

COPENHAGEN CENTRAL SCHOOL
REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 28, 2012

PRESIDENT ROBERT F. STACKEL, PRESIDING

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

TROY W. BUCKLEY
KOREEN G. FREEMAN
PRUDENCE L. KUNERT
LYNN A. MURRAY
ALFRED E. TOMASELLI
KIM R. VOGT

OTHERS PRESENT:

SCOTT N. CONNELL, SUPERINTENDENT
NADINE O'SHAUGHNESSY, K-12 PRINCIPAL
DALE R. MUNN, JR., DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES
MARCIA A. MUNDY, DISTRICT TREASURER
ROBIN SPAULDING, BUSINESS OFFICE CLERK
LAURA TOUSANT, AUDIT COMMITTEE MEMBER

Presentations:

To Audit Committee: MR. BRUCE POULSON OF POULSEN & PODVIN re: Internal Audit Report, Risk Assessment Analysis and Report on Internal Controls 2011 - 2012 School Year
JOHN MCGRAW, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS re: CAPITAL PROJECT
RUSSELL GROFF – TRANSPORTATION/ BUS PURCHASE

President Stackel called this regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 6:25 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Meeting called to order

Mr. Bruce Poulson addressed the Board reporting on his firm's recent audit re: risk assessment analysis and report on internal controls. He reviewed his report, noting that they tested Revenue and Cash Management, Purchasing and Expenditures, Payroll/Personnel, Fixed Assets and School Lunch. Few exceptions were noted and commented upon. Mr. Poulsen and Mrs. Spaulding left the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. John McGraw thanked the Board for allowing his department to purchase the new Bobcat sitting out front of the building. He added it is a nice piece of equipment which will be very helpful with snow removal, among other duties. With regard to his budget for 2012-2013, Mr. McGraw noted they are watching carefully what they are requisitioning; there will be no overtime paid with the exception of the upcoming PeeWee Wrestling Tournament. However, the organization, PeeWee Wrestling Club, will be billed for custodial services. He also advised the bugs are being worked out of the new geothermal heating system and it is working more smoothly. On a trial basis for the rest of the school year, the night shift custodians will start work a half hour earlier (3:30 p.m.) and have the option of taking a half hour lunch break instead of an hour. Therefore, their work day will end at 12:00 midnight instead of 1:00 a.m.

Mr. Russell Groff told the Board his budget will pretty much stay the same this year as last. He noted he tried to get Nick Crane here to present with regard to bus purchase on this date, however, he will not be here until next Tuesday which will be an official meeting instead of a work session. Mr. Groff reported he has test driven the V-8 engine bus and it works great. He recommends going back to the standard model. He said he feels they are saving heating fuel at the bus garage because of the new siding. He also noted the Carwell Rust program works well.

Mr. McGraw and Mr. Groff left the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

On motion of Lynn Murray, seconded by Troy Buckley, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2012 meeting.

VOTE: YES – 7; NO – 0

*Approved minutes
of the January 23,
2012 meeting*

On motion of Alfred Tomaselli, seconded by Kim Vogt, the Board voted to approve the Warrants and School Lunch Report, submitting all for audit.

VOTE: YES – 7; NO – 0

*Approved
warrants and
school lunch
report*

On motion of Troy Buckley, seconded by Alfred Tomaselli, the Board voted to approve Transfers (#2) as presented by the District Treasurer.

VOTE: YES – 7; NO – 0

*Approved
Transfers (#2)*

On motion of Prudence Kunert, seconded by Troy Buckley, the Board voted to accept the Revised Agenda.

VOTE: YES – 7; NO – 0.

