



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

Date: December 4, 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 7:13 p.m. Sara Benscoter apologized for the Board of Education's late arrival.

The 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              |               |
| Joseph Silvanic    | 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, Christina Bolson, Bill Dean, Terry Dean, Rebecca DeBottis, Chrisa Dunham, Rob Dunham, Dylan Dunham, Karen Frost, Murphee Hayes, Renee Korb, William MacNeill

### **Minutes**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the Minutes from the Board Meeting held on November 6, 2012.

Moved by Mary Ellerson

Seconded by Joseph Silvanic

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

### **Warrant**

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

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Stephanie Champney

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

### **Correspondence**

None

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

None

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

None

### **Comments from the Public**

None

### **Commendations**

Ms. Follette commends:

- Whitney Point High School Student Maria Dewey for being accepted into the grade 10-12 Area All-State in Ithaca on flute. In February she will spend a weekend at Ithaca College where she will rehearse with other chosen high school musicians (most of the juniors and seniors) and perform a concert. Anywhere from 150-200 flute players apply for 8-12 chairs.
- Whitney Point High School students Brianna Bennett, Nicole Carstens, Katie Short and Emily Snyder for being chosen to be in the grade 10-12 Area All-State Women's Chorus at Ithaca College in February. This festival consists of the singers chosen in Broome, Cayuga, Onondaga, Cortand, Tompkins and Tioga Counties. Schools from other neighboring counties such as Chenango and Oswego often have students apply to be a part of this festival because it is held in such high esteem.
- Tiohgnioaga Riverside academy staff Heather Pudish, Jenny Gac as well as Rich Kratz, Cathy Mihalko and the casting crew for the production of "The Wizard of Oz" held on Friday and Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>.

- Mrs. Barbara Welsh, Mrs. Julie Brosius, Mrs. Marybeth Purce, Mrs. Sally DiMascio, and the Tioughnioga Riverside Academy Student Council for the organization of food collection, as well as the faculty members who donated money, for twenty-three Thanksgiving Baskets to benefit families of children in the Tioughnioga Riverside Academy.
- Veteran's Day Morning Program Mrs. Barrett and Mrs. Summers for the Veteran's Day Morning Program held on Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012. The classes were taught and performed the song "Thank You Soldiers" for approximately 30 Veterans that were in attendance.
- The following High School students for their induction into the Tri-M Music Honor Society on November 27, 2012:

Mackenzie Cafferty  
Nicole Carstens  
Holden Lapadula  
Katie Perry

Emily Snyder  
Kaylee Tasber  
Dakota Williams

## **Addenda**

### **Commendations**

Ms. Follette commends

- The teachers and administrators on the recent approval of their Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR) Plans by the New York State Education Department. Members of the teams responsible for creating and reviewing these plans are Kimberly Becker, Tom Brunner, Jennifer Cafferty, Pamela Carr, Laura Chestnut, Christy Croft-Driscoll, Jennifer Cucci, Amy Deriso, Linda Dewey, Kris Gilbert, Murphee Hayes, Mary Hibbard, Stephanie Hodgkinson, Taryn Hubbard, Jeffrey Isaacs, Jo-Anne Knapp, Janine Lawrence, Stacey Leigh-Reavis, Regina Mardex, Stacey Marye, Jamie Monaco, Diana Murtaugh, Carolyn Pagano, Gabby Phillips, Chris Rice, Diane Richards, Jo-Ann Sexton, Kathy Sofka, Daniel Sweeney, Lisa Thomas, Bruce Tytler, and Beth Ann Wolfer. Special thanks is given to Kimberly Becker for the many hours she spent in addition to the time spent with the team working to assure completion of the Teachers' APPR Plan. This was truly a group effort and was accomplished through many hours of hard work and a willingness on everyone's part to be flexible and collaborative.
- The Whitney Point Central School District PTA for sponsoring the You're a "Paw-some" Reader contest in collaboration with the Caryl E. Adams Primary School which resulted in the elementary students reading of 282,747 pages in the month of November. Each class that read the most in its grade won a pizza party. The winning classes were Mrs. Pfeiffer (preK); Mrs. Manvell (K); Mrs. Tiderencel (1st); Mrs. Ackley (2nd); and Mrs. Abrahamson (3rd). The following people were among the many who worked to coordinate the program:

Linda Arsenau  
Jennifer Barrows  
Annette Bidwell  
Maureen Bocinski  
Nadine Ferguson  
Becky Flanders  
Jessica Head  
Humane Society  
Jo-Anne Knapp.  
Charlene McDonald  
Tom McDonald  
Cheryl Mondorf

Wendy Morgan  
Karen O'Brien  
Jen Petrie  
Tracy Pfeiffer  
Val Priscott  
Diane Richards  
Chris Ruggeiro  
Jessica Smith  
Lori Stone  
SUNY Cortland Students  
Chris Widdall  
Lori Wirth

Ms. Follette stated in this situation everyone was a winner. A video clip of the Channel 34 News Report featuring PARP was shown.

