

RHINEBECK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
January 28, 2014
Regular Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT:

**DEIRDRE BURNS
MARK FLEISCHHAUER
DIANE KANTAROS
LISA ROSENTHAL
DIANE LYONS
LAURA SCHULKIND
DEIRDRE d'ALBERTIS**

OTHERS PRESENT:

**JOSEPH PHELAN, TOM BURNELL,
MEMBER OF THE PRESS, MEMBERS
OF THE PUBLIC**

1.0 Call to Order

President Burns called the meeting to order in the District Office Conference Room at 6:33 pm.

Motion by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to appoint Joseph Phelan as Clerk Pro Tempore.

**VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Kantaros, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis);
0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED**

Motion by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to enter Executive Session at 6:34 pm for the purpose of discussing the employment history of particular persons.

**VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Kantaros, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis);
0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED**

Motion by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to return to Regular Session at 7:32 pm.

**VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Kantaros, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis);
0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED**

Motion by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to adjourn temporarily to move to the High School/Middle School Library.

**VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Kantaros, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis);
0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED**

President Burns called the meeting to order again at 7:36 pm.

2.0 Approval of Minutes

2.1 Motion by Schulkind, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the December 18, 2013 Emergency Special Meeting.

**VOTE: 4 AYE (Burns, Kantaros, Schulkind, Rosenthal); 0 NAY; 3 ABSTAIN (Lyons,
d'Albertis, Fleischhauer); 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED**

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- 2.2 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2014 Regular Meeting.
VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Kantaros, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d’Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

Prior to the vote, Board members offered the following corrections as follows:

- Item 4.2, the first sentence in the 3rd paragraph should read, “*Dr. Kantaros’ raised a question regarding the historical costs of the actual expenses for the internal auditor for the 2010-11 school year.*”
- Item 4.4, 1st paragraph, 3rd line should read, “...as part of the 8th and 9th grades parents...”
- Item 4.4 under Finance Committee Report, the word “it’ removed from the 3rd line.

3.0 Public Comment
None

4.0 Reports and Discussion

4.1 Annual Independent Auditors Report (T. Thomas)

Mr. Thomas was absent. The report will be rescheduled for the February 11, 2014 Regular meeting.

4.2 Interscholastic Athletics Report

Mr. Boucher updated the Board on how NYSPHSAA (New York State Public High School Athletic Association) uses BEDS (Basic Educational Data System) data for classification purposes. For the 2013-14 school year, Rhinebeck is a “C” school. Mr. Boucher stated that the driving force behind classification next year will be the enrollment of the 9th, 10th, and 11th grades. Mr. Boucher spoke about the new cut numbers for football and it looks like Hyde Park CSD and Spackenkill CSD may not want to merge due to their declining numbers and/or the possibility of them being bumped up to higher classes. At this point, Mr. Boucher is working to find a district to merge with us for football. President Burns offered the Board’s help as advocates, if needed. NYSPHSAA also sponsored a “Battle of the Fans” contest by asking schools to submit 3-minute videos. Our students did a great job with the video.

Mr. Boucher updated the Board on the Section IX/MHAL (Mid-Hudson Athletic League) restructuring of office services. This move will provide a cost savings to the district without impacting the services we currently receive. In actuality, it will help with additional clerical services and re-vamping of the website. The league is expanding and Poughkeepsie has been approved to join Section IX. Mr. Boucher reported good news for championship wins for Boys and Girls soccer and Girls Swimming. At the state level, we had a student qualify for Cross Country who opted not to run. We had 50 students recognized as MHAL All Academics for the Fall.

Mr. Boucher shared his goals which include coming up with a solution for the football issue and increasing participation in varsity boys and girls swimming. He would like to increase the athletic trainer’s time by an hour or two during the course of the day to oversee and rehabilitate athletes. He would also like to increase the number of teacher/coaches because they already know the students and are familiar with the school’s procedures. Mr.

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Boucher spoke about providing additional financial support to sports that are supported by booster clubs. President Burns asked if there was a booster club model that raises money for all sports? Mr. Boucher stated it is difficult to find a volunteer to manage that.

Dr. Kantaros asked Mr. Boucher to discuss football participation and cost. Mr. Boucher replied that we had 5 students participate. Mr. Burnell added that we don't know the cost because we have not been billed by the bus company. Dr. Kantaros asked for a breakdown of the costs of sports by the amount of students participating.

Ms. Lyons asked about assistant volunteer coaches. Mr. Boucher stated that we had an assistant volunteer for softball and baseball last year. The difficulty seems to be all the training that is required which becomes a financial burden for the volunteer. President Burns asked what is communicated to coaches regarding the expectations relating to students and parents? Mr. Boucher said that they participate in a pre-season meeting, get a copy of the handbook, and are instructed about positive coaching.

