

Beekmantown Central School District

Special Board of Education Meeting

Place: **MS/HS Library**

July 26, 2011

Minutes

Call to Order

President Steve Trombley called the meeting to order at 6:18 pm. Stan Kourofsky led the pledge of allegiance.

Members Present

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Karen Armstrong	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stan Kourofsky	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carole Race
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cathy Buckley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard LaVigne	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pauline Stone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leonard King	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ed Marin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Trombley

Others Present

☒ Scott Amo, Superintendent of Schools
☒ Joseph Lavorando, School Attorney
☒ Mary LaValley Blaine, School Business Executive
☒ Joanne Menard, District Clerk

Visitors

Visitors

Kathy Hay	Charles Stone	Barb Stone
Sharon Tyrell	Stephanie Rabideau	Robert Rabideau
Jane Arseneault	Terry Broderick	John Sims
Holly Sims	Patricia Winterbottom	Danelle Pelkey
Cyd Deming	Lucy Giroux	Patty Gallagher
Jane Donahue	Julie Moschelle	Sae-lyn Garrant Loucy
Linda Daniels	Nancy Reilly	Kerry Hynes
Kathy Champagne	Barb Nephew	Don Nephew
Marge Burnell	April Gonyea	Jeff Gonyea
Linda Masters	Nick Masters	Kim Villemaire
Jen Delarm	Jeri Bennett	Sara Spaulding
Carrie Favaro	Reneé Hall	Nichole Burnell
Tracy Bradley	Nancy Dow	Anthony Perez
Gary Gudz	Roxann Barnes	Rebecca Bouyea
Jason Bouyea	Marilyn Dwyer	David Anderson
Ricki Marin	Linda Garrant	Jean Duquette
Yvette Manney	Dave Manney	Debbie Frederick
Jenny LeBeau-Howell	Monika Chambers	Diane Kwart
Kristin Carnright	Faith Carter	Ronald Whittington
Tiffany Whittington	Amy Hewson	April Bingel
Joseph Kwart	John Bradley	Kathryn Keable
Rob Collier	Mark Sand	Kim Ashlaw
Heather Bergevin	Anne McGinnis	Paula Brockway
Lisa Frechette	Greg Myers	Sue Coonrod
Eric Coons	Duffy Nelson	Robert King
Catherine Witkowski	Jerie Reid	JoLee Yeddo
Lori Kashorek	Scott Ferris	Laura Collier
Simona Sharoni	Renate Moore	Tracey Soulia

Lisa Begor	Tracy Downey	Sarah Downey
Patti Rachette	Keith LaPier	Pat Chotkowski
John Miller	Laura Miller	Toni Miele
Sara Chapman	Joy Thibodeau	Elizabeth Baker
Sharon Roraback	Kimberly Gadway	Douglas Seamon
Susan King	Bryan Rankin	Kendi Rankin
Rebecca Hamilton	Valerie Jodoin	Ellen Hall
Penny Manor	Amy Couture	Carolyn Wilson
Dawn Finley	Susan Nystoriak	Lisa Briscoe
David West	Eileen Kavlock	Kay Branagan
Lisa VanNatgen	Devi Momot	Frank Hay

Executive Session

Executive Session
(to discuss a
particular person(s)
employment history)

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Karen Armstrong and unanimously carried, that the Board enter executive session to discuss a particular person(s) employment history. Time 6:19 pm.

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Stan Kourofsky and unanimously carried, that the Board return to regular session. Time 6:45 pm.

Joseph Lavorando, School Attorney departed the meeting.

Approval of Agenda

Approval of
Agenda

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Carole Race and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education approve the agenda.

Public Comment

(5 minutes)

Public Comment

The Board President stated anyone may submit questions to the Board, speak directly with the Board President after the meeting or e-mail the Board.

