

MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Putnam Valley Central School District
146 Peekskill Hollow Road
Putnam Valley, New York 10579

Type of Meeting:

Time: 7:00pm

Work Session/Business Mtg.

Date: 01/07/10

No. of Pages: 4

BOARD OF EDUCATION: Tina Mackay, President

PRESENT

Guy Cohen, Vice President

Frank Reale, Trustee

Mary Maus, Trustee

Valerie Fitzgerald, Trustee--Arrived at
8:41pm.

ADMINISTRATORS:

Marc Space, Superintendent

Barbara Fuchs, Asst. Supt. for Curriculum & Personnel

Paul Lee, Asst. Supt. for Finance

Jamie Edelman, Elementary School Principal

OTHERS:

Maureen Bellino, District Clerk

Dan Mahoney, Meeting Videographer

Reporter from Putnam Co. News & Recorder

Approximately 5 members of the community, faculty and staff.

Ms. Mackay convened the meeting at 7:05pm with the Pledge of
Allegiance.

CONVENE MEETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Ms. Jamie Edelman gave a presentation on response to intervention (RTI) programs. Ms. Edelman explained that RTI is a multi-tiered, problem solving approach that identifies general education students who are struggling in academic and behavioral areas early and provides them with strategies and targeted instruction at varying levels. If there is no improvement/response to the first two interventions (called tier 1 and tier 2), students are referred to the Committee on Special Education. The District will try to use this RTI approach in all subject areas for K-12.

The program currently in place at the Elementary School is an approved methodology and meets the NYS mandate that requires an RTI program be in place for students in grades K-4 in the area of reading by July 1, 2012. (The presentation is attached to the official minutes of this meeting.)

Dr. Space summarized the federal "Race To The Top" (RTTT) plan. He explained that RTTT is a grant program that is being offered to states and is based on increasing the use of data and incorporating it into the evaluation system. The grants will be awarded to states based on a review of their applications. There will be two application periods (January and June). It is recommended that the Board adopts tonight's motion to sign the Memo of Understanding (MOU) to participate in the RTTT program in support of New York State's application. The District is under no obligation and more information is available at www.corestandards.org. (MOU attached to the official minutes of this meeting).

Dr. Space and Ms. Bellino discussed the need to update the District's Shared Decision Making Plan. It was first adopted in 1994 and last updated in 2004. It must be reviewed and adopted every two years. The District is required to review and re-adopt the plan by the end of January which requires the District needs to re-instate the District Steering Committee for this purpose. It was suggested that the Shared Decision Making Plan be re-adopted each year at the Re-organization Meeting in July.

In his Superintendent's Update, Dr. Space noted that the District needs to have a Board of Education member named as the National School Boards' Association advocate to address federal/national issues. Ms. Mackay volunteered to serve in this role; Mr. Cohen volunteered to be the backup representative. Dr. Space also asked the Board if they are in agreement that the major concerns for our District are: technology, health insurance, health & welfare and early childhood education. The Board members concurred.

Dr. Space informed the Board that NYSED Commissioner will not be changing the date for the upcoming budget vote and Board of Education trustee election. Tuesday, May 18, is a Jewish holiday (beginning at sunset) and any district that wishes to change the day for their vote must petition the Commissioner individually. It was noted that absentee ballots will be available for those who cannot vote due to the holiday or other reasons. The Board agreed that the community will be reminded of the absentee option.

Dr. Space discussed the Superintendent's Conference Day held on December 23, 2009 and noted how impressed he was with the effectiveness of the K-12 coordination of curriculum and the assurance of alignment. Dr. Space thanked Dr. Fuchs and the faculty for a very productive day.

Ms. Jeannie Denike provided some PTA updates and also commented on the positive staff development day. She noted PARP (Parents As Reading Partners) will be kicking off their four week program on Friday, January 15, at 7pm with a Literacy Fair. Participating in the event will be authors, illustrators and writers (including one from the Sesame Street production company).

There was no report from the Student Representatives.

Ms. Mackay asked for public contribution on the agenda item. There was none and the Board entered new business.

NEW BUSINESS

On motion of Mr. Reale, seconded by Ms. Maus, it was resolved that the Board hereby authorizes the signing of the District's RTTT (Race-To-The-Top) MOU (Memo of Understanding) for submission to the New York State Education Department. Motion carried unanimously.

AUTHORIZE
SIGNING OF
RTTT MOU

10/177

Mr. Cohen noted that this motion does not obligate the District to accept funding if the Board does not agree with the proposal and that this approval is for the first application period. (The signed RTTT MOU is attached to the official minutes of this meeting).

Ms. Mackay asked for public contributions.

Mr. Cohen noted that on Wednesday, January 13, at 7pm, the Board of Education will conduct a Special Meeting and will immediately convene into an Executive Session for collective bargaining; no other business will be conducted. He also noted that the most updated information for athletic schedules is available at www.section1athletics.org or by calling the Athletic Department. Also, on January 29 at 6:30pm, the Elementary School will be holding a Math Night.

Ms. Mackay reviewed the topics for the upcoming meetings and asked the Board for any additional items.

There was no further comment from the public.

On motion of Ms. Mackay, seconded by Mr. Reale, the Board moved into Executive Session at 8:35pm for an issue related to the employment history of a particular person and a matter leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person. Motion passed unanimously.

CONVENE
EXECUTIVE
SESSION

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It was noted that there would be no business conducted after the Executive Session.

ADJOURN
EXECUTIVE
SESSION
10/179

On motion by Ms. Mackay, seconded by Ms. Fitzgerald, the Board moved out of Executive Session at 9:50pm. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN
MEETING
10/180

On motion by Mr. Reale, seconded by Ms. Maus, there being no further business, the Work Session/Business Meeting was adjourned at 9:51pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by:

Maureen Bellino
District Clerk