

NEWLEBANON

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

14665 State Route 22
New Lebanon, NY 12125

Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
January 6, 2010

The regular meeting was held at the Jr./Sr. High School. The meeting was called to order by Board President Wood at 7:04 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. The public hearing started at 7:05 p.m.

PRESENT: Board Members Wood, Sowalski, Smith, Bingham, Luhrmann, Lambert, Gavriety, Superintendent McGraw, Leslie Whitcomb, Jr./Sr. High School Principal, Daniel Packard, WBH Elementary Principal, Carrie Nyc-Chevrier, Business Administrator, Tamara Thorpe-Odom, Director of Special Education and Ed Davis, Transportation Supervisor.

ABSENT: Board Member Luhrmann.

ALSO PRESENT: Members of the public.

Public Hearing

A public hearing was held regarding the Union Free School Building. The building history was reviewed. Options were discussed. Sharon Kugler spoke on behalf of the Historical Society. Nancy Clement spoke about the historical value of the building and its placement on the National Historic Register. Funding possibilities were reviewed and that at this time there are no grants or State Aid available. Restrictions on selling the property were reviewed. It was noted that asbestos removal in 2006 makes future use of the building or demolition more feasible.

The public hearing was closed at 7:43 p.m.

Public Comment

Nancy Clement asked when action will be taken regarding the proposal about the Union Free School building from the Historical Society.

Acknowledgments/Administrative Comments

Ed Davis, Transportation Supervisor reviewed a memo sent to the Board regarding propane fueled buses vs. diesel fueled buses. His recommendation is to continue purchasing diesel fueled buses at this time.

Superintendent McGraw recognized Board Members Wood, Sowalski and Bingham as they received a Developmental Achievement citation from NYSSBA Leadership Development because they attended the summer conference. Superintendent McGraw notified the Board that the newly paved parking lot at WBH was featured in a calendar from Peckham Road Materials.

Carrie Nyc-Chevrier, Business Administrator, updated the Board on State Aid payments. The District has lost a total of \$134,680.

Public Hearing

Public Comment

**Acknowledgments/
Administrative
Comments**

Dan Packard, WBH Principal, notified the Board that a Winter Concert and Art Show were held recently. He has been conducting grade level meetings to discuss student progress.

Building goals were reviewed at a recent faculty meeting. The Tiger Jam assembly was about "Determination". A Hills Brothers assembly will be held on Thursday on bullying.

Leslie Whitcomb, Jr./Sr. High Principal, notified the Board that Justine Ostroski won first and second places in a photo contest entitled "Faces of the Homeless". Geneva Furlano was named to the girls soccer Section II first team for Class D. She was also named the Section II Player of the Year for Class D and also made the All-State 1st team for Class D. She made the Albany Times Union Second Team for small schools. Sophomores will attend a career fair at Columbia Greene on Friday. Students, Meredith Lucas and Tracey Wellington will have their work displayed in the Columbia Greene art gallery. Regents exams are at the end of January. The December music concert and art show featured the choir and included student instrumentals and the band included vocals. A lockdown drill was conducted in December.

Tamara Thorpe-Odom, Director of Special Education notified the Board that she has been conducting CSE/CPSE meetings. She has been visiting outside placements and she is gearing up for annual reviews.

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 December 2, 2009 minutes.
- b. Review and approval of the December 16, 2009 minutes.

Curriculum and Instruction

Non-Action Items

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

- a. To declare 103 library books excess.
- b. To approve CSE/CPSE recommendations of programs and placements for the following special education students:

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Audit Committee

Non-Action Item

The Board reviewed the Audit Committee Charter. A clarification was made that the Audit Committee is made up of the entire Board of Education as a whole. Board Members Gavrity and Bingham expressed an interest in making the Audit Committee a sub committee. This will be further discussed at a future meeting.

Financial

Non-Action Items

Carrie Nyc-Chevrier reported on the cost to run the soccer lights with the generator vs. electricity. The 2008-2009 electricity cost was \$2725.48. The cost of fuel to run the generator for the 2009-2010 season was \$1053.57 resulting in a net savings of \$1671.91.

Carrie Nyc-Chevrier presented the 2010-2011 Facilities and Transportation budgets.

