

DATE: June 23, 2009
WHERE HELD: Stevens

KIND OF MEETING: Regular
PRESIDING OFFICER: Bob Speck

**MARGINAL
NOTATIONS**

MEMBERS PRESENT:
John Blowers
Elizabeth Herkenham
Tim Kelliher
Patre Kuziak
Robert Speck
Michael Wolf

MEMBERS ABSENT:
Joe Pericone

OTHERS PRESENT:
Jim Schultz, Jacqueline St.Onge, Rick Evans, Christy Multer, Rocco Montesano, and 13 others.

Executive Session for personnel at 7:00 PM.

President Robert Speck called the Board meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Board member Michael Wolf was recognized for his five years of service to the students, staff and community of the Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake Central School District. He was presented with a whereas statement from the BH-BL Board and Administration honoring his leadership, intelligence, and many contributions.

Board member Elizabeth Herkenham thanked Rocco Montesano on behalf of the BH-BL Board of Education for his leadership as President of the Teachers' Association and presented him with a mouse pad. Superintendent Jim Schultz presented Rocco with a pin, describing him as a person whose integrity, respectful communication, and passion for shared decision making embodies the foundational blocks of our culture.

Reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Kelliher moved and Ms. Herkenham seconded the approval of the consent agenda which included minutes of the June 9, 2009 regular meeting of the Board of Education.

Motion carried 6-0 See attachments

Elizabeth Herkenham left the meeting.

Mr. Kelliher moved and Mr. Wolf seconded the acceptance of the Financial Reports.

Motion carried 5-0 See attachment 1

Mr. Kelliher moved and Mr. Wolf seconded the approval of the abolishment of 3 secondary department representative positions (MS Math Dept. Rep., MS School Science Dept. rep., HS Social Studies Dept. rep); the approval of the reduction of the Dean of Students position from 1.0 to .6; the approval of the summer school appointment & salary revisions, so noted on the attached list; and the approval of the secondary summer school substitute appointment, so noted on the attached list.

Motion carried 5-0 See attachment 2

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

Motion carried 5-0 See attachment 3

Mr. Blowers moved and Mr. Kelliher seconded the approval of the Whereas for retiring Board member Michael Wolf.

Motion carried 5-0 See attachment 4

Mr. Wolf moved and Ms. Kuziak seconded the approval of the Ice Hockey Team merger with Ballston Spa CSD.

Motion carried 5-0 See attachment 5

Mr. Kelliher moved and Mr. Wolf seconded the approval of the Special Athletic Competition request for the Girls Volleyball Team.

Motion carried 5-0 See attachment 6

Mr. Kelliher moved and Mr. Wolf seconded the acceptance of the gift of Grant Awards from the BH-BL Education Foundation totaling \$2,033.

Motion carried 5-0

See attachment 7

Ms. Kuziak moved and Mr. Blowers seconded the approval of the Cooperative Waste Removal Bid Awards.

Motion carried 5-0

See attachment 8

Mr. Wolf moved and Ms. Kuziak seconded the acceptance of the Leased Car Donation for Driver Ed from Foggs Automotive.

Motion carried 5-0

See attachment 9

Mr. Wolf moved and Mr. Kelliher seconded the approval of the recommendations from the Committee on Special Education.

Motion carried 5-0

See attachment 10

Privilege of the Floor - none

Report of Citizens Committee on Referendum

Jackie St. Onge began the presentation with a brief overview of the work of the Critical Infrastructure Needs Committee (CINC) and identification of proposed projects for inclusion in the next referendum. She described the charge of the second committee to review and evaluate the projects considering both the timing and scope of the next bond referendum. Committee members completed a survey to answer specific questions and provide comments to the Board. The results of the survey were available and summarized in the presentation. Co-Chair Dick Doyle shared his thoughts on the work of the committee stating that the identified projects are necessary to protect the community's investment in the facilities and do not include cosmetic or superfluous projects. He supports a referendum in October of 2009 as does the majority of the committee. Other members of the committee were present to answer questions from the Board. There was discussion about how to group the projects to allow for several propositions to be considered, including energy savings, student safety, educational infrastructure and additional instructional space. A timeline for a referendum in October was discussed and Board members will have to decide on the scope by the second meeting in August to comply with legal regulations.

