



PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

July 7, 2009

7:00 p.m.

Albany High School

PRESENT: Barbara Gaffuri, President
Melissa Mackey, Vice President
Judy Doesschate, Secretary
Dr. Mark Barth
Rose Brandon
Daniel Egan

Dr. Eva Joseph
Dr. Tresa Diggs
Bill Hogan
Linda Jackson-Chalmers
Linda Rudnick

EXCUSED: Wayne Morris

Call to Order:

- Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. All present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Members of the audience were welcomed and thanked for taking the time to attend the meeting.
- The Mission Statement was read.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Dr. Raymond Coluciello, Interim Superintendent was introduced to the public. Dr. Coluciello will take his position on Monday, July 13, 2009. Dr. Joseph extended congratulations and good luck to Dr. Coluciello.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Robert Malerba addressed the board regarding the inclusion of Harriet Gibbons in the NUA contract. Mr. Malerba extended his gratitude to Dr. Joseph for her hard work and dedication.
2. Beverly Padgett addressed the board regarding her request for recording of board proceedings and the quality of the tapes she received. Ms. Padgett talked about the district's inability to adhere to the Code of Conduct Policy, New York Education Laws and the Constitution of the United States. Ms. Padgett spoke about the district's failure to abide by due process procedures.

INFORMATION ITEM

Strategic Plan Implementation Summary

An Implementation Schedule Progress Summary was presented for review. The report includes the seven strategies of the Strategic Plan, along with action plans for 2008-2009 and a progress report, indicating the implementation leaders and a brief synopsis of the activities that have taken place, along with some other deadlines that might have been established for each strategy.

In concert with the board officers, in terms of the high school restructuring, it was decided that a good place to start is with a historical prospective. A planning process was developed with Tony Armlin in order to get from step A to step B with a process that has integrity and transparency that goes with the educational plan. This is similar to the process utilized in developing the first facilities plan. A suggestion was made to hold a workshop to allow very thoughtful review to a process for meeting the goal of the high school restructuring both from an educational program construct and then a facilities need.

- Has the planning process document been released?

No. Mr. Armlin has presented his working knowledge about construct for facilities planning based on what was experienced with the first facilities plan and this document has been compiled with the intent that it would be a working document for the board.

- How about the new principal at the high school?

A meeting with Dr. McCalla took place last week and he is on-board and very supportive. This is a deliberate plan for moving forward.

- Is there a committee?

There will be a committee. The development of the committee and issues such as the role of the board will be provided in this document.

- Can Dr. Diggs tell us more about the schedule of meetings for the middle school orientation?

Dr. Diggs has met initially with principals about current orientation activities. A meeting is scheduled later this week and two additional meetings are scheduled for next week. Parents, one from North Albany and another from Livingston who will become a parent from Hackett, two guidance counselors, a middle school enrollment committee representative, students and teachers make up the membership of the committee. We plan to have something in place in August. A transition program will not be limited to the August activity. Additional transition activities will ongoing for the first year.

- Relative to Strategy #6, what is the construct of the committee and how often will it be meeting?

This strategy deals with working with building level staff to develop training modules that can be used with teachers. Building principals have indicated they would prefer that the training come from them to their individual staff members.

- Will the strategic implementation progress summary be publicized? A suggestion was made to include a column to provide the status of each action plan. Once the final format is established the plan is to post this on the website with periodic updates.

- A suggestion was made to include a component on safety be included in the middle school orientation.

ROUTINE CONSENT ITEMS

Routine Consent Items were presented as follows: Proceedings of Meetings, May 5, June 2 and June 18, 2009; Resignation/Retirement; Terminations; Transfers; abolish of Positions; Creation of Positions; Appointments (Probationary, Civil Service, Miscellaneous, Summer School 2009 and Other Appointments); Attendance at Conferences; Treasurer's Report; Revenue Status Report 5/31/09, Appropriation Status report 5/31/09, Central Treasurer's Report for Extra Classroom Activity Fund; Budget Transfers under \$10,000, Budget Transfers over \$10,000, Award of Bids; Disposal of Assets; Durham school Services Summer Transportation Resolution, Membership Dues (Capital Area School Development Association, Albany-Colonie Regional Chamber of Commerce; Authorization to Enter Into Contracts; Committee on Special Education, Subcommittee on Special Education, Committee on Pre-School Special Education.

A motion was made by Mr. Egan to include a resolution to approve Cabinet Member Employment Agreements in Routine Consent Items. Ms. Mackey seconded the motion.

The Board voted unanimously (6-0) to approve the motion.

Motion passed.

Mr. Egan asked that the Proceedings of June 18, 2009 be set aside. Ms. Doesschate asked that the Proceedings of May 5, 2009 be set aside. Dr. Barth requested that Transfers be set aside. Mrs. Gaffuri requested that Miscellaneous Appointments be set aside.