Minutes

Declared Library Books Excess

Approved CSE/CPSE Recommendations

Reviewed Audit Committee Charter

Report on Soccer Lights Cost

Reviewed Facilities & Transportation Budgets

Action Items

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

- a. WHEREAS, the New Lebanon Central School District received, accepted and opened bids for electrical upgrades at the Walter B. Howard Elementary School on January 5, 2010 and WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bidder was **Brunswick Electric, Inc.**. WHEREAS, the engineer has recommended the award of the contract to the above contractor.
THEREFORE:
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the electrical upgrades (Contract #1) at the Walter B. Howard Elementary School is awarded to **Brunswick Electric, Inc.** with a base bid of **\$109,000** with a Deduct A of **\$9,100** resulting in a net contract award to **Brunswick Electric, Inc.** in the amount of **\$99,900**.
- b. To accept a donation of \$590.00 in memory of Stuart Luhrmann to support the music department.
- c. To increase budget line A2110.450-4 by \$590.00
- d. To approve re-entering into a disaster sheltering agreement with the American Red Cross and to authorize Board President Wood to sign the agreement.
- e. To approve budget transfers totaling \$26,116.
- f. To approve the Jr./Sr. High School Extra-Curricular Accounts dated November 1-30, 2009 as submitted by Eileen Winslow, Extra-Curricular Accounts Treasurer.
- g. To approve a Memorandum of Understanding with Berlin Central School District, the Town of Berlin and Rensselaer County and to authorize Superintendent McGraw to enter into an intermunicipal agreement.
- h. To accept a donation in the amount of \$250.00 from the Catherine L. Schell, New Lebanon Alumna to support the Jr./Sr. High School Library program.
- i. To accept a donation in the amount of \$250.00 from the New Lebanon Alumni Association to support the Jr./Sr. High School Library program.
- j. To increase budget line A2610.450-4 by \$500.00.
- k. To accept a donation of 39 books from Catherine Bornhorst.
- l. To award a surplus item bid to the next highest bidder(s), as per chart below as a result of a bid opening on October 29, 2009. The earlier award is rescinded due to failure of performance.

Bidder Name	Surplus Item or Vehicle	Total Bid Submitted
Lutz Sales (Michael Lutz)	2001 GMC Corbeil, 12-Passenger Wheelchair Van	\$1459.00

- m. To award surplus items bids to the highest bidder(s), as per chart below as a result of a bid opening on December 28, 2009.

Bidder Name	Surplus Item or Vehicle	Total Bid Submitted
JoAnn Gavrity	Round wooden table	\$10.00
Rick VanDeusen	Salad Bar	\$5.00
	15 Gym light fixtures	\$1.00
	Delta Band saw	\$5.00
	22 Atomic Clocks	\$5.00
Bob Baldwin	Wooden table (maple)	\$1.00
	2-drawer card catalog	\$0.50
Carrie Nyc-Chevrier	9-drawer card catalog	\$20.00

- n. To accept a donation of \$295.00 in memory of Stuart Luhrmann to support the music department.
- o. To increase budget line A2110.450-4 by \$295.00

Electrical Upgrade Bid awarded to Brunswick Electric, Inc.

Donation

Increased Budget Line A2110.450-4 American Red Cross Agreement

Budget Transfers

Jr./Sr. Extra Curricular, 11/30/09

MOU with Berlin CSD

Donation

Increased Budget Line A2610.450-4

Donation

Surplus Items Bids Awarded

Donation

Increased Budget Line A2610.450-4

Personnel

Action Items

Board Member Wood made a motion to approve item A. Seconded by Board Member Gavriety. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstention (Bingham)

- a. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint Karen Patch to the position of school nurse at a rate of \$18.31, as per CSEA contract, effective January 4, 2010.

Karen Patch, School Nurse

Board Member Wood made a motion to approve items B-L. Seconded by Board Member Gavriety. 6 ayes, 0 nays.

- b. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint the following substitute(s) for the 2009-2010 school year.

Darren Haney, Substitute

Teacher	Rate (per day)
Darren Haney (uncertified)	\$80.00

- c. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to discontinue employment for Barry Tynan, probationary Cleaner, effective December 7, 2009.

Barry Tynan, Employment Discontinued

- d. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint Jay Freeman to the position of Cleaner at a rate of \$10.15 per hour, Step1, as per CSEA contract, effective December 28, 2009.

Jay Freeman, Cleaner

- e. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint James Knox to the position of Cleaner at a rate of \$10.15 per hour, Step 1, as per CSEA contract, effective December 28, 2009.

