



**Tuesday, February 25, 2014  
Regular Meeting Minutes**

**RUSH-HENRIETTA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

District No. 1 of the Towns of Rush, Henrietta, Pittsford, and Brighton

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*All appendices referenced to, herein, are incorporated into and made a part of the official minutes of this meeting to the same extent as if fully set forth.*

**Others Present:**

Dr. J. Kenneth Graham Jr., Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. George DesMarteau, School Attorney  
Mrs. Nerlande Anselme, Assistant Superintendent, Student and Family Services  
Mr. Patrick McCue, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources and Strategic Initiatives  
Mr. Andrew Whitmore, Assistant Superintendent, School Finance and Operations  
Mrs. Dina Wilson, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction

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**1. ELMER GORDON SCHOLARSHIP INTERVIEWS**

Interviews were held for the Elmer Gordon Scholarship.

**2. BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – GENERAL**

**A. Board of Education, Superintendent, School District Clerk**

**Board of Education** – Diane E. McBride, president; Pamela J. Reinhardt, vice president; Robert C. Bower; Jean M. Chaudari; Rosie B. Mitchell; Sue A. Smith; Phyllis P. Wickerham  
**Superintendent of Schools** – J. Kenneth Graham Jr., Ph.D.  
**School District Clerk** – Karen A. Flanigan

**B. Meeting Information**

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Rush-Henrietta Central School District was held Tuesday, February 25, 2014, in the Dee Strickland Conference Room at the Ninth Grade Academy, 2000 Lehigh Station Road, Henrietta, NY 14467.

**3. OPENING OF PUBLIC MEETING**

**A. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Introductions, Agenda Review, and Announcements**

The meeting was called to order at 6:58 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and introductions were done. During agenda review, an executive session was added to the end of the meeting to discuss a parent complaint. There were no announcements.

**4. PUBLIC FORUM**

**A. Audience Members May Address the Board of Education Regarding Items of Interest Not on the Agenda**

There was no one in the audience wishing to speak.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS FOR ROUTINE MATTERS (Reference appendices #5A-D)**

- A. Action pertaining to the award of bids – Offset paper, Printer cartridges
- B. Action pertaining to approval of the 2014 Arts Alive, the Raymond R. Delaney Arts Recognition Award selection committee and the scholarship award of \$500
- C. Action pertaining to approval of CSE/CPSE recommendations
- D. Action pertaining to approval of Board of Education meeting minutes – 2/11/14

**MOTION PERTAINING TO ACCEPTANCE  
OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS #5A-D**

**MOVED: Mr. Bower  
SECONDED: Mrs. Wickerham  
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

**6. PERSONNEL ACTIONS (Reference appendix #6A)**

- A. Action pertaining to approval of Personnel Actions

**MOTION PERTAINING TO APPROVAL  
OF PERSONNEL ACTIONS**

**MOVED: Mrs. Chaudari  
SECONDED: Mrs. Mitchell  
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

**7. WORKSHOP: BIENNIAL SPECIAL EDUCATION PLAN (Reference appendices #7A-B)**

**A. Action pertaining to approval of the Biennial Special Education Plan**

Kittie Pizzutelli, director of Special Education, provided an overview of the plan and responded to questions. She said there has been a positive impact from the work being done at the elementary buildings. Dr. Graham explained why more aides are needed. Mrs. Pizzutelli said family structures, needs, and poverty issues have all changed for students. Dr. Graham said the state has not made any change to their reimbursement formulas and the BOCES program will have to be shut down as they are running in a deficit. Mrs. Pizzutelli said this will be devastating. If preschool students do not receive needed services, they will not be ready at the instructional level when they enter school. She is trying to come up with a creative way to keep the instructional portion of kindergarten sound and provide the related services at a different time during the day. The bottom line is if the BOCES' services go away in June, there is currently no plan in place.

**B. CSE Parent Communication**

Dr. Graham said a question was raised by the board about two months ago regarding the parent communication process due to a concern by an upset parent. Mrs. Pizzutelli reviewed the plan. Dr. Graham provided an explanation to an e-mail question he received regarding CSE communication.

**MOTION PERTAINING TO APPROVAL OF THE  
BIENNIAL SPECIAL EDUCATION PLAN**

**MOVED: Mrs. Chaudari  
SECONDED: Mrs. Wickerham  
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

**8. DISTRICT POLICIES, REGULATIONS, AND EXHIBITS – DIGNITY FOR ALL  
STUDENTS ACT (THIRD READ) (Reference appendix #8A)**

- A. 5303 – Intimidation, Harassment, and Bullying Prevention

**MOTION PERTAINING TO APPROVAL OF  
DISTRICT POLICIES, REGULATIONS,  
AND EXHIBITS #8A**

**MOVED: Mrs. Smith  
SECONDED: Mr. Bower  
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

**9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

**A. Written: Student Disciplinary Referrals Report – 1<sup>st</sup> Semester (Reference appendix #9A)**

Dr. Graham provided answers to two e-mail questions he received. Mrs. Anselme provided further input and then spoke about the referral data report. She said she wanted to give a flavor of all the good things that are contributing to the report and that a strong focus had been put on consistency this

year. Mrs. Anselme said everyone is trying to follow the same expectation and numbers are never going to be perfect as you're dealing with humans and their interpretation.

