

BOARD OF EDUCATION – REGULAR MEETING
TOWN OF WEBB UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2014
LIBRARY
6:30 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kathy Nahor, George Hildebrant, Sharon Evans, Connor Glasser– Student Representative
ABSENT: Joseph Phaneuf and Maryellen Denio

ALSO PRESENT: Rex Germer, John Swick, Jennifer Dunn and Diane Kull

OTHERS PRESENT: Brad Donovan, Casey Hamlin, Don Gooley, Ryan Hatch

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President, Kathy Nahor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Kathy Nahor acknowledged receipt of information received from Utica National Insurance Company regarding a workshop, CSE statistics that will be reviewed and a letter that that will be acted on during the meeting.

SPECIAL TOPICS: Special Education Statistical Update as prepared by Mary Starring was reviewed and the board discussed 2014-2015 Budget.

APPROVAL: On the recommendation of the Board President, on a motion by S. Evans, seconded by G. Hildebrant, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2014 regular meeting.

Vote: Yes- 3 No- 0

APPROVAL: On the recommendation of the Board President, on a motion by G. Hildebrant, seconded by S. Evans, the Board voted to accept warrants and claims:

WARRANTS & CLAIMS

- A #16 with 27 checks written for a total of \$127,828.51
- C #14 with 6 checks written for a total of \$2,011.07
- F #5 with 1 check written for a total of \$2,148.00
- TA #15 with 21 checks written for a total of \$316,077.67
- TA #16 with 1 check written for a total of \$27,176.58

Vote: Yes- 3 No- 0

APPROVAL: On the recommendation of the Superintendent, on a motion by S. Evans, seconded by G. Hildebrant, the Board voted to approve the appointment of election inspectors/poll watchers for the May 20, 2014 Annual Budget Vote, at a stipend of \$85.00 as follows:

ELECTION INSPECTORS

Dora Burnett Pauline MacDonald
Mona Lincoln Joan Spring
Betty Draper Anne Hasby

Alternate Election Inspectors – Carol Clark, and Janine Phaneuf Vote: Yes -3 No – 0

APPROVAL: On the recommendation of the Superintendent, on a motion by G. Hildebrant, seconded by S. Evans, the Board voted to approve that the Town of Webb Union Free School District Board of Registration shall meet in the schoolhouse of said district located at 3002 NYS Rt. 28, Old Forge, New York on May 15, 2014 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for the purpose of preparing the final voter registration register of the school district for the Annual Budget Vote and, that a Budget Hearing be established for May 5 at 7:00 p.m. at the Big Moose Fire Hall, and on May 7 at 7:00 p.m. at the Woodgate Free Library, that the Annual Budget Hearing be established on May 13 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town of Webb UFSD gymnasium, and that the Budget Vote be established May 20 from 2-9:00 p.m. in the Town of Webb UFSD gymnasium.

BOARD OF VOTER
REGISTRATION MTG.
MAY 15, 2014

Vote: Yes – 3 No – 0

APPOINTMENT: On the recommendation of the Superintendent, on a motion by G. Hildebrant, seconded by S. Evans, the Board voted to approve the following as 2013-2014 spring sports coaches:

COACHES

Volunteer to Assist the Varsity Baseball Coach - Patrick Perkins
Volunteer to Assist the Modified Baseball Coach - Mark Johnston

Vote: Yes - 3 No – 0

APPROVAL:
FUEL OIL BID
2014-2015

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, on a motion by S. Evans, seconded by G. Hildebrant, the Board votes to approve the 2014-2015 Fuel Oil Bid at the fixed price at 3.2031/gallon – Mirabito.

Vote: Yes -3 No – 0

APPROVAL:
PROPANE BID
2014-2015

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, on a motion by S. Evans, seconded by G. Hildebrant, the Board votes to approve the 2014-2015 Propane Bid at the fluctuating price at \$2.95112/gallon - Suburban Propane.

Vote: Yes -3 No – 0

APPROVAL:
ELIMINATION

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, on a motion by G. Hildebrant, seconded by S. Evans, the Board voted to approve the following Resolution regarding elimination of the Gap Elimination Adjustment:

Whereas: The NYS Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA) was implemented in 2010 as a one-time reduction in education aid to help NYS to balance its budget and the GEA has continued in every budget since then;

Whereas: The GEA since its inception has reduced state aid to the Town of Webb UFSD by \$745,080;

Whereas: This reduction in aid has resulted in a cost shift to the local property taxpayers in the Town of Webb UFSD; and

Whereas: This cost shift has resulted in unsustainable measures to balance the Town of Webb UFSD budgets, including the reduction and elimination of school programs, personnel, and services, and the reduction of school district fund reserves;

Whereas: Efforts by the Town of Webb UFSD to sustain programs and services and contain budget are simultaneously constrained by Property Tax Levy Cap Legislation, unfunded and underfunded mandates, and increases in pension, health care costs; and mandated implementation of Common core Learning Standards, and teacher/principal performance reviews; and

Whereas: Adequate State funding is constitutionally mandated and essential to meet all mandates and obligations and to maintain the quality of education in the Town of Webb UFSD; and

Whereas: New York State, through its Gap Elimination Adjustment, has systematically reduced K-12 funding since 2010-11; and

Whereas: New York State touts recent aid increases as generous support to schools, although overall, school districts are receiving less in State Aid than 2008-2009; and

Whereas: Some school districts even have had State Aid DECREASES;

Resolved, that the Town of Webb UFSD Board of Education calls upon the New York State Legislature to immediately exempt State Aid for education from the calculation of the Gap Elimination Adjustment.

