

**Board of Education
OWEN D. YOUNG CENTRAL SCHOOL
December 16, 2009**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Debra Bronner, Cathy Mayton-Collins, Thomas Kowall, Matthew Jacoby and Mark Peters

OTHERS PRESENT: Virginia Keegan, Superintendent, Keara Batisti, Assistant Principal, Jodie Rodriquez, Business Manager, and 4 guests.

In a motion by Vice President Jacoby, second by Trustee Kowall, the board entered into Executive Session at 6:04 p.m. for the purpose of Continuing the Superintendent's Evaluation and for Personnel Discussion specific to the School Counselor. There was no discussion regarding the motion. Invited into Executive Session was Robert Hage, Fran Dorantes, Keara Batisti and Jodie Rodriquez.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

In a motion by Trustee Kowall, second by Vice President Joacoby, the board exited the Executive Session at 7:02 p.m. It is noted that Robert Hage, Fran Dorantes, Keara Batisti and Jodie Rodriquez left the executive session at 6:51 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

President Bronner called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

In a motion by Vice President Jacoby, second by Trustee Kowall, the meeting agenda of December 16, 2009 was amended as follows: Executive Session for Purpose of Continuing the Superintendent's Evaluation was moved to the January 13, 2010 meeting rather than adding another Executive Session to the December 16, 2009 meeting agenda.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

In a motion by Vice President Jacoby, second by Trustee Kowall, the consent agenda of December 16, 2009 was approved with the following discussion: Trustee Mayton-Collins inquired to whether 30 days notice was given by staff resigning on 1/4/10. Superintendent Keegan stated that she had calculated the days as the resignation was submitted the previous Friday (12/11/09) and tat there was 30 days notice.

- a. Approve Board of Education Minutes for November 18, 2009**
- b. Approve of CSE Minutes for December 1 and December 4, 2009**
- c. Approve of Energy Purchasing Services**

- d. Approve of co-JV Basketball Coaches for the remainder of the 2009-10 season;**

- Mr. Cory Pike and Mr. Donald Monk**
e. Approve of Junior Prom (Class of 2012) Off Campus - Stone Bridge Country Club in New Hartford

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Guests indicated that they had no comments at this time.

DISTRICT PRESENTATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was shared from the Town of Stark stating that they were regretfully no longer able to financially support the Owen D. Young Summer Program due to budget constraints. It was further stated that Richard Bronner, Town Supervisor, had met with Trustee Bronner, Trustee Jacoby and Superintendent Keegan during an agenda setting meeting to share this information.

Superintendent Keegan advises that from discussion regarding the attendance policy from a previous board meeting and need for its review so that the SED policy, ODY policy and ODY Student/Parent Handbooks are not in contradiction, she would lead the work with a small committee. Trustee Mayton-Collins offered to work on this project. Dates to meet in January are to be sent to Superintendent Keegan.

Superintendent Keegan reviewed options for the board specific to Labor Relations and Policy Update Service Options. The district's current cost is \$14,061. Discussion included our state aid not being impacted if we changed services as well as the newer service options being a flat fee for the contract year.

Superintendent Keegan shared that Ken Ford (Director of Madison BOCES) will be visiting this week to complete a Security Evaluation for the ODY facility. His doing the evaluation will be free of cost. Improvements can be aidable. It is noted that the current phone system is Simplex and has been problematic.

Superintendent Keegan shared that the Annual Senior Citizen Dinner recently took place and was a very successful event. She stated that both students and staff did a wonderful job in hosting this event. She stated that she was very proud of everyone involved. She indicated that she took many photos and will ask permission by residents about posting the pictures on the school website.

An update regarding Board Committee was reviewed:

Trustee Jacoby and Trustee Mayton-Collins will meet to discuss formation fo the Endowment Committee. Superintendent Keegan reminds us that our School Attorney Joe Shields has agreed to work with the Committee around legal issues in creating the endowment.

The Budget Committee outreach through the newspaper ad received no response by

community members. It is agreed that Board members will canvas previous Board members to solicit interest. Trustee Bronner will contact Curt Richardson to determine his interest and availability. Trustee Mayton-Collins and Trustee Jacoby agree to be the Board of Education representatives for the Budget Committee. Business Official Jodie Rodriguez will be collecting the needs lists from the staff over the next week.

Assistant Principal Keara Battisti and Trustee Mayton-Collins will meet to continue the work of the Owen D. Young 80th Anniversary Committee.

Information is shared by Superintendent Keegan regarding the Red Cross identifying ODY as a Mass Evacuation Facility. She notes that we do not currently have a generator and that the purchase price is approximately \$15,000.

Board of Trustee members are reminded that Board Forum on Regionalization will be held on Thursday, January 14 at 6:30 p.m. at the Herkimer BOCES. Trustees are to indicate their interest in attending as soon as possible.

Superintendent Keegan updates the Board of Trustees specific to State Aid being held. She states that this practice is being legally challenged at the state-wide level. Trustee Bronner asks if the district will lose money in interest as the state aid is being held. Superintendent Keegan states that we will not as long as it is refunded by April 2010.

Superintendent Keegan shares that the current enrollment is 232 students.

Superintendent Keegan shares that the High School Winter Concert recently took place and that Mr. MacMillan and the students did a wonderful job and performed some rather sophisticated pieces.

President Bronner initiated a discussion specific to Regular Board Meeting Policy. There was discussion regarding revision of Policy 1510. Trustee Kowall and Trustee Peters suggested that the policy not be revised. Trustee Mayton-Collins expressed concern that to revise the policy may be in violation of Public Open Meeting laws. Trustee Kowall stated that it would be helpful to have further clarification regarding the matter. Trustee Peters stated that he had no comment. President Bronner stated that she would research this issue.

The Board of trustees agreed for the District to continue to utilize the current Policy Services Vendor.

ACTION ITEMS

In a motion by Cathy Mayton-Collins and seconded by Trustee Jacoby, the board approved to contract with Multi-BOCES Labor Relations of Verona, New York as vendor for 2010-2011 for \$12,797.00 annually.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DISCUSSION TIME

Trustee Mayton-Collins stated that with Federal and State information continuing to focus on the need for “Bridge” programs between school districts and colleges/universities it might benefit the effort for we, as a Board of Trustees, to explain our recent situation with the HCCC program so that elected officials will understand the need to examine legal barriers that currently exist in expanding these programs and initiatives. Trustee Jacoby stated that he wasn’t sure that a letter should be sent. It was decided amongst the Board of Trustees that Trustee Mayton-Collins could bring a draft letter to the Board for review.

Trustee Mayton-Collins stated that there was recently information in the Observer-Dispatch specific to district activities and that this is a wonderful way to keep the public information of events at the school.

Trustee Jacoby asked that legal and attorney’s fees/costs be tracked over time. Superintendent Keegan agreed to keep a list.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no comment from the public.

BOARD COMMENTS

Trustee Kowall expressed his thanks and gratitude to Trustees and community members who have been supportive during his father’s recent illness. He stated that it was yet another reminder of way this is a wonderful community in which we live.

In a motion by Trustee Jacoby, second by Trustee Kowall the meeting of December 16, 2009 adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Mayton-Collins, Clerk Pro Tem