

Minutes – Business Meeting – Board of Education – New Paltz Central High School – November 2, 2011 – 7:00 PM

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM by Donald Kerr, Board President.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Stephen Bagley
Kathleen Tobin Flusser
Donald Kerr
Patrick Rausch
Edgar Rodriguez
Daniel Torres

QUORUM CHECK

EXCUSED: Robert Rich

ALSO PRESENT: Maria Rice, Superintendent of Schools
Steven Latino, Attorney for the District
Richard Linden, Assistant Superintendent
NPES Representatives – Arrived 6:30 PM

ROLL CALL The roll was called as reflected above.

ROLL CALL

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Edgar Rodriguez and seconded by Patrick Rausch that the Board of Education move into Executive Session at 6:05 PM for the purpose of discussing the employment history of particular individuals and discussing contract negotiations.

Motion carried 6 - 0 with 6 members voting.

Out of Executive Session - Motion made by Stephen Bagley and seconded by Daniel Torres that the Board return to Public Session at 7:02 PM.

Motion carried 6 - 0 with 6 members voting.

CALL TO ORDER

CALL TO ORDER

The Public Meeting was called to order at 7:09 PM by Donald Kerr, Board President.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

PLEDGE

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Stephen Bagley
Kathleen Tobin Flusser
Donald Kerr
Patrick Rausch
Edgar Rodriguez
Daniel Torres

QUORUM CHECK

EXCUSED: Robert Rich

ALSO PRESENT: Maria Rice, Superintendent of Schools
Debora Banner, Assistant Superintendent
Richard Linden, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Jo-Anne Dobbins, Director of Pupil Personnel Services
Dr. C. Khoury, District Superintendent Ulster County BOCES
Beverly Sickler, Clerk Pro Tempore
Members of the Public and Press

ROLL CALL The roll was called as reflected above.

ROLL CALL

Patrick Rausch asked that Board members be informed as to the rules for missed meetings. He expressed concern that Robert Rich could exceed the number of allowable absences without being aware that he may or may not be in jeopardy of removal from the Board.

RECOGNITION – SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION WEEK – OCTOBER 31- NOVEMBER 4

Superintendent Rice thanked members of the Board for their commitment and service to the Board of Education. She presented *Certificates of Appreciation* to each member while Beverly Sickler, Clerk ProTempore, read the *Proclamation of Governor Cuomo* declaring School Board Recognition Week to be celebrated by school districts throughout New York State from October 31, 2011 to November 4, 2011.

AGENDA CHANGES

AGENDA CHANGES

No agenda changes were made.

Motion made by Daniel Torres and seconded by Stephen Bagley that the Board of Education approve the Agenda as presented.

Motion carried 6 – 0 with 6 members voting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Rebecca Masters: MS Teacher – School Calendar and February Break
Stephen Bagley: Board Member – Congratulations to Pee Wee and Junior Cheerleading Teams for their success

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

BOARD COMMUNICATION

2% TAX CAP: IT'S NOT 2% NOR IS THERE A CAP – Dr. C. Khoury, Ulster County BOCES District Superintendent

President Kerr commented on the importance of making the community aware of the true meaning of the 2% tax cap. The Board of Education in an effort to inform the public invited Dr. Khoury, District Superintendent, to provide information to help taxpayers understand the implications of Tax Cap Legislation which was adopted by the State Legislature in June 2011. Superintendent Rice introduced Dr. Khoury followed by Patrick Rausch briefly commenting on Dr. Khoury's outstanding credentials.

Dr. Khoury provided a PowerPoint presentation during which he spoke of the impact of Tax Levy Cap Legislation on the component school districts. He gave an overview of the various aspects of the legislation and explained the ramifications of the requirements of the law on the school districts. He outlined the role of Ulster BOCES is helping the districts to meet the challenges of this new legislation and offered to make himself available to answer questions during the meeting as well as in the future.

Questions and answer followed.

