

COPENHAGEN CENTRAL SCHOOL
REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
MARCH 21, 2011

PRESIDENT TRACEY THOMAS, PRESIDING

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:	BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:
KOREEN G. FREEMAN	
PRUDENCE L. KUNERT	
ROBERT F. STACKEL	
TRACEY THOMAS	
ALFRED E. TOMASELLI, in at 6:36 p.m.	
KIM R. VOGT	
IRENE S. WILDER, in at 6:33 p.m.	

OTHERS PRESENT:

SCOTT N. CONNELL, SUPERINTENDENT
NADINE O’SHAUGHNESSY, K – 12 PRINCIPAL
DALE R. MUNN, DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES & SPECIAL PROGRAMS
MELISSA HERBERT, DONALD HERBERT, ADAM STAAB, RENEE POWLIN, ANITA JONES, LISA MATTIS, PATRICIA JOLLIFF, VIRGINIA HOVENDON, ANNIE GARZA, JOLINE FURGISON, KELLY FURGISON, DAVID KOBERLING, SARA GLEASON AND MEGAN CROSS, C.C.S. TEACHING STAFF, STUDENTS AND INTERESTED PUBLIC

President Tracey Thomas called this regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Meeting called to order

On motion of Kim Vogt, seconded by Prudence Kunert, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2011 regular meeting and the March 8, 2011 special official meeting.

Approved previous minutes

VOTE: YES – 5; NO – 0

On motion of Koreen Freeman, seconded by Prudence Kunert, the Board voted to approve the Treasurer’s Report, Warrants and School Lunch Report.

Approved Treasurer’s Report, Warrants, School Lunch Report

VOTE: YES – 6; NO – 0

PRESENTATION:

C.C.S. music teachers, Sara Gleason and Megan Cross, presented to the Board with regard to their vocal and instrument music programs. The Board saw a podcast prepared by C.C.S. music student, Kelly Furgison, describing how students benefit from a music education. Ms. Cross also showed a PowerPoint which outlined her instrumental program and her work with high school, middle school and elementary students in detail. Mrs. Gleason noted she is marking her 6th year at Copenhagen. She noted she is honored to work with Copenhagen students to share her love of music. Mrs. Gleason said in the 6 years she has taught at Copenhagen, there have been four different instrumental music teachers. She noted students look for and need consistency in a program.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

C.C.S. senior Kelly Furgison spoke to the Board noting music is a huge part of her life, extolling the benefits of the music program. Kelly will major in music in college next year and hopes to become a music educator.

Mrs. Renee Powlin then addressed to the Board noting she too is a music educator and spoke of the importance of music in our lives.

The public left the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

K-12 PRINCIPAL’S REPORT:

Mrs. O’Shaughnessy offered the following:

Student Highlights:

- ✓ Administrators have started rehearsing with the high school band for their roles in the spring concert.
- ✓ The fourth graders have joined the fifth graders for band. Middle school band has been given the Alma Mater to begin practicing for graduation.
- ✓ Mrs. Gillette and Mrs. O’Shaughnessy have scheduled their “Anti-Bullying Road Show” with the sixth grade for next week.
- ✓ Middle School students finished their catapult competition in their technology classes.

Administrative Highlights:

- ✓ Lewis County Youth Bureau released a call for proposals for funding programs directly impacting students. We submitted a proposal to fund our Drama Program.
- ✓ Administrators have received their introduction to *School Fusion*. This web host is much easier to understand, more intuitive than the one we are discontinuing. Turn-key trainers have been trained and are ready for the superintendent’s day.
- ✓ Long term subs were arranged and one is now on staff for our teachers with maternity leaves of absence.
- ✓ More discussions have been held regarding scheduling and the master schedule in general. Administration is poised to complete the process as soon as final decisions are made.

