

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**DEIRDRE d'ALBERTIS  
MARK FLEISCHHAUER  
STEVE JENKINS  
DIANE LYONS (arrived 7:38 pm)  
LIZ RAUM  
JACLYN SAVOLAINEN  
LAURA SCHULKIND**

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

**JOSEPH PHELAN, THOMAS BURNELL,  
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**1.0 Call to Order**

President d'Albertis called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

**2.0 Approval of Minutes**

**2.1 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Shulkind, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2018 Regular Meeting.

**VOTE: 6 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Raum, Schulkind, Savolainen); 0 NAY;  
0 ABSTAIN; 1 ABSENT (Lyons)**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**2.2 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Shulkind, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2018 Board Work Session.

**VOTE: 6 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Raum, Schulkind, Savolainen); 0 NAY;  
0 ABSTAIN; 1 ABSENT (Lyons)**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**3.0 Public Comment**

Chantal Collins, elementary teacher, spoke of school safety. She believes the students need to know that the school board has their safety as a priority with an agenda, timetable and initiative which will be implemented. She would like the Board to consider ideas and to act on them promptly.

Sarah Rosenthal, elementary school parent, spoke about the school budget. She would like to know the strategy to the budget cuts. She is also interested in the Long Range Planning Committee and believes the committee should include teachers and parents.

Barbara Dooley, elementary school greeter, spoke about safety concerns and wants more protection. She is afraid for herself and the students.

Meghan Craft, teacher spoke regarding safety and school shootings.

*Diane Lyons arrived at 7:38 pm.*

Sarah Wheeler, high school teacher, spoke about budget cuts and how it will affect the English curriculum offered. She explained we don't have the capacity for increased class size to use the computer laboratory. She suggested hiring a part-time position (.4) to help alleviate the problems they will face with not replacing retiring English teacher.

Frank Seldin, parent, spoke about the budget cuts. He states we are going backward in quality. We have lower enrollment and should be getting better. He wants to stop talking about cuts and is happy to share his ideas.

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

##### **4.1 2018-19 Budget Development Update**

Thomas Burnell reviewed where we are on the fourth draft of the budget. DEHIC set the health insurance rates at 6.9% overall for 2018-19, but for us it was 7.0% because we have more active employees than retirees. This enabled the District to reduce the budget \$78,000. Altogether, with other reductions, \$230,900 is being reduced from the budget. We haven't received the NY State aid update yet since the state budget for the coming year has not yet been adopted. If the District implements all of Tier 1 reductions, then \$98,000 would need to come from options on Tier 2, from other items, and or from any revenue/State Aid increase. The Board will be voting on the dollar amount, not exactly where everything is being spent, and the specifics of the budget can always adjusted afterward. Last year, teacher aides and a health aide were not in the original budget, but they were needed. As always, the budget will be adjusted as the year progresses and other needs are discovered. The retirement on the tonight's agenda was not factored into the budget.

Superintendent Phelan is discussing with administrators to see what adjustments can be made. He stated that the tax levy cap is a reality, and our role is to bring the Board ideas on how to reach their goal to get the budget down to the tax levy cap level. Whatever we do, we need to do it within the tax levy cap, which is NYS law. The tax levy cap has a very constricting affect on what we can do with the student programs and services.

Deirdre d'Albertis spoke about working together with people who are directly impacted by the proposed cuts. The Board has received many communications from teachers, staff, parents, and the community with suggestions, comments and questions. Deirdre wanted to emphasis the Board has a set of potential ways to close the gap and are continuing to look at other ways to close the gap. The Board will look carefully at how the curriculum can be continued to be delivered in meaningful ways.

She wants to describe the process in motion and wants to invite any input the public can offer. We are constrained by NYS Law and tax cap, but the way we make the decisions should be informed by the public.

#### **4.2 School Safety Update**

Superintendent Phelan stated that CLS Safety Team met last Friday. He needs clarification from Principal Brett King on some of the points that were discussed. The BMS/RHS safety team meeting was scheduled for Thursday. Sergeant Pete Dunn met with him on March 12<sup>th</sup> regarding school safety issues. They discussed additional SRO coverage and cost, as this is not a free service. During the Coffee with the Board discussions, it was suggested to have the Rhinebeck Police Department present during arrival and dismissal times. Sgt. Dunn thought this was a good idea. Joe wasn't sure if it had been implemented yet by the RPD.

Joe stated that interior hallway cameras have been installed in CLS and BMS/RHS. Emergency personnel can access the cameras from outside the building for viewing in case of an emergency. Entrance doors will be locked in the evening until the arrival of a greeter in the morning and then through the school day. The Board will discuss further as to the specifics as the question came up about students coming back for a notebook after school hours. An exterior camera and microphone device were approved as part of the capital project. The entire plan is awaiting approval in Albany with NYSED. Also, part of the capital project is a new updated key card system that will provide access to all members of our staff and a high degree of control. Superintendent Phelan asked the architects to put these items to the front of the work schedule for this summer.

