

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE  
LANSINGBURGH CENTRAL SCHOOL  
DISTRICT AT TROY, HELD AT THE  
LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER ON TUESDAY,  
OCTOBER 28, 2008.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. McHugh at 7:35 P.M.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Mrs. McHugh asked if we would all stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. ROLL CALL: S. Farrell, K. Gamble, P.J. Higgitt, B. Lance, A. Macey, H. McGrath,  
N. McHugh, M. Sweeney

Absent: J. O'Malley

Others Present: A. Bergin, T. Broderick, F. Erickson, M. Fushs, G. Goodwin,  
M. Harkin, L. Kyer, F. Macri, L. McNeil, K. Messler,  
K. Oboyski-Butler, S. Paolino, R. Schongar, B. Sperling, D.

Steenrod,  
J. Wager

Visitors: 1

III. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. Macey that the MINUTES of the REGULAR MEETING held on September 30, 2008 be AMENDED and APPROVED to reflect the corrected wording for the Tax Assessment for Lansingburgh C.S.D. to read that the attached, corrected tax assessment for the newly donated property on Turnpike Road be approved and the tax rolls be corrected as stated. This property was donated to the Lansingburgh C.S.D. and should therefore have a status of tax exempt.

8 Ayes Motion Carried

IV. FINANCIAL REPORT: A motion was made by Mr. Macey and seconded by Mrs. Farrell that the Board APPROVE the following FINANCIAL REPORTS listed below:

- A. Treasurer's Report
- B. Budget Transfers

8 Ayes Motion Carried

V. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: Mrs. McHugh asked if any visitors would like to speak to the agenda.  
none

VI. COMMUNICATIONS: None

VII. PERSONNEL INSTRUCTIONAL:

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs. Farrell that the resignation of Ms. Brenda Cole, Teaching Assistant at Rensselaer Park Elementary School, be accepted with regret effective October 24, 2008.

8 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. McGrath and seconded by Mrs. Farrell, that the resignation of Mr. Adam South, KMS/LHS Ski Club Advisor for school year 2008-2009 be accepted with regret.

A motion was made by Mrs. Lance and seconded by Mrs. Gamble that the resignation of Ms. Melissa Jerominek, Special Education Teacher at Rensselaer Park Elementary School be accepted with regret effective November 22, 2008.

8 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Farrell and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney that Ms. Jamie Sbardella be granted an unpaid parental leave of absence extension beginning February 1, 2009 through June 30, 2009 .

8 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs. Lance that Ms. Jeri Simson be granted an unpaid parental leave of absence beginning October 1, 2008 through January 26, 2009 .

8Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. McGrath and seconded by Mrs. Farrell that Mrs. Sarah Smith, Math teacher at Lansingburgh High School, be granted no more than 13 days of supplemental sick leave, at 1/400<sup>th</sup> of her annual salary, as per the L.T.A. contract.

8 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. McGrath and seconded by Mrs. Lance that Ms. Devin Simoncavage be appointed as Elementary Teacher, Grade 2 (permanent substitute) at Turnpike Elementary School, with compensation according to the L.T.A. contract as set forth below:

Commencement of Service – October 2, 2008  
Expiration of Service -  
Certification Status – Childhood Education (Initial)  
Salary – Step 1                      \$35,802 (pro-rated)

8 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mr. Macey and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney that Ms. Michelle Schrader be appointed as Elementary Art Teacher (permanent substitute) at Turnpike Elementary School, with compensation according to the L.T.A. contract as set forth below:

Commencement of Service – October 2, 2008  
Expiration of Service – January 26, 2009  
Certification Status – Visual Arts (Initial)  
Salary – Step 1                      \$35,802 (pro-rated)

8 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs. McGrath that the following Coaches be appointed for the 2008-09 school year:

- Patrick Wilson – Ski Club Advisor for KMS/LHS
- Ryan Debrosky – Boys Freshman Basketball
- Kristen Pasinella – Girls Modified Basketball
- Gerard Buchanan – Weight Room Supervision
- Timothy Fontaine – Weight Room Supervision
- Allen McNall – Weight Room Supervision
- Jeffrey Pasinella – Weight Room Supervision
- Peter Porcelli – Weight Room Supervision
- Jonathan Pravel – Weight Room Supervision

8 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mr. Macey and seconded by Mr. Higgitt that the following Substitute Teachers be appointed on an emergency conditional basis pending clearance by New York State and the Federal Government per the Project SAVE Law, for the 2008-09 school year:

Timothy McNutt                      certified

A motion was made by Mrs. McGrath and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney that the attached list of Home Tutoring Assignments be approved, with compensation according to the L.T.A. Contract.

8 Ayes Motion Carried

VIII. PERSONNEL NON-INSTRUCTIONAL

A motion was made by Mrs. McGrath and seconded by Mr. Higgitt that the resignation of Ms. Deborah Fane, Nurse at Turnpike Elementary School be accepted with regret effective November 17, 2008.

