

GREATER JOHNSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Discussion/Business Meeting
January 11, 2006
Glebe Street School

I. Called to order by Board President at 6:01 PM.

ATTENDEES:

Leslie Buggeln-Bosworth (6:02 PM)	Joanne Freeman (6:03 PM)	Richard McGuire
Peter Cinelli	Kathleen Leo	Scott Miller
Robert Curtis (6:03 PM)	Russell Martin	John David Praught

OTHERS:

John S. Whelan	Katherine Sullivan	Peter Hopke
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II. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON 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 meeting where the Board permits public comment. Members of the public are welcome to send questions, comments or concerns regarding these or other matters to the Board in writing."

III. SUPERINTENDENT/ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

- Mrs. Sullivan reported on the newly released 2005-2006 NYS Grade 5 Social Studies Test results, and provided a handout showing results for the past five years. The majority of our students scored in Levels 3 & 4 on the 2005-2006 test, with only a small percentage falling below standard in Levels 1 & 2.
- Mr. Whelan recognized National Honor Society Advisor Meredith Fagan and commended the students inducted at the ceremony held last evening for their hard work and efforts.
- Mrs. Sullivan asked Kathy Zajicek if she would like to comment on a mural developed by the high school advanced art students, which is to be displayed on the building next to Stewart's at the corner of East Main & Perry Streets. Ms. Zajicek indicated the idea was suggested last year by student teacher Paul Lakata as a way to get students involved in the community. Photos of the project can currently be seen on the District web site and a presentation is being planned for the February 9th Board meeting.

IV. REPORTS (PRESIDENT/STANDING COMMITTEES)

- The Finance Committee met today and will report at the next Board meeting.
- The Extra-Curricular Committee met today and will report at the next Board meeting.
- The Facilities Planning Committee will meet Jan. 13 @ 2:00 PM in the Conference Room
- The Academic Committee will meet Jan. 25 @ 5:00 PM in the Conference Room

V. BUSINESS ITEMS

- Warrants
- Vendor Additions
- Budget Transfers
- Treasurer's Reports
- Canned Food Bid

VI. EDUCATION ITEMS

A. PERSONNEL

1. Creations/Appointments/Adjustments

a. Adjust Term Appointment of Ericka Curley, Special Education Teacher

Motion by Mr. Curtis seconded by Mrs. Leo to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to adjust the term appointment of Ericka Curley, special education teacher in the special education tenure area, from .6 FTE to full-time (at Step C1) pursuant to the collective bargaining agreement with the Johnstown Teachers' Association, effective January 3, 2006 and expiring June 30, 2006.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – CSE, CPSE

1. Committee for Special Education

Motion by Mr. Praught seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the minutes of the Committee for Special Education meetings held 12/15/05, 12/21/05, and 12/22/05:

000960006	000980017	000900063
009140020	000960013	000880949
000240043	000900010	002500079

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

VII. BOARD OF EDUCATION ITEMS

VIII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- Mrs. Sullivan introduced Charles Smith, who previously served at Warren Street and is currently acting as interim principal at Glebe Street. Mr. Smith said he is delighted to be here and invited people to stop by and introduce themselves when in the building.
- Mr. Praught inquired what our policy is regarding classroom temperatures. It was indicated the current procedure is for thermostats to be set at 68°. He feels some of the rooms are too warm and asked for a reduction to 65°, which can be raised if needed. EJ Maye will be asked to conduct a review.
- Mr. Praught noted that Broadalbin-Perth and Gloversville schools are facing problems with escalating costs in their capital projects and expressed concern as to whether we will still be able to encompass all of our projects. It was indicated that while this is our goal, rising costs can't always be predicted.
- Mr. Praught asked whether we are involved in a possible consolidation with Gloversville and Amsterdam schools, as recently reported in the newspaper. Mr. Whelan indicated that the consolidation idea was presented by Geoff Davis of HFM BOCES during a recent Superintendent's meeting and that more information has been requested. A discussion ensued regarding the differences between shared services, consolidations and mergers.
- Mr. Curtis asked what the process is in each of the elementary buildings when a child doesn't have lunch money. It was indicated we are working to make sure that there is a standard procedure. Mr. Curtis would like to be sure that no child is denied a lunch.

