

RUSH-HENRIETTA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

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

Meeting Minutes For: JANUARY 8, 2013

Ninth Grade Academy
Diana "Dee" Strickland Conference Room
2000 Lehigh Station Road
Henrietta, New York

J. Kenneth Graham Jr., Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools
Karen A. Flanigan, School District Clerk

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:

Mrs. Nerlande Anselme, Executive Director, Student and Family Services
Mrs. Denise Anthony, Assistant Superintendent, Quality Assurance and Community Relations
Mr. Stephen Barbeau, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources and School Operations
Mr. George DesMarteau, School Attorney
Dr. J. Kenneth Graham Jr., Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Andrew Whitmore, Executive Director, School Finance
Mrs. Dina Wilson, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction

I. Call to Order

Mrs. McBride called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

Call to Order

II. Executive Session to Discuss the Superintendent's Mid-Year Review and AARH Contract Negotiations

Executive Session

**MOTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 6:32 P.M.
TO DISCUSS THE SUPERINTENDENT'S MID-YEAR
REVIEW AND AARH CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS
MOVED: Mrs. Chaudari
SECONDED: Mr. Bower
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

**MOTION TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:08 P.M.
MOVED: Mrs. Wickerham
SECONDED: Mrs. Mitchell
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

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

Mrs. McBride reconvened the meeting at 7:11 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and introductions were done. Agenda review: Dr. Graham asked to flip flop agenda items 7 and 8 and Mrs. Wickerham would like to add agenda item #10B (articles regarding policy issues) under new business. Mrs. Reinhardt announced that she won a \$75 Barnes & Noble vendor gift card from the NYSSBA conference.

Reconvene Meeting

2. Board Member Report From Student Representative(s)

Naomi Campbell reported on the many community service projects that took place in December and about the high school's new "gold passes," where students are nominated by a

Student Representative(s)

teacher for doing well and receive a pass to travel more freely through the hallways. She also said the winter play will be “Evita,” the winter sports teams are underway, and Link Crew will host an after school cram jam session for sophomores to study for midterms.

3. Public Forum

No one came forward to address the board.

Public Forum

4. Consent Agenda Items for Routine Matters (Reference Appendices #4A-I)

Consent Agenda

- A. Report of bills audited and paid during December 2012
- B. Action pertaining to acceptance of the November treasurer’s report and December budget transfers
- C. Action pertaining to the award of bids:
 - 1. Cooperative paper and plastic
 - 2. Equipment sale
 - 3. Printer cartridges
- D. Action pertaining to acceptance of the following change orders:
 - 1. #E-001 – Kaplan-Schmidt Electric, Inc. – CIP 2011 Phase 3 - \$1,000
 - 2. #GC-001 – Allied Builders, Inc. – CIP 2011 Phase 3 - \$6,471
 - 3. #GC-002 – Allied Builders, Inc. – CIP 2011 Phase 3 - \$2,749
 - 4. #GC-003 – Allied Builders, Inc. – CIP 2011 Phase 3 - \$5,000
- E. Action pertaining to acceptance of actual tuition rates for the 2011-2012 school year and estimated tuition rates for the 2012-2013 school year
- F. Action pertaining to approval of a donation
- G. Action pertaining to approval of an overnight field trip
- H. Action pertaining to approval of CSE/CPSE recommendations
- I. Action pertaining to approval of minutes of the Board of Education meeting(s):
 - 1. Minutes of the meeting of December 11, 2012

**MOTION PERTAINING TO ACCEPTANCE
OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS #4A-I
MOVED: Mr. Bower
SECONDED: Mrs. Reinhardt
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

5. Action pertaining to approval of Personnel Actions (Reference Appendix #5)

Personnel
Actions

**MOTION PERTAINING TO APPROVAL
OF PERSONNEL ACTIONS
MOVED: Mrs. Chaudari
SECONDED: Mrs. Smith
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0**

6. Workshop: Space Committee Report (Reference Appendix #6)

Workshop: Space
Committee Report

Mrs. Anthony, Mrs. Reinhardt, and Mrs. Wickerham attended the Space Committee meeting. Mrs. Anthony provided a report. She said although the district has flat enrollment, the lack of even distribution is the main issue. She will be coming back in early February with long-term possibilities at the elementary level. The main concerns are at Fyle and Leary and there are not many alternatives if everything is left as is right now. She said current thoughts are to make some wall/space adjustments. Mrs. Anthony spoke about some other possibilities. Mrs. Wickerham and Mrs. Reinhardt added some of their thoughts. Discussion ensued. All board members currently endorse the recommendation to make wall changes.

