

Type of Meeting: Work Session

Date: June 9, 2009

Place: Valley Elementary School

Members Present: President Sutton, Trustees William Peoples Jr., Amanda Stuart , Brian Crane, Michael Knapp

Members Excused: Trustees Michelle Terwilliger, Brian Herrington

Others: Superintendent Betsy Stiker, Board Clerk Mary Berkan, Director of Curriculum & Instruction Joseph DioGuardi, Middle School Principal Tanya Loomis, High School principal William Howe, Elementary Principal Debbie Flint and Business Official Steven Perry

Guests: Mary Ouderkirk, Hobie Ouderkirk, Sari Hurlbert, Jill Blagg, Barbara Clark, Sheri Morse, Cynthia Stillman, Brian Smith

To Order

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

Amended Agenda
Approved

Superintendent Stiker asked that an Executive Session be added to the agenda after item # L to discuss particular person/persons. A motion was made by Trustee Crane and seconded by Trustee Stuart to approve the agenda as amended.

Capital Project Update-
Barry Church

Mrs. Stiker introduced Mr. Barry Church, Construction Manager for the capital project, who gave an update on the project. He reported that during the month of May interior work in both areas currently are under construction and moving along. In the middle school wing the first floor classrooms are approximately 95% complete. The classes from the second floor have been moved down to the first floor so that demolition work and room renovations can start on the second floor classrooms.

Phase 2. General Trades is 3 months late so they are behind in starting the new addition. However, the Construction Manager is working with the General Trades contractor to revise an accelerated schedule. The main concern is to make sure the building is closed in before bad weather.

Phase 3. The pool has been closed for some repairs and it was initially thought could be reopened for the summer, however, there have been some unforeseen additional issues with it and so will not be opened probably until the start of school in September.

Phase 4. The gym has been closed about a week to start the work on the bleachers.

District-Wide. The roof work at Tuscarora has been started.

Mrs. Sutton and Mrs. Stiker thanked Mr. Church for his update.

At this time, the Superintendent asked Mr. DioGuardi to proceed with his ELA report. In doing so he introduced Mrs. Sheri Morse who is the Curriculum Coordinator for Pre-K- 12. Mrs. Morse reviewed the curriculum document, and the how the information was developed.

ELA Report – Sheri
Morse

The process actually started in 2007 when the original team, along with the BOCES Curriculum Mentor reviewed several curriculum documents from a variety of schools and evaluated what they like and disliked about each document. A format was then developed with the NYS Standards listed on the left side of the form and then sorted these standards by ones that were directly measurable and those that were not directly measurable. She stated that on the other page they created a place for grade levels to identify strategies and assessments that would be appropriate for the standards. In the 2007-08 school year the team continued the process of inputting the NYS Standards in the format that had been drafted. Curriculum Mentors worked to fine tune the drafts for presentation to the grade levels. The team also found the need to implement a Writing Portfolio system K-12 with specific guidelines for using. Mrs. Morse inputted all the strategies and assessments and prepared the documents for editing. The next process will be Mrs. Morse and Mr. DioGuardi meet to discuss the publication and distribution of the final document to the faculty and staff.

Superintendent's Report
–ELA Curriculum and
Development Process

Mrs. Stiker thanked Mrs. Morse for her report and then asked Mr. DioGuardi to report on the NYS Math and ELA Assessments. Mr. DioGuardi handed out comparison copies of test results in grades 3-8 for the last 4 years, and then specifically percentages at levels 3 & 4 for the last 3 years. The comparisons definitely show improvements but certainly has room for continuing them as well. An example would be grade 3 Math in 2005-06 went from 68% to 86% in 2008-09 and grade 8 Math in 2005-06 school year was 31% and jumped to 69% in 2008-09. (definite improvement but room for further improvement)

Math & ELA
Assessments

Superintendent Stiker then proceeded to discuss the possibility of tuition billing for Foster Care students. It has been suggested that the district bill back school districts for these students that bill us for our students. The rates are based on the cost to educate these students in our district. Some districts have already been charging for this.

Tuition Billing
Discussion

She then went on to discuss and review the Student Code of Conduct noting that any changes were in red. She stated that this is required by law annually and a committee is formed by parents, students and staff to review/revise as necessary.

Review of Code of
Conduct

The Superintendent asked the Board to take a minute and review Policy #6190, Determination of Employment Status: Employee or Independent Contractor as a first reading and then discuss it. The other policy connected with that, #6191, Professional Services Providers, was also reviewed and discussed as a first reading.

Policies - First
Readings

The next agenda item discussed was the annual Board retreat. Mrs. Stiker stated that we really need to decide soon on a date and possible topics so that NYSSBA can be contacted if the Board would like them to present again. That being said, it was decided that the Board needed to come to the June 23rd. Board meeting prepared with suggested dates and topics of interest.

Board Retreat
Discussion

The Supervisor reports were then reviewed, noting that the School Lunch is running in the black and that they are looking to purchase some new equipment. The Facilities department gave the Board copies of new cleanliness inspection forms that will be rolled out to the schools prior to September's restart of school. The Transportation department reported that the remainder of the video cameras purchased for busses were being installed. Mr. Johnson also stated that the incentive ad that had been advertised produced some good leads for additional bus drivers .

Supervisor Reports

Mrs. Stiker reviewed the following correspondence: Legislative Update; article from NYSSBA regarding the Senate power play, and the election of new Republican majority leadership in the state senate and an update from the IT Department regarding current projects, as well as proposed.

Correspondence

President Sutton asked that the Board take a short recess before going into Executive Session at 8:28 p.m.

Recess/Executive Session

She returned the Board to Regular Session at 9:17 p.m. and a motion was made by Trustee Crane and seconded by Trustee Knapp to adjourn. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Berkan, Clerk