## **Old Business**

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

Ms. Follette presented an update on the Phase II Renovation work. She stated the high school bridge was removed and new concrete was put in which will cure over the winter before the bridge is opened for regular use. Repairs have been made to the TRA roofs including the auditorium roof. The rock for the tennis court repairs has arrived. Work on the TRA tennis court and playground will not be finished until the end of the school year due to winter weather and climate. New windows will be installed in the TRA over the winter. Two trailers will be installed and used at the bus garage for office and driver use over the winter.

## **New Business**

### **a. Selective Classification**

Ms. Follette invited Dylan Dunham, a 7<sup>th</sup> grade student, to present his request to the Board of Education for selective classification as a wrestler to be included on the Varsity Wrestling Team.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Joseph Silvanic

Murphee Hayes introduced Dylan Dunham to the Board of Education and provided a brief description of his academic and athletic achievements.

Bill MacNeill provided details regarding Dylan's wrestling background. He provided information regarding his abilities and expressed his confidence in Dylan's capability to compete at the Varsity level. Mr. MacNeill discussed the academic plan in place for Dylan and stated he is working together with Dylan's parents to encourage Dylan to achieve higher education.

Dylan Dunham introduced himself to the Board of Education. He stated he liked wrestling because of the individual challenge as well as the team atmosphere. He explained how the coaching he has received and his hard work helped him achieve a recent tournament champion award. He stated he was going to work his hardest in school and stay after school if needed. Dylan stated he felt he needed a little more help in ELA and technology, and he recently stayed after school today for ELA. Dylan stated he was confident with approaching his parents or coach if he felt uncomfortable in any situation with the Varsity team.

Sara Benscoter requested that Dylan come up with a plan to handle uncomfortable situations. She asked him if he would feel confident standing up for himself. Dylan replied, yes.

Thomas Tasber asked Mr. MacNeill if Dylan was going to need to lose weight and expressed his concern about developing bodies and weight loss.

Mr. MacNeill stated he monitors the situation and their health very closely and doesn't pressure the athletes to compete if he doesn't feel they are physically able.

Murphee Hayes stated the state monitors the health of the wrestlers closely throughout the season.

Bill MacNeill stated in his 40 years with the district, there have been tremendous changes regarding wrestling and weight loss. The rules have changed and all certification is done by professionals.

Stephanie Champney asked Dylan if this is something he wants to do?

Dylan replied, yes.

Murphee Hayes invited Mr. and Mrs. Dunham to address the Board of Education.

Robert Dunham introduced himself and stated Dylan's grades are of utmost importance. He stated his wife, Chrisa, monitors their children's' grades online on a regular basis. He stated Dylan's move to the varsity level is totally up to him. Mr. Dunham stated that he and his wife ask Dylan on a regular basis if he is certain competing at the Varsity level is something he really wants to do. He stated Dylan has wrestled on a travel league for the last three years trying to find competition.

Gene Jordan stated the upside is definitely the competition and asked Mr. Dunham what he considered the downside to be?

Mr. Dunham told Mr. Jordan that he considers any potential downsides on a regular basis. His biggest concern would be Dylan getting hurt. Mr. Dunham stated he finds reassurance in the fact that Dylan will to be put up against a sectional champion.

Sara Bencoter stated a previous 7<sup>th</sup> grader that moved up to the Varsity wrestling team struggled with emotional growth and the Board of Education wants to assure success for any future selective classification. She stated she is okay with voting to approve, but will be monitoring closely because they don't want to set someone up for a long term failure. The Board of Education knows that Mr. and Mrs. Dunham have done well with Courtney, and is confident that they can expect nothing less with Dylan.

Mary Ellerson stated although she is not a fan of selective classification, she feels Dylan has presented himself very well and having known the parents, she is agreement with this motion.

A discussion ensued.

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

#### **b. 2012-2013 Amended Instructional Calendar**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the amended 2012-2013 Instructional Calendar.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Joseph Silvanic

Mary Ellerson asked what was changed.

Sara Bencoter replied the comments for teachers at the bottom of the page have been removed with the understanding that any additional needs will be addressed if necessary.

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

#### **c. Regents Reform**

Jo-Ann Sexton provided an update on the Regents Reform Agenda (APPR, DDI, CCLS). She stated the Regents Reform Agenda was put in place so all graduation students can be college and career ready. She discussed in detail Data Driven Instruction, Teacher/Leader Effectiveness and Common Core Standards, and how they all work together to form the Regents Reform Agenda. Ms. Sexton provided a detailed comparison between the New Common Core 3-8 Assessments and the Old 3-8 Assessments.

