



14665 State Route 22
New Lebanon, NY 12125

Regular Meeting
February 15, 2012

The regular meeting was held in the Jr./Sr. High School library. The meeting was called to order by Board President Wood at 7:02 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Members: Wood, Sowalski, Kroboth, Bingham, Sotek, and Bienes. Superintendent McGraw, Leslie Whitcomb, Jr./Sr. High School Principal, Matthew Klafehn, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director, Becky Marzeski, WBH Elementary Principal, Tamara Thorpe-Odom, Director of Special Education, and Carrie Nyc-Chevrier, Business Administrator

ABSENT: Board Member Gavrity

ALSO PRESENT: Members of the public.

<p>Public Comment Mr. Tony Winig asked about the status of the Union Free School monument.</p> <p>Superintendent <u>Non-Action Items</u> Mr. James Baldwin, District Superintendent from Questar III, spoke to the Board about Regents reform. Ms. Gladys Cruz, Assistant Superintendent, also from Questar III, spoke to the Board about 21st Century Skills.</p> <p>Superintendent McGraw reviewed a one bell transportation report with the Board. It was decided that the concept will be re-evaluated again next year. Superintendent McGraw gave a progress report on her goals and gave an update on the merger consolidation with Chatham Central School District.</p> <p>Acknowledgments/Administrative Comments Mary Mabb, Transportation Supervisor, notified the Board that the District is changing bus radio carriers for a cost savings and the driver manual has been updated.</p> <p>Tamara Thorpe-Odom notified the Board that Special Education staff and WBH Teaching Assistants met to revisit department goals and had additional SmartBoard training during a recent Superintendent’s Conference day. Time was spent identifying academic, social and emotional learning goals. The Jr./Sr. High School Teaching Assistants attended training on brain based adolescent research. Mrs. Thorpe-Odom attended a Saturday Questar III joint Board of Education meeting. The topic was Special Education in schools.</p> <p>Carrie Nyc-Chevrier updated the Board that there is a problem with a grease trap at the WBH Elementary School that is being corrected.</p> <p>Becky Marzeski, WBH Elementary School Principal notified the Board that for the Superintendent’s Conference half day on January 27, teachers used the process of miscue analysis and how to use the continuum of literacy learning to then write goals for each of</p>	<p>Public Comment</p> <p>James Baldwin and Gladys Cruz, Questar III</p> <p>One Bell Transportation Report</p> <p>Acknowledgments/Administrative Comments</p>
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these students. As a continuation of the Race to the Top initiative, Arlene DeSiena from Questar will be coming to WBH about once a week to work with teachers of literacy on using data to inform the planning of instruction and then going into classrooms to support effective literacy instruction as well as assessment of learning. On February 1, Mr. Rich Johns presented a character education program, Act with Respect Always, in two assemblies; one for grades three and four and an assembly for grades five and six. On Friday, February 3, the theme for the month of February, responsibility, was introduced. Our kindergarteners performed a song with this theme and some of our teachers performed a reader's theater play. Our PTA is responsible for bringing a special reptile show to us this month. There were all kinds of reptiles including a tortoise, a snake, and a crocodile, to mention a few. Ms. Whitcomb had asked earlier in the year if 6th graders could begin using the agenda books that 7th graders currently use. Sixth grade teachers and I thought that this sounded like a wonderful way to transition 6th graders to the Junior High School. They 6th graders have begun using them, and are very excited. They especially like using the agenda as a hall pass. They feel more responsible, and we believe that this will help them toward their successful transition in the Fall. We were fortunate to have the Dental Van, a free service to our students. About 30 students received dental care including filling cavities.

Leslie Whitcomb, Jr./Sr. High School Principal notified the Board that Sarah Risko has been selected to receive the "2012 Student Leadership Award". Sarah will be honored at the annual Champions of Character award banquet on Tuesday, April 3, 2012, at the Franklin Plaza in Troy. She is the only student receiving an award. The 5:30 reception and 6:30 dinner will be followed by the award presentations for leadership in Character Education. FASFA night was held recently. The purpose of this event is to provide assistance to parents in completing this government form which is required for applying to any school for financial assistance. Arts in Education is in full swing at the Junior High level. Students are studying movement and will soon experience a performance by the Ellen Sinopoli Dance Company. There is a Valentine's day dance on Friday. The January administration of Regents examinations went smoothly. Professional development was held at the end of January. The topic was, "Teaching with the Adolescent Brain in Mind".