Upcoming events:

- ✓ March 26 - Bi-County Concert
- ✓ March 31 - Mandatory Senior Trip Meeting
- ✓ April 7 - YAC Talent Show
- ✓ April 8 - Grades 6-12 Dance
- ✓ April 13 - NHS Recognition Night
- ✓ April 14 - Spring Concert
- ✓ April 18-25 - Spring Vacation

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS REPORT:

Mr. Munn offered the following:

- ✓ Parent/Grandparent luncheons are tentatively scheduled to begin April 13th.
- ✓ All CSE annual reviews will be completed by the end of the month.
Information from these meetings will allow us solidify plans for next year. Changes already have allowed for more opportunities for students within the building.
- ✓ We submitted a grant proposal to the Primary Mental Health Project. If successful, this would provide us with a part-time paraprofessional that would be trained and supported to provide for low-risk mental health needs of students K-3.
- ✓ STRIVE and Smart Board trainings have provided opportunities to K and 3rd grade students that are quite engaging.
- ✓ Recess on days with poor weather/grounds will be compromised after room moves begin April 4th.

Special Education

Date	CSE	CPSE	504
7/27/09	52	5	14
7/27/10	58	5	12
12/15/10	55	4	15
1/24/11	54	3	17
3/3/11	55	4	17
3/21/11	56	4	18

- CSE – 1 classified, 7 pending referrals
- 504 – 1 classified
-

Upcoming events:

- ✓ March 23rd First/Second Grade visit to mixed age class at Parishville-Hopkinton Central School
- ✓ March 31st Elementary Principal’s Meeting
- ✓ April 12th Supporting Children of the Military Workshop, Fort Drum
- ✓ April 13th CSE Chairperson’s Meeting

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

Mr. Connell advised the Board he has talked with Eric Burch, Lewis General Hospital, who is talking directly with the school’s architect, William Taylor, with regard to the specific area the hospital is considering leasing from the District. Mr. Connell has talked with the State Education Department and they have told him it is okay to lease space to the hospital and any minor room renovations might possibly be rolled into and made an amendment to the current capital project. Mr. Connell noted the hospital and Dr. Shambo are excited about the prospect. The District has yet to see how much revenue it will generate prior to the Board giving its go ahead.

Mr. Connell reported to the Board of the eight teachers eligible to retire only one intends to. He noted the Board needs to make a decision with regard to offering a retirement incentive. He reported nine people were interested in assisting as inspectors of election at the annual meeting and vote. The names were drawn from a hat and the individuals who will assist are on tonight’s agenda.

Parent/Grandparent Luncheons have been revisited thanks to the help of the Copenhagen Fire Department. On those particular days, staff will park at the Fire Hall in order for parents and grandparents to have available parking at school.

The capital project is going well and is ahead of schedule.

Mr. Connell advised there are eleven junior varsity softball players; he advised he attended one of their practices and they are a really nice team and very committed athletes. He recommended we keep the team this season.

Mr. Connell noted there are no “on-line” health courses, however, our district maybe the first to offer one. He noted not much has changed with regard to the budget we expect from Albany.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

Mrs. Thomas inquired as to whether there were any suggested changes to the Superintendent’s Evaluation instrument. It was suggested Mr. Connell’s goals be included. Mrs. Thomas will give the forms to the Board Members next Tuesday, March 29th.

NEW BUSINESS:

On motion of Koreen Freeman, seconded by Kim Vogt, the Board voted to approve recommendations from the Committee on Special Education.

VOTE: YES – 7; NO – 0

On motion of Koreen Freeman, seconded by Prudence Kunert, the Board voted to approve contract in the amount of \$1,525.00 with the Watertown City School District for health services rendered Copenhagen District students (5) who attend private schools within the Watertown City School District.

VOTE: YES – 7; NO – 0

On motion of Alfred Tomaselli, seconded Irene Wilder, the Board voted to approve the appointment of Annual Budget Election (May 17, 2011) Inspectors, Meeting Chairperson and Assistants to the Clerk for Balloting:

- Meeting Chairperson: Sam Lundy
- Chief Inspector: Phyllis Gaines
- Inspector: Donna Wheeler
- Alternate Inspector: Patricia Eddy

*Approved
recommendations
from Committee on
Special Education*

*Approved contract
w/ Watertown City
School District*

*Approved
appointment of
Annual Budget
Election Inspectors,
Meeting
Chairperson and
Assistants to the
Clerk for Balloting*

Assistants to the Clerk for Balloting: Rachel Guyette, Brenda Shelmidine, Mary Shambo, Linda Prince, Marcia Mundy, Robin Spaulding and Mary Jones, Clerk.