She explained the shifts in Mathematics and ELA/Literacy. Ms. Sexton reviewed the components of the new APPR and how the HEDI scores will be derived within the district.

Thomas Tasber stated he would like a copy of Ms. Sexton's Powerpoint presentation.

Sara Benscoter stated she would like a digital copy of the presentation.

Ms. Sexton stated she would get the copies to them.

### **c. Facility, Energy and Security Systems Update**

Terry Dean provided an update on Facility and Energy systems. He discussed in detail the District's energy management program. He stated Whitney Point Central School has realized an energy savings of \$1,120,507.00 since the energy management program was started in November of 2004. The energy management program saved the District \$226,756 in the one-year time frame of September 2011 to September 2012. Mr. Dean stated about 71% is saved on heating costs by tightly controlling individual room temperatures with temperature setbacks during unoccupied times. He stated computer-controlled classroom heating and ventilation is the biggest energy saving factor. Mr. Dean discussed the many other energy saving efficiency features the Whitney Point School District has in place such as; LED light bulbs, florescent lighting in the gym and bus garage, variable dampers on the TRA boilers, exterior lighting under our building control system for tighter management, better insulation in the buildings, new exterior windows, and the production of solar power. He stated the outcome from all these energy savers will be a benefit to the taxpayers as well as our district for years to come.

Gene Jordan asked Mr. Dean if he could see the kilowatt hours usage comparison.

Mr. Dean stated it is in the program, although it is not an accurate reading of District usage due to the equipment being used in the construction program.

Stephanie Champney asked how much electricity is generated with the solar panels.

Mr. Dean stated no final data has been received to date, but from what he can tell, the solar power generated is responsible for approximately 10% of the 28% savings.

Mr. Bill Dean provided an update on the Security Systems. He reviewed details surrounding the 117 cameras in the school district including whether they were IP or Analog cameras. Mr. Dean discussed the DVR Servers in each building. He stated all servers/DVR's can be remotely accessed from a computer and the IP cameras can be remotely controlled from the internet browsers. Any requested video or "still" shots can be exported to a shared space on our school's network servers for Administrator access.

Thomas Tasber asked Mr. Dean if he reviews the cameras daily or if he monitors them as needed.

Mr. Dean state he is typically asked for information; however, he will notify administration if he notices anything.

Joseph Silvanic asked if the District has anticipated a subpoena for video findings?

Ms. Follette stated, yes. The district has received a FOIL request in the past, but was advised by its attorney the information is not FOIL 'able. This information is very strictly monitored by law due to the fact that it is infringing on the rights of the other students in the camera.

Joseph Silvanic asked about a potential situation involving litigation and how the District plans to preserve evidence or a process to preserve videos.

Ms. Follette stated she would definitely ask the attorney next time she meets with him regarding the District's responsibilities in this matter.

**d. Resolution to approve the extension of the Agreement for the Cooperative Health Insurance Arrangement of the Broome-Tioga-Delaware County Area School Districts Fund.**

Be it resolved the Whitney Point Central School District hereby approves the extension of the Agreement for the Cooperative Health Insurance Arrangement of the Broome-Tioga-Delaware County Area School District Fund through June 30, 2018.

Moved by Kathleen Driscoll

Seconded by Joseph Silvanic

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

**f. Extra-Curricular Application Approvals**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the following Extra-curricular applications:

Gay-Straight Alliance Club  
Freshman Advisor

Murtaugh, Diana  
Dean, Janice

Moved by Thomas Tasber

Seconded by Joseph Silvanic

Mary Ellerson asked what the money is used for in Freshman Class fund raising.

Mr. MacNeill stated he has been involved in class fund raising in the past and the money goes into an account that is accumulated for students throughout their High School years, and then used for their senior year expenses.

Stephanie Champney stated the money raised can be accessed for class rings, etc.

6 Aye 0 Nay 1 Abstained (*Gene Jordan*)

APPROVED

**g. Appointments**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the appointment of **Amanda McGovern**, Substitute Bus Driver, effective December 4, 2012.

Moved by Mary Ellerson

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the appointment of **Mary Karges**, Cook, effective December 4, 2012.

Moved by Gene Jordan

Seconded by Stephanie Champney

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the appointment of **Heather Smith**, Food Service Helper, effective December 4, 2012.

Moved by Mary Ellerson

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the appointment of **Craig Richards**, Maintenance Mechanic, effective December 4, 2012.

Moved by Mary Ellerson

Seconded by Stephanie Champney

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

#### **h. Unpaid Leaves of Absence**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of an unpaid leave of absence for **Sally DiMascio**, Teacher's Aide, from January 9 to January 15, 2013.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Gene Jordan

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of one year leave of absence for **Jenny Gac**, Music Teacher, starting January 28, 2013.

