

Board of Education Minutes
February 11, 2009

A regular meeting of the Roxbury Central District Board of Education was held on February 11, 2009.

Present: Phil Zorda, Ed Fersch, Jim Cuttita, Will Finch and Tara Poniros.
Superintendent: Thomas J. O'Brien
Principal: Eric Windover
Treasurer: Jean Menchen
Secretary: Cherie Serrie

President Zorda called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Additions to agenda:

1. Executive session prior to personnel to discuss the employment history of a particular employee.
2. Executive session after the regular meeting to discuss:
 - o Superintendent evaluation
 - o Employment history of a particular employee.
3. Under "Other" add #8: State Property Tax Payments
4. Move #1 under "Other" to be discussed prior to the treasurer's report.

Nancy Noonan, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum Instruction from ONC BOCES, presented the proposed 2009-2010 BOCES Administrative Budget.

Bill Day and Darrell Slater of the Catskill Snowmobile Club requested a trail access across school property for the winter of 2009-10. Creation and approximate location of the proposed snowmobile trail was discussed. Tom O'Brien stated that Utica National Insurance Company has reviewed the snowmobile club insurance policy and is satisfied with it.

Will Finch moved, seconded by Jim Cuttita to allow the Superintendent to enter into negotiations with the Catskill Snowmobile Club, and to bring a recommendation back to the board for final approval. Motion approved unanimously.

Catskill Snowmobile Club

Ed Fersch moved, seconded by Will Finch to approve the treasurer's report for January, 2009. Motion approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Jim Cuttita moved, seconded by Ed Fersch to approve budget transfer schedule #7 in the amount of \$3,550. Motion approved unanimously.

Budget Transfers

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Ed Fersch moved, seconded by Tara Poniros to approve the bills for audit as follows:

Bills

	General Fund	cks	School Lunch	cks	Fed. Fund	cks	Debt Ser.	cks
Jan.	\$ 12,362.32	1	\$ 163.84	0	\$ 1,162.97	0	\$ 3,616.52	0
Feb.	\$ 241,251.78	128	\$ 8,809.52	16	\$ 5,412.70	8	\$ 2,800.00	0

Motion approved unanimously.

Will Finch moved, seconded by Jim Cuttita to approve the Extra-Classroom Activity Fund Report for January, 2009. Motion approved unanimously.

Student Fund

Ed Fersch moved, seconded by Tara Poniros to approve the minutes of the meeting on January 14, 2009. Motion approved unanimously.

Minutes

Public Comments:

1. Question regarding whether the snow fence for the proposed snowmobile trail would interfere with students sleigh riding down the hill onto the athletic field.

President's Report:

1. Information has been received on a workshop on violence prevention through Utica National Insurance was. Phil Zorda and Tom O'Brien will be registered to attend on 3/26/09 in Binghamton, NY.
2. A thank you note was received from the family of Jerry Wright.

Superintendent's Report:

1. The Budget Committee held its first meeting last week and the meeting went very well. Information items regarding the budget include the following:
 - o There will be no additional or unnecessary spending for the remainder of the school year.
 - o An informational mailing will be sent out to the public. The Board of Education will receive a draft prior to mailing.
 - o The contingency rate is 4% this year, with a possible negative percentage for next year.
 - o The Governor's proposed budget includes a decrease in aid of \$232,000.
 - o Eric Windover is looking into student needs for next year and will submit a report to Tom O'Brien.
2. The capital project is complete. The school is waiting for MARCH Associates to sign off on the project.

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3. Update on the proposal for radio station WIOX (91.3 FM): The station has received approval for placement of an antenna at the town highway department. The request for the placement of an antenna at school is withdrawn.

Board Comments and Questions: None

Old Business: None

Superintendent Recommendations:

Ed Fersch moved, seconded by Will Finch, to extend the eligibility date for the retirement incentive as per Article 22, Section 2C of the RTA contract, to April 1, 2009. This will be non-precedent setting for the current school year only. Motion approved unanimously.

**Retirement Incentive
Deadline to 4/1/09**

Ed Fersch moved, seconded by Jim Cuttita, to enter into executive session at 8:15 pm to discuss the employment histories of particular employees. Motion approved unanimously.

Into Exec. Session

Ed Fersch moved, seconded by Jim Cuttita to come out of executive session at 8:26 pm. Motion approved unanimously.

Out of Exec. Session

No action was taken during executive session.

Will Finch moved, seconded by Tara Poniros to approve the following personnel items:

Personnel

1. Accept letter of intent to retire from Tonya Liberatore.
2. Accept letter of resignation from Shirley McCumber as of January 31, 2009.
3. Approve Patricia Giella as a volunteer for the winter outdoor physical education program.
4. Approve Peter Ecklund, 377 Cornell Rd., Stamford, NY as a substitute teacher for grades 7-12. Fingerprint clearance on file.
5. Approve Sandra Walcutt, 635 Hall Rd., Roxbury, NY as a substitute teacher or LTA for grades K-12 pending fingerprint clearance as required by SAVE legislation.
6. Approve Melinda Peters, Montgomery Hollow, Rd., Roxbury, NY as a substitute teacher aide pending fingerprint clearance as required by SAVE legislation.
7. Approve the following coaches for spring, 2009:
 - Golf – Thomas Faraci, as per RTA contract
 - Girls Modified Softball – Brenda Hill and Evette Garofolo at \$867 each
 - Girl's Varsity Softball – Jane Ware as per RTA contract. Vinny Snyder as an unpaid assistance.