Dr. David Anderson parent and taxpayer commented on how the decision was may to switch principals from Cumberland Head to the High School and from the High School to Cumberland Head. Dr. Anderson presented a petition with 185 signatures to the Board of Education requesting a Special District Meeting within 30 days of receipt of the petition for voters to have the opportunity to vote upon the following propositions:

Proposition #1: Reassignment

We, the undersigned, request that the BOE immediately rescind this action of reassignment as it pertains to Garth Frechette and Diane Fox and take no further action on this issue until public forums have been held to discuss the impact of it.

Proposition #2: No Confidence

As a resident of the district, I DO NOT consider the current Board of Education to be capable of making competent decisions on behalf of the district. I have no confidence in the 2011 Board of Education.

Reports

Reports/Presentations

Scott Amo, Superintendent of Schools had no report at this time.

Mary LaValley Blaine, School Business Executive reported on the following:

- Stated the district received notice yesterday that the Early Retirement Incentive through EduJobs was approved; therefore, a resolution is on the agenda to process payroll for this early retirement incentive.

Minutes

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Leonard King, seconded by Carole Race and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education does hereby approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Education held on

6/23/11 Budget Hearing
7/05/11 Board of Education Annual Organizational Meeting

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Carole Race and unanimously carried, that the Board of Education does hereby accept the minutes of the committee meetings of the Board of Education held on:

7/05/11 Audit Committee

New Business

CSE/CPSE Recommendations

CSE & CPSE Recommendations

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Karen Armstrong, and unanimously carried that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the CSE recommendations dated 7/26/11.

It was moved by Leonard King, seconded by Carole Race, and unanimously carried that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the CPSE recommendations dated 7/26/11.

Personnel

Elimination of Positions

Elimination of Positions

Cathy Buckley inquired why a home economics position, which teaches life skills beyond school is important beyond a non-mandated course. The Superintendent stated he would address this privately.

It was moved Richard LaVigne, seconded by Pauline Stone and unanimously carried, that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Board of Education abolishes the following positions for reasons of economy, effective August 26, 2011:

- a) Abolish the positions of *five (5) Elementary*. The persons having the least seniority in the tenure area of Elementary are *Rachel Dingman, Alexis Agnew, Rachel Belson, Rolland Benware, and Heather Bergevin*. These individuals shall be placed on a preferred eligible list of the district in accordance with Education Law Section 3013(3).

- b) Abolish the position of *one (1) Home Economics*. The person having the least seniority in the tenure area of Home Economics is *Tracey Soulia*. This individual shall be placed on a preferred eligible list of the district in accordance with Education Law Section 3013(3).
- c) Abolish the positions of two (2) *Music*. The persons having the least seniority in the tenure area of Music are *Lori Kashorek and Matthew Barlow*. These individuals shall be placed on a preferred eligible list of the district in accordance with Education Law Section 3013(3).
- d) Abolish the position of *one (1) Social Studies*. The person having the least seniority in the tenure area of Social Studies is *Antonia Blair*. This individual shall be placed on a preferred eligible list of the district in accordance with Education Law Section 3013(3).

Appointments

Rescind Appointment of Russell Gray

It was moved by Leonard King, seconded by Richard LaVigne and unanimously carried, that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Board of Education rescinds the resolution from the board meeting minutes of June 14, 2011 whereby the Board appointed *Russell Gray* to a position as an English teacher effective September 1, 2011. Russell Gray has no recall rights to this English position; however, he does have recall rights as a School Social Worker.

Fall Athletic Appointment

It was moved by Karen Armstrong, seconded by Richard LaVigne and unanimously carried, that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Board of Education approves the following fall athletic position for the 2011-2012 school year as indicated:

Assignment	Name	Total 2010-2011
Soccer - Head Varsity (Girls)	Norris, Erin	\$3,988

Retirement

Retirement

Gebo, Norman

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Carole Race and unanimously carried, that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Board of Education accepts the following intent to retire on the date indicated:

Name	Position	Effective Date of Retirement
Gebo, Norman	Custodial Worker	8/30/11

Miscellaneous

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Carole Race and roll-call voted

