

New Paltz Central School District Board of Education
Minutes – November 2, 2016 Workshop Meeting – High School 7:00 PM

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM by Aimee Hemminger, Board President.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

QUORUM CHECK

Brian Cournoyer
Alison Easton
Steven Greenfield
Aimee Hemminger
Michael O'Donnell
Sophia Skiles
Matthew Williams

ALSO PRESENT:

Maria Rice, Superintendent of Schools
Richard Linden, Assistant Superintendent for Business-left at 6:20 PM, returned at 6:25 PM, left at 6:36 PM.
Michelle Martoni, Assistant Superintendent for Educational Programs-left at 6:20 PM
Juan Zucchero arrived at 6:45 PM, left at 6:55 PM.
Margo May, Attorney-via phone at 6:25 PM

ROLL CALL

ROLL CALL

The roll was called as reflected above.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Alison Easton and seconded by Matthew Williams that the Board of Education move into Executive Session at 6:01 PM for the purpose of discussing proposed, pending or current litigation, discussing the employment history of a particular person or corporation, discussing matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation and discussing the proposed acquisition, sale, or lease of real property or proposed acquisition, sale or exchange of securities as per Public Officers Law Section 105(a-h). Motion carried 7 - 0 with 7 members voting.

DISTRICT CLERK PRO-TEMPORE

DISTRICT CLERK PRO-TEMPORE

Board President, Aimee Hemminger, appointed Maria C. Rice as District Clerk Pro-Tempore for the Executive Session portion of the meeting.

Out of Executive Session - Motion made by Steven Greenfield and seconded by Sophia Skiles that the Board return to Public Session at 7:02 PM. Motion carried 7 - 0 with 7 members voting.

CALL TO ORDER

CALL TO ORDER

The Public Meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM by Aimee Hemminger, Board President.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

QUORUM CHECK

Brian Cournoyer
Alison Easton
Steven Greenfield
Aimee Hemminger
Michael O'Donnell
Sophia Skiles
Matthew Williams

ALSO PRESENT:

Maria Rice, Superintendent of Schools
Michelle Martoni, Assistant Superintendent for Educational Programs
Richard Linden, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Barbara Clinton, Principal, New Paltz Central High School
Richard Wiesenthal, Principal, New Paltz Middle School
Audrey Wood, Principal, Lenape Elementary School
Debra Hogencamp, Principal, Duzine Elementary School

Ann Sheldon, Assistant Principal, Middle School
Dusti Callo, District Clerk
Student Representative
Members of the Public and Press

ROLL CALL The roll was called as reflected above.

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

PLEDGE

AGENDA CHANGES

AGENDA CHANGES

Motion made by Steven Greenfield and seconded by Matthew Williams to approve the changes to the agenda to include Item 13.6 Approval to Award Bids. Motion carried 7 to 0 with 7 members voting.

SPOTLIGHT ON PROGRAM

SPOTLIGHT ON PROGRAM

- Duzine Elementary School-Elementary Interdisciplinary Unit: *How do I affect my community? How does my community affect me?* Michaela Schaller, Kindergarten Teacher and Robin Taliaferro and Andrea Miele's First Grade Students

PUBLIC COMMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

STUDENT REP

- Jennie Mele

High School Senior and Student Representative Jennie Mele reported on fall sports, financial aid night, Superintendent's Conference Day scheduled for Tuesday, November 8th, portfolio day for art students, PSAT, end of the first quarter on November 10th, a mental health assembly that included a forum in response to the assembly, Red Ribbon Week, senior portraits, the Middle School blood drive taking place on November 8th and the talent show scheduled for December 1st.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS & DISCUSSION ITEMS

SUPT REPORT

- SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS
 - K-12 Racial Equity Curriculum
- SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS
 - Ulster BOCES Program Review: Dr. Charles Khoury, Ulster BOCES District Superintendent

Board President Aimee Hemminger asked that the members agree to move personnel item 11.11 to this point in the meeting. Members agreed.

11.11 Administrative Appointment-Probationary

Motion made by Brian Cournoyer and seconded by Sophia Skiles to approve the following:

Recommendation – that the New Paltz Central School District Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint **Juan Zucchero** to a four (4) year probationary appointment as Coordinator of Student Support Services in the tenure area of Coordinator of Student Support Services effective November 28, 2016 through November 27, 2020 at an annual salary for 2016-2017 of \$90,000.00 pro-rated plus a \$5,000 stipend, pro-rated.

Motion carried 7 to 0 with 7 members voting.

