

**BOARD OF COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES
SOLE SUPERVISORY DISTRICT
FRANKLIN-ESSEX-HAMILTON COUNTIES**

DATE: February 26, 2014

LOCATION: Adirondack Educational Center, Saranac Lake, New York

KIND OF MEETING: Regular

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dennis J. Egan, Ralph H. Russell, Christine A. Blumberg, Thomas P. Derouchie, Stephen J. Dupree, Shir Filler, William A. McConvey, Thomas O'Bryan, John G. Swanston

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Stephen T. Shafer, District Superintendent
Carol J. Lavoie, Clerk
Leslie A. LaRose, Deputy Superintendent
Visitors: Lori Buno-Taylor, Margaret O'Bryan, Catherine Werley

**CALL TO ORDER AND
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by President Egan followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: President Egan asked for a motion concerning the minutes of the previous meeting. Mr. McConvey moved, seconded by Mr. Russell that the minutes of the regular meeting of January 22, 2014 be approved.

Yes - 9
No - 0, motion carried

**APPROVAL OF
FINANCIAL REPORTS:** The Board, acting as the Audit Committee of the Whole, reviewed the Treasurer's Reports for the Consolidated, Workers' Compensation, Health Insurance, CTE Equipment Reserve, Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Reserve, Unemployment Insurance Reserve and ERS Retirement Reserve Funds as well as the Group Checking and Payroll Checking for the month of January. Following discussion, Ms. Blumberg moved, seconded by Mr. Derouchie that the Treasurer's Reports, Budget Control and Analysis of Revenue Reports for all funds for the month of January be approved.

Yes - 9
No - 0, motion carried

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mr. Russell moved, seconded by Mr. Dupree that the Board enter into an executive session to discuss negotiations with the teacher unit and to discuss potential litigation in two separate matters.

Yes - 9

No - 0, motion carried

The Board entered into an executive session at 7:08 P.M.

Ms. Blumberg moved, seconded by Mr. Dupree that the Board leave the executive session.

Yes - 9

No - 0, motion carried

The Board left executive session at 7:50 P.M.

RESIGNATIONS:

Mr. Russell moved, seconded by Mr. Derouchie that the following resignations be accepted:

Esther M. Debyah – Secretary to Program Administrator (Due to Retirement – Effective 04/24/14)

Robin D. Dupuis – Speech & Hearing Handicapped Teacher (Due to Retirement – Effective 06/30/14)

Brittany E. Peryea – Speech & Hearing Handicapped Teacher (Effective 02/28/14)

Linda Pickreign – Teaching Assistant (Due to Retirement – Effective 06/30/14)

Yes - 9

No - 0, motion carried

APPOINTMENT:

Upon the recommendation of Mr. Shafer, Mr. Derouchie moved, seconded by Mr. Russell that:

Joseph Ryan, be appointed as a CUSTODIAN commencing on 02/10/14, salary to be at Grade 4, Step 8 of the Non-Instructional Salary Schedule for the school year 2013-14.

Yes - 9

No - 0, motion carried

CALL BACK:

Upon the recommendation of Mr. Shafer, Mr. Swanston moved, seconded by Mr. Dupree that the following individual be called back for the 2013-14 school year:

Kelli O'Sullivan – Occupational Therapist 80% - Step 13 (Effective 02/10/14)

Yes - 9

No - 0, motion carried

**CHANGE IN POSITION
STATUS:**

Upon the recommendation of Mr. Shafer, Ms. Filler moved, seconded by Ms. Blumberg that:

Theresa A. Marrama – French Teacher 90% to 100% (Effective 02/03/14)

Yes - 9

No - 0, motion carried

**PART-TIME &
OCCASIONAL
EMPLOYEES:**

Upon the recommendation of Mr. Shafer, Mr. McConvey moved, seconded by Mr. Russell that the following individuals be appointed as Part-time and Occasional Employees:

Substitute Principal (Effective upon receipt of fingerprint clearance)

Rick Retrosi - \$350 Per Day

Part-time School Psychologist - \$34.55 Per Hour

Stephanie Delude (Up to 250 hours)

Adult Education Instructors (GED) 2013-14 School Year

Carol Van Riper - \$34.55 Per Hour (Additional 125 Hours through 06/30/14)

Adult Education Instructors

Holly Harz, Cake Decorating I Beginners Course Instructor - 10 hours at \$30/hour

Holly Harz, Cake Decorating II Advanced Course Instructor - 10 hours at \$30/hour

Thomas Marshall, Small Engine Repair I Course Instructor - 23 hours at \$30/hour

Thomas Marshall, Small Engine Repair II Advanced Course Instructor - 23 hours at \$30/hour

Alicia Kissane, Intro to Spanish II Instructor - 28 hours at \$30/hour

Tonny French, Boiler/Oil/Wood Pellet Maintenance & Repair Courses - 16 hours at \$30/hour

Donna Hastings, Quilting 101 Course Instructor - 15 hours at \$30/hour

Jim Lalonde, ServSafe Food Safety Management Cert. Course Instructor – 10 hours at \$40/hour

Jon Chodat, Intro to Digital Photography Instructor - 25 hours at \$30/hour

Jennifer Sienkiewicz, Child Abuse, Neglect and Maltreatment Cert. Instructor - 5 hours at \$40/hour

Jennifer Sienkiewicz, Parenting for Early Intervention Instructor - 3 hours at \$30/hour

Tim Wood, Floral Design Course Instructor - 30 hours at \$30/hour

Tracy Edwards-Warren, Notorious North Country Instructor - 10 hours at \$30/hour

Jean Pond, Interior Design Course Instructor - 10 hours at \$30/hour

Yes - 9

No - 0, motion carried

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Upon the recommendation of Mr. Shafer, Mr. McConvey moved, seconded by Ms. Filler that the leave of absence for Danielle O'Mara, School Counselor .55% (Effective 02/24/14 – 03/07/14) be approved.

