

BOARD OF EDUCATION
HIGHLIGHTS of MEETING HELD – May 13, 2014
BUDGET HEARING / REGULAR MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: at 7:00 P.M. at Franklin Academy High School, Huskie Lane, Malone.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Arlie Collins, Christine Crossman-Dumas, Carol Hunter, Gordon Hutchins, David LaPlant, Edward Lockwood, Wayne Rogers.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Stephen J. Dupree, Donna Kissane.

MEMBERS TARDY: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Jerry Griffin, Superintendent, Timothy P. Whipple, Business Administrator, Nate Hathaway (MFT), Suanne Tatro, Jason Black (CSEA), Melissa Brown, various students, E.J. Conzola II, Donald Hardy, John Felion & Tom Kenney (CS Arch).

PLEDGE TO FLAG: was led by President Rogers.

APPOINTMENT OF CLERK PRO-TEM: Timothy P. Whipple was appointed Clerk Pro-Tem for the duration of the Board Meeting.

BUSINESS MATTERS:

AGENDA for 5/13/14 was adopted as presented.

MINUTES of the Regular Meeting held 4/29/14 were approved as presented.

PRESENTATION OF 2014-2015 BUDGET: Mr. Whipple presented the 2014-2015 budget. Expenditures are increasing 2.31%, mainly due to teacher retirement costs (TRS), health insurance increases (4.5%) and salary increases for staff. The District plans to receive approximately \$1.2 million in additional state aid. The projected tax levy increase is 2.86%, which is below the District's tax levy cap of 3.15%. There were no public comments on the budget.

AGENDA REVISION: After the budget hearing, the Board amended the agenda to move Item V.C) Capital Improvement Plan Presentation to Item I. C).

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN PRESENTATION: Mr. Griffin and Mr. Whipple gave a presentation of the \$15.9 million capital project to be voted on May 20, 2014 as a separate proposition. An audience member asked why the project was so expensive just for an athletic field and fixing up the Bus Garage. Mr. Whipple explained the different components of the plan. The garage renovations component is estimated to cost \$9.4 million. The site improvement plan, which includes the purchase of the former North Country Community College buildings, asbestos abatement, demolition and construction of athletic fields is estimated to cost \$6.4 million. He mentioned that the District could have considered spending less to renovate the garage, but that would only put a band-aid on serious deficiencies at the building, such as failing steel supports, lack of ventilation and interior/exterior wall deterioration. The District is looking at a long-range plan to deal with the garage that will last for the next 50 years. Additionally, funding exists now at a state building aid ratio of 91%. If the District were to hold off on the garage renovations it is probable that the aid ratio would decrease over time, making the local taxpayer share more expensive in the future. Another member of the audience asked why the District is paying \$30,000 for the property from the County, which he believes to be too expensive. He suggested the County should have given the property to the District for no money being that the owner has never paid any taxes and the County has been reimbursing the school and Village for back taxes. Mr. Gordon Crossman, County Legislator and Village resident, spoke and offered his support of the project. He stated the old North Country buildings are a tremendous hazard and he is thinking of our kids first and foremost. He is aware the police have been called numerous times to arrest people in the buildings and believes this is an opportunity we cannot pass up as a community. He acknowledged that the District, with its funding from the State, is the only organization locally that has the ability to remove the buildings in a cost effective manner.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: was entered into at 7:52 P.M. for the purpose of discussing personnel matters as they relate to specific individuals and contractual matters.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION: at 8:01 P.M.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

SPECIAL ELECTION OF BOCES BOARD MEMBER: A ballot was cast for George Cook (Saranac Lake CSD).

ADDITIONAL MATTERS:

BOARD REPORTS: Mr. Rogers reminded Board Members about the Honor Society Induction Ceremony on May 30 at Donovans and asked Members to please contact Mr. Whipple if they would like to attend. He also reminded Members of the annual School Boards Conference in NYC in October. Finally, he wanted to thank all those organizations who contributed to the presentation to combat heroin and other drug use on Monday, May 12th, at Franklin Academy High School. He was appreciative that Northstar and other agencies brought attention to this important topic and that they used Franklin Academy as their venue.

ROBOTICS TEAM PRESENTATION: Carole Raymonda, Robotics Club Advisor, and members of the Club explained their recent competition and showed a video of the competition to the Board. The class did the best they could, but will seek out private donations for next year.

CONSENT AGENDA: for **PERSONNEL MATTERS** was approved as follows:

Instructional Staff:

ADDITIONAL HUSKIES SCIENCE & SWIM CAMP APPOINTMENT: was made to Alex Garland (Substitute Assistant). He will be paid \$11.00 per hour when he works as a substitute.

SICK LEAVE POOL RECOMMENDATIONS: were approved to Marlene Leroy (9 days), Amanda Leahy (5 days) & Heather Eldridge (10 days).

