



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

Date: October 16, 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: Kim Becker, Tom Bowman, Jo-Anne Calvey, Nicole Carstens, Meaghan Champney, Laura Chestnut, Terry Dean, Cynthia Griswold, Murphee Hayes, Brittany Hoagland, Michael James, Jo-

Anne Knapp, Renee Korb, Jay Lindow, Robert McNamara, Alan McNamara, Fred Riordan, Michelle Sickles, Lisa Sickles, Emily Snyder, Dan Sweeney, Joseph Silvanic, Bruce Tytler, Frank Walczak, Cortney Warner

Minutes

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the Minutes from the Board Meeting held on October 2, 2012.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Warrant

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

Moved by Gene Jordan

Seconded by Mary Ellerson

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Correspondence

None

Policies – 1st Reading

None

Policies – 2nd Reading

None

Comments from the Public

Ms. Hayes commended all those that assisted with the Cross Country Invitational and the Night Football Game.

Commendations

Ms. Follette commended:

- Caryl E. Adams primary school for their successful Open House held on Thursday, October 4, 2012.
- Ms. Jo-Ann Sexton, Building Administrators, Literacy Leaders, Department and Grade Level Chairs for their role in organizing and facilitating as needed throughout the day for the October 5th Conference Day
- Ms. Kristie Miner for her efforts in bringing Katie Wood Ray to the Whitney Point Central School District for the October 5, 2012 Conference Day. She was booked two years ago to bring her to the District. She was also in the area attending BARC so the cost was shared.

- The following Tioughnioga Riverside Academy students who were accepted into the Tompkins County Youth Orchestra. They are the first Whitney Point students to join this ensemble and will be rehearsing every Sunday through the school year with some of the best musicians in the area:

Abigail Somers, Flute, grade 6
 Stephanie Jeker, Clarinet, grade 8
 Leria Compeau, Clarinet, grade 8
 Sarah Case, Alto Saxophone, grade 6
 Kelly Perry, Trumpet, grade 7
 Benjamin Shear, Trombone, grade 7
 Kyle Gates, Percussion, grade 6

- The following students who auditioned at the end of the last school year and were accepted into the Binghamton Youth Symphony and will rehearse every Sunday throughout the school year:

Sara Dewey, Clarinet
 Florence Wolf, Flute

- Whitney Point High School student Jessica Cafferty for being accepted into the Binghamton Youth Symphony Senior Orchestra on flute.
- The Whitney Point High School Marching Band on their 1st place finish at the Columbus Day Tournament of Bands parade. They looked, sounded and played great despite their tough competition from Williamson. (WBNG news mis-reported the results as well as other news outlets).
- High School Students Kaylee Tasber (clarinet) and Holden LaPadula (tenor) on their acceptance into the 2012 Ithaca 7-9 Area All-State Band. They will be traveling there November 2nd and 3rd where they will rehearse with the best 7th-9th grade musicians in Zone 3. They were accepted based on recommendations and their last year's NYSSMA scores.
- Whitney Point High School Students Dalanna Fralick and Mackenzie Cafferty, and Tioughnioga Riverside Academy students Hunter Jordan, Jake Dunham and Kirstie Dean for being accepted into the 7-9 Area All-State Chorus. This is a group made up of the best singers from Broome, Cayuga, Cortland, Onondaga, Tompkins, and Tioga Counties, as determined by the students' performances on their previous years NYSSMA solos and a teacher recommendation.

Old Business

a. Tioughnioga Riverside Academy Site Work Presentation

Mr. Fred Riordan, Mr. Michael James and Mr. Frank Walczak gave a presentation on site work at the Tioughnioga Riverside Academy. Mr. Riordan reviewed the site observations and discussed the finding of a 25,000 gallon underground water holding tank and piping vault. He stated unsuitable, soft clay, sub-grade was found under 70% of the tennis court which needs to be removed to prevent cracking of the new court. The vintage 1936 water main was examined and needs to be relocated after 76 years of service. The new findings resulted in an estimated financial impact of \$100,000. Mr. Riordan then reviewed the Phase II-C Financial Overview. He stated going into this particular phase we had about \$990,000 in reserves for items of this type. He stated they planned for the unexpected. They are hoping not to discover any new issues.