There is a small sum of money that is available in the SmartSchools' Bond act, that can be used for school safety related items and technology. It is a grant, so the District would need to apply for the money. Unfortunately, the District can't use it for additional SROs or staff for security purposes.

Diane Lyons suggested reaching out to other agencies, the sheriff department and state police department. Superintendent Phelan stated that there would be no cost to the school for the Rhinebeck Police to be present during arrival and dismissal times. The Board discussed the possibility of requiring an appointment for anyone entering the school buildings.

Board President Deirdre d'Albertis thanked the many people who have given many people very detailed, helpful particular insight into concerns, and excellent suggestions on how to secure our buildings to make the schools a safer environment.

#### **4.3 Board Committee Reports (Policy, Curriculum, Long Range Planning, Communication, Finance, Personnel)\***

Policy Committee: Diane Lyons reviewed the minutes from the February 28, 2018. She went over the various policies that they reviewed. Policy # 6254 – Nonresident tuition was discussed. Superintendent Phelan explained that the District has the option to change the amount it charges for nonresidents. NYS doesn't require a set amount, but we do use the State formula to determine the tuition rates for our district. Tuition is also received for foster students from the school district of origin.

Curriculum Committee: Jaclyn Savolainen read the minutes from February 28, 2018. The committee discussed the health curriculum and summer curriculum work. Marvin Kreps reviewed what the health curriculum consisted of now and how they would like to review to make sure it is in line with current thinking and best practices. An invitation for new summer projects will occur before the budget vote. By end of the school year, all teachers should be aware of the new State standards.

Long Range Planning Committee: Laura Schulkind discussed the February 26, 2018 meeting minutes. Laura stated they went over security, second draft brochure, and the 2018-19 budget.

Long Range Planning Committee: Deirdre d'Albertis reviewed the minutes from the March 5, 2018 meeting. The two main topics of the meeting was safety and security and Coffee with the Board. The committee discussed recommendations from building-level Safety Committees. The committee also discussed key principles to guide the Coffee with the Board conversations.

Communications Committee: Laura Schulkind stated that they met at the Rhinebeck Chamber of Commerce due to power outages in the school buildings earlier that day. The majority of the meeting was spent brainstorming ways to work together to build community and raise business opportunities in the Rhinebeck area.

Long Range Planning Committee: Laura Schulkind stated that the March 12, 2018 meeting was spent discussing Forecast 5. They reviewed multi-year achievement data for ELA and Math.

## **5.0 Comments**

### **5.1 Good News**

Steve Jenkins wanted to thank Dave Aierstok and the Wellness Committee for putting on the presentation by Bonnie St. John, The Power of Resilience. It was well attended.

Joseph Phelan stated that Tom Burnell had accepted the Utica National School Excellence Safety Award for the District for the eighth year in a row.

Deirdre d'Albertis stated that it is good news to see such a populous group of students watching the Board in action. This following on the heels of seeing students being so involved in activities in student council and the entire student body last week around the commemoration and memorialization of the loss of life in Parkland, FL. To see our students acting in the world in relation to the things they are learning, particularly in a respectful way in relation to each other, and acknowledgement of differences of viewpoints with respect, it truly gives all of us hope while working in our community.

**5.2 Old Business**

None.

**5.3 Public Comment**

Regina Messa, BMS secretary, spoke to the topic of security. She stated the students were amazing during the program recognizing the tragedy in Florida. She wanted to know why the greeter position was not filled for BMS/RHS. Superintendent Phelan referred her to John Kemnitzer, BMS principal, for information. She is worried about security during the summer when students are not in the building. She also addressed keeping positions “whole”.

Victor Britton, teacher, RTA Vice-President, wants to make sure there is a balance, keeping positions whole. He says we have a very strong voice for the gifted students, while students that are struggling don't have a voice. So he would like the Board to keep this in consideration when making budget cuts.

Jennifer Zanger, CLS parent, spoke to safety concerns. She believes that safety comes from connections. She thinks that building a community from within brings safety. As a tiny community, we are in the position to do it well. She believes keeping positions whole that will allow the staff to enhance connections with the students.

Jen Buri da Cunha, CLS parent, spoke to budget cuts. She is concerned about the specialists who fill important roles, and are critical to building community. When we have valued teachers, it translates to our students.

**5.4 Other**

Superintendent Phelan stated we have about three weeks before budget has to be adopted. The Board discussed meetings for April, confirming April 3<sup>rd</sup> Board meeting at 7:30, early executive session at 6 pm. On April 17<sup>th</sup>, the Budget Hearing and adoption by the Board will occur. The Board requested that April 10<sup>th</sup> be available if necessary to have another meeting.

Superintendent Phelan discussed a letter from a community member expressing concern about traffic in the morning and afternoon around the school district. Mayor Bassett has been brought into the conversation. The desire is to have students required to ride the bus, to alleviate traffic in the area. Legal counsel was contacted and they stated that we can't prohibit students or parents from driving to school, but we could prohibit students from parking in the school parking lots. However, that would probably cause congestion on streets and public parking lots in the village. Further discussion with Mayor Bassett will occur in early April. Diane Lyons suggested we send out a communication to parents to remind them to be good neighbors while driving near the school district.

