



14665 State Route 22  
New Lebanon, NY 12125

Public Budget Hearing at 7:00 p.m.  
Regular Meeting after the Public Hearing  
May 4, 2011

The regular meeting was held at the Walter B. Howard Elementary School. The meeting was called to order by Board President Wood at 7:04 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRESENT:** Board Members Wood, Smith (arrived at 7:26 p.m.), Gavrity, Kroboth (arrived at 7:29 p.m.), Superintendent McGraw, Leslie Whitcomb, Jr./Sr. High School Principal, Matthew Klafehn, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director, Becky Marzeski, Walter B. Howard Elementary Principal, Tamara Thorpe-Odom, Director of Special Education, and Carrie Nyc-Chevrier, Business Administrator

**ABSENT:** Board Members Lambert, Bingham and Sowalski

**ALSO PRESENT:** Members of the public.

**Public Budget Hearing**

Board Member Wood opened the public budget hearing at 7:04. Carrie Nyc-Chevrier, Business Administrator and Superintendent McGraw presented the budget. The budget hearing ended at 7:40 p.m.

**Public Comment**

Susan Bues mentioned reading in the Courier that Leslie Whitcomb, Jr./Sr. High School Principal, had received a Principal of the Year award.

Superintendent McGraw asked for a moment of silence in memory of Kindergarten teacher Carolyn VanDeusen-Tinger who had passed away recently.

**Acknowledgments/Administrative Comments**

Carrie Nyc-Chevrier, Business Administrator, notified the Board that the External Audit will be starting at the end of May. There will be a Business Office intern starting Fall 2011. She is looking into a cooperative bidding process for student accident insurance and bus parts.

Becky Marzeski, WBH Elementary Principal, notified the Board that six, 6th graders were honored by our Physical Education department and the NYS Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance for outstanding leadership and excellence in Physical Education. The students were honored at a ceremony at Hudson Valley Community College. They will also be honored during Tiger Jam on May 6, 2011. The award winners are, Alphonse Esposito, Stephanie Feathers, Abigail Harty, Timothy Lambert, Sierra Putnam and Mason Turner. An Act with Respect Always assembly was held on April 15<sup>th</sup> with grades 3-6 participating in the Character Education program with Mr. Rich Johns presenting. The Drama club presents Alice in Wonderland on Friday, May 6, 2011 at 7:00. New York State testing is underway which includes ELA and Math. There was a tribute to Ms. Carolyn VanDeusen-Tinger on Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Marzeski

**Public Budget Hearing**

**Public Comment**

**Acknowledgments/  
Administrative  
Comments**

thanks Rensselaer County Hospice, as they were helpful to all the students and staff.

Leslie Whitcomb, Jr./Sr. High School Principal notified the Board that Mr. Garrigan, Science Teacher took students on an Envirothon trip. Prom was held last weekend aboard the Captain JP. Eileen Evans and Jennifer Allard are class advisors. Testing has begun for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students as well as AP. Students in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade are attending a college fair at HVCC. Students attended a field trip to the Schenectady Museum with Mr. LaSalvia, Earth Science Teacher. Dr. Birchak gave a character presentation to high school students which focused on civility and kindness. The National Honor Society induction was held last week. A COMPASS placement test was administered to selected HVCC students. A presentation on HVCC degree programs was given by Meghan Pepe, Guidance Counselor. Ms. Whitcomb thanked Rensselaer County hospice for their help last week with regard to Ms. VanDeusen-Tinger's passing.

Matthew Klafehn, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director notified the Board that there is an upcoming Memorial Day Celebration on May 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 at the Jr./Sr. High School. Veterans, Active and Reserve Military Personnel are invited to attend the assembly program to remember and honor our servicemen and women. The event will include members of the New Lebanon American Legion and the Berkshire Vietnam Veterans. Students, faculty and staff have been asked to submit photos of family members who have served our nation. The uncooperative weather has made it difficult to play spring sports. Bryan Potter was named to the Third Team by the New York State Sportswriters Association for Class D Basketball. Juanita Eaton and Kyle McHugh will be attending a Scholar Athlete Banquet at the Crowne Plaza this month.

