

Business Meeting Minutes – January 18, 2007

BOARD OF EDUCATION: Tina Mackay, President PRESENT
Guy Cohen, Vice President
Trustees Mary Maus, Frank Reale

Trustee Marie Zarccone was not present (notified)

ADMINISTRATORS: Dr. Barbara Fuchs, Assistant Superintendent
for Curriculum and Instruction
Paul Lee, Assistant Superintendent for
Business and Finance
L. James Stowell, Director of Special Education and
Student Services
Nick Bellantoni, Director of Operations

Gary Tutty, Superintendent of Schools, was not
present (notified)

OTHERS: Regina Pagani, Student Representative to the
Board of Education, Dana Lopez, PTA Representative and
Jeannine Rufo, PTSA Representative, Reporter from the
Putnam County News, staff from the Putnam Valley School
District and community members

At 7:10 p.m., with six members of the community, Mr. Frank Reale and Guy Cohen, with no quorum of the Board of Education, decided to have an informational session with the community. Dr. Barbara Fuchs, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Personnel discussed the No Child Left Behind evaluation of our school district (attached).

Ms. Mackay convened the Business Meeting at 7:20 p.m. CONVENE
MEETING

On motion of Mr. Frank Reale, seconded by Ms. Maus, it was resolved, to approve the minutes of the Work Session/Business Meeting of December 14, 2006 and the Business Meeting of December 21, 2006. Motion carried unanimously. APPROVE
MINUTES
07/164

Ms. Mackay announced the Treasurer's Report for November was posted in the Business Office and available for anyone wishing a copy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Dr. Barbara Fuchs presented a summary of a meeting of Administration, community and Consultant Dr. Nancy Goldman on gifted and talented education (attached). It was concluded that gifted and talented education should be included in every day classroom conduct and that the “pull out” programs are not efficient. Future discussions will be held.

Mr. Paul Lee, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance, gave an update of the status of the 2006-07 budget as of the end of the second quarter.

Dr. Barbara Fuchs discussed the upcoming vote on February 13 to accept EXCEL Aid money and the Phase II building project at the Elementary School. A draft copy of the SPOTLIGHT was reviewed and comments due back by January 23.

Ms. Mackay discussed the Budget Calendar and content of meetings. It was concluded to involve community earlier in next year’s budget in November. The first presentation of the budget would be an overview of the entire budget, followed by detailed presentation by administrators of programs/ projects. There will be a Saturday community meeting.

Regina Pagani, Student Representative to the Board of Education, updated the Board on student activities.

The PTA and PTSA presented their reports.

Ms. Mackay asked for public comments on agenda items

ADOPT FINANCIAL SECTION POLICIES DIST. POLICY MANUAL On motion of Mr. Reale, seconded by Ms. Maus, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to adopt the following Financial Section Policies of the District Policy Manual, Document #56/07, attached to the official minutes of this meeting, as follows:

07/165 Property Tax Exemptions
Contingency Budget

Motion carried unanimously.

SUPPORT LHCOSS POSITION POSITION PAPER ON CHANGES TO NCLB POLICY ON ENGLISH LANGUAGE TESTING FOR LLIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENT STUDENTS On motion of Ms. Maus, seconded by Mr. Cohen, it was resolved that WHEREAS, threatened by the loss of federal dollars in administrative aid, the New York State Education Department (NYSED) announced in August 2006 that New York’s English language learners (ELL)/limited English proficient (LEP) children who are beyond their first year of enrollment in United States schools must complete the regular Elementary and Intermediate/Middle Level (grades 3-8) English Language Arts Assessments taken by children who have grown up speaking, listening, reading, and writing English as their first language; and

07/166

WHEREAS, these same children will be completing the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) in the spring to determine English language proficiency thereby experiencing double testing in English; and

WHEREAS, the research on second language acquisition demonstrates that five to seven years of experience in English as a second language are needed to compete effectively with native English language speakers; and

WHEREAS, the Elementary and Intermediate/Middle Level English Language Arts Assessments were not field tested for validity and reliability on a population of English language learners/limited English proficient students who had been learning English for fewer than three years, and certainly not for children who had been learning English for only one year; and