*Accepted Revised
Agenda*

K-12 PRINCIPAL’S REPORT:

Mrs. O’Shaughnessy offered the following report:

Student Highlights:

- ✓ Mrs. O’Shaughnessy advised the Board that tomorrow 13 of our 9 – 12 students will travel on a bus with student from T.I. Alex Bay, Sackets Harbor and Carthage to attend a public forum in Albany. The bus trip is funded by NYSUT. Students will have an opportunity to meet with Senators Patti Ritchie and Joe Griffo as well as Assemblywoman Addie Russell. The purpose is to discuss state aid for school districts.
- ✓ Our Youth Advisory Council competed in conjunction with Lowville Academy’s students for extra funding from their sponsor. They presented their Backpack Program and won an additional \$2500.00 to support that initiative for the next five years.
- ✓ Student of the Month will be selected differently starting in March. Middle School Team and High School Team will each collectively select one student. This is different from each teacher selecting one student. The hope is that students will find the award more meaningful and all teachers will participate.
- ✓ The NHS inductions ceremony went very smoothly. Mrs. Jones improved her changes a bit more this year. The experience is more special for the students because of it.
- ✓ Extra supports have been put in place for a handful of students who didn’t pass essential regents exams in January.

Administrative Highlights:

- ✓ The curriculum workday on the afternoon of February 13 was very productive. Some grades completed their math curriculum matrixes while others got a great start. Non-math and non-ELA teachers unpacked their Core Curriculum and were introduced to their upcoming Student Learning Objectives mandate.
- ✓ Arrangements are being made to attempt to offer more dual enrollment courses so students have more opportunities to earn college credit before graduating from CCS. Donna Zehr who will become an adjunct JCC professor, will offer Spanish V, therefore earning students college credit for Spanish.

- ✓ The Math and ELA 3-8 testing schedule is completed and distributed.
- ✓ The scoring schedule for May 1 is drafted and will be discussed with teachers before final distribution.
- ✓ Just a note to share that the new surveillance system has been used in more than one investigation and has proved instrumental in solving some tricky cases.
- ✓ Review of Principal APPR rubrics has begun.
- ✓ Lead Evaluator training continues. Module 5 has now been completed by Mr. Munn as well as herself.

Upcoming events:

- ✓ Feb 28- STARS Public Meeting
- ✓ Mar 1- Pee Wee Wrestling Club's Spaghetti Dinner
- ✓ Mar 2- STARS Indoor Soccer Tournament
- ✓ Mar 3- Ski Club Trip to Whiteface
- ✓ Mar 4- Circus
- ✓ Mar 8- Seniors vs. Faculty Basketball
- ✓ Mar 16- Early Dismissal for Curriculum Work
- ✓ Mar 16- St. Patrick's Day Dance
- ✓ Mar 22- Elementary Music Concert

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES:

Mr. Munn offered the following report:

- ✓ UPK data suggests significant improvements in areas related to Kindergarten literacy skills. Rhyming and Phoneme Segmentation currently require significant amounts of remediation at the Kindergarten level. Most of our UPK students have already mastered these skills.
- ✓ Safety Committee has solicited support from law enforcement in enforcing parking violations on Loud Street.
- ✓ Changes in bus routes will allow increased access to academic programs for our students who attend Lowville Special Education programs. This is in direct response to NYS audit of BOCES Special Education programs.
- ✓ The half day professional development day led to significant progress in curricula development in math.
- ✓ Staff has met to discuss starting a community garden. We have successfully acquired resources to begin with two 3'x24' raised beds. A focus will be on planting items that can be harvested during the school year. In the future we hope to add a compost pile and greenhouse.
- ✓ A BOCES Social Worker, Melissa Rookman, MLSW, has been recruited to assist with counseling demands related to loss of our School Psychologist. Ms. Rookman will provide counseling to students with IEP's, however, we will not be able to be reimbursed for services through Medicaid as no supervisor is available to allow Medicaid billing.