Matthew Klafehn, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director, notified the Board that New Lebanon is hosting the Central Hudson Valley League Volleyball Tournament finals tomorrow beginning at 4:00. This is the second year of the end-of-season tournament, which has been well received by the students of our participating schools. Unfortunately, New Lebanon lost to Berlin last night in their first round matchup. Consequently, they will be playing in a consolation match against Hawthorne Valley at 4:00 tomorrow. The championship contest between Berlin and Germantown is scheduled to begin at 5:30. The Girls Varsity Basketball and Boys Varsity Volleyball teams will be participating in the Sectional Tournament this year. Additionally we will be sending several swimmers to Shenendehowa this Friday to compete in the section championship. Tristan Southard qualified to compete in the 100 Backstroke, while Rachel Farris and Alex French of Berlin will be competing in the 500 Freestyle and 100 Breaststroke. We are proud to have all three students represent our combined team in sectional play. The winter athletic awards banquet will be held on Thursday, March 1st at 6:00pm. The seventh grade class and Cheerleading Squad will be hosting the dinner, which will be served at 5:30. The Spring sports season commences on Monday, March 5th. A Meet the Coaches Night is scheduled for the following day, March 6th at 6:00.

Minutes**Action Items**

Board Member Bingham made a motion to approve items a-b as a block. Seconded by Board Member Wood. 6 ayes, 0 nays.

- a. Review and approval of the January 18, 2012 minutes.
- b. Review and approval of the January 25, 2012 minutes.

Board Member Bingham left the meeting at 8:54 p.m.

Curriculum and Instruction**Non-Action Items**

Matthew Klafehn, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director, gave his athletic report on sportsmanship.

The Board reviewed the following policies (first reading):

3420	Anti-Harassment in the School District
5630	Facilities: Inspection, Operation and Maintenance
5755	Idling Prohibition for Buses and Other School Vehicles
7545	Student Harassment and Bullying Prevention
7551	Sexual Harassment of Students

Action Items

Board Member Sotek made a motion to approve items a-c as a block. Seconded by Board Member Wood. A discussion took place regarding item c. The Board expressed concerns about the itinerary. Board Member Sotek modified the original motion to approve items a-b only. Seconded by Board Member Wood. 6 ayes, 0 nays.

- a. To review and approve the following revised policies (second reading):

7540	Bullying: Peer Abuse in the Schools
7541	Hazing of Students
7550	Discrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs and Activities

- b. To approve CSE/CPSE recommendations of programs and placements for the following special education students:

092100198	092100085	090220000	092100118
082800003	091140000	092100187	092100200

Board Member Sotek made a motion to approve item c. Seconded by Board Member Sowalski. 0 ayes, 5 nays. (Sotek, Sowalski, Wood, Kroboth, Bienes) The motion failed to pass.

- c. To approve a field trip to Washington D.C., March 30-April 1, 2012 for University U.S. History Students and to appoint Rob Vickers, Tony LaSalvia and Susan Ford as chaperones.

Financial**Non-Action Items**

Carrie Nyc-Chevrier, Business Administrator, presented the second draft of the proposed 2012-2013 budget.

Action Items

Board Member Sowalski made a motion to approve items a-g as a block. Seconded by Board Member Wood. 5 ayes, 0 nays.

- a. To approve a Health Service contract with North Greenbush Common School District for the 2011-2012 school year to provide health services to 1 student attending LaSalle

Minutes

Board Member Bingham left at 8:54 p.m.

Athletic Report

Revised Policies (first reading)

Revised Policies (second reading)

CSE/CPSE Programs and Placements

Item C—Motion Failed

Second Draft of Proposed 2012-2013 Budget

Health Service Contract with North Greenbush Common School District

Institute at a rate of \$236.07 per child and to authorize the President of the Board of Education, and the Board Clerk to execute the agreement.

