

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE  
LANSINGBURGH CENTRAL SCHOOL  
DISTRICT AT TROY, HELD IN THE  
LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER ON TUESDAY,  
NOVEMBER 27, 2007.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. McHugh at 7:30 P.M.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Absent: 0

Others Present: A. Bergin, T. Broderick, D. Carroll, F. Erickson, M. Fushs,  
G. Goodwin, M. Harkin, L. Kyer, M. Jarem, F. Macri, K. Messler,  
K. Oboyski-Butler, S. Paolino, R. Schongar, D. Steenrod, J. Wager

Visitors: 2

III. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs. Farrell that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 30, 2007, be Approved.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

IV. FINANCIAL REPORTS: A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs. McGrath that the Board approve the following Financial Reports as well as make payments to the vendors listed on the Schedule of Bills:

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

9 Ayes Motion Carried

V. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: Mrs. McGrath asked if any visitors would like to speak to the agenda.

VI. COMMUNICATIONS:

VI. PERSONNEL INSTRUCTIONAL:

A motion was made by Mrs. McGrath and seconded by Mrs. Gamble that Mr. Fred Laurenzo, a Social Studies teacher in the District be granted a leave of absence pursuant to his request dated October 1, 2007. Such leave of absence shall be through April 30, 2008. Such leave shall be paid only to the extent that Mr. Laurenzo utilizes his paid leave credits for the 2007-2008 school year, and to the extent that the sick leave pool committee votes to grant Mr. Laurenzo's request to borrow any additional days of paid leave from the sick leave pool.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Lance and seconded by Mrs. Gamble that Ms. Elizabeth Madigan be appointed On an emergency conditional basis pending clearance by New York State and the Federal Government per the Project SAVE law, as Special Education Teacher (Permanent Substitute) at Knickerbacker Middle School, with compensation according to the L.T.A. contract as set forth below:

Commencement of Service -	November 26, 2007
Expiration of Service -	June 30, 2008
Salary - Step 1	\$35,100
Masters	450
Differential	500
Graduate Credits - 64	<u>2,331</u>
	\$38,381

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Farrell and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney that the following be appointed as staff for the grant funded Easter Seals Extended Day Program, one hour per day, at their contractual rate per hour:

<u>Turnpike</u>	<u>Rensselaer Park</u>
Barbara Ashe	Darlene Bechand
Cecelia Broomhead	Cynthia Daley
Marisa Caprara	Melissa Jerominek
Jill Griswold	Elise Mamone
Kristen Griswold	Carrie Phelan
Donna Kowalczyk	
Mary Meliski	Maryanne DeNault, Substitute
David Proper	Sandra Ryan, Substitute

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. Higgitt that the attached list of Home Tutoring Assignments be Approved.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mr. Macey and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney 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 2007-08 school year:

Lawrence Cimino  
 Marc Fruscio  
 Lauren Ross

9 Ayes Motion Carried

VII. PERSONNEL NON-INSTRUCTIONAL:

A motion was made by Mrs. O'Malley and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney that the following Non-Instructional Substitute be Approved, on an emergency conditional basis pending clearance by New York State and the Federal Government per the Project SAVE Law, for the 2007-08 school year, with compensation according to the C.S.E.A. Contract/Board Policy:

Jarred Collins                      Sub-Custodian

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Farrell and seconded by Mr. Higgitt that the following Non-Instructional Substitute STEP Students be Approved, on an emergency conditional basis pending clearance by New York State and the Federal Government per the Project SAVE Law, for the 2007-08 school year, with compensation according to the Board Meeting held on June 19, 2007.

Jarred Teta  
Michael Collins  
Tymere Pompey

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. McGrath and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney that the employment of Carol Mason as a noon-aide at Knickerbacker Middle School, be terminated, effective November 20, 2007.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

VIII. ACTION ITEMS:

A motion was made by Mr. Macey and seconded by Mrs. Gamble that the Board of Education Award a contract to Allied Waste Services of North America LLC, the low bidder, in the amount \$32,127.35, for refuse and recyclable removal for the period of December 1, 2007 through November 30, 2008. Additional pickups will be \$70.00 each.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. Higgitt that the proposed Calendar for Budget Development and Voting for the 2008-2009 school year be approved, as discussed at the Audit Committee meeting held on November 27, 2007.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs. O'Malley that the attached, corrected tax assessment of Kevin and Erin McGrath of 17 Red Rock Road for the 2007-2008 school tax year be approved and the tax rolls be corrected as stated and that the attached, corrected tax assessment of Elmore Stallworth of 362 Second Avenue for the 2007-2008 school tax year be approved and the tax rolls be corrected as stated and that the attached, corrected tax assessment for Patrick Bornt of 837 Eighth Avenue for the 2007-2008 school tax year be approved and the tax rolls be corrected as stated and that the attached, corrected tax assessment for John Janson and Theresa Roberts of 9 Chelsea Court, for the 2007-2008 school year be approved and the tax rolls be corrected as stated and that the attached, corrected tax assessment for Pamela K. Ogden of 910 Fifth Avenue, for the 2007/2008 school tax year, be approved and the tax rolls be corrected as stated.

