

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

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM by Patrick Rausch, Board President.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Barbara Carroll (arrived at 7:07 PM)  
Kathleen Tobin Flusser  
Patrick Rausch  
Robert Rich  
Edgar Rodriguez

QUORUM CHECK

EXCUSED: Daniel Torres  
Stephen Bagley

ALSO PRESENT: Maria Rice, Superintendent of Schools

**ROLL CALL** The roll was called as reflected above.

ROLL CALL

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Dr. Rodriguez and seconded by Mr. Rich that the Board of Education move into Executive Session at 6:03 PM for the purpose of discussing the employment history of particular individuals, discussing the school history of particular students in accordance with their FERPA rights, and discussing matters made exempt by FERPA. Motion carried 4 - 0 with 4 members voting. Ms. Carroll was not yet present during voting.

Out of Executive Session - Motion made by Mr. Rich and seconded by Ms. Tobin Flusser that the Board return to Public Session at 6:28 PM. Motion carried 5 - 0 with 5 members voting.

**CALL TO ORDER**

CALL TO ORDER

The Public Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Patrick Rausch, Board President.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Stephen Bagley  
Barbara Carroll  
Kathleen Tobin Flusser  
Patrick Rausch  
Robert Rich  
Edgar Rodriguez

QUORUM CHECK

EXCUSED: Daniel Torres

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  
Elena Maskell, District Clerk  
Members of the Public and Press

**ROLL CALL** The roll was called as reflected above.

ROLL CALL

**PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

PLEDGE

**AGENDA CHANGES** None

AGENDA CHANGES

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** None

PUBLIC COMMENT

**BOARD COMMUNICATIONS**

BOARD COMMUNICATION

**COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

Mr. Rausch stated Don Kerr’s resignation left some spots open on several committees. Mr. Rich has asked to be replaced on the Facilities Committee. Mr. Rausch said he would like to appoint Ms. Tobin Flusser and Dr. Rodriguez to the Facilities Committee. Mr. Rausch will temporarily be the Chair of the Facilities Committee until either Ms. Tobin Flusser or Dr. Rodriguez want to move into that position.

Mr. Rausch stated community members on committees have been successful on both the Legislative Action Advisory Committee and the Audit Committee. He stated the Facilities Committee will be discussing appointing a community member to their committee at the December 14, 2011 meeting.

Mr. Rausch noted that Carol Roper was in attendance at the meeting. Ms. Roper has applied to be a community member on the Legislative Action Advisory Committee. Ms. Roper's appointment is under New Business. Ms. Carroll made a motion to move New Business Item 9.3 up in the agenda to be voted on by the full board correcting the dates as reflected below. Motion was seconded by Mr. Rich.

### **9.3 Request for Approval to Appoint Community Member to the Legislative Action Advisory Committee**

Recommendation – that the following resolution be approved: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the appointment of the following community member to the Legislative Action Advisory Committee:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Carol Roper	12/08/11 – 6/30/12

All in favor with none opposed. Motion carried 6-0.

Mr. Rausch stated there is a community member who has volunteered to be a community member of the Audit Committee and this person will be interviewed at the December 14, 2011 Audit Committee Meeting.

Mr. Rausch appointed Ms. Carroll as the Board Representative to the Health Advisory Committee. Mr. Rausch also noted there is a Board vacancy on the Legislative Action Advisory Committee. If anyone is interested, please let Mr. Rausch know.

### **COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS**

Superintendent Rice stated last week the Board had a Community Conversations for the public to attend to discuss matters regarding the facilities master plan. Three options were given to the public to discuss and decide. The first option dealt with \$12-15 million in repairs and renovations being taken directly out of the operational budget. The second option had the same \$12-15 million in repairs and renovations but to pay for those from a bond(s). The third option dealt with building upgrades or possible consolidation of campuses with bond(s) over time.

Mrs. Rice stated each of the tables of attendees discussed the different options and the input has been collected and will be put on-line. Mrs. Rice noted that there was a diverse group of people there, and the feedback was well thought out and valuable. As a result of the information compiled, a survey is being developed by the Facilities Committee of the Board that will be given out to the taxpayers in January 2012. The results of the survey will be analyzed and used to present a both long term and short term plans for the district's facilities. Mr. Rausch asked Board Members to review the information sent out and let the Facilities Committee members know if anyone has any issues to be addressed.

