

**GREATER JOHNSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Board of Education Business Meeting**  
**March 18, 2010**  
**Johnstown High School**

I. Called to order by President Curtis at 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDEES:

Ronald Beck	Robert Curtis	Evamarie Mraz	James Levin (arrived 7:15 p.m.)
Scott Miller	Joanne Freeman	Russell Martin	

ABSENT:

Leslie Buggeln-Bosworth            John David Praught

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. Beck seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on March 4, 2010.*

VOTE:            6 YES                            0 NO

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

- Mrs. Sullivan noted Board members had received information in their packet from Mrs. Dillenbeck regarding switching from APA to Delta Dental (Agenda Item VI E)
- Mrs. Sullivan reported that letters were sent out congratulating Knox student Kevin Ammann and Pleasant Avenue student Lauryn Wilson, who placed first and third in the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Fulton County Spelling Bee. Kevin will be going to Washington to compete in the Scripps National Spelling Bee. Noted that the fourth place finisher was a former Pleasant Avenue student who moved to Northville.
- Mrs. Dillenbeck noted that the Board will declare the Irving Street premises as surplus property on tonight's agenda. It is not receiving any aid and there is no debt service. Will be looking for voter approval to sell it and get it back on the tax rolls, probably in September. Noted that Jansen Avenue still receives aid and has debt service; the proper time to declare that as surplus property will be when a bona fide purchase offer is received.
- Mrs. Dillenbeck advised that she received a request from the Post Prom Coordinators asking for a \$1,000 donation from the Board. Mrs. Sullivan noted that it was to replace funds that used to come from a contract with Coca Cola.
- Athletic Director James Robare indicated the girls varsity lacrosse team has an opportunity for a play day on Sunday, March 28, at RPI. Many area teams will be participating. Asked if the Board had any objections to allowing the team to take part. Mrs. Freeman abstained; there were no objections.

V. **COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS**

- Mrs. Mraz reported that the Long Range Restructuring Committee met at 5 p.m. this afternoon. The elementary and junior high principals will assist with developing a survey to be finalized by the end of June seeking input on long range planning and gauging whether people would be in favor of converting the elementary schools to a “Princeton Plan” model in several years, or whether people would prefer to see singletons return as enrollment continues to decline. The committee will meet again on May 20 at 6 p.m.
- Mr. Miller advised that the Facilities Committee met at 6 p.m., at which time they discussed the status of Irving St and Jansen Ave properties. They also reviewed a proposal from a local architect to oversee the emergency capital project (tank repair), as required by SED. A second proposal will be sought. Business Office Consultant Ralph Aquaro provided the committee with a spreadsheet comparing the cost of leasing the Crescendoe Road facility to building a new bus maintenance facility. The taxpayer share of a five year lease is approximately \$17,000 per year, while the cost of a new facility, based on current architectural proposals, would be \$7,200 per year over 30 years (if state aid were dramatically reduced, a worst case scenario would be \$26,533 per year). He noted a couple of other options are currently being investigated, but a decision should be made by June and, if constructing a new facility is chosen, plans would be made for a September ballot. Mr. Beck noted a new building would only consist of 5,000 square feet, versus the 32,000 square feet currently being leased. Mr. Miller noted building a new facility contains a \$100,000 proposal for a storage barn (for goods & equipment; buses would remain outside). Mr. Miller noted one of the issues with leasing is that permission must be obtained from the taxpayers and SED every five years; said this is a gamble, as if either the taxpayers or SED say no to leasing, the district will be left scrambling to find a place for the buses.

VI. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

A. **PERSONNEL**

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

a. **Permanent Appointment of Darcy DiMaio, School Bus Attendant**

*Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Martin to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the permanent appointment of Darcy DiMaio as of January 5, 2010.*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

b. **Casual Employment Opportunities**

*Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Martin to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following for Casual Employment Opportunities for the 2009/10 school year:*

*Katherine Bant – Lifeguard            Julianna Frederick - Lifeguard  
Michael Gifford - Lifeguard*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

**B. WARRANTS – January 2010**

*Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Martin to accept the recommendation of the District Auditor, to accept the following warrants for January 2010, as seen in addendum #1:*

General (A): #30, 28,  
School Lunch (C): #14, 13,  
Federal (F): #13, 12,  
Trust & Agency (TA): #24, 23, 22,  
Expendable Trust (TE): #3,

VOTE: 7 YES 0 NO

**C. TREASURER’S REPORT – January 2010**

*Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Martin to accept the recommendation of the District Treasurer, to accept the Treasurer’s Report for January 2010, as seen in addendum #2.*

1. Unrestricted Cash Balance
2. Budget Transfer Schedule #8
3. Handwritten Checks
4. Revenue Budget Status
5. School Lunch Program Profit & Loss Statement
6. Appropriation Status Report
7. Vendor Listing by Number (Vendor Additions)

VOTE: 7 YES 0 NO

**D. Declaration of Irving Street Building as Surplus Property**

*Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Martin to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept that the Irving Street Building be declared surplus and direct that the Superintendent take steps necessary to place the same on the market for sale.*