TENURE APPOINTMENTS: pending successful completion of the probationary periods were granted to Bobbilyn Gast (Reading), effective 9/1/14, Susan Henning (School Counselor), effective 9/1/14, Elizabeth McClain (Literacy), effective 9/1/14, Michael Botto (Science), effective 9/4/14, Amber Eells (English), effective 9/4/14 and Lisette Maguire (School Counselor), effective 9/4/14.

SAT PREP ACADEMY APPOINTMENTS: were made to Danielle Keating (ELA Instruction) and Amy LaVine (Math Instruction). They will work four 3-hour sessions. These appointments are retroactive to 5/6/14. They will each receive a stipend of \$750.00.

CURRICULUM NETWORK APPOINTMENTS: were made to Jacqueline McCarthy (G/L Coord. – Gr. 3), Judy Kent (G/L Coord. – Gr. 4), Gregory Fisher (G/L Coord. – Gr. 5), Katie Varin (Subj. Coord. PK-5 – Social Studies), Kristy Thompson (Subj. Coord. 9-12 – Business), & Cheryl Houle-Stickney (Special Education/Related Services Subj. Coord. PK-12 – Pre-K). These appointments are effective 7/1/14-6/30/16. They will receive a stipend according to the MFT contract. Also appointed were the following renewals: Caron Roulston/Edith Thompson (Subj. Coord. PK-12 – Art shared), Sheila Glinski (Subj. Coord. PK-12 – Health), Michele Thomas (Subj. Coord. PK-12 – Health Services), Mary Guerrette (Subj. Coord. PK-12 – Library), Jennifer Vanier (Subj. Coord. PK-12 – Music shared), Mark Dalton (Subj. Coord. PK-12 – Instructional Technology), Nancy Hart (G/L Coord. – Gr. K), Susan Tillinghast (G/L Coord. – Gr. 1), Pauline McGovern (G/L Coord. – Gr. 2), Ginger Rivers (Subj. Coord. PK-5 – Math), Daniel Tusa (Subj. Coord. 6-8 – ELA), Charlene Delarm (Subj. Coord. 6-8 – Math), George Rogers (Subj. Coord. 6-8 – Science), Danielle Keating (Subj. Coord. 9-12 – ELA), Cindy Leffler (Subj. Coord. 9-12 – LOTE), Darcy Rabideau (Subj. Coord. 9-12 – Math), John Miletich (Subj. Coord. 9-12 – Science), Stacy Vincent (Subj. Coord. 9-12 – Social Studies), Allison Fitzpatrick (Subj. Coord. 6-12 – Family & Consumer Sciences), Michael Santamore (Subj. Coord. 6-12 – Technology), Ashley Dustin (Special Education/Related Services Subj. Coord. – OT PK-12), Wendy Norman (Special Education/Related Services Subj. Coord. – PT PK-12), Mary Haas (Special Education/Related Services Subj. Coord. – Special Education Gr. 6-8) & Lee Trudeau (Special Education/Related Services Subj. Coord. – Special Education Gr. 9-12). These renewal appointments are effective 7/1/14-6/30/15. They will receive a stipend according to the MFT contract.

SUMMER SCHOOL APPOINTMENTS: were made to Marye Helms (Summer Reading Clinic Literacy Coach), Cecilia Benware, Lynn Cady-Poirier, Dawn Davis & Melissa LaFlesh (Summer Reading Clinic Teachers), Michele French (Summer Reading Clinic Math Lab Teacher), Julie Miller, Kaye Santamoor & Christopher VanHouten (Summer-School Psychologists), Margo Vivlamore (Summer-Certified COTA), Terry Collins, Steven Gordon & Deborah Swan (Summer School-Special Education Teachers), Despo Baltoumas-MacNeill & Michelle Doran (Summer Reading Clinic Support Staff), Janis Bickford, Sandra Carrigan, Mary Farmer, Terry Fisher, Sherry McDonald, Mary McQuinn, Austin Seymour, Donna Vanier & Kelli Walbridge (Summer Special Education Support Staff), Allison Fitzpatrick (Temp. Summer Inc. Youth Teacher - Life Skills), Timothy Lamay (Temp. Summer Inc. Youth Teacher – GED), Tammy Thurston (Summer Special Education Support Staff/LPN) and Lori Finnegan (Summer Reading Clinic Substitute Teacher). The effective dates of these appointments vary from 7/2/14 through 8/15/14 at various rates.

Managerial/Confidential:

DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES III APPOINTMENT: was made to Chad Lawrence, effective 6/2/14.

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDED ACTION:

CSE/CPSE RECOMMENDATIONS: were approved as presented.

STUDENT RELEASES: for the 2014-2015 school year were approved for Boone & Montana Dermott (CCS) and Olivia Garwood (CCS).

ADJOURNMENT: 8:36 P.M.

Cindy L. Brooks

District Clerk/Board of Education
5/14/14