

**DATE:** May 13, 2008  
**WHERE HELD:** High School

**KIND OF MEETING:** Regular  
**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Michael Wolf

**MARGINAL  
NOTATIONS**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**Elizabeth Herkenham**

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

**Jim Schultz, Rick Evans, Jacqueline St.Onge, Christy Multer, and 11 others.**

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

Reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Pericone moved and Mr. Kelliher seconded the approval of the consent agenda which included minutes of the April 21, 2008 special meeting, the April 22, 2008 regular meeting, and the April 29, 2008 special meeting of the Board of Education, and the authorization of Textbooks & Tradebooks.

Motion carried 6-0

See attachments

Mr. Kelliher moved and Ms. Della Pia seconded the acceptance of the Financial Reports.

Motion carried 6-0

See attachment 1

Mr. Speck moved and Mr. Pericone seconded the approval of the leave of absence of Jeannine Spade, Special Education teacher at Charlton Heights, effective 9/1/08-6/30/09; the approval of the probationary appointments of Susan Gestwick, Math teacher at the Middle School, Margaret Gilgallon, Grade 1 teacher at Pashley, Traci Hall, Grade 4 teacher at Charlton Heights, Jennifer Sala, Grade 5 teacher at Charlton Heights, all effective 9/1/08; the approval of Marie DiCristofaro, Curriculum Committee Representative for Math at the Middle School, effective 7/1/08; the approval of the substitute teacher appointment, so noted on the attached list.

Motion carried 6-0

See attachment 2

Mr. Speck moved and Mr. Pericone seconded the approval of the civil service personnel action as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Motion carried 6-0

See attachment 3

Mr. Kelliher moved and Ms. Della Pia seconded the approval the Contract for Health & Welfare Services with Ballston Spa CSD.

Motion carried 6-0

See attachment 4

Mr. Speck moved and Ms. Della Pia seconded the approval of the recommendations from the Committee on Special Education.

Motion carried 6-0

See attachment 5

**Privilege of the Floor**

None

**Budget Hearing**

Nancy Della Pia presented the 2008-09 proposed budget.

**Strategic Planning**

- **Hostetter Options:** Jim Schultz gave an overview of the Hostetter options presented in the context of Strategic Planning. Included were the sale of the property, demolition of Hostetter, and maintaining the current use of the building. BOCES aidability was discussed as well as the Crossroads option to purchase. If Hostetter is offered for sale, Crossroads will be looking to begin a study on condition of the facility. John Blowers and other committee members presented the subcommittee report on alternative use of Hostetter next. The presentation is included in the packet. A survey of the community last year provided some input on residents' opinions. The building has been closed since 1981 as an instructional facility. His committee focused on six options for alternative instructional delivery models raised in the Fall survey. Four were deemed non-viable for various reasons and the two remaining viable options included a K/Pre-K facility and an alternative education center. Renting the Hostetter building to BOCES offered the possibility of sharing renovation costs among participating school districts while providing new educational opportunities for BH-BL students.

All of the Hostetter options raised questions regarding the availability of state building aid. Carl Thurnau, Coordinator of Facilities Planning for the State Education Department attended the board meeting for the purpose of answering aid questions. A list of questions was prepared in advance and Carl addressed each of the questions in detail. The questions and his answers will be included in the next board meeting packet as a separate document.

- **Capital District Regional Planning:** The study conducted by the Capital District Regional Planning Commission supports relatively stable enrollment over the next five years.

#### **PACE Coordinator AR**

Rick Evans described modifications to the AR to now include supervisory duties by the PACE coordinator of BOCES staff.

#### **Budget Exit Poll**

Jim presented a revised exit poll for discussion. A question about the next referendum was added, however after some discussion the Board opted not to include it. Another question was added to determine which local newspapers are read by the community.

#### **Technology Visit Reports**

Tim Kelliher attended Christine Layden's media presentation course on learning how to use tech tools to market products. The class had previously designed book jackets currently on display in the High School. Joe Pericone and Bob Speck visited a 4<sup>th</sup> grade class at Stevens studying the Industrial Revolution. They are using power point to explain how products were developed during this period. Both were very impressed with the students' skills. Bob described some barriers impeding technology such as too few lap tops and projectors with temporary wiring. Bob Speck and Mike Wolf visited Brad Thomas' class and were very impressed with the concepts being taught including collaboration, automation, and motivation. Bob Speck and Mike Wolf also visited Katie Zyskowski's class and saw a presentation using Smartboards and classroom applications.

#### **Reports & Communications**

- Joe Pericone attended the SGO meeting and reported that the election campaigns are starting. SGO students worked with the Food Service Director Nicky Boehm to create two weeks of school lunch menu items for the High School. Joe also attended the walkabouts at Stevens and Charlton Heights. The Spartan Raptor will be at lunch period May 19<sup>th</sup> in the Red Room for students who have increased their grade point average over last period.
- Bob Speck attended the entrance interview for the audit of the Phys Ed Program with the auditors from the State Comptroller's office. They will focus on state requirements and should take approximately 2 weeks to complete. Bob McGuire is on top of it and has been preparing information. Bob Speck commented favorably on the work done by custodial staff. He visited the three elementary buildings and saw many improvements.
- Jackie St.Onge attended the District Technology Committee meeting at the High School along with Dan Diggins. A plan to address electrical needs to support technology was created. The district electrician will dedicate a block of time during the summer to address the needs as prioritized by the technology committee members. Jackie presented the external auditors' engagement letter for the 2007-08 audit.
- Mike Wolf handed out packets for the Board Self Evaluation. He went through policy, timelines and how the process will work. He described how the information will be collated using the survey monkey tool. Packets were also distributed to Central Administration for participation. The Board Goals, Board Highlights and a summary of the retreats were included. Mike and Jim Schultz attended the Scholar Recognition Program dinner. Mike commented that Regina Reals has been recognized four times for her impact on students.
- Jim reminded Board members about the change in the process to collect and certify the budget vote. Jim gave a brief update on the Red Cross Blood Drive and student infection. He had a request from traveling Volleyball team to sell raffle tickets. Jim also distributed a Board of Ed draft response to the Ad Hoc Committee on Interscholastic Sports. A meeting was set to finalize the Board response for May 20<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 - 9:00 PM.

Mr. Kelliher moved and Ms. Della Pia seconded a motion to executive session.

Mr. Kelliher moved and Ms. Della Pia seconded a return to executive session

Mr. Kelliher moved and Mr. Speck seconded a motion to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline St. Onge  
Clerk of the Board