

GREATER JOHNSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education
Business Meeting
January 19, 2005
Johnstown High School

I. Called to order by Board President at 5:00 PM.

ATTENDEES:

Peter Cinelli	Brian Miller	Kathleen Leo (arrived 5:06 PM)
Russell Martin	William Pollak	Christopher Swatt (arrived 5:10 PM, departed 6:00 PM)
Richard McGuire	John David Praught	Joanne Freeman (arrived 5:15 PM)

OTHERS:

John S. Whelan	Katherine Sullivan	Peter Hopke
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II. **MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE EMPLOYMENT HISTORY OF PARTICULAR PERSONNEL**

Motion by Mr. Martin seconded by Mr. Cinelli to go to executive session for the purpose of discussing the employment history of particular personnel, at 5:00 PM.

VOTE: 6 Yes 0 No

III. **MOTION TO RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION**

Motion by Mr. Martin seconded by Mr. Cinelli to return to public session at 6:00 PM.

VOTE: 9 Yes 0 No

IV. **SUPERINTENDENT'S/ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS**

- Update for District Wide III Capital Project – Mr. Whelan
- Web Site Presentation – Erin Sands
- Elementary Computer Program Presentation – Elementary Teaching Assistants
- Introduction of Peter Hopke, Business Administrator, replacing previous Business Manager and District Treasurer positions – Mr. Whelan

V. **PRESIDENT'S REPORTS**

VI. **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Academic Committee – will meet at Warren Street on February 2nd at 5:00 PM

Restructuring Committee – will host an open forum at JHS on January 26th at 7:00 PM, public is invited

Finance Committee – will meet in the Board conference room on February 15th at 10:00 AM

VII. **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR FOR COMMENTS ON AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

"In accordance with its practice, the Board of Education of the Greater Johnstown School District does not permit oral comments from the public relating to specific personnel decisions regarding individuals employed by the District during the portion of its business meeting where the Board permits the public comment on agenda and non-agenda items. The Board will accept written comments from the public on this subject matter and all other agenda and non-agenda items."

- Sandra Clark asked to visit the elementary schools as a volunteer
- Lisa Askew questioned the elementary principal selection process
- Robert Galinsky questioned why the new website only has email addresses for the elementary principals and not for anyone else
- Mr. McGuire announced an extension of the deadline to submit Hall of Fame nominations from January 31, 2005 to March 1, 2005

VIII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Pollak seconded by Ms. Leo to approve the minutes of the Board of Education meetings held on December 8, 2004 and January 5, 2005.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

IX. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. PERSONNEL

1. Separations

2. Leave of Absences

3. Abolishments

4. Creations/Appointments/Adjustments

a. Creation of (2) Custodial Worker Positions (replacement)

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Praught to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the creation of (2) Custodial Worker positions, 12 months per year, 8 hours per day, effective January 3, 2005.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

b. Emergency Conditional Probationary Appointment of Shawn K. Neese, Registered Professional Nurse

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Greater Johnstown School District hereby conditionally appoints Shawn Neese to the position of Registered Professional Nurse, \$13.58 per hour, 12 months per year, effective December 13, 2004, subject to the rules of the Fulton County Personnel Department. In accordance with the Civil Service Rules, such appointment is a probationary appointment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this appointment is made on a conditional basis and subject to the receipt of a statement from Shawn Neese regarding criminal conviction(s) or pending criminal charges and the receipt of criminal background clearance from the Commissioner of Education. Ms. Neese's continued employment is specifically contingent upon the District's receipt of notice, from the Commission of Education that she is fully cleared for employment.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

c. Probationary appointment of Robert Henry, Custodial Worker

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Praught to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the probationary appointment of Robert Henry as a Custodial Worker, effective January 3, 2005, at a pay rate of \$10.70 per hour.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

d. **Casual Employment Opportunities for the 2004/05 School Year**

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Praught to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following for casual employment opportunities for the 2004/05 school year at a pay rate per the casual employment opportunity pay schedule.

Erika Hock Dylan Thomarie
Rebecca Hart Erica Jayne St. Peter

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

e. **Appointment of School District Treasurer and Chief Accounting Officer**

Motion by Ms. Freeman seconded by Ms. Leo that the Board of Education hereby appoints Peter Hopke as the School District Treasurer and Chief Accounting Officer of the Greater Johnstown School District for the 2004-2005 school year.

