

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**                    **DEIRDRE d’ALBERTIS**  
   **MARK FLEISCHHAUER (arrived 7:50 pm)**  
   **STEVE JENKINS**  
   **DIANE LYONS**  
   **LIZ RAUM**  
   **JACLYN SAVOLAINEN**  
   **LAURA SCHULKIND**

**OTHERS PRESENT:**                    **JOSEPH PHELAN**  
   **THOMAS BURNELL**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**1.0 Call to Order**

President d’Albertis called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm.

**2.0 Approval of Minutes**

**2.1 Motion** by Shulkind, seconded by Savolainen, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2017 Regular Meeting.

**VOTE: 6 AYE (d’Albertis, Lyons, Jenkins, Raum, Schulkind, Savolainen);  
0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 1 ABSENT (Fleischhauer)  
MOTION CARRIED**

**3.0 Public Comment**

None.

**4.0 Reports and Discussion**

**4.1 Annual Special Education Report (E. Davison)\***

Emily Davison, Director of Special Education Services, presented information on the District’s special needs student population, their specific needs, and the delivery of services within the Rhinebeck Central School District. She examined trends in the student population and outlined current district initiatives to enhance the delivery of services for our special needs population.

Ms. Davison reported that the District currently has 124 special education students with a classification rate of 11.9%. She continued to outline the variety of special education services that the District provides, from least restrictive to more restrictive. Ms. Davison has started conversations with other districts in Dutchess County to compare how they supervise and provide administrative support to Special Education programs. They are also looking at neighboring trends within the County.

Ms. Davison included Special Education Enrollment Data tables that included the students broken down into grade levels, disabilities, public and private placements, referrals, exiting credentials, and McKinney-Vento & ESL.

CPSE enrollment numbers have remained steady, with 15 students on average at any given time. Currently, Ms. Davison is projecting 5 CPSE students aging into Kindergarten in the 2018/19 school year.

Ms. Davison's current initiatives in Special Education are supporting and developing District Programs and providing more parent opportunities to be involved in Special Education program. She would like to move towards more parent group meetings instead of one-on-one meetings.

#### **4.2 Mid-Year Review of 2017-18 Board Goals\***

Laura Schulkind asked Superintendent Phelan as to where he felt the District was currently in reaching the 2017-18 Board Goals. Mr. Phelan stated that the Long Range Planning Committee has been consistently meeting to work towards the development of a Long Range Plan that they acknowledge will not be completed this school year. In terms of technology integration, we are just scratching the surface and have a ways to go. Steve Jenkins requested more information as to who is working on integrating this goal into the departments and grade levels. The third goal, Student Social and Emotional Wellness, doesn't have a specific committee working towards this goal. However, much is being done through other avenues that may not be as noticeable to BOE members. Mr. Phelan stated that through the Health and Wellness Committee and Emily Davison's work through Special Education and working on a regular basis with staff, school counselors, pupil personnel services staff, and psychologists. Mr. Phelan has met with them as well and has communicated to them that this is a priority for the Board of Education. The data from the recent climate survey will be presented to students and parents at a future date this winter/spring.

#### **4.3 2018-19 Budget Development Update – First Draft Budget**

Tom Burnell distributed copies of the first draft budget to all Board members. Mr. Burnell reviewed the changes that were made from the roll-over budget to the first draft budget. Forecast 5 has not been added to the budget yet. Mr. Burnell is waiting for Dutchess BOCES data on Friday. He increased the external audit fee by \$4000, although it is an estimate at this time. He stated he already has had confirmation of one retirement resignation, but by the next update, he should have more information on upcoming staff retirement plans. He is still considering reducing one bus run. The increase in equipment of \$24,000 was for the purchase of a minivan. There is an increase in the repair and maintenance amount. Sheldon Tieder has informed him that the boilers are ten years old and believes they are going to need maintenance.

