

Board of Education
OWEN D. YOUNG CENTRAL SCHOOL
September 23, 2009

Regular Meeting - Auditorium

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Virginia Keegan, Superintendent, Keara Battisti, Assistant Principal,
Linda Bambara, District Clerk and 29 guests.

President Bronner called the board meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and waived the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag inasmuch as the pledge was performed at the earlier Audit Committee meeting at 7 p.m.

In a motion by Trustee Mayton-Collins, second by Trustee Peters the meeting agenda was amended to remove item IV, add I. H1N1 discussion, and J. weekly update letter to the Superintendent's Report. In addition, a Public Participation was added after the Superintendent's Reports. Also, item "e" under the Approval of the Consent Agenda is to be moved under Action Items.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

After a requested revision that the August 31, 2009 minutes reflect Trustee Mayton-Collins' thank you to Mr. Hill be changed to Mr. Hage and a better clarification of the water board minutes of September 9, 2009 concerning the topic of gathering repeated information be revised, a motion by Vice President Jacoby, second by Trustee Mayton-Collins, the consent agenda of September 23, 2009 was approved.

- a. Approve Board of Education Minutes for August 20, 2009, August 31, 2009, and September 9, 2009 (Water Board and Regular Meeting)
- b. Accept Financial Reports for August, 2009
- c. Approve of CSE Minutes of September 18, 2009
- d. Approve Appointment for Class Advisors, Club Advisors and Teacher Mentors as attached (back of agenda)
- f. Approve an Increase in Substitute Pay for Mrs. Mildred Merrick for Tax Preparation Training to \$10 per hour

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

Superintendent Keegan conveyed that Jerome D. Alsante of the New York State DEC said the violations concerning the petroleum bulk storage tank have been addressed. Superintendent Keegan gave a positive report relative to the commencement of the dance classes. Additionally, the board was advised of the upcoming Veteran's Day celebration and the events to honor local veterans. Superintendent Keegan would like the board's approval in attending upcoming administrative workshops. Also, an Excel project credit of \$20,899 was discussed concerning possible door or front stoop repairs. Superintendent Keegan pointed out the possible

recommendation of Crystal Sweet as the new Library Media Specialist. A discussion ensued with the board and Mr. Hage concerning the student-school reimbursement of HCCC Excel Program tuition should a student drop a course prior to this week's end. Superintendent Keegan provided the board members with H1N1 handouts. Additionally, a weekly update letter was prepared by Superintendent Keegan and presented to the board. There was a discussion concerning the tax penalty and the possibility that the same may be waived.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Area residents voiced their concerns relative to the school tax issues. Superintendent Keegan informed that she has been in touch with other districts with the same situation and was advised that one school did nothing and was advised that the other school had too many errors and was advised not to contact that particular district. Superintendent Keegan will contact the third school district and report her findings at the next meeting. The community was advised that they have until October 18, 2009 to pay their bill without penalty. The matter of extending the date until November 2, 2009 was tabled for the next upcoming meeting. A letter advising the tax payers of the October 18th date will go out in tomorrow's mail. There was concern from an area resident that the 1-800 number that was provided by the board for tax relief was not helpful in getting any answers concerning her tax increase. Additionally, several area residents voiced their opinions relative to school cutbacks and less spending in the budget. Superintendent Keegan advised that she would be contacting Senator Seward relative to the tax error issue.

PRESIDENT'S REPORTS

President Bronner asked for an update relative to Owen D. Young's birthday and school/community celebration plans. Trustee Mayton-Collins informed that a meeting will be held prior to the next board meeting with area personnel and organizations and she will provide a list of the same and a project update. The kick-off of this celebration will begin on Mr. Owen D. Young's birthday of October 27, 2009. President Bronner advised of the upcoming public board Goals Workshop of September 29, 2009 from 7 p.m to 10 p.m. Mr. Hage volunteered to act as the facilitator concerning communication for this meeting. Lastly, President Bronner was glad to hear positive comments about the faculty at ODY from Mrs. Pashley's letter dated September 15, 2009.

ACTION ITEMS

The Superintendent Recommends a RESOLUTION: Motion by Vice President Jacoby, second by Trustee Kowall; BE IT RESOLVED the board approved the appointment of Library Specialist - Ms. Crystal Sweet on Step 1 with a Masters Degree, salary of \$33,154 (to be prorated for 2009-10 school year) with a start date of September 25, 2009.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Superintendent Recommends a RESOLUTION: Motion by Vice President Jacoby, second by Trustee Kowall; BE IT RESOLVED the board approved the appointment of Mrs. Caroline Mayo as a Substitute Cleaner at a rate of \$10 per hour, effective September 24, 2009 .

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DISCUSSION TIME

Trustee Mayon-Collins requested to add an action item after Board Comments to accept the resignation of Joanne Mayton as a cleaner.

In a motion by Trustee Kowall, second by Trustee Peters the resignation of Joanne Mayton was moved before Board Comments for action.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Further, Trustee Mayton-Collins discussed the issue of student attendance during the flu season and was advised that no action would be taken until further communication has been received from the Commissioner's Rights on Attendance.

Trustee Peters inquired about purchasing microphones for public board meetings and school events and was informed by Superintendent Keegan that the same has been ordered through grant monies.

Vice President Jacoby requested that all board members receive hard copies of board minutes as opposed to electronic receipt. Additionally, Vice President Jacoby would like a copy of Friday's memo electronically forwarded to him.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ms. Jackie Snyder inquired as to when the HCCC Handbook would be going out and was informed that the same would be forthcoming in the very near future.

Mr. Hage commented on the great job the children are doing and advised that a couple of students are in the process of obtaining a dual major.

There was a question concerning the nonpayment of one week's wages of the summer school employees and Superintendent Keegan advised that she will be looking into the matter.

Brenda Hugick commented on the possible legal implications of the punitive fees due the students for dropping a course in the HCCC Excel Program when free education is a standard.

ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEM

The Superintendent Recommends a RESOLUTION: Motion by Trustee Kowall, second by Trustee Peters; BE IT RESOLVED the board accept the resignation of Joanne Mayton, Substitute Cleaner.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BOARD COMMENTS

Trustee Kowall commented that the ice cream social was well organized and there was good attendance.

Trustee Mayton-Collins inquired as to the status of the email address list and the master

schedule. In addition, Trustee Mayton-Collins wants to embrace the public participation in the recognition of the Owen D. Young upcoming celebration.

President Bronner advised that the master schedule would be part of the long-term planning. President Bronner also said that she and several people met with the Department of Health and the meeting went very well and things are moving along with Lamont Engineering. There will be a public information meeting regarding the water system held at the Mill Pond Community Center on October 8, 2009 at 6 p.m.

Trustee Mayton-Collins also inquired about the Peter Smith scholarship and was informed by Superintendent Keegan that she had in fact wrote to him and is awaiting his response.

Vice President Jacoby commented that there is no effort to hide or deceive the community relative to any and all communications inasmuch as this would be a direct violation of their oaths. Additionally, Vice President Jacoby asked if anyone had compiled a list of area residents who should be recognized for their great job and efforts in the community by the board. Vice President Jacoby volunteered to collect the names of those to be honored.

In a motion by Trustee Peters, second by Trustee Kowall, the board entered into Executive Session at 9:30 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

In a motion by Trustee Peters, second by Vice President Jacoby, the board exited Executive Session at 10:12 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

In a motion by Trustee Kowall, second by Vice President Jacoby, the meeting of September 23, 2009 adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,

Linda T. Bambara, District Clerk