



Wednesday, May 7, 2014  
Policy Committee Meeting, 6:30pm  
Public Budget Hearing and Regular Meeting of the  
New Lebanon Central School Board of Education  
Walter B. Howard Elementary School Room 3, 7:00pm

## **1. POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING 6:30PM**

### **2. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Public Budget Hearing and Regular Board of Education Meeting was held at the Walter B. Howard Elementary School in room 3. The meeting was called to order by President Lambert at 7:00pm and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Present:** Tim Lambert, Board President; Monique Wood, Board Member; Christine Sotek, Board Member; Michael Bienes, Board Vice President; Sharon Putnam, Board Member(7:07pm); Martha Esposito, Board Member; Tracy Bingham, Board Member (7:04pm)

**Absent:** None

### **3. PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING**

#### **Non-Action**

- A. The public budget hearing was opened by Board President Lambert.
- B. Superintendent McGraw and Michael Los presented the 2014-15 proposed budget.
- C. Board president Bienes and board member Sotek spoke regarding their board candidacies.
- D. The public budget hearing was closed by Board President Lambert at 7:35pm.

### **4. ACKNOWLEDEMENTS/ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS**

A. Jr/Sr High School update was presented by Matthew Klafehn. The Travel Club visited Spain and Morocco over the April break. Advisors Kara Siciliano and Patricia White, along with student voyagers talked about their experience. The Travel Club and the classes of 2015 and 2017 will be putting on a Spring Fling Community Carnival on Friday, May 16, from 3:00-8:00pm at Shatford Park. The money raised will support their next excursion to Costa Rica. On April 14, 2014, Governor Cuomo announced New York State Master Teachers, which recognizes out-standing middle and high school teachers in the STEM subjects. Dolores Storey, high school math teacher, was selected for the program. Eleven students were inducted into the National Honor Society last week. Last week Grade 7 and 8 Math testing

took place. Grade 8 Science will be on June 2. The Columbia County Sheriffs were invited to the faculty meeting and presented on drug identification. Prom will take place on Saturday, May 9, at Muscatello's. Junior High academic awards night will be held on May 13th, and the High School academic awards night will be on May 20th, both at 6:30. The Spring Concert will take place on May 21st at 7:00. The Memorial Day assembly will take place on May 23, at 9:00 am.

B. Student Representative update was given by Usman Sadiq. The travel club's trip to Spain and Morocco is now over. It was a chance to experience new cultures. The AP calculus test is now over. Ms. Norberg's graphic communications classes are learning how to code HTML. Students are creating their own websites. Usman left at 8:22pm

C. Business Office/Facilities and Grounds presented by Michael Los. Bus garage work is progressing and is still expected to be completed by summer. Additionally, the pool bathroom work has started and is also expected to be completed before the summer swim program.

D. WBH update given by Leslie Whitcomb. Art Story, supported by the Everett Kelley endowment for Columbia County arts, will be in 3rd and 4th grade classrooms five days this month. The goal is to use visual images to understand content. The 5th grade SPAC assembly was very well received. The PTA brought in the "Science Guy" who presented two hands-on fun events related to flight. Trivia night was well attended. Teams consisted of members from both schools as well as many from the community. It netted about \$1600 for the New Lebanon Foundation. The play Beauty and the Beast was also well attended. The students enjoyed their cast party after school. WBH had a talent show last month. Many of the students had been preparing their performances since the fall with Miss Boyce in the Show Choir Club - a new club offered to provide opportunities for most motivated singers to have more opportunities to practice outside of choir. The second half of 6th grade students will have their trip to the JSHS. May and June are huge months for field trips. Students are going to the NYS Museum, Firefighters Museum, Palace Theater, and Dutch Hollow among other places. 5th graders will take their traditional trip to Nature's Classroom during the first week in June and the 6th graders will have a full-day trip during that week to the Science Museum and Medieval Times in New Jersey. NYSED testing will soon conclude with a science field test as well as the formal performance and written test.

E. Athletic report. The Spring season is drawing to a close. Varsity and modified sports will be wrapping up within the next 2 weeks. Connor Feathers broke the school record in the 1600M. He ran it in 4:40. A memo regarding JV and cuts was discussed.

F. Special Education update given by Superintendent McGraw (Tamara Thorpe-Odom absent) The CSE Department is holding annual reviews. Last

week, Special Education staff attended training in Saratoga as a team on IEP alignment with program goals and services. Summer school staff has been selected, curriculum planning is being planned, and summer school invites are being sent to parents this week. Outside summer placements and fall placements meetings have been held. She pleased with student's continuous academic and social progress.

## **5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

### **Action**

Board member Bingham made the motion to approve items 5A-B. Board member Bienes seconded. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

A. Motion to approve the April 8, 2014 regular board of education meeting minutes

B. Motion to approve the April 22, 2014 special board of education meeting minutes

## **6. CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION**

### **Action**

Board member Putnam made the motion to approve items 6A-H. Board member Esposito seconded. Board member Wood commented that it was nice to see the principals attending Natures Classroom. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

A. Motion to approve the following chaperones for Nature's Classroom from June 2-5, 2014: Katie McKinney, Andrew Kourt, Christopher Bonacquisti, Frank Healy, Karl Erickson, Tina Erickson, Shari Gadomski, Mary Keating, Trisha Michaud, Stephen Morrissey, and Leslie Whitcomb

B. Motion to approve a continued merger for the Boys and Girls Varsity Swim Teams with Berlin Central School District for the 2014-2015 Winter Sports Season

C. Motion to approve the use of school district buses at no extra charge except for the cost of fuel and a driver by the New Lebanon Summer Youth Program to the following destinations: Great Escape Amusement Park in Lake George, NY ( August 8, 2014), Zoom Flume Waterpark in East Durham, NY (July 19, 2014) and Spare Time Bowling in East Greenbush, NY (TBD).