VOTE: 7 YES 0 NO

**E. Delta Dental Contract**

*Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Martin to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to enter into a contract for employees’ and retirees’ dental insurance with Delta Dental (replacing APA Dental which is no longer available) effective July 1, 2010.*

VOTE: 7 YES 0 NO

**VII. EDUCATION ITEMS**

**A. PERSONNEL**

**1. Separations**



**3. Committee for Special Education**

*Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Martin to approve the minutes of the Committee for Special Education meetings held on March 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 2010:*

000183935	000112108	000101212	000106566	000140400
000140401	000900815	000126719	000296530	000102023
000900573	000125806	000116003	000306188	000306189
000920084	000122006	000296533	000125769	000123638
000126081	000133671	000306029	000306094	000140381
000116647	000910111	000900545	000900475	000125822
000305621	000900557	000900403	000134645	000134629
000135082	000144969	000400084	000146843	000900459
000900508	000900898			

VOTE:            7 YES                            0 NO

**C. STUDENT MATTERS**

**VIII. BOARD OF EDUCATION ITEMS**

**A. BOCES Board of Education Nomination**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mr. Martin, to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to adopt the following resolution:*

*WHEREAS, three (3) seats are expiring June 30, 2010 on the Hamilton-Fulton & Montgomery Counties Board of Cooperative Educational Services, and*

*WHEREAS, nominations must be received at the Office of the Clerk of the Hamilton-Fulton & Montgomery Counties Board of Cooperative Educational Services no later than March 19, 2010; be it*

*RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Greater Johnstown School District nominates the following individual as a candidate for a position on the Hamilton-Fulton & Montgomery Counties Board of Cooperative Educational Services:*

***Joanne Freeman, residing at 12 South Melcher Street, Johnstown, New York 12095***

*and, directs the District Clerk to submit the nomination accordingly.*

VOTE:            5 YES                            2 NO (Mrs. Mraz; Mr. Beck)

**B. LEASE PROPERTY**

*WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Greater Johnstown School District is in need of space to house its transportation operations; and*

*WHEREAS, the District has located space within the District, located at Crescendoe Road in the City of Johnstown, that is suitable for such operations; and*

*WHEREAS, the District's administrators have entered into negotiations for the lease of such space with the Crossroads Incubator Corporation and have provided the Board with a proposed lease agreement:*

*Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mrs. Mraz that the Board of Education of the Greater Johnstown School District hereby authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute a lease agreement, in substantially the form set forth in **Addendum #3** hereto, the*

commencement of which shall occur when all lease contingencies, including but not limited to approval of the Commissioner of Education, have been met and further authorizes payment thereunder.

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

**C.    RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PROPOSITION TO BE PRESENTED TO THE VOTERS AT THE ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING**

*Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mrs. Mraz that the Board of Education place the following proposition before the voters in connection with the annual budget vote for 2010-11 on May 18, 2010:*

***PROPOSITION - TRANSPORTATION FACILITY LEASE***

*SHALL the Board of Education of the Greater Johnstown School District be authorized to enter into a lease with respect to transportation facilities located at Crescendoe Rd., Johnstown, New York, for a term of five years commencing July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2015 and at a rent not to exceed \$99,450 per year for the period July 1, 2010 to September 30, 2011; \$105,625 per year for the period October 1, 2011 to June 30, 2013; and \$112,125 per year for the period July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2015?*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

**D.    RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PROPOSITION TO BE PRESENTED TO THE VOTERS AT THE ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING**

*Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mrs. Mraz that the Board of Education place the following proposition before the voters in connection with the annual budget vote for 2010-11 on May 18, 2010:*

***PROPOSITION – BUS LEASES***

*SHALL the Board of Education of the Greater Johnstown School District be authorized to (1) enter into an agreement to lease two 66-passenger buses for a period of five years, commencing July 1, 2010, at a maximum principal cost not to exceed \$16,360 per year for each 66-passenger bus; (2) expend such sum for such purpose; (3) levy the tax necessary therefore, to be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education, taking into account state aid received; and (4) levy a tax to pay the interest on said obligations when due?*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

**E.    TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO POST PROM ACTIVITY ACCOUNT**

*Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mrs. Mraz to transfer funds in the sum of \$1,000 from the Board of Education’s contractual expense account to the Post Prom activities account.*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

**IX.    COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

- John Pradelski indicated that he is the local coordinator for the Marine Corps Toys for Tots in Fulton and Montgomery Counties. Noted that with the local Catholic Churches consolidating, he will be losing St. Anthony’s Hall, where he currently stores toys. Requested permission to use a classroom in the Jansen Ave. building to secure his toys throughout the year and use of the gymnasium one week prior to Christmas, when he and volunteers would be sorting and preparing toys for distribution. Advised that if he cannot find space, there will no longer be a toy drive. He currently serves 1,500 kids. Mr. Curtis

