

The building principals and the Director of Special Education gave presentations on the individual results for each building and the District's special education students. It was noted that the ELA results in Putnam Valley were consistent with results in the other Putnam County districts. However, the math results for Putnam Valley were not as low or as variable as the results in the other Putnam County districts.

In going forward with regard to improving the testing and assessment results, Mr. Hallisey and Ms. Edelman noted that the following actions would be taken. An electronic tool called Accuity, will be introduced to all faculty which will be utilized to help meet the new common core standards. This program will be introduced to the students in skills periods. The Accuity software is also part of the District's plan to meet the new APPR guidelines. Reading and writing rigor will be increased across the District, and the Response to Intervention (RTI) program that is currently in place will continue with the addition of student profiles. The profiles will be created by the classroom teacher and will move with the student to their next placement. It was noted that the Accuity program will be formally explained to the District as well as the community.

Ms. Doherty reported that the Middle School had been identified as a "School in Need of Improvement" with regard to the special education population. She noted that the NYS Dept. of Education informed her that this was based on the revised cut scores; however, they could not let her know the exact area why the school received this designation. In her presentation, Ms. Doherty noted that 800 middle schools in NYS received this designation. Ms. Rufo noted that every middle school in Rockland County was labeled as a "School in Need of Improvement." Ms. Doherty reported that the following interventions had been put in place: a reading consultant was working with the teachers, alignment of curriculum maps, teacher meetings with regard to specific student issues and more frequent assessment of students.

Mr. Burruano recognized Dana Tatnell as a National Merit Scholarship Program Commended Student at the beginning of his presentation on test results. At the High School, he noted the following interventions have been put in place to improve all testing results: 9th grade writing program, extended math time, additional math labs, select skills periods for 9th graders (these placements are based on the 8th grade teachers' recommendations), 9th and 10th graders being placed in skills' periods for SAT prep to develop needed skills and critical thinking in literacy and math instead of study halls opposite their physical education classes, 9th and 10th graders are monitored every three weeks and placement in the academic eligibility program for all students is determined mid-quarter and at the end of each marking period. A transition program was also instituted for all 9th graders to meet their guidance counselors by having lunch with their individual counselor during the beginning of their freshmen year. Mr. Burruano noted that these lunches were possible due to the financial generosity of the Putnam Valley Education Foundation.

Mr. Ferraro asked how the Aspiration Index (advanced Regents designation or Regents designation on diplomas) is being incorporated into the program to ensure that colleges rank our school comparable with the neighboring schools. Ms. Fitzgerald asked how the District is measuring rigor. Mr. Burruano responded that the Regents mastery level is an indicator of the rigor measure.

(The presentation is attached to the official minutes of this meeting on file in the District Office.)

With regard to the proposed discussion on the resolutions to be voted on at the NYS School Boards' Association Convention in Buffalo, Mr. Cohen noted that he would most likely not be able to attend. The other Board members noted they were also unable to attend so the resolutions were not discussed by the Board at this meeting since the District would not have a voting member present at the convention.

In her Superintendent's report, Dr. Fuchs noted that she attended the NYS Superintendents' Conference in Albany and that the new APPR system was an important topic along with all of the unfunded mandates from New York State. She noted that the District would not receive any additional funding for the new APPR implementation this is being mandated by New York State. Dr. Fuchs reported that she has been trained for the new APPR principal evaluation system.

There was no report from the PTA or PTSA.

The student representatives noted that there would be a free chamber music concert in the PAC at 2pm on Sunday, October 23, the HS bonfire would take place on Thursday, October 20 and that the students who are members of the Science National Honor Society would begin working with 4th graders at the Elementary School in the upcoming weeks.

Ms. Fitzgerald asked for comments on agenda items. There were none and the Board moved into the new business.

On motion by Ms. Rufo, seconded by Mr. Ferraro, it was resolved, on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to accept the lowest responsible bid for the purchase of new bus camera systems from American Bus Video, Inc. 2545 Valley Ridge Drive, Cumming Georgia 30040 for \$69,910.00. The cost includes 25 three-camera systems for large buses and 23 two-camera systems for mini vans. Motion carried unanimously.

ACCEPT
BID
AMERICAN BUS VIDEO,
INC.
BUS CAMERA SYSTEM
#97/12

It was noted that the Board had discussed this at a prior meeting. Mr. Ferraro questioned the number of camera systems being purchased versus the number of buses that the District utilized. Dr. Fuchs noted that she would obtain the information and provide it to the Board of Education. Mr. Ferraro noted that he was not questioning the dollar amount just the number of systems.

ACCEPT
DONATIONS TO
CLASS OF 2013
EXTRACURRICULAR
FUND
#98/12

On motion by Mr. Ferraro, seconded by Mr. Spittal, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to accept donations to the Class of 2013 extracurricular class fund from the Bronx Westchester Tempering, Inc. company in the amount of \$75 and from the Dunlea Wholesale Glass company in the amount of \$100. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE
OVERNIGHT TRIP
MR. SPERLING CLASS
MADDEN OUTDOOR
EDUC. CENTER
#99/12

On motion by Mr. Spittal, seconded by Mr. Cohen, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve an overnight trip for Mr. Sperling's fourth grade class at the Madden Outdoor Education Center from October 13-14, 2011. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE
PERSONNEL ACTIONS
#100/12

On motion by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Ms. Rufo, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve personnel actions as per Doc. #35/12 attached to the agenda and official minutes of this meeting on file in the District Office. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Cohen noted that the personnel actions included winter coaches, childcare leaves, building level coordinators, additions to the substitute list, approval of graduate course credits, in-service courses, hours and credits for staff members.

APPROVE
H&W CONTRACT
MAHOPAC
#101/12

On motion by Ms. Rufo, seconded by Mr. Ferraro, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve and authorize the President of the Board of Education to sign a contract for Health & Welfare Services for one (1) Putnam Valley resident student attending a non-public school within the Mahopac Central School District for a total of \$586, as per Document #36/12, attached to the agenda and official minutes of this meeting on file in the District Office. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Mr. Ferraro, seconded by Mr. Spittal, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve the Middle School & High School clubs and advisors for the 2011-12 school year as per Doc. #37/12 and Doc. #38/12, attached to the agenda and official minutes of this meeting on file in the District Office. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE
MS & HS
CLUBS/ADVISORS
#102/12

Ms. Fitzgerald asked for comments on any item from the Board or the public.

Mr. Cohen noted that if his plans change and he is able to attend the NYSSBA Convention in Buffalo, the resolutions could be discussed at the next Board meeting since he would only be attending on Saturday, which is the voting day.

Ms. Fitzgerald ask for a motion to go into Executive Session for two matters of litigation and four matters related to the employment history of four individuals. Ms. Fitzgerald noted that there would be no business discussed after the Executive Session.

On motion by Ms. Rufo, seconded by Mr. Ferraro, the Board moved into Executive Session, at 9:20pm, to discuss two matters of litigation and four matters related to the employment history of four individuals. Motion carried unanimously.

CONVENE
EXEC. SESSION
#103/12


Dr. Fuchs and Ms. Doherty joined the Board in the Executive Session. Ms. Doherty left the Executive Session at 10:47pm.

On motion, by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Ferraro, the Board moved out of Executive Session at 10:15pm. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN
EXEC. SESSION
#104/12

On motion by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Ferraro, there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN MEETING
#105/12

Submitted by:

Maureen Bellino
District Clerk