Diane Lyons announced she will be running for a board seat, with the deadline for nominating petitions is April 16<sup>th</sup>. Mark Fleischhauer also stated he intended to run for re-election.

**6.0 Action Items**

**6.1 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools 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.\*

**VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Jenkins, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**6.2 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to appoint the following individuals, whose names were provided by the Dutchess County Board of Elections, in the capacities and for the pay rates so noted, for their employment with respect to the conduct of the Budget Vote and Board Election on May 15, 2018 in accordance with the requirements and guidelines of the Dutchess County Board of Elections:

- Elections Inspectors Trained on Use of Optical Scan Voting Machines: Marc Savino, \$150; Rima Liscum, \$150
- Voting Machine Technician: Rich Perkins, \$150

**VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 1 ABSENT (Jenkins)**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**6.3 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve as a first reading the consideration of modifications to the following Board Policies:

**#6150 – Budget Transfers; and #6251 – Sale and Lease of District Property.\***

**VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Jenkins, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**6.4 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve additional Spring coaches for the 2017-18 school year:

**Modified Track (distance, throwing) Lisa Hackett \$2,478\***

**VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Jenkins, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**6.5 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve the appointment of Jennifer Raymo and David Aierstok to conduct Athletic Placement Process testing for the 2017-18 spring sports season, as necessary.\*

**VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Jenkins, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

- 6.6 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve the list of additional emergency conditional substitute teachers and non-instructional staff for the 2017-18 school year.\*  
**VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Jenkins, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**
- 6.7 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve the revised 2017-18 school tax bills totaling \$4,318.23 in reduction adjustments and make appropriate refunds to the property owner, if required.\*  
**VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Jenkins, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**
- 6.8 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve the following resolution:
- BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education hereby approves the 2017-18 Release and Settlement Agreement concerning Student No. XXXXX; and
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute such Agreement on behalf of the District.\*
- VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Jenkins, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**
- 6.9 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve the appointment of additional Enrichment Program advisors for Chancellor Livingston Elementary School for the 2017-18 school year. (See attached.)\*  
**VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Jenkins, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**
- 6.10 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to accept a grant award from Project Fit America sponsored by DannonWave and ShopRight, in support of funding for the implementation of the Project Fit America program, as submitted by Kevin Yarnell and Ryan Edson, in the amount of \$25,000: \$18,000 for the Project Fit Grant Program to enrich the school district's Physical Education program, and \$7,000 to be used toward installation of the outdoor equipment component of the program, as stipulated.\*  
**VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Jenkins, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

- 6.11 Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve the probationary Civil Service appointment of Angelica Rasulo (5.75 hours per diem) as Food Service Helper, with a 26 week probationary period, effective February 14, 2018.  
**VOTE: 7 AYE (d’Albertis, Fleischhauer, Jenkins, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

- 6.12 \*\*\*\*\*TABLED\*\*\*\*\*****Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, by upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to adopt the proposed Rhinebeck Central School District 2018-19 school calendar.\*  
**VOTE: 7 AYE (d’Albertis, Fleischhauer, Jenkins, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

*The Board discussed the calendar and moving Superintendent’s Conference days. Teachers can’t work past the Friday after the last Regents testing day. Teachers are required to work 184 days. The Board discussed how to figure out how prevent taking Spring Break days when we go over with the allotted snow days. Superintendent Phelan stated we can’t get everything we want in a calendar year, we need to trade off and compromise. The Board decided that the day before Thanksgiving will be moved. Superintendent Phelan will discuss with union representatives and administrators.*

- 6.13 \*\*\*\*\*TABLED\*\*\*\*\*****Motion** by Jenkins, seconded by Lyons upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve the following resolution:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education hereby approves the contract with Dutchess County BOCES for the acquisition of computer/technology hardware, software, and related equipment through a three-year installment purchase agreement (IPA) commencing in the 2017-2018 school year with a total principal cost of \$144,356.09; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Rhinebeck Central School District will pay Dutchess County BOCES through its regular monthly billing cycle over the three-year period to commence during the 2017-2018 school year.\*

- VOTE: 7 AYE (d’Albertis, Fleischhauer, Jenkins, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

- 6.14 +Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to accept the resignation of Donna Mahoney, Typist, for the purpose of retirement, as stated, effective the close of business on June 30, 2018.\*

## **7.0 Proposed Executive Session**

**Motion** by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, the Board voted to enter Executive Session to discuss employment history of a particular person at 9:37 pm.

**VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Jenkins, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**Motion** by Schulkind, seconded by Lyons, the Board voted for Mark Fleischhauer as clerk pro tempore.

**VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Jenkins, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**Motion** by Schulkind, seconded by Lyons, the Board voted to return to Regular session at 10:37 pm.

**VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Jenkins, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**8.0 Adjournment**

**Motion** by Schulkind, seconded by Jenkins, the Board voted to adjourn at 10:38 pm.

**VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Jenkins, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT**  
**MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,

Whitney Druker  
District Clerk

Mark Fleischhauer  
Clerk Pro Tempore