

5/19/2010 Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District, held at the Berlin Middle School/High School

Present: Frank Zwack, Gina Goodermote, John Greene, Elizabeth Miller, Thomas Morelli, Jeffrey Paine, Beverly Stewart
Absent: No one
Also Present: Charlotte Gregory, Cathie Allain, Michelle Colvin, Cyril Grant, Eileen Leffler, Sandra Owens
Guests included: Approximately 60

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

On motion of Liz Miller, second by Gina Goodermote, minutes of the 3/16/2010 (with corrections), 4/13/2010, 4/27/2010, and 5/11/2010 meetings were approved.

District Clerk, Mary Grant thanked the volunteers who helped with the vote on Tuesday and announced the vote results as follows:

1306 voters at the polls

38 absentee ballots

1344 total voters

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Budget	542	710
Bus Proposition	599	620
ADA/Building Improvements Proposition	561	608
John Nash	641	
Richard Beckwith	595	
Jeffrey Paine	549	
Alan Webster, Jr.	710	
Beverly Stewart	641	
Sara Feathers	609	

President Zwack rearranged the agenda for the presentation of a music department award to Katie Gallucci. Middle School Principal, Cathie Allain, also presented information from the Band Director, Dan Byron, requesting permission to investigate a trip to Disney in February of 2012.

On the motion of Beverly Stewart, second by Gina Goodermote, the Board of Education unanimously approved the request of the Band Director to investigate the possibility of a trip to Disney in February 2010.

On motion of Jeffrey Paine, second by Liz Miller, the following Consent Agenda Items (#1-7) were unanimously approved:

- Treasurer's Reports from 4/1/2010 – 4/30/2010 General Fund, Trust & Agency Fund, Special Aid Fund, Capital Fund, and School Lunch 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 2009-2010 Non-Instructional Substitute List – effective 5/20/2010:

Thompson, Michelle – Monitor, TA

APPOINTMENTS:

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to appoint Stacy Etman as Modified Softball Coach @ \$2299.00 – effective 2/1/2010

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to appoint Daryl Maxon – Bus Driver (Temporary Position) 1.5 hours per day – effective 4/23/2010

INCREASE IN HOURS:

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to increase the hours of Luisa Volpi – Bus Driver (Temporary Increase) from 3.75 hours per day to 5.25 hours per day – effective 4/23/2010

RESIGNATION:

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to accept the resignation of Kelsey Lyon, Teaching Assistant – effective 5/4/2010

RETIREMENTS:

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to accept the retirement notice of Retta Dunlop – Custodian – effective 7/10/2010

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to accept the retirement notice of Christina Schillinger – Teaching Assistant – effective 6/30/2010

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION

- Approval of the following recommendations of the Committee on Special Education: 000065812, 102871, 000029778, 000082214, 000086812, 103983, 000052015, 102913

- RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District hereby approved the CSE recommendations as submitted.

- RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District hereby accepts the April 2010 Claims Audit as submitted.

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-RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District hereby approves the following amendments to the 2009-2010 Questar III Final Service Request:

- Deletion of 11611 from GED Program (1/2 day) – effective 4/26/2010
- Addition of 29651 to GED Program (1/2 day) – effective 4/26/2010
- Addition of 28959 to GED Program (1/2 day) – effective 4/26/2010

- 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:

1	Infocus Projector X2	Tag #000444AMMC51901533	MS/HS
1	Savin Copier 2575		BES

- RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District hereby approves the following health services contact for the 2009-2010 school year:

- With the Hoosick Falls Central School District in the amount of \$6,008.66 for 14 students

On motion of Liz Miller, second by Gina Goodermote, executive session to discuss a specific personnel item was entered at 7:58 PM, with public session resuming at 8:09 PM on motion of Jeffrey Paine, second by Liz Miller.

The New Business portion included:

- First Reading of Board of Education Policy 5.320-10 Alcohol, Tobacco & Drug Abuse
- Development of Election Subcommittee - On motion of Liz Miller, second by John Greene the Board of Education unanimously agreed to form an Election Subcommittee consisting of Beverly Stewart (Chairperson), Liz Miller and any other interested community members.
- District Legal Counsel, Beth Bourassa, presented options following a budget defeat that included:
 - Develop a second budget for submission to the voters: budget total may be more than, equal to, or less than the first, rejected budget.
 - May also present the same, or different, additional spending propositions.
 - Timeline
 - Develop a contingency budget now, to become effective 7/1/2010
 - May only include “ordinary contingent expenses” – legal obligations, expenditures specifically authorized by statute, other items necessary to maintain the educational program,

- preserve property, and ensure health & safety of students and staff.**
- **Relatively few items, as a matter of law, do not constitute an ordinary contingent expense (interscholastic athletics and field trips may be deemed an ordinary contingent expense. New equipment is not an ordinary contingent expense.**
- **If a second budget is presented to and defeated by the voters, the Board must then adopt a contingency budget for July 1. The contingency budget could be revised/amended by the new Board after July 1, but the spending cap (0% increase over last year's budget) cannot be exceeded, except in very limited circumstances, such as an increase in enrollment.**
- **Interim Superintendent Gregory presented a proposed budget of \$18,281,716 that uses \$368,774 from the reserves to make a 0% budget-to-budget increase and a tax levy increase of 0%.**

The public comment portion included concerns regarding an amended budget, new leadership, staffing changes/compensation review, cost efficiency improvements, development of student program alternatives, superintendent recruitment process, need for transparency, community involvement in graduation and development of an advisory committee.

On motion of Tom Morelli, second by Beverly Stewart the Board of Education unanimously agreed to develop a leadership advisory committee to make recommendations to the Board regarding a short-term budget, long-term plan, closure of the Grafton Elementary School delayed for one year, and kick-off recruitment of the Superintendent and HS Principal process.

Committee to be comprised of: Board members, parts of administration, faculty, new board members, community members and PTO members.

Committee members chosen: Tom Morelli (Chairperson), John Nash, Alan Webster, Sandy Owens, Cyril Grant and Julie Harrell.

Calendar of Meetings

- **Thursday, May 27, 2010 – Budget Workshop for report out by advisory committee – 7:00 PM – MS/HS**
- **Friday, May 28, 2010 – Budget Workshop – Budget Adoption – 7:00 PM – MS/HS**
- **Tuesday, June 8, 2010 – Budget Hearing – 7:00 PM – MS/HS**
- **Tuesday, June 15, 2010 – Budget Vote – 12:00 – 9:00 PM – Berlin Fire Hall**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 PM on motion of Jeffrey Paine, second by Frank Zwack.

Mary M. Grant, District Clerk

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