Tamara Thorpe-Odom, Director of Special Education notified the board that the Special Education department has been holding Annual Review meetings. Outside placement reviews are complete and summer recommendations have been completed as well. She has been involved in continuous state mandated training on transition planning for students over the age of 14 to plan for their future goals and training on exit summaries to help seniors be ready to advocate as they move forward to complete post-secondary goals and programs. Mrs. Thorpe-Odom thanked Becky Vaillancourt, faculty, staff, students and service providers who helped present a successful WALDO program. Students from the elementary, junior/senior high school program presented presentations on their disability.

Superintendent McGraw notified the Board that she had attended a Rural Schools Summit this week. The topic of tuition paying foreign students was discussed. The District may pursue this option.

### **Minutes**

#### **Action Item**

Board Member Smith made a motion to approve item A. Seconded by Board Member Gavrity. 4 ayes, 0 nays.

a. Review and approval of the April 12, 2011 minutes

### **Curriculum and Instruction**

#### **Non-Action Items**

Ben Long, Science Teacher and students Galen McDonald and Damon Kroboth demonstrated their a Science Olympiad mechanism.

**Minutes**

**Science Olympiad  
Presentation**

Holly May, English Teacher, Lenny Brown, Physical Education Teacher, Meg Agnew, Artist Consultant and Katie Paige, student, gave a presentation on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Arts and Education program

The Board reviewed item c.

c. To review the following revised policy (first reading):

7512	Student Physicals
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**Action Items**

Board Member Gavrity made a motion to approve items a-b as a block. Seconded by Board Member Wood. 4 ayes, 0 nays.

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

6510	Health Insurance
6550	Leaves of Absence
7130	Entitlement to Attend—Age and Residency
7330	Searches and Interrogations of Students
7513	Administration of Medication
7540	Bullying: Peer Abuse in the Schools

b. To approve the addition of the following new half credit high school technology course starting with the 2011-2012 school year:

Exploring Nanotechnology
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**Financial**

**Non-Action Items**

Susan Bues, Internal Claims Auditor, gave her report.

**Action Items**

Board Member Wood made a motion to approve items A-G as a block. Seconded by Board Member Kroboth. 4 ayes, 0 nays.

- a. To accept the donation of two clarinets from Mr. & Mrs. Robert Allen with an approximate total value of \$150.00.
- b. To approve the March, 2011 Treasurer’s report.
- c. To approve budget transfers totaling \$7094.00.
- d. To accept a donation from Hannaford Helps Schools in the amount of \$69.00.
- e. To increase budget line A2110450-3 by \$69.00
- f. To accept a donation of Minwax products valued at \$1500 from the Minwax Community Craftsman Award program.
- g. WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the New Lebanon Central School District ("Board") has proposed to undertake a project consisting of sidewalk and drainage improvements at the Walter B. Howard Elementary School ("the Project"); and WHEREAS, the Board wishes to fully comply with its obligations under the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA") and the regulations there under with respect to the proposed action; and WHEREAS, the Board has carefully considered the nature and scope of the proposed action; and WHEREAS, upon review of the foregoing, the Board makes the following determinations:
  - 1. The proposed action involves sidewalk and drainage improvements at the Walter B. Howard Elementary School (“The Project”);
  - 2. The proposed project represents maintenance or repair involving no substantial changes in an existing facility or structure within the meaning of 6 NYCRR 617.5{c}(1); and/or alternatively the replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or facility in kind within the meaning of 6

**Arts and Education Presentation**

**Policy Review (first reading)**

**Policy Approval (second reading)**

**New Half Credit Course**

**Internal Claims Auditor Report**

**Accepted Donation**

**March, 2011 Treasurer’s report**

**Accepted Donation**

**Increased Budget line**

**Accepted Donation**

**SEQR**

NYCRR617.5(c)(2); and/or alternatively a routine activity of an educational institution within the meaning of 6 NYCRR § 617.5(c)(8).

