

DATE: June 7, 2011
WHERE HELD: Middle School

KIND OF MEETING: Regular
PRESIDING OFFICER: John Blowers

**MARGINAL
NOTATIONS**

MEMBERS PRESENT:
John Blowers
William Farmer
Elizabeth Herkenham
Patre Kuziak
James Maughan
Lee-Ann Mertzlufft
Joe Pericone

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jim Schultz, Jacqueline St.Onge, Rick Evans, and 4 others.

President John Blowers called the Board meeting to order at 8:00 PM.

Reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Mertzlufft moved and Mr. Pericone seconded the approval of the consent agenda, which included the minutes of the May 24, 2011 regular meeting and the acceptance of the Claims Audit Report.

Motion carried 7-0

Privilege of the Floor - None

ACTION ITEMS

Ms. Herkenham moved and Ms. Mertzlufft seconded the probationary appointment of Pauline White, Math teacher at the High School; Sabine Erickson, Math teacher at the High School, both effective 9/1/11; the approval of the leave of absence of Marcy Raeder, Grade 2 teacher at Pashley, effective 5/31/11-6/30/11; the approval of the following substitute teacher/nurse appointments of Nicole Burjetka, Rebecca Leahy, Stephanie Manual, Amy Passmann, Jennifer Pickard, Diana Possemato, Katherine Ragone, Laura Siracuse; the approval of the 2011-12 Curriculum Committee appointments of Sarah Englehard, Staff Development at Pashley; Mike Batty, Math at the High School; Brian Kane, Social Studies at the High School; the approval of the summer school 2011 appointments at the High School of Dianne Alois, English; Dante DiPrimio, English; Brad Thomas, Social Studies; Jeffrey Reynolds, Social Studies; Alan Barkley, Math; James Sheeran, Math; Santina Florio, Librarian; Karen Krushelnytsky, Science; Rebecca Sparacin, Earth Science; Matthew Shell, Phys. Ed.; David Ruetsch, Driver Education; William Cassidy, Driver Education; the following substitutes – Kevin Ahern, Matt Turner, Kurt Semon, Jeff Page, Pete Mody; approval of the appointments for the summer music program of Peter Giroux, Woodwinds; Karen Russell, Strings & Orchestra; Brian Tetlak, Brass & Percussion; the approval of the Elementary Summer Remedial Program appointments of Traci Hall & Susan Brennan, Jump Start; Heather Mosall & Jennifer Martin, Kindergarten; Audrey Woliner & Amy Bennice, Early Reading Intervention; Bonita O'Rourke & Geoff Saddlemire, Grade 2 Reading/Math; David Somoza, Grade 4/5 Reading/Math; Lyndsay Wilson, Speech Articulation; the approval of the Summer Forum appointments of Maria McMunn, Mialisa Lindholm-Herron, Danielle Brophy, Stephen Jones; the approval of the Summer School Principal appointment of Anne Long; the approval of the Special Education Summer School appointments of Gail Austro, Rachel Fridholm, Kim Brunson, Alison Noakes, Kristin Burdett, Aimee Miller, Nicholas Amicucci, Marilyn Light, Diane Clary, Valerie Miller.

Motion carried 7-0

Ms. Herkenham moved and Ms. Mertzlufft seconded the approval of the civil service personnel action as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Motion carried 7-0

Ms. Kuziak moved and Ms. Mertzlufft seconded the approval of the Contract for Health & Welfare Services with Schenectady City Schools.

Motion carried 7-0

Ms. Herkenham moved and Ms. Mertzlufft seconded the approval of the Cooperative Swimming Pool Chemical Bid Award.

Motion carried 7-0

Ms. Mertzlufft moved and Ms. Kuziak seconded the approval of the recommendations from the Committee on Special Education.

Motion carried 7-0

Retreat

John Blowers began the discussion about the upcoming Board retreat with a reminder of the two meeting dates that have been selected, July 19th and August 2nd. Both meetings will be held from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Hostetter Administration building unless we need to accommodate a larger number of attendees. There was discussion about who will be invited to attend and which session will host a guest speaker. One of the meetings will be a session that will include a broader representation from the District. Topics suggested for the meeting included: long range planning, challenges facing the District, Culture:Team:Data, Shared Decision Making, 21st Century Framework & Guiding Coalitions, etc. The most effective school boards set goals with involvement from their administrative leadership and that is one of the reasons for expanding participation at the retreat. A general outline will be generated for further discussion at the next Board meeting.

NYSSBA Conference

The annual NYSSBA conference will be held in Buffalo this year, October 27-30, 2011. Last year Board members benefitted from attendance at the conference. The question was asked if there was any interest in attending the upcoming conference? Yes, some Board members expressed interest.

Reports & Communications

- Rick Evans included information in the Board packet from the 21st Century Instructional Committee and their charge. They developed a list of instructional measures that they believe are necessary to implement the framework and best prepare our students for the 21st century.
- Jackie St.Onge met with John Capano, Brian Carey from BOCES and representatives from Annese to discuss moving forward with technology upgrades for the wireless infrastructure. She is exploring ways to accomplish some of the work through BOCES to obtain aid. Portions of the work may also qualify for building aid under capital construction projects that are taking place this summer. They are working on obtaining better pricing from the vendor.
- Joe Pericone reminded Board members that the survey is ready for completion and he will be contacting them with instructions.
- Elizabeth followed up on the report on the Community Foundation and a request for information on other agencies that may also provide the same service. She has reached out to a New York association that provides various services for not-for-profit organizations. She contacted their Vice President in charge of membership and explained that BH-BL was interested in developing a relationship with the Community Foundation to benefit our students. The Vice President shared that she did not know of any other organizations that provided the same service but she would do some further checking. Upon investigation she expressed her opinion that there's nothing out there that can provide as strong a service as the Community Foundation or competes with them. She gave them a very high recommendation.
- Patre Kuziak will be meeting with the BH-BL Education Foundation tomorrow to discuss the grants awards which total about \$12,000. They are very different this time as they looked at student requests and she will have more information tomorrow.
- Jim Schultz shared that the concept of valedictorian and salutatorian is being discussed at the building council level as they explore ways to recognize outstanding academic achievements by our students. He provided some technology updates and answered questions about the use of iPads recently purchased by the District. He will try to include examples of newer technology and how it is being used in the District in the next Board packet. We have recently purchased fifty iPads, many through grant funds, and are using them to access Power school. Jim talked about expectations from the State on the changes to the APPR process and said that we are finally starting to get some clarification from the State. Currently they are looking at a September implementation date but don't believe it is feasible to expect. Rick Evans attended a meeting at Capital Region BOCES and they are recommending an implementation process that would allow it to happen at a regional level rather than individual districts responding to the new APPR requirements. BOCES is considering development of a template for school districts to bring back and make their own.
- John Blowers attended the recent BH-BL Science Research Symposium and commented that it was a terrific event and a great celebration to showcase our students' talents. He also commented on the guidance and support that students receive from Science teacher Regina Reals. John reminded Board members about the upcoming Hall of Fame Dinner. He recognized Jason Lasky, President of the Teachers Association, who will be leaving the District at the end of the year, for his contributions to the leadership of the District and for his years as an educator at BH-BL. He will be missed by the Board and Administration.

Ms. Kuziak moved and Ms. Mertzlufft seconded a motion to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline St. Onge
Clerk of the Board