

BOARD OF EDUCATION – REGULAR MEETING
TOWN OF WEBB UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
TUESDAY, MAY 22, 2013
LIBRARY
6:30 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia Josephson, Kathy Nahor, Sharon Evans, and Colin Criss– Student Representative
ABSENT: George Hildebrandt, Joseph Phaneuf
ALSO PRESENT: Rex Germer, John Swick, Jennifer Dunn and Diane Kull
OTHERS PRESENT: Mary Roach, Melissa Murphy, Shelby McGill, Amanda Miller, Tim Leach, Joanna Cloherty, Robert Fountain, Casey Hamlin, Sean Hamlin, Danielle Gibbs, Lauren Holt, Madeline Mahoney, Katie Connell, Shelly Madsen, Maryellen Denio.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Kathy Nahor expressed condolences to Barbara Fetterman on the passing of her father; acknowledged receipt of two letters from staff members that will be acted upon in the action portion of the meeting; notification that NYSSBA received the Board nomination for Area 5 Director Wm. Miller; notification that Jefferson-Lewis BOCES 2013-2014 budget was passed by the 18 component school districts and Michael Kramer, James Lawrence, Jr. and Peter Monaco were all elected to 3 years terms on the BOCES Board. Timothy Leach congratulated Maryellen Denio as newly elected Board Member. Expressed his concern that there wasn't more press coverage of candidates. Wanted to know who normally organized an event to meet the candidates.

Students/a parent & a teacher commented regarding the resignation of Gregory Clark

Melissa Murphy – Mr. Clark has a bond with students, his resignation is unfair, the board should take into consideration the students and they should give it more thought.

Danielle Gibbs – Mr. Clark is a positive person and even though he isn't my teacher I know students can talk to him and look up to him.

Sean Hamlin – Enjoys Mr. Clark and recommends that he stay.

Amanda Miller – From parent's perspective students in band with Mr. Clark learn to read music. He is friendly and approachable, positive, promotes student self esteem and confidence.

Lauren Holt – Mr. Clark has a unique view on how to teach, has a fresh approach, wrote music for the students, students are not afraid to do something different, takes extra time, and summer band students loved Mr. Clark.

Mary Roach – Mr. Clark helped her read music by spending hours after school and is always there to help. He will be a big loss.

Katie Connell – Mr. Clark has a different teaching style than the former teacher, the students in the band got a lot better this year, he needs more time and who is to say what teaching style is better.

Madeline Mahoney – Mr. Clark wanted me to do a solo and I refused to do it and I felt I could talk to him about it. His technique some may not like.

Colin Criss – We love Mr. Clark. He is the most excited/enthusiastic person about music and is different than the former band teacher. Mr. Clark has had a positive effect on all students.

K. Nahor spoke to the students and explained that there is a process before a decision is made or action taken. Commented that the board was happy that students felt they could come forward and express their thoughts at a Board meeting.

T. Leach – Gave credit to the students for coming to a board meeting and expressing their thoughts on Mr. Clark's resignation. It takes courage to speak out and he is proud of them.

APPROVAL:
MINUTES 4/24 & 30/13

On the recommendation of the Board President, on a motion by P. Josephson, seconded by S. Evans, the Board voted to approve the minutes of April 24 regular meeting and April 30 special meeting.

Vote: Yes- 3 No- 0

APPROVAL:
WARRANTS & CLAIMS

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

- #20 Fund A with 79 checks written for a total of \$160,847.20
- #21 Fund A with 1 check written for a total of \$125.00
- #18 Fund C with 13 checks written for a total of \$7,221.33
- #21 Fund TA with 23 checks written for a total of \$295,990.57
- #23 Fund TA with 1 checks written for a total of \$24,366.48

Vote: Yes- 3 No- 0

APPROVAL:
TREASURER'S REPORT

On the recommendation of the Board President, on a motion by P. Josephson, seconded by S. Evans, the Board voted to approve the Treasurer's Monthly Report for (revised) February 2013 and April 2013 as presented.

