

Beekmantown Central School District

Place: MS/HS Library

Tuesday, June 27, 2006

Regular Board of Education Meeting

Time: 6:15 pm

Agenda

1. Call to Order at: 6:19 by: Kathleen Grinberg-Funes

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Roll Call

- Karen Armstrong Kathleen Grinberg-Funes Richard LaVigne
- Jane Donahue Frank Hay George Palmer
- Marilyn Dwyer Stan Kourofsky Steve Trombley
- Emily Dyer, Ex-Officio, Student Board Member

C. Attendees

Also Present: Ron Clamser Jeanine Kerr Gary Lambert
 Sandra Gardner Sue Coonrod Dan Hobbs Don Strong
 Kevin Hebert

Visitors: Lucy Giroux Patty Gallagher John Trombley
 Robert King Leonard King Hilbert LaPier Evelyn Lushia
 Darin Dupraw Dave Beebie Nancy Hobbs Judy Paquette
 Kathy Hay Mabel King Retty Hicks Scott Ferris

D. Executive Session (To discuss negotiations and a particular person or persons employment history.)

In: 6:20 pm Motion: RL Seconded: SK Yes: All No: Abstain: (Accept Reject Table)

Out: 7:44 pm Motion: FH Seconded: SK Yes: All No: Abstain: (Accept Reject Table)

2. Presentation

Topic: Board Recognition **Presenter:** Kathleen Grinberg-Funes

Name	Area	Years of Service
Marilyn Dwyer	Board Member	May 2004 – June 2006

Kathleen Grinberg-Funes presented an Eagle to Marilyn Dwyer. Marilyn worked on the Superintendent search where they hired Dr. Sposato, the PR committee, the BOE newsletter, public forum, and also served on the policy committee.

Marilyn Dwyer thanked all of her fellow BOE members and thanked the community for their help, and enjoyed working with everyone. Marilyn stated that her decision to leave is personal due to elderly parents and young children at home, the demand on time has been great.

3. Spotlight on Education

A. Topic: Transportation 2006-2007 **Presenter:** Dan Hobbs

(20 minute discussion)

Items addressed by Dan Hobbs

- Try and reduce bus runs to an average of 45 minutes.
- There is a need to reduce the time of bus runs for non public school students, a better system needs to be developed.
- Doing afternoon runs backwards.
- Changes made already, process for dropping off students in the AM. The change also increased the number of students participating in the breakfast program, the number almost tripled.
- Did away with bussing for some of the non public schools.
- Hoping to have the mailings to all homes by the second half of August so that there is time for families to prepare before school begins.
- Average bus stop is 20 seconds.
- Dan went over the information that can be input into the database, the software database is called Versatrans.
- The goal is to have most of the runs balanced with time and students.

George Palmer asked about the best case scenario to send smaller buses as opposed to bigger buses to handle the outer lying area. Kevin Hebert responded that there is not much of an economical savings by using smaller buses. Kevin Hebert also stated that there is less versatility with smaller buses than larger buses. Marilyn Dwyer asked if the software system looked at redistricting. Kathleen Grinberg-Funes asked about the problem of young elementary students riding with high school students. Dan Hobbs mentioned that that is being addressed. Marilyn Dwyer asked Dan Hobbs if medical information on students is given to the bus drivers. Dan Hobbs responded that this information is given to the bus drivers.

Kathleen Grinberg-Funes asked about the release of medical information to bus drivers on students, and Dan Hobbs stated that this information has to be approved to be released by the parents

B. Topic: Reading Pilot

Presenter: Sandra Gardner

(15 minute discussion)

The current materials we are using are copyrighted from 1996, and the NYS criteria was not even developed as of then. The materials that the district uses needs to be tightened up. Both elementary buildings bleed into one middle school, so the consistency coming into the middle school makes the transition easier. Currently there is no curriculum mapping in place, this pilot will help put that in place. The basal reading series links into NYS standards and testing.

