



**Date:** March 11, 2014

**Kind of Meeting:** Regular

**Place:** Homer High School

**Members Present:** Sonia Apker (6:40), Katie Dwyer, Mary Beth Mathey, Luke Morenus, Bill Pedrick, David Quinlan, Kim Sharpe, Martin Sweeney and Randy Weatherby

**Members Absent:** None

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

Vice President Sharpe called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM

#### **Executive Session**

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

Yes	8	Motion Carried
No	0	

President Apker entered the meeting-6:40 PM

Returned from Executive Session at 7:01PM.

#### **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 Mathey, seconded by Sweeney, that the Clerk's minutes of the February 25, 2014- regular meeting be approved as presented. (Board Notes Item A)

Yes	9	Motion Carried
No	0	

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

- **Remarks:**
  - Superintendent Ruscio provided an update regarding her recent trip to Albany. It was noted that the information she is hearing is bleak and that we are not anticipating a significant restoration of GEA funding. At this point, the district has a 1.5M gap to close for the 2014-15 budget.
  - Next, Superintendent Ruscio thanked the entire staff for their cooperation efforts the day of the Junior High break-in.
  - Board retreat dates were discussed again, asking for feedback on particular dates in July.
  - Last, the School Social Workers were recognized for their outstanding contributions toward keeping students in school, supporting student social, emotional and mental health, strengthening academic outcomes and graduation rates.

- Below is a Legislative Resolution recognizing March 2-8, 2014 as School Social Work Week in New York State:

**State of New York Resolution and Proclamation**

- **MEMORIALIZING** Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim
  - March 2-8, 2014, as School Social Work Week in the
  - State of New York
  - **WHEREAS**, School social workers serve as vital members of a school's
  - education team, playing a central role in creating partnerships between
  - the home, school, and community to ensure student academic success; and
  - **WHEREAS**, School social workers are especially skilled in providing
  - services to students who face serious challenges to school success,
  - including disability, poverty, discrimination, abuse, neglect, mental
  - illness, homelessness, bullying, familial stressors, and other barriers
  - to learning; and
  - **WHEREAS**, One in five school age children in New York State has a
  - diagnosable mental disorder and one in 10 has a mental health problem,
  - severe enough to impair home, school, and/or community functioning; and
  - **WHEREAS**, Seventy-five to eighty percent of children and youth in
  - need of mental health services do not receive them, the discrepancy
  - being greater for minority children and children of poverty; and
  - **WHEREAS**, Those who wish to access community mental health services
  - often find them unavailable, inaccessible, or inadequate; and
  - **WHEREAS**, School mental health programs are critical to early
  - identification of and early intervention for mental health problems; and
  - **WHEREAS**, School social workers, being licensed mental health
  - professionals in our schools, provide necessary assessment,
  - interventions, counseling, family outreach, and community referrals; and
  - **WHEREAS**, School social workers are part of the New York State Safe
  - Schools Task Force because their knowledge of school culture and school
  - climate are necessary for responsible school safety planning; and
  - **WHEREAS**, In 2013, the high school graduation rate in New York State
  - was seventy-four percent, and approximately 60,000 high school students
  - drop out annually; and
  - **WHEREAS**, Research indicates that school mental health programs
  - improve educational outcomes by decreasing absences, decreasing dropout
  - rate, decreasing discipline referrals, and improving academic
  - achievement; and
  - **WHEREAS**, The celebration of School Social Work Week highlights the
  - vital role school social workers play in the lives of students in New
  - York State; now, therefore, be it
  - **RESOLVED**, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to
  - memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim March 2-8, 2014, as
  - School Social Work Week in the State of New York, and to honor and
  - recognize the contributions of school social workers to the success of
  - students in schools across the State, as well as encourage the people of
  - New York State to observe School Social Work Week with appropriate
  - ceremonies and activities that promote awareness of the vital role of
  - school social workers, in schools and in the community as a whole, in
  - helping students prepare for their futures as productive citizens; and
  - be it further
  - **RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The
  - Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York.
- **Correspondence:**
    - There was no correspondence.

