



14665 State Route 22  
New Lebanon, NY 12125

Regular Meeting  
May 16, 2012

The regular meeting was held at the Walter B. Howard Elementary School. The meeting was called to order by Board President Wood at 7:01 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Members: Wood, Sowalski, Gavrity, 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

ALSO PRESENT: Members of the public.

<b>Public Comment</b>	<b>Public Comment</b>
<p>Candy Santos-Rataul thanked the Board for letting her intern. She also thanked, Superintendent McGraw, Carrie Nyc-Chevrier, Business Administrator, Leslie Whitcomb, Becky Marzeski, Tamara Thorpe-Odom, Mary Mabb, Patty Metzler, Patty Gallup and Keith Stupplebeen.</p> <p>Crystal Spradley commented that politics should be taken out of teaching. She presented a hand-out to Board President Wood.</p> <p><b>Acknowledgments/Administrative Comments</b> Carrie Nyc-Chevrier, Business Administrator, notified the Board that a pre-bid meeting was held earlier in the day for work to be completed at WBH. Bids are due on May 24. A sink hole has appeared in the parking lot at the Jr./Sr. High School. She is looking into the cause and then will have it repaired. Mrs. Nyc-Chevrier thanked the voters for their support of the budget.</p> <p>Becky Marzeski, WBH Elementary Principal, notified the Board that Kindergarten orientation took place on May 1<sup>st</sup>. On May 4<sup>th</sup>, teachers and teaching assistants spent the half day on staff development by reviewing and refining the current Rtl process. They also learned how to use iPads and Leap Pads in the classroom. The last round of Fountas and Pinell testing has begun. On May 31, and June 4<sup>th</sup>, students in 4<sup>th</sup> grade will take a NYS Science test. On June 5<sup>th</sup>, students in 5<sup>th</sup> grade will take an ELA field test. The Spring concert and art show is on June 7<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>Leslie Whitcomb, Jr./Sr. High School Principal, notified the Board that the faculty recently had a professional development half day in which they worked on curriculum development and evaluating student work collaboratively to assess success integrating writing into other curricula. Jessica Alber, student, received an outstanding business student award from the Business and Marketing Educators Association. She was recommended by Michelle Daus, Business and Family &amp; Consumer Sciences teacher. Megan Farrell, student, has art work displayed in the 2012 Questar III Juried High School Art Invitational hosted by WMHT. The work was on exhibit from April 18 through May 14. Katie Lee Bunn, student, won first and third place prizes from the Hudson Region</p>	<p><b>Acknowledgments/ Administrative Comments</b></p>

Women’s Club Art competition. The chorus performed wonderfully at the NYSSMA festival over the weekend. A total of 17 students attended and each of them ranked “outstanding” which is the highest level of achievement. The spring concert and art show is on May 23. The junior high awards are on May 31. The senior high awards are in June. There is a Memorial Day assembly scheduled for May 23. The Jazz band is attending a festival competition in Springfield. Finals, Regents exams and 8<sup>th</sup> grade science testing are all scheduled to be completed in June.

Matthew Klafehn, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director, notified the Board that the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Memorial Day Assembly will take place on Wednesday, May 23 at 9:00 a.m. Congressman and Veteran, Chris Gibson will be the featured guest speaker. All veterans and current members of any branch of the military are invited to join the American Legion Post #1236 of New Lebanon and the Berkshire Chapter 65 Vietnam Veterans of America in the high school gymnasium as our honored guests. Family and community members are also welcomed and encouraged to attend the festivities in memory of our fallen heroes and in celebration of those who serve. The Spring sports season is coming to a close, with only four days remaining in the regular season. We are looking to send our girls varsity softball team and track team to the post season in the days ahead. The athletic awards banquet will take place on Tuesday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. A barbeque sponsored by the Junior class and ROAR literacy magazine will precede the awards banquet.