8 Ayes Motion Carried  
1 Abstention (McHugh)

A motion was made by Mr. Macey and seconded by Mr. Higgitt that the attached list of Students with Disabilities, be Approved.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Farrell and seconded by Mrs. Lance that the Board of Education Approve payment of 2007-08 Membership Dues for New York State School Boards Association in the amount of \$7,680.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mr. Macey and seconded by Mrs. Lance that the Jazz Band Field Trip to Freeport & Nassau, Bahamas, April 2008, be approved as discussed at the Board Workshop held on October 2, 2007.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Farrell and seconded by Mrs. Gamble that the French Foreign Language Field Trip to Quebec City, April 2008, be approved as discussed at the Board Workshop held on October 9, 2007.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Lance and seconded by Mrs. McGrath that the Superintendent of Schools and Board of Education President be authorized to Approve the following Change Orders for the ongoing 2005 Construction Project:

GC-055	Greco	\$19,126.00
GC-057	Greco	1,859.00
GC-058	Greco	2,297.00
GC-063	Greco	24,387.00
PC-005	Collett	1,153.00
PC-006	Collett	1,178.46
PC-007	Collett	573.00
PC-008	Collett	1,978.00
HC-08	Campito	1,570.00
HC-09	Campito	11,922.00
GC-071	Greco	19,951.00
EC-047	Flex	1,105.00
GC-056	Greco	7,431.00
GC-059	Greco	4,951.00
GC-060	Greco	1,093.00
GC-061	Greco	10,282.00
GC-062	Greco	1,771.00
GC-064	Greco	1,240.00
GC-065	Greco	1,976.00
HC-10	Campito	856.00
HC-11	Campito	1,503.00
HC-12	Campito	1,401.00
EC-038	Flex	3,733.00
EC-50	Flex	774.00
GC-070	Greco	8,190.00
		<u>1,019.00</u>

Total Change Orders Submitted for Approval \$133,319.46

9 Ayes Motion Carried

IX. OLD BUSINESS - none

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X. NEW BUSINESS - none

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XI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Grade reports were sent out last week successfully. This was the first year for on-line inputting by the faculty. Mrs. Oboyski-Butler has been working very closely with the secondary faculty for a smooth transition.

We are required to place on our web site, announcing that the Contract for Excellence Funds were approved. \$1.8 million dollars. It was not new money received. The money was budgeted last year, pending successful application to the State. Seventeen additional teachers, 2 administrators, professional development, continuing programs for summer school and kindergarten are included.

I received a telephone call from the Associate Commissioner of State Education Department, complimenting our school district for a thorough job with the Contract for Excellence application. The money appropriations were used for exactly what the State wanted them to be used for.

On Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m. there will be a "Special Event – Grand Opening" of the new gymnasium. Lansingburgh High School Girls Varsity Basketball Team will play against Cohoes. A ceremony between games for former LHS Coaches and players dedicating the new gymnasium/basketball court will occur. Following the ceremony, the Lansingburgh High School Boys Basketball Team will play the Cohoes High School Varsity Boys Basketball team. I want to thank Mr. Harkin for all his hard work in making these arrangements.

On December 13<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. there will be another "Grand Opening" ceremony in the gymnasium for the Varsity Lansingburgh Wrestling Team. They will play South Glens Falls. An invitation was extended to former players and coaches to attend the ceremony.

This year's play was Pirates of Penzance. Ms. Batchelder and Mr. Sheehan were first year advisors for the play and they did an excellent job. A list of everyone who participated in the play in some capacity is on our web site.

The Varsity Lansingburgh High School Football players did a great job representing Lansingburgh at the State finals in Syracuse. It was their first time ever making it to the finals. We are very proud. On our web site there is a list of acknowledgements and a thank you to those who supported our football team with the purchase of special football shoes for the semi-final game in Kingston and those supporting the team by providing buses for spectators and students to attend the game at Syracuse. There were 2 school buses donated by Folmsbee, 4 mini-buses from Northeast Transportation Services and a Brown's coach bus for the cheerleaders and the overflow of spectators which the Football Booster Club helped paid for. The cheerleaders looked very nice in their new uniforms.

Mrs. McHugh also said that the 4 mini-buses from Northeast were also decorated with Go Burgh, Section II Champions, etc. It was a great community and school spirit.

Mr. Goodwin asked the principals to speak to the board regarding what is currently taking place at their schools.

Mrs. Bergin said report cards were mailed out. They are focusing on academic achievement, identifying deficiencies and how to improve them. They are focusing on the ninth grade at this time. They are acknowledging accomplishments as well. The seniors are actively going on college visits. They seem to have more this year than ever.