Vote: Yes- 3 No- 0

ACCEPTANCE:
RESULTS OF VOTING

The results of the school district voting were reviewed. Motion was made by S. Evans, seconded by P. Josephson, to accept the following results of the May 21, 2013 balloting:

<u>BUDGET:</u>	IN FAVOR	-	278
	AGAINST	-	64

CANDIDATE: 5-Year Term - July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2018 –

Maryellen Denio – 273

Raymond E. Randall, Jr. - 50

Write In Candidate 0

Total Votes - 344

K. Nahor thanked the voters and the administrative team for their efforts. Vote: Yes- 3 No- 0

APPROVAL:
CSE RECOMMENDATION

On the recommendation of the Committee on Special Education, on a motion by P. Josephson, seconded by S. Evans, the Board voted to approve the authorization of funds to implement the special education programs and services consistent with such recommendations, as needed.

Vote: Yes - 3 No – 0

APPOINTMENT:
TENURE

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, on a motion by P. Josephson, seconded by S. Evans, the Board voted to approve the tenure appointment of the following effective August 31, 2013:

- (a) The name of appointee: Robert Fountain
- (b) Tenure area: K-12 Art Teacher
- (c) Date of Commencement of service on tenure: 9/1/13
- (d) Certification Status: NYS Initial Visual Arts K-12

Vote: Yes - 3 No – 0

APPOINTMENT:
TENURE

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, on a motion by P. Josephson, seconded by S. Evans, the Board voted to approve the tenure appointment of the following effective August 31, 2013:

- (a) The name of appointee: Joanna Cloherty
- (b) Tenure area: 7-12 Spanish Teacher
- (c) Date of Commencement of service on tenure: 9/1/13
- (d) Certification Status: NYS Initial Spanish 7-12

Vote: Yes - 3 No – 0

APPOINTMENT:
TENURE

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, on a motion by S. Evans, seconded by P. Josephson, the Board voted to approve the tenure appointment of the following effective August 31, 2013:

- (a) The name of appointee: Madeline Fenton
- (b) Tenure area: K-6 Elementary Teacher
- (c) Date of Commencement of service on tenure: 9/1/13
- (d) Certification Status: NYS Grades 1-6 Initial and Students with Disabilities – Grades 1-6

Vote: Yes - 3 No – 0

ACCEPTANCE:
RESIGNATION

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, on a motion by P. Josephson, seconded by S. Evans, the Board voted to accept the resignation of Gregory Clark as Instrumental Music Teacher effective June 30, 2013.

Vote: Yes – 3 No – 3

CERTIFICATION:
1/18/2013 GRADUATE

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, on a motion by P. Josephson, seconded by S. Evans, be it resolved that Nicolas Conklin is a student certified to have met the district's graduation requirements and received diploma dated January 18, 2013.

Vote: Yes - 3 No – 0

APPROVAL:
LEAVE OF ABSENCE

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, on a motion by P. Josephson, seconded by S. Evans, the Board voted to approve the leave of absence June 4-20, 2013 (13 days) as requested by Janine Phanuef.

Vote: Yes - 3 No – 0

APPROVAL:
TOWN OF WEBB
TEACHERS' ASSOC.
CONTRACT 2013-2014

On the recommendation of the Board President, on a motion by P. Josephson, seconded by S. Evans, the Board voted to approve the contract with the Town of Webb Teachers' Association outlining the terms of their successor agreement to the 2010-2013 collective bargaining agreement for the term July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014.

