



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

Date: October 2, 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 7:09 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	
Mary Ellerson	Member	X	
Gene-Paul Jordan	Member	X (arrived at 7:30 p.m.)	
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: Kim Becker, Anthony Burchell, Elaina Burchell, Brandon Dean, Chad Gerst, Bobbi Jo Hand, Danielle Hand, Jim Hand, Sierra Hand, Murphee Hayes, JoAnne Hill, Nicole Huston, Eric

Knox, Renee Korb, Cindy Lawrence, Pamala Menard, Eric Monsen, Richard Ortiz, Forest Ostrander, Erica Roofner, Marissa Scouten, Kaiah Thomas, Jason Trumbower

### **Minutes**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the amended Minutes from the Board Meeting held on September 18, 2012.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

Mary Ellerson asked to have *football game* changed to *soccer game* on page eight.

5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

### **Warrant**

None

### **Correspondence**

None

### **Policies – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

None

### **Policies – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the attached, updated policy **7522 Concussion Management**.

Moved by Mary Ellerson

Seconded by Thomas Tasber

Thomas Tasber asked about the process for completing Forms A and then Form B.

Ms. Hayes stated they are still working on the procedure. She is coordinating with Mrs. Price as needed.

Mr. Tasber asked to change *symptomatic* to *asymptomatic* on page four.

Ms. Follette agreed and stated that the change was previously agreed upon and thought it had already been changed within the policy.

A discussion ensued.

5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

### **Comments from the Public**

None

### **Commendations**

Ms. Follette commends:

- Tioughnioga Riverside Academy for their Open House for grades 4, 5, 7 & 8 held on Thursday, September 27, 2012.
- Mrs. Gilbert, Mr. Ken Jones, Music Boosters and all those who helped make this years' Homecoming dance on Friday night, September 21, 2012, and game held on Saturday, September 22, 2012 a success.

Mary Ellerson thanked Ms. Hayes for opening up the locker room when needed.

## **Old Business**

### **a. Phase II Update**

Ms. Follette presented an update on the Phase II Renovation work. She stated orange fencing is in place at the TRA for student safety. Temporary crosswalks and signs have been installed for student access to the fairgrounds. A silt fence is in place for storm water management and the tennis courts have been removed in preparation for the new courts. Some unforeseen soil removal has been discovered. Ground preparation is underway for the new playground including the replacement of a water line. A vault was discovered by the flag pole and the decision was made to seal the vault with a more secure lid.

## **New Business**

### **a. External Audit Report**

D. Leslie Spurgin, CPA of Ciaschi, Dietershagen, Little, Mickelson and Company, LLP., Certified Public Accountants and Consultants, presented the 2011-2012 audited financial statements of the Whitney Point Central School District.

On behalf of the firm, Ms. Spurgin presented the Whitney Point Central School District with an Unqualified Opinion on their basic financial statements and extraclassroom activity funds for the year ending June 30, 2012. Ms. Spurgin stated this opinion is a good rating and represents sound records in accordance with Governmental Auditing Standards. The District was subject to a compliance audit due to the fact it had over \$500,000.00 in Federal award program expenditures. The report identified no material instances of noncompliance and no material internal control weaknesses.

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the 2011-2012 Financial Report as presented by Ciaschi, Dietershagen, Little, Mickelson and Company, LLP., Certified Public Accountants and Consultants.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

Sara Bencoter asked for an update on capital asset evaluation.

Zachary Woodard stated the district is doing very well with their financial statements, and will get a physical capital asset report to her soon.

5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

### **b. Selective Classification**

Ms. Follette invited Sierra Hand, a 7<sup>th</sup> grade student, to present her request to the Board of Education for selective classification as a field hockey player to be included on the Varsity Field Hockey Team.

Moved by Mary Ellerson

Seconded by Thomas Tasber

Nicole Huston provided information regarding Sierra Hand's field hockey experience and character. She stated Sierra is a role model for her peers and will be a leader in years to come.

Sierra Hand discussed what she liked about field hockey and her current accomplishments.

Bobbie Jo Hand stated as her parent she is very careful not to make Sierra do too much at once and wants to be sure she has fun. She stated Sierra has always played above her age level.

Sara Bencoter asked Sierra if she played on any other teams outside of the school district.

Sierra provided the names of the teams.

Thomas Tasber asked how many players Ms. Huston plans to move up.

Nicole Huston stated she hopes to move up two players to play post-season only with the varsity team after their commitment to the JV team is fulfilled.

Thomas Tasber asked if they will now have to play varsity next year.

