



Tuesday, March 22, 2016
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. Sue A. Smith, Vice president
Mr. Robert C. Bower
Mrs. Jean M. Chaudari
Mr. Robert L. Cook
Mr. Sean P. McCormick
Mrs. Phyllis P. Wickerham
- 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
Ms. Dina Wilson, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction
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1. MEETING WITH MEMBERS OF THE BRIGHTON, HENRIETTA, AND RUSH TOWN COUNCILS TO DISCUSS THE SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDED 2016-17 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 22, 2016, in the Dee Strickland Conference Room at the John W. 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 7:12 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Introductions were not needed as there were no audience members in attendance. There were no changes to the agenda and no announcements.

4. BOARD MEMBER REPORT FROM STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE(S)

The student representatives were not in attendance.

5. PUBLIC FORUM

A. Audience members may address the Board of Education regarding items of interest not on the agenda

There were no audience members in attendance.

6. FIRST PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED 2016-17 BUDGET

A. Audience members may address the Board of Education regarding the proposed 2016-17 budget

There were no audience members in attendance.

7. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS FOR ROUTINE MATTERS (Reference appendices #7A-E)

A. Action pertaining to approval of the lease for the rental of the Calkins Road Tinker (elementary school) site

B. Action pertaining to approval of an overnight field trip – 12th Annual New York Relays, New York, NY (April 15-16, 2016)

C. Action pertaining to approval of a donation – Exxon Mobil (Burger Middle School)

D. Action pertaining to approval of CSE/CPSE recommendations

E. Action pertaining to approval of Board of Education meeting minutes – 3/8/16

**MOTION PERTAINING TO ACCEPTANCE
OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS #7A-E**

MOVED: Mrs. Chaudari

SECONDED: Mr. McCormick

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Mr. Cook followed up on prior questions he had regarding item #7A. He suggested an analysis on the cost of the land for next year.

8. PERSONNEL ACTIONS (Reference appendix #8A)

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

9. WORKSHOP: BUDGET DEVELOPMENT (Reference appendix #9A)

A. Recommended Budget/Propositions

Dr. Graham asked board members if they had any questions or proposed changes to the recommended budget or propositions prior to action being taken at the next meeting. There were none.

10. WORKSHOP: SCHOOL RECONFIGURATION (Reference appendices #10A-B)

A. Status Report

Dr. Graham provided an overview of the workshop. He said he is nearing the end with the four program advisory teams and starting to hit issues that have the potential to be controversial. He provided a comprehensive step-by-step of how the process has gone, using the intermediate level as a model. He reviewed the charge to the team; school reorganization considerations; membership; role of advisory team representatives; agendas, meeting structure, and minutes; meeting schedules; compensation; and the plan of work. He stated that the status report was slightly modified from the one the board saw about a year ago and that the main objective was to provide staff with an opportunity to be involved in the process. He then talked about the levels in the process.

The first level was the creation of the Transition Advisory Team, where bargaining unit leaders could inform the superintendent of any concerns. He said there is nothing the board should be approached about that this team has not had the opportunity to bring to his attention first. The next step for this team is the staffing portion, which will bring some difficult issues.

The second level to the process was the creation of the four program advisory teams – Primary, Intermediate, Junior High School, and Senior High School – which Dr. Graham chairs on a monthly basis. He explained how the groups were set up and the charge to each – to review the superintendent’s plans for the reorganization. One major challenge is the teaming concept at the sixth grade level. Discussion ensued. Dr. Graham stated that there’s nothing that has gone to the program advisory teams that has not already been vetted at each school. He has tried to be as logical, collaborative, and open about how things are going to go and stated that collaboration does not mean consensus. It’s an opportunity to learn what’s going on, to provide input/feedback on items under discussion, and expect a reasonable explanation of final decisions.

The third level was the creation of the parent advisory group. Dr. Graham keeps the group informed on a monthly basis.

He said there have been very few problems all the way through the process and that all agendas, meeting structure, and minutes are posted on the staff intranet. He believes the system is working great and is very pleased with the process and feedback received from teachers. Ms. Wilson provided further explanation on instructional teaming at the sixth grade level, including the school schedule and changing the model of instruction. Discussion ensued.

