

Type of Meeting: Work Session Meeting

Date: May 13, 2008

Place: High School Dining Room

Members Present: President William Peoples, Trustees Michelle Terwilliger, Lucinda Sutton, Brian Herrington, Michael Knapp

Member Excused: Trustees Amanda Stuart and Brian Crane

Others: Superintendent of Schools Betsy Stiker, Board Clerk Mary Berkan, High School Principal Joe DioGuardi, Elementary Principal Debbie Flint, Middle School Principal Bill Howe and Business Official Patrice Beadle.

Guests: Sheri Morse, Teresa Duell, Jim Keenly, Donald Stiker

President Peoples called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance after explaining the emergency procedure.

To Order

A motion was made by Trustee Knapp, seconded by Trustee Sutton to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Agenda Approved

The first report of the evening was an update on the capital project by Tom Sexton of Christa Construction. Also in attendance was Mark Voorhees, as well as representatives from Cannon Design. Mr. Sexton stated that the bids had been opened Tuesday, May 6, 2008 and each component of the project came in much higher than anticipated. Items such as metal, petroleum based products, copper and steel have skyrocketed, uncertainty of the market, 3 low bidders withdrew, are a few reasons for the high over budget figures, and an additional 20% had already been figured in the project for material escalation.

Capital Project
Update

Mr. R. Coleman from Cannon Design, also stated that the district having to go through the flood variance process, which had not been anticipated, also added to the amount of over budget. He also said the EXCEL aid that districts are receiving is flooding the market place to drive the costs higher.

Mr. Sexton and Mr. Coleman both reported that the two companies would be meeting on Thursday, May 15th to discuss options and how to proceed. Mr. Coleman also said he would be in contact with the State Education Department, as well as reviewing space and scope of the project, staying in constant contact with Mrs. Stiker.

Mrs. Stiker then introduced Mr. Robert Johnson, Transportation Supervisor. Mr. Johnson shared several statistics with the Board, for example, there are 17 regular route buses, 5 buses run valley routes; there are a total of 30 buses, 4 vans, 1 Driver Ed car, 1 Maintenance van, 1 cafeteria delivery van, a service van and 1 dump truck presently. The buses cover 10 different schools and locations as well. Four late buses are run four times per week; each Friday students are shuttled from

Transportation
Department
Presentation

Valley and Tuscarora to the high school for swimming, students are transported for various extra curricular activities functions, field trips. There are about 1200 students transported daily, which is about 90% of the students. The buses also transport 35 Amish students, 11 Non public students, 29 special needs students. From 1/1/07 to 12/31/07, the mileage was 395,520. Mr. Johnson said we use between 4,000 to 5,000 gallons of diesel fuel per month. One day a week a bus takes the elderly to Wal-mart, Post Office, etc. to do their shopping.

Transportation Dept.
Report

He said his department consists of 17 full time drivers, 2 substitute drivers, 5 bus attendants, 1 head mechanic and 3 mechanics, and a part-time clerk, and they are all an exceptional group.

One last thing he did mention was that our NYS DOT bus inspection passed; percentage is 97% and this is based on 66 inspections for the last year with only 3 defects.

Mr. Peoples and Mrs. Stiker thanked Mr. Johnson for his very informational presentation and doing a job well done.

Mrs. Stiker then introduced Mr. James Keenly, Vocal Teacher, who said that previously it was called choruses. Along with the name there of course came some program changes, which provides all students with solo opportunities, concert performance opportunities for all students who are concert ready. The criteria for each voice class varies a little, i.e . Middle School starts out with being introduced to good practicing methods, beginning ensemble ready skills and introducing movement to music; Senior High Voice Class One starts with beginning piano skills, introduction to composition, continuation of sight reading skills; Voice Class Two, is a mandatory concert performance, increased piano skills, combine musical concepts with poetic texts, use of advance rhythmic patterns and increased knowledge base for college level singing.

Secondary Vocal
Music Program

Middle School Voice Class has 15, Senior High Voice Class One has 11 and Senior High Voice Class Two has 9 and there are 11 seniors this year.

Mr. Keenly explained a few of the music festivals, i.e. when they usually occur, what takes place. He did say that the vocal program has not attended the All County for the past 7 years, instead, the vocal program hires a guest conductor that comes in and works with every student in a choral workshop which he believes is more beneficial and that students became bored and uninterested in attending because they were being used to help unprepared students. He also stated that student interest at this point is just not there for the New York State School Music Association festival that is held in late April, but that could change in time.

President Peoples thanked him for attending and giving the information to the Board.

