



Tuesday, March 17, 2015
Board of Education Meeting Minutes

RUSH-HENRIETTA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

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.

In Attendance:

- Board members: Mrs. Diane E. McBride, President
Mrs. Phyllis P. Wickerham, Vice president
Mr. Robert C. Bower
Mrs. Jean M. Chaudari
Mrs. Rosie B. Mitchell
Mrs. Pamela J. Reinhardt
Mrs. Sue A. Smith
- Others: Dr. J. Kenneth Graham Jr., Superintendent of Schools
Mr. George DesMarteau, School Attorney
Mrs. Karen A. Flanigan, School District Clerk
Ms. Nerlande Anselme, Assistant Superintendent, Student and Family Services
Dr. 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
-

1. MEETING WITH MEMBERS OF THE BRIGHTON, HENRIETTA, AND RUSH TOWN COUNCILS TO DISCUSS THE SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDED 2015-16 BUDGET

2. BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – GENERAL

A. Board of Education Members, Superintendent of Schools, School Attorney, School District Clerk, Cabinet Members

See above attendance.

B. Meeting Information

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Rush-Henrietta Central School District was held Tuesday, March 17, 2015, in the Dee Strickland Conference Room at the Parker Administration Building, 2034 Lehigh Station Road, Henrietta, NY 14467.

3. OPENING OF PUBLIC MEETING

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

Mrs. McBride called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and introductions done. There were no changes to the agenda. Mrs. McBride explained to members of the audience that the board had previously met with members of the Brighton, Henrietta, and Rush town councils to provide them with an overview of the superintendent's recommended 2015-16 budget.

4. BOARD MEMBER REPORT FROM STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE(S)

Both student representatives – Michael Slattery and Lorriel Thomas – were in attendance to support the high school student council members who would be speaking regarding the hat policy at the high school. They did not have a report.

5. PUBLIC FORUM

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

The public forum was opened and closed as there was no one in the audience wishing to speak.

6. FIRST PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED 2015-16 BUDGET

A. Audience Members May Address the Board of Education Regarding the Proposed 2015-16 Budget

The first public hearing on the proposed 2015-16 budget was opened and closed as there was no one in the audience wishing to speak.

7. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE DISSOLUTION OF THE GASB45 RETIREMENT RESERVE
(Reference appendix #7B)

A. Audience Members May Address the Board of Education Regarding the Dissolution of the GASB45 Retirement Reserve

The public hearing on the dissolution of the GASB45 Retirement Reserve was opened and closed as there was no one in the audience wishing to speak.

B. Action pertaining to adoption of the resolution to dissolve the GASB45 Retirement Reserve

**MOTION PERTAINING TO ADOPTION OF
THE RESOLUTION TO DISSOLVE THE
GASB45 RETIREMENT RESERVE**

MOVED: Mrs. Reinhardt

SECONDED: Mr. Bower

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

8. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS FOR ROUTINE MATTERS (Reference appendices #8A-I)

- A. Report of bills audited and paid during January 2015
- B. Action pertaining to acceptance of the January treasurer's report and January budget transfers
- C. Action pertaining to the award of bids – Play Program Printing
- D. Action pertaining to approval of a new textbook – Brinkley AP American History 6 Year Student Advantage Bundle
- E. Action pertaining to approval of an overnight field trip – Speedo Sectionals Swimming Regionals – Ithaca College (March 19-22, 2015)
- F. Action pertaining to approval of a donation – David B. Crane Elementary School PTO
- G. Action pertaining to approval of a donation – Life Stone Wesleyan Church
- H. Action pertaining to approval of CSE/CPSE recommendations
- I. Action pertaining to approval of Board of Education meeting minutes – 3/3/15

**MOTION PERTAINING TO ACCEPTANCE
OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS #8A-I**

MOVED: Mrs. Chaudari

SECONDED: Mrs. Mitchell

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

9. PERSONNEL ACTIONS (Reference appendix #9A)

- A. Action pertaining to approval of personnel actions

**MOTION PERTAINING TO APPROVAL
OF PERSONNEL ACTIONS**

MOVED: Mrs. Wickerham

SECONDED: Mrs. Smith

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

10. SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL HAT POLICY (Reference appendix #10A)

A. Action pertaining to the revision of the Senior High School hat policy

Dr. Graham explained that he was approached by Principal Patton and Mrs. Anselme regarding the hat policy under the Code of Conduct. Principal Patton and student council representatives (Lucius Campany, president; Aly Belknap, vice president; Michelle Morris, vice president; and Shafaq Hussain, council member) were in attendance to speak regarding this topic. Marissa Privitere and Katie Lanning, student council advisors, also were in attendance. They praised the students and introduced each of them. Members of the student council spoke about the process they followed and the staff members they have spoken with. They thanked Principal Patton, Assistant Principal Russo, and student council advisors for their help. The students are willing to do the work so that their peers understand the rules and respect issues with teachers. The bottom line is that it will be up to the staff's discretion to wear or not wear hats in the hallways/classrooms during school. Dr. Graham told the students their policy was very well articulated and that he is confident that under the leadership of student council that this can be done. He questioned how the policy would be sustained and was informed that a video had been created and training would be done with future student council members. Discussion ensued. Mr. Bower, Mrs. Reinhardt, and Mrs. McBride commended the students on their work. Mrs. Patton said students are eager to work with their colleagues to accept responsibility to make this work. Mrs. Wickerham explained that this would have to go back to Policy Committee to be updated and that she would like to pilot it until the end of this year before changing the Code of Conduct. The board would like feedback from teachers and other staff members by the June 2 board meeting.