**B. Written: Budget Development Status Report (Reference appendix #9B)**

Dr. Graham provided a budget development update, including a few new things. There were no comments or questions. He said there is a need to talk about capital projects and provided a brief overview. He will explain in more detail at the next meeting and then ask for the board's guidance. He also talked about the upcoming budget propositions.

**C. Oral Information**

- Good news – We have been approved for our APPR. The final paperwork goes in tomorrow. Although not urgent, he would like to have a short workshop to bring the board up to speed.
- Dr. Graham provided an overview of the National Superintendents' Conference he attended in Nashville. Some of the highlights included topics on:
  - Leadership development
  - A new state mandate in Ohio and Colorado if students were not at the third grade reading level by the time they reached third grade. Students would be retained and parents would have no say about it.
  - Social media – The message was to get out in front of it. It's going to be used so we need to figure out how to shape it to support what we're going to do.
  - 1:1 computing technology
- March 4 – District Orchestra Festival – A large turnout is expected. Mrs. Flanigan will inquire into parking passes for board members planning to attend.
- March 6 – 5:30 p.m. – District Health and Wellness Fair will be held at Roth Middle School.
- March 6 – 7 p.m. – DPAC (Parent Leadership Forum) – Parent groups will learn a little more about the Five-year Technology Plan.
- March 27 – SHS musical, "Shrek"
- Miscellaneous calendar issues
  - Community Budget Forum – The date was confirmed for Thursday, March 20.
  - DPAC Candidates Night – Dr. Graham would like to change the date to Monday, May 12. All board members were ok with the change. He will confirm with DPAC.
  - There is a conflict with the June 24 board meeting and middle school moving up ceremonies. Discussion ensued. The board meeting will be moved to June 25.
  - SHS school board visit – March 7 – New time of 8:30 a.m. to showcase some things taking place at that time and to have more staff available to join them. Mrs. Chaudari, Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. Reinhardt, Mrs. Smith, and Mrs. Wickerham will attend.

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Town Boards' meeting**

Board members were ok with the letter.

**B. Board Budget for 2014-15**

Dr. Graham said everything from this year's budget was rolled over for next year with an internal transfer being made to the travel account. Board members were ok with everything.

**C. Elmer Gordon Scholarship**

Board members interviewed candidates for the scholarship prior to the board meeting. Mrs. McBride said it was a great group of candidates. Mrs. Flanigan will inform the candidates that the winner(s) will be announced at the Senior Awards Night on June 5.

**11. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

**A. MCSBA Information Exchange Committee (Feb. 12)**

Mrs. Mitchell did not attend. She said the topic was APPR. She will forward the notes.

**B. Health & Safety Committee (Feb. 13)**

Mrs. Wickerham will forward the minutes. She said the fire, ambulance, Monroe County Sheriff's Department, and members from the towns of Henrietta and Rush were in attendance. She said they are complimentary to us, they feel welcome in the district, and are very happy with the relationship with the district. She also stated how much they like Michael Paladino, the district safety coordinator.

She spoke of a possible in-service presentation for staff and Senior High School students starting a Clean-up Club in an effort to keep the building cleaner.

**C. Budget Advisory Council (BAC) (Feb. 24)**

Mrs. Smith attended. She reported that Dr. Graham and Mr. Whitmore reviewed the same budget material from earlier this evening. In light of the recent criticisms of the town of Henrietta fund balance, questions were asked about the district's fund balance situation. There were conversations about a possible casino in Henrietta, what the district view is, and the impact to the school district. Mrs. Smith thought Superintendent Graham's explanation about the fund balance was very well done.

- Mrs. McBride mentioned the RIT festival coming up.
- Mrs. Wickerham mentioned an invitation from NYSSBA to hear Dr. Bill Daggett speak at the Student Achievement Institute on Saturday, March 29, in Syracuse. Mrs. Wickerham is planning to attend. She asked board members to let her know if they were interested in attending with her.

**Board Meeting Recap**

- March 4 – District Orchestra Festival
- March 6 – DPAC Leadership Forum (TOC) and District Health & Wellness Fair (Roth)
- March 7 – Board visit to SHS – 8:30 a.m.
- March 20 – Community Budget Forum
- March 27 – “Shrek” at the Senior High School
- May 12 – DPAC Candidates’ Night
- June 24 board meeting moved to Wednesday, June 25
- Need to schedule a workshop on the APPR plan that has been adopted
- Mrs. Reinhardt added “social media” to a list of possible workshops for next year

**MOTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION AT  
9:06 P.M. TO DISCUSS A PARENT COMPLAINT  
MOVED: Mrs. Wickerham  
SECONDED: Mr. Bower  
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

**MOTION TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:35 P.M.  
MOVED: Mrs. Mitchell  
SECONDED: Mr. Bower  
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

**12. CLOSING OF MEETING**

**A. Board Meeting Recap**

- The recap took place prior to entering into executive session.

**B. Adjournment**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:36 P.M.  
MOVED: Mr. Bower  
SECONDED: Mrs. Smith  
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

**C. Next Board of Education Meeting**

The next Board of Education meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 11, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Flanigan  
School District Clerk

*Board Approved: March 11, 2014*