

GREATER JOHNSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Business Meeting
April 28, 2010
Johnstown High School

I. Called to order by President Curtis at 8:00 p.m.

ATTENDEES:

Evamarie Mraz	John David Praught	James Levin
Ronald Beck	Robert Curtis	Joanne Freeman (arrived 8:02 pm)
Leslie Buggeln-Bosworth	Scott Miller	Russell Martin (arrived 8:02 pm)

OTHERS:

Katherine Sullivan, Superintendent	Larraina Carpenter, District Clerk
Alice Dillenbeck, Business Manager	

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. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mrs. Mraz to approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on April 1, 2010.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

- Mrs. Sullivan reported that the following six individuals filed nominating petitions for the three seats available in the May 18, 2010 Board of Education election: Paul VanDenburgh, Douglas Dougherty, Jennifer Sponnoble, Bradley Yerdon, Russell Martin & Joanne Freeman. Reminder that a drawing for ballot position is scheduled for 1 p.m. tomorrow.
- Mrs. Sullivan announced that the following students earned January diplomas and offered congratulations:

Hannah C. Baker	Kailie N. Gray	Brooke E. Leibowitz	Chad F. Maye, Jr.
Amanda M. Nethaway	Ryan McCue	Devon R. Page	
- Mrs. Sullivan provided an overview of the 2010-11 budget. Noted it was increasing by \$187,000, which is .67% over last year's. Anticipate a 3% tax levy increase. Note that is the levy, not the tax rate; tax rates come from the assessor. Indicated savings were secured with the closing of Jansen Avenue School, a change in the health insurance plan and the recovery of monies under a PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) agreement with Dr. Kearney. Noted programming will be continued in the upcoming school year and enrollment will be reviewed. Said the budget is looked at beyond one year at a time, but the district does not have a crystal ball. Discussed changes in central administration over several years: elimination of assistant superintendent position; use of consultants (who do not receive benefits) when there was not a business manager. Reported that the number of people in the business office has decreased by 50% over the last ten years; it has been streamlined and is staffed by loyal, dedicated folks who have absorbed the tasks and work efficiently. The NYS Comptroller says we are one of the best run school districts in the state. Very proud of our administrators, who work collaboratively.

V. **COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS**

- Facilities Committee Report – Mr. Miller stated the number one topic for the last five years has been finding a bus garage solution and the committee has set a deadline of June 10, 2010 to make a recommendation as to whether to build or stay at Crescendoe. Architects are doing homework to see what is viable and fiscally sound. Discussed the Nature Trail at Pleasant Avenue, which was damaged in a bad wind storm a few years ago. The Boy Scouts and the district buildings & grounds staff have done some work. There is now a parent who is interested in helping out; two bridges need to be rebuilt by our staff and then volunteers may be able to proceed. Reported some additional problems were discovered after digging up fuel tanks in the emergency capital project, so will be coming to Board with a new resolution, but should wrap up in a couple of weeks. Indicated there have been some vandalism issues on district grounds. Previously discussed including security cameras with a capital project, but as there is some separate aid available, would like to get quotes for Board to look at now.
- Ron Beck asked that something be done about Knox Field. Says people don't want to go there anymore; kids on hill and on track with bicycles, people with dogs and cigarettes. Mr. Miller noted this issue has been discussed before; asked if fences should be locked. Mrs. Sullivan stated Mr. Quinn lives nearby and tries to keep an eye out. Mrs. Freeman indicated that there is no authority over the kids who are destructive, they shout obscenities and do as they please. Mr. Beck suggests getting police involved. Mrs. Sullivan advised that we have talked to them already and they do patrol. Mr. Curtis noted there is a high level of disrespect from both students and adults using the grounds, asked what options there are, should we have people arrested? Mrs. Sullivan will get quotes for a security company to patrol from 2:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. every day and e-mail them to board members to review.

VI. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

A. **PERSONNEL**

1. **Separations**
2. **Leaves of Absence**
3. **Abolishments**
4. **Creations/Appointments/Adjustments**

a. **Probationary Appointment of Patricia Dunham, School Monitor (Cafeteria)**

Motion by Mr. Praught seconded by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the probationary appointment of Patricia Dunham as a School Monitor (Cafeteria) effective April 12, 2010, 10 months per year, \$7.75 per hour.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

b. **Substitute Appointment of Mirella Casale, Food Service Helper**

Motion by Mr. Praught seconded by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the substitute appointment of Mirella Casale as a Food Service Helper effective April 21, 2010 through June 30, 2010, pay per the 2009/10 classified substitute pay schedule.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

B. Surplus Vehicle/Bus Bid #10-11

Motion by Mrs. Freeman seconded by Mr. Levin to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to award the Surplus Vehicle/Bus Bid #10-11 to Mathies & Sons, Inc. for \$3,940.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