Mr. Paolino said that Rick Stoddard (does tobacco product commercials) spoke to their student body on the hazards from smoking cigarettes. Mr. Stoddard's wife passed away as a result from smoking. He spoke about the choices that you make. This assembly was sponsored by the Healthy Schools Program of which Knickerbacker Middle School and Lansingburgh High School are a part of. As a result of this assembly, they have seen added awareness on the part of the students. They want to meet regularly to promote good health. They also hope that Mr. Stoddard will come back. The Health Schools Program is sponsored by Rensselaer County.

Mr. Paolino said that they held their annual Turkey dinner at Knickerbacker hosted by three self-contained classes. This year, the students invited the entire faculty to attend. The students received great satisfaction preparing Thanksgiving dinner for the entire faculty. The Home and Careers suite was decorated. He wanted to thank everyone who participated and who also donated food. They served approximately 100 faculty.

Activities night starts this week. This takes the place of student dances. The first one is November 30<sup>th</sup>. There will be Karoke and Dance Dance Revolution. Each middle school student who attended could bring 1 parent with them if they wanted to.

We are continuing our efforts working to get off the "List". Each team is currently looking at the failure reports. The teachers are brainstorming, trying to come up with ideas of intervention on how to get these particular students to become successful.

Mrs. Steenrod reported that parent conferences were held with report card distribution. Christy Lill went to a conference. The conference taught ideas on how to approach parents on parent conferences and how to engage parents in that conference.

Turnpike's Teacher Leadership group (study professional development) are focusing on parent partnership with school. It is going well. There are approximately twelve in the group and meet once a month. The group of teachers then present their findings to the staff. It is quite impressive.

They are currently having the students' teeth cleaned and checked. Whitney Young comes in and sets up. This is their third year providing this service to the students.

Mrs. Fushs said that they are having their monthly assemblies. The last one was on thankfulness. Mr. Higgitt, Mr. Blackmur, Mr. Doin, and Mr. Gallagher came to school for the assembly. There was a flag folding presentation on the proper way to fold the American flag. The students were very enlightened.

They are currently collecting food to distribute to needy families during the holidays. They provided ten families with food baskets for Thanksgiving. They are also providing clothing to needy students as well.

The Dare program is finishing up at Rensselaer Park and they will be having their spaghetti dinner at the Veteran's of Lansingburgh on Thursday.

Mrs. Fushs said that she had noticed that a lot of her teachers have chosen to do professional growth plans this year.

Through the Easter Seals Grant, students can benefit staying after school to seek additional help in ELA and Math. They are currently identifying a list of students who might benefit most from these services, inviting them to participate in the program helping them to become more prepared for their ELA assessment test in January. After the ELA State Assessments in January, they will focus on Math.

Mrs. DeSarbo and Ms. Crucetti have analyzed the State test results and are currently sharing the results with each grade level.

Rensselaer Park's Breakfast Club is doing well.

Mr. Goodwin said that honor roll will be out soon.

Listed below is the first reading for numerous policies/recommendations on existing policies with revisions.

#### A. School Activities

Lansingburgh High School  
Knickerbacker Middle School  
Rensselaer Park Elementary School  
Turnpike Elementary School

- B. Policy 1120 (School District Records) For Information
- C. Policy 1120-R (School District Records Regulation) For Information
- D. Policy 1130 (News Media Relations) For Information
- E. Policy 1240 (Visitors to the Schools) For Information
- F. Policy 1500 (Public Use of School Facilities) For Information
- G. Policy 1500-R (Public Use of School Facilities Regulation) For Information
- H. Policy 1500-E.2 (Insurance Requirements – Use of Facilities) For Information
- I. Policy 1500-E.3 (Hold Harmless Agreements – Use of Facilities) For Information
- J. Policy 1740 (Relationship with Nonpublic Schools) For Information
- K. Policy 2710 (Communication Among Individual Board Members) For Information
- L. Policy 9645 (Disclosure of Wrongful Conduct) For Information
- M. \*Policy \_\_\_\_ (Reporting and Investigation of Allegations of Fraud) For Information

\*Number will be assigned once Policy is formally adopted by the Board of Education

#### XII. USE OF FACILITIES:

Mrs. McHugh asked for a motion to continue with the Board Workshop Agenda and then following the conclusion of the agenda go into Executive Session to discuss one personnel item and one pending litigation item.

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs. Farrell to continue with the Board Workshop Agenda and following the conclusion of the agenda the Board go into EXECUTIVE SESSION.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

The Board went back to the Board Workshop agenda at 8:15 p.m.

The Board went into Executive Session at 9:10 P.M.

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

9 Ayes Motion Carried

The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:33 P.M.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 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 Mr. Higgitt and seconded by Mrs. O'Malley that the meeting be adjourned.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

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Clerk to the Board of Education