

Minutes are draft until approved at the May 21, 2019 board meeting.

April 16, 2019 - Board of Education Agenda - Regular Meeting (Tuesday, April 16, 2019)

Generated by Shelli Reickert on Tuesday, April 16, 2019

Present: Christian Olsen, Michael Tuttle, Bruce Romanchak, Charles Peter, Daniel Grandinetti, Michael Charsky, Michael Hiser, Mary Yurista

Also present: Jason Chevrier, Brian Carey, Michael Bennett, James Derby, Jacqueline Hill, Jodi Sullivan and Michele Reickert

1. MEETING OPENING

A. President Christian Olsen called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

B. President Olsen asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

C. Bruce Romanchak moved to approve the present agenda, Mary Yurista seconded, all present in favor.

D. Bruce Romanchak moved to approve the minutes of March 21, 2019, regular meeting, Charles Peter seconded, all present in favor.

2. REPORTS

A. 2019-20 Superintendent's Recommended Budget - Jason Chevrier & Brian Carey

Jason Chevrier presented a slide show of the budget presented to the board of education for adoption.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Kate Howe expressed concern to the reduction from 4 to 3 sections in the current 3rd grade, she talked about the cognitive learning of students in elementary school and expressed concern in the reduction. Jennifer Rogowski shared that she is a parent of a student in the grade affected by the reduction, is a special education teacher and was a general education teacher with 25 students and it was hard. She likes the idea of the lab but would like to see smaller class sizes rather than a once a week experience in the lab. Amy Hirschhoff former 4th grade teacher, 6th grade teacher and has a child going into the 4th grade she had given a letter she wrote to the board of education, she understands the way a budget works, but she cannot agree with the high number of students in the next school year. Deborah Lane has a child in 4th grade and two in 1st grade, she is concerned about the larger class sizes, she also said the innovative learning lab sounds good but is concerned how the district will fund the equipment. She suggested volunteers coming in to run programs in the lab. Sherri Gibson expressed support for the innovative learning lab but suggested that the school should think about and be creative with scheduling. Marcella Junco has current 4th grader and shared that the current 4th and 5th grade has a lot of fighting between kids, her son talks a lot about kids teasing each other, is that from class size? She also asked about the School Resource officer and asked why the district did not move forward with a school resource officer. Mr. Chevrier explained that the district is still looking at options for a resource officer in the future. Nichole Willette has a son in the 3rd grade, the classes attend the specials as three classes, bickering and teasing increases, she suggested potentially having a Teaching Assistant in the classroom all day to help with discipline issues, struggling students or help to challenge students that are not struggling. Chris Fowler asked for an update on the excessive heat and ineffective shades in the 200 wing of the high school. Tim Ryan expressed his concern about the removal of hardware and IT upgrades.

4. BOARD DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEM FOLLOW UP

A. Board Discussion – Bruce Romanchak asked about the current 4th grade class sizes, and enhancements for ELA, Technology Room and Teaching Assistant levels in the classrooms. There was discussion about student needs and how the district decides how many Teaching Assistants they need in the classrooms. Mr. Charsky talked about the addition of AIS Math, 7th & 8th grade Math support, ELA curriculum and how it will help the students. Mary Yurista commented in support of the reduction and expressed that the Innovative Learning Lab will help with teaching in smaller groups. Mr. Peter expressed that the decision weighs heavy on the board, teachers and administration were asked if they could do it, and they said they could. We have a population outside the doors of the school that vote and there is a limit on what they can accept in their tax bills. It is a reality for this district that even as class sizes decrease the population outside the doors, cannot continue to support the increases in taxes.

B. Action Item Follow-up

- Mike Hiser – NYSSBA – nothing more to add outside of what was shared at the March 21, 2019 meeting
- SRO Discussion – discussed during the public comment.
- Reschedule Technology Committee Meeting to May 1, 2019.

5. DISTRICT / BUILDING / COMMITTEE UPDATES

A. District Updates

- A Certificate of recognition for Safety Excellence was shared as an attachment.
- Donations under the minimum amount set for board approval in district policy 1800 and/or donations for scholarships - list attached.
- Enrollment Report for April 2019 attached for review.

B. Building Updates

- Castleton Elementary School has had a busy month, Mr. Derby highlighted on the Lip sync performances and expressed how good it was and commented on the amount of preparations that go into it. He thanked the PTO for all their support.
- Ms. Hill reached out to other districts to get teachers connected to form a network to share ideas and bounce things off of each other. Ms. Sullivan shared that the Committee for 7-12 Mental Health sent thank you notes out to members of the community who supported students on Wellness day, she wanted to thank everyone publicly for sharing their expertise with the students.