Barbara Carroll, member of the UC BOCES Board, admonished the members to use BOCES services so that the district can get where it needs to be. Services require that at least two school districts sign up for a program.

Mr. Kerr ended the discussion by thanking Dr. Khoury for being present at the meeting.

INITIAL BUDGET GOALS & PARAMETER DISCUSSION

President Kerr commented that this year's budget process is challenging. The parameters now involve new rules. Members shared their views on how to proceed given the new tax cap legislation. Some felt that the framework for decisions about the budget must factor in program and quality of education. The members discussed where they want to start and what the priorities should be. Should they begin with 2%, or less or more? Should they go for a 50% + 1 voter approval or the 60% affirmative vote? The status quo is not possible. Cuts will be necessary but the board needs to draw the line as to where the cuts will be made. Mrs. Rice asked that the board provide the priorities and parameters and to let

her know up front what is off limits. Superintendent Rice was instructed to come back with three budgets. One that is a threshold budget, one that is a 2% budget, and one that is educationally sound (not a rollover).

BOE OPERATING GUIDELINES

Mr. Kerr reviewed passed conversations regarding the ending time of meetings stating that the goal is to strive to change the end time of meetings from 11:00 PM to 10:00 PM. Discussion followed.

Motion made by Daniel Torres and seconded by Kathleen Tobin Flusser that the Board of Education approve the BOE Operating Guidelines as amended.

Motion carried 6 – 0 with 6 members voting.

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS – November 30, 2011

President Kerr explained that Community Conversations are a way that community members can have a part in decision making, noting that this approach is well used in a variety of applications. The goal is to get a cross section from the community to address topics of interest by breaking into small groups. Spokespersons from each group then talk about where individuals agree or disagree. This method allows large groups of people with diverse points of view to participate and play a role in the decision making process.

November 30, 2011 will be the first *Community Conversation* at which the Board will seek guidance from the community regarding the district's facilities. Mr. Kerr stated the questions that will be presented are whether to keep and maintain the campuses as they are now or try to reduce the number of campuses in order to reduce operating costs such as busing and energy. The viability of these two paths will be possible topics for community discussion.

Members discussed the writing of a letter to the public to invite the community to these conversations. Members reviewed a draft letter for this purpose. Further explanation is required in the letter to make the public aware of all the issues. The invitation needs to go to the media. An Ad Hoc Committee of Donald Kerr, Patrick Rausch and KT Tobin Flusser was created for the purpose of finalizing this letter and getting it to the newspapers as soon as possible. Other members of the Board agreed to this arrangement. In the meantime, a press release will come from the Superintendent's office with basic information about the November 30th event so that the public is aware and can save the date. The letter from the Board to the public will contain detailed information.

NYSSBA CONVENTION REPORT

Dr. Edgar Rodriguez reported on his recent trip to Buffalo, New York for the NYSSBA Convention in October. He recommended travel in the future should be by train or air as future conventions will be in Buffalo and Rochester. The trips are long and take place during the time of year when inclement weather can pose hazards to driving. He could not vote at the delegate assembly due to personal scheduling conflicts but he did report the following. Out of 21 resolutions, only 2 failed- Performance Pay for Teachers (#10) and Grade Weighting (#21). All others passed. He reported further on a number of the workshops he attended that proved to be worthwhile. Mr. Rausch attended the convention in his capacity as a Trustee serving on the Ulster County BOCES Board.

BOE PROXIMITY CARDS

Superintendent Rice explained that BOCES recently gave their trustees proximity cards to accommodate their board meetings by allowing trustees to access the building. While she understands the reason for BOCES action, she asked why prox cards would be needed by this district's Board members. The difference between prox cards and name badges was explained. Opting for badges would identify individuals as board members. It would be used for identification only, not for access to the buildings. Mrs. Rice asked the reason even for identification since they would need to go the main office and get a visitor's pass. Discussion followed with members suggesting possible scenarios that might require them to have a name badge. Some expressed a concern over the District Office door not being open for committee meetings. Mrs. Rice agreed that the process needs to be adjusted to be sure that custodial workers know to have the District Office door unlocked for committee meetings. Since there was no motion to take any action regarding this discussion, Mr. Kerr moved on with the meeting.