Special Education

Date	CSE	CPSE	504
8/19/10	58	5	12
8/22/11	59	0	21
9/26/11	66	0	20
10/24/11	65	1	20
11/28/11	65	1	20
12/21/11	66	1	20
1/23/12	67	1	21
2/27/12	70	3	20

- CSE – 3 pending referrals, 4 pending transfer ins, 1 transfer out
- CPSE – 1 pending referral, 2 transfer in
- 504 – 1 declassified

Upcoming events:

- ✓ February 28-29th Primary Project Supervisor's Training (Utica)
- ✓ March 14-15 CSE Chairperson's Conference (Lake Placid)
- ✓ March 22nd Elementary Red, White and Blue Concert

At 7:05 p.m. Mrs. O'Shaughnessy and Mr. Munn left the meeting to attend the STARS public comment meeting in room 312.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

Mr. Connell and Mrs. Mundy talked to the Board about the tax levy threshold. Mrs. Mundy shared what the District has to report on Thursday (February 29, 2012), stating that the formula is driven by the comptroller.

Mr. Connell distributed blank Superintendent Evaluation Forms to Board Members requesting they complete the same and get them back to President Robert Stackel. He noted he and Mrs. O’Shaughnessy will report on Board Goals at next Tuesday’s (March 6) meeting.

The village water conundrum has been resolved. After much investigation, it has been determined that the problem was a software problem within the device which reads the water meters. The problem only affected 801 housing and the school. A corrected bill has received; instead of \$16,000.00 the corrected bill is \$1,631.50.

Finishing touches on the building project is a work in progress. Contractors worked some last week (February break) but they have not completed everything on the punch list. It was decided that the Contractors will be billed for Watchdog Services from this date on. The alternative is that we hire someone else to complete the punch list and back bill the contractors but that does not make sense as these contractors are familiar with the project and know exactly what needs to be done.

There is nothing new to report on the budget and currently we are looking at a \$150,000.00 gap which includes a summer school program and a half-time math/science teacher.

The APPR has to be in place by January 17 of 2013 or 4% of the District’s state aid will be taken away. The District get “bonus points” if the APPR is in place by September 1, 2012.

CCS Board Member Lynn Murray will again run for the BOCES Board.

All fobs work on all doors which have fob entrances. Mr. Connell has talked with New York State Trooper Jeff Stevenson with regard to implementing our closed campus for safety reasons. The plan is all doors will be locked by 8:15 a.m., with the exception of the main front door (by the flagpole) and the District Office door. Mary Shambo will be the gate keeper. Doors will be unlocked at 2:40 p.m.

Mr. Connell indicated there is a possibility he will be required to conduct a Superintendent’s Hearing on Friday with regard to a student who is attending an 8:1+1 program at Lowville Academy & Central School.

Mr. Connell will conduct a *School Messenger* survey on Thursday of this week to canvass residents’ feelings about changing the school day, starting September 2012 to 8:15 a.m. to 3:02 p.m. instead of 8:00 a.m. to 2:47 p.m. He advised unless there is overwhelming support, the school day will remain the same.

NEW BUSINESS:

On motion of Lynn Murray, seconded by Kim Vogt, the Board voted to approve the following applications for Use of Facilities:

- (a) Request Kathleen Dawson, Zumba Instructor, to use a large room on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for the purpose of fitness exercise beginning May 1, 2012 through June 21, 2012.
- (b) Request from Cindy Carroll, President, Copenhagen PeeWee Wrestling Program, to use the large gymnasium on March 18, 2012 between 10:45 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. for a PeeWee Wrestling Dual.

VOTE: YES – 7; NO – 0

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

VOTE: YES – 7; NO – 0

Approved Applications for Use of Facilities

Approved recommendations from the Committee on Special Education

On motion of Prudence Kunert, seconded by Koreen Freeman, the Board voted to appoint the following substitute staff:

- (a) Cheryl L. Nowicki – substitute teacher
- (b) Katherine Smith – substitute teacher
- (c) Sean McAuliffe – substitute teacher
- (d) Dawn R. Carroll – substitute teacher and substitute teacher aide, pending fingerprint clearance
- (e) Ashley Saupp – substitute teacher

VOTE: YES – 7; NO – 0

Approved the appointment of substitutes

On motion of Koreen Freeman, seconded by Prudence Kunert, the Board voted to approve request from Copenhagen junior, Sydney O’Shaughnessy, to compete as an individual athlete in spring track being coached and practiced at Carthage Central School as was done by Sydney in 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011; the parents bear responsibility for transportation.