- Flipped Classrooms
 - High School: Kathryn Stewart and Joseph Haas
 - Middle School: Laura Bryant and Heather Lerner-Hopper

Board President Aimee Hemminger asked that the members agree to move the Capital Project Update to this point in the meeting. Members agreed.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

BOARD COMMUNICATION

- Capital Project Update: Bill Wisbauer, Tetra Tech Architects and Luis Rodriguez, The Palombo Group

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORTS (Continued)

- Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Meeting @ Ulster BOCES-Michelle Martoni, Assistant Superintendent for Educational Programs, Michael O’Donnell, Board Vice President, and Audrey Wood, Lenape Elementary School Principal

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

BOARD COMMUNICATION

- Ulster 2020 and Ulster County School Boards Association (UCSBA) Meeting

Board member Steven Greenfield announced that he was asked to chair the Legislative Action Committee at the County Level. Mr. Greenfield further asked the board members to please consider what item through the New Paltz Legislative Action Committee they would like to focus on.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CMTE REPORTS

- FACILITIES COMMITTEE-Steven Greenfield
- AUDIT COMMITTEE-Alison Easton

MINUTES OF MEETING

MINUTES

Motion made by Matthew Williams and seconded by Alison Easton 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 Regular Business Meeting of October 19, 2016. Motion carried 7 to 0 with 7 members voting.

PERSONNEL (CONSENT AGENDA)

PERSONNEL

Motion made by Brian Cournoyer and seconded by Alison Easton that the Board of Education approve the following personnel (consent agenda) resolutions, items 11.1 through 11.10:

11.1 Instructional Appointment-Substitutes

Recommendation that the New Paltz Central School District Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint the following substitute teachers with remuneration as per rates established at the July 13, 2016 Organizational Meeting:

Name	Effective Dates
Kate Nugent	11/3/16 – 6/30/17
Megan Warman	11/3/16 – 6/30/17
Jennifer Moretti	11/3/16 – 6/30/17

11.2 Instructional Appointment-Mentor

Recommendation that the New Paltz Central School District Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint the following instructional employee as a mentor for the 2016/2017 school year with remuneration as per NPUT contract:

Name
Erin Bulson

11.3 Instructional Leave of Absence

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

Name	Title	Effective Dates
Maggie Kievit	Teacher	10/21/16 – 6/30/17

11.4 Non-Instructional Appointments - Substitutes

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

Name	Title	Effective Date	Salary
Cynthia Velez	Substitute Clerical	10/24/2016	\$13.00/hr
Cynthia Velez	Substitute Teacher Aide	10/24/2016	\$11.00/hr
Sean Mitchell	Substitute Custodial Worker	10/21/2016	\$13.00/hr

11.5 Advisorships

The New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint the following advisors for the 2016/2017 school year, with remuneration as per NPUT contract:

Name	Title	Stipend
Jennifer Cone	High School Technology co-advisor	\$1,585
Alexis Mallory	High School Technology co-advisor	\$1,585

11.6 Coaching Resignation

The New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent, does hereby accept the resignation for the following employee:

Name	Title
Ryan McAleer	Wrestling Assistant

11.7 Coaching Appointments

The New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint the following coaches for the 2016/2017 school year, with remuneration as per NPUT contract:

Name	Title	Stipend
David Moore	Modified Boys Basketball	\$2,340
Ryan McAleer	JV Wrestling co-coach	\$1,640
James Baker	JV Wrestling co-coach	\$1,640
David Kelso	Modified Wrestling	\$2,340
Joseph Foti	Indoor Track Assistant	unpaid

11.8 Home Tutors

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 employees for the 2016-2017 school year:

Name
Ashlee M. Fazio
Claire Wasserman

11.9 Create New Position

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

Title	Effective Date
Teacher Aide 1.0 FTE	11/3/2016

11.10 Request for Approval of Settlement Agreement

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the terms of and authorizes its Superintendent of Schools to execute a Settlement Agreement between Employee No. 02100, and the New Paltz Central School District, dated November 2016 as presented to the Board at this meeting. A copy of said Settlement Agreement shall be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting.

Motion to approve items 11.1 through 11.10 carried 7 to 0 with 7 members voting.

OLD BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

Motion made by Matthew Williams and seconded by Alison Easton that the Board of Education approve the following:

12.1 Second Reading of the Legislative Action Committee’s recommended Public Comment from the New Paltz Central School District Board of Education regarding the New York State Education Department’s draft New York State P-12 English Language Arts and Mathematics Learning Standards

The New Paltz Board of Education urges the Board of Regents to reject the draft New York State P-12 English Language Arts and Mathematics Learning Standards put forth by the NYS Department of Education.