AND IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby directs that Peter Hopke shall, upon undertaking the duties of the School District Treasurer and Chief Accounting Officer, and within ten days after notice in writing of his appointment is duly served upon him, execute and deliver to the Board of Education, by filing with the School District Clerk, an insurance bond known in the law as an official undertaking conditioned for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office in the amount of at least \$1,000,000. This shall be at the District's expense.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

Administration of Oath of Office

Administration of Oath of Faithful Performance in Office in accordance with Public Officer's Laws 10 and 30 and NYS Constitution Act XIII-1.

f. **Appointment of Census Enumerator**

Motion by Ms. Freeman seconded by Ms. Leo that the Board of Education appoint Peter Hopke as Census Enumerator for the 2004-2005 school year in accordance with Education Law 3242 (implied) at no additional compensation.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

g. **Fulmont Health Trust**

Motion by Ms. Freeman seconded by Ms. Leo that the Board of Education appoint John S. Whelan as Trustee and Peter Hopke as Alternate for the Fulmont Health Trust for the 2004-2005 school year at no additional compensation.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

h. **Fulmont Worker's Compensation Plan**

Motion by Ms. Freeman seconded by Ms. Leo that the Board of Education appoint John S. Whelan as Trustee and Peter Hopke as Alternate for the Fulmont Workers' Compensation Plan for the 2004-2005 school year at no additional compensation.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

i. Surplus Property

Motion by Ms. Freeman seconded by Ms. Leo that the Board of Education hereby authorizes Peter Hopke to deem personal property surplus and further authorizes the sale and/or disposal of unneeded personal property, otherwise known as surplus, as long as the sale and/or disposal of such surplus is bona fide and/or for adequate consideration and has an individual value of less than \$1,000.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby appoints and designates Peter Hopke to engage in such sale and/or disposal of surplus, the value of which must be below \$1,000.00 per item in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

j. Authorization to Purchase Surety Bonds

Motion by Ms. Freeman seconded by Ms. Leo that the Board of Education authorize the School District Business Administrator and/or the School District Clerk, to purchase surety bonds in accord with Public Officers Law §11(2) for the 2004-2005 school year.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

B. WARRANTS

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Ms. Freeman to accept the recommendation of the District Auditor, to accept warrants #7 and #8 dated November 1-30, 2004, as seen in addendum #1.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

C. TREASURER'S REPORTS

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Ms. Freeman to accept the recommendation of the District Treasurer, to accept the Treasurer's Report for November 1-30, 2004, as seen in addendum #2.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

D. VENDOR LISTS

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Ms. Freeman to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the Vendor List for November 1-30, 2004, as seen in addendum #3.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

E. TRANSFERS

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Ms. Freeman to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the Budget Transfer Schedule #2 November 1-30, 2004, as seen in addendum #4.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

F. COOPERATIVE CANNED & SNACK FOOD BID #05-09

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Ms. Freeman to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the Cooperative Canned Food Bid #05-098 to various vendors as the lowest, qualified, responsible bidders, as seen in addendum #5.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

X. EDUCATION ITEMS

A. PERSONNEL

1. Separations

a. Retirement of Carolyn Beck, English Teacher

Motion by Mr. Praught seconded by Mr. Miller to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept the resignation of Carolyn Beck, with regret, as English teacher effective June 30, 2005, for the purposes of retirement.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

b. Retirement of Jeffrey Green, Health Teacher

Motion by Mr. Praught seconded by Mr. Miller to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept the resignation of Jeffrey Green, with regret, as health teacher, effective June 30, 2005 for the purposes of retirement.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

c. Retirement of Sarah Slingerland, English Teacher

Motion by Mr. Praught seconded by Mr. Miller to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept the resignation of Sarah Slingerland, with regret, as English teacher, effective June 30, 2005 for the purposes of retirement.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

2. Leave of Absences

3. Abolishments

4. Creations/Appointments/Adjustments

a. Probationary Appointment of Peter Hopke as Business Administrator

Motion by Mr. Cinelli seconded by Mr. Pollak to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the three-year probationary appointment (pending fingerprinting) of Peter Hopke as Business Administrator in the Business Administrator tenure area at \$70,000 per year (prorated) as per the employment agreement dated January, 2005 effective January 18, 2005 and expiring January 17, 2008.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

b. Tenure Appointment of Meredith Fagan

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Cinelli to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, and pursuant to Education Law and the provision of Part 30.3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents, recommends Meredith Fagan, probationary teacher in the English tenure area, having been appointed to such position effective February 2, 2002, be appointed to tenure to the position of English teacher in the Greater Johnstown School District. Be it shown that Meredith Fagan holds a valid NYS provisional certificate to serve in the aforesaid tenure area, and be it further shown that the probationary period of Meredith Fagan will expire on March 1, 2005.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

c. Tenure Appointment of Rebecca Voudry

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Cinelli to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, and pursuant to Education Law and the provision of Part 30.3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents, recommends Rebecca Voudry, probationary teacher in the elementary tenure area, having been appointed to such position effective April 22, 2002, be appointed to tenure to the position of elementary teacher in the Greater Johnstown School District. Be it shown that Rebecca Voudry holds a valid NYS provisional certificate to serve in the aforesaid tenure area, and be it further shown that the probationary period of Rebecca Voudry will expire on April 21, 2005.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

d. Appointment of Co-Curricular Advisors

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Cinelli to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the appointment of the following individuals as co-curricular advisors for the 2004-2005 school year:

*Daniel Jones, Winter Percussion Advisor
Sarah Corrigan, Choral Ensemble Advisor*

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

e. Appointment of Spring Coaches

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Praught to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the appointment of the following individuals as spring coaches for the 2004-2005 school year:

<i>Adam Barnhart, Baseball Head</i>	<i>\$3,024</i>
<i>Aaron Mraz, Baseball Asst #1</i>	<i>\$2,228</i>
<i>Jon Jennings, Baseball Asst #2</i>	<i>\$2,069</i>
<i>Hanz Litz, Baseball Asst #3</i>	<i>\$1,963</i>

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

f. Appointment of Spring Coaches

Motion by Mr. Pollak seconded by Mr. Miller to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the appointment of the following individuals as spring coaches for the 2004-2005 school year:

<i>Eric Laugen, Boys Lacrosse Head</i>	<i>\$3,024</i>
<i>Denise Benton, Girls Lacrosse Head</i>	<i>\$3,024</i>
<i>Tracy Ringer, Girls Lacrosse Asst #1</i>	<i>\$2,228</i>
<i>Ron Savoie, Softball Head</i>	<i>\$3,024</i>
<i>Nicole Reynolds, Softball Asst #1</i>	<i>\$2,228</i>
<i>Nick Colistra, Boys Tennis Head</i>	<i>\$1,857</i>
<i>Greg LaMere, Track Head</i>	<i>\$3,024</i>
<i>Walt Lane, Track Asst #1</i>	<i>\$2,228</i>
<i>Heather LaMere, Track Asst #2</i>	<i>\$2,069</i>

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – CSE, CPSE

1. Committee for Special Education

Motion by Ms. Leo seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the minutes of the Committee for Special Education meetings held on November 30, 2004, December 7, 2004 and January 7, 2005.

002400090

000950057

002400083

000900129

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

2. Committee for Pre-School Special Education

Motion by Ms. Leo seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the minutes of the Committee for Pre-School Special Education meetings held on November 29, 2004.

000240029

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

C. STUDENT MATTERS

a. Establishment of Co-Curricular Club

Motion by Ms. Freeman seconded by Mr. Miller to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to establish the Winter Percussion co-curricular club effective January 19, 2005 with an unpaid advisor appointment.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

b. Establishment of Co-Curricular Club

Motion by Ms. Freeman seconded by Mr. Miller to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to establish the Choral Ensemble co-curricular club effective January 19, 2005 with an unpaid advisor appointment.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

XI. BOARD OF EDUCATION ITEMS

1. Second Reading of New Policy #5570, Financial Accountability: Allegations of Fraud

#5570 – Financial Accountability: Allegations of Fraud

2. Adoption of Policy #5570, Financial Accountability: Allegations of Fraud

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Martin to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to adopt Policy 5570, Financial Accountability: Allegations of Fraud, effective January 19, 2005.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

3. First Reading of Revised Policy #7670

#7670 – Impartial Hearing Officer/Selection of Impartial Hearing Officers

4. **Waiver of Second Reading and Adoption of Revised Policy #7670**

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Martin to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to waive the second reading of the following revised policy and adopt the same effective January 19, 2005.

#7670 – Impartial Hearing Officer/Selection of Impartial Hearing Officers

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

5. **SEORA Review and Lead Agency Designation for District-Wide III Capital Project**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Greater Johnstown School District (“Board”) is considering to undertake a project consisting of additions and/or renovations to existing District facilities, including the Johnstown High School, the Knox Junior High School, Warren Street Elementary, Pleasant Avenue Elementary, Jansen Avenue Elementary, and Glebe Street Elementary, together with the construction of a new bus maintenance/storage facility, all as more specifically set forth in the Summary of Projects attached hereto as Addendum #6 (“the Project”); and

WHEREAS, the State Environmental Quality Review Act and the regulations thereunder require the Board to undertake a review of the potential environmental impacts, if any, associated with the Project before approving the same,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board makes the following findings:

- 1. The potential Project under consideration will require review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEORA”).*
- 2. The potential Project under consideration may be subject to classification under SEORA as an Unlisted Action.*
- 3. Environmental review of the Project shall be conducted in accordance with those procedures and requirements applicable to Unlisted actions.*
- 4. The potential Project under consideration is one for which a determination of significance must be made.*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is hereby directed to cause to be prepared, with such assistance from outside engineers and/or consultants as may be deemed necessary, a Short Environmental Assessment Form with respect to the proposed Project under consideration;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board proposes to declare itself lead agency with respect to the proposed Project under consideration within the meaning of 6 NYCRR 617.2(u), and directs that a copy of this Resolution, the Environmental Assessment Form, and any other supporting documentation, once completed, be provided to all involved agencies, together with a request that such agencies consent to the lead agency designation as soon as practicable but in no event later than thirty (30) calendar days of said mailing.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

XII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

XIII. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

February 2, 2005	Discussion/Business Meeting	6:00 PM Public Session Warren Street Elementary
February 16, 2005	Business Meeting	6:00 PM Public Session Johnstown High School

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Praught seconded by Ms. Freeman to adjourn at 7:33 PM.

VOTE: 8 Yes 0 No

Respectfully submitted,

Larraina Carpenter
District Clerk