RHINEBECK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
September 9, 2014
Regular Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: **DEIRDRE BURNS**
DEIRDRE d'ALBERTIS
MARK FLEISCHHAUER
DIANE LYONS
LISA ROSENTHAL
LAURA SCHULKIND
RICHARD WALKER

OTHERS PRESENT: **JOSEPH PHELAN, MEMBERS OF THE PRESS, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

1.0 Call to Order

President Fleischhauer called the meeting to order in the High School/Middle School Library at 7:33 pm.

2.0 Approval of Minutes

2.1 **Motion** by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2014 Regular Meeting.*
VOTE: 5 AYE (Burns, d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Rosenthal, Walker); 0 NAY; 2 ABSTAIN (Lyons, Schulkind); 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

3.0 Public Comment

None

4.0 Reports and Discussion

4.1 2014-2015 Fire Inspection Report

The District's Fire Inspection Report had only one non-conformance relating to the middle school and high school's kitchen storage areas being padlocked for security reasons.

4.2 Board Committee Reports

Audit Committee

Ms. Burns reported that the Audit Committee discussed the State's regulation that internal auditors are not required for Districts with an enrollment of less than 1500 students; however, the District's continuance of an internal auditor will provide helpful information for improving internal controls.

The Committee discussed the cafeteria program and is looking forward to the program running more nutritionally and financially sustainable. The program is seeing a savings in labor costs due to our shared program with Red Hook and the ordering of USDA commodities, which are free, except for shipping. Mr. Larry Anthony, the new cafeteria manager, has many ideas on how to improve the cafeteria environment by possibly working with the art department and exploring a school garden.

At the next Committee meeting, the agenda will include updates on the Extra Classroom Fund, the External Audit, and updates on the Cafeteria program as well as a discussion of adding a community member to the Committee.

Communication Committee

Mrs. Schulkind reported that the Communication Committee is eager to host the annual staff Breakfast with the Board on October 3, 2014. The Committee would like to calendar morning and evening Coffee with the Board sessions on four dates this coming year, once each quarter, and asked Board members to check their calendars for availability. The Committee considered including discussion topics for these events but was in favor of keeping the discussion topics open for parents to share their thoughts with the Board.

Ms. Schulkind reported that the bulk of the meeting was spent discussing the unveiling of the District's beta website. The site is built using Wordpress, a free service, thus saving the annual fee paid to School World in coming years. The home page will include a Q & A section for visitors to post questions to the District. Mr. Jensen, Director of Technology and Communications, will be working on transitioning the website by converting pages "in the background" while new information will continue to be included on the current site. Faculty and parent feedback will be sought during the "Coffee with the Board" events and possible focus group discussions.

The yearlong agenda for the Committee will include analysis of students who leave the District only to return later, discussion of Teacher/Parent communications, communications survey with all stakeholders, website redesign/relaunch, District use of social media, and PTSO collaboration.

5.0 Comments

5.1 Good News

Ms. Rosenthal thanked the many people involved who have supported the CLS STEM Lab, including the Rhinebeck Science Foundation. Ms. d'Albertis is happy to see that the PTSO is hosting the "Back to School Block Party." Mrs. Lyons stated that the opening of school seemed to go very well and the building and grounds look great. Mr. Walker welcomed various new staff members on behalf of the Board. Mr. Fleischhauer and Ms. Burns reflected on the wonderful participation in the Andy Bennett Tournament and thanked everyone who was involved.

5.2 Old Business

None

5.3 Public Comment

Melissa Cohen addressed the Board about the possibility in having a later start date for secondary students due to many studies that show that it is more beneficial. Mr. Phelan replied that the superintendents in the County have been discussing the issue of a later start time for secondary schools since last year and it is a work in progress. Mr. Phelan added that one of the concerns is that it would probably cost school districts more money.

Ms. Cohen also addressed the Board in relation to homework and finals for physical education classes at the high school. Mr. Phelan replied that the District is not adding more homework to physical education classes but that it has been the norm for quite a few years. Ms. Burns added that it would be beneficial to address these questions to the teachers to gather a greater understanding.

Tara Dwyer addressed the Board on how the Board handles concerns from community members presented at Board meetings and how information is related back to the concerned parties. In particular, Mrs. Dwyer asked about the outcome of the discussion of Balanced Literacy at CLS. Last year, the Curriculum Committee had discussions at great length regarding the balanced literacy program at CLS and reported their findings at Board meetings. Currently, the process when concerns are brought to the Board's attention at Board meetings is to bring it to committee where it is discussed at length and reported at Board meetings.

Ms. Dwyer asked if the Board has specific goals for student achievement across the District. The CDEP Committee, which is made up of many stakeholders, has been working on a plan that outlines various student achievement goals. The document, driven by federal and state mandates, is in transition due to the many curriculum changes imposed by the State recently. The process in which the document is updated involves various stakeholders and is in the process of being restructured.

The Board thanked both parents for their input and attendance.