**SchoolTool**

- Mr. Finn did a detailed presentation on the implementation of SchoolTool. Advantages as well as bumps in the road in moving toward a management system of this magnitude were shared.

**Comptroller Report Presentation**

- Mr. Morenus did a very detailed presentation explaining the State Comptroller’s Report and how misleading it can be given the complexities of school budgeting.

**Quarter 2 Data Discussion**

- An engaging dialogue between School Board Members and the Administrative Team regarding the Quarter 2 Data report took place. The district is looking at new ways to support students in the learning. Administrators will be leading conversations in their buildings on specific questions raised.

**New Business**

**Items Requiring Board Action**

**Warrants and Claims Auditors Report**

Motion by Morenus, seconded by Dwyer, that the Board approve the following Warrants: (Board Notes Item B)

Yes	9	Motion Carried
No	0	

**Warrants**

Warrant T and A	\$1,927,256.27
General Fund #1 Jan.	\$ 497,052.29
General Fund #2 Jan.	\$ 57,790.06
School Lunch #1 Jan.	\$ 34,425.12
School Lunch #2 Jan.	\$ 1,091.06
Federal Fund #1 Jan.	\$ 499.16
Federal Fund #2 Jan.	\$ 971.99
Capital Fund #1 Jan.	\$ 112,920.68

**Treasurer’s Report**

Motion by Pedrick, seconded by Weatherby, that the Board approve the following Treasurers’ Reports: (Board Notes Item C)

Yes	9	Motion Carried
No	0	

**Treasurers’ Reports**

General Fund	January
Capital Fund	January
School Lunch	January
Trust & Agency	January
Federal Fund	January
Workers’ Compensation	January
Payroll	January
Extra-classroom Activity Fund	December & January

**Investment Summary:** No action required. (Board Notes Item D)

**Budget Status Report/Revenue Status Report:** No action required. (Board Notes Item E)

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

Motion by Mathey, seconded by Sweeney, that the Board accept the Reports from the Committee on Pre-school Special Education: (Board Notes Item F)

Yes	9	Motion Carried
No	0	

**Reports from the Committee on Special Education**

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

Yes	9	Motion Carried
No	0	

**Disposal of Surplus Items**

Motion by Weatherby, seconded by Sharpe, that the Board approve the disposal of the items (books) as presented by Ms. Llewellyn. (Board Notes Item H)

Yes 9 Motion Carried  
No 0

**High School Field Trip Request**

Motion by Sweeney, seconded by Sharpe, that the Board approve the Field Trip Request from Ms. Latten to take the Class of 2014 to Hershey Park on June 6, 2014 for their senior trip. (Board Notes Item I)

Yes 9 Motion Carried  
No 0

**Time Warner Contract**

Motion by Morenus, seconded by Dwyer, that the Board approve the Contract between the District and Time Warner Cable for additional Broadband Services. (Board Notes Item J)

- Mr. Morenus asked if this additional service would enhance the broadband services that we currently have through OCM BOCES. Mr. Falls said this will indeed enhance the BOCES broadband and thanks to the efforts of Mr. Finn, it is at a very reasonable cost.

Yes 9 Motion Carried  
No 0

**Construction Management Contract**

Motion by Morenus, seconded by Sweeney, that the Board approve the Construction Management Contract with Lend Lease for the upcoming Capital Project. (Board Notes Item K)

Motion by Pedrick, seconded by Morenus, to Table this item until a corrected version of the document is submitted to the Board.

Yes 9 Motion Carried  
No 0

**Proposal for Geotechnical Engineering Exploration**

Motion by Morenus, seconded by Sharpe, that the Board approve the Proposal for Geotechnical Engineering Exploration for the upcoming Capital Project. (Board Notes Item L)

- Mr. Pedrick expressed concern about the noise that this process may cause during instructional hours. Mr. Falls said the company will work around the district’s schedule and this process won’t interrupt classes.

