

BOARD OF EDUCATION
HIGHLIGHTS of MEETING HELD – March 10, 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, Philip Hans, Christine Crossman-Dumas, Edward Lockwood

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

MEMBERS TARDY: Carol Hunter

OTHERS PRESENT: Timothy P. Whipple, District Clerk/Business Administrator, Jerry Griffin, Superintendent, Melissa Brown (MFT), Brandon Pelkey, F.A. Principal, Pamela Pelkey, Davis Elementary Teacher, Ginger Rivers, Davis Elementary Teacher, Lisa Dupree, Davis Principal, Amanda Dishaw, Secretary to the Business Administrator, Sylvia Raye, BoardDocs Implementation Specialist, Eileen Kilcullen, Athletic Director, many High School students, Davis Elementary students and parents.

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

*A moment of silence was given for F.A. Student, Alex Savage.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: was entered into at 7:01 P.M. for the purpose of discussing personnel matters as they relate to specific coaching appointments.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION: at 7:09 P.M.

BUSINESS MATTERS:

AGENDA for 3/10/15 was adopted.

MINUTES of the Regular Meeting held 2/10/15 were approved as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: for the period ending 1/31/15 were approved as presented.

TREASURER'S REPORT: for the period ending 1/31/15 was accepted as presented.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

DONATIONS: 1) \$9,940.29 from an anonymous donor to be used to support the Music and Art Programs, 2) 5 Sound Shells and 4 Filler Panels to the Malone Middle School from Saranac Lake Central School District, 3) \$2,000 from Stewarts Foundation to be used for Project Warmth were accepted "with thanks".

APPROVAL OF UPDATED BUDGET FOR HUSKIE SUMMER SWIMMING CAMP: was accepted as presented.

APPROVAL OF HUSKIES SUMMER BASKETBALL CAMP: was approved as presented.

ADDITIONAL MATTERS:

COMMON CORE MATH PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION: Mrs. Rivers, Fifth Grade Teacher at Davis Elementary School briefed the Board on the Implementation of the NYS Common Core Mathematics at the three elementary buildings. She explained the history of new standards as they relate to Math, beginning with the 2010-2011 school year when they were first referenced on lesson plans at intermediate levels. Mrs. Rivers reviewed how the new math standards have evolved from the first year to the current year. Ms. Hunter asked if students have the ability to use different methods to find the correct answer, or if the resources push a certain problem solving method. Mrs. Rivers explained that depending on the question, students have many ways to solve the problem that are acceptable.

Mrs. Kissane asked about new students who enroll mid-way through the year and how well they do compared to students who had started at the beginning with the district. Mrs. Rivers said in her experience students have shown an ability to catch on to the new material quickly. Mr. Collins mentioned that High School students seem to struggle with the new Common Core Math because they were not introduced to it at a young age like the current students have been.

The Common Core Math presentation concluded with a lesson from many of Mrs. Rivers' math students, who were in the audience. Each student was assigned to a Board member, along with Mr. Griffin and Mr. Whipple, and assisted them in a series of Common Core Math problems similar to the type of questions that fifth grade students are expected to master as part of the new curriculum. At the conclusion of the presentation, Mr. Rogers thanked the students and Mrs. Rivers for their presentation and for taking the time to show Board members the math problems they have been working on in such a fun manner.

BUDGET DISCUSSIONS: Mr. Whipple explained to the Board that since the last meeting the District has received their preliminary 2015-2016 BOCES budget and those estimates were integrated into the overall 15-16 spending plan. The actual numbers were approximately \$100,000 higher than first estimated due to larger expenses in Special Education programs and for the Career and Technical Education program. The CTE program is calculated using a five year rolling average of the number of Malone students who enroll in the BOCES program.

Mr. Griffin stated that he just returned from meetings in Albany where he received first hand updates from members of the Senate and Assembly on the state aid picture for 2015-2016. He explained that it appears the Assembly state aid proposal includes a \$1.8 billion increase to education, where the Senate proposal looks to be about \$1.9 billion in additional aid. In comparison, the Governor's proposal is \$1.1 billion and includes many changes to the teacher evaluation system along with tenure changes. The Assembly and Senate budget bills, if passed, would potentially mean additional state aid above and beyond what the District has currently budgeted. Although he does not know how the aid will be distributed and for what purposes yet, if additional state aid is forthcoming, Mr. Griffin would like the Board to consider adding additional Pre-K classes so that all four year olds in the Malone CSD will have the ability to attend Pre-K in District-Operated programs.

BOARD REPORTS: Mr. Rogers mentioned that Board members should have received or will receive in the near future a short survey from NYSSBA on the needs of School Board members. He asked if they would complete the survey so as to provide feedback to the organization.

Mr. LaPlant said he attended the Elementary Science Night at the Malone Middle School last week and it was an excellent turnout. He was happy to see the excitement amongst his own son, along with other students who participated in the event. Mr. Rogers agreed that the event was a success and could be expanded even further next year.

Mrs. Kissane reported that she was asked to read to 1st graders at Flanders on March 2nd in honor of Dr. Seuss Day. She thoroughly enjoyed the experience and was appreciative to the school for asking her to participate in the fun day.

Mr. Griffin reminded Board members of the upcoming play, "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying", which will be performed on March 12, 13, and 14 by the FA Players.

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

Instructional Staff:

ADDITIONAL SPRING COACHING APPOINTMENTS: were made to Shelley Skelly (Modified Softball, Step III), Scott Marlow (Girls' Varsity Spring Track, Step III), Cory West (Girls' Varsity Spring Track Assistant, Step I (1), Jackie McCarthy (Girls' Modified Spring Track, Step I (3), Ryan Lamica (Boys' Modified Spring Track, Step III), Jim Heden (*Co-Coach, Boys' Varsity Spring Track, Step III), Matt Tessier (*Co-Coach, Boys' Varsity Spring Track, Step III). Kevin St.Hilaire (Modified Baseball, Step III). Ashley Marshall (Softball-Volunteer), Ryan Childs (Baseball-Volunteer), Austin LaMay (Baseball-Volunteer), Amy LaVine (Softball-Volunteer), Chris Kemp (Track-Volunteer).

SUBSTITUTE ADDITION: Alexander Sprague (Teacher/Teaching Assistant/Teacher Aide).

Support Staff:

SUBSTITUTE: Bruce Soucia (Bus Driver) effective 3/11/15.

PERMANENT APPOINTMENTS: Julie Snell and Rinn Schanck (Lifeguards) effective 3/11/15 *pending Franklin County Civil Service Approval.

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDED ACTION:

CSE/CPSE RECOMMENDATIONS: were approved as presented.

TRAINING:

The Board participated in training on a new online meeting software, BoardDocs.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:06 P.M.

Timothy P. Whipple

District Clerk/Board of Education

3/10/15