Vote: Yes- 3 No- 0

ACCEPTANCE:
RESIGNATION

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, on a motion by S. Evans, seconded by G. Hildebrant, the Board voted to accept the resignation of David Clark, 3, 4 5 & 6 Basketball coach, with regret and appreciation for his years of service, effective immediately.

Vote: Yes- 3 No- 0

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

John Swick, Principal reviewed the following:

- Our staff was trained by Model Schools last Tuesday morning (2/25) on the use of Google in their offices.
- Mr. Bradish and the Material/Transportation class traveled to the MVCC Transportation Center for a field trip on Friday, 2/28.
- Our 25 week marking period ended on Friday, 2/28 and our progress reports will be emailed out on Friday, 3/7.
- The Junior Class kicked off their March fundraiser for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The K-12 class that raises the most money will be rewarded by the Student Council with a pizza party.
- PARP kicked off on Friday, 2/28 with a camping celebration in the Aux gym to go with our theme of 'Read S'More Books!'

- The kindergarten and second grade classes hosted a Dr. Seuss party on Thursday night (2/27) to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday. This was a chance for parents to read with their students, meet their child's buddy reader and enjoy some cake!
- C. Hamlin, R. Sessions, A. Kelsey, and M. Murphy worked with our elementary students in 4H to put on a Speech and Presentation Skills workshop after school. Megan Plumley and Michael Cunningham also helped students create these presentations working alongside Jennifer Hartsig as a 4H parent volunteer.
- Tonight (Tuesday, 3/4) there is a college preparedness workshop with Mrs. Griffin and a representative from FMCC.
- Individual finishes from the Nordic State Skiing Championships: The girls skied 7.5 k's and M. Greene finished 9th, A. Brosemer 21st, E. Greene 24th and O. Phaneuf 35th. The boys skied 10k's and T. Williams finished 38th. Tuesday was a **3 X 2.5 k relay** in the **classic technique**. M. Greene had the 12th fastest split, O. Phaneuf 19th, E. Greene 26th and A. Brosemer 30th. As a result of the entire competition the **Old Forge girls** ended up as the **3rd team in NYS!**
- Individual finishes from the Alpine State Skiing Championships from Bristol Mountain: **Girls SL** - C. Barkauskas 34th **Girls GS** - A. Cooper 30th, C. Barkauskas 31st, M. Gaffney 38th **Boys SL** - C. Barkauskas 7th, C. Lawrence 9th, C. Glasser 31st. **Boys GS** - C. Barkauskas 10th, C. Lawrence 17th, C. Down 22nd.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS: Rex Germer, Superintendent reviewed with the Board of Education:

- O&M has met and created a beginning list of items that need to be taken care of on our campus and in our buildings. They have looked at this from a short term and a longer term perspective and have also added some wish list items. The group is in agreement that we need to look at a project to take care of these items rather than continue to do them piecemeal as the budget allows as we have done for the last couple of years. We will be looking to gather input from constituent groups to better formulate a list before bringing in the architect to look at things through their lens. We have received a proposal to do a full building survey to further assist us in the process as we look to repair, maintain and possibly improve our aging facility.
- Having just spent the last couple of days in Albany has yielded more questions than answers in terms of where we are going with Common Core and Teacher/Principal evaluations. From the Commissioner and Board of Regents we are hearing that we are proceeding as planned with the 19 changes made last month and keeping all other components as they have been written. They do however acknowledge that legislative action is very possible and may further change the landscape of what we are currently doing and how things will continue to be used and implemented.
- One great topic of conversation was the idea of "opting out of testing or data". It was stressed by the Commissioner and attorneys in several sessions that there is no option to opt out as the testing written in law and is part of the prescribed educational program. Students in institutions of public education can't choose to opt out of any of the required program.

CLERK PRO TEMP:

Motion to appoint R. Germer as Clerk Pro Temp made by G. Hildebrant, seconded by S. Evans.

Vote: Yes –3 No – 0

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Ryan Hatch present

Motion made by G. Hildebrant, seconded by S. Evans, to enter into executive session at 7:09 p.m. to discuss; litigation related to the former Superintendent and with legal counsel in regards to the pending litigation; collective negotiations related to the TOWTA Contract; the health and safety of students; the employment history of a particular Administrator's Unit member and discussion related to the academic program of a particular student.

Vote: Yes -3 No – 0

Ryan Hatch left

The litigation related to the former Superintendent and with legal counsel in regards to the pending litigation; collective negotiations related to the TOWTA Contract; the health and safety of students; the employment history of a particular Administrator's Unit member and discussion related to the academic program of a particular student were discussed, no action was taken.

REGULAR SESSION:

Motion made by G. Hildebrant, seconded by S. Evans, to return to regular session at 8:09 p.m.

Vote: Yes - 3 No – 0

ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by S. Evans, seconded by G. Hildebrant, to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Vote: Yes - 3 No – 0

Clerk Pro Temp

District Clerk