

A public meeting was held at 6:30 on March 9, 2011. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the details of the Capital Project vote that was scheduled for March 22, 2011.

Present: Ed Fersch, Will Finch, Bonnie Walker, Tara Poniros
Superintendent: Thomas J. O'Brien
Principal: Eric Windover
Treasurer: Jean M. Menchen
Secretary: Marianne Schor
Absent: Jim Cuttita

Due to the recent budget cuts, Mr. O'Brien recommended that the Board vote to rescind the vote on the Capital Project and use the money to offset other expenditures. Mr. Fersch stated that this would be done during the regular meeting.

The public meeting was closed at 6:40.

The 3rd grade gave a presentation of the Claymation projects that they did in Computers with Ms. Ware. Many students and their families were on hand to show off their work. The Board thanked the teachers for their work and congratulated the students on the great job they did.

**3rd Grade
Claymation
Projects**

A regular meeting of the Roxbury Central School District Board of Education was held on March 9, 2011.

President Fersch called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. O'Brien gave a PowerPoint presentation on the preliminary budget for 2011-2012. Mr. O'Brien stated that this presentation did not reflect some of the most recent changes that are being proposed, and the Budget Committee will be meeting again on 3/17/11 to further discuss these issues.

**1st Public
Budget
Presentation**

Additions to the Agenda:

Executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss the following:

- Employee histories
- Superintendent Evaluation

Bonnie Walker moved, seconded by Will Finch, to approve the Treasurer's Report for February, 2011. Motion approved unanimously.

**Treasurer's
Report**

The Board reviewed the general fund revenue and budget status reports.

Will Finch moved, seconded by Tara Poniros, to approve the annual notice for the budget vote and election. Motion approved unanimously.

**Annual
Notice**

Will Finch moved, seconded by Bonnie Walker, to approve the legal notice for RFP request for insurance. Motion approved unanimously.

**RFP Legal
Notice**

Tara Poniros moved, seconded by Bonnie Walker, to approve the resolution to join group bread & bread products ST-48-11. Motion approved unanimously.

**Bread
Products
Resolution**

Bonnie Walker moved, seconded by Will Finch, to approve the BOCES Initial Service Requests for Erie 1 BOCES, ONC BOCES, GST BOCES. Motion approved unanimously.

**BOCES Initial
Service**

There were no budget transfers this month.

**Budget
Transfers**

Tara Poniros moved, seconded by Will Finch, to approve the bills for audit as follows:

Bills

| | <u>General Fund</u> | <u>Cks.</u> | <u>Federal Fund</u> | <u>Cks</u> | <u>School Lunch</u> | <u>Cks</u> | <u>Capital Fund</u> | <u>Cks</u> |
|-------|---------------------|-------------|---------------------|------------|---------------------|------------|---------------------|------------|
| Feb. | \$ 12,162.80 | 0 | 0 | 0 | \$ 187.61 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| March | \$ 283,629.52 | 96 | \$ 2,394.53 | 7 | \$ 6,590.15 | 10 | 0 | 0 |

Motion was approved unanimously.

Will Finch moved, seconded by Bonnie Walker, to approve the extra-classroom activity fund account for February, 2011. Motion approved unanimously.

Student Fund

Bonnie Walker stated that there has been an offer from the M-Ark Project to help set up a Booster Club at RCS. Mr. O'Brien said he would look into it.

Will Finch moved, seconded by Tara Poniros to approve the minutes of the meetings on 2/9/11 as corrected Motion approved unanimously.

Minutes

Public Comments: None

President's Report:

1. NYSSBA Resolution – Mr. Fersch referred to an email he had sent Board members on how to develop a resolution, and the use of a study grant for cyber-consolidation. He asked the Board for their support to put out something on letterhead regarding the resolution, and to be the contact person. The Board agreed.
2. The annual BOCES meeting for Board members will be held on April 5th. Mr. Fersch stated that it was a good opportunity to meet with Board members from other districts, and urged the Board members to come.

Superintendent's Report:

1. The Board candidate petitions are available in the Main Office.
2. Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Fersch attended a presentation of the BOCES administrative Budget at NCOC yesterday. Mr. O'Brien will make a recommendation to approve the BOCES budget at the April board meeting. Mr. Fersch stated that we are one of the few school districts whose population has not significantly decreased; therefore our costs will increase. Paperwork is forthcoming.
3. Mr. O'Brien thanked the Board for giving him the opportunity to go to Albany to lobby on behalf of our school district. Last time he went as a NYCOS representative for rural schools; on March 13th & 14th he will be going to a NYSSBA Conference and will be having personal meetings with several legislators. Mr. Fersch thanked him for his efforts.