Moved by Joseph Silvanic

Seconded by Gene Jordan

Sara Bencoter stated based on a conversation between the Board of Education and Jenny Gac, the Board of Education in encouraging Ms. Gac to resubmit her request for an unpaid leave of absence for a different period of time.

0 Aye 5 Nay 2 Abstained (*Gene Jordan and Stephanie Champney*) REJECTED

#### **i. Overnight Wrestling Trip**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the Wrestling Team field trip proposal to Watkins Glen, New York on Friday, January 11, 2013 through Saturday, January 12, 2013.

Moved by Mary Ellerson

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

#### **j. Wrestling Trip to Cornell University**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the Wrestling Team field trip proposal to Cornell University in Ithaca, NY on Sunday, January 27, 2013.

Moved by Joseph Silvanic

Seconded by Thomas Tasber

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

#### **k. Eighth Grade Field Trip**



Ms. Follette recommended Board approval of the Eighth Grade field trip proposal to Washington, D. C. on Wednesday, May 15, 2013 through Friday, May 17, 2013.

Moved by Mary Ellerson

Seconded Stephanie Champney

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

### **I. 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

Mary Ellerson asked about the Manifestation Determination.

Jo-Ann Sexton stated it is a hearing to determine if an incident is the manifestation of a student's disability. If so, special arrangements are made.

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

### **m. Treasurer's Report**

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

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Joseph Silvanic

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

### **n. Change Orders**

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

**MC-051** - to provide all labor, material and equipment to install 3" natural gas trains in lieu of the 2" gas trains on the boilers in preparation for the future availability of natural gas in this region of New York.

Total cost of \$7,872.00 will be subtracted from the Contract Allowance. Hence, the Contract sum of \$2,535,435.00 will remain unchanged.

**MC-052** - to provide a credit for the unused portion of project allowance back to the District.

The Contract Sum of \$2,535,435.00 will be decreased by this Contract Allowance Credit in the amount of \$8,820.00 to \$2,526,615.00.

**PC-053** - to provide all labor, material and equipment to provide a concrete pad over the new TRA grease trap.

Total cost of \$2,503.00 will be subtracted from the Contract Allowance. Hence, the Contract sum of \$916,770.00 will remain unchanged.

**PC-054** - to provide a credit for the unused portion of project allowance back to the District.

The Contract Sum of \$916,770.00 will be decreased by this Contract Allowance Credit in the amount of \$11,769.00 to \$905,001.00.

**PV-002** - to provide a credit for all labor, material and equipment to revise the combiner box mounting method as proposed by the contractor, Solar Liberty.

The Contract Sum of \$512,190.00 will be decreased by this Change Order in the amount of \$1,050.00 to \$511,140.00.

**SC-002** - to provide all labor, material and equipment to undercut 798 cubic yards of material at the tennis courts and install compacted 1-1/2" crushed stone.

The Contract Sum of \$1,688,700.00 will be increased by this Change Order in the amount of \$49,810.00 to \$1,738,510.00.

**GC-001** - to provide and install two (2) 54"x48" mirrors in lieu of four (4) 18"x36" mirrors in two (2) TRA bathrooms.

Total cost of \$495.00 will be subtracted from the Contract Allowance. Hence, the Contract sum of \$1,786,000.00 will remain unchanged.

**GC-002** - to provide all labor, material, and equipment to furnish and install one (1) ADA compliant pool lift with adapter.

Total cost of \$4,780.00 will be subtracted from the Contract Allowance. Hence, the Contract sum of \$1,786,000.00 will remain unchanged.

**PC-001** - to provide all labor, material and equipment to replace four (4) water closets with pressure assist types in the Bus Garage. The work also includes hydroflushing of the sanitary lines between each toilet and exit from the building up to 100 ft, and running a camera through the lines to identify any broken piping.

The Contract Sum of \$172,000.00 will be increased by this Change Order in the amount of \$3,725.00 to \$175,725.00.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Kathleen Driscoll

Ms. Follette stated the closing of Phase II-B resulted in the receipt of several credits to the District.

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

**Comments from the Public**

None

**Adjournment to Executive Session**

Ms. Follette recommended Board approval to recess the public meeting and at 9:15 p.m. and adjourn to Executive Session to hear discussion on contractual issues.

Moved by Stephanie Champney

Seconded by Mary Ellerson

7 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstained

APPROVED

**FYI**

December 6, 2012 – District Picture Retakes

December 6, 2012 – Winter Choral Concert, Grades 4-5, TRA 7:00 p.m.

December 7 – Whitney Point Tree Lighting Ceremony

December 11, 2012 – Band Concert, Grades 6-8 TRA, 7:00 p.m.

December 13, 2012 – Choral Concert, Grades 6-8, TRA 7:00 p.m.

December 17, 2012 – HS Winter Concert, 7:00 p.m.

December 24, 2012 – January 1, 2013 –No School, Winter Recess



Cynthia Burchell  
District Clerk