All board members shared their thoughts and applauded the superintendent for his efforts in the collaborative process. They respect Dr. Graham’s wishes to let the feedback process complete itself, but are not willing to go past the summer before decisions are made about the organization of instruction at the intermediate schools, including sixth grade teaming.

B. Study Team

Dr. Graham explained the reasons behind his proposal to create an additional study team to examine the organization of core academic instruction, specifically alternative approaches for organizing the delivery of instruction at our new intermediate schools (grades 4-6).

11. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT (Reference appendix #11A)

A. Written: Winter Sports Report

There were no questions. Dr. Graham mentioned how incredible the track team was. The board members agreed and said they loved the pictures in the report.

B. Oral Information

- Dr. Graham talked about a few districts recently reporting they had lead in their water and that Rush-Henrietta was going to go ahead and do testing as well. He said it is better to be safe than sorry. The testing will cost approximately \$20,000 and the district will use a certified laboratory. Mr. Whitmore explained the process.
- A preliminary report (raw data and numbers) on the environmental testing done at Roth Middle School has been received. Mr. Whitmore said the final report should be received next week. He explained the tentative process that will be followed once the report is received and said the details of the process for disseminating the test results are being worked on. Discussion ensued.

12. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. MCSBA Information Exchange Committee (March 9)

Mr. McCormick reported that there will be two regents at the April meeting. The committee topic was about drugs and the seriousness and potency of them.

B. MCSBA Labor Relations Committee (March 16)

Mr. Bower was unable to attend the meeting, but said the topic was about RHASP. Dr. McCue attended the meeting and provided a recap. He said there was an update on self-funding and a good

job was done explaining tax savings and slowing the growth of district costs. Mr. Whitmore also added that there was some new information provided. The biggest new information was that the 2017 congress will not assess the health insurance tax, but that it will come back in 2018.

C. Budget Advisory Council (BAC) (March 21)

Mrs. Smith said it was the last meeting of the year. The council reviewed the same material the board reviewed tonight and also talked about the communication plan. There were no suggested changes. A list of budget presentations the board and superintendent will be doing was provided and next year's calendar was discussed. Dr. Graham thanked everyone for the work they did. Bob Logel, council chairperson, announced that he will be running for the Board of Education.

13. BOARD MEETING RECAP

- Tomorrow, 3/23/16 – Board School Visit, Leary Elementary School, 7:15 a.m.
- Thursday, 3/24/16 – Youth Hall of Fame dinner
- Next meeting – District Policy Quarterly Review. This item may have to be moved again.
- Dr. Graham will speak with the high school principal regarding student representation at board meetings.
- There will be a comparative review of rental rates for the Calkins Road Tinker (elementary school) site land for next year.
- Mrs. McBride asked board members to return the end-of-year events chart to Mrs. Flanigan. Board members do not have to attend every event, just as long as there is some representation.

14. ANTICIPATED EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Anticipated executive session to discuss the proposed collective bargaining agreement with the Rush-Henrietta Employees' Association Coalition Unit

**MOTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 10:33 P.M.
TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED COLLECTIVE
BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH
THE RHEA COALITION UNIT
MOVED: Mr. Bower
SECONDED: Mr. McCormick
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

**MOTION TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 10:44 P.M.
MOVED: Mrs. Smith
SECONDED: Mrs. Wickerham
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

15. RETURN TO PUBLIC MEETING

A. Recall to Order

Mrs. McBride recalled the meeting to order at 10:44 p.m.

16. RATIFICATION OF A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT

- A. Action pertaining to the ratification of a collective bargaining agreement with the Rush-Henrietta Employees' Association Coalition Unit

**MOTION PERTAINING TO THE RATIFICATION
OF A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT
WITH THE RHEA COALITION UNIT
MOVED: Mrs. Chaudari
SECONDED: Mr. Cook
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

17. CLOSING OF MEETING

A. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 10:45 P.M.

MOVED: Mr. McCormick

SECONDED: Mrs. Smith

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

B. Next Board of Education Meeting

The next Board of Education meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 12, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Flanigan
School District Clerk
Board Approved: April 12, 2016