

DATE: February 26, 2008
WHERE HELD: High School

KIND OF MEETING: Regular
PRESIDING OFFICER: Michael Wolf

**MARGINAL
NOTATIONS**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

John Blowers
Nancy Della Pia
Elizabeth Herkenham
Tim Kelliher
Joe Pericone
Robert Speck
Michael Wolf

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jim Schultz, Rick Evans, Jacqueline St.Onge, Christy Multer, Dan LeClaire, Nicky Boehm, Sandy Garrison, Joan Ryder, Bea Sipe, Nancy DuCharme & Judy Clark.

President Michael Wolf called the Board meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Pericone moved and Ms. Della Pia seconded the approval of the consent agenda which included minutes of the February 12, 2008 regular meeting of the Board of Education and the authorization of textbooks & films.
Motion carried 7-0 See attachments

Mr. Kelliher moved and Mr. Speck seconded the approval of the retirement of Lorraine Weidler, Grade 1 teacher at Pashley, effective 7/1/08; the acceptance of resignation of Adriane Wheat, Grade 4 teacher at Charlton Heights, effective 2/24/08; the approval of the tutorial program appointments of Kimberly Brunson, Tracey Dooley, Erin Hogan, and Peter Mody at \$25 per hour; the approval of the spring coaching assignments, the volunteer coaches, and the substitute teacher appointment, so noted on the attached list.
Motion carried 7-0 See attachment 1

Mr. Kelliher moved and Mr. Speck seconded the approval of the civil service personnel action as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.
Motion carried 7-0 See attachment 2

Ms. Della Pia moved and Ms. Herkenham seconded the approval of the School Calendar for the 2008-09 school year.
Motion carried 7-0 See attachment 3

Ms. Herkenham moved and Ms. Della Pia seconded the approval of the Special Athletic Competition Request for the Varsity Baseball Team.
Motion carried 7-0 See attachment 4

Ms. Herkenham moved and Ms. Della Pia seconded the approval of Revised Policy 7350 (Use of Seat Belts on School Bus Vehicles).
Motion carried 7-0 See attachment 5

Mr. Blowers moved and Mr. Pericone seconded the approval of the REVISED Property Assessment Tax Exemption for Low Income Senior Citizens & Disabled Citizens.
Motion carried 7-0 See attachment 6

Ms. Della Pia moved and Ms. Elizabeth seconded the approval of the Biennial Review of Shared Decision Making.
Motion carried 7-0 See attachment 7

Ms. Della Pia moved and Ms. Herkenham seconded the approval for a Board Member to Attend the NYSSBA SLN Conference on March 2, 3, 4. After some discussion their motions were withdrawn and it became a non-action item.

Mr. Speck moved and Mr. Pericone seconded the approval of the Recommendations from the Committee on Special Education.
Motion carried 7-0 See attachment 8

Program Review - Food Service

Food Service Director, Nicky Boehm presented a program review of the School Food Service Program. All of her managers at each of the five school buildings were also present to answer questions. Nicky began by describing differences in the program at the elementary, middle school and high school level including number of students served, lunch periods, serving lines, and number of Type A meals served daily.

She described the five components of a Type A meal and indicated that students must take three out of five components in order to qualify for federal and state reimbursement. Data for the last ten years show that the number of meals served has been increasing with 2006-07 reaching an all time. Our lunch program offers students a variety of choices to meet the Type A guidelines and to help cut down on waste. If the students don't like it, they won't buy it.

Nicky described the connections between the lunch program and the health and wellness committees in our district. Each manager serves on their building committee and Nicky is on the district Health & Wellness Committee. They also work actively with the school nurse in each building to address student needs and general hygiene.

Information on free and reduced meals, government commodities, and nutrition guidelines was presented. Many of the initiatives that have been undertaken as a result of the new wellness policy were described, as well as future goals for the program. Notably these include no candy, no soda, no fried foods, 1% milk, reducing process food, and offering more fresh fruit and vegetables. The food service program has developed some creative new menu items that meet nutritional guidelines and appeal to students.

Staff training in many areas has been expanded and takes place more frequently. The Point of Sale system has been upgraded and expanded to all buildings. More student input is being sought and more catering opportunities are being pursued. These are all examples of improvements to the overall program and level of service to students, staff, and community.

Nicky talked about the challenges faced by the program. Their goal is to ensure healthy choices and quality nutrition are available to all students. Offering more fresh food and preparing more food items on site is more costly. The program is striving to generate more revenue in order to offset higher costs. The program is on target to make a small profit for the school year if sales remain or exceed the 2006-07 levels. Nicky and her staff responded to questions from board members.

Budget Forum

Jim provided a draft handout for the Budget Forum. He gave an overview of the presentation, an agenda and the proposed community input form. The format, plan for break out groups and location was discussed. Board members will facilitate group discussions, summarize community input and one Board member will then report to the entire group. The role of Board members is to listen, answer questions, educate and gather input. A suggestion was made to provide the public with a written form with the questions pre-printed in order to encourage less vocal participants. All of the information will be available as handouts.

Next Jim presented his recommendations for the 2008-09 budget, describing each item within the three tiers. Questions were asked about the recommendations. Jim will provide specificity for his Tier I recommendations and more general on Tier II & Tier III. Any questions regarding negotiations may pose an improper practice, so answers should be about process.

Reports & Communications

- Joe Pericone went to the SGO meeting and also attended a couple of the Town of Glenville meetings. He also talked about a letter he received from a community member complaining about lyrics in a song performed at the Follies.
- John Blowers mentioned a CAPSBA Dinner Meeting on Tech Valley. Bob, Elizabeth, John, & Joe will be attending. As a member of the Interscholastic Sports Committee, John spoke with Richard Ludwick, President of Bethlehem Central's Athletic Association. He discussed highlights of the meeting. John also declared his intention to run for the Board again.
- Bob Speck has files & binders regarding negotiations and the Taylor Law. He is sharing them with Jim. Bob would like to review Hostetter documents with Jackie. A recent survey offers a list of projects to be completed in each building.
- Elizabeth Herkenham ran a program on emerging technologies. Tech Smart Director presented on emerging technologies. Elizabeth will share the power point with Jim. The presentation highlighted ways schools can best prepare students for the 21st century. Dennis Bouchard and Tom Pitman attended as well.
- Mike Wolf will give Utica National Risk Management material to Jim for distribution. Mike and John will work out ways to distribute more mouse pads.
- Nancy Della Pia reminded people of the NYSSBA brochure.
- Jim Schultz informed the Board of a compliment received from a transportation director regarding some of our staff members giving extra efforts to assist one of their bus drivers with a mechanical problem with his bus when

here for a wrestling match. Jim also commended Regina Reals and Matt Wolf for their achievement.

- Jim Schultz talked to Jim Tedisco's office to share concerns about SRO's, nurse access to Child Abuse Hotline list of individuals accused of abusing a child, and mandates imposed on school districts.

Mr. Kelliher moved and Ms. Herkenham seconded a motion to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline St. Onge
Deputy Clerk of the Board