

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
MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Shover at 6:30 P.M.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

II. ROLL CALL: K. Bristol, M. Cusack, L. Devaren, S. Farrell, R. Morris,
J. Shover, M. Sweeney, C. Walp, J. Ward

Absent: none

Others Present: K. Alexander, T. Broderick, S. Colfer, M. D'Adamo, M. Danahy,
C. DeDominick, M. Erano, M. Foglia, K. Graber,
M. Harkin, L. Kyer, A. Luciano, F. Macri, J. McClure,
R. McGrouty, M. McLaughlin, S. Paolino, J. Ravalli,
B. Schongar, ,, D. Steenrod, A, Tobias, P. Tobias,R. White

Visitors: J. Anthony, D. Fitzpatrick, Mr. & Mrs. Fitzpatrick

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 December 22, 2014 be approved.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

IV. FINANCIAL REPORTS: A motion was made by Mrs. Farrell and seconded by Ms. Ward that the Board approve the following FINANCIAL REPORTS:

- A. Treasurer's Report
- B. Budget Transfers
- C. Monthly Reports
- D. Corrective Action Plan

9 Ayes Motion Carried

V. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: Mr. Shover asked if anyone wished to address the Board. – none.

Mr. Macri presented to the Board the video:

“New York State Department of Prevention of Domestic Violence Teen Dating Video”.

This video featured several Lansingburgh High School students from Lansingburgh student clubs and sports. The video will be featured for the month of February on the State Education Website, Lansingburgh's website, Social Media Sites.

Mrs. Luciano, Director of Guidance gave a presentation regarding the new Regents Requirements for Graduation

VI. COMMUNICATIONS:

none

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Audit Committee Report – S. Farrell

- Bids will be going out for the 2nd Cafeteria project in the high school.
- We have finally received the State Aid for this year. We have no idea what our State Aid will be for the 2015-16 school year.

- We will be having an outreach program inviting our legislatures to a meeting. We will also be encouraging parents to write letters or sign petitions.

School Community Relations Committee Report: M. Cusack reported that they are continuing to promote the District website through Facebook and the community. They will be handing out flyers for the KMS play on February 6 and 7. They are hoping to have an open house inviting the community into the schools to see what and how their tax dollars are being used to enhance the students education, such as the Smartboards in the classrooms and robotics.

We understand that the City of Troy is in Financial stress so they will not be funding local activities and shows in Powers Park. We will be reaching out to Vito Ciccarelli and John Rustin to continue these community activities, such as the car show.

Currently on Facebook, the Lansingburgh Historical Society is sponsoring a contest for students from Lansingburgh to write an essay on a local Lansingburgh Historical site such as Standard Manufacturing, the former Old Daley Inn, the Herman Melville House, to name a few. The winner of the essay contest would receive \$100. Second and third place would receive \$50.

VIII. PERSONNEL INSTRUCTIONAL:

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. Walp that the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation for the purpose of Retirement, from Mrs. Mary Danahy, Elementary Teacher at Turnpike Elementary School, effective at the close of business June 30, 2015.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Ms. Ward and seconded by Mrs. Farrell that the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation for the purpose of Retirement, from Mrs. Kathleen Graber, Elementary Teacher at Turnpike Elementary School, effective at the close of business June 30, 2015.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Bristol and seconded by Ms. Ward that the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation for the purpose of Retirement, from Mrs. Dawne Steenrod, Principal at Turnpike Elementary School, effective at the close of business June 30, 2016.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs. Bristol that the Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation for the purpose of Retirement, from Mrs. Adel Luciano, Director of Guidance, Lansingburgh Central School District, effective at the close of business June 30, 2016.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Ms. Ward that Mr. Robert White be appointed to a Probationary Teaching Position at Rensselaer Park Elementary School, on an emergency conditional basis pending clearance by New York State and the Federal Government per the Project SAVE Law, in the tenure area of Elementary Education, in accordance with the LTA contract as set forth below:

Commencement of Probationary Service -	January 26, 2015
Expiration of Probationary Service –	January 25, 2018
Certification Status – Students with Disabilities (Grades 1-6) Initial,	
Literacy B-6 - (Initial), Childhood Edu. (Grades 1-6) Initial	
Salary – Step 1	\$37,903
Masters Spec-Ed/Literacy	\$ 450
Graduate Credits – 30	<u>\$ 1,250</u>
	\$ 39,603 (pro-rated)