Everyone agreed that taking money out of the operating budget was not an option. There were split opinions about the other two options. Superintendent Rice stated a combination of option two and three was discussed to include the \$12-15 million of health and safety costs and integrate those into a long-range plan while taking into consideration all facilities beyond immediate repair and looking into the future including a variety of different upgrades/renovations including possible consolidation of campuses. Maria C. Rice stated the group was clear that in this community, there will never be one solution that all taxpayers will agree on. The Board has to do their due diligence and come up with an educationally and fiscally sound plan while knowing that everyone will not agree.

Mr. Rausch said there will have to be some money spent now because there are buildings in need of repairs immediately. Mr. Rausch noted that despite the outcome, in order to maintain the facilities during the long-term plan. Ms. Carroll noted building trust and confidence is vital with the public regarding the information they receive, the amount of participation from the public, and in the Board's willingness to outreach to the community. Ms. Tobin Flusser thanked all of the community members that came out to take part in the discussion. Ms. Tobin Flusser encouraged people to complete the survey when they receive it. Dr. Rodriguez made a comment about people wanting specific numbers and savings that might take place with consolidation of the buildings. Mr. Rausch said they will need to get a general direction and from there hire experts to put flush out some of that data.

Mr. Rausch asked all Board Members to send any comments, suggestions, input to the Facilities Committee by the next Facilities Committee meeting on December 14, 2011. The Facilities Committee will be reviewing and finalizing the survey to present to the full board on December 21, 2011.

Superintendent Rice stated one of the community members suggested using the \$12-15 million as the first of a series of projects that goes out there and the success of that implementation that project will begin to build confidence in the Board and lead the way to the rest of the long-term plan.

**ULSTER COUNTY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM**

Mr. Rausch said each year they get the legislative program from the Ulster County School Boards Association. This program is for the next calendar year. Typically the Board is set to vote on all items in one resolution. This year, Ulster County School Boards Association has broken out each item of their Legislative Program for Boards to vote on one at a time. Ms. Tobin Flusser asked for members to note the items they are against. Mr. Rausch read the resolutions one by one and they were discussed.

1. Phasing out reliance on local property tax to provide a “sound basic education” state-wide in favor of a broader state-wide taxing system including income tax. (majority approves – Mr. Rausch disapproves)
2. To attract and retain regional education leaders, increase the salary and benefit cap on District Superintendents. (majority disapproves – Mr. Rich and Ms. Carroll approves)
3. Revision of the Contingency Revision of the Contingency Budget Law to exclude increases in Special Education, energy expenses, and health costs for staff and retirees from the formula. (majority approves)
4. Revision of the BOCES Aid Formula to encourage additional shared services including inter-municipal agreements, (i.e. snow-plowing, county-wide contracts, etc.). (majority approves)
5. Wicks Law Reform (majority approves - Ms. Tobin Flusser and Dr. Rodriguez disapprove)
6. Legislation that provides for:
  - a. Full state funding of existing mandates. (Majority Approves – Ms. Tobin Flusser and Dr. Rodriguez disapprove)
  - b. Legislative reform of existing cost drivers (ex. Triborough Amendment and Pension System reform). (majority approves – Ms. Tobin Flusser disapproves)
  - c. Full state funding of any and all new mandates. (majority approves)
  - d. The elimination of the requirement to publicly fund charter school initiatives. (majority approves)
7. The utilization of technology to reduce or eliminate redundant reporting requirements (annual Special Education reports; etc.). (majority approves)
8. Legislation that permits school districts whose Boards adopt budgets that stay at or below the permitted tax levy limit to forego the need to conduct an election on the budget question in May. (majority disapproves)

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**MINUTES**

Motion made by Ms. Tobin Flusser and seconded by Ms. Carroll 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 Workshop Meeting of November 16, 2011. Motion carried 6 - 0 with 6 members voting.

