

MEMBERS PRESENT:

**DEIRDRE BURNS
MARK FLEISCHHAUER
LISA ROSENTHAL
DIANE LYONS (arr. 7:10 pm)
LAURA SCHULKIND
DEIRDRE d'ALBERTIS**

MEMBER ABSENT:

DIANE KANTAROS

OTHERS PRESENT:

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

Public Hearing on the Proposed School Budget for the 2014-15 School Year

President Burns called the Hearing to order at 7:05 pm.

(Mrs. Lyons arrived during Mr. Phelan's review of the budget)

Mr. Phelan provided an overview of the budget development process to date. Mr. Phelan reported that due to the State adopting a budget by the April 1 deadline, the District stands to receive approximately \$86,628 in state aid. Mr. Burnell shared that the State comptroller has recalculated the building aid factor in the tax levy limit calculation for all districts in New York, which has caused the tax levy limit to be reduced. The tax levy for the Rhinebeck Central School District will be 1.87%, which is \$2,776 below the maximum tax levy limit from the previous calculation earlier this year.

The District has earmarked funds to add a Curriculum Governance Council, a Technology Club Advisor, and a Level 3 Computer Technician under this budget. The District is able to offset the costs of a technician by reducing BOCES services which will be provided for internally.

Mr. Phelan reminded those present that the Board adopts a dollar figure, as opposed to a set of line items. The items depicted in the budget outline how the Board proposes to spend the budget dollars at this time. The purpose of the Hearing is to inform the community on the proposed items in the budget and provide an opportunity for community members to weigh in on the proposed budget. President Burns asked for public comment and none were offered.

President Burns closed the Hearing at 7:25 pm.

Regular Meeting

1.0 Call to Order

President Burns called the meeting to order in the High School/Middle School Library at 7:30 pm.

2.0 Approval of Minutes

2.1 Motion by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2014 Regular Meeting*

**VOTE: 6 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis);
0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 1 ABSENT (Kantaros)
MOTION CARRIED**

3.0 Public Comment

None

4.0 Reports and Discussion

4.1 Technology Planning Update (S. Jensen)

Mr. Phelan spoke briefly to the results of the comprehensive technology audit conducted last year by the Center for Educational Leadership and Technology (CELT). As recommended by CELT, the District hired Mr. Steve Jensen to direct and lead the District's technology initiatives and communications. Mr. Jensen's presentation will be an overview of the planning process, both short and long term.

Mr. Jensen summarized the recommendations made by CELT, primarily the recommendations focusing on curriculum and improving the classroom, as well as professional development for teaching staff, the IT Department's organizational structure, and the use of data for decision-making. Mr. Jensen emphasized that technology initiatives and direction need to focus on the curricular impact for students.

Mr. Jensen gave an overview of the SAMR Model (Substitution, Augmentation, Modification, Re-definition) on how technology can be used in the classroom and explained how each step of the model integrates technology to a greater degree. Mr. Jensen also reported that a network audit was conducted. It showed that the District's network infrastructure and wiring are outdated, the network extensions are problematic, the operating systems pose security issues, and addressed several operational issues and staffing concerns. An RFP (Request for Proposal) has gone out for a wireless network that will address some of these concerns and enhance the district's ability to use tablets and laptops more effectively and efficiently.

The proposed short term goals for year 1 are as follows:

- District-wide WiFi network installed and operational by September 2014
- Replace all computers K-5
- Provide teachers with laptop computers to build capacity
- Begin moving to a mobile technology environment
- Repurpose the CLS lab
- Professional development for a 1:1 environment for K-5
- Curriculum Integration/software selection
- Student participation in technology integration through GENYES.
GENYES is a program that prepares students with the necessary skills to

support the technology integration efforts of teachers, IT staff, and other adults working at the school.

The proposed short term goals for year 2 are as follows:

- Move to a 1:1 K-5, with curriculum integration complete
- Begin planning process 6-12
- Staff 6-8 provided mobile technology
- Specific planning 6-8
- Curriculum review/software selection

The proposed short term goals for year 3 are as follows:

- Move to a 1:1 6-8, with curriculum integration complete
- Staff 9-12 provided mobile technology
- Specific planning 9-12
- Curriculum review/software selection

The proposed short term goals for year 4 are as follows:

- Move to a 1:1 7-12, with curriculum integration complete
- Begin K-2 re-assessment

The proposed short term goals for year 5 are as follows:

- Revisit servers/security network upgrades
- Ongoing professional development
- Curriculum review

In the years that follow, the District goal would be to change to an 80-20 strategy for K-12 for reviewing/updating technology.

The Board discussed the scale of the project and whether the costs can be realistically supported over the long term. The Board expressed concern as to whether this project would impact the plans for a STEM lab at CLS and meeting AIS responsibilities for students. Mr. Phelan replied that Mr. Kreps and Mr. King view AIS Math support to be a top priority as well as the implementation of the STEM program with the understanding that implementation takes time. They are comfortable with starting the STEM program with a dedicated .5 FT teacher with the idea to assess and evaluate at the conclusion of the year.

The Board asked what the responsibilities of an additional technology support person would entail. The responsibilities of that position would be working with the WiFi network, managing our own email system rather than having it managed by BOCES, work with security and backups, write scripts, and maintain the servers. The Board discussed the value of in-house technology support.

4.2 Review of the Proposed 2014-15 Budget Under Development*

The Board continued their discussion on the adoption of the budget. Mr. Phelan reminded the Board that the budget is just under the tax levy limit. The Board felt

that there is no particularly pressing purpose to be served by significantly lowering the tax levy without cutting out something that the Board wishes to do.

The District will be re-purposing the funds for football to provide additional support for the other sports that are funding themselves by addressing the costs of coaches and transportation. Although figures have not been finalized, the teams will be notified of the additional funds so they know how much fundraising they have to do.