Sandra Gardner stated that they are hoping to bring to the BOE a proposal for adoption to be implemented in the 2007-2008 school year. Both companies being piloted are copyright 2007. The two companies are Scott Foresman and MacMillan/McGraw-Hill.

Marilyn Dwyer asked about the availability of only one of each sample per grade level. Sandra Gardner responded that one of each grade level will get one of the pilots and the third will continue on with what is currently being used. Richard LaVigne asked if the BOE adopts this program, what the cost would be. Sandra Gardner estimated it would be approx \$120,000 and would be up to the BOE to decide how it would be implemented. Kathleen Grinberg-Funes asked if there would be student outcome scores for comparison. Sandra Gardner stated that the tests would be done at times not in alignment with the implementation of the pilot program. Stan Kourofsky asked if the literature books are not ready yet, how would it be implemented. Sandra Gardner stated that the books are ready but the additional software and online component is not.

4. Public Comment (5 minutes)

Judy Paquette stated that Sandra Gardner did a phenomenal job in getting the pilot info together, and that she got many people involved. She also commended Dan Hobbs for learning the computer program in the time that he did.

5. Reports/Presentations

Superintendent's Report – Dr. Mark A. Sposato

Superintendent Sposato wanted to remind the BOE that the mall is challenging their assessments back to 1999 and could be owed back \$750,000 in back taxes from the district. The Town has agreed to be the lead agency. The law-firm, Hiscock and Barclay, LLP. will bill the town which will then be seeking reimbursement from the district. \$44,000,000 is the value of the mall in 2006. Superintendent Sposato also reminded the BOE that if the town didn't assist us, we would be handling this directly with the mall. The district will not be paying the total amount, we will be covering 48%. This issue has been going on for at least 4 years and is trying to be settled out of court. Stan Kourofsky asked if the town was holding the retainer for the attorney and Superintendent Sposato stated that is correct. Richard LaVigne asked if the rate could be changed to recuperate the cost, and it was stated that they are

old billable amounts and the rate cannot be changed.

Superintendent Sposato has a meeting with the school physician on June 28, and they will be reviewing some of the concerns that the physician has about our students and they are hoping to have this information settled by September.

The bus garage is having some issues with hydraulics and the lift. We are having someone come into to give us an estimate to see what can be done to remedy the situation. When the inspection is done, it will be determined whether both lifts will be put out of commission and whether a leak has incurred. Steve Trombley asked if the lifts are in ground, and Kevin Hebert stated that the lift was installed about 20 years ago, and the one next to it was installed about 30 years ago.

Superintendent Sposato asked Jennifer Hicks to explain the letter sent to retirees to verify their health information. Jennifer Hicks indicated that the State Comptrollers office suggested that we do an annual mailing to all of the districts retirees to validate their information and to verify whether or not the individuals have not passed away. Jennifer Hicks stated that their have been several instances, three which were recently discovered where the district has been paying health insurance on individuals who had passed away because the district was never notified. The health insurance company will only allow the district to go back to the first of the month of when the district is notified of someone's passing unless a copy of the individual's death certificate can be obtained. The district would then be refunded any monies paid back to the date of death. The district was paying over \$1000 a month for the three individuals who were recently discovered. Jennifer Hicks also stated that as a result of this mailing it was also discovered that one individual being provided with health insurance from Beekmantown free of cost due to the fact they are the spouse of a retiree, is also receiving the same coverage free of cost from Plattsburgh because she is a retiree from that district. This individual has the option of cancelling her coverage through Beekmantown and if she chooses to do so this will save the district, \$5400.00 a year.

6. Unfinished Business

Discussion of Audit Committee Charter:

Superintendent Sposato mentioned that we could put a letter into the Chamber Newsletter that would cost \$100 requesting community members to join the district Audit Committee and it would be in the August newsletter. George Palmer suggested that we add something that asks the recipient to forward it to someone who might be interested. Karen Armstrong asked that we insert the words "school district" in the second paragraph before the word finance. It was also suggested that the individuals for the audit committee need not be district residents.