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- Boy's Modified Baseball – TBD
 - Boy's Varsity Baseball – Greg Funck as per RTA contract
 - Tennis - TBD
8. Approve unpaid leave for Susan Cole on Friday, February 13, 2009.
 9. Approve the use of up to 10 bereavement days for Mary Flood-Rouleau, which are not required to be used consecutively. Superintendent is authorized to extend this leave if needed.
 10. Approve Eric Zimmerman as a volunteer assistant coach for the 2008-09 Science Olympiad Team.

Motion approved unanimously.

Jim Cuttita moved, seconded by Ed Fersch to approve the following motion:

**Termination of Employment
Toth**

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and review of all materials submitted to it, the Board hereby determines the services of Janet M. Toth, Cook Manager, with less than five (5) years of service in the non-competitive classified civil service position, be terminated effective February 12, 2009. The Superintendent shall notify Ms. Toth of this decision forthwith. Motion approved unanimously.

Ed Fersch moved, seconded by Will Finch to approve the Memorandum of Understanding from Headstart.
Motion approved unanimously.

**MOU - Headstart
Sp. Education Students**

Ed Fersch moved, seconded by Jim Cuttita to approve the first reading of the following policies:

Policy 1st Readings

- 7610 Special Education: District Plan
- 7611 Children With Disabilities
- 7612 Grouping by Similarity of Needs
- 7613 The Role of The Board of Education in Implementing a Student's Individualized Education Program
- 7614 Preschool Special Education Program
- 7615 Least Restrictive Environment
- 7616 Pre-referral Intervention Strategies in General Education
- 7617 Declassification of Students With Disabilities
- 7618 Response to Intervention (RTI) Process
- 7620 Students With Disabilities Participating in School District Programs
- 7621 Section 504 of The Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- 7631 Appointment and Training of Committee on Special Education (CSE)/Subcommittee on Special Education Members
- 7632 Appointment and Training of Committee On Preschool Special Education (CPSE) Members

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- 7640 Student Individualized Education Program (IEP): Development and Provision
- 7641 Transition Services
- 7642 Extended School Year (July/August) Services and/or Programs
- 7643 Transfer Students With Disabilities
- 7660 Parent Involvement For Children With Disabilities
- 7680 Independent Educational Evaluations
- 7690 Special Education Mediation
- 8280 Instruction for English Language Learners or Students With Limited English Proficiency
- 8490 Summer School

Motion approved unanimously.

Ed Fersch moved, seconded by Will Finch to approve the revisions to the following policies:

- 5661 District Wellness Policy
- 7121 Diagnostic Screening of Students

Motion approved unanimously.

Jim Cuttita moved, seconded by Ed Fersch to approve the building request from the Cub Scouts on 2/25/09. Motion approved unanimously.

Ed Fersch moved, seconded by Tara Poniros to approve the donation of goods to RCS for the Class of 2012. Motion approved unanimously.

Ed Fersch moved, seconded by Jim Cuttita to approve the CSE recommendations for the following students: # 3002, 2769, 2696, 2393, 3009, 3010, 2716, 1801, 2716 and 2583. Motion approved unanimously.

Ed Fersch moved, seconded by Will Finch to approve the following motion:

WHEREAS, Governor Paterson has proposed to freeze the state's property tax payments at their 2008 levels; and

WHEREAS, New York State has always paid property tax payments on the assessed value of the property which it holds in trust for all citizens of the state; and

WHEREAS, such a freeze would cause undue hardship on landowners who will see their property tax payments increase; therefore

Policy Revisions

Bldg. Use Request

**Donation of Goods
For The Class of '12**

CSE

**State Property
Tax Freeze**

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BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Roxbury Central School District opposes Governor Paterson's proposal to freeze New York State property tax payments at their 2008 levels; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Superintendent is authorized to work with regional and state advocacy groups, political leaders, and school officials in an effort to defeat this proposal. Motion approved unanimously.

Public Comments:

1. Loren Shultis stated that a bus refresher course will be held on 2/25/09 at 6 pm at the RCS bus garage. Drivers from Margaretville Central School will also attend. Loren will be the instructor for the class.

Jim Cuttita moved, seconded by Will Finch to enter into executive session at 9:04 pm to discuss the superintendent's evaluation and the employment history of a particular employee. Motion approved unanimously.

Into Exec. Session

Jim Cuttita moved, seconded by Will Finch to come out of executive session at 9:49 pm. Motion approved unanimously.

Out of Exec. Session

No action was taken during executive session.

Tara Poniros moved, seconded by Ed Fersch to adjourn the meeting at 9:49 pm. Motion approved unanimously.

Adjourn

Cherie Serrie, Secretary

Phillip Zorda, Board President

Thomas J. O'Brien, Superintendent

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