**MOTION TO ACCEPT A WAIVER TO ALTER
THE CODE OF CONDUCT REGARDING THE
HAT POLICY FOR THE PURPOSE OF A
PILOT FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE
2014-15 SCHOOL YEAR
MOVED: Mrs. Smith
SECONDED: Mrs. Chaudari
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

11. DISTRICT POLICY QUARTERLY REVIEW (Reference appendix #11A)

A. The board will review district policies 8136-8700

Mrs. McBride explained that there was a new 8411-E at everyone's seat. District policies 8136-8700 were reviewed.

- Policy Committee: 8136 (and its cross references need to be cleaned up – surveillance v. video), 8212, 8410, 8414.4, 8414.4-R, 8414.5-R, 8416, and 8635-R.
- Updated and brought back for a first read: 8411-E.
- Minor changes only: 8411-R, 8412, 8412-R, 8414.5, 8414.6, 8417, 8520, and 8700.
- No changes: 8200, 8411, 8412-E, 8413, 8414, 8414.6-R, 8500, 8520.1, 8540, 8540-R, and 8635.

12. WORKSHOP: BUDGET DEVELOPMENT – RECOMMENDED BUDGET/PROPOSITIONS

(Reference appendix #12A)

A. Recommended Budget Summary/Propositions

There were no questions or comments. Dr. Graham said there were a few people at the Community Forum, the Budget Advisory Council gave its support at last night's meeting, and there is no update from Albany.

13. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (Reference appendix #13A)

A. Written: Interscholastic Sports – Winter Report

There were no questions or comments. Dr. Graham mentioned that the girls basketball team is doing well.

B. Oral Information

- The lobbying letter was signed and is on its way. A superintendent's E-news was sent containing the information for those who might want to participate on an individual basis.
- An update on the renovation project was given. There was a lot of good feedback received from the Parent Forum, issues they wanted to see flushed out.
- There were a couple of transition details – changing rooms and art stations – that needed to be worked out. Dr. Graham provided a brief overview and said he would bring the information to the board at its next meeting in the form of a short workshop. The architects were able to make the changes happen. The cost escalated a bit, but can be handled with the timing of some of the other projects. The floor plans will be brought to the next meeting and Dr. Graham will explain what's been done and how financing has been arranged.
- An update to the Winslow principal search was provided. Of the 58 applicants, seven were interviewed, there were three finalists, and two will be recommended to move forward. Dr. Graham said it was a very strong candidate pool and a thorough vetting process was done.
- Reminder – Henrietta Youth Hall of Fame dinner will be held March 26.
- Dr. Graham provided an explanation about a new project he has gotten involved in regarding his concern about private versus parochial versus charter school participation in sporting events. He brought this to the attention of Monroe County school superintendents and the group is planning to petition the New York State Public High School Athletic Association. He is working with the school attorney and athletic director to devise a letter. He believes this will escalate to a statewide issue quickly.

14. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. MCSBA Legislative Committee (March 4)

Mrs. Reinhardt said she forwarded the notes from the last meeting. She explained that she missed the board's visit to the high school as she was listening to the governor's speech. She reported on the speech, said she was not pleased, it was very frustrating and depressing to listen to, and that it was full of mistruths. Discussion ensued.

B. DPAC (March 5)

There was nothing new to report as the majority of board members were in attendance.

C. MCSBA Information Exchange Committee (March 11)

Mrs. Mitchell reported. She said the meeting was about common core starting at the UPK level. An overview was provided as to what is being done with students at the kindergarten level. She said it was a lively discussion. Mrs. Mitchell also said that the age for students to attend kindergarten in New York state is five years old by December 1. She said the date and age varies by state. The overall message was that everyone needs to just calm down and meet the students' needs. Don't abandon your methods of teaching, use common core.

D. BAC (March 16)

Mrs. Smith reported that the meeting basically involved conversations from last week and tonight. She said a suggestion was made to make the exit survey available electronically. A voter would be able to scan a QR code at the election and then complete the survey at a later date. Mrs. Wilson said it would be important to advertise a close date for the survey. Dr. Graham thought it was a good idea and is willing to give it a try. He also explained that what started this conversation was a thought to take the opportunity to ask a few questions regarding the state/legislative issues. Dr. Graham was thinking perhaps two surveys – budget and legislative issues related to the budget.

Per Mrs. McBride's suggestion, the meeting recap was done prior to entering into executive session.

16. CLOSING OF MEETING

A. Board Meeting Recap

- The hat policy will be sent to Policy Committee for review. A pilot was approved until the first meeting in June when the students will report back to the board.
- The revised architectural plans and the financial plans for the renovation project will be added to the next meeting agenda.

- Henrietta Youth Hall of Fame dinner is scheduled for March 26.
- There will be two candidates moving forward in the Winslow principal search.

15. ANTICIPATED EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:42 p.m.

B. Anticipated executive session to discuss a student suspension appeal

**MOTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION
AT 8:42 P.M. TO DISCUSS A STUDENT
SUSPENSION APPEAL**

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

MOTION TO DENY THE APPEAL

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

MOTION TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:04 P.M.

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

16. CLOSING OF MEETING

B. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:05 P.M.

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

C. Next Board of Education Meeting

The next Board of Education meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 7, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Flanigan
School District Clerk
Board Approved: April 7, 2015