



Wednesday, July 29, 2015
Board of Education Special 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

1. BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – GENERAL

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

See above attendance. 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; and Ms. Dina Wilson, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction, were not requested to be in attendance.

B. Meeting Information

The special meeting of the Board of Education of the Rush-Henrietta Central School District was held Wednesday, July 29, 2015, in the Dee Strickland Conference Room at the Parker Administration Building, 2034 Lehigh Station Road, Henrietta, NY 14467.

2. OPENING OF PUBLIC MEETING

A. Call to Order

Mrs. McBride called the meeting to order at 5:18 p.m.

3. STUDENT TRANSITION PLAN (Reference appendices #3A-B)

A. Primary Schools Early Transition Impact Report

Dr. Graham thanked board members for attending the special meeting. He explained that waiting until the August 11 board meeting would not give parents enough time to make decisions for this September unless letters were sent out earlier. He talked about the worst-case scenarios as far as numbers at the schools and then reviewed the transition impact report. He said all numbers are a little overstated with the exception of kindergarten, which is a little understated right now. Dr. Graham said he calculated class size caps using the current cap of 17 and the transition cap of 20. He said he can move Sherman and accommodate everyone except Leary with the 20-person cap with one issue. He reviewed the charts for year two, which would make a max class size of 20 for 2016-17. He explained the needs for grades K-2 and said there's a movable special education classroom if needed. He then talked about the worst-case scenarios for the second year and said the worst it would get is a

classroom max of 22. If the board is willing to accept the average class sizes he is predicting for the second year, then he's good to go.

B. Student Transition Plan – Revised

Dr. Graham reviewed the revised School Reconfiguration Student Transition Plan. He said he needs authorization to go to 22, not 20, for 2015-16 and 2016-17 only. There will be no need for 2017-18. The class size would return to a cap of 17 in 2017-18 (K-2, not K-3). He said he thought he could do it at 20, but was wrong. He explained that the typical K-2 average class size in our area is 24. So, even with a worst-case scenario, we'd be good. Mrs. McBride stated that we need to go back to 17 as soon as possible. Mr. Cook asked a question regarding the policy for average class size. The answer was 15 is the average, so it can go anywhere from 13 to 17. He said he did not see the range in Policy 4020-R. Discussion ensued. Dr. Graham shared his thoughts about what he thinks will happen as far as students transitioning to other schools. Mrs. Smith asked if there was any pushback from the union regarding the higher cap sizes. Dr. Graham was unable to answer. He said class size is about the working conditions for the teacher and the contact with the students.

C. Action pertaining to adoption of the revised student transition plan

The updated footnote reads: To make these transitions possible, the Board of Education has authorized the Superintendent of Schools to increase the K-2 class size cap from 17 to 22. This authorization applies exclusively to the 2015-16 and 2016-17 school years. The maximum allowed K-3 class size returns to 17 beginning with the 2017-18 school year.

**MOTION PERTAINING TO ADOPTION OF THE
REVISED STUDENT TRANSITION PLAN WITH
CHANGES TO THE FOOTNOTE
MOVED: Mr. Bower
SECONDED: Mrs. Chaudari
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

Dr. Graham then handed out a letter regarding school reconfiguration that had already been mailed, as well as draft letters regarding the transition plan which will be sent out tomorrow. He reviewed the letters.

4. CLOSING OF MEETING

A. Board Meeting Recap

- Additional appeal information is in the small manila envelope.
- Welcome back letters are in the large manila envelope.

B. Adjournment

**MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 6:19 P.M.
MOVED: Mr. McCormick
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, August 11, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Flanigan
School District Clerk
Board Approved: August 11, 2015