

**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 6:34 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**

Marvin Kreps provided the required annual Sexual Harassment and Dignity for All Students Act training to Board members.

**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 7:37 pm.

**2.0 Approval of Minutes**

**2.1 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the February 11, 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, a Board member offered the following correction as follows:

- Item 4.3, the second to last sentence under Communications Committee should read, "...have elected *to leave* the District, ...."

**3.0 Public Comment**

None

#### **4.0 Reports and Discussion**

##### **4.1 Annual Independent Auditors Report (D. Spara)**

Mr. David Spara reported on behalf of Toski & Co., PC on the annual independent audit of the District's financial statements. Mr. Spara reviewed the Extra Classroom Activity Fund report. He explained how the District holds funds in trust for different school clubs. The auditor stated that the statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in cash balances represents fairly the activity of said fund.

Mr. Spara reported that it is the opinion of the auditor that the financial statements of the District are fairly presented and conform to accepted accounting principles. There were two errors: one was the accounting of a liability in the governmental funds instead of the long-term obligations and a second was an amount recorded as due to other governments which was determined to not be valid this year. The report shows that the district spent approximately \$100,000 out of the fund balance and that we are keeping the fund balance under 4% of the current year's budget as required by law. The internal auditor examined the internal controls over financial reporting and identified one deficiency in the late filing of the Data Collection Form. In summary, the District did everything the way it's supposed to be done. Board members asked about the consequences of the late filing of the Data Collection Form. Mr. Spara responded that it has caused the District to not qualify as a low-risk auditee which may mean more programs to be audited in the future.

##### **4.2 Extended Response for Science, Math and the Common Core Grant (R. Campbell)\***

Dr. Ric Campbell shared his work with some of the CLS faculty through a project sponsored by the Rhinebeck Science Foundation that focused on developing a strategic approach and appropriate practices to enhance student reasoning in math and science, with an emphasis on writing, to learn activities to address the challenges of the Common Core Standards. Many teachers shared that they are getting a better understanding on teaching students how to reflect on their own thinking and problem solving. Many teachers felt additional benefits to the workshop were the valuable collaborative discussions across grade levels and special area teachers. Teachers felt it was beneficial to have deeper level conversations about curricula and approaches to teaching math and science. Many Board members expressed their appreciation for teachers taking the time to share and work on this project as well as wholeheartedly supporting the program.

##### **4.3 Principal's Reports**

###### **Chancellor Livingston Elementary**

Mr. Kemnitzer reported on Mr. King's behalf. At CLS, school spirit events are being planned for every six weeks or so. The STEM and Mini-Maker before-school enrichment program activities are set to begin and have generated much interest. The CLS Parent Portal opened last week for the first time for parent access to student report cards, with minimal issues. The Olympic Reading Contest concluded with 207 students participating reading a total of 161,569

pages. Mr. Morrissey's class won and will be having lunch with Mr. King, Ms. Alstadt and Nick Bruel, author of the Bad Kitty books. Mrs. Palmatier's class won 2<sup>nd</sup> place and Ms. O'Brien's class won 3<sup>rd</sup> place. CLS was school of the week in the early February edition of the Northern Dutchess News for presenting the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Heritage Folk Festival. John Kirk and Trish Miller, working with the Music and PE Departments, presented "Crossing Borders" to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade class. The students studied the origin and history of songs and dances from varied cultures around the world. Finally, the PTSO Scholastic Fair is starting soon.

### **Bulkeley Middle School**

Mr. Kemnitzer reported that the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Top Chef competition went very well with 31 students participating and 27 entries submitted which were judged by local chefs and culinary graduates, parents, and faculty members. Plans are to expand the competition potentially working with the CIA. Mr. Frischknecht met with Dr. Patricia Wright, Susan Findel of Sunshine Comes First and members of Zara Aina, an organization founded by a group of theater artists who provide educational aid to the children of Madagascar, to brainstorm ideas on creating a sustainable sequence through middle school and to raise global awareness in our students. This Spring, plans are being pursued to view Dr. Wright's new IMAX movie, "Island of Lemurs", followed by a panel discussion with Dr. Wright. The Environmental and Anthropology clubs are planning on studying the culture of BMS through our non-cafeteria garbage. Mr. Kemnitzer reported that Quiz Bowl held its first match this week with 24 students participating. The next competition will be Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup> from 3:30-5:30. Rufia Payman will serve as the keynote speaker for the upcoming Health and Wellness Day with small group presentations by fitness and wellness presenters.

### **Rhinebeck High School**

Dr. Davenport reported that 103 students have been recognized thus far as Students of Month, as well as 16 students who have been recognized with the Rhinebeck Respect Award. The high school has started awarding special "Happy Birthday" pencils to students which has been met with great enthusiasm on the part of the students. Two of our seniors had articles published in the "Have Your Say" section of the Poughkeepsie Journal. Dr. Davenport congratulated the Student Council for a successful annual Pep Rally. The Speech and Debate Club is travelling to Bard College to participate in a tournament. The Freshman class is sponsoring an after school concession stand for students attending clubs or athletic activities. A Rhinebeck High School senior has been named a National Merit Scholarship finalist.

## **4.4 2014-15 Budget Development Update\***

Mr. Phelan shared that the current draft budget has not changed since the last time the Board met. The administrators are continuing their work on a list of potential programs and services. Mr. Phelan shared some of the potential programs and services that are on the top of the list of priorities:

- Curriculum Governance Council because the planning process is critical.