Principal's Report:

1. Mr. Windover was pleased to announce that March is FLOB month. He went on to commend the dedicated faculty and staff who coordinate this wonderful program. This year's theme is "Where in the World is Mr. Windover?" The more the students read, the more Mr. Windover will travel. At the finale, he will speak, do dances, play instruments and share food from all the places he visited around the world. There are trivia contests, daily morning music, book sales and give-aways, and a cake decorating contest that is always a fabulous event.
2. Several of our students were recognized in the newspapers as all-star team members in basketball. Kennedy Faraci was named to 1st team all-star; Kyle Ciaravino was named to 2nd team all-star; and Paulina Cowan, Garrett Hall and Dylan Stock were given Honorable Mention. Mr. Windover congratulated these outstanding athletes.
3. Jo Hinkley is doing her annual Iditarod program during March. As coach of the ski team, Mrs. Hinkley took several Roxbury Ski Team members to Lake Placid for sectionals last week. Jacob Libertore and Kaelie VanLoan both had outstanding performances.
4. Assessments are ongoing, and the students that are at risk for retention have been identified. March is a long month, and the CDEP committee is looking to find things to keep the culture here at RCS upbeat and moving forward.

Board Comments and Questions: Bonnie Walker stated that she would like to see the students have more playtime outside.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Superintendent's Recommendations:

- | | |
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| 1. Bonnie Walker moved, seconded by Will Finch, to approve the extension of the retirement incentive lump sum eligibility from 2/1/11 to 3/23/11. Motion approved unanimously. | Retirement Incentive Eligibility |
| 2. Tara Poniros moved, seconded by Bonnie Walker, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Delaware Opportunities Head Start Program and Roxbury Central School. Motion approved unanimously. | MOU |
| 3. Will Finch moved, seconded by Tara Poniros, to approve Margaret Pebler as the graduation speaker. Motion approved unanimously. | Graduation Speaker |
| 4. Will Finch moved, seconded by Bonnie Walker, to rescind the public referendum for the proposed Capital Project that was to be voted on on March 22, 2011. The Board of Education further approved that the Federal Education Stabilization Funds awarded to the district be utilized for other allowable uses. | Rescind Referendum |

Personnel:

Bonnie Walker moved, seconded Tara Poniros, to approve the following personnel items: **Personnel**

1. Approve Virginia Scheer as a parent member on the Committee of Special Education.
2. Approve Greg Muehl as Girls Modified Softball coach per RTA contract pending completion of certifications.
3. Approve Joseph Siclare as Boys Modified Baseball coach per RTA contract pending completion of certifications.
4. Approve Rita Treski as a substitute LTA retroactive from 2/1/11.
5. Approve Rita Treski as a substitute cafeteria worker pending medical clearance.
6. Approve Karina Walker as a substitute teacher. Fingerprint clearance has been received.

Other:

1. Bonnie Walker moved, seconded by Will Finch to approve the following resolution:

Be it Resolved by the Roxbury Central School Board that Legislative and Unfunded Mandate Relief Must be Included in any NY State Property Tax Cap Proposal.

WHEREAS, New York State leads the nation in local property taxes, in large part because New York leads the nation in imposing unfunded state mandates upon our local municipalities and school districts; and

WHEREAS, state mandated pension fund contributions are one of the largest components of every school district and municipal budget over which local officials have little control, and are increasing at exorbitant rates annually such that bills from the State Retirement System (ERS) will increase 40% and bills from the Teachers Retirement System (TRS) will increase 33% in the 2011-12 school year; and

WHEREAS, state laws such as the Triborough Amendment, pertaining to the collective bargaining of contracts between school districts and employee unions, impede the ability of local officials to reasonably control the costs that such contracts impose upon local property taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, as a solution to New York's property tax crisis, the Governor of New York and members of the New York State Legislature have pledged to consider enactment of legislation imposing a cap on the annual growth in local property taxes; and

WHEREAS, any property tax cap must be accompanied simultaneously (1) by ending the practice of pushing State costs onto local school districts and municipalities, and (2) by a repeal of current underfunded or unfunded state mandates that require local municipalities and school districts to significantly increase spending and therefore local property taxes; and

WHEREAS, a property tax cap without repeal of costly underfunded and unfunded state mandates will inescapably lead to drastic cuts in essential local school district programs and services, as well as significant layoffs of school district employees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Roxbury Central School Board, that the Governor of the State of New York and the members of the New York State Senate and New York State Assembly must reform the cost drivers that lead to high property taxes in New York – including mandate relief, pension benefits and the collective bargaining process – as the central element of any effort to provide property tax relief to the residents and businesses of New York State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Governor, Senate Majority and Minority Leaders, Assembly Speaker and Minority Leader, and the members of the State Senate and Assembly representing Roxbury Central School.

Motion approved unanimously.

2. Tara Poniros moved, seconded by Will Finch, to approve the CSE recommendations for the following students: #'s 4004, 2543, 2300, 2970, 9200, 2448, 2840. Motion approved unanimously.

CSE Recs.

3. Bonnie Walker approved, seconded by Tara Poniros, to accept the anonymous donation of goods to the Class of 2012. Motion approved unanimously.

Donation

Public Comments: None

Will Finch moved, seconded by Bonnie Walker, to enter into executive session at 8:10 pm to discuss employee histories and the Superintendent's evaluation. Motion approved unanimously.

Exec. Session

Bonnie Walker moved, seconded by Will Finch, to come out of executive session at 8:32 pm. Motion approved unanimously.

Out of Exec. Session

Bonnie Walker moved, seconded by Tara Poniros to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 pm. Motion approved unanimously.

Adjourn

Marianne Schor, Secretary

Edward Fersch, President
Board of Education

Thomas J. O'Brien, Superintendent