7. New Business

A. CSE Recommendations

Resolved, that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education to approve the CSE recommendations dated 6/27/06 for the 2006-2007 school year.

Motion: JD Seconded: FH Yes: ALL No: Abstain: (Accept Reject Table)

B. Personnel

1. Resignations

Resolved, that the Superintendent of School recommends to the Board of Education to accept the following resignations on the date indicated:

Name	Position	Effective Date
Swinwood, Corey	Elementary	7/30/06
Cameron, Jay	Physical Education	8/02/06

Motion: ST Seconded: JD Yes: ALL No: Abstain: (Accept Reject Table)

2. Appointments

- A.** Resolved, that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education to appoint Diane Fox as a Principal in a three-year probationary appointment beginning July 17, 2006 and ending July 16, 2009 at a salary of \$75,000 for the 2006-2007 school year. Ms. Fox holds a permanent certificate in the area of School District

Administrators (SDA).

Motion: MD Seconded: JD

Roll Call Vote:

- Karen Armstrong y Kathleen Grinberg-Funes Richard LaVigne
- Jane Donahue y Frank Hay George Palmer
- Marilyn Dwyer Stan Kourofsky abstained Steve Trombley

Yes: 8 No: Abstain: SK (Accept Reject Table)

B. Resolved, that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education to appoint the following in a 2½ year probationary appointment as indicated:

Teacher	Tenure Area	Certification		Probationary Period	Salary
		Area	Form		
Grotbo, Karen	Spanish 7-12	Spanish 7-12	Conditional Initial	9/1/06 – 1/31/09	\$38,671

(One semester of Jarema Credit given for continuous employment in appointed position from 2/1/06 – 6/23/06.)

Motion: RL Seconded: GP Yes: all No: Abstain: (Accept Reject Table)

George Palmer asked for clarification on Jarema credit. Superintendent Sposato clarified that this is credit for time already served in the tenure area within the district.

C. Resolved, that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education to appoint the following temporary summer help with variable dates from 6/26/06 to 9/1/06.

Name	Title	Rate
King, Susan	Custodial Worker	\$7.50
Mary, Bonnie	Custodial Worker	\$7.50
LaValley, Carolyn	Custodial Worker	\$7.50
Beshon, Robin	Custodial Worker	\$7.50
LaBier, Susan	Custodial Worker	\$7.50
Chatland, Marlea	Custodial Worker	\$7.50

Motion: FH Seconded: RL Yes: ALL No: Abstain: (Accept Reject Table)

D. Resolved, that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education to appoint the following *Civil Service probationary* appointment as indicated:

Name	Title	Probationary Period	Salary	Contract
LaBier, Milton	Automotive Mechanic	7/3/06 – 1/02/07	\$18,878	12 months

(Pending Fingerprinting Clearance)

Motion: ST Seconded: MD Yes: 8 No: KA Abstain: (Accept Reject Table)

Karen Armstrong asked if a comparison was done for this position. Superintendent Sposato commented that it was more cost effective for our district. Kathleen Grinberg-Funes stated that the position was already approved at budget time and this motion is to approve the appointment not to approve the position. Karen Armstrong asked for clarification on how she was supposed to properly go about asking that this position be not approved for the budget.

The motion be changed to reflect a six month probationary appointment, the end date should be 1/2/07. Steve Trombley approved to amend the motion as did Marilyn Dwyer.

- Karen Armstrong no Kathleen Grinberg-Funes Richard LaVigne
- Jane Donahue y Frank Hay George Palmer
- Marilyn Dwyer Stan Kourofsky Steve Trombley

E. Resolved that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education to approve a stipend of \$1,596.60 for Greg Myers to carry out the duties of the athletic department for July 1, 2006 to August 31, 2006.

Motion: RL Seconded: ST Yes: ALL No: Abstain: (Accept Reject Table)

F. Resolved, that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education to approve a stipend for \$2,150 for Karen Glushko to carry out the duties of CSE Chairperson from July 1, 2006 to September 30, 2006.