4.3 2014-15 BOCES Administrative Budget and Board Member Vote*

The BOCES Annual Meeting is Wednesday, April 9th for the purpose of reviewing and discussing the proposed BOCES budget for the 2014-15 school year, as well as introducing candidates for the Board election. The vote will take place at each component district on April 22, 2014.

4.4 Board Committee Reports*

Curriculum Committee

Mrs. d'Albertis reported that the Curriculum Committee discussed concerns raised by parents relating to the district's approach to teaching reading in the elementary school. Mr. Kreps was helpful in answering questions related to the implementation of the AUSSIE Reading Program and the Foundations Program. Mr. Kreps expressed confidence in the curricular planning that has taken place to date, even as he acknowledged that fidelity to standards in the classroom is a separate concern. Mr. Kreps reflected that in this time of transition to the Common Core, certain students and parents may struggle with the new expectations. Mr. Kreps continues to advocate for an academically oriented approach to the Common Core in combination with the whole child approach.

Finance Committee

President Burns reported that the Finance Committee discussed the 2014-15 school budget. Assemblyman Cahill's office has arranged for the District to receive a one-time bullet grant in the amount of \$50,000 which is not tied to a specific purpose. The Committee discussed applying the funds to enhancing technology in the schools.

5.0 Comments

5.1 Good News

The school musical was a wonderful success. Mr. Fleischhauer reported that it was the single most participated extracurricular activity with students. The District is fortunate to have such a talented group of students. The Board commented on this production being Mr. Nugent's 33rd Spring musical and how he will be missed. The Board thanked all faculty and staff involved in the production. At CLS, the Physical Education department has updated their website.

5.2 Old Business

None

5.3 Public Comment

None

5.4 Other

Mr. Phelan reported that the District had eleven (11) students refuse to take the ELA State Assessments; however, the District still met the 95% state threshold to test. It seems that the issue of complicated directions and multiple booklets was addressed by the State Education Department.

6.0 Action Items

6.1 Motion by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education hereby adopts the proposed Budget for the 2014-15 school year in the amount of \$30,851,358, and authorizes the following proposition to be placed on the ballot at the Annual Meeting on May 20, 2014:

"Shall the Board of Education of the Rhinebeck Central School District be authorized to expend the sums of money which will be required for School District purposes for the 2014-2015 school year, in the amount of \$30,851,358, and to levy the necessary tax therefore?"

VOTE: 6 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 1 ABSENT (Kantaros)
MOTION CARRIED

6.2 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.*

VOTE: 6 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 1 ABSENT (Kantaros)
MOTION CARRIED

6.3 Motion by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve a leave request under the Family and Medical Leave Act from Patricia Dannemann, to commence on or about September 9, 2014, with such leave to be taken as paid medical leave through the period of disability as certified by a physician in writing, to the extent of her accrued sick leave and, thereafter, such leave to be taken as unpaid child care leave through September 2015.*

VOTE: 6 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 1 ABSENT (Kantaros)
MOTION CARRIED

6.4 Motion by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to accept the donation of an Artley

flute, model 45-00830, with an estimated value of \$200 from RHS alumna Sarah Heady, as stipulated in the attached e-mail.*

VOTE: 6 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 1 ABSENT (Kantaros)
MOTION CARRIED

- 6.5 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to appoint Victor Britton as a teacher coach for a short-term duration, commencing March 27, 2014 through April 24, 2014, in accordance with the RTA salary schedule for 2013-14.*

VOTE: 6 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 1 ABSENT (Kantaros)
MOTION CARRIED

7.0 Proposed Executive Session

Motion by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to enter Executive Session at 9:41 pm for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person.

VOTE: 6 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 1 ABSENT (Kantaros)
MOTION CARRIED

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

VOTE: 6 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 1 ABSENT (Kantaros)
MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to return to Regular Session at 10:34 pm.

VOTE: 6 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 1 ABSENT (Kantaros)
MOTION CARRIED

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

VOTE: 6 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 1 ABSENT (Kantaros)
MOTION CARRIED

- 6.6 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to hereby appoint Shaw, Perelson, May and Lambert, LLP, and such attorney as assigned, as Investigator for Title IX/Title VII and other matters, effective April 8, 2014 through June 30, 2014, as needed.

VOTE: 6 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 1 ABSENT (Kantaros)
MOTION CARRIED

6.7 Motion by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve an increase in the appointment of Gideon Moor by .2 FTE, from .8 FTE to 1.0 FTE, such increase as a long-term substitute in the position of Social Studies/Business/Computer Teacher at Rhinebeck High School/ Bulkeley Middle School, at the pleasure of the Board, such increase to be effective April 9, 2014 through May 13, 2014, and such extension to be effective March 26, 2014 through May 13, 2014, at a salary of MA + 30 + 30, Step 2 (\$63,927, prorated and otherwise), in accordance with the RTA Salary Schedule for 2013-14.*

**VOTE: 6 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis);
0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 1 ABSENT (Kantaros)
MOTION CARRIED**

6.8 Motion by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the extension of the appointment of Susan Van Vlack as a long-term substitute in the position of Computer Teacher at Bulkeley Middle School, at the pleasure of the Board, effective March 26, 2014 through May 13, 2014, to be reimbursed at her hourly rate.*

**VOTE: 6 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis);
0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 1 ABSENT (Kantaros)
MOTION CARRIED**

8.0 Adjournment

Motion by Fleischhauer, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to adjourn at 10:37 pm.

**VOTE: 6 AYE (Burns, Fleischhauer, Rosenthal, Lyons, Schulkind, d'Albertis);
0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 1 ABSENT (Kantaros)
MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Bovee
District Clerk

Joseph Phelan
Clerk Pro Tempore