



Tuesday, July 14, 2015
Regular 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

1. THE BUSINESS MEETING WILL BEGIN FOLLOWING THE REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

2. OPENING OF PUBLIC MEETING

A. Call to Order, Agenda Review, and Announcements

The board president called the regular meeting to order at 6:28 p.m. During agenda review Mr. McCormick asked that personnel action #25 be voted on separately and Mrs. McBride asked that personnel action #24 be voted on separately, both due to a conflict of interest. Board members took a minute to rearrange their seating assignments. There were no announcements.

3. BOARD RECOGNITIONS

Mrs. McBride recognized Mr. Cook and Mr. McCormick with MCSBA membership pins given to newly elected board members. She also recognized Mr. Bower with a certificate from MCSBA for his leadership contributions as co-chairperson of the MCSBA Labor Relations Committee during the 2014-15 school year. Dr. Graham recognized both new board members with R-H service pins. He provided an explanation as to the meaning behind the pin and its relevancy to both the red marble apple (awarded to tenure recipients) and the crystal apple (awarded to retirees).

4. PUBLIC FORUM

There was one person in the audience wishing to speak.

Sheila Sullivan Buck - 2071 Harris Road, Penfield, NY 14526

Ms. Buck was in attendance as the new president of the RHEA Teachers' Chapter and was supported by numerous teaching staff. She welcomed the board to a new year of service and gave a special welcome to new board members Mr. Cook and Mr. McCormick and reelected member Mrs. Smith. She thanked board members for their service to Rush-Henrietta students. She also spoke about an in force successor contract between RHEA and the district, covering the period of time from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2018, and how frustrated teachers are with the current situation. She said she hopes the board and district will honor the ratified contract.

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

- A. Report of bills audited and paid during May 2015
- B. Action pertaining to acceptance of the May treasurer's report and May budget transfers

- C. Action pertaining to approval of Food Service price recommendations for the 2015-16 school year
- D. Action pertaining to acceptance of change order #GC-001 – Steve General Contractor, Inc. – CIP 2014 - \$15,639
- E. Action pertaining to acceptance of change order #EC-002 – Kyle R. Lawrence Electric – CIP 2014 - \$2,602
- F. Action pertaining to acceptance of the Monroe County Sheriff’s fuel contract renewal
- G. Action pertaining to approval of the DEC Consent Order for the Crane fuel tank
- H. Action pertaining to approval of an international field trip – R-H Singers – Hungary and Austria (June 26-July 6, 2016)
- I. Action pertaining to approval of CSE/CPSE recommendations
- J. Action pertaining to approval of Board of Education meeting minutes – 6/16/15
- K. Action pertaining to approval of Board of Education special meeting minutes – 6/30/15

Dr. Graham said there were a series of questions that were answered via e-mail. He reviewed them for those board members who did not have an opportunity to review them prior to the meeting.

**MOTION PERTAINING TO ACCEPTANCE
OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS #5A-K
MOVED: Mrs. Wickerham
SECONDED: Mrs. Chaudari
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 #1-23
MOVED: Mrs. Wickerham
SECONDED: Mr. McCormick
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

**MOTION PERTAINING TO APPROVAL
OF PERSONNEL ACTION #24
MOVED: Mrs. Chaudari
SECONDED: Mr. Cook
MOTION CARRIED: 6-0-1**

Mrs. McBride abstained due to a conflict of interest.

**ACTION PERTAINING TO APPROVAL
OF PERSONNEL ACTION #25
MOVED: Mr. Cook
SECONDED: Mrs. Smith
MOTION CARRIED: 6-0-1**

Mr. McCormick abstained due to a conflict of interest.

**MOTION PERTAINING TO APPROVAL OF
PERSONNEL ACTIONS #26-33
MOVED: Mr. Bower
SECONDED: Mrs. Smith
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

7. WORKSHOP: CHILD ABUSE REPORTING – ANNUAL TRAINING (Reference appendix #7A)

A. Child Abuse Reporting-Annual Training Workshop material

Mrs. Anselme reviewed the annual training workshop material. She said it’s important as school officials to be aware of the definition and different signs/indicators of the different types of abuse and that this information should always be at the forefront. When in doubt, it’s better to call and make a report and have CSE staff investigate further. She also noted that our procedure is to call the 800 number, which sometimes has a quicker response time. She stressed the point that the district is responsible for making sure that every child is taken care of and protected. There were no questions. Dr. Graham added that there is danger in failing to report, and no penalty for reporting.

8. WORKSHOP: SCHOOL RECONFIGURATION (Reference appendices #8A-B)

A. Status Report

Dr. Graham talked about the forming of the Transition Advisory Committee and provided a status report on the school reconfiguration transition plan. He said Program Advisory Committees will be ready to go in the fall and that hopefully by Spring 2016, most of the logistic concerns will have been done and addressed.