We reject the draft learning standards for the following reasons:

1. While these revisions have been called substantive ¹ and a “total reboot” ² of the Common Core Learning Standards, the draft standards reflect a rigid adherence to the original Common Core anchor standards. Of the 34 ELA anchor standards, 32 are word-for-word identical when compared to the original anchor standard. Of the two changes, one standard is deleted ³ and the other change is a minor edit of the text with no change to the substance of the standard.⁴ None of the eight Standards for Mathematical Practice have been changed.
2. A detailed examination ⁵ of draft Grade 2 ELA standards provides further evidence that changes to the learning standards are merely cosmetic. The 75 draft Grade 2 ELA learning standards can be classified as follows:
 - a. 24 standards (32%) are unchanged.
 - b. 37 standards (49%) are minor text edits with no change to the substance of the standard.⁶
 - c. 1 standard (1%) was moved or replicated from Grade 4.⁷
 - d. 4 standards (5%) were moved or replicated from Grade 3.⁸
 - e. 1 standard (1%) was moved or replicated from Grade 1.⁹
 - f. 3 standards (4%) are not standards (e.g. “Not applicable to this grade.”).
 - g. 3 standards (4%) are simple mergers of 2 old standards.¹⁰
 - h. 1 standard (1%) was moved to into the guidance area of the standards.
 - i. 1 standard (1%) is a fragment of the old standard.¹¹

In the draft standards document ¹² from NYSED, 27 of the 75 standards are noted as “new recommend standards” and Commissioner Elia claimed, “It isn’t just tinkering around the edges and doing small, little things”.¹ We reject the claims that these standards are new and that the changes are substantial.

3. The draft revisions do not reflect the concerns of parents and educators as depicted in Governor Cuomo’s Common Core Task Force Report.¹³ For example, The Common Core Task Force clearly outlined the concerns of early childhood experts regarding the developmentally inappropriate expectation that all kindergarteners “*read emergent texts with purpose and understanding*”, yet this standard remains unchanged in the draft revisions. Out of close to fifty revisions to the kindergarten ELA standards, only three of these revisions reflect content changes. This lack of meaningful revision can be observed across all grade level standards in both ELA and math and is incompatible with the New Paltz Central School District’s mission, vision, and guiding principles.¹⁴
4. NYSED may see some justification for the minimally-revised standards in the results of the AIMHighNY survey, as evidenced in this quote from Commissioner MaryEllen Elia: “The preliminary data from AIMHighNY show there is strong support for higher learning standards for New York’s students”.¹⁵ The role of that survey is further evident in this quote from the Commissioner: “Their [survey respondents] input will help us to identify which standards should be rewritten, moved, or scrapped all together [*sic*].”¹⁵ However, we feel that the survey was methodologically flawed. Support for our assertion:
 - a. The survey did not use proper sampling techniques to gain a representative sample of relevant stakeholders. It was simply open to anyone willing to take the survey. Only 72% of responses came from NY residents associated with public schools.¹⁶ There is also evidence of skew within regions. Of all NYS public school teacher respondents, NYC represents 7.4% of respondents even though they make up 29% of the actual educator population.^{16,17} Long Island teachers represent 24.8% of respondents but only make up 18% of the actual population.^{16,17}
 - b. The scope of the survey is being exaggerated. A December, 2015 NYSED memo regarding the survey claimed, “More than 10,500 respondents provided feedback on one or more of the State’s current learning standards. In total, survey participants submitted 246,771 pieces of feedback.”¹⁵ A September, 2016 NYSED memo regarding the draft standards inflates that claim: “More than 10,500 people responded to the survey and provided over 750,000 pieces of feedback.”¹⁸ The 6,611 NYS public school teacher respondents represent less than 3% of all NYS public school teachers.^{16,19}
 - c. The survey has been used to justify overall support for the standards, but the survey itself never assessed that broad question. The survey’s construction was very narrow and never asked the respondent to address questions concerning broad support for the standards or support for other policy issues linked to the standards, such as state assessments and APPR.¹⁶
 - d. The survey results contain numerous data quality issues. For example, at least 68 individuals were able to respond more than once, each time under a separate ID (hence counted as multiple “people”).¹⁶ There is also evidence of “speeding”, i.e. answering questions far too quickly than would be possible if the

question was properly considered. For example, one respondent submitted 45 responses in 123 seconds (less than 3 seconds per response) while another submitted 190 responses in just over 20 minutes (less than 7 seconds per response).¹⁶ There are over 100 respondents that submitted 10 or more responses at an average of less than 10 seconds per response.¹⁶ Such abnormalities (evidence of “satisficing”²⁰) would be considered for mitigation in a sufficiently rigorous survey.

