



14665 State Route 22
New Lebanon, NY 12125

Regular Meeting
March 14, 2012

The regular meeting was held at the Walter B. Howard Elementary School. The meeting was called to order by Board President Wood at 7:03 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Members: Wood, Sowalski, Kroboth, Sotek, Bienes, Gavriety (arrived at 8:08 p.m.). Superintendent McGraw, Matthew Klafehn, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director, Becky Marzeski, WBH Elementary Principal, Tamara Thorpe-Odom, Director of Special Education, and Carrie Nyc-Chevrier, Business Administrator.

ABSENT: Board Member Bingham, Leslie Whitcomb, Jr./Sr. High School Principal.

ALSO PRESENT: Members of the public and Carolyn Strauch, Embedded Staff Developer.

<p>Curriculum and Instruction <u>Non-Action Item</u> The Walter B. Howard Elementary Drama Club gave a performance of Aladdin.</p> <p>Public Comment None.</p> <p>Acknowledgments/Administrative Comments <u>Non-Action Items</u> Tamara Thorpe-Odom, Director of Special Education, notified the Board that the department is completing annual reviews. Programs and services are continually being reviewed and team meetings are being held with related service providers and staff. Additionally, staff is being trained for scoring and assessing New York State Alternate Assessments. Books have been downloaded on our new Nooks with the help of our Intern, Michelle Kinns, Embedded Staff Developer, Carolyn Strauch, and Library Media Specialist David Hawkins. Training for other programs has also been conducted; Fast Forward, a web based program for speech, processing, comprehension and phonemic awareness and Transition Training for students over the age of 14, as well as training for Teaching Assistants in providing accommodations and modifications</p> <p>Carrie Nyc-Chevrier notified the Board that a wheel chair lift for the pool area will be installed as it will be mandatory in order to be ADA compliant. A Utica National Safety Award application has been prepared by intern, Candy Santos-Ratual. Ms. Nyc-Chevrier also notified the Board of the positive bond refinancing result.</p> <p>Becky Marzeski, WBH Elementary Principal, notified the Board that she has received a “Kids in Motion” grant. The purpose of this grant is to give our students another vehicle to move and stay fit. WBH Teachers also wrote and received grants through the New Lebanon foundation. Mrs. Ouimet grant is for an author visit for the whole school. Ms. Latter and Mr. Woulfin’s grant enables the purchase of the novel titled, <u>Bystander</u>. Mrs. Yager and Ms. Hazelton helped write a proposal for a field trip to the Flying Deer Nature Center. Mrs. Marzeski congratulated the following students for their participation in an All County Band Performance which took place on March 9: Freling Smith, Ashlie Tynan, Lucy Burgess, Grace Locke and Kyle Patch.</p>	<p>Performance of Aladdin</p> <p>Public Comment</p> <p>Acknowledgments/Administrative Comments</p>
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Sixth and seventh grade teachers were the first to use the new Distance Learning lab to collaborate about ways to successfully transition our students from elementary to junior high. During the half day on March 13, K-6 grade teachers and AIS teachers worked on the 6 + 1 traits of writing. The K-6 Talent Show will be held on March 22 at 6:00 p.m.

Matthew Klafehn, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director, gave the Jr./Sr. High School and Athletic report from the high school by using the Distance Learning equipment. Last week, Meghan Pepe, our school guidance counselor, welcomed Lynn Sestner, who is a Career Development Specialist for Columbia Greene Community College to speak with our seventh, eighth and ninth graders. Lynn talked about 21st Century STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) careers and reiterated the importance of math and science classes throughout a student's high school tenure. She introduced our kids to very specific careers that are or will be in demand, including vertical farming, being a climate change reversal specialist; She introduced the students to renewable energy /green technology careers such as a solar panel installer and wind turbine technician; and discussed nanotechnology, being a robotics technician, and the need for welders! Immediately following the presentation, students from SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) presented a power point that they had put together on prescription drug abuse, which seemed to be well received by those in attendance. Yesterday, during the half day, teachers in the junior/senior high school met to get more acquainted with the Marzano Art and Science of Teaching Framework which will be soon be used for teacher observation and evaluations. Under the guidance of Ms. Whitcomb, teachers organized themselves in groups to identify classroom strategies and behaviors found in Domain One of the scoring rubric. Collectively, they came up with a plethora of examples in their practice that would satisfy each of the 41 elements outlined in the first Domain. On Friday March 30th our 8th graders, under the direction of Spanish Teacher Kara Siciliano, will be taking a field trip to New York City. They look forward to a guided walking tour of Spanish Harlem, a visit to the Hispanic Heritage Museum, and a meal at El Café Española, where the students will be able to order authentic dishes and foods in Spanish.

