

2/24/2009 Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District, held at the Berlin Jr/Sr High School

Present: Frank Zwack, Julie Darling, Donald French, Elizabeth Miller, Thomas Morelli, Jeffrey Paine, Beverly Stewart

Absent: No one

Also Present: Charlotte Gregory, Cathie Allain, Michelle Colvin, Cyril Grant, Scott Hunter, Jennifer Morris, Sandra Owens

Guests included: Joe Harrington, Michael Hendricks, Cory Dogherty, Craig Hansen, Jean Kirsch, David Flint, Dorothy Stall, Angela Harrington, Andy Zlotnick, Tammy Osterhout, John & Patty Nash, Dan Dobbins, Bob Miller, Anton Katzman, Jackie Elacqua, Diane Paine, Lisa Purdy, Kenny Masterson, Andy Maguire, Jane Halleck, Donna Kelly, Monica Shupe, Nancy Weiss

President Zwack convened the meeting at 7:00 PM with all seven board members present.

On motion of Liz Miller, second by Julie Darling, minutes of the 1/20/2009 and the 2/4/2009 meetings were approved.

The Oral Communications portion included the following:

1. Tech Valley High School Report – Current Tech Valley students, Joe Harrington, Michael Hendricks and Cory Dogherty reported out on their experiences at the school.
2. Craig Hansen, Director of Health & Safety at Questar III, reported out on the results of the radon testing that was done at the Berlin Elementary School. Mr. Hansen reported that 4 picoCuries per liter of air is the level that is considered as an action level. The basement office of the Building & Grounds department does have action levels. Mr. Hansen recommended that additional short-term and long-term testing be done before a remediation program was set up. Mr. Hansen also reported that testing of the other district buildings was set to be done.
3. Nancy Weiss from NYCLASS presented information and answered questions regarding the cooperative investment program.

- On the motion of Jeffrey Paine, second by Liz Miller, the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District approved the following resolution with 4 YES votes (Julie Darling, Liz Miller, Jeffrey Paine, Frank Zwack) and 3 NO votes (Donald French, Tom Morelli, Beverly Stewart): WHEREAS, New York General Municipal Law, Article 5-G, Section 119-o (“Section 119-o” empowers municipal corporations (defined in Article 5-G, Section 119-n to include school districts boards of cooperative educational services, counties, cities, town and villages) and districts to enter into,

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amend, cancel and terminate agreements for the performance among themselves (or one for the other) of their respective functions, powers and duties on a cooperative or contract basis;

WHEREAS, the Berlin Central School District, wishes to invest certain of its available investment funds in cooperation with other corporations and/or districts pursuant to a municipal cooperation agreement;

WHEREAS, the Berlin Central School District, wishes to assure the safety and liquidity of its funds;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

The Berlin Central School District Superintendent is hereby authorized to execute and deliver the Cooperative investment Agreement in the name of the and on behalf of the Berlin Central School District.

On motion of Tom Morelli, second by Liz Miller, the following Action Items (#1-8 and addendum sheet) were unanimously approved:

- **Treasurer's Reports from 1/1/2009 – 1/31/2009 General Fund, Special Aid Fund, Trust & Agency Fund, School Lunch Fund, and Capital Fund**

PERSONNEL ACTION:

The following new appointments are contingent on passing the fingerprinting mandates:

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to appoint the following people to the 2008-2009 Instructional Substitute List – effective 2/25/2009:

Fougere, Dennis – Certified – Art Education

Maxon, Amber – Non- Certified

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to appoint the following people to the 2008-2009 Non-Instructional Substitute List – effective 2/25/2009:

Maxon, Amber – Aide, TA

Vincent, Virginia – Aide, Typist, TA

APPOINTMENT:

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to appoint Kim Bugbee as the Assistive Technology Coordinator @ \$2,592.00 – effective for the 2008-2009 school year.

CHANGE IN IMPARTIAL HEARING OFFICER LIST:

Deletion – Eugene Arcery – effective 01/09/2009

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION

- **Approval of the following recommendations of the Committee on Special Education: 000029225, 000030013, 101706, 101707, 101666, 102423, 000100129, 000100113, 101383, 102714,**

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- RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District hereby approves the following amendment to the 2008-2009 Questar III Final Service Request:

- **Addition of 50611 to Mt. View Academy – effective 2/4/2009**

- RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District hereby accepts the January 2009 Claims Audit as submitted.

- RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District hereby declares the following items as surplus, with such items to be appropriately disposed of:

Qty	ISBN/Part No.	Description	Bldg
1	716600855	World Book Encyclopedia – 1985	BES
1	5902002413	The Dumb Bunnies Easter – 1995	BES
2	059084735X	The Dumb Bunnies Go to the Zoo – 1997	BES
1	0590582860	Make Way for Dumb Bunnies – 1996	BES
1	0590477080	The Dumb Bunnies – 1994	BES

- RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District hereby approves the following budget transfers:

Code From	Code To	Amount
1620.4300	1910.4000	\$23,775.00
1620.4300	5510.4370	\$10,000.00

- RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District hereby approves the pick up points for non-public pupils living outside the specified distance as outlined in board policy 5.460-08.

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District hereby approves the competitive bid for general construction for project #49-01-01-04-0-009-005 (Berlin Jr/Sr High School ADA Compliance) to Hoosick Valley Contractor’s Melrose, NY in the amount of \$47,850.00, pursuant to General Municipal Law 103.

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District hereby approves the following fundraisers for the Grafton PTO pursuant to Board of Education Policy 5.350-02:

- **Gertrude Hawk Chocolates**
- **Pampered Chef**

The Opportunity for Public Comment portion of the meeting included concerns regarding board member statements, communication with the public, and the status of the current ADA project.

In the President’s Report, Mr. Zwack congratulated the students that participated in the Future Cities Competition. Mr. Zwack also forwarded a letter from the Beautification of Berlin Committee to BES principal, Michelle Colvin.

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In the Superintendent's Report, Ms. Gregory reported that she had received a letter from Questar III complimenting on the behavior of the students that recently toured the facility.

Discussion on the Draft #1 budget occurred after Interim Business Administrator, Scott Hunter, reported out on it. Draft #1 shows a projected tax levy increase of 1.75% and includes:

- a \$475,000 savings from the closing of SES
- staff reductions of \$174,000
- funding for a \$100,000 capital project

The Discussion & Recommendations portion included:

- Board Policy 7.180-09 Family & Medical Leave Act – 1st Reading
- Superintendent Search – three consulting firms were contacted, two submitted proposals, dates for presentations were discussed.

Don French requested an up-date on the Program Analysis & Review for Geometry and Algebra. Mr. French also requested information on finalizing the basketball court.

Calendar of Meetings

Thursday, March 5, 2009 – 6:00 PM – Budget Workshop – HS Library

Tuesday, March 17, 2009 – 7:00 PM – Regular Meeting – HS Auditorium

On motion of Tom Morelli, second by Liz Miller, executive session to discuss personnel items was entered at 10:23 PM, with public session resuming at 10:50 PM on motion of Julie Darling second by Liz Miller.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:51 PM on motion of Julie Darling, second by Bev Stewart.

Mary M. Grant, District Clerk