



WHITNEY POINT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting

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

MINUTES

Tuesday, June 3, 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 7:01 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	<i>(Arrived at 7:06 p.m.)</i>	
Brian Jeker	Member	X	
Gene-Paul Jordan	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: Luann Kida

A. PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

B. MINUTES

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the Minutes from the Board Meeting held on May 20, 2014.

Moved by Brian Jeker

Seconded by Thomas Tasber

5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

C. CORRESPONDENCE

None

D. POLICIES 1ST READING

None

E. POLICIES 2ND READING

None

F. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

G. COMMENDATIONS

Ms. Follette commended:

- Members of the District Strategic Planning Team for their time, effort, and insights on May 16, 2014 as they assisted the district in planning for the future. Their commitment to continue to improve our district is greatly appreciated.

Kim Becker
Molly Babcock
Karen Rood
Stephanie Abrahamson
Amy VanTuyl
Angela Wayne
John Faron
Kristie Miner

Aaron Kaminsky
Bruce Tytler
Jo-Ann Sexton
Jo-Anne Knapp
Laura Chestnut
Murphee Hayes

Ms. Follette stated that she was also in attendance along with Sean Brady.

- Luann Kida of the Broome County Promise Zone in securing a grant for parent mentoring during the 2014-2015 school year through the Binghamton University Interdisciplinary Collaboration Grants (ICG) Program.
- Whitney Point Central School District Elementary Teacher Laurie Ward for her work that was published in the Social Studies and the Younger Learner “Improving Critical Thinking with Interactive Mobile Tools and Apps.”

Thomas Tasber thanked Ms. Follette for the copy of the article and stated it was nice to be able to read the article.

- Whitney Point Central School District Literacy Coordinator Kristy Miner co-authoring an article, along with Ms. Follette, Timothy Rasinski and Kasim Yildirim, entitled “Exploring the Use of Mentor Texts to Extend the Readers Theater Experience” which has been accepted for publication in the Journal of Teacher Action Research.
- Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Hodkinson, Faculty and staff for their successful Destination D.C. field trip held for eighth grade students on May 20-22, 2014.

Thomas Tasber commended the chaperones for the professional interaction with the students.

Ms. Follette stated Ms. Hodkinson and Ms. Becker wanted to be sure to note the great amount of effort put in by Mrs. Purce.

Sara Bencoter stated a sign is put up in D.C. welcoming the Whitney Point students due to their great reputation throughout the years.

- The High School staff and students involved in Cabaret held on May 20 & 21, 2014 in the High School Auditorium. The evening provided a showcase for many talented students.
- Mrs. Furgeson, Mrs. Heinle, Mrs. Hubbard Mr. Hull and Mrs. Pagano of the Caryl E. Adams School for its annual Spring Festival which was held on May 21, 2014. Mrs. Knapp accompanied on piano. Please see attached program.
- The Caryl E. Adams School for its annual Kinderville which was held on May 27 – May 30, 2014.
- The following Whitney Point High School Students for their participation in the Greater Binghamton Scholastic Challenge held at Binghamton University on May 28, 2014:

Josh Cashman
Amanda Coon
Travis Darrow
Makaya Eaton
Dylan Eldridge
Cody Fizette
Hayley Hodges
Nick Hust
NancyLea Illsley
Sean Kelly
Brandon Kelly

Kailee Lethbridge
Samantha Lupold
Jacob Pahl
Courtney Richards
Adrienne Smith
Kelsey Stetson
Donovan Sturdevant
Taylor Theleman
Savannah Vail
Dakota Williams

The students highlighted in bold were part of the “Whitney Point Teams” which won in the HEALTHCARE, Human Services Division or the Entertainment Services Division.

Ms. Follette stated the students are part of an entrepreneurial class with Ms. Thomas. She stated one of the businesses presented by the Whitney Point Students was a daycare for the elderly and was inspired because the students had a grandmother who needed care.

- The Whitney Point High School Marching Band for supporting our community and troops in the recent Whitney Point Memorial Day Parade.
- Mrs. Ford, Mrs. Cranston-Chrisler, Whitney Point High School faculty and staff for the successful High School Awards Ceremony, and the National Honor Society Co-Presidents Katelyn Allabaugh and Emma Maslin for hosting the ceremony held on Thursday, May 29, 2014 in the High School Auditorium.

ADDENDA

Mrs. Follette commends:

- *Mrs. Williamson and Mrs. Desmond of the Tioughnioga Riverside Academy Band and Chorus, and Mrs. Gilbert and Mr. Jones of the High School Band and Chorus for their following achievements at the Darien Lake competition held on Saturday, May 31, 2014:*

*TRA combined 7–8 Chorus and Select Chorus under the direction of Mrs. Desmond
Superior rating*

*TRA Jazz Band under the direction of Mrs. Williamson
4th place in Class A
Outstanding with Distinction rating- highest rating possible*

*7 – 8 Concert Band under the direction of Mrs. Williamson
1st place in Class A
Outstanding with Distinction rating- highest rating possible*

*High School Chorus under the direction of Mr. Jones
7th place in the mixed chorus division
Outstanding with Distinction rating – highest rating possible*

*High School Select Chorus under the direction of Mr. Jones
8th place in the high school chamber choir division
Superior Rating*

*High School Jazz Band under the direction of Mrs. Gilbert
3rd place in Class A
Outstanding with Distinction rating – highest rating possible*

*High School Concert Band under the direction of Mrs. Gilbert
1st place in Class AA
Outstanding with Distinction rating – highest rating possible*

Mrs. Bencoter stated some of the placings in the competition were within decimal place of each other.