- CLS STEM teacher to develop a continuum between CLS and BMS that builds on the success of the GTT (Gateway To Technology) program at the middle school. The District is sending a team to Saratoga Springs to take a look at their implementation of the program.
- Technology Club to engage students in assisting staff with solutions to technology problems and repairs.
- Adding laptop carts at BMS and RHS
- Asbestos removal

Mr. Phelan pointed out that the wireless infrastructure has been removed from the proposed list because the District already has funds set aside to do that work this summer. The Board members had a short discussion on a 5-year technology plan. Mr. Phelan shared that we are close to completing the plan but the District is focusing on the near-term tasks like replacing XP computers and getting more robust wireless capabilities. A short discussion was had on how enrollment numbers compare to student costs and the impact of declining enrollment.

#### **4.5 Board Committee Reports\***

##### **Finance Committee**

Dr. Kantaros reported that the Finance Committee discussed the proposed Veteran's exemption tax programs and the implications on community members. The committee also discussed the governor's proposed tax freeze. Currently, the District would be in compliance with the requirements, but the details going forward are unclear. The committee spent some time discussing the Point of Sale system and how it seems to be effective within the first week.

##### **Audit Committee**

Ms. Schulkind reported that the Audit Committee reviewed the historical cost data of the internal audit and has determined to cut the budgeted amount in half as we will not need another Risk Assessment for another 3-5 years. The committee discussed a small, focused audit on the Cafeteria to review changes made to date as well as the Extra Classroom Fund. For budgeting purposes, the committee felt it appropriate to continue focused audits in the next few years.

#### **5.0 Comments**

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

None

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

Mr. Phelan reported that having had conversations with the RTA President and administration, it has been agreed that staff will work the lost Superintendent's Conference Day (due to weather) outside of their school day. Due to the school closings related to weather, Friday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> will become an instructional day, moving Grandfriend's Day from Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> to that Friday. Mr. Phelan reported that the meeting with Assemblyperson Didi Barrett went very well. The District was able to give her some insight on the impact of new legislation. A meeting with Senator Gipson is slated for March 14<sup>th</sup>. The question of the

Alternative Veteran's Exemption will be a matter of discussion for the Finance committee.

**5.3 Public Comment**

None

**5.4 Other**

None

**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, January 2014; Extra Classroom Fund, December 2013).\*

**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 certify Fern Lox as a qualified Lead Evaluator of classroom teachers, effective February 18, 2014, having successfully completed the training requirements prescribed in 8 NYCRR 30-2.9 (b). (See attached.)\*

**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 approve Spring coaches/advisors for the 2013-14 school year:

<b>Softball:</b>	<b>Varsity</b>	<b>Justin Wiesenthal</b>	<b>\$3,757</b>
	<b>Junior Varsity</b>	<b>Henry Frischknecht</b>	<b>\$2,743</b>
	<b>Modified</b>	<b>Jennifer McCracken</b>	<b>\$2,286</b>
	<b>Modified - Assistant</b>	<b>Scott Stiverson</b>	<b>Volunteer</b>
<b>Baseball:</b>	<b>Varsity</b>	<b>William Carney</b>	<b>\$3,757</b>
	<b>Junior Varsity</b>	<b>TBA</b>	<b>\$2,743</b>
	<b>Modified</b>	<b>TBA</b>	<b>\$2,286</b>
<b>Tennis:</b>	<b>Varsity</b>	<b>David Jutton</b>	<b>\$2,846</b>
<b>Lacrosse:</b>	<b>Varsity</b>	<b>+Jan Bonanza</b>	<b>\$3,757</b>
<b>Track:</b>	<b>Varsity</b>	<b>John Lombardo</b>	<b>\$3,898</b>
	<b>(distance, hurdles)</b>		
	<b>Varsity</b>	<b>Chris Sneed</b>	<b>\$3,898</b>
	<b>(sprinting, jumping)</b>		

<b>Varsity</b> <b>(throwing, pole vault)</b>	<b>Justin Randall</b>	<b>\$3,898</b>
<b>Modified</b> <b>(distance, throwing)</b>	<b>Marc Burg</b>	<b>\$2,395</b>
<b>Modified</b> <b>(sprinting, jumping)</b>	<b>Dave Aierstok</b>	<b>\$2,395*</b>

**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 recommendation of David Aierstok to conduct Selection Classification fitness testing for the 2013-14 spring sports season, as necessary.\*

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

- 6.5 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to accept the Independent Auditor's Report for the 2012-13 school year.

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

- 6.6 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve an additional Mentor 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**

- 6.7 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the appointment of Nicole Devens Saunders as a long-term substitute in the position of Art Teacher at Bulkeley Middle School, at the pleasure of the Board, effective January 30, 2014 through TBA, at the salary of Step 1 MA + 30 (\$59,620, 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 Jennifer Famiglietti, Art Teacher at the Bulkeley Middle School.\*

**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 approve the three year probationary appointment of Anita Thompson to the position of Teaching Assistant, assigned to Chancellor Livingston Elementary School, effective February 26, 2014, in the Teaching Assistant tenure area, at a salary of Step 1 BA (\$25,558), in accordance with the RTA Salary Schedule for 2013-14.\*

**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 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**

**6.10 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to accept the resignation of Margaret Todisco, Secretary to the Superintendent, for the purpose of retirement, as stated, effective July 1, 2014.\*

**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 expressed their great regret in accepting Mrs. Todisco's resignation and wish her well.

**6.11 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 non-instructional staff for the 2013-14 school year.

**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 10:01 pm for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person.

**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 11:25 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 11:26 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 Phelan  
Clerk Pro Tempore