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Farrell and seconded by Ms. Ward that the following Substitute Teacher be appointed, on an emergency conditional basis pending clearance by New York State and the Federal Government per the Project SAVE Law, for the 2014-15 school year:

Robert White – Certified Childhood Education , Literacy B-Gr. 6 Initial,
Special Education (gr. 1-6)

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Bristol and seconded by Mrs. Farrell that the following Coaching Appointments be approved for the 2014-15 school year, pending completion of NY State coaching certification requirements with reimbursement according to the L.T.A. contract:

Coaching Reappointments

Junior Varsity Softball – Nicole Conte
Varsity Baseball – Ryan Debrosky
Modified Baseball – Matthew Loatman
Varsity Boys Track – Edward Young
Junior Varsity Lacrosse – Eric Jasuta

Newly Appointed Coaching Positions

Varsity Softball – Melinda McDonough
Varsity Girls Track – Eric Graber
Junior Varsity Baseball – Matthew Cater

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Ms. Devaren that the following Coaching Appointment be approved for the Fall 2015-16 school year, pending completion of NY State coaching certification requirements with reimbursement according to the L.T.A. contract:

Girls Varsity Soccer – Gary Pascucci

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mr. Morris and seconded by Mrs. Bristol that the attached list of Home Tutoring assignments be approved.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

IX. PERSONNEL NON-INSTRUCTIONAL:

A motion was made by Mrs. Bristol and seconded by Ms. Devaren that the resignation of Ms. Jennifer Ward, Lansingburgh Board of Education member be accepted, with regret effective January 31, 2015.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs. Bristol that Mr. Michael Flynn be approved to substitute in the position below, when needed, for the 2014-15 school year:

LHS Homework Club Supervisor – Monday – Friday 2:11 p.m. - 3:01 p.m. - Substitute

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mr. Walp and seconded by Mrs. Farrell that the following Non-Instructional Student STEP worker be approved for the 2014-2015 school year:

Scott Morine Jr.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs. Bristol 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 2014-15 school year:

Jarred Teta – Substitute School Security Monitor

9 Ayes Motion Carried

X. ACTION ITEMS:

A motion was made by Mrs. Farrell and seconded by Mrs. Bristol that the Corrective Action Plan be accepted as discussed at the Audit Committee meeting held on January 26, 2015.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs. Farrell 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 \$480.41 per student for the 2014-15 school year, per the attached.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. Walp that the Lansingburgh Central School District accept the donation of a pair of full-sized portable soccer goals which were purchased by the Girls Soccer Booster group.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Bristol and seconded by Mrs. Farrell that the Lansingburgh Central School District accepts the donation from the Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation in the amount of \$2,000 to be used towards the Knickerbacker Middle School's Knight's Kale Garden.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Farrell and seconded by Mr. Walp that the Lansingburgh Central School District accepts the donations from the following Community members to be used for the Dress A Knight program:

Veterans of Lansingburgh Inc.	-	\$500.00
Cornerstone Community Church of Lansingburgh	-	\$ 50.00
Edward and Gail Weber	-	\$300.00
Grethen-Cahrenger Memorials, Inc.		\$ 50.00

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. Walp that the Lansingburgh Central School District accepts the donation from MarEle Boutique Accessories in the amount of \$80 for the Dress A Knight program.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Bristol and seconded by Ms. Ward that the Superintendent of Schools and the Board of Education President be authorized to Approve the following Change Orders for the ongoing cafeteria construction project:

PC-001	Mazone	(\$10,000.00)	Return of unused Allowance - MS
GC-001	Hoosick Valley	\$11,777.00	Additional work needed due to found condition -MS
HC-001	T. McElligott	\$(2,486.00)	Return of Unused Allowance - MS
EC-001	DLC	\$(1,156.00)	Return of Unused Allowance - MS

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Bristol and seconded by Mrs. Farrell that Shaun Paolino, Director of Pupil Personnel Services, be appointed as Title IX Hearing Officer beginning January 2, 2015.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Ms. Ward that the Superintendent of Schools Appoint and Revise the following administrators as Dignity Act Coordinators for their respective buildings for the 2014-15 school year:

Francis Macri, Principal	Lansingburgh High School
Michael Harkin, Principal	Knickerbacker Middle School
Rebecca McGrouty, Principal	Rensselaer Park Elementary School
Dawne Steenrod, Principal	Turnpike Elementary School

