



**Date:** February 25, 2014

**Kind of Meeting:** Regular

**Place:** Homer High School

**Members Present:** Sonia Apker, Katie Dwyer, Mary Beth Mathey, Luke Morenus, Bill Pedrick, David Quinlan, Martin Sweeney and Randy Weatherby

**Members Absent:** Kim Sharpe

**Others Present:** Superintendent Ruscio, Director of Business & Finance Falls, Director of Instruction & Evaluation Llewellyn, District Clerk Yacavone, Administrators, Guests

President Apker called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.

#### **Executive Session**

Motion by Morenus, seconded by Sweeney, that the Board enter into an executive session at 6:32 PM to discuss personnel/potential staff assignments and negotiations.

Yes	8	Motion Carried
No	0	

Returned from Executive Session at 7:02 PM.

#### **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

#### **President's Comments**

- **Remarks-**Mrs. Apker welcomed the group.
- **Correspondence-**None provided.
- **Updates to Agenda-**There were no updates to the agenda.

#### **Community Voices**

- None heard.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Pedrick, seconded by Morenus, that the Clerk's minutes of the February 4, 2014- regular meeting be approved as presented. (Board Notes Item A)

Yes	7	Motion Carried
No	0	
Abstain	1	(Sweeney)

Motion by Pedrick, seconded by Sweeney, that the Clerk's minutes of the February 11, 2014- budget work session be approved as presented. (Board Notes Item B)

Yes	8	Motion Carried
No	0	

#### **Superintendent's Report**

- **Remarks:**
  - Superintendent Ruscio wished Mr. Falls a Happy Birthday. Ms. Ruscio also asked the Board to consider the following dates for the summer Board/Administrative Retreat, July 9 & 10 or July 17 & 18, 2014.

- **Correspondence:**
  - Superintendent Ruscio passed a thank you card from Board member Dwyer.

**Blue Pride**

- Principals presented various activities and events happening within their buildings.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarterly Report on Student Progress**

- Director of Instruction and Evaluation Llewellyn, Director of Special Education Moore and all Principals presented several areas of student data currently being tracked including attendance, participation in extra-curricular activities, testing, student progress as well as numerous other areas.

**Budget Presentation: 2014-15 Operations/Maintenance, Transportation and General Support**

- Director of Business and Finance Falls along with Mr. Paquette and Mr. Cavellier presented the 2014-15 budgets for the transportation department and the operations and maintenance department. Mr. Paquette also highlighted some of the advantages of leasing busses versus purchasing them in the future. Mr. Cavellier commended his staff for the outstanding work they do keeping our buildings and grounds functional, clean and looking great.

**New Business**

**Items Requiring Board Action**

**Reports from the Committee on Pre-school Special Education**

Motion by Pedrick, seconded by Dwyer, that the Board accept the Reports from the Committee on Pre-school Special Education: (Board Notes Item C)

Yes	8	Motion Carried
No	0	

**Reports from the Committee on Special Education**

Motion by Dwyer, seconded by Sweeney, that the Board accept the Reports from the Committee on Special Education: (Board Notes Item D)

Yes	8	Motion Carried
No	0	

**Transfer of Funds-Capital Projects**

Motion by Morenus, seconded by Weatherby, that the Board approve the Resolution authorizing the transfer of funds from the General fund to the Capital Projects Fund to cover cost overruns. (Board Notes Item E)

Mr. Sweeney inquired if this document has been reviewed by Harris Beach (District’s Attorney). Mr. Falls replied that yes it has indeed been reviewed by them.

Mr. Pedrick inquired about how this process works.

Yes	8	Motion Carried
No	0	

**2014-15 District Calendar**

Motion by Morenus, seconded by Weatherby, that the Board approve the 2014-15 District Calendar. (Board Notes Item F)

It was noted that the calendar will be placed on the district web page.

Yes	8	Motion Carried
No	0	

**Bus Driver MOA**

Motion by Mathey, seconded by Quinlan, that the Board approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the District and the Bus Driver Association to participate in a service through the NYSUT Member Benefits Program. (Board Notes Item G)

Mr. Morenus asked if this was a voluntary program. Mr. Falls indicated that it is a service through NYSUT for members and it is voluntary.

Yes 8 Motion Carried  
No 0

**Tax Levy Percentage**

Motion by Morenus, seconded by Mathey, that the Board approve the Tax Levy Limit in the amount of 1.88%, raising the Tax Levy from \$15,697,990.00 to \$15,993,354.00. (Board Notes Item H)

Mr. Morenus noted that this sets the maximum levy to be reported to the state by their deadline of March 1, 2014.

Yes 8 Motion Carried  
No 0

**Internal Audit Procedures**

Motion by Quinlan, seconded by Morenus, that the Board approve the Internal Audit Procedures as outlined by Raymond F. Wager, CPA, P.C. (Board Notes Item I)

Yes 8 Motion Carried  
No 0

**Transfer of Funds-Debt Service**

Motion by Morenus, seconded by Weatherby, that the Board approve the approve the Resolution authorizing the transfer of funds from the Debt Service Fund to the General Fund. (Board Notes Item J)

Yes 8 Motion Carried  
No 0

**GEA Elimination Resolution**

Motion by Morenus, seconded by Quinlan, that the Board approve the Resolution regarding the immediate elimination of the Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA). (Board Notes Item K)

Ms. Mathey noted that she has had dialogue with Senator Seward regarding this and she feels that he understands and agrees with the necessity of the elimination of the Gap Elimination Adjustment.

It was noted that this resolution will be mailed to Governor Cuomo as well as all of our districts elected representatives.

