



# WHITNEY POINT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Whitney Point High School Building  
Library  
P.O. Box 249, 10 Keibel Road  
Whitney Point, NY 13862

## MINUTES

### **BOARD MEETING**

Tuesday, April 22, 2014  
7:00 p.m.

#### District Mission:

To provide an excellent education ensuring that all children maximize their potential, become contributing citizens, and pursue lifelong learning.

#### District Beliefs:

- All children possess unique qualities and come to school eager to learn and be successful.
- We respect all people within our community and treat them with dignity at all times.
- Learning is a partnership that includes school staff, parents, family and the community.
- Knowledge allows for critical thinking and effective decision-making.
- The community is well served by maximizing the use of available resources and by the responsible stewardship of assets.
- Purposeful and intentional change is a constant that leads to educational improvement and positive results.
- Compliance with state and federal regulations is critical to school district success.

#### District Vision:

- To be a community of excellence achieved through a commitment to HIGH performance, morale, and involvement.

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited

		<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Sara Bencoter	President	X	
Stephanie Champney	Vice-President	X	
Kathleen Driscoll	Member	X	
Brian Jeker	Member	X	
Gene-Paul Jordan	Member	X	
Andrew Palmer	Member	X	
Thomas Tasber	Member	X	
Patricia Follette	Superintendent of Schools	X	
Jo-Ann Sexton	Dir. of Curriculum and Instruction	X	
Zachary Woodard	School Business Executive	X	
Cynthia Burchell	District Clerk	X	

Others in attendance: Jeffrey Isaacs, Murphee Hayes, Luann Kida

**A. PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

**B. MINUTES**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the amended Minutes from the Board Meeting held on April 1, 2014.

Moved by Brian Jeker

Seconded by Gene Jordan

Thomas Tasber asked that the Minutes be amended to state that he and Stephanie Champney appreciated “the reduction of the planned use of the fund balance.”

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

**C. CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**D. POLICIES 1<sup>ST</sup> READING**

None

**E. POLICIES 2<sup>ND</sup> READING**

None

**F. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

**G. COMMENDATIONS**

Ms. Follette commends:

- The Whitney Point Central School District and our Business Executive, Zachary Woodard, for being awarded the Utica National Insurance Group’s Platinum School Safety Excellence Award.
- Whitney Point Central School District art students for a great showing at this year’s Artistic Discovery competition sponsored by the US Congress. Whitney Point competed against five other schools with 60 pieces total in the competition and won two of six awards at the juried show including "Best use of Medium" by Abby Pardoe and "Level of Difficulty" by Emily Fiorenza. The artwork will be on display at The Broome County Art Council offices April 4 through April 25, 2014.
- Mrs. Gilbert, Mr. Jones, and the Whitney Point Central School District High School Chorus and Band students for the recent Spring Concert held on Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> in the High School Auditorium.

- The Whitney Point PTA for the successful Father/Daughter Dance held on Friday, April 4, 2014.
- Mrs. Knapp, faculty and staff of the Caryl E. Adams Primary School for the New Kindergarten Parent night held on Thursday, April 10, 2014.

### ***ADDENDA***

- *Mrs. Desmond, Mrs. Williamson and the Tioughnioga Riverside Academy Grades 4-5 Chorus and Band for the Spring Concert held on Tuesday, April 8, 2014.*
- The following students on their highly successful auditions at the New York State School Music Association Solo & Ensemble Festival. Students prepared many months for this adjudicated festival. They not only prepared their solos or ensemble piece for the judge, but also had to sight read unfamiliar pieces of music. The students are rated on their performance and receive feedback from the judges about strengths and advice for further development. Some students competed at the All-State level, which is the highest level you can achieve musically in New York State.

### **Vocal Music Participants**

#### **Level 6 (All-State)**

Kaylee Tasber – A+  
 Jacob Balanda – A+  
 Paige Tucker – A  
 Mackenzie Cafferty – A  
 Rachel Mihalko – A-

#### **Level 6**

Chris Carey – A+  
 Katie Short – A  
 Hannah Bieber – A

#### **Level 5**

Kirstie Dean - A+  
 Katurah Aleba – A+  
 Megan Mau – A  
 Jacob Dunham – A  
 Sierra Bigelow – A

#### **Level 4**

Hunter Jordan – Excellent  
 Stephanie Jeker – Excellent  
 Luke Lothridge – Excellent  
 Kelly Perry – Excellent  
 Ben Shear - Excellent

#### **Level 3**

Cymantha Scott– Good  
 Ashley Barnhart – Excellent

#### **Level 2**

Brandon Berge – Outstanding

### **Instrumental Music Participants**

#### **Level 6 (All-State)**

Maria Dewey - Flute - A+  
 Maria Dewey - Piccolo - A+  
 Kaylee Tasber - Clarinet - B+  
 Mackenzie Cafferty - Bass Clarinet - A  
 Holden LaPadula - Tenor Saxophone - A+