Edgar asked about getting business cards for board members. Members will think on the matter and return to this discussion if so desired.

MINUTES OF MEETING

MINUTES

Motion made by Kathleen Tobin Flusser and seconded by Daniel Torres that the Board of Education approve the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education accept the minutes of the Business Meeting of October 19, 2011.

Motion carried 6 - 0 with 6 members voting.

PERSONNEL (CONSENT AGENDA)

PERSONNEL

Motion made by Daniel Torres and seconded by Donald Kerr that the Board of Education approve the following personnel (consent agenda) resolutions:

8.1 Instructional Appointment - Substitutes

Recommendation that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent, does hereby appoint the following substitute teachers with remuneration as per rates established at the July 6, 2011 Organizational Meeting.

Name	Effective Date
Lindsey Marchetti	11/3/11 - 6/30/12
Brett Longwell	11/3/11 - 6/30/12

8.2 Nurse Substitute Appointment - Licensed

Recommendation that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent, does hereby appoint the following licensed substitute nurse at a per diem rate of \$100 for the 2011/2012 school year:

Name	Effective Date
Thomas Foley	effective 11/3/11 - 6/30/12

8.3 Instructional Leave Replacement Resignation

Recommendation - that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby approve the resignation of the following instructional employee:

Name	Position	Effective Date
Laura Van Etten	Elementary Leave Replacement	12/31/11

8.4 Instructional Probationary Appointment

Recommendation - that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint the following instructional employee, with remuneration as per NPUT contract.

Name	Position	Effective Date	Salary/Step
Laura Van Etten	Elementary Teacher	1/1/12 - 1/1/15	MA Step C prorated (\$60,490)

8.5 Instructional Appointment – Leave Replacement

Recommendation - that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent, does hereby approve the appointment of the following instructional employee to a leave replacement, with remuneration as per NPUT contract:

Name	Position	Effective Date	Salary/Step
Jessica Holter (Nicole Sullivan)	Music	11/3/11 - 2/1/12	BA Step C (\$51,620) prorated

8.6 Advisorships

Recommendation - that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint the following instructional employees to the following advisorships for the 2011/2012 school year, with remuneration as per NPUT contract:

High School

Jen Cone	Technology/Computer Club
Eliezer Espinosa	Youth for Unity

8.7 Correcting Resolution – 2011-2012 Winter Coaching Appointments

Recommendation - that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby approve a correcting resolution to change the salaries for the 2011-2012 Winter Coaching Appointments from a resolution previously approved at the October 19, 2011 Board Meeting. The salaries for the individuals below were each approved at \$2,250, and are to be corrected to the amounts as follows:

Name	Title	Stipend
William Hennessey	Modified Wrestling	\$2,340
David Moore	Modified Boys Basketball	\$2,340
Nicole Vitale	Modified Girls Basketball	\$2,340

8.8 2011-2012 Winter Coaching Appointments

Recommendation - that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent, does hereby appoint the following coaches for the 2011-2012 school year with remuneration per NPUT contract:

Name	Title
Harry Cooper	Varsity Gymnastics
Marissa Morris	Varsity Boys Swim Assistant

8.9 Request for Approval to Create A New Instructional Position

WHEREAS, a .5 FTE Special Education classroom teacher position was previously abolished and it is now necessary due to enrollment to add a new part-time Special Education classroom teacher position; THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby creates a .5 FTE Special Education classroom teaching position.