3. The proposed action will in no case have a significant adverse impact based on the environment based on the criteria contained in 6 NYCRR. § 617.7(c), and is not otherwise a Type I action as defined by 6 NYCRR § 617.4.
4. The proposed action is a Type II action within the meaning of 6 NYCRR 617.5 and is therefore not subject to review under SEQRA and the regulations there under.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board finds and concludes that the proposed action is a Type II action within the meaning of 6 NYCRR 617.5 and therefore is not subject to review under SEQRA and the regulations there under.

**Personnel**

**Action Items**

Board Member Kroboth made a motion to approve items a-g as a block. Seconded by Board Member Wood. 4 ayes, 0 nays.

- a. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to approve the following additional chaperones for a Nature’s Classroom Field Trip on May 23-27, 2011.
- b. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint Frank Healy as the Running Club advisor for the spring of 2011 at a rate of \$30.00 for each session.
- c. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint Michelle Schrader to a .6 position in the tenure area of Education of Children with Handicapping Conditions— General Special Education tenure area, effective September 1, 2011.
- d. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint the following substitute for the 2010-2011 school year:

April Smith	Vicki Burgess
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Name	Certified or Uncertified	Position	Rate
Lisa Kreutziger	Uncertified	Teaching Assistant	\$13.69 per hour
	N/A	Clerk Typist	\$14.05 per hour
Patricia Braunfels	N/A	Clerk Typist	\$14.05 per hour

- e. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint the following student teacher effective May 2, 2011 through June 24, 2011:

Student Teacher	Supervising Teacher
Olivia Chadwick	Cissie West

- f. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint the following volunteer coach for the 2010-2011 school year:

Volunteer	Sport	Stipend
Craig Trombley	Boys Varsity Baseball	No stipend

- g. To approve the following additional chaperones for the Senior class trip to Boston/Cape Cod, Massachusetts, May 14-16, 2011. (information previously mailed with agenda)

Brenda Darcy	Justin Cassavaugh
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**Superintendent**

**Non-Action Item**

Members of the Lebanon Valley Historical Society notified the Board that they have raised \$2000. The Union Free building will be discussed again at the next Board meeting.

**Board Open Discussion**

A joint meeting with Questar, Board of Education Members and Superintendents will be held on June 1, but we have a Board meeting scheduled for that night. Members would like

**April Smith & Vicki Burgess, Chaperones**

**Frank Healy, Running Club Advisor**

**Michelle Schrader, .6 position Education of Children with Handicapping Conditions**

**Lisa Kreutziger, Substitute Teaching Assistant and Clerk Typist**

**Patricia Braunfels Substitute Clerk Typist**

**Olivia Chadwick, Student Teacher and Cissie West, Supervising Teacher**

**Craig Trombley, Boys Varsity Baseball**

**Brenda Darcy & Justin Cassavaugh, Chaperones**

**Union Free School Discussion**

**Board Open Discussion**

to attend the Questar meeting. It was decided to cancel the June 1 Board meeting and to have only one meeting on June 15.

**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 and to discuss collective bargaining at 9:10 p.m. Seconded by Board Member Gavrity. 4 ayes, 0 nays.

**Clerk Pro-Tem**

Board Member Wood made a motion to appoint Superintendent McGraw as Clerk Pro-Tem. Seconded by Board Member Kroboth. 4 ayes, 0 nays.

**Adjournment**

Board Member Wood made a motion to adjourn at 9:17 p.m. Seconded by Board Member Smith. 4 ayes, 0 nays.

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

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**Public Comment**

**Executive Session**

**Clerk Pro-Tem**

**Adjournment**