



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

Date: September 18, 2012

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 Benscoter	President	X	
Stephanie Champney	Vice-President	X	
Kathleen Driscoll	Member	X	
Mary Ellerson	Member	X	
Gene-Paul Jordan	Member	X	
Thomas Tasber	Member	X	
Patricia Follette	Superintendent of Schools	X	
Jo-Ann Sexton	Director of Curriculum and Instruction	X	
Zachary Woodard	School Business Executive	X	
Cynthia Burchell	District Clerk	X	

Others in attendance: Linda Arseneau, Rachel Beck, Dave Brown, Kelli Brown, Ceclia Carstens, Chris Ellerson, Kayla Gehm, Kathy Gehm, Laura Glezen, Jeff Glezen, Jeffrey Isaacs, Katie Lothridge, Jerry Mackey, Maria McLaughlin, Wade Sanford, Ashley Salvemini, Austin Standish-Warpus, Dan Sweeney, Lili Swenson, Maynard Swenson, Yigal Swenson, Bruce Tytler, Brandon White, Murphee Hayes

Minutes

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the Minutes from the Board Meeting held on September 4, 2012.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Warrant

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the August 2012 Warrant.

Tomas Tasber commended Zachary Woodard for finding a needed change within the warrant.

Moved by Mary Ellerson

Seconded by Gene Jordan

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Correspondence

None

Policies – 1st Reading

None

Policies – 2nd Reading

None

Comments from the Public

Cecelia Carstens questioned the change within the High School Dress Code. She objected stating parents were not informed of the change prior to the start of school shopping and school starting, and the dress code policies. She also questioned why the punishment for violations of the dress code went straight to suspension, while other offenses went through a series of disciplinary steps before reaching that punitive level. She stated she felt the high school was lacking communication.

Sara Bensctoer stated she would have to look into the policies and procedures. She stated Ms. Carstens' concerns were worth looking into, and the high school letter to parents should outline any changes.

Ms. Follette stated she assumed Ms. Carstens has talked to the principal since she was at the Board meeting. She stated the fingertip rule was used in the past, but found that there were inconsistencies, so the mid-thigh length put the length of shorts into plain language. Ms. Follette stated the students were aware of the short length at the end of the school year last year and this information was presented to each class at the beginning of the year. Students are expected to be more responsible for their own actions at the high school level. She stated that Mr. Tytler would be happy to address any issues with her.

Maynard Swenson stated boundaries should be set in the middle school before the students reach the high school level.

Stephanie Champney stated the middle school has the same fingertip-length policy.

A discussion ensued.

Commendations

Ms. Follette commends:

- The Whitney Point High School for their Open House for grades 9-12 held on Tuesday, September 13, 2012.
- The Leadership Team for providing support and information while implementing successful teacher conference days on September 4th and 5th.
- The Whitney Point Central School District faculty for their dedication and hard work in implementing the requirements of the new APPR.
- Ms. Kim Becker for her commitment to the Whitney Point Central School District and her collaboration in preparing for the opening days.
- Mr. Jeffrey Detrick, Ms. Stephanie Hodkinson and Ms. Nadine Ferguson for supporting faculty with the use of the new technology product Test Wiz.

Old Business

None

New Business

a. Recognition for Service to the Board of Education and the Whitney Point Central School District Community

The Board of Education recognized Anthony Burchell for his service to the Board of Education and the Whitney Point Central School District Community from July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2012. Mr. Burchell accepted the recognition and thanked the Board of Education.

b. Athletic Action Committee Status

Ms. Hayes provided an update and recommendations on the Athletic Action Committee as it pertained to their status on the following Committee Charge:

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.

Thomas Tasber asked who was going to be invited to be part of the committee. Ms. Hayes stated prior committee members who served, board members, administrators, coaching staff and youth club members. If they cannot participate others who are interested can participate.

Ms. Hayes presented information on the 2012-2015 Athletics Plan. She discussed the priority strategies as well as the mid and long-term strategies. She provided detailed information on the immediate priorities. Ms. Hayes then reviewed the fall sports numbers. She discussed in detail the fall sports participation numbers in comparison for the years of 2010, 2011 and 2012.