8.10 Non-Instructional Appointments

Recommendation - that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint the following:

Name	Title	Effective Date	Salary	Hours
Phyllis Horbert	Sub. Food Service Helper	10/25/2011	\$10.50/hr	as needed
Melinda Wright	Sub. Clerical	10/31/2011 – 11/14/2011	\$14.00/hr	as needed
Melinda Wright	Account Clerk/Typist	11/15/2011	\$28,000/yr (pro-rated)	per Terms & Conditions
Christine Ciagrasso	Sub. Food Service Helper	10/31/2011	\$10.50/hr	as needed
Bernardine Nowacki	Sub. Food Service Helper	10/31/2011	\$10.50/hr	as needed
Maria Martinez	Sub. Teacher Aide	10/25/2011	\$10.50/hr	as needed
Maria Martinez	Sub School Monitor	10/25/2011	\$9.00/hr	as needed

Discussion followed. Patrick Rausch asked that the stipends for coaching positions be included since this is public information. All members agreed that they want to see stipend amounts for coaches as well as advisorships. Superintendent Rice agreed to have a correcting resolution for Personnel items 8.6 and 8.8 on the next agenda to include the amounts of the stipends. Members agreed that it is not necessary to do correcting resolutions for appointments prior to this meeting. Future agendas are to include stipend amounts of coaches and advisors.

MOTION to approve personnel consent agenda resolutions carried 6 - 0 with 6 members voting.

OLD BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS (CONSENT AGENDA)

NEW BUSINESS

Motion made by Kathleen Tobin Flusser and seconded by Daniel Torres that the Board of Education approve the following Consent Agenda Resolutions 10.1, 10.2 and 10.3:

10.1 Request for Approval of Committee on Special Education Recommendations and Student Placements

Recommendation - that the following resolution be approved: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the New Paltz Central School District approve the Committee on Special Education (CSE) and Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) recommendations and student placements: 11273, 12019, 12632, 8036, 12428, 12427, 10946, 12143, 12695, 12678, 12652, 10804, 1753, 11540, 9827, 10804, 9176, 10030, 9615, 12682, 9312, 9971, 9624, 1805, 2571, 8127.

10.2 Request for Approval of Budgetary Transfer Recommendation - that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, and Richard A. Linden, Assistant Superintendent for Business, does hereby approve the following transfer:

Transfer (To)

A2110100 Teacher Sal Pre K \$ 370
A211013020 Teacher Sal 9-12 \$200,000

Transfer (From)

A211012011 Teacher Sal, K-2 \$150,370
A211012012 Teacher Sal, 3-5 \$ 50,000

10.3 Request for Approval to Appoint the Firm of Raymond G. Preusser, CPA, PC as Internal Auditor

Recommendation – that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Audit & Finance Committee, does hereby appoint the firm of Raymond G. Preusser, CPA, PC as Internal Auditor for the New Paltz Central School District.

Motion to approve New Business Consent Agenda Resolutions carried 6 – 0 with 6 members voting.

Patrick Rausch and Donald Kerr both congratulated Raymond Preusser for being appointed as the district’s new Internal Auditor.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Motion made by Daniel Torres and seconded by Donald Kerr that the Treasurer’s Report for September 2011 and Budget Transfer Schedule #3 be approved.

Motion carried 6 – 0 with 6 members voting.

OTHER DISCUSSION

OTHER DISCUSSION

Edgar Rodriguez – Commented that the NYSSBA Convention was depressing in that when he interacted with other board members from the State they spoke of catastrophic happening in their districts.

Patrick Rausch – Commented that Buffalo is a long way to go for a convention but the people in Buffalo were gracious and made them feel welcome. He attended the Refit Breakfast reporting that it dealt with Long Island Schools primarily who also want equitable distribution of aid.

Edgar Rodriguez – Reported on Auctions International which is a service that sells buses on-line. He had opportunity to speak with a rep from this company as well as take a tour of one of the buses that they sell.

Patrick Rausch – As Chair of the Audit Committee he noted that he had made repeated requests to the Internal Auditor for the report. Superintendent Rice announced that the report had just come and that it would be delivered to the members along with the State of the District Report.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURN

ADJOURN

Motion made by Stephen Bagley and seconded by Daniel Torres that the Board adjourn at 9:45 PM.

Motion carried 6 - 0 with 6 members voting.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly J. Sickler
Clerk Pro Tempore