Laura Schulkind requested information regarding a laptop cart that was budgeted by the High School Physical Education Department. Superintendent Phelan reminded everyone that this first draft budget reflects requests submitted by the Administrators to Mr. Burnell. The requests have not been discussed or reviewed. Laura Schulkind questioned the request for social studies textbooks when the new social studies curriculum hasn't been approved. Deirdre d'Albertis questioned whether it was an actual textbook being requested.

#### **4.4 Board Committee Reports (Communications, Personnel, Facilities, Long Range Planning)\***

Communications Committee Meeting: Laura Schulkind highlighted the minutes for the December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. Tom Burnell was the guest for the meeting and updated the committee on the School Messenger upgrade in process. Steve Jensen researched setting up social media platforms with area BOCES. It was recommended to start with a Social Media Policy before going live with social media. The committee is still looking at ways to reach out to medical recruiters to provide district information. The committee will begin planning the budget newsletter in January.

Personnel Committee Meeting: Laura Schulkind reviewed the minutes for the December 21, 2017 meeting. The meeting was spent preparing for upcoming negotiations with the A.N.I.E. unit. They discussed competitive and non-competitive Civil Service designations. The balance of the discussions will be reviewed in Executive Session.

Facilities Committee Meeting: Deirdre d'Albertis discussed the minutes from the December 21, 2017 meeting. At the meeting, the committee was updated with the review of progress and estimated cost of the capital project. The committee also requested the Board's opinion on how involved they would like to be in the deliberations related to the capital project process.

Long Range Planning: Deirdre d'Albertis reviewed the January 3, 2018 meeting minutes. Steve Boucher was the guest for the meeting and reviewed trends relating to enrollment and budgeting that might impact the RCSD Interscholastic Athletic Program. Steve will make his annual Athletics report to the Board on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. The committee requested a "per student cost" for their next meeting.

#### **5.0 Comments**

##### **5.1 Good News**

Steven Jenkins announced the Rhinebeck Science Foundation is going to work with Bard College at CLS Science Night Out on Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 – 7:30 pm. The theme is Space.

Laura Schulkind said everyone is voting wildly for the \$25,000 grant to win the Fitness Playground at CLS. The link is on RCSD website to vote daily till January 31<sup>st</sup>.

Diane Lyons wanted to compliment the maintenance crew for keeping the building looking great while keeping the salt/sand outside.

##### **5.2 Old Business**

Laura Schulkind asked if the Board members heard any news on the block grant for the village crosswalk that the Rhinebeck Village had applied for. Nothing has been heard regarding it.

**5.3 Public Comment**

None.

**5.4 Other**

Mark Fleischhauer would like Board members to send him a response about whether they are attending the legislative breakfast on January 30<sup>th</sup>, 10 – 11:30 am. He needs a head count as to who it is attending.

Superintendent Joseph Phelan announced the District had a surprise inspection/visit yesterday by Public Employee Safety and Health Bureau (PESH). Per Joe, Sheldon Tieder said the last time they came to the District was in 2011. They do surprise inspections. They are looking for employee safety concerns such as microwaves that are daisy-chained as well as power equipment guards. They will respond with a report in 3 – 4 months, and then provide 30 days to correct. The things that were found have already been addressed, either fixed, replaced, or taken out of service. The inspector called out a number of items and then told Sheldon that they and other items would be included in the report.

**6.0 Action Items**

**6.1 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the following consent items:

**6.1.1 Motion** upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve CSE and CPSE recommendations. \*

**6.1.2 Motion** upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve the Treasurer's Reports (General Fund – November 2017; Extra Classroom Fund, November 2017).\*

**VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Jenkins, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**6.2 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve as a final reading the modifications to the following Board Policies: #5240 - Public Performances by Students; #5305 - Eligibility for Extracurricular Activities; #5311.4 – Care of School Property by Students; #5680 – Student Fees, Fines, and Charges for School Equipment; #5751 – Video Cameras; #6110 – Budget Planning; #6113 – Dissemination of Budget Recommendations; #6210 – Local Tax Levy; and, #6240 – Investments.\*

**VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Jenkins, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**6.3 +Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the Rhinebeck Central School District Special Education Plan.