### **Level 6**

Taras Logvis - Piano - A+  
Macella Dean - Clarinet - A-

### **Level 5**

Flo Wolf -Flute - A+  
Holly Smith - Flute - B+  
Kirstie Dean - Clarinet - A  
Stephanie Jeker - Clarinet - B+  
Abigail Somers - Flute Solo - A-

### **Level 4**

Samantha Goss - Soprano Saxophone - Outstanding  
Sara Dewey - Clarinet Solo - Outstanding  
Alyssa Ellerson - Flute Solo - Excellent  
Ethan Baker - Alto Sax Solo - Outstanding

### **Level 3**

Hunter Jordan - Alto Saxophone - Excellent  
Kelly Perry - Trumpet Solo - Excellent  
Megan Mihalko - Flute Solo - Excellent  
Ben Shear - Trombone Solo - Good  
Jillian Tyo - Bass Clarinet Solo - Festival  
Abigail Somers - Piccolo Solo - Outstanding  
Emily Woughter - Flute Solo - Outstanding  
Alexa Wentz - Tenor Sax Solo- Outstanding  
Rachel Ward - Bari Sax Solo - Excellent  
Katie Cafferty - Flute Solo - Excellent  
Anna Sanyshyn - Bass Clarinet Solo - Excellent  
Shelby Rood - Flute Solo - Excellent  
Ethan Baker, Amy Stevens and Alexa Wentz - Saxophone Trio - Outstanding

### **Level 2**

Luke Lothridge – Trumpet, Excellent  
Lindsey Switzer & Deanna Sanyshyn - Flute Duet, Outstanding  
Lindsey Switzer, Deanna Sanyshyn, Alyssa Ellerson & Megan Mihalko - Flute Quartet,  
Excellent  
Sylvia Rosa - Flute Solo, Outstanding  
Makayla Langton - Clarinet Solo, Excellent  
Katie Cafferty & Jessica Cafferty - Flute Duet, Outstanding  
Emily Woughter & Meghan Swan - Flute Duet, Excellent  
Katie Arseneau - Clarinet Solo, Outstanding  
Madilyn Tiderencel - Flute Solo, Outstanding  
Victoria Petrie - Snare Solo, Outstanding  
Marlee Smith - Clarinet Solo, Excellent  
Patrick Collins - Alto Sax Solo, Excellent  
Kiersten Merwin - Snare Solo, Excellent  
Danika Tasber - Tenor Sax Solo, Excellent

**Level 1**

Kelly Perry, Ben Shear, Alexis Henderson & Stephanie Jeker - Brass Quartet, Outstanding  
Landon Jeker & Josh Shear - Brass Duet, Outstanding  
Victoria Shrauger & Andrea Gehm - Mallet Duet, Excellent  
Tiara Leet & Makayla Langton - Clarinet Duet, Excellent  
Tyler Yocum - Bari Sax Solo, Outstanding  
Zachary Tucker - French Horn Solo, Excellent  
Patrick Collins, Danika Tasber, Tyler Yocum - Saxophone Trio, Festival  
Madilyn Tiderencel & Karlee Howell - Flute Duet, Outstanding  
Katie Arseneau & Sierra Shrauger - Clarinet & Flute Duet, Excellent  
Aleise Shipman - Flute Solo, Outstanding  
Malcolm Johnson - Alto Sax Solo, Outstanding  
Samuel Jones - Snare Solo, Outstanding  
Matthew Jordan - Trombone Solo, Good  
Katelin Bailey - Flute Solo, Excellent  
Noah Somers - Tuba Solo, Excellent  
Prudence Harrison - Alto Sax Solo, Festival

**H. OLD BUSINESS**

**1. 2014-2015 Budget and Establishment of a Capital Reserve Fund**

Ms. Follette presented information on the 2014-2015 School District Budget and Establishment of a Capital Reserve Fund.

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the 2014-2015 School District Budget in the sum of \$33,171,129 with a tax levy increase of 1.89%.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

Sara Benscoter stated she was pleased with the budget.

Ms. Follette stated the budget is a delicate balance between doing the right thing for the students and maintaining the District's fiscal health along with what the taxpayers can support.

Thomas Tasber stated he liked the fact that the tax levy increase was below 2% and he liked how the presentation explained that the District could have gone out with a rate higher than 2%.

Gene Jordan asked about the District's credit rating.

Mr. Woodard stated the District's rating is good and the exact rating is included in the external audit report received by the Board in October.

Gene Jordan asked if the reduction in the reserve fund would improve the District's credit rating.