Tamara Thorpe-Odom, Director of Special Education, notified the Board that Annual Reviews are nearing completion. The department is in the process of finalizing IEP’s and preparing for extended school summer services. Integration of Technology is continuing. Leapfrog tablets are a part of our primary learning centers. Michelle Kinns, Special Education Intern has been assisting with preparing for the implementation of the Summer School program. Students have been selected based on qualifying criteria. The program will run July 9 through August 17 from 8:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

**Minutes**

**Action Item**

Board Member Bingham made a motion to approve items a-c as a block. Seconded by Board Member Wood. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

- a. Review and approval of the April 18, 2012 minutes
- b. Review and approval of the April 24, 2012 minutes
- c. Review and approval of the May 2, 2012 minutes.

**Curriculum and Instruction**

**Non-Action Items**

Superintendent McGraw gave an overview of the Districts’ APPR status, SLO requirement and Common Core standards.

**Action Items**

Board Member Sotek made a motion to approve items a-g as a block. Seconded by Board Member Wood.

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

5661	Student Wellness Policy
------	-------------------------
- b. To approve the following additional chaperones for a Nature’s Classroom field trip in Silver Bay, NY on May 21-25, 2012  

Tina Houck	Amy Grimm
------------	-----------
- c. To approve the 2012-2013 District Calendar.

**Minutes**

**APPR Status, SLO Requirement and Common Core Standards**

**Approved Policy**

**Tina Houck & Amy Grimm, Chaperones**

**2012-2013 District Calendar**

- d. To approve excessing approximately 282 (multiple copies) 234 (poor condition) Jr./Sr. High School library books.
- e. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to purchase the following textbooks to support the Spanish program for grades 9-10:

Macmillan/McGraw-Hill Glencoe: Glencoe Spanish 2 and Spanish : ¡Asi se dice!, 2012 by Conrad Schmitt, approximate cost: \$94.53 per text.

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

083010001	092100147	090130001	092100131	000002444	000082898
000002438	000002511	000002263	000002291	000002513	000002418

- g. To approve a continued merger for the Boys and Girls Varsity Swim Teams with Berlin Central School District for the 2012-2013 Winter Sports Season.

**Audit Committee Business**

**Non-Action Item**

Susan Bues, Internal Claims Auditor, reviewed her report.

**Action Item**

Board Member Gavrity made a motion to approve item a. Seconded by Board Member Wood. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

- a. To accept the internal claims audit report as prepared by Susan Bues, Internal Claims Auditor.

**Financial**

**Action Items**

Board Member Wood made a motion to approve items a-g as a block. Seconded by Board Member Kroboth. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

- a. To approve the results of the Annual District Meeting, May 15, 2012 as per distributed information.
- b. To approve a Health Service contract with the City School District of Albany for the 2011-2012 school year to provide health services to five students attending Albany Academies at a rate of \$648.35 per child and to authorize the President of the Board of Education, the Superintendent and the Board Clerk to execute the agreement.
- c. To approve the March, 2012 Treasurer’s report.
- d. To approve the April, 2012 Treasurer’s report.
- e. To approve the Walter B. Howard Elementary School Extra-Curricular Accounts dated April 30, 2012 as submitted by Emily Briggs, Extra-Curricular Accounts Treasurer.
- f. To approve the Jr./Sr. High School Extra-Curricular accounts dated April 1-30, 2012 as submitted by Sarah Roblez, Extra-Curricular Accounts Treasurer.
- g. To accept a donation of two books with an approximate value of \$20.00, from Bridget LeBarron, to be used in the Jr./Sr. Library program.

**Personnel**

**Action Items**

Board Member Sowalski made a motion to approve items a-o as a block. Seconded by Board Member Bingham. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

- a. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint Laura Slagen to tenure in the Elementary tenure area, effective September 1, 2012.
- b. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint Donna de Oliveira to tenure in the Elementary tenure area, effective September 1, 2012.