4.3 Principal Reports

Chancellor Elementary School

Mr. King shared with the Board the success of the Peer Mediation program. Currently, the theme at Chancellor is compassion which was a great connection to Dr. Martin Luther King's message. The winter concerts and "Science Night Out" were great successes. He was especially impressed by the participation of the Bard students and thanked the Rhinebeck Science Foundation and Bard College for their commitment. Mr. King reported a great turnout for the LLL Children's Foreign Culture Program sponsored by Young Rhinebeck. Mr. King reached out to staff for enrichment opportunity ideas like a STEM Club and Mini Maker Club (engineering type club). The parent portal is ready to launch and he is very happy with the product. Mr. King thanked Barbara Altstadt, CLS Librarian, for coordinating an author visit by Nick Bruel, author of the "Bad Kitty" books, on February 28. The library is having an Olympic reading contest with the winner having lunch with Mr. Bruel, Mrs. Altstadt, and Mr. King. President Burns thanked all the teachers participating in the STEM, Mini Maker Club, and Math enrichment programs.

Bulkeley Middle School

Mr. Kemnitzer spoke about the partnership with Bard College where graduate students are running hands-on activities. The 8th grade trip to Bard was enjoyed by the students. In ELA, the "Taking a Stand" project has local artists working with students and Ms. Kaake creating a visual montage with mixed media honoring people who have taken a stand against social injustice through history. Plans are underway to hold an open house for parents and the community. The winter concert was a great success with the highlight being a joint piece with the 39-member choral concert club and the 110-member chorus. Once again, the PTSO's book sale was a great success with a \$1,000 donation of books to go to classrooms and library. Enrollment is high in the Technology Club with two groups participating. The first group is working on robotics (advanced programming skills) and the second is working on design & fabrication prototypes. On February 3rd, the 5th Annual Top Chef competition takes place with three categories: entrees, side-dishes, and dessert.

Rhinebeck High School

Dr. Davenport reported that the Spanish Club is hosting a fundraiser featuring Hispanic delicacies. The band concert was wonderful and the Men's and Women's Choirs performed for the Rhinebeck Commerce Department. In Art news, two students were chosen to participate in a Columbia/Green juried art show and we have students traveling to The Met as part of Arts in Education. The High

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School Program of Studies has been completed and will be posted on the website as well as a pdf sent to parents. Mr. Kreps and Dr. Davenport will be exploring Dutchess Community College's offerings that provide dual credit. Social Psychology and Digital Photography are new courses offered this semester. Dr. Davenport reported that the Art Club and Student Council collected boxes of gifts to present to Astor. The Student Council is planning a pep-rally and semi-formal dance. Math teachers have started the Math labs for students who need extra help in Math. Ms. Schulkind asked about the school newspaper. Dr. Davenport reported that the students try to run 3-4 newspapers every year. Mr. Welch is the advisor of the club and the paper is wholly student created.

President Burns thanked Dr. Davenport for his report and mentioned that it would be nice to see all the information on the website to share with the community so they can see all that is going on in our schools.

4.4 2014-15 Budget Development Update

Mr. Phelan mentioned that under the New York State Executive Budget proposal, the District is projected to receive \$32,000 less state aid. Mr. Phelan noted that the decrease is based on the reduction of expense-based aid. Since the District is spending less on some BOCES services, the District will receive less aid back. An interesting note is the \$277,209 Smart Schools Allocation for school technology infrastructure. Although the Governor did not give much information regarding the Smart Schools Allocation, we will not know if the District will receive any funds until a proposition on the ballot is voted on and approved in November.

The District is looking into the requirements proposed by Governor Cuomo to receive the freeze on property taxes. It is believed that it will involve shared services in order to reduce costs. Dr. Kantaros asked for clarification on the property tax freeze proposal. Mr. Burnell commented that the freeze will be on the levy, not the total budget. He shared that all the local business officials are meeting to go over the proposal together. There are many unanswered questions.

Ms. Rosenthal expressed concern as to whether the governor would mandate the district to offer a Universal Pre-K program. Mr. Phelan responded that there is little information on what Universal Pre-K actually means and there will be no aid from the State. The District is looking into this.

Mr. Phelan pointed out that the Executive Budget at this time is the "worst" it's going to be. We typically use these figures when we are generating our budget to be on the safe side.

4.5 Board Committee Reports

Personnel Committee:

Ms. Lyons shared that the Personnel Committee has been discussing the upcoming contract negotiations and the effect of the excise tax in the Affordable Care Act.

Policy Committee

Mr. Fleischhauer commented that the Policy Committee has been in the process of reviewing the policy manual and taking notes on possible changes to bring to the full Board. Specifically, the Board reviewed Policy 8635 – Information Security Breach and Notification and the related 8635R regulation. Ms. d'Albertis was impressed on how quickly the Policy Committee is working through the manual.

Curriculum Committee

Ms. Schulkind shared that the Curriculum Committee had continued discussions on the Accelerated Reader program. Although the program does not motivate every student, it does seem to be the best program currently available to encourage students to read outside of the classroom. The committee invited Dr. Davenport to share his thoughts on what it means to be “College and Career Ready” at the high school. Dr. Davenport stated that our College and Career courses provide opportunities for local professionals to speak to our students about their professions as well as the offerings of technical courses at the high school and CTI (Career Technical Institute) at BOCES. The committee suggested that the Guidance Office collaborate with the Middle School career day organizers in order to guide presenters to give more dynamic presentations. The alumni survey conducted 3-4 years ago was not particularly useful due to the low response rate. Dr. Davenport offered that the school currently uses an exit survey for seniors and the committee thought that it could be expanded on. The committee discussed the task of providing information to a broader group of parents regarding financial aid. The committee met with Mr. Kreps who offered information regarding the evolution of differentiated learning and how important it is to support students who struggle, engage each student, and provide opportunities for stronger students to stretch themselves. The committee also discussed proper support, especially in instructional delivery, for new teachers.