VOTE: YES – 7; NO – 0

Approved request from Sydney O’Shaughnessy to compete as an individual athlete

On motion of Prudence Kunert, seconded by Troy Buckley, the Board voted to approve the appointment of Amanda Kloster as Parent Member of the Committee on Special Education and the Committee on Pre-School Special Education.

VOTE: YES – 7; NO – 0

Approved the appointment of Amanda Kloster as parent member of the Committees on CSE and CPSE

With regard to the School’s Anti-Bullying Policy which is on the agenda for a first reading, the Board asked that said policy be included within the Code of Conduct in addition to being a separate policy. Mr. Connell indicated that it will be included in the Code of Conduct. The Board also questioned a reference to the Board on page 3 of the policy as well as the lack of legal citing. There was no action taken on this proposed policy.

No action taken on the Anti-Bullying Policy

On motion of Kim Vogt, seconded by Koreen Freeman, the Board of Education approved resolution enacting a new requirement that all students in grades 9 – 12 take at least 6.5 credits per year, starting with the 2012 – 2013 school year.

VOTE: YES – 7; NO – 0

Approved resolution requiring all students in grades 9 – 12 take at least 6.5 credits per year

On motion of Alfred Tomaselli, seconded by Troy Buckley, the Board voted to accept letter of resignation of Amie Pelton, School Psychologist, from her .3 position at Copenhagen Central School, effective February 25, 2012.

VOTE: YES – 7; NO – 0

Accepted Letter of resignation from Amie Pelton, School Psychologist

On motion of Koreen Freeman, seconded by Kim Vogt, the Board voted to approve contract in the amount of \$1,830.00 with the Watertown City School District which provides health services for Copenhagen District pupils attending private schools located within said District according to §912 of the Education Law.

VOTE: YES – 7; NO – 0

Approved contract in the amount of \$1,830.00 with the Watertown City School District

On motion of Koreen Freeman, seconded by Prudence Kunert, the Board voted to accept Internal Audit Report (Risk Assessment Analysis and Report on Internal Controls) for 2011 – 2012 of Poulsen & Podvin, P.C. as presented by Mr. Bruce Poulsen.

VOTE: YES – 7; NO – 0

Kim Vogt moved the following resolution which was seconded by Troy Buckley, to wit:

RESOLUTION OF INTENT REGARDING PROPOSALS FOR THE SALE AND ISSUANCE OF REFUNDING BONDS OF THE COPENHAGEN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, LEWIS AND JEFFERSON COUNTIES, NEW YORK

WHEREAS, the Copenhagen Central School District, Lewis and Jefferson Counties, New York (Hereinafter, the “District” or the “School District”) issued certain bonds (the “2003 Bonds”) on June 15, 2003 pursuant to certain bond resolutions dated April 24, 2000 and May 27, 2003, to pay the cost of the construction of additions to the school and the reconstruction and renovation of the school and bus garage, and to pay the cost of providing furniture, furnishings, and equipment therefor, together with bonding and legal fees; and

WHEREAS, certain of the bonds dated June 15, 2003 and originally issued by the District on that date were subject to redemption prior to maturity, including those with the following maturity dates:

- June 15, 2013,
- June 15, 2014,
- June 15, 2015,
- June 15, 2016,
- June 15, 2017,
- June 15, 2018,
- June 15, 2019,
- June 15, 2020,
- June 15, 2021,
- June 15, 2022, and
- June 15, 2023

