

MEMBERS PRESENT:

**DEIRDRE BURNS
MARK FLEISCHHAUER
DIANE LYONS
LAURA SCHULKIND**

MEMBERS ABSENT:

**DEIRDRE d'ALBERTIS
LISA ROSENTHAL
RICHARD WALKER**

OTHERS PRESENT:

**JOSEPH PHELAN, THOMAS BURNELL,
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 7:35 pm.

2.0 Approval of Minutes

2.1 Motion by Burns, seconded by Schulkind, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the November 11, 2014 Regular Meeting.*

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

3.0 Public Comment

None

4.0 Reports and Discussion

4.1 Board of Education Obligations Under NY Law Sec. 1125

The District annually places this item on the agenda to remind the Board of their obligations under New York State Education Law Section 1125, which requires Board members, as well as teachers and other staff, to report any suspicion of child abuse by employees or volunteers in an educational setting.

4.2 Annual Independent Auditors Report (T. Thomas)

President Fleischhauer removed this item from the agenda.

4.3 School Start Time

The Board has established an ad hoc committee to research and present their findings to the full Board regarding the possibility of changing the school start time. Mrs. Lyons reported that the ad hoc committee met and discussed what other districts are doing relating to changing start times and setting goals/parameters for the committee as they research this topic. The committee's desire is to involve all stakeholders. The committee has started formulating questions and looking at options for transportation, how it will affect school activities, as well as financial concerns. An important question is how much extra time is enough to make a positive effect on the health and wellness of our students while keeping the impact

minimal. Superintendent Phelan added that we need to look at this comprehensively, lay it out and analyze the data before making a decision. We anticipate this being a several month process due to the amount of data and thought to be gathered.

4.4 Board Committee Reports

Finance Committee

Mrs. Burns reported that the Finance Committee spent most of their time focusing on the implementation of the technology plan. The Committee discussed various possible ways to continue funding the technology plan for future years, taking into consideration possible future budget constraints.

Audit Committee

Mrs. Schulkind reported that the Audit Committee focused on the search to add an outside community member to the committee. The Committee hopes to start advertising in January and interviewing in February. The impetus for adding a community member to the Committee is to have someone who has a financial/auditing background participate in Committee discussions.

Facilities Committee

President Fleischhauer reported that the Facilities Committee discussed the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the 2016 Building Condition Survey (BCS) that BOCES is working on in conjunction with various districts, including Rhinebeck. BOCES has obtained quite a range of pricing based on square footage and will likely choose 2-3 vendors. The District is not obligated to use one of the vendors chosen by BOCES. If it does, the District would receive approximately 40% of the cost back in BOCES aid. The District will be asking each vendor to submit a sample BCS to see if their proposal meets our needs.

Policy Committee

President Fleischhauer reported that the Policy Committee reviewed a number of policies for further revisions.

Communications Committee

Mrs. Burns reported that the Communications Committee discussed the **Public Education Matters!** presentation during the Joint Dinner which main message was how important public schools are in an equitable and democratic society. The District's Twitter Feed continues to grow with over 120 followers.

The Committee continues their discussion of a communication survey and possibly partnering with a local institution to craft, administer, and analyze the data gathered to learn from the experience and insight of multiple stakeholders.

Mr. Jensen reported to the Committee that much productive dialogue continues with different stakeholders within the school community as the new website is built. Mr. Jensen is arranging for student email accounts for students in grades 6-12 to help facilitate better communications.

4.5 Potential Programs and Services

Superintendent Phelan reported that the Board asked District administrators to bring potential programs and services before the Board as they start the budget development process. Superintendent Phelan clarified that the items on the list are not ranked in order and that they are all wants, not needs. The next step will involve the administrators ranking each item, with Superintendent Phelan ranking once more over the next several months.

5.0 Comments

5.1 Good News

Superintendent Phelan reported that the Dutchess County legislature wishes to recognize the District in some way for the State Class C Soccer Championship. Plans are in the works tentatively for December 17.

The Parent Academy is slated for December 6 and the District is looking forward to engaging the parent community with that program.