Nicole Huston stated no, varsity spots are not a given. They have to be earned each year.

Murphee Hayes stated playing positions are based on ability not grade.

Thomas Tasber asked for clarification regarding modified playing levels and years to play.

Murphee Hayes stated you do not have to participate in a modified season and you have six consecutive years to compete.

Thomas Tasber expressed concern regarding the girls playing varsity next year and taking spots from the older high school players. He discussed his concerns with upperclassman and peer pressure. He stated his daughter had a bad experience on a sports bus with an upperclassman. He stated he believed that the exposure of the younger players to the high school students on the bus was not something he would encourage. He stated his opinion about the negative behavior of seniors.

Mary Ellerson asked Sierra if she would rather take a chance at sitting the bench than play?

Sierra stated yes and she would rather practice and play with the varsity to improve her skill levels.

Nicole Huston explained Sierra and Elaina have started all eight JV games. They have been playing well and are ready for the next skill level. Each girl plays in approximately 30 indoor/outdoor tournaments during the off-season.

Kathleen Driscoll stated she was very impressed with the academic record of both students.

Gene Jordan stated it is typical in these situations to be concerned about over-zealous coaches or parents. He stated he is confident that is not the case with either one of these students and families.

Sara Bencoter commended Sierra for her presentation and accomplishments.

A discussion ensued.

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Ms. Follette invited Elaina Burchell, a 7<sup>th</sup> grade student, to present her request to the Board of Education for selective classification as a field hockey player to be included on the Varsity Field Hockey Team.

Moved by Gene Jordan

Seconded by Thomas Tasber

Nicole Huston provided information regarding Elaina Burchell's field hockey experience and character. She stated Elaina is a leader on the field and currently plays with girls at the varsity level during her off season.

Elaina Burchell discussed what she liked about field hockey and her current accomplishments.

Anthony Burchell stated Elaina has been playing field hockey for the past seven years. She is the youngest of four daughters, and has a lot of determination and ability which has made her very competitive with the older players.

Kathleen Driscoll stated she has been familiar with the field hockey program for many years. The players have good sportsmanship as well as respect for their coaches, parents and families.

Bobbie Jo Hand stated she watches the situation carefully and both girls interact with the older girls year round.

Thomas Tasber commented on how he did not like receiving the supporting paperwork just prior to the meeting.

Murphee Hayes apologized and stated this was the first time she supplied paperwork for selective classification and it was provided for their information.

Cynthia Burchell stated Elaina Burchell has two older sisters on the Varsity team. She spends a lot of time with many players on the team throughout the year as many of the players are her sisters' friends. She also stated Elaina relates with them very well both on and off the field.

Stephanie Champney commended Elaina on her presentation. She stated the girls' grades helped both of them in this application process.

A discussion ensued.

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

### **c. Resolution to Abolish Position**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval to abolish one (1) position in the **Bus Driver** area effective October 2, 2012. This position is currently held by Sheryl Wright.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Gene-Paul Jordan

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

### **d. Resolution to Create Position**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval to create one (1) position in the **School Bus Route Coordinator** area effective October 2, 2012.

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Mary Ellerson

Stephanie Champney asked if this change was Civil Service related.

Ms. Follette stated yes. The position needs to be School Bus Route Coordinator so we had to eliminate her Bus Driver position.

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

**e. Appointment**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the provisional appointment of **Sheryl Wright**, School Bus Route Coordinator effective October 2, 2012.

Moved by Gene Jordan

Seconded by Thomas Tasber

Ms. Follette stated the position needs to be provisional until after the required Civil Service test is taken and passed.

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

**f. Coaching Appointments**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the following 2012 Winter Coaching Recommendations:

***Boys Basketball***

Varsity	Steve Morgan
Junior Varsity	Evan Ligeikis
Modified	Steve Samsel
Modified	Thomas Kraly

***Girls Basketball***

Varsity	Charles Hissin
Junior Varsity	<b>Position Open</b>
Modified	Matt Poyer
Modified	Angela Wayne

***Girls Cheerleading***

Varsity	Mary Snyder
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***Indoor Track***

Varsity	Murphee Hayes
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***Girls Volleyball***

Modified	Stacie Winterstein
Modified	Bob Heinle

***Boys Wrestling***

Varsity/JV	William MacNeill
Modified	Joe Kucher

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Thomas Tasber

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

### **g. Memorandum of Understanding**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the Coordinator of Custodial Services Memorandum of Understanding for 2012-2014.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Thomas Tasber

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

### **h. Committee on Special Education**

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

Moved by Mary Ellerson

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

### **i. Change Orders**

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

- MC-049** Provide all labor, material and equipment for the following time and materials work at the TRA:
- Work order dated 08/13/12 to provide control work to troubleshoot ventilator/ boiler controls and Automated Logic System.
  - Work order dated 08/03/12 to provide re-flashing of the Gym Air Handling Unit return air duct to resolve long standing leak.

