



Wednesday, April 17, 2013
Regular Meeting of the New Lebanon Central School Board Education
Walter B. Howard Elementary School--Room 3
7:00 p.m.

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Regular Board of Education Meeting was held at the Jr./Sr. High School in the Principal's Conference Room. The meeting was called to order by Board President Wood at 7:01 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Board President Wood, Board Vice President Sowalski, Board Member Bingham, Board Member Sotek, Board Member Bienes, Board Member Kroboth, Board Member Gavrity, Leslie Whitcomb, Jr./Sr. High School Principal, Becky Marzeski, WBH Elementary Principal, Matt Klafehn, Athletic Director/Assistant Principal, Michael Los, Business Administrator and Karen McGraw, Superintendent.

Absent: Jill Risko, Student Representative, Tamara Thorpe-Odom, Director of Special Education

Also Present: Members of the public.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Vicki Burgess stated the public is motivated to have input into personnel decisions. She provided written testimonials to the Board of Education. Kayla Carson spoke of her positive experience with the University College Program. Bonnie Lichak commented about concerns that the District has had six elementary principals and eight English teachers. Tristan Southard spoke in support of the English program. Lucy Burgess shared comments from peers. Written correspondence was presented to the Board from Chris Southard, Chris Houston, Brandon Ross, Connor Feathers, Kendra Houston, Galen McDonald, Zachary O'Keefe, Marum Sadiq, Evan Burgess, Jill Risko, Tim Smith, Rachel VanDeusen, Carol Lukas, Patt Flynn-Zema, Joe Zema, Kayla Carson, Kelsey Hennig, Campbell Lindsay, Samantha Bergdoll, Sierra Putnam, Kalee Hennig, Lucy Burgess, Isabella Toro, Lindsey Smith, Jessica Carusso, Usman Sadiq, Kyle Ross, Shelby Warner, Brittiny Warner, Emily Tinger, Katarina Lichek, Whitney Adams, Amy Brueckmann, Christine Bienes, Collin Goodrich and three anonymous authors.

3. CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

Non-Action

- a. The Walter B. Howard Elementary Drama Club performed an act from their musical "The Little Mermaid."

- b. The Jr./Sr. High School Drama Club showed a video clip from their recent performance, "Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon."

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Action

Board President Wood made the motion to enter into executive session at 7:30 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular employee. Board Vice President Sowalski seconded the motion. Motion carried. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

The Board returned to open session at 8:09 p.m.

5. AUDIT COMMITTEE

Non-Action

- a. Ray Cerrone, Questar III, presented the GASB 45 audit report.

Action

- b. Board Member Sotek made the motion to accept the GASB 45 audit report. Board Member Bienes seconded the motion. Motion carried. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

6. CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

Action

Board Member Bingham made the motion to approve items c-h as a block. Board President Wood seconded the motion. Motion carried. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

- c. To approve a new science elective entitled Science Society.
- d. To appoint the following chaperones for Nature's Classroom: Shannon Carinci, Tammy Pawlows, Adam Acquario, April Smith, Shannon Shuhart, Lynne Soldato, Michelle Bruns, Louis Kolonics, George Stalker, Ivy Sharon, Brandy Young, Dominic Bruno and James Hosley.
- e. To approve Tylea Gebbie as an additional chaperone for the sixth grade end-of-year trip to Medieval Times and The Liberty Science Center.
- f. To approve Michelle Bienes and Scott Thompson as chaperones for the Jazz Band trip to the Great East Music festival in West Springfield, MA on May 17, 2013.
- g. To approve the Jr./Sr. High School Drama Club field trip to New York City on Saturday, April 20, 2013 with the following chaperones: Clint Garrigan, Kelsey Norberg, Brooke Warden, Kara Siciliano and Valene Synakowski.
- h. To approve CSE/CPSE recommendations of programs and placement for the following special education students: 092100199, 092100222, 092100225, 000002512, 083360000, 000002485, 000002346, 000002268, 000002267, 000002110, 000002039, 000000892, 000002237, 000012296 and 092100043.