VII. EDUCATION ITEMS

A. PERSONNEL

1. Separations

2. Leaves of Absence

a. Child Care Leave of Absence for Kristy Lynch-Herringshaw, Health Teacher

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Martin to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve a child care leave of absence for Kristy Lynch-Herringshaw, health teacher, from approximately June 19, 2010 through January 31, 2011.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

3. Abolishments

4. Creations/Appointments/Adjustments

a. Tenure Appointment of Anne Bagot, Social Studies Teacher

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Praught to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, pursuant to Education Law and the provision of Part 30.3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents, that Anne Bagot, probationary social studies teacher in the social studies tenure area, having been appointed to such position on September 1, 2009, be appointed to tenure to the position of social studies teacher in the Greater Johnstown School District. Be it shown that Anne Bagot holds a valid NYS permanent certificate to serve in the aforesaid tenure area. Be it further shown that the probationary period of Anne Bagot will expire on August 31, 2010. Anne Bagot was allowed credit of two years toward tenure for continuous service as a substitute social studies teacher prior to her probationary appointment.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

b. Tenure Appointment of Elizabeth Edel, Elementary Teacher

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Praught to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, pursuant to Education Law and the provision of Part 30.3 of the Rules of the Board of Regents, that Elizabeth Edel, probationary elementary teacher in the elementary education tenure area, having been appointed to such position on September 1, 2007, be appointed to tenure to the position of elementary teacher in the Greater Johnstown School District. Be it shown that Elizabeth Edel holds a valid NYS initial certificate to serve in the

f. Term Appointment of Coaching Staff

Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mr. Martin to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the term appointment of the following coach for the 2009-2010 school year:

Brian LaLonde, Unpaid Softball Assistant \$-0-

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – CSE, CPSE, 504 Committee

1. Committee for Special Education

Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mr. Martin to approve the minutes of the Committee for Special Education meetings held on March 18, 26, 30 and 31, 2010 and April 13, 15, 16 and 19, 2010:

000605998	000305989	000193983	000306001	000193001
000305976	000193965	000900130	000183935	000173128
000173131	000990009	000140237	000195284	000900128
000113591	000900181	000140328	000195250	000140118
000295600	000134654	000136066	000900171	000900180
000145958	000136995	000136779	000143734	000146861
000155159	000125894	000173104	000900580	000900758
000195279	000184938	000165115	000175132	000155990
000144593	000173910	000186062	000900551	000185000
000155978	000155024	000175155	000900120	000184910
000184931				

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

C. STUDENT MATTERS

VIII. BOARD OF EDUCATION ITEMS

A. Revised Extra-Curricular Code

Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mr. Martin to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to adopt and approve the revised extra-curricular code (addendum #1), effective July 1, 2010.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

B. First Reading of New Policy #5641, Tobacco-Free School Environment

#5641 – Tobacco-Free School Environment

C. Appointment of Election Inspectors

Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mr. Martin to approve the individuals listed to serve as election inspectors for the May 18, 2010 Board of Education Election and Budget Vote.

Johnstown High School

*Bonnie Dostal (D)
Emily Kralovic (R)
Patricia Bender (D)
Joanne Blair (R)
Jacqueline Swatt (D)
Georgianne Chatterton (R)*

Ephratah Fire House

*Hazel Prall (D)
Denise Duesler (D)
Darlene Terricola (R)*

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

D. REVENUE ANTICIPATION NOTE RESOLUTION DATED APRIL 28, 2010 OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF REVENUE ANTICIPATION NOTES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE RECEIPT OF AID FROM THE STATE OF NEW YORK AND DETERMINING OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

(Board Member) Mr. Levin presents the following resolution and moved its adoption, Seconded by (Board Member) Mr. Praught

BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS BOARD OF EDUCATION AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The power to authorize, from time to time and year to year, the issuance and sale of revenue anticipation notes (the "Notes") of the City School District of the City of Johnstown, New York (the "School District"), including renewals thereof, in anticipation of the collection of revenues to be received by the School District as State aid from the State of New York, is hereby delegated to the President of the Board of Education, as chief fiscal officer.

Section 2. It is hereby determined that any Notes which may be issued by the School District pursuant to this resolution for any given fiscal year shall be issued during such fiscal year or during the two weeks prior to the commencement of such fiscal year and otherwise in accordance with Section 25 of the Local Finance Law of the State of New York.

Section 3. Subject to the provisions of the Local Finance Law, the power to sell and deliver the Notes, including renewals of such Notes, is hereby delegated to the President of the Board of Education, the chief fiscal officer of the School District. Such Notes shall be of such terms, form and contents, and shall be sold in such manner, as may be prescribed by said President of the Board of Education, consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 4. The President of the Board of Education is hereby authorized to sign and the District Clerk is hereby authorized to attest the Notes issued pursuant to this Resolution, and the District Clerk is hereby authorized to affix to such Notes the corporate seal of the School District.