WHEREAS, the consequences of the new mandate for children, schools, districts, and communities would undermine the goal of educating English language learners/Limited English proficient students to high standards as outlined in the “Position Paper on the Changes to NCLB Policy on English Language Testing for Limited English Proficient Students” dated 20 November 2006; and

WHEREAS, a short-term solution and long term solution to address the issues have been proposed as solutions and recommendations within the position paper identified above and attached to this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Putnam Valley Central School District supports the concept, essence, and content of the “Lower Hudson Council of School Superintendents’ Position Paper on the Changes to NCLB Policy on English Language Testing for Limited English Proficient Students”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education authorizes the District Clerk to forward a copy of this resolution and the position statement adopted by the Lower Hudson Council of School Superintendents to Congressional representatives to lobby the United States Department of Education to postpone the upcoming Elementary and Intermediate/Middle Level English Language Arts Assessments for limited English proficient students until an appropriate, valid, and reliable assessment is available and to forward this resolution to the Board of Regents to advocate for the development of appropriate, valid, and reliable tests for limited English proficient students.

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE
2006-07
HEALTH & WELFARE
SERVICES
CONTRACT
OSSINING UFSD
 07/167

On motion of Mr. Cohen, seconded by, Mr. Reale, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve the following 2006-07 contract for Health and Welfare Services provided to resident students of Putnam Valley attending non-public schools within the following school district, as per the document attached to the official minutes of this meeting and authorize the President of the Board of Education to sign the contract:

<u>DOCUMENT #</u>	<u>SCHOOL DISTRICT</u>	<u># OF STUDENTS</u>	<u>COST PER STUDENT</u>	<u>TOTAL COST</u>
#57/07	Ossining	6	\$780.20	\$4,681.20

Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE
CSE/CPSE
PLACEMENTS
 07/168

On motion of Mr. Reale, seconded by Ms. Maus, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve CSE/CPSE Placements, as per Document #58/07, attached to the official minutes of this meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

TABLE
MOTION #5
 07/169

On motion of Mr. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Reale, it was resolved, to table Motion #5 to adopt the 2007-08 school calendar. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE
2006-07
PVHS
CLUB/ADV./STIPEND
 07/170

On motion of Mr. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Reale, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to an approve additional 2006-07 High School club/advisor/stipend, as per Document #60/07, attached to the official minutes of this meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

ACCEPT
RETIREMENT
RESIGNATION
G. TUTTY
EFF. 6/30/07
 07/171

On motion of Mr. Reale, seconded by Ms. Maus, it was resolved, by the Board of Education, to accept, with regret, the resignation of Gary Tutty, Superintendent of Schools, for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2007. Motion carried unanimously.

ACCEPT
RESIGNATION
K. COBB
SCHOOL MONITOR
AT PVMS
EFF. 1/3/07 AND
APPOINT TO
6-MN. PROB. APPT.
CAMPUS MONITOR
AT PVHS
EFF. 1/3/07-9/3/07
 07/172

On motion of Ms. Maus, seconded by Mr. Cohen, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to accept the resignation of Karen Cobb as a School Monitor at the Putnam Valley Middle School, effective January 3, 2007, and appoint her to a six-month probationary appointment as a Campus Monitor at the Putnam Valley High School, on Step 4, effective January 3, 2007 through September 3, 2007. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion of Mr. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Reale, it was resolved, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to take personnel actions, as per Document #61/07, attached to the agenda and official minutes of this meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

PERSONNEL
ACTIONS
07/173

PUBLIC CONTRIBUTION PERIOD

Mr. Cohen mentioned there would be meetings on Wednesday, January 24th all day with stakeholders and our consultants from BOCES to obtain input with respect to the Superintendent’s search. The Board of Education would be meeting with the consultants on Thursday, January 25th at 7:00 p.m. to go over the prior days’ meetings and would then go into Executive Session for discussion of salary for the position.

At 8:27 p.m., on motion of Ms. Maus, seconded by Mr. Reale, there being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN
MEETING
07/174

Submitted by
Dr. Barbara Fuchs
Assistant Superintendent for
Curriculum and Personnel

Typed by
Linda Pregiato
District Clerk