B. Action pertaining to approval of the Student Transition Plan

Dr. Graham explained the three components to the transition plan. He also reviewed each plan – primary school, intermediate school, and junior high school – and the early transfer and age-out options. He said letters will be sent to all parents followed by individual letters regarding specific choices per family/student. He is not recommending the sibling contingency for Leary and Winslow. Mrs. Smith asked about the possibility of keeping third grade at Sherman in 2017 and how it would work programmatically as well as staffing wise. Mr. Bower felt that there are some numbers that could be a real problem. Discussion ensued. Dr. Graham said it's the board's decision and that he cannot make any promises at this point. He said he would know more when he receives the BEDS information in the fall. Options were discussed for the one-year transition. Mr. Bower, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. McBride, and Mrs. Wickerham believe the benefits of keeping teachers together far outweigh the other options. It was decided that the age-out language would change to say that all students to attend Crane, Fyle, Leary, or Winslow at grade 2 can remain at their current school for grade 3 for the 2017-18 school year, and that Dr. Graham would review the Sherman grade 3 numbers to determine possible transition options.

MOTION PERTAINING TO APPROVAL OF THE STUDENT TRANSITION PLAN WITH THE AMENDED VERSION OF GRADE 3 FOR 2017-18

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

9. WORKSHOP: STRATEGIC PLANNING (Reference appendix #9A)

A. Mission/Vision Review

Dr. Graham said the mission/vision is not something that should be changed regularly, but is a statement of values and beliefs which should remain constant over a period of time. However, it's time to ask if the district's beliefs have changed and if it's time to make changes. Board members agreed to review the statement over the course of the next few meetings. Dr. Graham has started to review it with cabinet members. He explained that it's a dialogue process and talked about terminology. He said the mission is the job your community is asking you to do (what is your job as a school district) and the vision is the beliefs as to what it takes to do the job we're being asked to do well. The current mission and vision statement, as well as suggested revisions from the superintendent and cabinet members, were reviewed. Board members would like to keep the four bullets under the vision and add the fiscally responsible school operations piece. Mr. McCormick suggested adding 'emotional' to the mission. It was suggested that 'personal' be changed to 'social and emotional.' Dr. Graham suggested board members think about the mission statement for the next meeting and then move to the vision.

10. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (Reference appendices #10A-B)

A. Written: Event Supervision Report – 4th Quarter

There were no questions or comments.

B. Written: Corporal Punishment Report – 2nd Semester

Dr. Graham said he is required to make this report available to the board. There were no questions or comments.

C. Oral Information

- Dr. Graham shared a couple of stories about conversations with Assemblyman Harry Bronson, his offer to provide assistance for a couple of district projects, and the importance of the district's legislative work.

11. NEW BUSINESS (Reference appendices #11A, C)

A. Board Budget Quarterly Report

There were no questions. Mrs. McBride explained that the report was mainly for informational purposes.

B. Board Retreat

Details for the board retreat on July 29 were discussed. Mrs. McBride will compile the board evaluations. If you need a copy of it, please let Mrs. Flanigan know.

C. Staff Appreciation Letter – Draft

Mrs. McBride provided background information of the letter to the new board members. Mrs. Flanigan will have the letters printed, put together the staff lists for each school/building, and get the letters delivered to board members so they can begin addressing them. She also will let board members know of any newly hired staff members. Mr. Bower would like to add "districts" after "our" in the first sentence of the second paragraph.

12. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. Genesee Valley School Boards Institute (GVSBI) Spring Report (June 23)

Mrs. Smith reported. This was the second of two yearly meetings and the group continues to do the work they always have. She provided an overview of the committee. It is run out of Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES and sponsors professional development mainly for support staff. Classes are based on input from different committees and conferences are fairly well attended. She said it has been tougher in recent years, however, due to tougher school budgets. Rush-Henrietta has been a long-time member and Mrs. Smith serves on their eight-person board. She said the group has been looking into providing workshops for board members, but not in a way that will conflict with NYSSBA and MCSBA, more logistical kinds of things.

Board members decided to do the board meeting recap prior to entering executive session.

14. CLOSING OF MEETING

A. Board Meeting Recap

- Dr. Graham will bring back ideas for the transition of Sherman third graders for the reorganization.
- The mission/vision will be revisited over the course of the next few meetings.
- The board retreat will be held at 6 p.m. July 29 at Mrs. Wickerham's home. Bring a dish to pass.
- Staff appreciation letters will be prepared by Mrs. Flanigan. She will notify board members when they are ready for signing.

13. ANTICIPATED EXECUTIVE SESSION

- ### **A. Anticipated executive session to consider a request regarding an appeal of a decision to not transport a student beyond the 15-mile limit**

**MOTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:17 P.M. TO CONSIDER
A REQUEST REGARDING AN APPEAL OF A DECISION TO NOT
TRANSPORT A STUDENT BEYOND THE 15-MILE LIMIT**

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

MOTION TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:31 P.M.

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

14. CLOSING OF MEETING

A. Board Meeting Recap

This was done prior to the executive session.

B. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:32 P.M.

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

C. Next Board of Education Meeting

The next Board of Education meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. Tuesday, August 11, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Flanigan
School District Clerk

Board Approved: August 11, 2015