Mr. Michael James provided a site work update. He reviewed all the new findings and discussed the TRA storm water management, main relocation and window abatement. Mr. James explained the repairs to the TRA auditorium entry column.

Thomas Tasber asked what kind of trees will be put in front of the TRA.

Mr. James stated he would get that information to him.

Gene Jordan asked about the sink hole located near the tennis court and asked if there was any chance of that recurring.

Terry Dean stated when the District looked into the complaint; they found a hand-dug, 12' well which was immediately filled.

Gene Jordan asked if the bunker will be left as is.

Mr. Riordan stated they are putting a concrete vault lid over the vault that can only be lifted with equipment.

Stephanie Champney asked about the age of the tennis court.

Mr. James estimated 1970's.

Mr. James discussed the waterline stating it was original to the building.

Sara Bencoter asked what brought us to realize we did not know where the water main was located.

Mr. James stated he believed the surveyor went down, put a charge on the line and followed it to the abandoned tank, which was unknown at that time.

Mr. Walczak stated some pipes crisscrossed so it took time to determine their location.

Mr. Riordan stated the existing line was about 76 years old and was actually leaking which would have created future issues.

Mr. Walczak stated water lines are not typically replaced without a reason. When the contractor tied in the new line and cut off the old line, the water tricked out of the old line indicative of a compromise somewhere.

Thomas Tasber asked about flood issues with the new water drainage systems.

Mr. Walczak stated the water itself would have to reach the building before it would come back up the drainage pipe.

Terry Dean stated even during the flood, very little water was on the flat. The Army Corps of Engineers opened up the waterway more between the school and bridge since then.

Mr. Riordan stated next spring the other side of the site work will begin over by the old bus garage.

A discussion ensued.

b. Appointment

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the appointment of **Joseph Silvanic**, Board of Education Member, effective October 16, 2012. Mr. Silvanic will be returning to fill the position vacated by Andrew Palmer through June 30, 2013.

The Board of Education thanked Mr. Silvanic for agreeing to serve.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Thomas Tasber

6 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

c. Oath of Office

Cynthia Burchell, District Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to Joseph Silvanic.

New Business

a. Special Education Update

Dan Sweeney provided an update on the Special Education Program. He provided an overview of enrollment numbers pertaining to IEP's and 504 Accommodation Plans. He stated our classification rate of 17.2% is one of the higher numbers in the area. The state would like to see us at 15%. He stated the numbers are not something we can really control if we are staying true to the process. He discussed the number of students entering and leaving the District. He stated 31 IEP students moved out of the district and 24 moved back in. October looks to be adding even more. At the beginning of the 2012-2013 school year our district had 34 SWD's in BOCES programs.

Sara Benscoter asked if they were designated to BOCES because they need to be there?

Mr. Sweeney stated BOCES is offering programs we do not have. He stated he would like to look into bringing more students back. He is not convinced that with good planning and time we could not bring them back.

Sara Benscoter stated the point is it is the District's decision. That is where the services are offered.

Mr. Sweeney then discussed the changes in CSE membership. He stated an additional parent member for committee meetings is no longer required, although a parent can still request this by contacting the CSE Office in advance. That change has not been mandated for CPSE. In addition, there has been the addition of integrated co-teaching services. With this program general education and special education teachers are full time in the classrooms. He stated this looks to be a positive addition to our continuing services. Mr. Sweeney then explained Specially Designed Instruction. He stated this instruction adapts the content, methodology, or delivery of instruction to address the unique needs that result from a student's disability. It also refers to ensuring access of the student to the general education curriculum so that he or she can meet the educational standards that apply to all students.

Thomas Tasber asked if this new instruction pertained to art and music.

Mr. Sweeney replied right now the special education teachers are not consulting with the specials teachers. Although the specials teachers are expected to include the special education students in their lesson plans.

