

3/17/2009 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, Thomas Morelli, Jeffrey Paine, Beverly Stewart
Absent: Elizabeth Miller
Also Present: Charlotte Gregory, Cathie Allain, Michelle Colvin, Cyril Grant, Dennis Healy, Scott Hunter, Eileen Leffler, Jennifer Morris, Sandra Owens
Guests included: James Baldwin, David Flint, Ariel Hodges, Rachel Barnum, Nicholas Despart, Erika Pelletier, Arizona Martigali, Taylor Mazzeo, Kirstin Hodges, John Zwack, Deanna Nash, Kasey Day, Shawn Vasilatos, Brad Deyo, Tim Hogan, Marissa Sweener, Kellie Kaschak, Melissa Putterman-Hoffmann and parents

President Zwack convened the special meeting at 6:30 PM with six board members present. A presentation from a Superintendent Search Consulting Firm was given.

The regular meeting was convened by President Zwack at 7:00 PM.

On motion of Tom Morelli, second by Beverly Stewart, minutes of the 2/12/2009, 2/224/2009 and 3/5/2009 meetings were approved.

The Oral Communications portion included the following:

1. Inaugural Address Trip - Report out on the recent trip to Washington, DC for the Presidential Inauguration.
2. Students Against Destructive Decisions – Report out on the upcoming Town Hall Meeting whereby the results from the Community That Cares Survey will be discussed.
3. Questar III Presentation – James Baldwin, District Superintendent, presented information on the services that are provided through BOCES. Mr. Baldwin also provided information on the services that Questar offers for doing a Superintendent Search

On motion of Jeffrey Paine, second by Julie Darling, the following Action Items (#1-5, 7-9) were unanimously approved (Action Items IV6 Distance Learning, IV 10 Bus Purchase Resolution, IV 11 \$100,000 Capital Project Resolution, IV 12 Excel Project Resolution were tabled until the next meeting):

- Treasurer's Reports from 2/1/2009 – 2/28/2009 General Fund, Trust & Agency Fund, Special Aid Fund, School Lunch Fund, and Capital Fund

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PERSONNEL ACTION:

The following new appointment is contingent on passing the fingerprinting mandates:

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to appoint the following person to the 2008-2009 Non-Instructional Substitute List – effective 3/18/2009

Hake Jr., Bruce – Bus Driver

RESIGNATIONS:

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to accept the resignation of Susan O’Neil – Bus Attendant – effective 3/20/2009

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to accept the resignation of Robert Smith – Bus Driver – Grafton Assist Late Run – effective 3/6/2009

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION

- Approval of the following recommendations of the Committee on Special Education: 100809, 102815, 102638, 000029778, 000100304, 103094, 102837, 101813, 101719, 100903, 103201,

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

- RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District hereby approves the 2009-2009 health services contract with the Hoosick Falls Central School District in the amount of \$6,166.24 for 16 students.

- RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District hereby certifies as correct the 2009-2009 unpaid tax list from Rensselaer County and directs that it be signed by three Board of Education members and returned to Rensselaer County.

Town	Amount
Berlin	\$179,165.44
Grafton	\$204,983.56
Petersburgh	\$136,863.76
Poestenkill	\$20,243.29
Stephentown	\$239,588.90
Grand Total	\$780,844.95

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

- Yankee Candle Sales – Yearbook
- Nantucket Tote Bags – Class of 2010
- Chocolate Knots – 8th Grade Entrepreneurs
- St. Jude MATH-A-THON – BES 3rd Grade

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- RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District hereby approves the FCCLA State Leadership Conference trip to Kerhonkson, New York from 4/2/2009 – 4/4/2009.

The following was reported on in the Superintendent's Report:

1. **Transitioning GES to BES – Discussion on the transition of GES to BES occurred.**
2. **Investment Policy – Interim Business Administrator, Scott Hunter, presented information on the current Investment Policy. The policy is compliant with current laws and regulations; good policy. The policy calls for diversification of investments; prior to NYClass there was no diversification.**
3. **Bank of America – Interim Business Administrator, Scott Hunter, reported out on a conference call that occurred with the business office and the representatives from the Bank of America.**
4. **Program Analysis & Review for Geometry & Algebra – A report out and discussion occurred.**

The Discussions & Recommendations portion:

1. **The second reading of Board Policy 7.180-09 Family & Medical Leave Act occurred.**
 - **On the motion of Beverly Stewart, second by Jeffrey Paine, the Board of Education unanimously approved Board Policy 7.180-09 Family & Medical Leave Act.**
2. **Budget Development – Discussion on the proposed budget occurred.**
3. **Superintendent Search – An up-date on the next consulting group was given and a time was set for the presentation.**

In other business Don French:

1. **Requested additional information on the basketball court; Business Office to house binder for review by Board members.**
2. **Introduced possibility of moving the Business Office to the Grafton Elementary School.**
3. **Introduced taking a closer look at reducing non-mandated administrators.**
4. **Introduced taking a closer look at reducing 6th period teacher assignments.**

Calendar of Meetings

March 31 – 7:00 PM – Special Meeting – Budget Workshop – Jr/Sr High School

April 9 – 6:30 PM – Special Meeting – Budget Workshop – Jr/Sr High School

April 21 – 7:00 PM – Regular Meeting – Jr/Sr High School

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On motion of Beverly Stewart, second by Jeffrey Paine, executive session to discuss specific personnel items was entered at 10:22 PM, with public session resuming at 10:42 PM on motion of Tom Morelli, second by Jeffrey Paine.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:43 PM on motion of Jeffrey Paine, second by Tom Morelli.

Mary M. Grant, District Clerk