Athletic Report:

Both the Boys and Girls Varsity Basketball Teams were selected by the league for the Sportsmanship Award. Kyle Trombley and Kayla Carson were selected for the Capital Region Basketball Scholar Athlete Award and will be attending a breakfast at the Albany Marriot Hotel, where they will be honored along with nominees from other area schools. Kyle Trombley and Kelsey Hennig were selected for the Sports Foundation Capital Region Scholar Athlete Award. They will be featured in a special section in the *Times Union* and will receive special recognition at an upcoming ceremony. Spring sports are underway. Interest in baseball and softball has grown immensely this year. Our PE teachers, Lenny Brown and Tim Christiansen are running modified and varsity baseball this year. They thoroughly enjoying working together, they have been actively recruiting players, and are looking to bring more uniformity to our baseball program. Our students seem very pleased to have them aboard this spring. All of our teams are outside in the Middle of March! It is great to have everyone back on the campus, with events taking place on the fields simultaneously at the Junior/Senior High School. Opening day is April 2nd for our Varsity Softball and Baseball Teams and April 3rd for the Track Team.

Superintendent McGraw notified the Board that Tamara Thorpe-Odom was a recipient of the Dr. Mary Barter for Women and Minorities scholarship presented to her by the NYS Council of School Superintendents. Carolyn Strauch, Embedded Staff Developer for Technology spoke to the Board about the Distance Learning system. It can be used for virtual field trips, classes, and inter-building work.

Curriculum and Instruction**Action Items**

Board Member Sotek made a motion to approve items a-f as a block. Seconded by Board Member Kroboth. 5 ayes, 0 nays.

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

3420	Anti-Harassment in the School District
5630	Facilities: Inspection, Operation and Maintenance
5755	Idling Prohibition for Buses and Other School Vehicles
7545	Student Harassment and Bullying Prevention (mailed with agenda)
7551	Sexual Harassment of Students

- b. To approve the addition of the following new high school courses starting with the 2012-2013 school year:

Hotel and Restaurant Management
Graphic Communications

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

000002003	092100207	092100199	000002039	000000894	000002110	000002267
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- d. To approve an 8th grade Spanish Cultural field trip to New York City on March 30, 2012 and to appoint the following chaperones:

Kara Siciliano	Eileen Evans	Meghan Pepe	Valene Synakowski	Kelly O'Brien
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- e. To approve a Senior class trip to Ocean City Maryland, June, 2-4, 2012 and to approve the following chaperones.

Meghan Pepe	Valene Synakowski	Brenda Darcy	Eileen Evans	Dan Evans
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- f. To approve a Sixth grade class trip to Medieval Times in Lyndhurst, NJ on June 5, 2012.

Minutes**Action Items**

Board Member Sowalski made a motion to approve items a-b as a block. Seconded by Board Member Wood. 5 ayes, 0 nays.

- a. Review and approval of the February 8, 2012 minutes.
b. Review and approval of the February 15, 2012 minutes.

Financial**Non-Action Items**

Carrie Nyc-Chevrier, Business Administrator, presented the third draft of the proposed 2012-2013 budget. She also discussed the bullet aid funding for a capital project received from Senator Saland. The District will receive \$17,800. This money will be used in conjunction with grant money that Becky Marzeski applied for and obtained. The locker room at the WBH Elementary School will be renovated and turned into a fitness room.

Action Items

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

- a. To adopt the Notice of Hearing and Elections.
b. To approve the Walter B. Howard Elementary School Extra-Curricular Accounts dated January 31, 2012 as submitted by Emily Briggs, Extra-Curricular Accounts Treasurer.
c. To approve the Jr./Sr. High School Extra-Curricular Accounts dated January 1-31, 2012 as submitted by Sarah Roblez, Extra Curricular Accounts Treasurer.

Revised Policies**New High School Courses****CSE/CPSE Programs and Placements****Spanish Cultural Field Trip and Chaperones****Senior Class Trip****Sixth Grade Field Trip****Minutes****Third Draft of Proposed Budget****Notice of Hearing and Elections****WBH Elementary Extra-Curricular Accounts, 1/31/12****Jr./Sr. High School Extra-Curricular Accounts, 1/31/12**

- d. To award surplus vehicle bid to the highest bidder, as per chart below as a result of a bid opening on March 2, 2012.

Bidder Name	Vehicle Description	Mileage	Total Bid
Michael Lutz—Lutz Sales	2002--Chevrolet Suburban, 5.3L, gas, 4-speed automatic transmission, 4-wheel drive (Brake lines rotted, hole in line going to rear wheels, all lines need to be replaced)	147,600	\$1239.00

- e. To award surplus item bid to the highest bidder, as per chart below as a result of a bid opening on March 2, 2012.