Mrs. Lyons commented that it was a pleasure to see the 7th grade improvisation presentation of the Salem Witch Trials. It is very exciting to see students learn history through the arts.

Ms. Burns acknowledged community members that came out to the games showing their support for our students and the District.

5.2 Old Business

None

5.3 Public Comment

A member of the press requested to have a speaker moved to the front of the room.

5.4 Other

None

6.0 Action Items

6.1 Motion by Burns, 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 the CSE and CPSE recommendations.*

6.1.2 Motion upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve the Treasurer's Reports (General Fund – October 2014; Extra Classroom Fund, October 2014).*

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

6.2 Motion by Burns, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to accept grant awards from the Rhinebeck Science Foundation in the amount of \$4,160, as stipulated, in support of the implementation of the following:

- Citizen Science grant, as submitted by Ms. Kristin Koegel, in the amount of \$340;
- STEM Fair 2015 grant, as submitted by Ms. Alison Vaccarino, in the amount of \$1,720;
- Jeff Boyer-Fun With Energy grant, as submitted by Ms. Barbara Rizzolo and Ms. Sarah Seyfarth, in the amount of \$600; and
- Music Composition with iGuitars and iPads grant, as submitted by Ms. Laura Natalie, in the amount of \$1,500.*

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

MOTION CARRIED

Prior to the vote, the Board wished to thank the Rhinebeck Science Foundation for providing the opportunity for district teachers to apply for grants.

6.3 Motion by Burns, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve additional coaches/advisors for the 2014-15 school year, in accordance with the 2014-15 RTA salary schedule:

Boys Swimming:	Varsity	Michelle Fountain	\$4,436
Girls Basketball:	JV	George Nikolatos	\$3,070
Asst. Boys Basketball:	Varsity	William Hoynes	Volunteer

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

MOTION CARRIED

6.4 Motion by Burns, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the appointment of Bill Carney as Head Basketball Chaperone for the 2014-15 Winter sports season, at a stipend of \$455, in accordance with the RTA salary schedule for 2014-15.*

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

MOTION CARRIED

6.5 Motion by Burns, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the list of additional emergency conditional substitute teachers for the 2014-15 school year.

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

MOTION CARRIED

6.6 Motion by Burns, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to accept the 2014 Exxon Mobil Fuels Educational Alliance grant in the amount of \$500 for Chancellor Livingston

Elementary School for the maintenance and support in the area of Math and/or Science, through the sponsorship of Mr. Richard Matthies and Rhinebeck Mobil.

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

MOTION CARRIED

Prior to the vote, the Board wished to thank Mr. Matthies for his support.

- 6.7 Motion** by Burns, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve as a first reading the consideration of modifications to Board Policies 1100 – Public Information Program; 1145 – Advertising Materials and Announcements; and 6910 – Reporting and Investigating Allegations of Fraud, Waste, Theft and Abuse.*

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

MOTION CARRIED

- 6.8 Motion** by Burns, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to accept mini-grant donations from the Rhinebeck PTSO in the total amount of \$198, as stipulated. (See attached.)*

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

MOTION CARRIED

Prior to the vote, the Board wished to thank the PTSO for their generosity.

- 6.9 Motion** by Burns, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve additional Summer 2014 clerical work. (See attached.)*

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

MOTION CARRIED

- 6.10 Motion** by Burns, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the revised 2014-15 school tax bills totaling \$2,325.12 in reduction adjustments, and to make the appropriate refunds to the property owners, if required.

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

MOTION CARRIED

7.0 Proposed Executive Session

Motion by Burns, seconded by Schulkind, the Board voted to enter Executive Session at 8:47 pm for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining with the ANIE unit.

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

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Burns, seconded by Schulkind, the Board appointed Joseph Phelan as Clerk Pro Tempore.

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

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Burns, seconded by Schulkind, the Board voted to return to Regular Session at 9:01 pm.

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

MOTION CARRIED

8.0 Adjournment

Motion by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to adjourn at 9:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Bovee
District Clerk

Joseph Phelan
Clerk Pro Tempore