The next report was Thoughtful Classroom Professional Development Program given by teachers, Sheri Morse and Teresa Duell. Ms.. Duell is a Kindergarten teacher and Ms. Morse teaches 2nd. Grade. The teachers handed out some work by students as examples of the program and some strategies. The students were given a word and they gave their own definition of that word. Another example was the students were given a word and were asked to put the word in a phrase and point out adjectives, action verbs. It was interesting to hear and see some of the thought process the young students had.

Thoughtful Classroom
Report

Mrs. Stiker then proceeded to review the next agenda item which was the administrative reorganization. She stated that with Mr. Danquah leaving, to assure continuity, and with the Districts' best interest, it was going to be her recommendation that Mr. DioGuardi fill that position as Director of Curriculum & Instruction, eliminating the Assistant Superintendent title, Mr. Howe moving from Middle School Principal to High School Principal and Mrs. Tanya Loomis moving from Elementary Dean of Students to Middle School Principal and thereby posting for an Elementary Dean's position.

Administrative
Reorganization

She also briefly spoke about the Supervisor for Data Services position and stated that next Monday, she would be meeting with the other 2 districts interested in sharing with Addison for this position.

She then discussed the possibility of the Business Official position becoming a 1.0 position and said it was in the process with BOCES.

Mrs. Stiker reported that the Strategic Planning meeting was set for Friday evening, May 16, and Saturday, May 17, 2008 and was hopeful that some good discussion and ideas would take place.

Mrs. Stiker then stated that some discussion has taken place to recommend possibly an additional special education teacher in order to meet the needs of approximately 5 students with severe, multiple disabilities. Currently these students only receive 1-1/2-2 hours of special education instruction per day and at this time the CSE has recommended that the students receive a more structured self-contained program. However, it is also felt that these students would also benefit from being able to attend their home school district and would continue to benefit from inclusion activities with their peers through music, art, PE as well as other academic programs. It was also brought up that the class could possibly be housed at the Valley school.

Mrs. Stiker then reported that currently the district has 5 .5 PE instructors and are currently at the maximum number of classes they can contractually meet with on a weekly basis. The 4th, - 6th. grades currently receive physical education twice a week and the Commissioner's Regulations require that these grade levels receive physical education three times a week, and if the district hired a half time instructor, it would bring the district into compliance with the commissioner's regulations.

In addition to another .5 PE instructor being hired, Mrs. Stiker stated that the elementary music department is requesting that the current .5 position be upgraded to a 1.0 position due to an increase in band/beginner and advanced students from 39 to over 108 students, would increase vocal instruction so students were able to participate in All County NYSMMA festivals after elementary school, this would also enhance and contain numbers to go into the High School Marching Band and choruses. This additional time would also meet state requirements. Mrs. Stiker also reported that both of the requests have been covered in the 2008-2009 budget figures.

Administrative
Reorganization

The next agenda item was an update on the Financial Advisor. Mrs. Stiker handed out a letter that she had initiated to Mr. David Allardice, our current Advisor. She stated that she would bring before the Board at the next meeting, a request for a new Advisor, Capital Marketing Services. She said she had all the pertinent information on the two Financial Advisors that submitted information.

Financial Advisor
Update

Mrs. Stiker then reviewed the following correspondence: Invitation for the Steuben County School Boards Spring Dinner Meeting, May 22nd., copy of the Strategic Planning information for the meeting May 16th. & 17th., copy of the Knightlife Newsletter; a report from NYSSBA, "Excelsior", regarding New York's property tax burden.

Correspondence –
Information

She then also reported to the board as a matter of information, that in all probability ice cream prices may have to go up next year and also that the bid opening for the Bread bid has been set for June 3rd.

There being no further items on this part of the agenda, Trustee Terwilliger made a motion to adjourn at 9:05 and Trustee Knapp seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary L. Berkan, Clerk

Special Meeting
May 13, 2008

President Peoples called the meeting to order at 9:15 p.m.

To Order

Trustee Herrington made a motion to approve the agenda as presented and Trustee Terwilliger seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Agenda Approved

President Peoples explained that the Special Meeting had been set up due to a couple of action items needing attention before the next business meeting.

Motion made by Trustee Terwilliger, seconded by Trustee Sutton. The Board of Education of the Addison Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, does accept the CPSE Initial Review recommendation of May 7, 2008 in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Board.

CPSE
Recommendation
Approved

Motion carried.

Motion made by Trustee Herrington, seconded by Trustee Knapp. The Board of Education of the Addison Central School District, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, does approve of the overnight trip for the Girls' Varsity Softball Team on Saturday, May 17th and Sunday May 18, 2008 in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Board.

Girls Softball
Overnight Request
Approved

Motion carried.

Trustee Knapp made a motion to adjourn at 9:27 p.m. and Trustee Terwilliger seconded the motion. Motion was carried.

Adjournment

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary L. Berkan, Clerk