Yes 9 Motion Carried  
No 0

**State Comptroller’s Report**

Motion by Morenus, seconded by Mathey, that the Board accept the State Comptroller’s Report for the period July 1, 2011 through July 30, 2013. (Board Notes Item M)

Yes 8 Motion Carried  
No 1 (Sweeney)

**Personnel**

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

Yes 9 Motion Carried  
No 0

**Instructional:**

Approve the **Creation** of the following positions for the 2014-15 school year:

- K-5 Grade Chairs
- Math Instructional Coach
- ELA Instructional Coach
- Foreign Language Curriculum Area Lead Teacher
- K-12 Art and Technology Curriculum Area Lead Teacher

Approve the following change in **Co-curricular** for the 2013-14 school year:

- Shaylyn Gibson**-Blue Notes and Ruby Rhythms
- Alison Mastroe and Karen Keefe**-Hartnett Play Directors

Approve the following **Coaching Recommendations** for the Spring Semester:

- Dustin Morris**-Junior High Boy's Lacrosse Coach

Approve the following as **Hartnett Fitness Center Supervisors:**

- Sara Hermansky**

Approve the attached list of **Graduate Credits** as per HTA Contract.

Approve the following as **Practicum Students** for the Spring Semester:

- Athletics*
- Ross Halpern** with Geoff Sorenson and Jeremy Cook

Approve the following **Volunteer** for the 2013-14 school year:

- Elementary*
- Leigh MacDonald-Rizzo

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>Barbara Leonard</b>	Zoology
<b>Nathan Jebbett</b>	Science
<b>JaLynne Smith</b>	Elem. Ed.
<b>Christine McGory</b>	Teaching Assistant

**Non-Instructional:**

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

- Janice Myers**-Cleaner
- Michelle Fox**-Cleaner
- Tanner Nelson**-Cleaner
- Cheri Zapata**-Cleaner
- Amber Lawrence**-Nurse
- Christine McGory**-Aide

**Informational Items**

- **Fundraising Updates**-Fundraising activities from the High School, Junior High and Elementary Schools were provided.
- **Grade 8 Earth Science**-Superintendent Ruscio stated that after researching the idea, the Instructional Leadership Council is recommending offering Grade 8 Earth Science starting with the 2014-15 school year.
- **OCM BOCES Annual Meeting**-The next OCM BOCES Annual Meeting is scheduled for April 2, 2014 at 6:00 PM.
- **BOCES Board Member Nominations**-Information from BOCES was provided regarding submitting a nomination for a Board seat for the BOCES Board.
- **School Tax Installment Payments**-Mr. Falls provided information on the implementation of a tax installment payment plan should the district so choose to do so.
- **March 21 Staff Development Day**-The agenda for the March 21, 2014 Staff Development Day was provided.

**Board Committee Reports**

- *Audit*-No report.
- *Budget & Finance*-Mr. Morenus said the group met on March 4<sup>th</sup> and reviewed fund balance, reserves, expenditures as well as the tax installment plan as discussed by Mr. Falls this evening.

- *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*-No report.
- *Instructional Leadership*:

#### **Instructional Leadership Council-*Minutes***

**February 26, 2014-Homer High School Room 223**

#### **Special Education Presentation (Chris Moore):**

Chris presented his Special Education Manual webpage for feedback and asked about the interface and user friendliness of the website. The electronic document has sections for staff and parents. Certain staff sections require a password.

Suggestions were made to improve the password access of the webpage. A key symbol was agreed upon.

Are paper copies readily available? By request they are available from Chris's office.

Chris would like feedback on the website/electronic manual after this meeting.

We should include advice for parents on transitioning their student from graduation to college. Title ought to be graduation and transition "information" rather than "options".

#### **Module Choices (Thomas Turck and Linda Llewellyn):**

Should we stick to the current modules or look to new ones? K-8 feels like staying with the current ones, but there are foundational reading pieces in new modules coming out for 3-5.

We need to figure out how to address the foundational reading. The plan is to finish we have started for K-8. Current 4th graders will be taking the CCLS Regents in 2019.

