



## WHITNEY POINT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

### Board of Education Meeting

Whitney Point High School Building  
Library

P.O. Box 249, 10 Keibel Road  
Whitney Point, NY 13862

### MINUTES

Tuesday, March 18, 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 7:06 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited

		<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Sara Benscoter	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: Katelyn Allabaugh, Ryan Cadwell, Laura Chestnut, Nicholes Clark, Emily Curtis, Benton Docalavich, Karen Docalavich, Mithcell Edson, Dylan Eldridge, John Faron, Cody Fizette, Collin Freeman, Mitchell Gerard, Eric Hamm, Murphee Hayes, Jeffrey Isaacs, Dillian Jones, Aaron Kaminsky, Luann Kida, Jo-Anne Knapp, Emma Maslin, Richie Miller, Kevin Miller, William Moelder, Orrin Pendell, Katie Short, Matt Stalter, Dan Sweeney, Taylor Theleman, Bruce Tytler, Amanda Yanowiak

**A. PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

**B. MINUTES**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the Minutes from the Board Meeting held on March 4, 2014.

Moved by Brian Jeker

Seconded by Gene Jordan

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**

None

**G. COMMENDATIONS**

Ms. Follette commends:

- Mr. and Mrs. Ken Jones, Brian Jeker, Stephanie Champney, parents, students and community for the production of “Little Women” held on Friday and Saturday, March 7 and March 8, 2014.

- Mr. Jones, Ms. Desmond and Mrs. Knapp for the Fourth Annual District Choral Festival held on March 5, 2014 featuring 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade students.
- Mrs. Williamson and the Tioughnioga Riverside Academy grades 7-8 concert band for the combined concert held with Maine-Endwell School District on March 10, 2014.
- The Whitney Point Central School District PTA for their successful Mother/Son Bingo held Friday, March 7, 2014 at the Caryl E. Adams Primary School.
- Ms. Sexton and the Whitney Point Central School District Administrators for the successful Superintendent's Conference Day on Friday, March 14, 2014.

## **ADDENDA**

Ms. Follette commends:

- Nadine Ferguson, Taryn Hubbard, Troy Rounds, Lori Stone, Gail Lawrence, Tracy Pfeiffer, Stacie Winterstein, Kathy Sofka, Jessica Head, Karen Crandall, Maureen Bocinski, Jo-Anne Knapp, Chris Ruggerio, Laura Rice, Melanie Smith, Becky Foran, Amy VanTuyl, Melanie Winter, Charlene McDonald, Pam Carr, Linda Arseneau, Ellen Russell, Colette Kalfeltz and Whitney Point High School volunteer students who gave support by offering their time or donations to help organize and host the Caryl E. Adams' annual Family Fun Carnival held on Saturday, March 15, 2014. Funds raised from the Family Fun Carnival will be used for CEA programs. A special thanks to Annette Bidwell from the PTA for donating her time and prizes.

## **H. OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. Budget Update**

Ms. Follette presented a 2014-2015 Budget Update. She reviewed the budget by components. She stated the Capital portion of the BOCES budget has been moved into the District's administrative component. Ms. Follette explained how the administrative component includes many costs besides salaries.

Gene Jordan stated a more transparent breakdown of this company would be helpful.

Ms. Follette stated she would be willing to provide more details of the administrative component going forward.

Mr. Jordan stated the Instructional Media is a large part of the budget and that he felt the public would be interested in seeing an additional breakdown.

Ms. Follette stated that the Instructional Media line is very important to keep our kids technologically competitive as they move on with their education.

Mrs. Benscoter stated she felt there was a value in Mr. Jordan's suggestions.

Ms. Follette stated the District is willing to provide whatever is needed to help the community understand the budget.

Ms. Follette explained the budget is not final as the District does not know what the governor's budget will be. The current proposed budget shows a budget increase of 1.83 percent.

Mr. Tasber asked if the State comes through with additional money would the District be filling the current gap or go to restoring current expenditure reductions.

Ms. Follette stated there is a list of priorities and the District would use. She stated the district would look to put programs back into the budget that were cut to close the current budget gap.

Mrs. Benscoter inquired about the 2.92% tax increase.

Mr. Tasber stated neighboring districts are going out for much higher tax levy increases.

Ms. Follette stated some are going out around 6 percent and some actually have a negative percent due to the state tax cap formula.

Mrs. Benscoter stated she hesitates to go below the 2% tax increase because in the past it was not sustainable, and if we go back to where we are to continually cutting things we will survive, but not thrive as a District.

Mr. Jordan stated the 2.92% levy increase is in line with what people are seeing with their consumer price increases.

Mrs. Champney stated we have to get past the misconception of the 2% tax limit.

Mr. Jeker stated the public needs to be educated. He stated it would be good to educate them on the 2.92 percent increase by proving what needs to be spent and show the cuts made by the District to get to that point.