Motion: FH Seconded: RL Yes: ALL No: Abstain: (Accept Reject Table)

C. Miscellaneous

1. Resolved that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education to adopt the Revised 2006-2007 School Calendar. (See Attached)

Motion: MD Seconded: RL Yes: ALL No: Abstain: (Accept Reject Table)

Superintendent Sposato pointed out the new changes to the calendar. Changes were made to some of the half days and additional half days were added for the middle school.

2. Resolved, that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education to accept the negotiated Agreement with the Beekmantown Support Staff Supervisors' Association commencing July 1, 2004 and ending June 30, 2009.

Motion: FH Seconded: MD

Roll Call Vote:

Karen Armstrong no Kathleen Grinberg-Funes Richard LaVigne no
 Jane Donahue Frank Hay George Palmer
 Marilyn Dwyer Stan Kourofsky no Steve Trombley no

Yes: 5 No: 4 Abstain: (Accept Reject Table)

8. Financial

A. Resolved, that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education to approve transfers over \$2,500:

Contractual To Supplies (To purchase Wilson Reading Materials)

From	To	Amount
A21104000200	A21104500200	\$3,000.00

Fuel to Operations Project (School District Property Site Survey)

From	To	Amount
A16204790000	A16214630000	\$26,000.00

From Special Education Equipment to HS Science Equipment (Purchase Science Equipment)

From	To	Amount
A22502000500	A21102000301	\$3,600.00

Business Admin. Salary Instru. to Business Admin. Salary Non- Instru. (Under budgeted)

From	To	Amount
A13101500000	A13101600000	\$2,848.02

Special Education BOCES to Business Administration BOCES (incorrect coding)

From	To	Amount
A22504900000	A13104900000	\$14,924.67

Occupational Educational BOCES to In-service Training BOCES (incorrect coding)

From	To	Amount
A22804900000	A20704900000	\$7,633.00

Personnel BOCES to Teaching BOCES (incorrect coding)

From	To	Amount
A14304900000	A21104900000	\$4,815.11

Health Insurance to Interest Serial Bonds (under budgeted)

From	To	Amount
A90608002200	A97117000000	\$3,604.03

Health Insurance to Special Education Instructional Salaries (under budgeted)

From	To	Amount
A90608002200	A22501500000	\$14,739.07

Health Insurance to Incarcerated Youth Grant Contractual (End of Year Reconciliation)

From	To	Amount
A90608002200	A21104000600	\$15,274.18

Stan Kourofsky asked for clarification on whether or not we were able to take the money from non grant funds to cover grant funds. Superintendent Sposato stated that the grant funds come in later, and this money is to cover the monies paid to the individuals.

Initiatives to Initiatives (Redistribution of Funds for completion of auditorium)

From	To	Amount
A16214630105	A16214630114	\$ 71,400.02
A16214630106	A16214630114	\$ 10,846.00
A16214630111	A16214630114	\$ 26,861.20
A16214630113	A16214630114	\$ 2,948.78
A16214630201	A16214630114	\$ 16,939.40

Fuel to Initiatives (For completion of auditorium)

From	To	Amount
A16204790000	A16214630114	\$ 18,731.41

Administrative Salary to Initiatives (For completion of auditorium)

From	To	Amount
A20201500000	A16214630114	\$130,000.00

Motion: FH Seconded: GP Yes: ALL No: Abstain: (Accept Reject Table)

Superintendent Sposato indicated that the above initiatives will be used for completion of the auditorium project. The \$130,000 will be used to install the rigging so that all of the other changes can be made.

- B.** Resolved that the Board of Education does hereby authorize a Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) for the purchase of school buses in the amount of \$308,612.81 at the lowest interest rate possible.

Motion: MD Seconded: JD Yes: ALL No: Abstain: (Accept Reject Table)

Stan Kourofsky departed the meeting.

- C.** Resolved that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education to accept the following donation and approve amending the District budget to be increased in the amount of \$250.