5.4 Other

The Board discussed at great length the letter from the State Education Department regarding the District's alleged failure to report data in various subcomponents of the APPR. Although the State acknowledges that the plan was filed by the District prior to the deadline, implementation didn't commence until mid-year because of negotiations between the District and the RTA. The State Education Department acknowledges the fact that the District had only a half year in which to implement its APPR plan, the District was unable to implement the full year plan in a half year. Regardless, SED is monitoring the District's APPR compliance by requiring the completion of various in-depth reporting documents.

Numerous comments were offered in support of the Board sending a letter to the State Education Department going on record with the District's view regarding the letter from NYSED. Ms. Rosenthal volunteered to draft the letter with input from other Board members.

Mr. Phelan suggested that the District complete the paperwork as requested by SED and submit it with the aforementioned letter.

The Board agreed to contribute a full sheet cake to the PTSO Back to School Picnic on September 12, 2014.

6.0 Action Items

6.1 **Motion** by Burns, 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 Treasurer's Report (General Fund and Extra Classroom Fund, July 2014).*

6.1.2 **+Motion** upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to accept the resignation of Nicole Sandoval as Modified Field Hockey coach, in anticipation of her appointment as JV Field Hockey coach effective September 10, 2014.

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

6.2 **Motion** by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to accept the following donations:

6.2.1 Samsung ER-4915 cash register from Laura and Gary Magley, for use by extracurricular clubs in the concession stand; and

6.2.2 HP LaserJet 8100 Series laser printer from Ed Haas.*

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

Prior to the vote, Ms. Rosenthal wished to thank the donors for their gifts.

6.3 **Motion** by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve additional Summer 2014 program work. (See attached.)*

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

6.4 **Motion** by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve additional Mentors for the 2014-15 school year. (See attached)*

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

6.5 **Motion** by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the appointment of additional advisors for Rhinebeck High School and Bulkeley Middle School for the 2014-15 school year. (See attached.)*

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

6.6 **Motion** by Burns, 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 Nicole Sandoval, to commence on or about January 5, 2015, 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 April 7, 2015 or thereabouts.*
VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

6.7 **Motion** by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the permanent Civil Service appointment of Daria Barry as Teacher Aide, effective March 3, 2014; Susan Cotter as Food Service Worker, effective July 9, 2014; Mary Ann Bovee as Clerk of the Board, effective September 14, 2014.
VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

6.8 **Motion** by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the appointment of Kim Dwyer to the position of School Monitor, assigned to the Bulkeley Middle School, effective September 2, 2014, at a rate of $16.11 per hour for a 3.75 hour day, in accordance with the ANIE Salary Schedule for 2013-14, with a 26 week probationary period.*
VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

6.9 **+Motion** by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the appointment of Amanda Whyte as a long-term substitute in the position of Elementary Teacher at the Chancellor Livingston Elementary School, at the pleasure of the Board, effective September 2, 2014 through December 23, 2014, at the salary of Step 1 ($51,794, prorated), in accordance with the 2014-15 RTA Salary Schedule. This appointment is to fill the vacancy created by the leave of absence granted to Julie Tait, Elementary Teacher at the Chancellor Livingston Elementary School.*
VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

6.10 **Motion** by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to increase the length of Daria Barry's work day as a Teacher Aide assigned to the Chancellor Livingston Elementary School, from 6.5 hours to 7.00 hours per diem, effective September 2, 2014.*

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

6.11 **Motion** by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to increase the length of Kathy Smith's work day as a Teacher Aide assigned to the Bulkeley Middle School, from 6.5 hours to 7.00 hours per diem, effective September 2, 2014.*
VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

6.12 **+Motion** by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve an additional Fall coach for the 2014-15 school year:

Golf:	**Varsity Assistant**	**Anthony Rinaldi**	**Volunteer**

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

6.13 **Motion** by Burns, 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 2014-15 school year.*
VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

6.14 **Motion** by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the selection of the following textbooks: Writers Workshop course – How Fiction Works (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2008); Participation in Government course - Politics in Action (Pearson, 2008); and Psychology in Action (10th edition) (John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 2012)
VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

Prior to the vote, Ms. Rosenthal commented that she was very impressed with the discussion in favor of the Psychology in Action textbook and the potential of students receiving Dutchess Community College credit for attending the course.

6.15 **Motion** by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to appoint the Secretary to the Superintendent as Records Access Officer for the 2014-2015 school year, at no additional salary.
VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

Prior to the vote, Mr. Phelan commented that this agenda item will be part of the Organizational meeting in July going forward.

6.16 **+Motion** by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the coaching staff for the 2014-15 school year, effective September 10, 2014:

Volleyball:	**Modified**	**Jody Harvey**	**$2,259**
Field Hockey:	**JV**	**Nicole Sandoval**	**$2,579**

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

7.0 Proposed Executive Session

Motion by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to enter Executive Session at 8:55 pm for the purpose of discussing the employment history of particular persons.
VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board appointed Joseph Phelan as Clerk Pro Tempore.
VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to return to Regular Session at 9:58 pm.
VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

8.0 Adjournment

Motion by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to adjourn at 9:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Bovee
District Clerk

Joseph Phelan
Clerk Pro Tempore