## **I. NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Broome County Promise Zone Update**

Ms. Kida, Community Schools Director of the Promise Zone, presented a Broome County Promise Zone Update. She stated in December of 2013 SHARE became the Broome County Promise Zone. She explained SHARE was funded by a grant from 2010 through 2013. The Broome County Promise Zone is no longer funded through a grant, but a State budget line so the program is more sustainable. She stated the Promise Zone will continue to work with a core group of families and is currently working with 25 families within the District. Ms. Kida provided details around the integration of Binghamton University Students and all they have to offer the program. She explained how the Promise Zone partners with the Cornell Cooperative Extension, Opportunities for Broome, Whitney Point Preschool & Daycare and the Rural Health Network.

Mrs. Benscoter and Mr. Tasber stated the program is good news for the District and told Ms. Kida her work is greatly appreciated.

## 2. OLWEUS Update

Mr. Sweeney provided an update on the Olweus anti-bullying program. He noted that the Olweus training is completed with all faculty and staff and that new employees will be trained each year. He reviewed the key components of bullying behavior with the board and added that there is a bullying prevention coordinating committee in each building and there is a kickoff event scheduled each year. A questionnaire is administered annually to make sure that the program is responsive to student concerns and that class meetings are held regularly with students in all buildings.

## 2. Appointments

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the appointment of **Jesse Ellerson**, Bus Driver, effective March 18, 2014.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Gene Jordan

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

### ***ADDENDA***

Ms. Follette recommends Board approval of the appointment of **Erin Heath**, full-time Teacher's Aide, effective March 18, 2014.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Brian Jeker

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Ms. Follette recommends Board approval of the appointment of **Jennifer Johnson**, part-time Teacher's Aide, effective March 18, 2014.

Moved by Andrew Palmer

Seconded by Brian Jeker

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

## 3. Committee on Special Education

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education.

Moved by Thomas Tasber

Seconded by Gene Jordan

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

## 4. Notice of Public Meeting and Nomination Form for the BOCES Board of Trustees

Ms. Follette recommended the Board nominate two members to the Broome-Delaware-Tioga Board of Educational Services. The Broome-Delaware-Tioga Board of Education currently has

two, three-year positions vacant. The Board may nominate individuals at large, and/or Peter Nowacki, and Donald Vredenburg who are seeking re-election.

The Board of Education acknowledged receipt of supporting documentation.

*Nominee #1 Donald Vredenburg*

Nominated by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Thomas Tasber

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Stephanie Champney stated both potential nominees are long-standing BOCES Board Members.

*Nominee #2 Peter Nowacki*

Nominated by Andrew Palmer

Seconded by Gene Jordan

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

**5. IPA Technology Equipment Resolution**

Ms. Follette recommended approval of the Installment Purchase Agreement (IPA) for Technology Equipment from the Instructional Technology Services (ITS) and the Network Support Services (NSS) from the Broome-Tioga BOCES in the amount of \$106,240.75.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Brian Jeker

Mr. Woodard explained that the District has specific IT needs and that the District pays for these expenses over a five year period.

Ms. Follette explained the difference between ITS and NSS.

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

**6. Extra-Classroom Treasurer's Report**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the February 2014 Extra-Classroom Treasurer's Report.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Thomas Tasber

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

**7. Treasurer's Report**

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

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Brian Jeker

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

**Motion to Recess Public Meeting**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval to recess the public meeting at 8:35 p.m. to ascertain the voting results.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Brian Jeker

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

**Meeting called to order**

Mrs. Benscoter called the meeting to order at 8:55 p.m.

**8. Certification of Bus Vote**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the Certification of the Bus Vote as follows:

Number of votes recorded as voting "YES"	242
Number of votes recorded as voting "NO"	107
Number of votes void	2
Total number of votes cast	351

Moved by Brian Jeker

Seconded by Gene Jordan

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

**9. Certification of Public Library Vote**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the Certification of the Public Library Vote as follows:

Number of votes recorded as voting "YES"	146
Number of votes recorded as voting "NO"	204
Number of votes void	1
Total number of votes cast	351

Moved by Thomas Tasber

Seconded by Andrew Palmer

5 Aye 0 Nay 1 Abstained (*Stephanie Champney*)

APPROVED

**J. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Stephanie Champney stated the Whitney Point Library will be holding another recycling event on May 17<sup>th</sup> for electronics.

**K. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

None

**L. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the motion to adjourn the public meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Gene Jordan

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

**M. FYI**

Broome-Tioga BOCES Annual Business Meeting Invitation

March 27 – CEA Math Night, 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

March 28 – PTA Kids' Night Out, TRA, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

April 1 – April 3 – ELA Testing, Grades 3-8

April 4 – PTA Father/Daughter Dance, TRA 6-8:00 p.m.

April 9 – HS Band & Chorus Spring Concert, 7:00 p.m.

April 10 – Kindergarten Parent Information Night, 7:00 p.m.

April 14 – April 21 – No School, Spring Recess

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, 2014 – CEA Celebration of Young Children 10:00 a.m. – Noon

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

Respectfully submitted by,



Cynthia Burchell