Sara Benscoter asked if they are able to group similar IEP students together to provide better support.

Mr. Sweeney stated they definitely look at the needs of the kids and are very intentional with their choices.

Mr. Sweeney then stated there are two areas we are still learning about; the new credential and graduation requirements for SWD's and the District's designation as a Focus School.

Thomas Tasber asked if there are staff concerns with the number of IEPs that testing cannot be given preventing curriculum to move on. He offered to discuss this topic later. He then asked if more tests are being given electronically?

Mr. Sweeney replied there are more and more students having tests administered that way. It is good that they learn to get away from readers so they can head to college.

Thomas Tasber asked if some of the children have lower test scores due to the fact that it is a totally unnatural voice?

Mr. Sweeney replied he has not heard that as of this date.

Gene Jordan stated given the updates from Albany, would having federal levels instead of state levels be a benefit to our district because they are less rigorous?

Dan Sweeney stated he did not know if the district was moving toward adopting federal standards.

Ms. Sexton stated it has only been a discussion at this point.

Gene Jordan asked if you have one, 24-student classroom with ½ IEP students, are there any downsides?

Mr. Sweeney stated none that he can see yet. No data has been gathered, but he is looking forward to reviewing it.

Mr. Jordan asked why the District was a focus district.

Mr. Sweeney replied the focus list is based on the grades 3-8 math and ELA scores for special education students.

A discussion ensued.

b. Whitney Point Central School Professional Development Plan

Ms. Sexton gave a presentation on the Whitney Point Central School Professional Development Plan. She stated the plan is a multi-pronged approach consisting of the Whitney Point District Strategic Plan, the Whitney Point New Teacher M.A.P.S. program, the Whitney Point Technology Plan and the Whitney Point Comprehensive Education Plan. She stated all four items drive professional development throughout the year. The Whitney Point District Strategic Plan consists of a team which has representation from all buildings and multiple disciplines that work with Sean Brady (Prism Decision Making Systems) yearly. They define areas to focus effort based on analysis of data and required initiatives. And then use this document to guide each building's focus for the upcoming year. She reviewed the current District Strategic Plan in detail. Ms. Sexton then discussed Mentoring and Professional Support M.A.P.S. stating each first year teacher is assigned a teacher mentor and required to attend professional development sessions. The mentor-mentee relationship provides support and assistance to the new teacher throughout the year. She reviewed the list of sessions for this year. Ms. Sexton closed by reviewing the yearly mandated training.

Sara Benscoter stated it is really impressive and exciting to see everyone work together to come up with these new plans.

Gene Jordan asked if the 17 point growth model was for all teachers?

Ms. Sexton replied yes.

Gene Jordan stated the SLO pretesting for SLO's was overbearing.

Ms. Sexton stated the introduction of a new software program was very tough this year. It was very stressful for everyone and it was hard for students to come in and take a test at the start of school.

Mr. Silvanic stated the data showing the readiness of the students coming to school seems to go down each year.

Ms. Sexton stated there has been work at the CEA to make that connection

Ms. Knapp stated they are working with students at the CEA to work with literacy year round and better develop family engagement. They are developing outreach and continue to hope that those numbers go up. Literacy assessments are given before any formal instruction. The number later in the year is the more accurate number to look at to determine growth. A large number of students start with no preschool experience whatsoever.

Gene Jordan stated it is best to look at our numbers vs. the state mean. Whitney Point does an incredible job bringing these students up through graduation.

A discussion ensued.

Ms. Follette Recommended the Board adopt the 2012-2013 Professional Development Plan.

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Joseph Silvanic

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

c. Unpaid Leaves of Absence

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of an unpaid leave of absence for **Troy Rounds**, Elementary Teacher, from November 26, 2012 to December 21, 2012.

Moved by Mary Ellerson

Seconded by Gene Jordan

Ms. Follette stated she was happy for Troy's family and the adoption of his second son. She knows he is looking forward to this time with the his child.