VOTE: YES – 7; NO – 0

On motion of Koreen Freeman, seconded by Kim Vogt, the Board voted to approve Application for Use of Facilities from Mrs. SueAnn Carroll, Director Copenhagen Little League for the use of the back foyer on Thursday, March 31, between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. for Copenhagen Little League sign-ups in addition to use of ball fields from April 26th through June 2nd from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. for practice and games.

*Approved
Application for
Use of Facilities
for Little League*

VOTE: YES – 7; NO – 0

On motion of Robert Stackel, seconded by Kim Vogt, the Board voted to approve resolution to adopt a Copenhagen Central School Retirement Incentive Program to any eligible teacher; the program offers a one-time ten thousand dollar (\$10,000.00) cash payment to those teachers who meet specific criteria, as follows:

*Approved
adoption of a
Local Retirement
Incentive*

- The interested party must be a teacher in the K-8 certification area.
- The interested party must have at least 15 years of service to the Copenhagen District.
- The interested party must be age 55 or older by June 30, 2011, and eligible for retirement with the Teacher Retirement System (TRS).
- The District must realize a minimum of \$10,000.00 in savings under this local incentive for it to be offered.
- The interested party must submit an irrevocable letter of retirement to be effective no later than June 30, 2011 to the Superintendent of Schools no later than March 25, 2011.
- Teaching Assistants will not be eligible for this Retirement Incentive.
- Substitute service is not applicable as part of this agreement.
- The Board will honor all segments of Article VIII, Retirement, as described in the contract between the Board of Education and the Copenhagen Central School Teachers Association for the period of July 1, 2007 through to, and including June 30, 2011.

VOTE: YES – 7; NO – 0

DISCUSSION:

1. Establishment of a Distance Learning Scholarship – It was the feeling of the Board of Education that any monies collected on behalf of students taking DL classes should be shared by all students equally, rather than going to indigent students. The accounts that were inactive are to be distributed, as follows:
 - Reading Recovery \$ 429.33 – Academic Banquet
 - 2nd Grade Expo - \$69.36 – Academic Banquet
 - Athletic Equipment - \$533.17 – Federation Uniforms
2. Mr. Connell reported not much has changed with regard to the 2011 – 2012 budget. He noted with a 9.3 million dollar budget there are only 8.1 million in revenues, leaving a 1.2 million dollar gap. Current proposals include but are not limited to reading cut to .6; because of an anticipated retirement, three teachers will cover all of said retiree's classes bringing all three to 1.0 FTE. Bring back Business to 1.0 and with duties to include personal finance, FCS, DBK and CFM. Reduce Library and instrumental music to .8; Mr. Connell and Mrs. Guyette will take care of athletic director responsibilities; Mrs. O'Shaughnessy will do AIS for high school/middle school math and science; fall and spring junior varsity sporting teams will be culled. There will be only one late bus and STARS students have priority. Mr. Munn will be the administrator for UPK; Mrs. Nevills will be the (.5) UPK teacher.

At 9:08 p.m. and on motion of Robert Stackel, seconded by Kim Vogt, the Board voted to go into Executive Session.

VOTE: YES – 7; NO – 0

At 9:08 p.m. and on motion of Koreen Freeman, seconded by Robert Stackel, the Board voted to come out of Executive Session to discuss the medical, financial credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation.

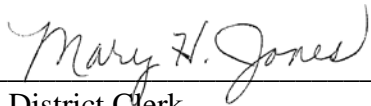
VOTE: YES – 7; NO – 0

At 9:35 p.m. and on motion of Prudence Kunert, seconded by Koreen Freeman, the Board voted to come out of Executive Session.

VOTE: YES – 7; NO – 0

At 9:36 p.m. and on motion of Robert Stackel, seconded by Irene Wilder, the Board voted to adjourn.

VOTE: YES – 7; NO – 0



School District Clerk