



Wednesday, March 19, 2014
Policy Committee Meeting and
Regular Meeting of the New Lebanon Central School Board of Education
WBH Elementary School-Room 3 6:45pm

1. POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING AT 6:45PM AT WBH IN ROOM 3

2. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Present: Tim Lambert, Board President; Michael Bienes, Board Vice President; Sharon Putnam, Board Member; Christine Sotek, Board Member; Martha Esposito, Board Member

Absent: Martha Esposito, Board Member; Tracy Bingham, Board Member

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

4. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS

Non-Action

A. Athletic report given by Matt Klafehn on behalf of Rick Arket. Three of our four varsity teams earned scholar athlete distinction for the winter season. The boys' volleyball, girls' basketball, and swim team each had students with a 90 or above average. Congratulations to the following teams: **Girls Basketball:** Alex Miller, Meghan Moffit, Demery Weeks, Destiny Breen, Gabby Lambert, Caitlyn Williams, Christine Bienes. **Boys Volleyball:** Connor Feathers, Ryan Etue, Digeo Greenhalgh, Usman Sadiq, Austin Belk, Collin Goodrich, Danny Belfi, Kahn Nguyen. **Swim:** Amanda Despart (Berlin), Gigi French, Hannah French (Berlin), Evan Burgess, Jessica Caruso, Kalee Hennig, Taylor Robertson, Catherine Roden, Lindsey Smith, Emily Tinger, Hope Gadomski. Spring games are slated to begin the first week of April.

B. District update was given by Superintendent McGraw. Sheriff David Bartlett was present to answer questions regarding a School Resource Deputy proposal.

Action

Board member Wood made the motion to authorize Superintendent McGraw to enter into an agreement with the Columbia County Sheriff's Department

for a School Resource Deputy. Board member Sotek seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

Non-Action

C. Business office/facilities and grounds update given by Michael Los. Work on the bus garage has begun. The electricians have been working for several weeks and have made substantial progress. The plumbers are currently scanning existing pipes under the bus garage floor to determine the full scope of work. They are currently on schedule and all work is expected to be completed by the end of the school year. Included in the financial portion of this meeting is a projected fund balance for this current year ending June 30, 2014. Although still early in the school year, he is projecting a surplus of \$212,000 at the end of the fiscal year. Based on this projection, there is a budget transfer included for \$38,000 for replacing the bleachers in the high school gym. He plans to elaborate further during the budget presentation on the use of fund balance and how it fits into a long term plan for the district.

D. WBH update given by Leslie Whitcomb. Valene Synakowski arranged for our participation in SPAC Classical Kids. This consists of a one hour ballet assembly for grade 5, in preparation for July's attendance at the Bolshoi Ballet performance; a one hour symphony assembly for grade 6, in preparation for the August attendance at Cirque de la Symphony concert. A cellist from the Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra came and visited students to help entice them to attend. Concert attendance is free, additional family members can attend at a half price if they purchase the tickets in advance. One 6th grade class has visited the JSHS 7th grade core teachers in preparation for 7th grade.

E. Jr/Sr High School update given by Matthew Klafehn. Power of Peace is a program he learned about in a Principal's meeting at Questar III. Meghan Pepe, researched the program and brought the workshop to New Lebanon. Students stopped him in the hallways to tell him how awesome the experience was. Students in Michelle Daus' Advanced Foods class journeyed to the Times Union newspaper where they met with Steve Barnes, a food columnist/blogger, and with Greg Stapleton, who oversees the newspaper's distribution. They were given a tour of the facility and were shown the new state-of-the-art printing press. After the Times Union, the students enjoyed the "Koto Experience" where many students had their first hibachi meal. The English 12 students, members of the Senior Choir and Drama Club went to New York City for a Broadway workshop. The students saw "After Midnight" and worked with actual actors from the production. The Drama Club performed "Loving Lives" on February 26th. The comedy was based upon a radio show on its last legs in the late 1940s. Meghan Pepe hosted FAFSA night this month, where parents learned how to complete Financial Aid Forms for students attending college. The transition to HS night for incoming ninth graders will be held on March 25th for the purposes of preparing students for high school programming and the credit bearing years.

One half of our 6th grade, along with Hancock students, shadowed seventh graders in the Junior High School. The other half of our 6th grade will do the same in May after state testing. On Thursday, March 27th, from 6:00-7:30 pm, the High School will be hosting a dinner in appreciation of our international students and their host families. The meal will be provided by students in our Appetites Anonymous club and will be of no cost. Also invited are interested parties who may be interested in hosting an international student for the upcoming school year. March has been designated in the JSHS as Observe a Colleague Month- teachers are being encouraged to view the practice of their colleagues for the purpose of identifying new strategies, reflecting on practice, and aligning curriculum. English Language Arts testing for grades 7 and 8 will take place April 1-3. Kara Siciliano was featured in a News Channel 13 teacher of the week clip. Meghan Pepe was selected for the NYSED School Counselor Summit to be held on April 7th and 8th. Jennifer Allard was selected as recipient of the 2014 New York State Council for the Social Studies Outstanding Social Studies High School Classroom Teacher Award.

5. CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

Non-Action

- A. Power of Peace presentation was given by Meghan Pepe and Patricia White.
- B. A memo regarding potential JV teams was discussed. Further information was requested regarding what schools would we play and what is the level of 6th graders interest.
- C. Policy 5322 was reviewed.

Action

- Board President Lambert made the motion to approve item 5D. Board Vice President Bienes seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.
- D. Motion to approve the 2014-15 district calendar.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Action

- Board Vice President made the motion to approve item 6A. Board member Putnam seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.
- A. Motion to approve the February 12, 2014 Regular Board of Education meeting minutes.

7. FINANCIAL

Non-Action

- A. Third presentation of the 2014-15 proposed budget.

Action

- Board member Putnam made the motion to approve item 7C-J. Board Vice President Bienes seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.
- C. Motion to approve the Notice of Hearing and Elections.
- D. Motion to approve the January 2014 treasurer's report.

E. Motion to approve the February 2014 grades 6-12 Extra-Curricular Accounts report as submitted by Sarah Roblez, Jr/Sr High School extra-curricular Accounts Treasurer.

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.

G. Motion to authorize transfers totaling \$119,490.00.

H. Motion to accept, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, a donation from the Columbia County Historical Society in the amount of \$215.00 for bus transportation for a field trip.

I. Motion to increase budget line A21104503 by \$215.00 as the result of a donation from the Columbia County Historical Society.

J. Motion to accept, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw a bell kit and music stand valued at \$300, for the music department, donated by Elizabeth Keefner.

Board Vice President Bienes made the motion to approve item 7B. Board member Putnam seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

B. Motion to declare the installation of a rest room facility at the Jr/Sr High School pool area as an unforeseen emergency necessary for the health and safety of the students and staff and considers it an ordinary contingent expense.

8. PERSONNEL

Action

Board member Sotek made the motion to approve items 8A-H. Board member Wood seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

A. Motion to appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, the following additional/replacement Inspectors of Elections: Kelly McGivern

B. Motion to appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, Andrew Kourt to a probationary position of Principal, effective June 1, 2014-May 31, 2017, in the principal tenure area. The remuneration for June 1, 2014- June 30, 2014 is prorated based on an annual salary of \$83,000 and the salary for the 2014-15 school year will be \$83,000.

C. Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, Michelle Daus and Lynne Soldato as volunteer chaperones for the Travel Club's trip to Spain from April 10, 2014-April 19, 2014.

D. Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw the following tutors:

Nicole Peskin	\$25/hour	Effective March 13, 2014
Michelle Daus	\$25/hour	Effective February 3, 2014

E. Motion to appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw the following volunteers for the 2013-14 school year, effective March 3, 2014.

Daniel Evans	Girls Modified Softball
Leilani Hover	Varsity Track

Collin Sedgwick	Boys Varsity Baseball
-----------------	-----------------------

F. Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, Dennis Bean as a long term substitute cleaner, effective March 13, 2014 through June 30, 2014 at a rate of \$10.99 per hour (previously employed as a per diem sub).

G. Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, the following substitutes:

Stacey Shelhamer	Certified teacher/\$100 per day
Shannon Adams (previously appointed as teacher aide and bus aide)	Uncertified teaching assistant/\$14.52 per hour

H. Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, Rachel Bristol, student at Esteves School of Education at The Sage Colleges, to observe Vicki Ouimet for twenty hours to fill a fieldwork requirement, effective March 20, 2014 through June 20, 2014.

9. SUPERINTENDENT

Non-Action

A. Superintendent McGraw presented a progress report on goals from November 2013-February 2014

B. Union Free Memorial commemorative proposal information was shared by Superintendent McGraw

The Board was informed that:

- Board petitions were made available for the May 20, 2014 vote
- Saturday Workshop on Career Pathways will be held on March 22, 2014 at Questar III
- The annual meeting of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services will be at Questar III on April 9, 2014

10. BOARD OPEN DISCUSSION

A. The Board decided on a 9:00am start time to hold the April 22, 2014 Special BOE meeting.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

Michael Brutsch commented on the lack of student population for JV sports teams. He asked if we would have to play larger school districts if we did create JV teams.

12. PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

Action

A. Board President Lambert made the motion to enter into Executive Session at 8:53 pm for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a

particular employee. Board member Wood seconded the motion. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

B. Board member Sotek made the motion to appoint Superintendent McGraw as Clerk Pro-Tem. Board member Wood seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Action

A. Board member Wood made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:08pm. Board Vice President Bienes seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly McGivern

Kelly McGivern, District Clerk