Thomas Tasber asked for a trainer update on Cayuga Medical.

Ms. Hayes stated they would continue to work with the District at a rate of \$32.00 per hour.

Stephanie Champney asked if we decided at some point during the year that we needed them, will they be available?

Ms. Hayes stated yes.

Gene Jordan noted the district was going from 1/2 to 1/3 students involved in sports as the years progress. He asked if this was similar to other schools.

Ms. Hayes stated with what she has read, yes it is. She does not have any data on hand, but could inquire from other school this information.

Gene Jordan stated he would like to know what schools with better numbers are doing and suggested finding a model school.

Ms. Hayes stated we are better than most and would be considered the model school. Ms. Hayes stated that our participation numbers are more favorable than some other school because we are able to field most sports at the modified, JV and varsity levels. Our level of success has improved incredibly by participating in the IAC League.

Financial Planning Committee Status

Ms. Follette provided an update on the Financial Planning Committee as it pertained to their status on the following Committee Charge:

Committee Charge

The Whitney Point Central School District Board of Education established the Financial Planning Committee in June 2009, to engage community members in the fiscal planning process. The committee was charged by the Board of Education with providing recommendations on the development and implementation of the short and long term financial plan with strategies to enhance the district's fiscal stability while supporting quality educational programming in a safe and healthy environment.

She provided a summary of the background of the Financial Planning Committee and stated the committee met 13 times during its first year. During that year the committee studied information on rural schools and accessed resources from Senator Libous' office. The tax assessor came in and provided information. The committee held many community meetings. Their largest charge was to look at the fluctuation in tax levy increases over the years. With the 2% tax cap the challenge will be continued growth and keeping within the boundaries the tax payers can afford.

Ms. Follette then shared some short term strategies that were accomplished. She discussed how Whitney Point was the first district in this area to pilot an online summer school so the students didn't have to travel, and found it very successful. The district is also continuing to explore relationships with area colleges and universities, as well as create programs to meet more of our

student's needs. Our GED students now prepare here and go to BOCES to take the exam. We currently have a 100 percent GED passing rate. Ms. Sexton has worked hard to accommodate as many students as we can within our district. We have proven effectiveness within the district through operational efficiencies created by the renovation project, bus fleet savings and increased safety rating through moving mechanics to an outside company, and shared services with BOCES and the Marathon School District.

Ms. Follette discussed the short-term goals, and the long-term strategies. She stated comparing our district with others, we are still heavy in the student program end. She stated committees are established for a reason or charge. She mentioned to the BOE that she would like to state the needs for a Financial Planning Committee were met at this time and she could bring the committee together for a specific reason in the future if needed.

Ms. Follette recommended that due to the Financial Planning Committee having met the original charge that the Board approve to dissolve the Financial Planning Committee effective September 18, 2012.

Moved by Thomas Tasber

Seconded by Mary Ellerson

Thomas Tasber stated the committee was a very good learning experience, was very beneficial to the members and provided information that will stay with them.

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

c. Donation

Ms. Follette recommended the Board accept the generous donation of nine hundred fifty-five dollars (\$955.00) from the Whitney Point Central School District Class of 1972. Please see attached.

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Stephanie Champney

Stephanie Champney stated the class of 1972 was impressed with how nice the school looked.

Ms. Follette stated she had a couple ideas for the use of the donation and is open to suggestions from the Board of Education.

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

e. Transportation Request

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval for the following transportation request for the 2012-2013 school year:

Marathon Christian Academy:
Joshua Eggleston

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Thomas Tasber

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

f. Resolution to Procure Local Produce

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the Resolution to Procure Local Produce allowing the School Food Service Program to purchase unprocessed locally grown or raised agriculture products with a geographic preference in New York State and within a 100 mile radius of Binghamton, NY.

Geographic preference is incorporated by deducting 10% from the prices of responsive bidders that meet the geographic preference and would not affect the actual price paid to bidder. Additionally the bid is a line by line bid where awards can be made to several vendors.