Notice of Petition

WHEREAS, on Thursday, July 21, 2011, John Sims personally delivered a Notice of Petition, Petition and Application to the District Clerk In the Matter of Jane Donahue, Frank Hay and Holly Sims, residents of the Beekmantown Central School District on behalf of students, resident taxpayers and employees of the Beekmantown Central School District from action of the Beekmantown Central School District Board of Education members, Mr. Steve Trombley (President), Mr. Leonard King (Vice President), Mrs. Cathy Buckley, Mr. Stan Kourofsky, Mr. Richard LaVigne, Mrs. Carole Race, Mr. Ed Marin, Mrs. Karen Armstrong and Mrs. Pauline Stone regarding

the approval of the transfer of Beekmantown High School Principal Garth Frechette to Cumberland Head Elementary School and the transfer of Ms. Diane Fox, Principal of Cumberland Head Elementary School to Beekmantown High School;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby retains the law firm of Gregory Mills, Esquire, 1520 Crescent Road, Clifton Park, New York to defend the Board and its members, and authorizes the Board President to execute a retainer agreement confirming the terms and conditions of representation by the Mills' law firm.

The roll-call vote was as follows:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Karen Armstrong	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stan Kourofsky	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carole Race
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cathy Buckley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard LaVigne	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pauline Stone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leonard King	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ed Marin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Trombley

Financial

It was moved by Karen Armstrong, seconded by Richard LaVigne and roll-call voted, that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Board of Education approves the following transfers over \$5,000:

Transfers

To reallocate budget between utility costs:

From: A1620 476 00 00 (Operations of Plant - Electricity)	\$ 6,835.28
To: A1620 479 00 00 (Operation of Plant – Fuel Oil)	\$ 6,835.28

To reallocate professional development/conference money:

From: A2020 402 00 00 (Supervision Regular School - Conference)	\$ 12,221.00
To: A2070 490 00 00 (In Service Training - BOCES)	\$ 12,221.00

To reallocate to cover negative from one BOCES line to another :

From: A2110 490 00 00 (General Education – BOCES Services)	\$ 7,565.23
To: A2630 490 00 00 (Computer Assist Technology – BOCES Services)	\$ 7,565.23

To reallocate EE benefits budget amounts :

From: A9060 800 00 00 (Employee Benefits - Health)	\$108,643.47
To: A9070 800 21 00 (Employee Benefits TSA - Retirement)	\$108,643.47

To reallocate to cover negative budget line :

From: A2250 160 00 00 (CSE Non-Instructional Wages)	\$ 64,396.14
A2250 400 00 00 (CSE Contractual Services)	\$ 9,524.21
A2250 450 00 00 (CSE Materials & Supplies)	\$ 11,216.18
A2250 470 00 00 (CSE – Residential Tuition)	\$ 56,843.88
To: A2250 490 00 00 (CSE BOCES Services)	\$141,980.41

To reallocate budget from benefits to various wage categories:

From: Axxxx100-199 0000 (Various Wage Lines)	\$156,982.68
A9060 800 00 00 (Employee Benefits)	\$ 29,253.03
To: A1310 160 00 00 (Bus Admin Wages - CH)	\$ 19,486.25
A1620 160 00 00 (Operation of Plant)	\$ 11,312.62

A1620 160 00 98 (Operation of Plant - Overtime)	\$ 3,252.80
A1620 161 00 00 (Operation of Plant – Substitute)	\$ 1,325.47
A2020 160 00 00 (Supervision Regular School - NonInstructional)	\$ 16,891.68
A2110 120 02 00 (Teacher Wages Gr 4-6)	\$ 7,307.93
A2110 130 00 00 (Teacher Wages Gr. 7-12)	\$ 10,156.30
A2110 130 00 90 (Teacher in House Substitute)	\$ 1,715.00
A2110 140 00 00 (Teacher Subs)	\$ 145.00
A2110 140 02 00 (Teacher Subs BE)	\$ 10,830.00
A2110 140 02 00 (Teacher Subs CHES)	\$ 5,310.00
A2110 140 03 00 (Teacher Subs BHS)	\$ 9,457.50
A2110 140 11 00 (Teacher Subs BMS)	\$ 11,287.50
A2110 140 09 03 (Home Teaching BHS)	\$ 6,755.00
A2110 160 00 00 (Teaching – NonInstructional)	\$ 5,197.41
A2110 161 00 00 (Teaching – Non-Instructional Subs)	\$ 2,216.58
A2250 150 00 00 (CSE Teacher Wages)	\$ 1,743.43
A2250 159 09 00 (CSE Home Teaching)	\$ 2,709.89
A5110 160 00 00 (Transportation – Bus Driver)	\$ 28,828.31
A5510 170 00 00 (Transportation – Mechanic)	\$ 19,735.82
A5510 185 00 00 (Transportation – Bus Monitor)	\$ 10,571.22