5.0 Comments

5.1 Good News

None

5.2 Old Business

President Burns reminded the Board of the prospect of scheduling meetings with state legislators to discuss the state budget.

5.3 Public Comment

None

5.4 Other

President Burns shared that with the ongoing controversy surrounding the adoption and implementation of the Common Core standards, NYSUT has withdrawn its support of the Common Core and have asked for the resignation of John King, State Education Commissioner. The Board will be sending a letter to the Board of Regents, Commissioner King, and Chancellor Tisch tonight on the District’s thoughts relating to the Regents Reform Initiative.

6.0 Action Items

6.1 Motion by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, 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 the CSE and CPSE recommendations.*

6.1.2 Motion upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve the Treasurers’ Report (General Fund, December 2013; Extra Classroom Fund, November 2013).*

6.1.3 +Motion upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to accept the resignation of Sharon d’Andrea as Food Service Worker, effective January 9, 2014.

VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Kantaros, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

- 6.2** **Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve as a final reading and adoption of Board Policies #4321.1 – Provision of Special Education Services in the Least Restrictive Environment, #4321.2 – School-Wide Pre-Referral Approaches and Interventions, #4321.6 – Availability of Alternative Format Instructional Materials for Students with Disabilities, #4321.7 – District-Wide and State-Wide Assessments of Students With Disabilities; #4321.9 – Declassification of Students With Disabilities; #4321.11 - Public Report on Revisions to District Policies, Practices, and Procedures Upon a Finding of Significant Disproportionality; and #4321.14 – Special Education Personnel Qualifications and Training.*

VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Kantaros, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

- 6.3** **Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to re-number the following policies, as follows: Allocation of Space for Special Education Programs and Services (#4321.1 to #4321.3; Impartial Hearing Officer Selection, Appointment, and Compensation, (#1921 to #4321.8); and Homeless Children and Youth, (#4329 to #5151).

VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Kantaros, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

- 6.4** **Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the appointment of Laura Bald as a long-term substitute in the position of Grade 8 Science Teacher at Bulkeley Middle School, at the pleasure of the Board, effective on or about February 5, 2014 through May 5, 2014, at the salary of Step 1 MA+6 (\$57,006, prorated), in accordance with the 2013-14 RTA Salary Schedule. This appointment is to fill the vacancy created by the leave of absence granted to Kristin Koegel, Grade 8 Science Teacher at Bulkeley Middle School.*

VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Kantaros, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

- 6.5** *******TABLED********Motion upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to accept the Independent Auditor's Report for the 2012-13 school year.*

- 6.6** **Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve Mentors for new teaching staff starting mid-year during the 2013-14 school year through their one-year anniversary date. (See attached)*

VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Kantaros, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

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- 6.7 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to appoint additional 2013-14 CLS Before-School Enrichment Program instructors. (See attached.)*
VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Kantaros, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d’Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED
- 6.8 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to appoint an additional 2013-14 RHS After-School Program instructor. (See attached.)*
VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Kantaros, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d’Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED
- 6.9 +Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to appoint Susan Cotter to the Civil Service position of Food Service Helper, effective January 9, 2014, at a rate of \$11.25 per hour at 4.0 hours per day, with a 26 week probationary period.*
VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Kantaros, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d’Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED
- 6.10 +Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, 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 2013-14 school year. (See attached.)*
VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Kantaros, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d’Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED
- 6.11 +Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (“ACA”) for variable hour employees, the District is required to establish a Standard Measurement Period, adopt an Administrative Period, and a Stability Period;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education establishes the following periods for the categories of variable hour employees set forth below:

<u>Category of Employee</u>	<u>Standard Measurement Period (SMP), Administrative Period, and Stability Period</u>
Category 1: Per Diem Substitute	SMP: Six (6) Months Administrative Period: Thirty (30) Days Stability Period: Six (6) Months
Category 2: All other variable hour employees (e.g. non-pedagogical substitutes, coaches, activity supervisors, and substitute administrators)	SMP: Twelve (12) Months Administrative Period: Thirty (30) Days Stability Period: Twelve (12) Months

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VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Kantaros, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

7.0 Proposed Executive Session

Motion by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to enter Executive Session at 9:22 pm for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular vendor.

VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Kantaros, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board appointed Joseph Phelan as Clerk Pro Tempore.

VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Kantaros, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to return to Regular Session at 10:32 pm.

VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Kantaros, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

8.0 Adjournment

Motion by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to adjourn at 10:32 pm.

VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Kantaros, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Bovee
District Clerk

Joseph L. Phelan
Clerk Pro Tempore