Moved by Thomas Tasber

Seconded by Mary Ellerson

Stephanie Champney stated this resolution allows the district to take the next step in procuring local produce.

Thomas Tasber stated other districts do this already.

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

g. Appointment

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of **Kelly Hodges**, food service helper, effective September 11, 2012.

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Gene Jordan

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of **Lora Cole**, cleaner, effective date of fingerprint approval.

Moved by Mary Ellerson

Seconded by Stephanie Champney

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

h. Contract Approval

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the contract between the Director of School Facilities and Operations and the Whitney Point Central School District, effective July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2014.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

Thomas Tasber asked if this was an addition to the Addenda item.

Ms. Follette stated the contract needs to be approved before the Memorandum of Understanding.

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

i. Termination

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the employment termination of **Karen Wasser**, bus driver, effective September 12, 2012.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Mary Ellerson

5 Aye 0 Nay 1 Abstained (Gene Jordan)

APPROVED

j. Committee on Special Education

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

Moved by Mary Ellerson

Seconded by Thomas Tasber

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

k. Treasurer's Report

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the August 2012 Treasurer's Report.

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Gene Jordan

Mary Ellerson asked when the next extra-curricular funds report will be released.

Zachary Woodard stated typically twice a year, at the end of June and in January.

Sara Bensctoer stated it would be good to see the report for the end of the year after the audit report has been issued.

Mary Ellerson asked if they could see the report as of June 30th.

Zachary Woodard stated the audit report at the next meeting will have a summary of extra-class accounts as of June 30th.

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

l. Change Orders

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the following Phase II-B change orders:

HC-013 Floor tile and pipe elbow asbestos abatement in the CEA Library. Total cost \$4,934 and will be subtracted from the Contract Allowance.

Hence, the Contract sum of \$381,403.63 will remain unchanged.

HC-014 Unused Contract Allowance Credit of \$456 and will lower the Contract sum from \$381,403.63 to \$380,947.63.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Addenda

New Business

a. Memorandum of Understanding

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the Director of School Facilities and Operations Memorandum of Understanding for 2012-2014.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Thomas Taber

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Comments from the Public

Mary Ellerson asked if Ms. Hayes could move the soccer game so the team was not away on homecoming.

Ms. Hayes stated she would look into it.

Adjournment to Executive Session

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval to recess the public meeting at 8:07 p.m. and adjourn to Executive Session to hear discussion on collective bargaining, student and legal issues.

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Stephanie Champney

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

FYI

REAP the Benefits of Good Concussion Management-Graduated Return to Play

Letter from Linda Khalil, Director, New York Statewide School Health Services Center

September Preliminary Enrollment Report

September 21, 2012 – Homecoming Dance

September 13, 2012 – HS Open House, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

September 27, 2012- - TRA Open House, Grades 4, 5, 7 & 8 (Grade 6 not included due to orientation)

October 3, 2012 – Destination D.C. Parent Night, TRA, 7:00 p.m.

October 4, 2012 – Early Dismissal, 1:30 p.m.

October 4, 2012 – CEA Open House

October 5, 2012 – No School – Conference Day

October 8, 2012 – No School – Columbus Day

October 11, 18 & 25, 2012 – Beddy-Bye Story Time

October 11, 2012 – TRA Picture Day - Grades 4-5

October 12, 2012 – TRA Picture Day- Grades 6-8

October 17, 2012 – CEA Picture Day

October 27, 2012 – Fall Festival



Cynthia Burchell

District Clerk



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Pledge of Allegiance was recited

		<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
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Stephanie Champney	Vice-President	X	
Kathleen Driscoll	Member	X	
Mary Ellerson	Member	X	
Gene-Paul Jordan	Member	X	
Thomas Tasber	Member	X	
Patricia Follette	Superintendent of Schools	X	
Jo-Ann Sexton	Director of Curriculum and Instruction	X	
Zachary Woodard	School Business Executive		X

Executive Session

For matters of personnel and contractual issues.

Meeting Adjournment

Sara Benscoter motioned to adjourn the Executive Session at 9:52 p.m.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Mary Ellerson

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED



Cynthia R. Burchell
District Clerk