Mr. Woodard stated could possibly.

6 Aye   0 Nay   Abstained

APPROVED

## **I. NEW BUISNESS**

### **1. Property Tax Report Card**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the 2014-2015 Property Tax Report Card.

Thomas Tasber asked why it was called a Report Card.

Mr. Woodard explained that was the official name given for the report and it is uniform for all districts.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Gene Jordan

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

### **2. Drawing for Ballot Order**

Whitney Point Central School District Clerk Cynthia Burchell conducted a lottery drawing to determine the order of names on the May ballot for the candidates in the May 20, 2014 School Board Election. The names will appear on the ballot in the following order: Thomas Tasber, Kathleen Driscoll and Stephanie Champney.

### **3. STAR Event Presentation**

The STAR Event Presentation has been postponed until May 20, 2014. Whitney Point High School Students Kristina Boyce and Jacob Poyer will present their Family, Career & Community Leaders of America, FCCLA, STAR Event Competition Presentation at that time.

### **4. Athletic Action Committee Status**

Ms. Follette provided an update and recommendation on the Athletic Action Committee as it pertains to their status on the following Committee Charge:

#### ***Athletic Action Committee Charge***

*The charge to the committee will be to assess and discuss the current athletic program as a whole, review and document the participation rate of students and the continuation rate of students, review and document the last 10 years of athletic funding through the school budget and review and document the current recruitment, training and evaluation of our coaches. The second part of the charge is to make recommendations to the Board of Education regarding the above-mentioned action plan to strengthen the athletic program for the future, by December 1, 2008.*

Ms. Follette recommended that due to the Athletic Action Committee having met the original charge that the Board approve to dissolve the Athletic Action Committee effective April 22, 2014.

Moved by Thomas Tasber

Seconded by Stephanie Champney

Ms. Follette thanked Ms. Hayes and others for their hard work throughout the years. She thanked Ms. Hayes for providing a list of accomplishments achieved by the Athletic Action

Committee. Ms. Follette stated the research and analysis done by Ms. Hayes lead to positive developments in the athletic department. Ms. Follette reviewed the accomplishments of the committee and stated she really enjoyed seeing the progression in the athletic department.

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

### 5. Appointments

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the appointment of the three-year probationary appointment of **Jeffrey Carr**, Math Teacher, effective May 8, 2014 – May 8, 2017.

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Brian Jeker

Ms. Follette stated Jeffrey Carr will be replacing Steven Johnson.

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the appointment of **Melissa Miller**, Long-Term English Substitute, effective April 22, 2014.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Brian Jeker

Ms. Follette stated Melissa Miller is the long-term sub for Holly Holbrook-Rice.

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the appointment of **Michael Wood**, cleaner, effective April 22, 2014.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

Ms. Follette stated Michael Wood is replacing Jacob Pfeiffer.

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the appointment of **Katie Stockman**, cleaner, effective April 22, 2014.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Brian Jeker

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

### 6. Appointment Amendment

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval to amend the appointment of **Jennifer Westcott**, School Counselor, effective April 1, 2014, to a two year probationary appointment effective April 1, 2014 to April 1, 2016.

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Thomas Tasber



Ms. Follette stated this amendment is due to the fact that her original appointment failed to state probationary and the two-year appointment instead of the traditional three-year appointment is due to the fact that she previously received tenure from another district.

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

## **ADDENDA**

### **1. Appointment**

*Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the probationary appointment of Joy Thorn, Registered Nurse, effective May 14, 2014.*

*Moved by Stephanie Champney*

*Seconded by Brian Jeker*

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

### **2. Retirement Resignation**

*Ms. Follette recommends Board approval of the retirement resignation of Phyllis Boehme, Bus Attendant, effective June 27, 2014.*

*Moved by Kathleen Driscoll*

*Seconded by Thomas Tasber*

*Sara Benscoter stated she appreciated Phyllis Boehme's years of service to the District.*

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

### **7. Retirement Resignations**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the retirement resignation of **Susan Porter**, Science Teacher, effective June 30, 2014.

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Brian Jeker

Ms. Follette provided a brief history of Ms. Porter's career with the District and stated she treats her students in a friendly and equal manner. She stated Ms. Porter has a very strong, positive influence on her students.

Mr. Tasber commended the two retiring teachers on the professionalism of their retirement letters. He stated the letters show insight to their excellent standards as teachers.

6 Aye (*Thomas Tasber with regrets*) 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the retirement resignation of **Annette Dauley**, Math Teacher, effective June 30, 2014.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Thomas Tasber

Ms. Follette provided a brief history of Ms. Dauley's career with the District and stated she was known for her organizational skills and positive attitude. Ms. Follette stated Ms. Dauley has a strong rapport with her students.