- e. While the overall approval rate of 71% seems quite positive, the reported results ignore an evident disconnect with a very important segment: parents and guardians. Parent/Guardian, the second largest respondent group, approve of only 51% of the standards they reviewed.

The New Paltz Board of Education has advocated for the development of learning standards based in evidence or research, created with input from educators, early childhood experts, and parents. To date, insufficient educator and parent input has been used to support the State’s original adoption of the Common Core Learning Standards. Therefore, we cannot recommend the adoption of revised standards that provide almost no deviation from the original CCLS and do little to address the concerns of parents and educators.

The New Paltz Central School District Board of Education does not have confidence in the revision process or results. We urge the Board of Regents to reject the draft standards, investigate the procedure by which these revisions were reached, and convene public hearings on the adoption of the draft standards before taking any further action.

Motion carried 7 to 0 with 7 members voting.

NEW BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

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

Motion made by Sophia Skiles and seconded by Brian Cournoyer that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

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. 14543, 11532, 14495, 12304, 14345, 14355, 14546, 9854, 10679, 12419, 11343, 11289

Motion carried 6 to 0 with 6 members voting. There was 1 abstention by Steven Greenfield.

13.2 Request for Approval to Ratify and Appropriate Monies to Fund the New Paltz Central School Secretarial Association Contract

Motion made by Matthew Williams and seconded by Michael O’Donnell that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

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

WHEREAS, the Superintendent and the New Paltz Central School Secretarial Association reached an agreement, calling for the creation of a five-year successor Collectively Negotiated Agreement to the one that expires on June 30, 2016;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby ratifies the Agreement between the Superintendent and The New Paltz Central School Secretarial Association covering the period from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2021, and authorizes those monies necessary to implement the provisions of the 2016-2021 Collectively Negotiated Agreement.

Motion carried 7 to 0 with 7 members voting.

13.3 Request for Acceptance of Donation

Motion made by Sophia Skiles and seconded by Alison Easton that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the donation to the New Paltz Central School District from Tyler Benenati for eight (8) wooden benches and cedar chair rails to the Duzine Green Classroom as part of a culminating Eagle Scout project. The board further directs the District Clerk to send a letter of thanks to Tyler Benenati for his donation.

Motion carried 7 to 0 with 7 members voting.

13.4 Request for Acceptance of Donation

Motion made by Brian Cournoyer and seconded by Steven Greenfield that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the donation to the New Paltz Central School District from New Paltz Athletic Association for thirty (30) new cushioned chairs to the Athletic Program. The board further directs the District Clerk to send a letter of thanks to the New Paltz Athletic Association for their donation.

Motion carried 7 to 0 with 7 members voting.

13.5 Request for Acceptance of Donation

Motion made by Matthew Williams and seconded by Michael O’Donnell that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the donation to the New Paltz Central School District from Tops Markets for a \$500 Tops gift card. The board further directs the District Clerk to send a letter of thanks to Tops Markets for their donation.

Motion carried 7 to 0 with 7 members voting.

13.6 Approval to Award Bids

Motion made by Matthew Williams and seconded by Brian Cournoyer that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

Recommendation - that the following resolution be approved: The New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby award the following bids for Project E (Duzine and Lenape) and Project F (High School):

General Work:

Arris Contracting Company, Inc.

Base Bid	\$2,511,800
Alternate G-1	\$ 67,700
Alternate G-2	\$ 6,200
<u>Alternate G-4</u>	<u>\$ 8,100</u>
Total	\$2,593,800

Mechanical Work:

Vamco Sheet Metal, Inc.

Base Bid	\$ 548,173
-----------------	-------------------

Electrical Work:

O & D Electric Corp.

Base Bid	\$521,000
<u>Alternate E-2</u>	<u>\$ 7,700</u>
Total	\$528,700

Plumbing Work:

Ashley Mechanical, Inc.

Base Bid	\$165,600
-----------------	------------------

Motion carried 7 to 0 with 7 members voting.

OTHER DISCUSSION

None.

OTHER DISCUSSION

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURN

Motion made by Brian Cournoyer and seconded by Alison Easton that the Board adjourn at 9:18 PM.

Motion carried 7 to 0 with 7 members voting.

ADJOURN

Respectfully submitted,

Dusti Callo
District Clerk