7. Workshop: Middle School Program Enhancement Proposal (Reference Appendix #8)

Dr. Graham said the district has received the money from the School Improvement Performance Grant and tonight the below group would present its proposal to the board for the modification of middle school program and improvement initiatives that support it. He asked that the discussion be looked at in two parts – the program recommendations themselves and then the recommendations without funding. He said he would look to the board for guidance as to how to proceed. Along with Denise Anthony, assistant superintendent for quality assurance & community relations, the following staff members were in attendance to aid with the presentation: Brian Bohrer, music, visual arts & technology integration TOSA; Donna Horn, science, technology, health & family consumer science director; Jeanette Cannioto, English language arts director; Greg Lane, Burger Middle School principal; Denise Zeh, Roth Middle School principal; Mark MacMillan, social studies, LOTE & business director; and Tim Heaphy, Ninth Grade Academy principal.

Mrs. Anthony began by saying success breeds success and when awarded the almost \$2 million grant, it was this group who made it happen. She explained that there are basically two things – STEAM (integrated technology arts) and a literacy part (common core, college rigor). Mr. Lane explained the how of the proposal and how they arrived at it. Both middle school principals felt it needed to be for every student. Mrs. Zeh feels it's developmentally appropriate for middle school, aligns with common core learning standards, college and career readiness, and rigor, and continues with work already started. The third piece is for students who struggle. Mrs. Horn and Mr. Bohrer spoke about STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math). They said it's motivating for students when they can be active and problem solve and said the careers of the future will require more technical backgrounds. Mr. Bohrer said we're looking to enhance the 21st century skills we want students to have and at the middle school level, there are more opportunities to develop choices – more excitement as to what lies ahead for students. Mrs. Horn explained the proposed program change. Mr. MacMillan said reading and writing are essential skills students need – the need to be able to read at high levels and communicate their ideas and thoughts in writing. He also spoke of professional development for staff – tools and skills to support this initiative. He feels that with consistency throughout the programs, students will see progression and expectations will be consistent. Mr. Heaphy shared a couple of short stories and said common methodologies are important. He said students won't necessarily be changing courses at the high school, but opening doors for them to be successful at these courses. Mrs. Wilson said the group believes the proposal is solid, there is support from staff, and it's a good next step for students. She asked for the board's approval to be able to offer two middle school courses next year for high school credit. She thanked the group for all of its hard work and Mrs. Anthony for her support and guidance.

Dr. Graham asked the board if it supports and endorses moving forward with this. All board members are in agreement with endorsing the proposal. Dr. Graham explained the financial implications. Mr. Bower would like to see some of the new class work in action.

8. Workshop: Budget Development (Reference Appendix #7)

Dr. Graham provided an update on the 2013-14 budget development process. He mentioned the governor's state-of-the-state address being held tomorrow and to watch for the governor's budget on the 22nd. He said the Budget Advisory Council (BAC) did not have any questions. Dr. Graham provided some background information into his tax rate thought process and said for planning purposes, BAC agreed upon a 2.4 percent tax rate increase even though the district is entitled to a 2.9 percent increase. The board is comfortable with Dr. Graham's assumptions on the tax rate increase. Mrs. Smith provided insights from the BAC meeting. Discussion ensued. Dr. Graham shared the budget proposals and said no decisions are needed tonight unless the board is not in agreement with any of his thinking. Of the nine proposals, two were recommended as is (#1, #6), four were recommended with changes (#2-girls'

softball should read modified A girls' softball, #4-one, not two tests being administered, #8-one, not two full-time cleaners and a start date of December, and #9-will support, but not for reason in proposal), one was withdrawn (#3), and two were not recommended (#5, #7). When asked about the board's guidance, everyone was fine with Dr. Graham's recommendations.