The sum of \$5,443 is to be applied to the contractor's contingency allowance of \$177,000; allowance balance remaining is \$17,326.

The Contract Sum of \$2,535,435 will be changed by this Change Order in the amount of \$0.00.

- MC-050** Provide all labor, material and equipment to start-up a relocated and existing split A/C unit in the High School electric/ data closet across from the Auditorium. Work includes a new filter and remote controller accessories.

The sum of \$634 is to be applied to the contractor's contingency allowance of \$177,000; allowance balance remaining is \$16,692.

The Contract Sum of \$2,535,435 will be changed by this Change Order in the amount of \$0.00.

- PC-052** Provide all labor, material and equipment to remove and reinstall an existing water closet in Room #7 (next to CEA Library) to allow flooring to be replaced.

The sum of \$628 is to be applied to the contractor's contingency allowance of \$130,000; allowance balance remaining is \$14,272.

The Contract Sum of \$916,770 will be changed by this Change Order in the amount of \$0.00.



**SC-040** Provide all labor, material and equipment to remove two failing Box Elder trees leaning into the construction lay-down/ access road area. Remove and reinstall the associated construction fencing.

The Contract Sum of \$1,678,984.60 will be increased by this Change Order in the amount of \$4,953.80 to \$1,683,938.40.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

### **Comments from the Public**

Anthony Burchell stated he was very disappointed as a prior board member, as well as embarrassed and appalled as a tax payer to see a million dollars put into a sports field that does not belong to the district with no maintenance plan. He asked what was going to be done about it. The field hockey field and the softball and baseball field were brand new last year.

Ms. Follette stated a "Question and Answer" fact sheet has been placed on the website to help answer questions regarding the fields. She stated there has been an issue with the watering. She stated there is also no feasible and cost-effective way to get water to the field. She inquired about water and was told it would do more damage to start watering and not continue. Any part of the field that does not come up will be re-seeded.

Anthony Burchell asked what would be the point of re-seeding if you can't water. He stated he heard the district was told when the field was installed that they had to be watered because they are new.

Ms. Follette stated the field was intended to be able to mature over time. It does not look perfect, but it is being monitored very carefully.

Anthony Burchell stated as a tax payer this makes him want to question every time money is spent.

Murphee Hayes stated it was her understanding that we do not have enough resources and staff to maintain the fields.

Sara Benscoter stated it is a huge investment and should be taken care of.

James Hand asked if the field had a warranty that was available.

Ms. Follette stated there was no warranty.

Ms. Follette stated this issue was on her desk when she started as superintendent on July 1<sup>st</sup> and she has been working diligently on the field since then. She stated she realizes this doesn't make the field any better, but that experts have been called in to test the fields and the advice of the experts has been followed.

Sara Benscoter suggested the board of education discuss what needs to be done to have the fields groomed for the start of next season.

Mary Ellerson commended the high school students attending the meeting stating she was proud of them and the fine young men and women they have become. She disagreed with Thomas Tasber's opinion regarding High School Seniors.

A discussion ensued.



Sara Bencoter stated she spoke with Joe Silvanic regarding the open Board of Education seat and he agreed to be an interim Board of Education Member until the 2013 budget vote and election. He is not interested in running during the election next year.

**Adjournment to Executive Session**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval to recess the public meeting and at 8:28 p.m. and adjourn to Executive Session to hear discussion on legal and contractual matters.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

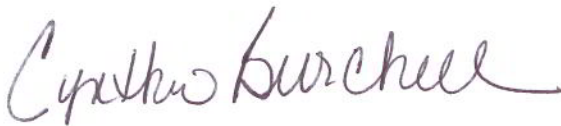
Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

**FYI**

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 5,, 2012 – Friday Night Football Game Under the Lights  
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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PO BOX 249  
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District Vision:

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Meeting called to order at 8:36 p.m.

*Pledge of Allegiance*

		<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Sara Bencoter	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	

**Executive Session**

For matters of personnel and contractual issues.

**Meeting Adjournment**

Motioned to adjourn the Executive Session at 10:30 p.m.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Kathy Driscoll

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED



Cynthia R. Burchell  
District Clerk