7. PERSONNEL

Action

Board Member Bienes made the motion to approve items a-h as a block. Board Member Sotek seconded the motion. Motion carried. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

- a. To appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, the following volunteers for the 2012-2013 spring sports season:

Name	Sport	Effective Date
Collin Sedgwick	Boys Varsity Baseball Volunteer	March 25, 2013
Leilani Hover	Track and Field Volunteer	March 25, 2013
Brooke Warden	Girls Modified Softball Volunteer	March 25, 2013
Joseph Stauch	Girls Varsity Softball Volunteer	March 25, 2013

- b. To appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, Kara Gillivan to the 7-12 Science tenure area (probationary), Step 1, with a salary of \$44,086 per year, effective September 1, 2013 through September 1, 2016. Ms. Gillivan has a Master's degree and initial certification in 7-12 Earth Science with an initial General Science Extension and initial 5-6 Earth Science Extension.
- c. To appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, Frederick Boughton, Jr. to the position of laborer, effective April 10, 2013, at a rate of \$11.86 per hour.
- d. To grant tenure, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to Jason Breslin in the Elementary tenure area, effective September 1, 2013.
- e. To grant tenure, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to Meghan Pepe in the tenure area of School Counseling and Guidance, effective July 22, 2013.
- f. To grant tenure, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to Tylea Gebbie in the tenure area of School Psychologist, effective September 1, 2013.
- g. To accept the resignation of Carolyn Strauch effective May 8, 2013.
- h. To accept the resignation of Carey Foley, Elementary Teacher, effective June 30, 2013.

Board Member Bingham left at 9:20 p.m.

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Action

Board President Wood made the motion to approve the March 20, 2013 Regular Board of Education meeting minutes. Board Vice President Sowalski seconded the motion. Motion carried. 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

9. FINANCIAL

Non-Action

- a. Susan Bues, Internal Claims Auditor, presented the Third Quarter Internal Claims Audit Report to the Board.
- b. Mike Los, Business Administrator, presented the final 2013-2014 proposed budget.

Action

Board Member Gavrity made the motion to approve items c-i as a block. Board Member Kroboth seconded the motion. Motion carried. 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

- c. To approve the March 2013 Treasurer's report.
- d. To adopt the Notice of Public Hearing and Elections.
- e. To adopt the 2013-2014 budget. RESOLVED, that the proposed budget of expenditures of the New Lebanon Central School District for the 2013-2014 school year in the amount of \$12,440,790 and for the purposes shown in the statement of estimated expenditures adopted by the Board of Education be and the same hereby is approved and the amount thereof shall be raised by a levy of a tax upon the taxable property of the school district, after first deducting the monies available from state aid and other sources as provided by law.
- f. BE IT RESOLVED that the New Lebanon Central School District Board of Education hereby adopts the property tax report card.
- g. To accept the Third Quarter Internal Claims Audit Report as presented by Susan Bues, Internal Claims Auditor.
- h. To approve the March 2013 Jr./Sr. High School Extra-Curricular report as submitted by Sarah Roblez, Extra-Curricular Treasurer.
- i. To approve the March 2013 WBH Extra-Curricular report as submitted by Tammy Leonard, Extra-Curricular Treasurer.

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS

- a. Mike Los, Business Administrator, gave an April Business Office Report. Mike reported the final phase of the Capital Project at Walter B. Howard Elementary will be starting at the end of April or early May. Since the project involves replacing the parking lot lights, the parking lot will be without lighting for a month or so. Mike welcomed Fred Boughton, the District's newest laborer. With the hiring of Fred, the District is fully staffed in the Operations and Maintenance Department. Mike also reported on the Fund Balance.
- b. Becky Marzeski, WBH Elementary Principal, updated the Board on the happenings at the WBH Elementary. The 5th and 6th grade Honor Roll Assembly was held on April 11, 2013. The second trimester ended with 53% of the 5th and 6th graders on the honor roll, which is 10% higher than the first trimester. Fifth grade honor roll students include: Joseph Acquario, Emma Blatt, Brianna Shuhart, Ethan Smith, Alexis Benham, Jiana Darcy, Ravan Inayat-Khan, Shawn Pawlows and Cheyenne Powell. Fifth grade high honor roll students include: Ethan Boyd, Olivia Bruno, Rose Denué, Tiffany Eggleston, Aaliyah Stalker, Daniel Truax, Sarah Williams, Isabella Bruns, Felicity Fleming, Emily Schafer, Sydney Smith, and Madison Soldato. Daniel Truax earned the highest average in fifth grade with an average of 96.20. Sixth grade honor roll students include: Sherman Banker, Hope Godomski, Brandon Hendrick, Hayden Kunhardt, James Lambert, Jacob Markou, Taylor Robertson, Catherine Roden and Matthew Smith. Sixth grade