Mr. Egan made a motion to approve routine consent items absent those set aside. Ms. Doesschate seconded the motion.

The board voted unanimously (6-0) to approve the motion.

Motion passed.

Ms. Doesschate made a motion to approve the Proceedings of May 5, 2009. Ms. Mackey seconded the motion. Ms. Doesschate asked if the resolution related to board member elections had been forwarded to Assemblyman Ron Canestrari, Assemblyman Jack McEneny and Senator Breslin. Following discussion related to forwarding the resolution, it was determined that the resolution had not been forwarded. The district will follow up on this item.

The board voted unanimously (6-0) to approve the motion to approve the proceedings.

Motion passed.

Mr. Egan made a motion to approve proceedings of June 18, 2009. Dr. Barth seconded the motion. Mr. Egan suggested that the wording on page 3, the 3rd bullet, related to the wireless access, a suggestion was made to replace the word automatically to read manually. The change will be made to the proceedings.

The board voted unanimously (6-0) to approve the motion.

Motion passed.

Transfers were presented for approval. Mr. Egan made a motion to approve transfers. Ms. Mackey seconded the motion. Dr. Barth made a motion to table the transfer of Jerry Carafello, Assistant Principal from Sunshine to Abrookin.

The board voted 1 aye (Dr. Barth), 4 nays (Mrs. Gaffuri, Ms. Mackey, Ms. Doesschate and Mr. Egan) and 1 abstention (Mrs. Brandon)

Motion failed.

The board voted unanimously (6-0) to approve transfers as presented.

Motion passed.

Miscellaneous appointments were presented for approval. Mr. Egan made a motion for approval. Ms. Doesschate seconded the motion.

The board voted 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 abstention (Mrs. Gaffuri).

Motion passed.

FACILITIES PROJECT

Action Items Related to the Facilities Project

Approval of Change Orders

Change orders for William S. Hackett Middle School, Thomas O'Brien Academy of Science & Technology, Giffen Memorial Elementary School and Arbor Hill Elementary School were presented for approval. Mr. Egan made a motion for approval. Ms. Doesschate seconded the motion.

The board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Motion passed.

Contract Award for Thomas O'Brien Academy of Science & Technology

Resolution to approve window shades for TOAST was presented for approval. Ms. Mackey made a motion for approval. Dr. Barth seconded the motion.

The board voted unanimously (6-0) to approve the motion.

Motion passed.

Contract Award for Thomas O'Brien Academy of Science & Technology

Resolution to approve purchase of state contract for furniture in the Media Center as part of the FF&E for TOAST was presented for approval.

The board voted unanimously (6-0) to approve the motion.

Motion passed.

Project Management Contract Extension with Armlin, Damon & McMordie

A resolution for the approval to amend and extend the contract of Armlin, Damon & McMordie was presented for approval. Ms. Mackey made a motion for approval. Dr. Barth seconded the motion.

The board voted unanimously (6-0) to approve the motion.

Motion passed.

ACTION ITEMS

Geometry Textbook

The Bass, Laurie; Charles, Randall, et. al. PRENTICE HALL MATHEMATICS: GEOMETRY © 2010 FOR NEW YORK. Pearson Education, Inc. 2007 was presented for approval. Ms. Mackey made a motion for approval. Ms. Doesschate seconded the motion.

The board voted unanimously (6-0) to approve the motion.

Motion passed.

2009-2010 National Urban Alliance Contract (NUA) for Harriet Gibbons High School and Albany High School Administrator Professional Development

The NUA contract as described was presented for approval. Ms. Mackey made a motion for approval. Ms. Doesschate seconded the motion. Based on discussion at the last meeting, the board is being asked to approve the piece for Harriett Gibbons High School (\$61,400) and the administrator leadership training for Albany High School (\$7,500), a total of \$68,900 at this time. These two items were removed from the NUA piece at the June 18, 2009 meeting pending additional consideration. Dr. McCalla, Principal at Albany High School has indicated that the leadership piece of the NUA proposal will provide the opportunity for team building with his administration. The total of the contract, with approval of these two items this evening is \$523,600.

The board voted 5 ayes, 0 nays and 1 abstention. Mr. Egan abstained.

Motion passed.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

Mr. Egan asked for follow-up to the presentation of Albany Community Television. Mr. Cioffi advised he will be facilitating this pending direction to go forward.

Mr. Egan asked for the cost and objective of the Strategic Plan brochure. The objective was part of the initial plan that the Strategic Plan would be published in as a condensed version for distribution to the community members, parents, principals as a guide for successive years.

Mrs. Brandon asked for an update on the Volunteer Program. Dr. Barth advised the RSVP Organization has met with district personnel to discuss their interest in assisting in this program and services they might be able to offer.

Dr. Barth requested a follow-up to the American School Counselor Association model for 21st Century School Counseling related to the district's Guidance Program.

Adjournment

Ms. Mackey made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Doesschate seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.