## 12. Treasurer's Report

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the March 2014 Treasurer's Report.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Brian Jeker

Mr. Woodard stated some of the funds including the scholarship funds were allocated to different banks for better interest rates.

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

## 13. Vehicle Disposal

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the following vehicle for disposal at the Mel Manasse & Son Annual Spring Auction on April 25, 2014:

Car #105 VIN# 2G1WF52EX59381456

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Thomas Tasber

Mr. Woodard stated the vehicle needed extensive body repair work.

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

## 14. Extension of Benefits

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval to continue the current benefit plan with Excellus BlueCross BlueShield Classic Blue Plan & Simply Prescription Plan for the contract period April 1, 2014 and ending March 31, 2015.

Moved by Gene Jordan

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

Mr. Woodard stated this is an annual commitment to keep the plan with the consortium and renew the current insurance plan. There are no changes.

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

## 15. BOCES Resolution

Be it resolved that the Board of Education of the Whitney Point Central School District will participate in all services approved by the Superintendent and/or her designee for the 2014-15 school year. The Board of Education agrees to pay Broome-Tioga BOCES the charges identified on the base contract according to the schedule as determined by Broome – Tioga BOCES. Also, be it resolved that payments on supplemental contracts will be implemented by the district in accordance with the Broome – Tioga BOCES requirements.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

5 Aye 0 Nay 1 Abstained (*Gene Jordan*)

APPROVED

## **J. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Gene Jordan stated the District will be electing four Board members. There are three board members running again and one open seat that is available for write-in candidates.

Sara Bencoter commended the girl's lacrosse team and stated they are doing very well and have advanced greatly from their first game.

Ms. Follette stated it was a challenge to start the program, especially late in the year and she is glad to hear it is going well.

Sara Bencoter commended Murphee Hayes for all of her hard work and dedication to the Lacrosse Team.

Thomas Tasber commended Coach Hand and stated she is doing a wonderful job with the team.

Sara Bencoter agreed stating Coach Hand does not accept certain behaviors from the team and that the team has risen to her standards.

A discussion ensued.

## **K. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

- SUNY Broome Course held at Whitney Point – Ms. Follette stated Mr. Tytler is working with SUNY Broome to sponsor night classes at the high school such as English, Biology and possibly History. She stated they are trying to build a satellite for students and adults that may want to receive college credits.

Mr. Jordan asked if they will be using our teachers.

Ms. Follette stated right now they will be using BCC teachers, but if some of our teachers wanted to apply they could do that.

Mr. Jordan stated this may draw students from other areas.

Ms. Follette agreed.

- Budget Presentations – Ms. Follette pointed out information provided in the FYI section of the Board of Education material and discussed the upcoming public information sessions being held on April 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. and May 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Library.
- BOE Summer Retreat Dates – Ms. Follette discussed dates with the Board of Education Members. After some discussion it was determined that July 19 would be the most convenient date with July 12 as the second most convenient.

## **L. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the motion to adjourn the public meeting at 8:47 p.m.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

## **M. FYI**

Copy of Announcement placed in the Whitney Point Reporter

Upcoming Budget Presentation Dates Information Sheet

April 22 – April 25 – Kindergarten Registration

April 23 – Kindergarten Parent Information Night, 7:00 p.m.

April 24 – Destination D.C. Parent Meeting, TRA Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.

April 26 – CEA Celebration of Young Children 10:00 a.m. – Noon

April 30 – May 2 – NYS Math Testing, Grades 3-8

May 1 – TRA Chorus and Band Spring Concert, Grades 4-5, 7:00 p.m.

May 6 – Budget Hearing/Board of Education Meeting, HS Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.

May 7 – TRA Family Literacy Night, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

May 8 – TRA Spring Band Concert, Grades 6-8, 7:00 p.m.

May 9 – AM UPK Attends/No PM UPK

May 13 – TRA Spring Chorus Concert, Grades 6-8 p.m.

May 15 – Broome County Promise Zone Parent Leadership Graduation, 5:30 CEA Cafeteria

May 20 – Budget, Capital Reserve Fund and BOE Member Vote, HS Cafeteria 1-8 p.m.

May 20-May 22 – Destination D.C. Trip

May 20 – May 21 – High School Cabaret

May 21 – CEA Spring Festival

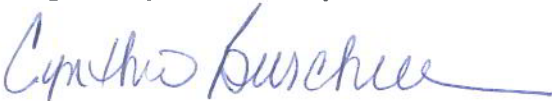
May 23 – May 26 - No School, Memorial Weekend

May 27-May 30 – Kinderville

May 27-May 30 – NYS Science Performances Testing, Grades 4 & 8

May 29 – High School Academic Awards

Respectfully submitted by:



Cynthia Burchell  
District Clerk