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. Morris that that the following report from the Tax Collectors, for the 2014-15 collection period, be accepted:

Lansingburgh Central School District 2014-2015 Tax Collection Jane Luskin, Tax Collector

Total Taxes collected	\$11,231,398.55
Total Penalties Collected to Date	\$9,706.46
Total Odd Cent Over/Under	\$0.00
<i>Total Collection</i>	<i>\$11,241,105.01</i>

Uncollected Taxes	TAX	PENALTY	TOTAL
Lansingburgh	\$936,051.10	\$18,721.02	\$954,772.12
Brunswick	\$91,361.29	\$1,827.23	\$93,188.52
Schaghticoke	\$106,539.57	\$2,130.79	\$108,680.36
Pittstown	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$1,133,951.96</i>	<i>\$22,679.04</i>	<i>\$1,156,631.00</i>

Total Warrant – Tax Collector (Approved 8/25/14) \$14,485,049.00

Adjustments to Tax Warrant Due to Assessment or Clerical Error:
 L. Schneider 4 Woods Path \$257.68

Less: Warrant Changes \$257.68
Total Final Warrant *\$14,484,791.32*

Total Star Savings (Approved 8/25/14) \$2,119,440.81
 Adjustments to Star Savings:
 N/A \$0.00
 Less: Star Changes \$0.00
Total Star Savings *\$2,119,440.81*

Total Tax Levy (Approved 8/25/14)	\$14,485,049.00
Total Tax Collected	-\$11,231,398.55
Total Tax Uncollected	-\$1,133,951.96
Assessment Adjustments	-\$257.68
Total Star Savings	-\$2,119,440.81
Star Savings Adjustment	\$0.00
Balance	\$0.00

AND WHEREAS – The Education Law provides that the tax collectors shall be relieved of responsibility for the uncollected portion of the tax list, pending a complete list of delinquent tax items to be certified to the Board of Education and pending the collectors affixing their affidavits to such warrants and lists.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board accept the reports pending completion of the procedures of the tax collectors in accordance with the above paragraph and, pending determination that the collectors have accounted for the full amount of the tax warrants, direct that the list of delinquent tax items, with addition of the penalties, be certified to the office of the County Treasurer,

AND IT IS FURTHER DIRECTED that the tax warrants, tax rolls and the tax collectors' copies of the tax receipts be placed on file and be given fire protection in the school vault, pending audit by the Department of Audit and Control.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs. Bristol that THIS MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT is entered into by and between the LANSINGBURGH CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT (“District”), LANSINGBURGH TEACHERS ASSOCIATION (“Association”) and KATHLEEN GRABER (“Mrs. Graber”), and continues all terms and conditions of employment contained in the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the District and the Association for the period of July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2013, except as expressly amended or modified herein.

WHEREAS, Mrs. Graber is married and obtains health insurance through her husband’s employer’s plan and receives a buyout payment from the District; and WHEREAS, Mrs. Graber has expressed to the District her interest in retiring at the conclusion of the 2014-2015 school year and has asked that she be allowed to continue to take the buyout through the end of the 2014-2015 school year, without enrolling in the District’s health insurance plan; and WHEREAS, Mrs. Graber has asked that she be allowed to retire without having taking benefits from the District’s health insurance plan (as required by Section 22.1A of the LTA Contract), but be allowed to reenroll in the health insurance plan as a retiree on a family basis, using her accrued sick leave to pay towards her portion of the premium(s) (See Section 22.1B of the LTA contact), at such time as her husband’s employer ceases to provide coverage to her and her husband.

NOW, therefore, the District, the Association, and Mrs. Graber hereby agree that:

- (1) Notwithstanding Section 22.1A of the LTA Contract, Mrs. Graber may retire at the end of the 2014-2015 school year without enrolling in the District’s health Insurance plan.
- (2) At such time as Mrs. Graber is no longer eligible to receive health insurance through her husband’s employer’s plan, she may, as a retiree, reenroll in the District’s plan on a Family basis to provide coverage to her and her husband, at which time all other provisions of Section 22.1 of the LTA contract will apply to her and her spouse.
- (3) Upon her retirement, Mrs. Graber’s accumulated sick leave balance(s) shall be maintained by the District upon the understanding that they may be used to pay the cost of her retirement health insurance premiums pursuant to Section 22.1B.
- (4) Mrs. Graber’s time to give her notice of intent to retire under 22.2 is hereby extended to January 15, 2015.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Agreement or caused this Agreement to be duly executed by their authorized representative be approved.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