Vote: Yes – 3 No – 0

DECLARE SURPLUS:
BUS

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, on a motion by P. Josephson, seconded by S. Evans, the Board voted to approve and declare surplus

- 2007 Bluebird GMC Micro Bird 28 passenger bus, minimum bid \$11,500.00

Vote: Yes – 3 No – 0

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

John Swick, Principal reviewed the following:

- ELA and Math 3-8 testing is complete and I want to thank the faculty and staff for the time and effort that they put into this as well as preparing all year for it.
- Thank you to the Inlet 6th graders for coming to visit. We look forward to next year when they will be joining us as 7th graders.
- Thank you to everyone who came out to support the Webb Way dinner last night. The Webb Way was able to raise over \$500 from this event!
- Thank you to Mark Johnston, Diane Amos, Jenn Parzych, Katie Boesche, Anne Phinney, Steve Bradish and everyone who helped organize the Civil War Day last Friday. This was a terrific learning opportunity for our students.
- Thank you to Diane Amos for organizing the annual Key Club white water rafting trip to encourage teambuilding and to reward our students who completed over 20 hours of community service this year.
- Thank you to Michael Cunningham, Diane Amos, Anne Phinney and everyone who helped organize the assembly today honoring the great volunteer work done throughout this year.
- Thank you to Key Club for the plaque that I was presented with on behalf of the school commemorating 10 years of Key Club at TOW UFSD.
- Thank you to Bob Holmes the one man volleyball team for coming to our school for an assembly and talking to our students about 'Overcoming the Odds'.
- I hope that everyone has a great Memorial Day and that they will come out to see the band march in the parade on Monday.

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

- Thank you to the voters who came out to voice their belief about our budget. Fortunately we were able to present a package that preserves the program for our students while meeting the tax levy limit that the state has imposed.
- Our teachers deserve a big thank you this year for the extra efforts they have had to put forth to meet the new requirements of the State. Not only have curriculums (Common Core), tests, scoring scenarios and evaluations (APPR) changed but they have been asked to make changes when the State has not met the deadlines they proposed for Curriculum modules or shared adequate information directly with the teachers regarding some of the changes they have made. Our teachers have made considerable change and have endured all of the stresses that change can bring. The evaluation process alone has changed how we talk about and reflect on teaching having moved from a generalized evaluation rubric to one that requires specific examples be documented as part of the plan. It has also required teachers to document things they have already established as part of their routine in many cases into a binder for Mr. Swick to review as part of their overall evaluation determination. This process, although approved by the District and the Teachers' Union, has been quite cumbersome and stressful for many adding to an already difficult year. Mr. Swick also deserves a great deal of recognition for coming to us this year and effectively implementing the multitude of changes our teachers and students have encountered this year, many of which are out of our control and have been dictated by law and by the State Education Department. We truly do have a great staff that has come together to meet our students needs again this year under a new set of requirements that will ultimately culminate in our teachers and principal being graded. Kudos to all of them for facing the challenge and all being the professionals they are for our students.
- By last count 27 districts across the state were poised to go to the voters in need of a 60% majority for their budgets to pass. Countless numbers of schools had to massively deplete reserves and make staffing cuts to stay within the tax levy limit this year.
- We have received 240 applications for the elementary position we posted. This tells a portion of the story teachers are encountering across the state in terms of the number of jobs that have been cut vs. the number of positions available to new and veteran teachers. We would like to begin the first round of interviews next week with a group of teachers and Mr. Swick.

CLERK PRO TEMP: Motion to appoint R. Germer as Clerk Pro Temp made by P. Josephson, seconded by S. Evans.

Vote: Yes –3 No – 0

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion made by P. Josephson, seconded by S. Evans, to enter into executive session at 7:21 p.m. to discuss grievance related to the current teacher's contract and an update on negotiations, litigation related to a former superintendent, the employment history of 3 particular individuals, discussion related to the Administrative Union and negotiations, discussion regarding the Superintendent's contract, discussion regarding the CSEA contract and a memo of understanding individuals.

Vote: Yes -3 No – 0

A grievance related to the current teacher's contract and an update on negotiations, litigation related to a former superintendent, the employment history of 3 particular individuals, discussion related to the Administrative Union and negotiations, discussion regarding the Superintendent's contract, discussion regarding the CSEA contract and a memo of understanding individuals were discussed, no action was taken.

REGULAR SESSION: Motion made by P. Josephson, seconded by S. Evans, to return to regular session at 9:06 p.m.

Vote: Yes - 3 No – 0

ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by S. Evans, seconded by P. Josephson, to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 p.m.

Vote: Yes - 3 No – 0