8 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. McGrath and seconded by Mrs. Lance that the following Non-Instructional STEP worker be appointed for the 2008-09 school year, with compensation according to the Board of Education Reorganizational Meeting of July 15, 2008.

Natasha Gelhorn

8 Ayes Motion Carried

IX. ACTION ITEMS:

A motion was made by Mrs. Lance and seconded by Mrs. Gamble that the attached list of In-Service and Graduate Credit hours be approved and that reimbursement of credit for the staff members listed be authorized in accordance with the Teachers' Contract, effective September 1, 2008.

8 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Ms. McGrath that the Health Service Contract Rate to be charged to other public schools for health services provided to students attending private and/or parochial schools in the Lansingburgh Central School District be approved in the amount of \$437.24 per student for the 2008-09 school year.

8 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. McGrath and seconded by Mrs. Gamble that Ms. Lisa Kyer be appointed and hereby is designated to represent the Lansingburgh Central School District as its Trustee under the Self-Insurance Plan for Workers' Compensation, the New York State Public Schools Statewide Workers' Compensation Trust, and that Kathleen Napples be and hereby is designated to serve as alternate Trustee under the plan effective July 1, 2008.

8 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. Macey that Mr. George J. Goodwin, Superintendent of Schools, be authorized to file the final report for the 2007-2008 school year for payment to the Lansingburgh Central School District at Troy, pursuant to Public Law 874 Federally Aided Program for Impact Aid, and make representation and commitments thereto for and in behalf of said applicant in connection with the report, and that Mr. George J. Goodwin, Superintendent of Schools, be authorized to file the survey report for the 2008-09 school year for the above Public Law 874.

8 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs. Gamble that the Independent Audit Report for the 2007-08 school year be accepted as prepared by the auditing firm of Wilson, Stark, and Basila CPA, P.C., and as discussed at the September 30, Board of Education Audit meeting.

8 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. McGrath and seconded by Mrs. Lance that the Superintendent of Schools and the Board President be authorized to APPROVE the following Change Orders for the 9.9M construction Project:

E-009	Clune	\$ 408.00
P-002	BPI	\$ 1,731.00
G-022	Bunkoff	\$ 455.00
G-031	Bunkoff	\$10,542.00
G-030	Bunkoff	\$ 6,931.00
G-029	Bunkoff	\$ 6,931.00
G-025	Bunkoff	\$13,079.00
G-027	Bunkoff	\$ 389.00
G-026	Bunkoff	\$ 1,140.00
G-025	Bunkoff	\$ 1,140.00
G-024	Bunkoff	\$ 246.00
G-023	Bunkoff	\$ 455.00

E-007	Clune	\$ 175.50
G-032	Bunkoff	\$ 19,422.00
G-033	Bunkoff	\$ (4,109.50)
G-034	Bunkoff	<u>\$ (4,109.50)</u>
		\$ 54,825.50

8 Ayes Motion Carried  
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A motion was made by Mrs. Farrell and seconded by Mr. Macey that the attached list of Students with Disabilities be approved.

8 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Lance and seconded by Mrs. Farrell that the attached, corrected tax assessment of Richard Nash, Sr., of 392 Seventh Avenue for the 2008-09 tax year be approved and the tax rolls be corrected as stated, and that the attached, corrected tax assessment of Eileen Hering and Stephanie Wager of 753 Third Avenue for the 2008-09 tax year be approved and the tax rolls be corrected as stated, and that the attached, corrected tax assessment of Mary S. Burch of 12 Highpointe Drive for the 2008-09 tax year be approved and the tax rolls be corrected as stated.

8 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs. Gamble that the following policies, as recommended by the Policy Committee and presented for information at the Regular Board Meeting on September 30, 2008, be approved:

Policy 1145 – Advertising Materials and Announcements  
 Policy 2210 – Board Organizational Meeting  
 Policy 2270 – School Attorney  
 Policy 4321.13 – Preschool Special Education  
 Policy 4321.14 – Special Education Personnel  
 Policy 5420 – Student Health Services  
 Policy 8650 – School District Compliance with Copyright Law  
 Policy 9520.2 – Family and Medical Leave

8 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Gamble and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney that in response to the New York State Comptroller's Audit findings and recommendations related to the District's Medicaid Reimbursement for The period July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2007, the following corrective action plan is adopted:

1. Medicaid eligibility will be checked monthly.
2. In order to ensure documentation is received from providers outside the district, attached will be an addendum to each contract. The addendum indicates that monthly tuition payment is contingent upon Medicaid documentation being received by the Pupil Personnel Services Office.
3. Notices will go out quarterly to staff, regarding any missing claims for services.
4. On a quarterly basis the district will review any rejected claims and determine whether resubmission is possible.
5. The District will research student records not included in the audit sample and submit for unclaimed related services reimbursement for which it believes it may be entitled.

8 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mr. Higgitt and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney that the following parent be added to the list of Lansingburgh School District Committee on Special Education, to be in compliance with new Federal and current State mandates for the 2008-2009 school year:

Melissa Mullen

8 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mr. Macey and seconded by Mrs. Gamble that the following be appointed to the Lansingburgh School District Committee on Preschool Special Education, to be in compliance with Federal and State mandates, for the 2008-2009 school year.