high honor roll students include: Nathaniel Austin, Clayton Erickson, Ashely Klein, Keagan Carson, Alixandra Green, Makiyla Levy, Tyler Price, Andrew Sears, Evan VanDeusen, and Natalie Zema. Nathaniel Austin earned the highest average in sixth grade with an average of 98.34.

Ten WBH students participated in last Friday evening's All County Chorus Festival. Their teacher, Leslie Kubica, stated that she couldn't be more proud of these students for their performance.

Congratulations to Taylor Robertson, Hayden Kunhardt, Amelia McDonald, Emily Schafer, Sarah Williams, Sydney Smith, Hope Godomski, Alixandra Green, Isabella Bruns, and Elizabeth Krupa.

WBH Drama Club will be presenting The Little Mermaid on Friday, April 26th at 7:00 p.m. Next school year, there will be a Drama Club for grades K-3.

The second annual Talent Show will be on Thursday, May 9, 2013 at 6 p.m. in the WBH auditorium.

New York State Testing has begun. All has gone smoothly.

Finally, Becky informed the Board that Carolyn Strauch will be presenting afterschool Smart Board Training Sessions for teachers.

- c. Leslie Whitcomb, Jr./Sr. High School Principal, spoke about the events going on at the Jr./Sr. High School. Students participated in juried art shows at the National Horse Racing Museum High School Show, the Questar Student Art Show, the Women's Club Art Show and the Siena Martin Luther King Event.

A Distance Learning "field trip" took place on dating violence. The 8th grade went on a Spanish field trip to Harlem. Thanks to the New Lebanon Foundation, the 7th grade went to Proctors. The senior class went to the Capitol in Albany. We continue to be DASA compliant. This last month we had events with respect to anti bullying and safety. Students who participated in the Anti-Defamation League Training are preparing to roll out training and awareness events district-wide.

Finally, Leslie informed the Board that with the assistance of trainers from Questar, the English department is working on curriculum development for grades 7-12 (ELA).

- d. Matt Klafehn, Athletic Director/Assistant Principal, shared with the Board that the spring sports schedules have commenced. The Boys Modified Baseball team secured a victory in their first contest of the season, which served as a huge morale booster for our kids, as many competed in a basketball season without a win this winter.

9. SUPERINTENDENT

- a. Superintendent McGraw gave a March update on the Superintendent’s Goals.
- b. Superintendent McGraw also updated the Board on the Town of New Lebanon Sidewalk Project. Ms. McGraw noted that our “Student Sidewalk” should be sealed to protect it from the weather and further deterioration over time.
- c. Superintendent McGraw pointed out that the District’s policy on non-resident tuition needs to be revised to include foreign students.

Board Vice President Sowalski left at 10:03 p.m.

10. BOARD OPEN DISCUSSION

The Board is not interested in having a liaison to the Town of New Lebanon at this time, but encourages communication between the two Boards.

Board Member Sotek inquired about the Pre-K program. Becky Marzeski, WBH Elementary Principal, gave an updated explaining that the program starting this fall would be full-day. The District will transport any students that are four years old or older.

Superintendent McGraw shared that there are five candidates running for the three open positions on the Board. All five candidates will be invited to speak for a few minutes at the Budget Hearing on May 8, 2013 regarding their qualifications.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Brutsch commented that the original Town application in 2004 for sidewalks states that the sidewalks will continue to the Park.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Action

Board President Wood made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 p.m. Board Member Kroboth seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

Respectfully Submitted,
Leslie M. Coons, Deputy District Clerk