**VOTE: 7 AYE (d’Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Jenkins, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**

**MOTION CARRIED**

*The Board members thanked Emily Davison for presenting so thoroughly earlier in the evening.*

- 6.4 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to accept the following award from the Rhinebeck Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO), in the total amount of \$300, as follows:

- Books for CLS Children in Need from the Scholastic Book Fair, submitted by Fern Lox and Morgan LoBrutto, in the amount of \$300; as stipulated\*

**VOTE: 7 AYE (d’Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Jenkins, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**

**MOTION CARRIED**

*The Board expressed gratitude to the Rhinebeck PTSO for the generous support of our schools.*

- 6.5 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to accept grant awards from the Rhinebeck Science Foundation, in support of funding for the Creating Origami Models program, as submitted by Ms. Robin Berger, in the amount of \$1,095.60, and for the Citizen Science Day at Bard College program, as submitted by Kristin Koegel, in the amount of \$340, as stipulated.\*

**VOTE: 7 AYE (d’Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Jenkins, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**

**MOTION CARRIED**

*Again, the Board publicly acknowledged these two wonderful opportunities for our students supported by the Rhinebeck Science Foundation.*

- 6.6 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the list of additional emergency conditional substitute teachers and substitute non-instructional staff for the 2017-18 school year.\*

**VOTE: 7 AYE (d’Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Jenkins, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**

**MOTION CARRIED**

- 6.7 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to accept a grant award of \$100 from the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Rhinebeck Flatts, Inc. to the 2011-18 RHS/BMS Nurse’s Fund.

**VOTE: 7 AYE (d’Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Jenkins, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**

**MOTION CARRIED**

*The Board thanked the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Rhinebeck Flatts for their support and generosity.*

- 6.8 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the appointment of additional Enrichment Program advisors for Chancellor Livingston Elementary School for the 2017-18 school year. (See attached.)\*

**VOTE: 7 AYE (d’Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Jenkins, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

- 6.9 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the appointment of Mara Hermelee as a long-term substitute in the position of School Social Worker at the Chancellor Livingston Elementary School, effective on or about January 26, 2018 through March 11, 2018, at the pleasure of the Board, at the per diem substitute teacher rate, or at Step 1 MA + 30 + 6 (\$62,156, pro-rated) if the leave extends beyond 30 days, in accordance with the RTA Salary Schedule for 2016-17. This appointment is to fill the vacancy created by the leave of absence granted to Morgan LoBrutto, School Social Worker at the Chancellor Livingston Elementary School.\*

**VOTE: 7 AYE (d’Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Jenkins, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

- 6.10 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to make a correction to the list of 2017-18 BMS After-School Program instructors. (See attached.)\*

**VOTE: 7 AYE (d’Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Jenkins, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

- 6.11 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to accept an anonymous donation in the amount of \$3,300 to support the expansion of the CLS Backpack Program from twelve to thirty families.

**VOTE: 7 AYE (d’Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Jenkins, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

*The Board of Education acknowledged this incredible act of generosity and the worthiness of this cause to support.*

- 6.12 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the appointment of

additional advisors for Rhinebeck High School for the 2017-18 school year. (See attached.)\*

**VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Jenkins, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**7.0 Proposed Executive Session**

**Motion** Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, the Board voted to enter Executive Session to discuss bargaining negotiations and input from the personnel committee to aid them in such at 10:19 pm.

**VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Jenkins, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**Motion** Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, the Board voted to return to Regular session at 10:40 pm.

**VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Jenkins, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**Motion** Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, the Board voted for Joseph Phelan as clerk pro tempore.

**VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Jenkins, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**8.0 Adjournment**

**Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, the Board voted to adjourn at 10:41 pm.

**VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Jenkins, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,

Whitney Druker  
District Clerk

Joseph Phelan  
Clerk Pro Tempore