C. Committee Updates

- CES Building Planning Team - Michael Tuttle & Charles Peter - The committee met and continued to review the handbook, they are at the fine-tuning point and will work on completion at the May meeting for September.
- Jr./Sr. HS Building Planning Team - Michael Charsky - Meeting was set early in the day to capture the extracurricular advisors to talk about the rules and structure of the clubs to better track members and meetings of the clubs.
- Professional Development Planning Team - Bruce Romanchak - The team met to discuss the end of the year Professional Development Survey and what they want it to look like; best practices to reflect on the past year and move into the new year. Draft will be shared with committee.
- NYSSBA Legislative Committee - Michael Hiser - The continuation of the property tax cap has passed.
- Health & Safety/SAVE Committee - Michael Tuttle & Mike Hiser - Met and discussed crowd control measures at the large functions at the schools and how the district can make changes to that; creating threat assessment teams was discussed to handle intervention and prevent something from happening. There was discussion about fire inspection at Castleton Elementary School.
- Audit Committee - Dan Grandinetti, Mary Yurista, Christian Olsen & Michael Charsky - no meeting.
- Policy Committee - Bruce Romanchak & Charles Peter - There are policies on the agenda for first reading and for adoption. The policies continue to be worked on.

6. POLICIES

Bruce Romanchak moved to approve items A. through C., Michael Tuttle seconded, all present in favor.

A. Approval of the 2nd reading and adoption of the following policies:

6830 Expense Reimbursement
 7000 Facilities Development Goals
 7100 Facilities Planning
 7365 Construction Safety
 8000 Support Service Goals
 8110 School Building Safety
 8112 Health and Safety Committee
 8115 Pesticides and Pest Management
 8130 School Safety Plans and Teams

B. Approval to rescind the following policies replaced by policies approved in item 6. A.:

4-302 District Employees Reimbursement for Certain Expenses
 4-304 Mileage Reimbursement
 3-216 Integrated Pest Management Policy

C. Approval of the 1st reading of the following policies:

8210.1 Use of Surveillance Cameras on School Property
 8220 Buildings and Grounds Maintenance and Inspection
 8330 Authorized Use of School-Owned Materials and Equipment
 8332 Use of Cell Phones

7. FINANCE

Michael Charsky moved to approve items A. and B. as voted on and entered into the resolution, Michael Hiser seconded, all present in favor

A. Motion to approve a resolution electing five (5) candidates to the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene Counties, to fill 4 expiring terms and the unexpired term of one vacancy to expire on June 30, 2021.

B. Approval of the 2019-2020 Administrative Budget of the Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene BOCES in the amount of \$6,467,395.00.

Michael Charsky moved to approve item C. with the presented budget amount, Mary Yurista seconded, all present in favor.

C. Approval of a resolution adopting the 2019-2020 school district budget in the amount of \$25,041,458 to be presented to voters on May 21, 2019.

Michael Charsky moved to approve items D. through H., Bruce Romanchak seconded, all present in favor.

D. Approval of the 2019-2020 Real Property Tax Report Card.

E. Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report for the month of February 2019.

F. Acceptance of the Claims Auditor's Report for the month of February 2019.

G. Approval of a Health Services contract with South Colonie Central School District for the 2018-2019 school year for (1) one resident student at a rate of \$769.82 per student.

H. Approval of a Health Services contract with North Greenbush Common School District for the 2018-2019 school year for (6) six resident students at a rate of \$264.19 per student.

8. OTHER ACTION

Bruce Romanchak moved to approve items A. through E., Daniel Grandinetti seconded, all present in favor.

A. Approval of a resolution allowing the Board of Education to present a proposition to the public at its May 21, 2019, budget vote and election allowing a high school student to serve as an ex officio, non-voting member of the Schodack Central School District Board of Education subject to the requirements of the Education Law.

B. Approval of a resolution appointing the Permanent Chairperson, Chief Election Inspector and Election Inspectors for the annual district meeting on May 21, 2019.

C. Approval of a resolution abolishing Director of Business and Support Services position, creating Business Administrator position and retroactively appointing Brian Carey to Business Administrator position, effective October 30, 2017.

D. Approval of a Resolution appointing Jill Hanrahan as Pro-Tem District Clerk for the period of April 18, 2019, through April 23, 2019.

E. Approval of the recommendation of the District Committee on Preschool Special Education and Committee on Special Education regarding Special Education Services for student(s) as indicated on attached reports.

9. RESIGNATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

Bruce Romanchak moved to approve Item A., Michael Charsky seconded, all present in favor.

A. Approval of staffing actions as indicated on the attached sheet.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mary Mosher spoke about the heat and ineffective window blinds in the classrooms in the High School. Maureen Squier thanked the board, administrators and faculty for working with her creativity. She loves coming to work every day.

11. ACTION ITEMS:

Security Officer, follow up on shades and excessive heat at the Jr/Sr High School, Percentages, presentation on discipline problems in 4th and 5th grade, a report out next year on how the 4th grade made out, get video from Questar from Paul's recognition.

12. ADJOURNMENT

A. Michel Charsky moved to adjourn to executive session at 8:11 pm to discuss the employment history of a particular person and SFA Contract Negotiations, Michael Hiser seconded, all present in favor.

B. Mary Yurista moved to reconvene to open session and adjourn the meeting at 9:08 pm, Michael Hiser seconded, all present in favor.