A motion was made by Mrs. Farrell and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney that this Fund Surplus Resolution Agreement And Release (“Agreement”) is by and between the Lansingburgh Central School District (“District”), 576 5th Avenue, Troy, NY 12182, and the Board of Cooperative Educational Services Rensselaer – Columbia – Greene Counties (Questar III”, which shall be defined to include Questar III’s Board members, administrators, officers, employees, attorneys, agents, representatives, successors and assigns), 10 Empire State Boulevard, Castleton, NY 12033. The District and Questar III may be referred to collectively herein as the “Parties.”

WHEREAS, Questar III retained D’Arcangelo & Co, LLP (“D’Arcangelo”) to conduct an independent audit of the funds that Questar III has accrued for purposes of satisfying future liabilities for post-retirement and other post-employment benefits (OPEB”); and

WHEREAS, D’Arcangelo issued an Agreed-Upon Procedures Report on July 21, 2014 (the “Report”) which, among other things, confirmed the total balance of funds accrued by Questar III for OPEB purposes as of June 30, 2013 and, of the balance, amounts that could be returned to the component and non-component school districts who participated in the relevant programs conducted by Questar III (the “Accrual Amount”); and

WHEREAS, the Questar III Board has adopted a plan by which the OPEB Accrual Amount will be returned to such component and non-component school districts (the “Plan”), utilizing the basis for return set forth in the Report, and

WHEREAS, the Plan has received approval from the State Education Department; and

WHEREAS, the Parties hereto wish to memorialize the terms by which the District will participate in the Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE PARTIES HEREBY AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

91. Questar III will return to the District a total of \$956,515.74 (the “Payment Amount”), which by this Agreement shall be deemed to constitute the District’s full and complete entitlement to its share of the OPEB Accrual Amount. The Payment Amount shall be returned over a period not to exceed five years as follows:

District: Lansingburgh CSD

Year ending June 30,	OPEB Accruals Return to be Credited to Administrative Levy	% of Total Return to District
2016	\$239,128.94	25
2017	\$229,563.78	24
2018	\$191,303.15	20
2019	\$153,042.52	16
2020	\$143,477.36	15
Total Return of OPEB Accruals to District	\$956,515.74	100

The Payment Amount as set forth above shall be returned in the form of a credit against the amount that the District otherwise is required to contribute to Questar III for component district administrative charges in each of the school years set forth in the Payment Schedule above. If the portion of the Payment Amount to be returned in any school year exceeds the amount that the District must otherwise remit to Questar III, the excess balance shall be added to the portion of the Payment Amount to be returned in the next subsequent school year pursuant to the above Payment Schedule. If any such excess balance shall be credited against the District’s required contribution to Questar III in the next subsequent school year, and any additional school years as may be necessary to fully return the Payment Amount to the District. In no case shall Questar III be required to return any portion of the Payment Amount in the form of a cash payment to the District or in any other manner except as set forth herein.

- 92. The District hereby accepts the return of the Payment Amount, as set forth herein, as full and complete satisfaction of any claim or entitlement the District would otherwise have, by law, contract, equity or otherwise, to return of any portion of the Accrual Amount.
- 93. In consideration for the return of the Payment Amount as set forth herein, the District hereby releases and discharges Questar III from any and all obligations, claims or liabilities, or any nature, that relate to the Accrual Amount and/or Questar III’s OPEB accruals up to the date of execution of this Agreement, and the District hereby agrees that it will not commence, maintain or cooperate with any action, proceeding or claim in law or equity, of any nature or in any forum, against Questar III in relation to the Accrual Amount and/or Questar III’s OPEB accruals up to the date of execution of this Agreement, which shall include but not be limited to any action, proceeding or claim in law or equity, seeking to recover (a) any portion of the Accrual Amount beyond that which is set forth in this Agreement, or (b) any other payment or relief that relates in any way to the Accrual Amount and/or Questar III’s OPEB accruals up to the date of execution of this Agreement.
- 94. The District agrees that presentation of this Agreement shall serve as the District’s unqualified and irrevocable consent to discontinue with prejudice any action, proceeding or claim in law or equity, commenced or maintained by or on behalf of the District and/or its officers in violation of the terms of this Agreement.
- 95. The Parties affirm that this Agreement fully and completely sets forth the agreed upon resolution of any rights, entitlements or claims that the District may have in relation to the Accrual Amount, and that no other promises or agreements have been made or would be effective in relation to the Accrual Amount.
- 96. The District and Questar III hereby each respectively affirm that the execution of this Agreement has been authorized by action of its Board of Education.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