The roll call vote was as follows:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Karen Armstrong	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stan Kourofsky	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carole Race
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cathy Buckley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard LaVigne	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pauline Stone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leonard King	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ed Marin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Trombley

ARRA EduJobs Grant

It was moved by Pauline Stone, seconded by Leonard King and roll-call voted that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Board of Education accepts the following ARRA EduJobs Grant Amendment in the amount of \$286,402 to accommodate an Early Retirement Incentive for the 2010-2011 school year and approve amending the district Grant budget to now total \$290,000.

The roll call vote was as follows:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Karen Armstrong	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stan Kourofsky	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carole Race
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cathy Buckley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard LaVigne	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pauline Stone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leonard King	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ed Marin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Trombley

Additional Items to Discuss

Student Handbooks

- Student Handbooks

Stan Koursfsky inquired if the Board had any changes to the Student Handbooks. He stated the Code of Conduct will be addressed separately. The Superintendent stated the Code of Conduct is reviewed each year and he was requesting representatives to serve on the committee. The Board members who will serve are: Steve Trombley, Stan Kourofsky and Pauline Stone. The Superintendent will post a notice on the district's website to see if any community members are interested in serving.

Cathy Buckley inquired if home school students participate in clubs and extra-curricular activities. The Superintendent stated State Law speaks to this issue. Cathy Buckley stated she would like to revisit this.

School Volunteers Policy

School Volunteers Policy #4532

Stan Kourofsky stated there is a cost attached to this policy; therefore, he was bringing it forward for review. He stated anyone who volunteers may ask for reimbursement from the district for the cost of fingerprinting. He stated very few volunteers have

requested reimbursement. Following discussion no changes will be made to this policy and the district will track this expense.

Board Retreat

Board Retreat

The Board next set Tuesday, August 16, 2011 as the date for the Board Retreat at 4:30 pm. Ed Marin inquired if the district has posted on the website when and why we do the Board Retreat. The Board President stated this can be posted on the website.

Public Comment

Public Comment

Linda Masters a resident of Cumberland Head for 37 years thanked Board members Karen Armstrong, Ed Marin, and Steve Trombley on the recent vote of the principal transfers. She commented that decisions should be made by the Superintendent.

Simona Sharoni parent, educator and taxpayer commented that she was outraged by the lack of accountability on the recent principal switch.

Colin Reid a resident of Cumberland Head commented on the Board making the public understand why the principal transfers were done.

Marilyn Dwyer parent and taxpayer commented on hiring a firm from Clifton Park to defend the Board in the Notice of Appeal.

Jeri Reid stated she as written to everyone and only received two responses. Ms. Reid commented that the Board should stop micromanaging.

Gary Gudz commented on why the district was hiring another attorney when the school has a School Attorney. Because the budget was voted down, he commented on where the funds are coming from.

Jenny LeBeau-Howell parent from Cumberland Head commented on wanting the Board to tell her child why Ms. Fox would not be her principal.

Jennifer Delarm resident and RN commented that that Board needs to represent the students and the school.

Rob Collier parent and Cumberland Head resident asked the six Board members who voted to transfer the principals to resign immediately.

Adjournment

Adjournment

It was moved by Richard LaVigne, seconded by Stan Kourofsky and unanimously carried, that the meeting be declared adjourned. Time 7:39 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joanne Menard, District Clerk