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of an unpaid leave of absence for **Cheryl Harmon**, Teacher's Aide, from October 22, 2012 to October 26, 2012.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of an unpaid leave of absence for **Kathy Milliron**, Cleaner, from December 24, 2012 to December 28, 2012.

Moved by Mary Ellerson

Seconded by Joseph Silvanic

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

d. Retirement Resignation

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the retirement resignation of **Sherry Harris**, Food Service Helper, effective October 31, 2012.

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Stephanie Champney

Ms. Follette stated Sherry Harris was known for her hard work and has been an asset to the District. She will be missed.

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

e. Appointments

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the appointment of **Denise Yalch**, Food Service Helper, effective October 16, 2012.

Moved by Joseph Silvanic

Seconded by Mary Ellerson

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the appointment of **James Ortiz**, Bus Driver, effective October 16, 2012.

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Stephanie Champney

Ms. Follette stated Mr. Ortiz has worked for us as a substitute driver and has now come in as full time.

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the appointment of **Al Jenks**, Maintenance Mechanic, effective October 16, 2012.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Gene Jordan

Ms. Follette stated Al has been with the district for quite some time. She was confident he could move to the position held by Roger Billings. She stated the district is pleased he wants to assume the responsibilities.

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

f. 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

Mr. Tasber stated it appears these are all new students.

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

g. General Funds Appropriation and Revenue Reports

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the attached Appropriations and Revenue Reports for the General Fund for the months of June, July, August and September, 2012.

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Mary Ellerson

6 Aye 0 Nay 1 Abstained (*Joseph Silvanic*)

APPROVED

h. Cafeteria Funds Appropriation and Revenue Reports

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the attached Appropriations and Revenue Reports for the Cafeteria Fund for the months of June, July, August and September, 2012.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

6 Aye 0 Nay 1 Abstained (*Joseph Silvanic*)

APPROVED

i. Special Aid Fund Appropriation and Revenue Report

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the attached Appropriations and Revenue Reports for the Special Aid Fund for the months of June, July, August and September, 2012.

Moved by Mary Ellerson

Seconded by Thomas Tasber

6 Aye 0 Nay 1 Abstained (*Joseph Silvanic*)

APPROVED

j. Treasurer's Report

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

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Mary Ellerson

Sara Benscoter asked if the District was watching for errors and issues.

Zachary Woodard replied the summary sheet has been provided by the District's Internal Claims Auditor only for the past couple of months. He stated he was looking forward to comparing them in the months to come to identify any recurring issues.

Kathleen Driscoll asked about outstanding checks.

Zachary Woodard stated one of the checks in question is a scholarship check and he is hesitant to void it out. The other check is a lunch account refund check. He stated he will follow up with the status of this item.

Mary Ellerson stated scholarship checks are endorsed to the school or you have to pay income tax.

A discussion ensued.

6 Aye 0 Nay 1 Abstained (*Joseph Silvanic*) APPROVED

k. Budget Amendments

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the attached Budget Amendments through September 30, 2012.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Mary Ellerson

6 Aye 0 Nay 1 Abstained (*Joseph Silvanic*)

APPROVED

I. Change Orders

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

a. Change Orders (Phase II-B)

EC-102 the following time and materials work at the CEA:

- Work order #12346 to install new duplex receptacle and dedicated circuit for compressor in Boiler Room.
- Work order #12349 to move four Cat6 cables from Boiler Room to server on Stage for VOIP phones.
- Work order #12351 to install data line 120V feed and VGA cable for photovoltaic system monitor in each office.

The Contract Sum of \$5,245,898.00 will be increased by this Change Order in the amount of \$3,261.00 to \$5,249,159.00.

EC-103 provide all labor, material and equipment to pull control wire for a security bypass switch from the HS Main Office to the Head of Building Maintenance Office.

The Contract Sum of \$5,249,159.00 will be increased by this Change Order in the amount of \$1,028.00 to \$5,250,187.00.

EC-104 the following time and materials work at the TRA:

- Work order #11281 to add control device for dimming system in the Auditorium control room.
- Work order #11603 to install light fixture at Cafeteria entrance, and reinstall security device, motion sensor, and magnetic door holders.

