Work Session/Business Meeting Minutes – March 5, 2009

BOARD OF EDUCATION: Tina Mackay, President PRESENT
Guy Cohen, Vice President
Trustees Frank Reale and Valerie Fitzgerald

Trustee Mary Maus was not present (notified)

ADMINISTRATORS: Dr. Marc Space, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Barbara Fuchs, Assistant Superintendent for
Curriculum and Personnel
Paul Lee, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and
Technology
Jonathan Bryant, High School Principal
Edward Hallisey, Middle School Principal
Jamie Edelman, Elementary School Principal
Nick Bellantoni, Director of Operations

OTHERS: Student Representative to the Board of
Education Kevin VanDevelde, Reporters from
North County News and Putnam County News
and Recorder and community members

Ms. Mackay convened the Work Session/Business Meeting at 7:07 p.m. and asked everyone to join her in the Pledge of Allegiance. CONVENE MEETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Budget presentations were made by the building principals (attached). They summarized current enrollment, offerings and staffing and proposed for the 2009-10 school year.

High School Principal Mr. Jonathan Bryant was asked by the Board to supply a list of electives and class sizes. The language offerings at the Middle and High School were discussed. French enrollment has been decreasing, with enrollment in classes between 12-19. Students now enrolled in French will be able to continue through French 5, combining them with French 4 students next year. The

District will investigate other language offerings. Principals were asked to supply extra curriculum activities with enrollments. There was a discussion of the physical education class size at the High School.

The Athletic Coordinator versus Athletic Director position was discussed, with the option of making it a part-time position (.6) with .4 teaching responsibilities.

Dr. Space presented changes he would like to see in the District Clerk position, hoping the position would be able to assume some of the publicity role for the District and also be responsible for taking minutes at Board meetings.

It was announced there would be a special Board meeting on March 26 to discuss the budget. On March 19 the athletic department, special education and buildings/ground/transportation budgets would be presented. The Budget Committee will present their recommendations on March 26. On March 19 Mr. David Stern from the BOCES Health Consortium would present on the health insurance financial status.

Ms. Mackay announced there was one personnel item that the Board needed to discuss in Executive Session prior to a vote. She asked that the Public Contribution Period be moved up. The Board agreed.

PUBLIC CONTRIBUTION PERIOD

Kevin VanDevelde summarized activities in the High School, noting the celebration of Music in the School Month, with the Music Department bringing guests to school; March 6 is the middle of the 3rd quarter marking period; the Interact Club will have a faculty/student basketball game fundraiser on March 6; Mu Alpha Theta Honor Society Induction will be March 11; Tri M Music Induction on March 25; and Straight Talk at the Middle School on March 10.

Ms. Valerie Fitzgerald summarized her three-day NYSSBA meeting with the New York State legislature, including MTA tax, universal kindergarten and the distribution of the Incentive Aid.

Dr. Space mentioned Destination Imagination would take place on Saturday, March 7 at the Yorktown School complex.

Ms. Mackay noted there were two Board of Education seats expiring this year and petition packets would be available next week in the Business Office. She also noted she is working with Gene Yetter, the Town Board Liaison to the Board of Education, to arrange for the Town Assessor to speak at a Board meeting. Mr. Yetter mentioned that the suggested date of May for the assessor might not be possible. He will work with Ms. Mackay and the assessor to find a convenient date. He also suggested that the Board send a formal letter/adopt a motion to the legislature about the MTA tax. He will supply a draft motion.

Ms. Jeannine Rufo spoke on behalf of students with respect for the need of a full-time athletic director. Mr. Mello, representing coaches, spoke of the need for a full-time athletic director. Ms. Berry, parent of an athlete, spoke on the need for a full-time athletic director. She also asked what the role of the District Clerk was. Mr. Cohen explained the role of the clerk was responsibility for all voting and registration,

coordinating information for the Board, preparing Board materials, typing and maintaining Board records.

Ms. Cohen spoke on the current system of review of academic eligibility and that guidance and the Assistant High School Principal handle it and not the athletic coordinator.

Ms. Mackay announced the Board would move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation

The community was informed that this would be a ten-minute Executive Session and then the Board would vote on a personnel item and then return to Executive Session.

At 8:58 p.m., on motion of Ms. Mackay, seconded by Mr. Cohen, the Board, along with Dr. Space, moved into Executive Session to discuss medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE
SESSION
09/198

At 9:11 p.m., on motion of Mr. Cohen, seconded by Ms. Fitzgerald, the Board returned from Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

RETURN FROM
EXECUTIVE SESSION
09/199

On motion of Ms. Fitzgerald, seconded by Mr. Cohen, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to take personnel actions, as per Document #70/09, attached to the agenda and official minutes of this meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

PERSONNEL
ACTIONS
09/200

It was noted this was a resignation.

At 9:14 p.m., on motion of Ms. Mackay, seconded by Mr. Cohen, the Board, along with Dr. Space and Dr. Fuchs, moved into Executive Session to discuss medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. Motion carried unanimously

EXECUTIVE
SESSION
09/201

ADJOURN
MEETING
09/202

At 10:42 p.m., on motion of Mr. Cohen, seconded by Ms. Fitzgerald, the Board returned from Executive Session and at 10:43 p.m., there being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned. Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by
Guy Cohen
Vice President
Board of Education

Submitted by
Linda Pregiato
District Clerk