- b. WHEREAS, the New Lebanon Central School District Board of Education, wishes to approve work as itemized in the Capital Construction Program dated August 1, 2011 including reconstruction at Walter B. Howard Elementary, Junior Senior High School, and the Bus Garage.
- WHEREAS, the New York State Education Department (SED) relinquished the lead agency status to the Board of Education by revising Commissioner of Education Regulation 8 NYCRR Section 155.9 while this action was before the SED;
- WHEREAS, the Board of Education is lead agency for coordinated review under SEQR pursuant to Section 617.6 of Title 6 of the NYCRR.
- WHEREAS, the work itemized in the Capital Construction Program is of an alteration or reconstruction involving no substantial changes in the existing structure or facility;
- NOW BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, acting as lead agency pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act considers the work to have no significant environmental impact and requires no further review under SEQR. Thus, the work is classified as a Type II Action. The Board of Education further directs the Superintendent to cause the Negative Declaration to be filed and noticed in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.
- c. To approve excessing approximately 154 Jr./Sr. High School library books.
- d. To approve the December, 2011 Treasurer's report.
- e. To authorize Superintendent McGraw to engage in a financial study and an enrollment projection study for the purpose of determining impact on merging with another district.
- f. To approve the sale or disposal of the following surplus and obsolete items to the highest bidder and to give the District Clerk authority to advertise the sale of said items and if unable to find a buyer, to authorize Superintendent McGraw to dispose of the items:

Quantity	Item
1	Brother IntelliFAX 1270e (U60302GK488444)
9	Underwriters Laboratories 288 Low Bay Lights
18	Lithonia Lighting TXR 208 volt low bay industrial light fixtures (one has a broken lens)
2	Chalk boards
1	Graph board
1	White board

- g. To approve the sale or disposal of the following surplus vehicle to the highest bidder and to give the District Clerk authority to advertise the sale of said vehicles and if unable to find a buyer, to authorize Superintendent McGraw to dispose of the vehicle:

Year	Vehicle Description	V.I.N. Number	Mileage
2002	Chevrolet Suburban, 5.3L, gas, 4-speed automatic transmission, 4-wheel drive (Brake lines rotted, hole in line going to rear wheels, all lines need to be replaced)	1GNFK16Z32J291675	147,600

Personnel

Action Items

Board Member Wood made a motion to approve items a-b as a block. Seconded by Board Member Kroboth. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstention (Sowalski)

- a. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw to appoint Andrew Curtiss to the position of bus driver at a rate of \$15.47 per hour, effective January 24, 2012.
- b. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint the following substitute for the 2011-2012 school year.

SEQR

Excessed Library Books

December, 2011
Treasurer's Report

Financial/Enrollment
Study

Surplus Items

Surplus Vehicle

Andrew Curtiss, Bus
Driver

Name	Certified or Uncertified	Position	Rate
Zachary Lawrence	Uncertified	Substitute Teacher	\$80.00 per day
Katelyn Klobus	Certified	Substitute Teacher	\$95.00 per day
Robert Allard	Certified	Substitute Teacher	\$95.00 per day
Lauren Tinger (Previously appointed as uncertified)	Certified	Substitute Teacher	\$95.00 per day
Alicia Woodbury (Previously appointed as a substitute teacher)	Uncertified	Substitute Teaching Assistant	\$13.96 per hour
Michael Burdette	Uncertified	Substitute Teacher	\$80.00 per day

Committee Meetings

Non-Action Items

The policy committee met on February 15, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.

The facility committee will meet on February 16, 2012 at 7:00 a.m. at the bus garage.

Board Open Discussion

Non-Action Items

Questar III Saturday morning workshop series: March 3, 2012, 9:00-1:00. Topic: General Instruction/CTE/Online Learning.

The Board discussed the Board meetings taking place at Walter B. Howard Elementary School. The Board prefers to keep the meeting schedule as it is. The meetings will be held in room 3 at WBH starting with the March meeting.

Board Member Sowalski asked about the refinancing of bonds.

Public Comment

Mrs. Bonnie Lichak thanked the Board Members and Administration. She stated that she feels bad about the teachers being under attack and she is nervous about the new evaluations and the economic climate. She stated that parents want to step up and participate in schools so call on them.

Mr. Mike Brustch stated that he is glad that the board documentation is on the website.

Executive Session

Board Member Wood made a motion to enter executive session to discuss employment matters related to a particular person or corporation at 9:25 p.m. Seconded by Board Member Sowalski. 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Clerk Pro-Tem

Board Member Sowalski made a motion to appoint Superintendent McGraw as Clerk Pro-Tem. Seconded by Board Member Wood. 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Zachary Lawrence,
Katelyn Klobus, Robert
Allard, Lauren Tinger,
Michael Burdette
Substitute Teachers

Alicia Woodbury,
Substitute Teaching
Assistant

Committee Meetings

Board Open Discussion

Public Comment

Executive Session

Clerk Pro-Tem

Adjournment

Board Member Wood made a motion to adjourn at 9:40 p.m. Seconded by Board Member Sowalski. 5 ayes, 0 nays.

_____ Respectfully submitted,
Krista Giangrossi, Deputy District Clerk

Adjournment