Section 5. It is hereby determined and declared that it is the intent of this Board of Education that this resolution remain in full force and effect until this resolution is modified, amended, rescinded, revoked or repealed by this Board of Education.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

E. BOCES Administrative Budget

Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mr. Praught that the Hamilton-Fulton-Montgomery Board of Cooperative Educational Services be authorized to expend the sums of money set forth in the Administrative Budget document in the total amount of \$2,343,178 during the school year 2010-2011 and to raise such sum by assessments to component school districts, non-component school districts, other BOCES, and other sources as deemed appropriate.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

X. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- Lucinda Ormiston thanks Mr. Satterlee for helping her, but thinks there is a violence and bullying problem at Knox. Says she and Janet Lincourt have some programs and ideas they would like to present. Says she talked to Johnstown Police Department and would like the school to have Officer Johnson come into the building several times a day. Suggests “Rachel’s Challenge,” school resource officers, bullying prevention committee, peer mediation, group counseling, community volunteers and more information to parents. Presents letter to Board from her son.
- Janet Lincourt suggests “McGruff Neighborhood Program,” a network with community involvement. Place stickers in windows of homes children can go to until a police officer can get there. Mrs. Freeman noted it sounded like a safe house program that used to be in place years ago.
- Mrs. Sullivan notes that Mrs. Kilburn and Mr. Satterlee are in the process of bringing in a lady who is an expert in this field.
- Amanda Oathout says her son entered Knox with anxiety issues after being bullied in sixth grade. Refuses to come to school, has to be tutored, may have to pay tuition to go to school elsewhere.
- Mrs. Kilburn advises that the district is looking to bring in Brenda McGuire, who will spend time in the community to get a snapshot of what is going on and then work with various groups to develop a program that fits us. Notes that this is not just a school issue, it is a community issue.
- Mr. Beck says that may be great down the road but thinks action needs to take place now, such as bringing Officer Johnson in. Mrs. Sullivan and Mr. Satterlee will meet with Officer Johnson.
- Janet Lincourt alleges students are being asked to pay to use the bathroom and are afraid to go to the principal or a teacher.
- ? Sponenburg claims kids get books slapped out of hands and thrown in the garbage; ridiculed for nationality; beat up while walking to public library.
- Mr. Beck asks if anyone besides Mr. Satterlee is walking the halls.
- Rodney Oathout asks if anyone in the district has any clue what is going on and was any plan ever in place.
- Mr. Curtis notes that bullying has been going on everywhere for years. There are character education programs in place in the elementary, but unfortunately some students don’t respect property, other students or adults.
- Pleasant Ave. Principal Jeff Vivenzio notes the school counselor provides a Miss Manners skit, the NED show has been in, the school works with the HFM Prevention Counsel. Try to be proactive, not reactive.
- Glebe St. Principal Bill Crankshaw notes the school also uses the Yello Dyno Program, Banana Splits, PTA nights and daily reminders about good character.
- Mr. Praught indicates he has an eighth grader at Knox who was bullied, which he addressed with Mr. Satterlee. Notes character education is not hitting home; the popular kids take liberties. Says need a community approach to change the culture as it is everywhere.
- Lucinda Ormiston thinks character education stops after elementary. Says shame on teachers for not doing anything.
- Renee Oathout indicates she is a junior at JHS and has been a student in Johnstown since pre-school and when she was at Knox it was the best years of her life. Thinks when current Knox kids get to JHS, problems will escalate.
- Mr. Beck asked what happens when kids get to Knox? Mr. Levin and Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth indicate some of it is age related. Mr. Levin suggests getting kids involved in athletics and activities to keep them busy and alleviate situation.

XI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

May 4, 2010 (Tues.)	Voter Registration Public Budget Hearing Board of Education Candidate’s Night	Noon – 4 p.m., District Office 6:30 p.m., JHS Lecture Hall Following Budget Hearing
May 6, 2010 (Thurs.)	Audit Committee Meeting Discussion/Business Meeting	6:00 PM 7:00 PM JHS

May 20, 2010 (Thurs.) Academic/Extra-Curricular Committee Meeting 5:30 PM
Long Range Restructuring Committee Meeting 6:00 PM
Business Meeting 7:00 PM JHS

XI. MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE EMPLOYMENT HISTORY OF A PARTICULAR PERSON

Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mrs. Mraz to go to executive session for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person at 9:14 p.m.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

XII. MOTION TO RECONVENE IN PUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Mr. Levin, seconded by Mr. Miller, to reconvene in public session at 10:28 p.m.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mr. Miller to adjourn at 10:28 p.m.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

Respectfully submitted,

Larraina Carpenter,
District Clerk