**Excess Library Books**

**Approved Spanish Textbooks**

**CSE/CPSE Programs and Placements**

**Swim Team Merger with Berlin CSD**

**Internal Claims Auditor Report**

**Annual District Meeting Results**

**Health Service Contract with City School District of Albany**

**March, 2012 & April 2012 Treasurer’s report**

**WBH Elementary Extra-Curricular Accounts, April 30, 2012**

**Jr./Sr. H.S. Extra-Curricular Accounts, April 1-30, 2012**

**Book Donation**

**Laura Slagen, Tenure**

**Donna deOliveira, Tenure**

**Felicity Cashman, Tenure**

- c. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint Felicity Cashman to tenure in the Music tenure area, effective September 1, 2012.
- d. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint Valene Synakowski to tenure in the Music tenure area, effective September 1, 2012.
- e. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint Kara Siciliano to tenure in the 7-12 Language other than English (Spanish) tenure area, effective September 1, 2012.
- f. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw to appoint the following to the position of bus driver trainee at a rate of \$7.25 per hour, effective April 23, 2012.

Michael Guido
---------------

- g. To authorize Superintendent McGraw to carry over 5 vacation days from the 2011-2012 school year into the 2012-2013 school year.
- h. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint the following substitutes for the 2011-2012 school year:

Name	Certified or Uncertified	Position	Rate
Jason Goldstein	Uncertified	Substitute Teaching Assistant	\$13.96 per hour
Amanda Humphrey	Uncertified	Substitute Teacher	\$80.00 per day
Brooke Warden	Uncertified	Substitute Teaching Assistant	\$13.96 per hour
Ashley VanKeuren	Uncertified	Substitute Teacher	\$80.00 per day

- i. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint the following student teachers:

Student Teacher	Supervising Teacher	Session
Jonathan Wicks	Becky Vaillancourt	September 4, 2012 – October 19, 2012
Lindsay Mesick	Kathleen Bove	October 22, 2012 – December 7, 2012

- j. To accept the resignation of Michelle Schrader from a .6 position in the tenure area of Education of Children with Handicapping Conditions—General Special Education tenure area, effective June 30, 2012.
- k. To accept the resignation of David Woulfin, elementary teacher, effective June 30, 2012.
- l. To accept the resignation of Christina Yager, elementary teacher, effective June 30, 2012.
- m. To accept the resignation of Christie Hazelton, elementary teacher, effective June 30, 2012.
- n. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint Michelle Kinns to the position of summer school coordinator for 2012, with a \$200 stipend.
- o. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to approve Ashley VanKeuren to provide speech services for summer school 2012 with a rate of \$30.00 per hour, effective July 1, 2012.

### Board Open Discussion

Superintendent McGraw reviewed the implementation of the iPads and appropriate use.

### Public Comment

None.

### Executive Session

Board Member Wood made a motion to enter executive session to discuss employment matters related to a particular person or corporation at 7:50 p.m. Carrie Nyc-Chevrier attended executive session. She left at 8:30 p.m. Leslie Whitcomb also attended executive session. She entered at 8:20 p.m. and left at 8:35 p.m. Seconded by Board Member Bingham. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

Valene Synakowski,  
Tenure

Kara Siciliano, Tenure

Michael Guido, Driver  
Trainee

Superintendent  
McGraw, Carry Over  
Vacation Days

Jason Goldstein,  
Uncertified Substitute  
Teaching Assistant

Amanda Humphrey,  
Uncertified Substitute  
Teacher

Brooke Warden,  
Uncertified Substitute  
Teaching Assistant

Ashley VanKeuren,  
Uncertified Substitute  
Teacher

Jonathan Wicks and  
Lindsay Mesick, Student  
Teachers

Michelle Schrader,  
Resignation from .6  
SPED position

David Woulfin,  
Resignation

Christina Yager,  
Resignation

Christie Hazelton,  
Resignation

Michelle Kinns,  
Summer School  
Coordinator

Ashley VanKeuren,  
Speech Services for  
Summer School

Board Open Discussion  
Public Comment

Executive Session

**Clerk Pro-Tem**

Board Member Sowalski made a motion to appoint Superintendent McGraw as Clerk Pro-Tem. Seconded by Board Member Wood. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

**Adjournment**

Board Member Wood made a motion to adjourn at 9:56 p.m. Seconded by Board Member Sowalski. 7 ayes, 0 nays.

\_\_\_\_\_ Respectfully submitted,  
Krista Giangrossi, Deputy District Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Clerk Pro-Tem**

**Adjournment**