Yes - 9

No - 0, motion carried

POSITIONS TO BE FILLED:

Mr. Shafer informed the Board that at the present time the following positions are yet to be filled:

Curriculum & Differentiated Instruction Inc. the Analysis of Student Perf.
Data Coord. (Anticipated)

Home Economics Teacher 50%

Employment and Training Assistant

Secretary to Program Administrator

Speech & Hearing Handicapped Teacher – 2 Positions

Teacher of the Blind and Partially Sighted

Mr. Derouchie moved, seconded by Mr. Swanston that Mr. Shafer be authorized to fill all vacancies for the 2013-14 school year.

Yes - 9

No - 0, motion carried

**FURTHER DISCUSSION ON
THE ADMINISTRATIVE
STRUCTURE STUDY:**

Further discussion was held in connection with the Administrative Structure Study.

Yes - 9

No - 0, motion carried

**FURTHER DISCUSSION ON
SPECIAL EDUCATION PRE-
SCHOOL SERVICES AND
EARLY INTERVENTION
SERVICES:**

Following discussion, Ms. Blumberg moved, seconded by Mr. O'Bryan that the BOCES cease the operation of the Pre-School Special Education Programs at the end of the 2013-14 school year that provide various services to pre-school special education students ages 3-4.

Yes - 9

No - 0, motion carried

**CONSIDERATION OF
TENTATIVE 2014-15 BOCES
ADMINISTRATIVE
BUDGET:**

Mr. Shafer reviewed the tentative 2014-2015 BOCES Administrative Budget with the Board. Mr. O'Bryan moved, seconded by Mr. Derouchie that the tentative BOCES Administrative Budget for the 2014-2015 school year in the amount of \$1,930,169 be approved for presentation to the component school districts.

Yes - 9

No - 0, motion carried

**RESOLUTION RELATED TO
STATE BUDGET
ALLOCATION FOR
EDUCATION:**

Upon the recommendation of Mr. Shafer, Ms. Blumberg moved, seconded by Ms. Filler that:

- Whereas:** The Governor has proposed continuing the Gap Elimination Adjustment; and,
- Whereas:** The NYS Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA) was implemented in 2010 as a one-time reduction in education aid to help NYS balance its budget and the GEA has continued in every budget since then; and,
- Whereas:** The GEA since its inception has reduced state aid to the component school districts of the FEH BOCES by \$33,443,921; and,
- Whereas:** This reduction in aid has resulted in a cost shift to the local property taxpayers in the component school districts; and,
- Whereas:** The cost shift has resulted in unsustainable measures to balance school budgets, including the reduction and elimination of school programs, personnel, and services, and the reduction of school district fund reserves; and,
- Whereas:** Efforts by the component school districts to sustain programs and services are simultaneously constrained by Property Tax Levy Cap Legislation, unfunded and underfunded mandates, and increases in pension, health care costs; and mandated implementation of Common Core Learning Standards and teacher/principal performance reviews; and,
- Whereas:** Adequate State funding is constitutionally mandated and essential to meet all mandates and obligations and to maintain the quality of education for all students; and,
- Whereas:** New York State, through its Gap Elimination Adjustment, has systematically reduced K-12 funding since 2010-11; and,
- Whereas:** New York State touts recent aid increases as generous support to schools, although overall, school districts are receiving less in State Aid than 2008-09;
- Resolved,** that the Franklin-Essex-Hamilton Board of Cooperative Educational Services calls upon the New York State Legislature and Governor to provide sufficient funding to public education to remove the GEA for all districts.

Yes - 9

No - 0, motion carried

**CHANGE DATE OF APRIL
BOARD MEETING:**

Mr. Swanston moved, seconded by Mr. Russell that the April Board meeting date be changed to Wednesday, April 30, 2014 in Malone.

Yes - 9

No - 0, motion carried

**APPROVAL OF FUEL OIL
BID:**

The Board received the results of the Fuel Oil Bid Awards for 2014-15. Ms. Blumberg moved, seconded by Mr. Russell that Option C (Fluctuating bid price) be approved.

Yes - 8

No - 1 (Dennis Egan), motion carried

**CTE PROJECTS AT
COMPONENT DISTRICTS:**

Mr. Shafer inquired about the interest and possibility of discussion with component school district superintendents about having CTE projects completed that will reside and be used in their districts. The concept is to have at least one identifiable CTE project in each component district. This will be accomplished over a period of time.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. McConvey moved, seconded by Mr. Dupree that the meeting be adjourned.

Yes - 9

No - 0, motion carried

Meeting adjourned at 9:36 P.M.

These minutes approved _____

Carol J. Lavoie, Clerk