D. Motion to approve a request from the New Lebanon Summer Youth Program to use the Shatford Pool, from July 7, 2014-August 8, 2014 from 8:00 am -12:00 pm

E. Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, the following policies: 3280, 5640, 7320, 7515

F. Motion to recommend, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw an 8th grade field trip to NYC on May 9th, 2014

G. Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, Kara Siciliano, Michelle Daus, Daniel Fountain, Eileen Evans and Valene Synakowski as chaperones for the 8th grade field trip to NYC on May 9, 2014

H. Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, the planning of the Travel Club's trip to Costa Rica in 2016

## **7. FINANCIAL**

### **Action**

Board Vice President Bienes made the motion to approve items 7A-I. Board member Wood seconded. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

A. Motion to approve the March 2014 Treasurer's report

B. Motion to approve the grades 6-12 Extra-Curricular Accounts report dated March 1, 2014 - March 31, 2014 as submitted by Sarah Roblez, Jr/Sr High School Extra-curricular Accounts Treasurer

C. Motion to approve the grades 6-12 Extra-Curricular Accounts report dated April 1, 2014 - April 30, 2014 as submitted by Sarah Roblez, Jr/Sr High School Extra-curricular Accounts Treasurer

D. Motion to authorize transfers totaling \$33,670.00 as per attached

E. Motion to accept, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, a donation of 60 pedometers from Columbia Memorial Hospital in Hudson, NY to the WBH physical education department.

F. Motion 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 below:

Central Pneumatic Industrial Blast Cabinet with Dual Doors	Model 94274
Central Pneumatic Dust Reclaimer Kit	Model 94275

G. Motion to authorize Superintendent McGraw to enter into an agreement with the New Lebanon CSEA Unit #6508 for July 1, 2014-June 30, 2018

H. Motion to approve a Health Service Contract with the Averill Park Central School District for the 2013-14 school year to provide health services to two students attending Robert C. Parker School at a rate of \$518.60 per student and to authorize the President of the Board of Education and the Board Clerk to execute the agreement

I. Motion 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 listed below:

1-48" round table

7-63" x 36" x 29" tables

2- 36" one-half round tables

1- 60"x30"x26" table

## **8. PERSONNEL**

Board member Sotek made the motion to approve items 8A-H. Board Vice President Bienes seconded. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

A. Motion to re-appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, James Hosley to a .6, K-12 Physical Education position effective September 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015. (Currently employed in this position for the 2013-2014 school year.)

B. Motion to re-appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, Michelle Schrader to the position of .4 K-6 Art Teacher effective September 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015. (Currently employed in this position for the 2013-2014 school year.)

C. Motion to re-appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, Donna Brooks to a .8 7-12 Art Teacher position effective September 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015. (Currently employed in this position for the 2013-2014 school year.)

D. Motion to establish, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, a full time probationary 7-12 English teacher position

E. Motion to establish, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, a cook-manager position

F. Motion to appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, Denise Wallace to the probationary position of dispatcher, effective June 2, 2014 at a rate of \$15.16 per hour.

G. Motion to appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, Denise Wallace as a bus driver trainee, effective May 8, 2014 at a rate of \$8.00 per hour.

H. Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, Eva Heffner as an intern for Meghan Pepe, effective September 1, 2014-December 1, 2014

## **9. SUPERINTENDENT**

**Non-Action**

- A. Superintendent McGraw reminded all those present of the May 20, 2014 budget vote
- B. Superintendent McGraw updated the board on the Union Free Memorial

**10. BOARD OPEN DISCUSSION**

None

**11. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Scott Miller commented on the huge transition from modified to varsity sports. He is in support of a JV team. Karl Erikson spoke on the rules change for students moving between teams and indicated support for a JV team.

**12. PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Action**

- A. Board President Lambert made the motion to enter into Executive Session at 8:41 pm for the purpose of discussing the employment history of particular employees. Board Vice President Bienes seconded. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.
- B. Board member Wood made the motion to appoint Superintendent McGraw as Clerk Pro-Tem. Board President Lambert seconded. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.
- C. Board Vice President Bienes made the motion to return to public session. Board member Putnam seconded. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

**13. SUPERINTENDENT**

**Action**

- A. Board member Wood made the motion to name the softball field. Board member Sotek seconded. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

WHEREAS, the New Lebanon Central School District wishes to celebrate the career of Fred Ruhe, for his dedicated service to the district from 1968 until his retirement in 2005, and who served as an elementary classroom teacher, Curriculum Coordinator from 1977 to 1995, volleyball coach from 1980 to 2013, softball coach from 1983 to 2013; and

WHEREAS, the New Lebanon Central School District embraces the opportunity to acknowledge, in particular, the outstanding teaching and coaching career of Fred Ruhe; and

WHEREAS, the New Lebanon Central School District's coaching history will be forever linked to Fred Ruhe for his longstanding dedication to our students, "Coach Ruhe" has become a fixture in our athletic community, and will be remembered for enriching the lives of countless student athletes who were fortunate to have benefited from his innovative teaching style and his deep commitment to excellence; and

WHEREAS, the New Lebanon Central School District wishes to formally show its appreciation for Fred Ruhe's contribution to the establishment of the District's campus softball field;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby officially proclaims this seventh day of May, in the year two thousand and fourteen, that the newly constructed softball field shall be known from this day forward as "RUHE FIELD".

#### **14. ADJOURNMENT**

##### **Action**

A. Board member Wood made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:27pm. Board member Sotek seconded. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly McGivern

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Kelly McGivern, District Clerk