From	For	Amount
Kim Bailey	Elementary Playground	\$250.00

Motion: MD Seconded: JD Yes: 8 No: Abstain: (Accept Reject Table)

Frank Hay asked that we send a thank you letter to Kim Bailey.

Stan Kourofsky returned to the meeting after this motion.

- D. Resolved, that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education to approve the Omni Group to administer the Beekmantown Central School District 403(b) program for a cost of \$6,320 which includes a one-time set-up fee of \$1,995 with an on-going annual maintenance fee of \$4,325. (Based upon 173 active participants.)

Motion: FH Seconded: RL Yes: ALL No: Abstain: (Accept Reject Table)

Frank Hay asked how long the contract was for. Ron Clamser clarified that this is an annual rate with the one time set up fee. Kathleen Grinberg-Funes asked if everyone pulled out of their 403b plan would we still be required to pay the one time fee. George Palmer asked if we had obtained any other quotes before making our decision. Ron Clamser stated that we did obtain other quotes. Kathleen Grinberg-Funes asked if we should amend the motion to be for the next year only.

E. Review of May Financials

Appropriation Status Report – (May) (List every single warrant number and detail.)

Treasurer’s Revenue Report – (May)

Cafeteria Revenue & Expense Report - (May)

Treasurer’s Monthly Report – (May)

Trial Balance – (May)

Warrant Report – (May)

Extra-Curricular Activities Account – (May)

All agreed on the review of the May Financials.

9. Capital Project

Resolved, that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education to approve payment for Project #6434 (alternations to the Middle School/High School Auditorium) from the *District Capital Project Initiative* funds as indicated. This has been verified by our architect.

Application No.	Name	Amount
4 Final	Brockway Mechanical Systems, Inc.	\$6,443.20

Motion: FH Seconded: RL Yes: ALL No: Abstain: (Accept Reject Table)

10. Additional Items to Discuss

Board Code of Ethics, a school board policy reviewed in 2003 is in place. Kathleen Grinberg-Funes asked if a similar Code of Ethics policy like the sample be attached to the current policy. Jane Donahue commented that BOCES signs these every year and there have been no problems. Steve Trombley asked if it was already a state law that confidentiality be maintained. Marilyn Dwyer stated that many companies maintain this type of form for employees, and that it was addressed in the Public Relations committee that the district should look into something like this for employees. This will be revisited at the working meeting at the end of July.

Superintendent Sposato gave the BOE a sample job description for the Director of Special Services. This position name best fits the criteria as needed by the district. The former title of Director of Special Education and the job description associated with it does not best fit the needs of the position. The BOE agreed to go with the title of Director of Special Services.

Superintendent Sposato asked the BOE about PolicyPlus through NYSSBA which will set up and maintain the school policy manual on line so that anyone who would like to access our policy manual would be able to on line.

Resolved that the Board of Education approve payment to NYSSBA for Policy Plus in the amount of \$2500 for 2006-2007 school year.

Motion: RL Seconded: FH Yes: ALL No: Abstain: (Accept Reject Table)

The question presented to the BOE at the last meeting regarding conflict of interest amongst board members, the individual was provided with the laws that pertain to this. Jane Donahue serves on the BOCES Board and Richard LaVigne and Frank Hay have spouses that work for the district. These are the conflicts of interest.

Stan Kourofsky asked why the climbing wall is on hold when it was approved. Superintendent Sposato commented that the curriculum needs to be identified before this project begins. Jane Donahue asked about the possibility of the old climbing wall going up if this other company does not come through.

Marilyn Dwyer wanted to state regarding the notes from the physician using the fitness center more often to address the needs of the children. George Palmer asked about writing a grant for a step aerobic dance machine. Superintendent Sposato stated that this would be addressed in July regarding partnering with grants.

11. Executive Session None needed

In: Motion: Seconded: Yes: No: Abstain: (Accept Reject Table)

Out: Motion: Seconded: Yes: No: Abstain: (Accept Reject Table)

12. Adjournment 10:36 pm

Motion: MD Seconded: FH Yes: ALL No: Abstain: (Accept Reject Table)