X. OLD BUSINESS: none

XI. NEW BUSINESS: yes

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs. Farrell that the following Substitute Teacher be approved, on an emergency conditional basis pending clearance by New York State and the Federal Government per the Project SAVE Law, for the 2014-15 school year:

Ethan Griswold – Uncertified – BS - Writing and Contemporary Thought

9 Ayes Motion Carried

XII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Mrs. DeDominick reviewed the policies for first reading which will be on the agenda for approval at the February Board Meeting.

Mrs. DeDominick is amazed at Governor Cuomo's surprising tactics holding money and school districts' hostage over his unrealistic expectations against New York State United Teachers association. My question to Governor Cuomo is where is the G.E.A money; pay us what you owe us.

We will be advocating and writing letters to our local government representatives. We will also be inviting them to a meeting with the Board to discuss our needs. We do not even have State Aid figures. He states he is a child advocate and he is advocating in their best interest. He is not.

LHS

Mr. Macri – The National Education Policy Center out of Colorado has created a recognition program for schools who are closing the learning gap for all students. Schools in New York and Colorado can apply for either a silver, gold or distinguished recognition. LHS applied and has been selected as a finalist.

KMS

Mr. Harkin – The middle school faculty continue to seek out donations to be used for student programs. Mrs. Gibson was able to secure a donation of \$2,000 for the Middle School's Knights' Kale Garden from Lowes through a grant. They have also had 2 dozen Kindles donated. They continue to research and write for grants. They are currently working on a grant for C.O.W. – which stands for computer of wheels. The students and faculty continue to plug away and have begun taking mid-term exams in class.

RPES

Mrs. McGrouty – We are currently still working on curriculum. Their math and movie night was a success. We received great evaluations from parents. Many teachers volunteered their time. For the first quarter, 67 students were made honor roll and we will be having a small celebration of their success on January 30th with certificates and pencils.

Third grade students have been working with Knickerbacker middle school writing pen pal letters to each other.

The 4th grade Volleyball Game Fundraiser was very successful. It was very well attended and they raised \$1,000 to be put towards their 4th grade trip to the Bronx Zoo.

TES

Mrs. Steenrod reported that students are finishing their January assessments and the teachers will be reviewing them at Friday's staff development half day. Mrs. Filarecki's class is fundraising for animals. They want to purchase food and supplies. They will be holding dress in jeans day for \$1.

Mrs. McDonnell's class is fundraising to raise money for an I-pad with a Valentine's Day theme.

Mrs. McNutt is working on a program "Backpacks for the Weekend", which would supply students with food for the weekend. They would place food in the backpacks and send them home for the weekend. She will fundraise as well as accept donations from faculty and staff.

Athletics

Mr. Colfer – Basketball sections will be coming up. Both Boys and Girls Bowling are Colonial Council Champions with undefeated records. We also had a recent 2014 graduate, Tyler McDonough sign his National Letter of Intent to attend Merrimack College in North Andover, Massachusetts.

Curriculum Report and Professional Development –

Mrs. Alexander – Friday faculty will have a half-day for professional development. Pre-K-Gr. 2 teachers are working on revising their Math maps. First grade in particular. Grades 3-5 teachers are working with Leah Mermelstein on curriculum writing maps.

KMS and LHS will be working in grades and data.

Mr. Macri -

Actually, the high school had a health and wellness day scheduled for Friday, however, at 10:16 a.m. NYS Regents Department extended Regents Week by a day due to the pending snow storm, which would affect the Integrated Algebra and Global Social Studies Regents exam.

Mr. Shover asked Mrs. DeDominick if there were any Executive Session items to be discussed.

Mrs. DeDominick said there were four, personnel, negotiations, litigation and a student discipline concern.

Mr. Shover asked for a motion to go into Executive Session.

A motion was made by Mrs. Bristol and seconded by Ms. Ward that the Board go into EXECUTIVE SESSION.

9 Ayes Motion Carried

The Board went into EXECUTIVE SESSION at 7:45 P.M.

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

9 Ayes Motion Carried

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:40 P.M.

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

9 Ayes Motion Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

Clerk to the Board of Education