**PERSONNEL (CONSENT AGENDA) PERSONNEL**

Motion made by Mr. Rich and seconded by Ms. Tobin Flusser that the Board of Education approve the following personnel (consent agenda) resolutions: 7.1 though 7.5 correcting the date on Carol Ray’s appointment as reflected below:

**7.1 Instructional Part-time 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 part-time instructional employee for the 2011/2012 school year:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Salary/Step</b>
Carol Ray	(.5 ) Special Education Teacher	12/8/11 - 6/30/12	(.5) BA Step C \$51,620(prorated)

**7.2 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.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Jacqueline Howe	12/8/11 - 6/30/12
Lynda Rovatsos-Corey	12/8/11 - 6/30/12
Jessica Valdez	12/8/11 - 6/30/12

**7.3 Home Tutor**

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, on an as-needed basis with remuneration as per NPUT contract effective for the 2011-2012 school year:

**Name**

Shawn Doyle

**7.4 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:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Salary</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Michael McBride	Substitute Custodial Worker	11/18/2011	\$11.00/hr	as needed
Jesse Peck	Substitute School Bus Driver	12/1/2011	\$20.00/hr	as needed
Shawna Liucci	Substitute School Bus Driver	11/30/2011	\$20.00/hr	as needed
Megan Rushia	Substitute Food Service Helper	11/17/11	\$10.50/hr	as needed

**7.5 Non-Instructional Leave of Absence**

**Non-Instructional Leave of Absence**

Recommendation – that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby approve an unpaid leave of absence for the following non-instructional employee:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Effective</b>
Geri Stein-Sudano	Teacher Aide	November 18, 2011 to February 1, 2012 (unpaid)

MOTION carried 6 - 0 with 6 members voting.

**OLD BUSINESS** None

**OLD BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Motion made by Ms. Tobin Flusser and seconded by Mr. Bagley that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

**9.1 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: 12159, 10001, 12171, 10774, 12002, 10141, 12173, 12698, 9128, 12174, 12699, 11273, 10995, 12420, 11374, 11050, 1799, 12394.

All were in favor with none opposed. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion made by Mr. Rich and seconded by Ms. Carroll to approve the following resolution:

**9.2 Request for Acceptance of Donation for the New Paltz Wrestling Team**

Recommendation – that the following resolution be approved: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the New Paltz Central School District, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Maria C. Rice, does hereby accept a donation to the New Paltz Central Schools for sixteen (16) wrestling singlets for the New Paltz Wrestling Team, and directs the District Clerk to send a letter of appreciation from the Board of Education to Ryan McAleer for this donation.

All in favor with none opposed. Motion carried 6-0.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Motion made by Mr. Rich and seconded by Ms. Carroll to accept the Treasurer’s Report for October 2011 and Budget Transfer Schedule #4 be approved. Motion carried 6 – 0 with 6 members voting.

**OTHER DISCUSSION** - None

**OTHER DISCUSSION**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** - None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion made by Mr. Rich and seconded by Mr. Bagley to move into Executive Session at 7:53 PM to discuss matters made exempt by public officers law section 105 (a) – (h) and to discuss the employment history of particular individuals. Mr. Rausch noted that no action will be taken by the board after the executive session. Motion carried 6 - 0 with 6 members voting.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Stephen Bagley  
Barbara Carroll  
Kathleen Tobin Flusser  
Patrick Rausch  
Robert Rich  
Edgar Rodriguez

QUORUM CHECK

EXCUSED: Daniel Torres

ALSO PRESENT: Maria Rice, Superintendent  
Richard Linden, Assistant Superintendent for Business

Out of Executive Session

RETURN PUBLIC SESSION

Motion made by Mr. Rich and seconded by Mr. Bagley that the Board return to Public Session at 9:02 PM. Motion carried 6 - 0 with 6 members voting.

**ADJOURN**

**ADJOURN**

Motion made by Ms. Tobin Flusser and seconded by Dr. Rodriguez that the Board adjourn at 9:02 PM. Motion carried 6 - 0 with 6 members voting.

Respectfully submitted,

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Elena Rae Maskell  
District Clerk