H. OLD BUSINESS

None

I. NEW BUSINESS

1. Appointment Amendment

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval to amend the three-year probationary appointment of **Talitha Johnston**, Reading Teacher, from 9/1/12-9/1/15 to a two-year probationary appointment effective 9/1/12 – 9/1/14.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

Ms. Follette stated this amendment is due to Mrs. Johnston receiving tenure twice already once in Union Endicott and once during her previous employment in the Whitney Point Central School District.

5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

2. Tenure Recommendation

Ms. Follette explained the difference between the two-year and three year probationary periods for the tenure recommendations.

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the tenure recommendation for **Laura Beth Farwell**, Elementary Teacher, effective July 1, 2014.

Moved by Thomas Tasber

Seconded by Brian Jeker

5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the tenure recommendation for **Melanie Winter**, Elementary Teacher, effective July 1, 2014.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

Ms. Follette stated both Ms. Farwell and Ms. Winter were previously tenured in other positions within the District.

5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Sara Bencoter stated the write-ups for the tenure recommendations for all of the teachers were wonderful.

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the tenure recommendation for **Talitha Johnston**, Reading Teacher, effective September 1, 2014.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the tenure recommendation for **Valerie Priscott**, Elementary Teacher, effective September 1, 2014.

Moved by Brian Jeker

Seconded by Thomas Tasber

5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

A discussion ensued regarding tenure practices.

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 Brian Jeker

Thomas Tasber asked about the difference between “declassified” and “no longer qualifies.”

Ms Sexton explained that without knowing the discussion that took place at the meeting, she was not sure.

Thomas Tasber asked if they could age out of classification.

Ms. Sexton stated the CPSE is preschool-aged. She explained the students are not categorized and are given as much help as possible. She stated school-aged students need to be categorized.

5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

J. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

K. SUPERINTENDENT’S UPDATE

- STEAM Summer Program – Ms. Follette stated the District is moving forward with the STEAM Summer Program. Ms. Sexton stated STEAM is a very hands-on and exciting program.

Sara Benscoter stated they are learning life skills.

Thomas Tasber asked if the program was for a targeted group of students.

Luann Kida explained the list came from the District and the criteria for the students on the list is outlined from the funding source.

Ms. Sexton commended Luann Kida for all her hard work putting the program together.

A discussion ensued regarding potential community work for the program.

Ms. Sexton stated there are two other summer programs in the Whitney Point School District this year. She explained the end of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th grade years show the biggest loss in ELA. She stated through BOCES Enrichment Program the District will be able to assist about 20 students per grade in this capacity.

Ms. Sexton stated the second summer program is collaboration between Chenango Forks, Chenango Valley and BOCES. She explained it is another STEAM program to create interest in technology, art and math. She stated the students will participate in creative projects and will be working together.

- Guidance Flood – Ms. Follette stated SERVEPRO did a very nice job. She stated there is a temporary office setup in the trailer with an aide to walk the students back and forth. Ms. Follette stated she requested a mold report and that the Riordan Group helped put the bids together. She explained she expects the contractors to take approximately three weeks to complete the work. She stated it could potentially be completed mid-summer.

Ms. Follette commended Mr. Woodard for leading the District with this project.

A discussion ensued regarding files lost in the water damage. The loss was minimal.

L. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the motion to recess the public meeting at 7:39 p.m. and adjourn to Executive Session to hear discussion on contractual issues.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

M. FYI

June 3 – June 4 – NYS Regents Exams

June 7 – HS Prom

June 10 - Ice Cream Social

June 10 – June 11 – District Art Show

June 13 – TRA 8th Grade Award Ceremony, TRA Auditorium, 6:30 p.m.

June 17 – June 26 – Regents and Final Exams

June 26 – Baccalaureate, St. Patrick's Church, 7:00 p.m.

June 27 – HS Graduation

Respectfully submitted by:



Cynthia Burchell
District Clerk



BOARD OF EDUCATION
WHITNEY POINT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
PO BOX 249
Whitney Point, NY 13862

Date: June 3, 2014

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Meeting called to order at 7:42 p.m.

		<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

Executive Session

For matters concerning legal and capital project issues.

Meeting Adjournment

Sara Benscoter motioned to adjourn the Executive Session at 8:40 p.m.

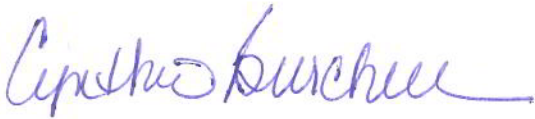
Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Respectfully submitted by:



Cynthia Burchell
District Clerk