9. Superintendent's Report

A. Written Information (Reference Appendices #9A, 1-2)

1. District Priorities – Mid-year Report

Dr. Graham provided a substitute page 7. There were no questions or concerns.

2. Event Supervision – 2nd Quarter Report

Board members requested this information. There were no questions or concerns.

B. Oral Information

Dr. Graham reminded everyone of the District Art Show opening (4 to 6 p.m. Jan. 9) and talked about the renovations underway at the high school. He asked for clarification for the Vollmer Tutoring Center workshop for the Jan. 22 meeting and said Mrs. Flanigan would schedule the BoardDocs LT workshop for the same date.

10. New Business (Reference Appendices #10A-B)

A. Elmer Gordon Scholarship

Mrs. McBride said the board needed to discuss the timeframe for accomplishing all of the scholarship components and also mentioned adding a new component. Mrs. Reinhardt provided further explanation and agreed to provide board members with a draft of changes for the next meeting. All board members were in agreement.

B. Articles Regarding Policy Issues

Mrs. Wickerham provided two articles. In regard to the "Boards must approve agreements extending probationary periods" article, she was unsure if the district approved the fourth year. Dr. Graham said yes and then he provided an explanation along with input from Mr. Barbeau and Mrs. Smith. In regard to the second article, "Re-trial granted regarding injury on school's icy sidewalk," Mrs. Wickerham inquired as to Rush-Henrietta's procedures. Mr. Barbeau provided an answer.

11. Board Member Reports

A. Budget Advisory Council (Dec. 17, Jan. 7)

Mrs. Smith reported that the Dec. 17 meeting was about discussion on the rollover budget, which was done at the Program & Service Review. Information from the Jan. 7 meeting was discussed during the Budget Development workshop of this meeting.

B. MCSBA Steering Committee (Jan. 2)

Mrs. Reinhardt reminded everyone of the upcoming meeting with legislators to be held from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 9 at the RIT Inn & Conference Center. If interested in attending, please let Sherry Johnson (MCSBA) know. She said there was consideration being given to putting together a statement and possibly doing a position paper on safety in schools. This will be discussed at tomorrow's legislative meeting.

C. District Parent Advisory Council (Jan. 3)

Mrs. Chaudari said there were high satisfaction results this year so the next meeting would be more about college and career readiness. The areas for improvement are more school specific. Dr. Graham said a productive use of time would be to talk about initiatives that have been established. Mrs. Chaudari thought it would be a good idea to talk about running for the board and to do a short presentation about it.

Dr. Graham reported on steps being taken to review and, if necessary, improve school security in response to the school shooting tragedy in Connecticut last December. He said at Thursday's safety coordinator meeting, Mrs. Anselme would be reviewing things the district should be doing in response to events going on. He also said the district began an audit of our safety protocols

Superintendent's
Report

New Business

Board Member
Reports

when the new safety coordinator came on board. In addition, he mentioned a request from the Monroe County Sheriff's Department to pay for a Pictometry program. Dr. Graham said it's not that we're not doing anything, but we need to lay it out and then figure out how we want to communicate it. We need to let parents know what we're doing, here's what we can do, but here's the cost, and see what they would like to do.

Dr. Graham also mentioned that he received an e-mail from NYSSBA asking to submit the ballot for the Area 2 Director vacated position. Mrs. Flanigan already submitted Rush-Henrietta's ballot, but said she would follow-up with NYSSBA.

12. Board Meeting Recap

- February – Will need an hour-long executive session for personnel matters
- The middle school new course proposal will be brought to the next meeting for approval.
- District Art Show Opening – 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 9
- Next workshop – Jan. 22 – Information on Vollmer's tutoring center
- School Visit – Leary Elementary School – 7:15 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 10
- Mrs. Reinhardt will work on Elmer Gordon Scholarship application changes and e-mail a draft to board members this weekend.

Meeting Recap

13. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 10:08 P.M.

MOVED: Mrs. Reinhardt

SECONDED: Mrs. Wickerham

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Flanigan
School District Clerk
Board Approved: January 22, 2013