Alternate Parent – Melissa Mullen

8 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. Macey that the Lansingburgh Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to enter into an agreement with OMNI Financial Group, Inc., to act as third party administrator for the District 403B Plan.

8 Ayes Motion Carried

X. OLD BUSINESS: none

XI. NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs. Gamble that the following Coach be appointed for the 2008-2009 school year:

Peter Allen – Girls Freshman Basketball Coach

8 Ayes Motion Carried

XII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

The District Planning Team which is made up of community members and staff met on October 20. They have established three goals as priority:

1. Continuous progress in ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies, Visual and Performing Arts and Technology.
2. Identify, meet and support the needs of students: academics, behavioral and at risk.
3. Foster a strong learning community by strengthening parent support and communication with the school.

The District Safety Committee met on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, and identified the following as their priorities:

1. To provide parent workshops on internet safety, including on-line gambling, and anti-bullying.
2. To provide student training on personal safety such as what has been implemented at the middle school and high school by Mike Harkin and the principals. Also to continue programs on internet safety and anti-bullying in the schools.
3. To plan a community health fair in one of our schools during the Spring 2009. Mr. Martiniano is a member of this committee and will be working on this.

**Mr. Harkin**

I spoke with the girls at the high school along with a member from the Sexual Assault Center. Letters were sent home ahead of time to parents. Only one high school female opted out. We are in the process of doing the same for the boys with John Cooney and the Sexual Assault Center. We will be having a refresher session for the girls closer to prom season.

We had our first sectional game in boys' soccer. We were seeded 12<sup>th</sup> and beat a 5<sup>th</sup> seeded team. Our girls' soccer team lost in a very difficult game in double overtime. Our football team lost their sectional game at Amsterdam. Our modified football team had 50 students participating and our modified soccer team had 35 participants. They had an excellent season.

First season of volley ball is complete. The girls really had fun. Their banquet is Wednesday, October 29. We have 55 girls returning for next season.

In Cross Country, Alnay Tobias has won 15 out of 16 races this year and the one race he didn't win, he came in second.

We have a J.V. Football game 9:30 a.m. on Saturday and a Varsity Football game at 2:00 p.m.

**Mrs. Steenrod**

Turnpike is striving to promote academics with Kathy Oboyski-Butler's initiative as she is coordinating staff to go to Guilderland for training and professional development. They have again this year their teacher book club. The topic is writing workshop. They meet every 6 weeks, bring articles to review and discuss with their fellow teachers.

Harvest festival had over 500 students and parents attend. The event costs \$1. for refreshments. Parents had fun with the students and attended the student book fair preview.

**Mrs. Fushs**

They too are focusing on Writers Workshops. She thanked the Board for the office renovations. They have just concluded the Seal a Smile program. Deputy Phelps from DARE will be with them until January. Once again the students are participating in ball room dancing. The teachers are learning first and then will be training the fifth grade students in January.

They too had their Pumpkin Festival and it was well attended. The students in grades 3-5 went to a Robotics Assembly.

**Mr. Paolino**

Middle School is participating in red ribbon week which is drug awareness. Again this year they are starting up their student mentoring program and will be focusing on sixth grade students. Both the middle school and high school are having their book fair. They have a family fright night from 6-9 p.m. this week and Camfel Productions multi-media show on Character Education – Trust.

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Each month each of the teams are sending out newsletters to keep parents informed as to what is taking place in the classroom.

**Mrs. Bergin**

The guidance office and seniors are continuing to do college planning. The counselors have met with parents and their senior students. They have also had all the seniors down to the computer lab to complete on-line college applications.

Students will be taking their S.A.T.s on Saturday at Catholic Central High School. The PSAT test was last week.

Mrs. Nikodem has made arrangements for a professor from Sage College to help seniors in their writings.

The administrators in the high school are focusing on doing follow-up from Superintendent's conference day. Mr. Wager is working on data analysis for each of the assessments.

The students participated in the Breast Cancer Walk in Albany. They raised \$900.00. They hope to exceed last year's fund raising for Relay for Life.

There have been several field trips this month. There is a group of students that went to Salem, Mass. today. Our tenth grade students are going to the NYSTI presentation Of Mice and Men.

The high school drama club is in full swing preparing for Beauty and the Beast. Mr. South has begun a Robotics Club. A large group of freshman participate. Mr. Messler, an RPI professor, assists Mr. South.

National Honor Society Induction is November Thursday, November 6 at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria.

Mrs. McHugh asked for a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss two items: negotiations and the Superintendent's evaluation.

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs. Farrell that the Board go into EXECUTIVE SESSION.

8 Ayes Motion Carried

The Board went into EXECUTIVE SESSION at 8:10 P.M.

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs. Farrell that the Board end their EXECUTIVE SESSION.

8 Ayes Motion Carried

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:43 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board, Mrs. McHugh asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs. Farrell that the meeting be adjourned.

8 Ayes Motion Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

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Clerk to the Board of Education