Report of Board Sub-committee on the Strategic Goal Process

Tim Kelliher reported that the committee has met throughout the year. Handouts were provided to Board members with an outline of the process, steering committee, and sub committee structure. There is debate about whether the Instructional subcommittee should dominate and then have the Infrastructure & Operations sub groups flow out of that committee. The potential membership pool was also discussed. Wider representation requires more time and smaller groups are generally more efficient. Sub groups will gather information from larger constituency groups and look at post secondary dialogues with groups such as the Capital Area Superintendents, business affiliate networks, and others. The question was asked about how to gather the inputs since in the past it may have come from retreats such as Roaring Brook. There is a need for a facilitator to keep the process moving and to really focus on initiatives. Various external factors including standards, mandates, technology, workforce prep/career, enrollment trends, interscholastic/extra-curricular, will be explored. Sub groups will explore guiding assumption(s) and principles as well as how do we gear programs over the long range? We need to be flexible to enrollment trends. Guiding principles must mesh perfectly with the Culture: Team: Data structure. What are the next steps? Involve the whole Board and make it a Board goal. There was discussion about how to move the process forward for next year. The topic will be revisited at the first meeting in August.

Board Update

- **End of Year Activities** - Bob Speck looked into the Board self-evaluation process, the Superintendent's evaluation process and Board member activities. The Board policy process that was set up many years ago has worked very well to bring the policy manual up to date, however over the past year the update process was not followed. Bob provided handouts specifically addressing areas needing improvement for Board self evaluation and overall governance and operation of the School Board.
- **PTA Assignments** - PTA assignments are needed by July 7th to be included in the school calendar. Board members were assigned as follows: Patre Kuziak - Middle School, Tim Kelliher – Pashley Elem, James Maughan – Charlton Heights, Elizabeth Herkenham – High School, Bob Speck - Stevens

Reports & Communications

- Rick Evans is very busy with interviews and filling positions.
- John Blowers reminded Board members that they had discussed using a tool like the Myers Briggs type indicator to learn more about the personalities of the Board and administration. He provided a handout regarding this activity using an alternative tool called a predictive index. There would be a fee to administer the test, but he's found someone who would donate their services for the facilitator portion of the task. He asked for Board members' thoughts on this process. Jim Schultz asked what does the output look like and how will it help us to move forward as a board? The power of the exercise is in the facilitated process which is done on an individual one on one basis. Since the Board has decided to cut back on NYSSBA activities due to the costs, the question was raised about other activities such as this that the Board would like to consider for staff development.
- Mike Wolf thanked the Board and administration for their recognition of his service to the school community over the past five years. He has enjoyed working with the entire leadership team.
- Bob Speck will not attend the next meeting because he will be out of town.
- Jim Schultz confirmed that a press release will be sent out this week by Christy Multer about the proposed bond referendum in October. She has been putting together some dates for the calendar including an October bond vote, board meetings, a January budget forum, etc. Christy is drafting a letter to parents about a suspected, but not confirmed case of the H1N1 flu to serve as a caution to parents. Superintendent Schultz thanked Bob Speck for his role as Board President over the past year.
- Jackie St. Onge updated the Board on cost savings achieved this year for Bond Counsel services. She was able to obtain a more competitive price on the fee schedule than in past years saving the district more than \$12,000.

Mr. Kelliher moved and Mr. Wolf seconded a move to executive session.

Mr. Kelliher moved and Mr. Speck seconded the motion to terminate the current 3020a disciplinary action.
Motion carried 5-0

Mr. Kelliher moved and Mr. Wolf seconded a return to regular session.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 10:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline St. Onge
Clerk of the Board