The Contract Sum of \$5,250,187.00 will be increased by this Change Order in the amount of \$1,750.00 to \$5,251,937.00.

EC-105 for the following time and materials work at the TRA:

- Work order #12357 to remove and reinstall stairwell security raceway to allow trim replacement by the General Contractor.

- Work order #12358 to remove and reposition two existing 2x4 fixtures to support work by other primes.
- Work order #12356 to reconfigure corridor light fixtures to fit between new soffit/ bulkheads and add two 4' fixtures in lieu of one 8' fixture to meet field conditions.
- Work order #11781 to add new electric panel cover and trim in corridor to improve safety.
- Work order #11271 to add trim to light fixtures in various locations.
- Work order #12352 to replace three exterior wall pack lights and add separate switching.
- Work order #12344 to add an additional pull station and exit light at rear entrance/ exit of Music wing.
- Work order #12348 to relocate existing exit sign, fire alarm pull station and strobe, thermostat and telephone in Cafeteria.
- Work order #12350 to add a receptacle for instructor's hydroponic stand in the Technology Classroom.
- Work order #12347 to add one additional magnetic door holder for Library doors.

The Contract Sum of \$5,251,937.00 will be increased by this Change Order in the amount of \$8,541.00 to \$5,260,478.00.

GC-083 to provide all labor, material and equipment to furnish a new Resilite 42'x42' competition wrestling mat to replace the old mat that can no longer be safely used.
The Contract Sum of \$5,857,022.00 will be increased by this Change Order in the amount of \$16,449.00 to \$5,873,471.00.

GC-084 to provide all labor, material and equipment to upgrade the hardware at TRA doors 301 and 302 to incorporate exit devices and new closers (non-hold open type).
Total cost of \$4,891.00 will be subtracted from the Contract Allowance. Hence, the Contract sum of \$5,873,471.00 will remain unchanged.

GC-085 to provide all labor, material and equipment to replace the existing exit device trim and cylinders in the TRA cafeteria exit doors.
Total cost of \$702.00 will be subtracted from the Contract Allowance. Hence, the Contract sum of \$5,873,471.00 will remain unchanged.

GC-086 to provide all labor, material and equipment to install new closers, threshold, gasketing, and sweeps at the TRA Auditorium doors.
Total cost of \$1,547.00 will be subtracted from the Contract Allowance. Hence, the Contract sum of \$5,873,471.00 will remain unchanged.

GC-087 to provide all labor, material and equipment to install additional security and code required hardware at nine TRA classroom doors.

Total cost of \$5,635.00 will be subtracted from the Contract Allowance. Hence, the Contract sum of \$5,873,471.00 will remain unchanged.

RC-016 to provide all labor, material and equipment to replace an existing HS roof hatch with a new model of matching dimensions.

The Contract Sum of \$779,748.00 will be increased by this Change Order in the amount of \$2,850.00 to \$782,598.00.

RC-017 for the following roof leak repairs at the TRA:

- Work order dated 5/4/12 for gym roof leak due to hole in membrane on seam, flashing with no sealant, and a failing seam at a curb.
- Work order dated 5/10/12 for gym roof leak due to loose roof drain bolts and a puncture 10' from the drain.
- Work orders dated 5/15/12 and 5/16/12 for repairing caulk over window sill in hallway next to maintenance office.

The Contract Sum of \$782,598.00 will be increased by this Change Order in the amount of \$1,284.00 to \$783,882.00.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Joseph Silvanic

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Comments from the Public

None

Motion to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 p.m.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

FYI

October 17, 2012 – CEA Picture Day
October 27, 2012 – Fall Festival
November 2, 2012 – CEA PARP Movie Night
November 3, 2012 – SAT Tests
November 4, 2012 – Daylight Savings Time Ends
November 12, 2012 – No School – Veteran's Day
November 16, 2012 – 11:30 Dismissal
November 21-25, 2012 – Thanksgiving Recess



Cynthia Burchell