

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
September 4, 2007
7:00 p.m.

Albany High School

PRESENT: Teneka Frost, President
Wayne Morris, Secretary
Dr. Mark Barth
Judy Doesschate
Barbara Gaffuri
Jackie Jenkins-Cox

Dr. Eva. Joseph
Jeffrey Honeywell
Dr. Joseph Dragone
Linda Jackson-Chalmers

ABSENT: William Barnette, Vice President

Call to Order:

Ms. Frost called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. All present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Frost welcomed the members of the audience and thanked them for taking the time to attend the meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Joseph advised the district is very excited with the opening of schools tomorrow. Dr. Yvette Jackson, Chief Executive Officer for the National Urban Alliance gave a very uplifting and inspiring message about connecting to our students with high expectations for them and their learning at the Superintendent's Conference earlier today. Dr. Joseph welcomed Mr. Terrance Schruers, the Interim Assistant Superintendent for Business Affairs. Dr. Joseph introduced Mr. Lloyd Peck, North House Principal, Mr. Douglas Bojanich, Assistant House Principal and the Interim Assistant South House Principal, Ms. Sophia Newell.

INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Dr. Joseph introduced Ms. Angelena Rouse, who will serve as the student representative for the student body throughout the 2007-2008 school year. Dr. Joseph noted Angelena is presently a junior class member at Albany High School. She is the Vice President for the Junior Class and also a member of the International Baccalaureate Program. Dr. Joseph noted the board looks forward to Angelena's feedback and comments to the board on behalf of the students.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Stephen Chapple addressed the board regarding the dress code and the high school restructuring issue.

ROUTINE CONSENT ITEMS

Ms. Frost presented the Routine Consent Items, including Proceedings of Meetings, August 7, 2007 and August 23, 2007; Resignations, Termination, Abolish Position, Creation of Position, Transfers, Appointments (Probationary, Miscellaneous, Civil Service); Treasurer's Report, Central Treasurer's Report for Extra Classroom Activity Fund, Budget Transfers under \$10,000, Budget Transfers over \$10,000, Budget Status Report – 6/30/07, Real Property Tax Adjustments; Committee on Special Education, Committee on Pre-School Special Education; Sawchuk Brown

Associates Contract. Mr. Morris made a motion for approval. Ms. Jackie-Jenkins Cox seconded the motion. Mr. Doesschate asked that the Budget Status Report (7/31/07) be set aside.

The board voted unanimously (6-0) to approve the motion absent items that were set aside.

Motion passed.

Ms. Frost presented the Budget Status Report (7/31/07) for approval. Ms. Doesschate made a motion for approval. Dr. Barth seconded the motion.

Following discussion, the board voted unanimously (6-0) to approve the motion.

Motion passed.

FACILITIES PROJECT REPORT

Action Item Related to the Facilities Project

Change Orders

Ms. Frost presented change orders for the Hackett Middle School project. Ms. Doesschate made a motion for approval. Mr. Morris seconded the motion.

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

Motion passed.

DISCUSSION ITEM

Policy Review

Ms. Frost presented draft policy #5280 Interscholastic Athletics for discussion. Dr. Joseph noted the Policy Committee reviewed the policy and recommended that the policy be presented to the board for additional discussion. Dr. Joseph advised the policy was submitted by Kathy Ryan, Athletic Director, in relation to two important issues, athletic eligibility and chemical use. Dr. Dragone advised in the absence of a formal policy a committee of district stakeholders was asked to draft suggestions to bring before the board. Dr. Dragone advised he and Ms. Ryan met with the policy committee to incorporate some of those suggestions into the current draft. Dr. Dragone noted this policy is still formative. The official policy will be addressed with counsel, addressing the official policy as it will look. Dr. Dragone advised it was the intent of the committee to make sure that the language and suggestions were brought before the board in order to start the review process.

Following discussion, Ms. Frost advised the time for this item had expired. Motion was made by Mrs. Gaffuri to extend the time by 10 minutes. Mr. Morris seconded the motion.

The board voted unanimously (6-0) to extend the time.

Discussion continued regarding consistency for all students who involved unacceptable behavior and holding athletes to a higher standard than other students in similar situations. Discussion also included equal and fair treatment for all students regardless of which extra curricular activity they are involved in. Mr. Honeywell noted the Code of Conduct policy refers to student behavior while in school. This policy would focus on extra curricular activities that are privileges. It is somewhat common for school districts to extend further and less process involved in revoking those privileges. Discussion also centered around the length of time students would not be allowed to participate in extra curricular activities, which should include drama, music, all sports and activities. Discussion also included increasing students to take 4 courses plus physical education to be eligible to participate in sports, etc.

Dr. Joseph suggested, after discussion with counsel, that the policy would be brought back to the board in the proper format and language, taking into consideration comments made this evening. Policy will be presented again at the October board meeting as a discussion item.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS

Ms. Doesschate requested a breakdown of enrollment by schools and grade for the district schools and the charter schools as well. Dr. Joseph advised this information could be provided in an update. Also, survey results from Schuyler Achievement regarding uniforms would be forwarded to board members,

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Nolene Smith addressed the board regarding the Athletic Interscholastic Policy.

Adjournment

Ms. Jenkins-Cox made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Gaffuri seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Catherine L. Cutting
Clerk of the Board