Yes 8 Motion Carried  
No 0

**Transfer of Funds-Lend Lease**

Motion by Morenus, seconded by Dwyer, that the Board approve the Lend Lease Transfers as outlined by Mr. Falls. (Board Notes Item L)

Yes 8 Motion Carried  
No 0

**Personnel**

Motion by Pedrick, seconded by Dwyer, that upon recommendation of Superintendent Ruscio, the following personnel items be approved, including the addendum items:

Yes 8 Motion Carried  
No 0

**Instructional:**

Accept the letter of resignation from **Kim Flanagan** effective March 25, 2014.

Approve the leave of absence request from **Kimberly McPartland** following per post partum disability period through June 30, 2014. Mrs. McPartland’s expected due date is April 26, 2014.

Approve the following staff for **Tenure:**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Tenure Area</u></b>	<b><u>Effective Date</u></b>
<b>Margaret Snogles</b>	Teaching Assistant	March 8, 2014
<b>Carolyn Bookhout</b>	Teaching Assistant	March 11, 2014

Approve the following **Coaching** changes for the Spring Season:

- Sean Mack-Remove from JH Head Lacrosse Coach to JV Assistant Lacrosse Coach
- Rich Barnes-Remove from JH Assistant Lacrosse Coach to JH Head Lacrosse Coach

Approve the following **Student Teacher** for the spring term:

- April Williamson with Harold Fuller
- Ryan Meigs with Shelia Knight

Approve the following as **Volunteers** for the 2013-14 school year:

*Elementary School*  
Andrea Hart

*Intermediate School*  
Sarah Bouwens

Appoint the following people as **Instructional Substitutes** for the 2013-14 school year:

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Certification/Degree Area</u></b>
<b>Carl Nye</b>	P.E.
<b>Deborah Putman</b>	Elem. Ed.
<b>Lindsay Wilson</b>	Art
<b>Elizabeth Wood</b>	Math
<b>Tara Wright</b>	School Psychologist
<b>Thomas Chrysler</b>	Foreign Language

**Non-Instructional:**

Accept the letter of resignation from **Michelle Hernandez** effective March 12, 2014.

**Informational Items**

- **Fundraising Updates**-Mr. Van Etten updated the Board on one Youth & Government fundraising activity.
- **Strengthening Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Grant**-Superintendent Ruscio shared a letter to the District from the State Education Department announcing that we have been awarded a grant in the amount of \$258,625.
- **Comptroller’s Audit**-The Financial Condition Report from the State Comptroller’s Office was provided. The Board had a lengthy discussion surrounding the results of this report. Mr. Morenus prepared a Financial Conditions Report discussing the State Comptroller’s Report in detail. Mr. Morenus’s report will be mailed to all district residents via the Trojan Messenger mailing tentatively the first week in March.
- **Community Forum Flyer**-Superintendent Ruscio provided a flyer of the next Community Forum to be held on March 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM at West Genessee High School. All are encouraged to attend as advocates for our students.

**Board Committee Reports**

- *Audit*-No report.
- *Budget & Finance*-Mr. Morenus noted that the Budget & Finance Committee met on Monday and discussed the Financial Conditions Report he is working on in response to the State Comptroller’s Audit as well as a discussion on the Tax Levy, the Bus Leasing Plan and the 2014-15 District Budget.
- *Policy*-No report.
- *Community Relations*-No report.

**District Committee Reports**

- *Professional Staff Development Committee (PSDC)*-No report.
- *Health Advisory*-No report.
- *Safety*-No report.
- *APPR*-No report.
- *Classroom-Technology Advisory Group (C-Tag)*-No report.
- *Character Education*-Mr. Sweeney said the recent Celebration held for the Community Character Partnership was a success. He noted that many partners joined in promoting the five character education traits to our students throughout the community.
- *Instructional Leadership*-The next ILC meeting is February 26, 2014 at 3:45 PM in the High School Library.
- *Facilities*-No report.

**Board Member Activities**

- Mr. Morenus said he is hearing that the High School trip to Florida went very well. The Facebook page the group set up was an excellent idea.
- Mr. Sweeney attended the Character Education Ceremony as well as a Naturalization Ceremony.
- Mrs. Apker attended a JV Boys Basketball game as well as the Junior High Musical.
- Mr. Pedrick attended a Grade Configuration Committee meeting, the Character Education Partnership Ceremony and the OCM BOCES Adult Education Graduation.

**Upcoming Events**

*February*

- 25-Board of Education
- 27-IN Science Fair
- 28-HS Musical

*March*

- 1-HS Musical
- 10-11-JH/HS All County Instrumental
- 11-Board of Education
- 12-All District Instrumental
- 14-JH Grade 8 Career Day
- 14-JH Grade 7 Healthy Character Ed Day
- 15-Superintendent’s Forum
- 21-Staff Development Day/No School
- 22-NYSSMA Solo Festival
- 24-28-Kindergarten Registration
- 25-Board of Education
- 26-All District Vocal

**Closing Remarks**

Superintendent Ruscio noted that there will be on-going discussions regarding the data presented this evening. It was also noted that there is going to be a survey sent to staff regarding APPR in an effort to make necessary changes to the plan for next year.

**Executive Session**

Motion by Pedrick, seconded by Dwyer, that the Board enter into an executive session at 9:12 PM to discuss negotiations.

Yes	8	Motion Carried
No	0	

Returned from Executive Session at 9:39 PM.

**Adjournment**

Motion by Pedrick, seconded by Sweeney, that the meeting be adjourned at 9:41 PM.

Yes	8	Motion Carried
No	0	