Bidder Name	Item	Total Bid
Charles Israelian	Underwriters Lab 288 Volt Low Bay Lights	\$42.50

- f. To approve a Health Service contract with North Colonie Central School District for the 2011-2012 school year to provide health services to one student attending Loudonville Christian School at a rate of \$496.18 per child and to authorize the President of the Board of Education, and the Board Clerk to execute the agreement.
- g. To approve a Health Service contract with Averill Park Central School District for the 2011-2012 school year to provide health services to one student attending Robert C. Parker School at a rate of \$485.29 per child and to authorize the President of the Board of Education, and the Board Clerk to execute the agreement.
- h. To approve budget transfers totaling \$44,733.00.
- i. To approve the January, 2012 Treasurers report.

Personnel

Action Items

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

- a. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint Anita O'Dell to the positions of substitute cleaner at a rate of \$10.56 per hour and substitute cook at a rate of \$10.40 per hour, effective March 15, 2012.
- b. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint the following coaches for the 2011-2012 school year:

Volunteer Coach	Sport	Stipend
Leilani Hover	Varsity Track and Field	(Volunteer) No stipend
Lenny Brown	Boys Modified Baseball	\$2100

- c. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint Michael Burdette to the position of substitute cleaner at a rate of \$10.56 per hour, effective March 15, 2012.
- d. To accept the resignation of Mary Lu Walther, bus driver, for purpose of retirement, effective, June 25, 2012.
- e. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint the following Class and Club Advisors for 2011-2012 school year:

	Club Advisors	Stipend
Gymnastics (Intramural)	Frank Healy & James Hosley (co-advisors)	Per contract

- f. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint Michelle Kinns to the position of tutor at a rate of \$20.00 per hour, effective March 7, 2012.
- g. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to appoint Jennifer Austin to the position of tutor at a rate of \$20.00 per hour, effective March 7, 2012.
- h. Upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, to extend the appointment of Brooke Warden, (7-12 English tenure area position, permanent substitute) from December 15, 2011, through April 18, 2012 at a per diem rate of \$207.00 (without benefits). Ms. Warden has a Masters and has an English Language Arts 7-12 initial certification. (Previously appointed through March 23, 2012.)

Surplus Vehicle Bid Awards

Health Service
Contract with North
Colonie Central
School District

Health Service
Contract with
Averill Park Central
School District

Budget Transfers

January, 2012
Treasurers Report

Anita O'Dell,
Substitute Cleaner
& Substitute Cook

Leilani Hover,
Varsity Track &
Field Volunteer

Lenny Brown, Boys
Modified Baseball
Coach

Michael Burdette,
Substitute Cleaner

Mary Lu Walther,
Retirement

Frank Healy &
James Hosley
Gymnastics Co-
Advisors

Michelle Kinns,
Tutor

Jennifer Austin,
Tutor

Brooke Warden,
Perm Sub Extension

Committee Meetings

Non-Action Item

There was a policy committee meeting on March 14, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. at the Walter B. Howard Elementary School.

Board Open Discussion

Board Member Sowalski mentioned the NYSERDA audit and suggested that it should be looked at for possible other work that can be done. He also spoke to the Board about the Questar III Saturday workshop. The topic was Instructional Programming: General Instruction/CTE/Online Learning. The founder of Map Info was the guest speaker. Superintendent McGraw discussed a possible special education collaboration with Chatham Central School District. The next joint New Lebanon and Chatham board meeting is scheduled for May 9 at 7:00 p.m. with New Lebanon serving as the host. Board Member Kroboth commented that he is happy that the demolition of the Union Free School is complete. Superintendent McGraw commented that the next step is to plan the memorial using the cupola and stone from the foundation.

Public Comment

Mr. Michael Brustch spoke about the town equalization rates having an effect on New Lebanon. He also discussed a sidewalk grant that was received by the Town of New Lebanon.

Mrs. Dawn Brustch thanked Board Member Sowalski for pushing for a 0% tax levy.

Executive Session

Board Member Wood made a motion to enter executive session to discuss employment matters related to a particular person or corporation at 8:30 p.m. Seconded by Board Member Kroboth. 6 ayes, 0 nays.

Clerk Pro-Tem

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

Adjournment

Board Member Wood made a motion to adjourn at 9:55 p.m. Seconded by Board Member Gavriety. 6 ayes, 0 nays.

Respectfully submitted,
Krista Giangrossi, Deputy District Clerk

Policy Committee Meeting

Board Open Discussion

Public Comment

Executive Session

Clerk Pro-Tem

Adjournment