James Knox, Cleaner

- f. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint Katie McKinney, to the Elementary tenure area (permanent substitute) beginning February 1, 2010 and ending June 30, 2010. Ms. McKinney will receive a prorated salary of \$41,647, Step 1 as per contract. Ms. McKinney has a MA and has an Initial certification.

Katie McKinney, Permanent Substitute

- g. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appointment the following spring coaches for the 2009-2010 school year.

Bryon Lewis, Track & Field Coach

Coach	Sport	Stipend (per contract)
Bryon Lewis	Track and Field	\$2250
Joe DiCicco	Varsity Baseball	\$2250
TBD	JV Baseball	\$1950
Craig Trombley	Modified Baseball	\$1875
TBD	JV Softball	\$1950
Clint Garrigan	Modified Softball	\$1875

Joe DiCicco, Varsity Baseball

Craig Trombley, Modified Baseball

Clint Garrigan, Modified Softball

- h. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint Shannon Ames as a substitute Cleaner at a rate of \$10.15 per hour as per CSEA contract, effective January 7, 2009.

Shannon Ames, Substitute Cleaner

- i. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint Hal Metzler as a substitute Cleaner at a rate of \$10.15 per hour as per CSEA contract, effective January 7, 2009.

Hal Metzler, Substitute Cleaner

- j. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint Tracy Brown as a substitute Cleaner at a rate of \$10.15 per hour as per CSEA contract, effective January 7, 2009.

Tracy Brown, Substitute Cleaner

- k. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint Michael Cioffi to the position of substitute bus driver at a rate of \$14.87 per hour as per CSEA contract, effective January 7, 2010.

Michael Cioffi, Substitute Bus Driver

- l. To accept the resignation of Theodore Shackett, Cleaner, effective January 22, 2010.

Theodore Shackett, Resignation

Superintendent**Non-Action Items**

Superintendent McGraw reviewed several items with the Board. A two-bell vs. one bell memo. This will be discussed further at a future meeting. A Green Schools Project was discussed as was a proposal for tuitioning in Berlin elementary students. A memo was reviewed regarding the relationship of the Booster and Soccer Clubs to the District. The Board requested a report on fundraising at a future meeting.

Superintendent McGraw spoke to the Board about a competitive grant called Race to the Top. An MOU was signed and sent to the New York State Education Department.

A student absenteeism memo was reviewed.

A meeting on January 23, 2010 will be held at Questar III. It will include Superintendents, Business Officials, and Board of Education members. Board Members Bingham and Wood expressed an interest in attending.

Action Item

Board Member Wood made a motion to approve the Legislative agenda as part of the Columbia County School Boards. Seconded by Board Member Gavrity. 0 ayes, 6 nays. Board Member Sowalski spoke against the legislative agenda because he favors Wicks Law. Board Member Gavrity spoke against the Special Education change suggested in the memo.

Board Open Discussion

Board Member Sowalski would like to revisit the NYSERDA audit and repayment from the pool contractor. He would also like to revisit the funding of the softball field. Board Member Smith suggested investigating shared services for buses.

Public Comment

Mr. Mike Brutsch requested an explanation of the MOU with Berlin CSD. He expressed a concern with reducing a mechanic to .5 and he is also against the part time dispatcher. He commented that if the district went one bell vs. two bell more buses may be needed but it would also cut driver time.

Ms. Sue Wilkes asked about appointing a Varsity Softball coach.

Executive Session

Board Member Sowalski made a motion to enter executive session to discuss employment matters related to a particular person or corporation at 9:45 p.m. Superintendent McGraw and Carrie Nyc-Chevrier, Business Administrator were also in attendance. They left Executive Session at 10:50 p.m. Seconded by Board Member Wood. 6 yes, 0 nays.

Clerk Pro-Tem

Board Member Wood made a motion to appoint Superintendent McGraw as Clerk Pro-Tem. Seconded by Board Member Sowalski. 6 ayes, 0 nays.

One Bell vs. Two Bell**Green Schools Project****Booster and Soccer Clubs****Race to the Top MOU****Student Absenteeism Memo****Questar III January 23 meeting****Legislative Agenda for Col. Cty. School Boards****Board Open Discussion****Public Comment****Executive Session****Clerk Pro-Tem**

Adjournment

Board Member Sowalski made a motion to adjourn at 11:04 p.m. Seconded by Board Member Bingham. 6 ayes, 0 nays.

Respectfully submitted,
Krista Giangrossi, Deputy District Clerk

Adjournment