(the “2003 Bonds which are subject to redemption prior to maturity”); and

WHEREAS, the District has become aware that, due to the difficult economic climate worldwide and due to the maintaining of low interest rates by the Federal Reserve Board, it is very likely that the District’s interest costs for the 2003 Bonds which are subject to redemption prior to maturity could be substantially reduced by the issuance, in 2012 or in a subsequent year, of a series of bonds to refund the 2003 bonds which are subject to redemption prior to maturity; and

WHEREAS, the District has been informed by its financial advisor that the issuance of the contemplated 2012 Refunding Bonds shall result in a net present value savings to the District by reason of the affected 2003 Bonds being able to be called and refunded in 2012 or in a subsequent year with lower interest rates; and

WHEREAS, the School District has the power and authority to issue refunding bonds of the School District for the purpose of refunding and thereby refinancing the Bonds, including provision for incidental costs of issuance in connection therewith, pursuant to the provisions of §90.10 of the Local Finance Law of the State of new York and §3602(8)(g) of the Education Law (the “Refunding Law”); and

WHEREAS, §3602(8)(g)(iv) of the Education law of the State of new York requires that a school district which intends to so refund outstanding indebtedness from the proceeds of a refunding debt obligation of the school district, adopt a declaration of official intent to

Accepted internal Audit Report (Risk Assessment Analysis and Report on Internal Controls) for 2011 – 2012 of Poulsen & Podvin

Approved resolution regarding proposals for the sale and issuance of refunding of refunding bonds

accept and consider proposals for the completion of such transaction at a regular public meeting to be held at least 14 days after making such a declaration and prior to the determination to proceed with any such transaction; and

WHEREAS, such determination may be in the form of a resolution of a school district board of education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Copenhagen Central School District, Lewis and Jefferson Counties, New York as follows:

Section 1. The Board of Education of the School District hereby finds and determines:

(a) By virtue of the Local Finance Law and the Education Law, the School District has been vested with all powers necessary and convenient to issue bonds to refund the bonds issued by the District on June 15, 2003 which are subject to redemption prior to maturity, and to exercise all powers granted to it under the Local Finance law and the Education Law.

(b) It is the intent of the School District to sell and issue its refunding bonds (the "2012 Refunding Bonds") for the purpose of refunding, and thereby refinancing, all or a portion of the 2003 Bonds which will mature between June 15, 2013 and June 15, 2023, including provision for incidental costs of issuance in connection therewith, pursuant to the provisions of the Local Finance Law and the Education Law.

(c) In anticipation of the sale and issuance of the 2012 Refunding Bonds, the School District hereby states its intention to consider proposals for the refunding of the 2003 Bonds which are subject to redemption prior to maturity, including the requisite refunding financial plan or plans through the issuance of refunding bonds, at a public meeting to be held not earlier than 14 days after the date hereof.

(d) The Board of Education hereby establishes that it will consider such proposals for the refunding of the 2003 Bonds which are subject to redemption prior to maturity, including the requisite refunding financial plan or plans through the issuance of refunding bonds, at its next regular meeting, namely at 6:30 p.m. on March 26, 2012, at Copenhagen Central School in the Village of Copenhagen, New York.

Section 2. A copy of this resolution shall be placed on file in the office of the School District Clerk where the same shall be available for inspection during business hours

Section 3: This resolution shall take effect immediately.

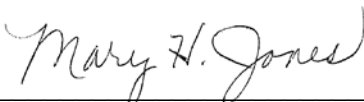
VOTE: YES – 7; NO – 0

DISCUSSION:

1. Mr. Tomaselli has a concern with regard to the health class curriculum. Mr. Connell will check into it.
2. Mrs. Kunert advised she received a request from Marion Trieste of OWN Energy, a wind power development company, who wants to meet with Mrs. Kunert and any other interested Board Members on March 8th at 1:00 p.m. She advised the purpose is to sell the idea of a wind project. Mr. Murray and Mrs. Vogt are interested in attending.

At 8:05 p.m. and on motion of Koreen Freeman, seconded by Troy Buckley, the Board voted to adjourn.

VOTE: YES – 7; NO – 0



School District Clerk