#### **Parent Survey (Linda Llewellyn):**

Survey results from math modules and implementation of the CCLS at Homer. Elementary family math night. People want videos to explain math, paper handouts which explain skills, electronic skills and weekday evenings for information events. Comments will be categorized and put into an excel spreadsheet. Homer will be hosting a parent math night and the idea of bringing a dish to pass has been tabled. Skills and strategies within a grade-level is what parents would like by the week. Creating a website for parents and handing out paper packets for parents is an issue. What should we send home to parents? Could we put together screencasts as a team over the summer? Full implementation for videos next year.

#### **Update on CTE Process and V-AP Courses (Doug Van Etten):**

We are waiting on the curricula piece to move forward with an external review in April.

Homer has been in contact with State Ed. to figure out the Business and Technology courses. Engineering By Design and Project Lead the Way (PLTW) have both been considered, but we think PLTW will give our students a better credential and employment opportunity right out of high school, if that is the route they choose. Ag pathway will include food, land and people, and conservation courses. Project Lead the Way trained teachers will be needed for architecture and engineering. We are slowing the process down to make sure we do this right. The ILC will review at the end of March as an internal review.

#### **6 Week Reporting:**

Tabled for next time.

#### **For the good of the order:**

Please talk about the grade level positions and instructional coaches. Virtual AP courses are tabled for next time.

**Present:** Tracey Dugan, Tracy Durkee, Melanie George, Rob Nasiatka, Chris DiFulvio, Jenn Berthelot, Shelly Jacobi, Keith Fagerheim, Jonathan Kirkwyland, Marra Piazza, Nancy Ruscio, Tom Turck, Doug Van Etten, Jim McGory, Stephanie Falls, Chris Moore, Linda Llewellyn

- *Facilities*-No report.

### **Board Member Activities**

- Mr. Sweeney attended the Intermediate School Science Fair and has been continuing his lobby efforts with Congressman Finch's office.
- Mrs. Apker attended Guys and Dolls.

- Mrs. Dwyer thanked Mr. Morenus for all his hard work on the State Comptroller’s Report Presentation.
- Mr. Pedrick attended an OCM BOCES Board of Education meeting.
- Mr. Pedrick offered the following information on the recent OCM BOCES Facilities Vote:

***Thank you for supporting OCM BOCES***

On Thursday, January 23, more than 1, 400 people came out to exercise their right to vote on the OCM BOCES proposed facilities referendum. An overwhelming percentage, 93%, nearly 1,300 of those voters

gave their approval of the project, which will not increase costs for any of our 23 component districts.

Superintendent Manning said, “I want to thank everyone that came out to vote on this referendum.

This purchase will allow some of our programs to be moved from leased facilities into the new building,

resulting in improved facilities and adequate instructional space for our students. Additionally, and very

importantly, this purchase will result in long-term savings for our 23 component districts.”

Next Steps:

- Complete the closing on the purchase
- Begin meeting with design team
- Submit the completed design to NYSED for review and approval

**Upcoming Events**

***March***

- 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
- 20-Parent Math Night
- 21-Staff Development Day/No School
- 22-NYSSMA Solo Festival
- 24-28-Kindergarten Registration
- 25-Board of Education
- 26-All District Vocal

***April***

- 1-3-Grades 3-8 State ELA Exams
- 5-HS Cabaret
- 8-Board of Education
- 8-JH Orientation
- 11-All County Jazz
- 18-Good Friday/No School
- 21-25-Spring Recess/No School
- 28-Board of Education
- 30-Grades 3-8 State Math Exams

**Closing Remarks**

There were no closing remarks.

**Executive Session**

Motion by Quinlan, seconded by Morenus, that the Board enter into an executive session at 8:46 PM to discuss negotiations, real property and personnel.

Yes	9	Motion Carried
No	0	

Returned from Executive Session at 9:20 PM.

**Adjournment**

Motion by Pedrick, seconded by Sweeney, that the meeting be adjourned at 9:21 PM.

Yes	9	Motion Carried
No	0	