

BOARD OF EDUCATION
HIGHLIGHTS of MEETING HELD – January 27, 2015
REGULAR MEETING

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Wayne Rogers, Arlie Collins, Stephen J. Dupree, Donna Kissane, David LaPlant, Edward Lockwood, Philip Hans, Christine Crossman-Dumas.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Carol Hunter

MEMBERS TARDY: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Timothy P. Whipple, District Clerk/Business Administrator, Jerry Griffin, Superintendent, Melissa Brown (MFT), Jason Black (CSEA), and many students.

PLEDGE TO FLAG: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Rogers.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: was entered into at 7:01 P.M. for the purpose of discussing Secondary Math Teacher appointment, Substitute Teacher appointments, and CSEA negotiations.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION: at 7:03 P.M.

BUSINESS MATTERS:

AGENDA for 1/27/15 was adopted.

MINUTES of the Regular Meeting held 1/13/15 were approved as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: for the period ending 12/31/14 were approved as presented.

TREASURER'S REPORT: for the period ending 12/31/14 was accepted as presented.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

ADOPTION OF 2015-2016 SCHOOL CALENDER: was adopted as presented.

REVISION TO 2014-2015 SCHOOL CALENDAR: was accepted as presented.

ACCEPTANCE OF INTERNAL AUDIT: was accepted as presented.

RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENT (CSEA CONTRACT): was approved as presented.

ADDITIONAL MATTERS:

BOARD REPORTS: Mr. Collins stated that he was discouraged with what is coming out of Albany in terms of budget items. Mr. Rogers agreed and read a portion of a letter from the Educational Conference Board to Governor Cuomo calling on the state to immediately release state aid runs to school districts. In order to properly calculate and submit their tax levy limit for 2015-2016 by March 1, districts require an estimate of state aid from the Governor's office. This is the first year that those aid runs were not provided after the Governor's budget proposal, a reality that significantly hinders the ability of school leaders and Boards of Education to create a budget for the voters to consider.

Mr. Rogers mentioned he will be attending the legislative breakfast in Lake Placid on Friday. He sent kudos to Stephen Shafer, FEH BOCES District Superintendent for developing many talking points for board members to use when meeting with Senator Little and Assemblywoman Dupree. He is hopeful some of our questions on projected state aid will be answered by our legislators at the meeting.

Mr. Rogers also mentioned that the State Education Department (SED) is considering a plan to change the way in which they collect field test questions during grade 3-8 ELA and Math examinations. By offering more test forms and imbedding field test questions within the regular 3-8 exams, it may be possible to do away with a supplementary field test exam all together.

Mr. Rogers finished his board report with information that suggested only 14% of teachers in NYS teach within the 3-8 content area, which means 86% of teachers receive their state test growth score from student learning objectives (SLO's). This is significant because the Governor is looking to make state exam scores count for 50% of a teacher's total performance score for the year, with the other 50% coming by way of local evaluations. Mr. Griffin added that for Malone, only 36 teachers teach with the 3-8 content area, which represents 15% of all instructional staff.

INTERNAL CLAIMS AUDIT REPORT (7/1/14-12/31/14): was accepted as presented.

BUDGET DISCUSSIONS: Mr. Whipple reported to the Board that he was hopeful to have estimated state aid for the 2015-2016 year available for the meeting, but as members know, the Governor did not provide those estimates to districts this year. He explained that there are seven different policy items that the Governor is tying to state aid increases for 2015-2016, and without those policy changes being approved by the legislature, districts will receive a lesser amount of aid. Mr. Whipple also notified the Board that the estimated tax levy limit for 2015-2016 is 3.54%, or \$451,479 higher than the current year levy of \$12,751,847. The district was able to carry over \$195,572 from the current year because those monies were not used as part of the 2014-2015 levy.

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

Instructional Staff:

SUBSTITUTE ADDITIONS: Renee Allen (Teacher/Teaching Assistant/Teacher Aide), Nicole Boyea (Teaching Assistant/Teacher Aide), Mackenzie Coleman (Teacher/Teaching Assistant/Teacher Aide), Corey Goodrow (Teacher/Teaching Assistant), Angelica Harrigan-LaClair (Teacher/Teaching Assistant), Karen Lynch (Teacher/Teaching Assistant/Home Tutor), Kristen McCaffrey (Teacher/Teaching Assistant), Wallace Robert (Teacher/Teaching Assistant/Teacher Aide), Martha Webb (Teacher/Teaching Assistant/Teacher Aide).

SECONDARY MATH TEACHER APPOINTMENT: was made to Annmarie Trombley, effective March 2, 2015—March 1, 2018.

Support Staff:

SUBSTITUTES: Bernadine Livernois (Custodian/Cleaner), effective 2/2/15, Robert Taylor (Custodian/Cleaner), effective 2/2/15.

PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT: Jennifer Crossman, Teaching Assistant at Flanders, effective 1/28/15-1/27/18.

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDED ACTION:

CSE/CPSE RECOMMENDATIONS: were approved as presented.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:32 P.M.

Timothy P. Whipple
District Clerk/Board of Education
1/27/15