

*HARTFORD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT*  
Hartford, New York

Minutes of Regular Board of Education Meeting November 18, 2013

Board Members Present – Mr. Brian Getty, President, Mrs. Janine Thomas, Vice-President, Mr. Philip Jessen, Mr. Adam Fish and Mr. Ronald Smith

Board Members Absent

Guests – Sean Farley, students from Mr. Farley’s history class, Loretta Amate, Natalie Giblin, Wendy Simmons, Jenn Lawrence, Andrea Stoddard, Vida McCarthy-Cerrito, Esq., Erick Dickson, Wendy Klobnock, Russell Wade, Jim Keeley, Nick and Lori Severance, Bruce and Carolyn Burch and Lawrence Paltrowitz, School Lawyer.

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 pm

- Vice-President, Board of Education

2. Prayer

- Mr. Fish

*It is recommended that the Board of Education entertains a motion to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss matters relating to confidential student information and proposing, pending, or on-going litigation. The regular meeting of the Board of Education will take place following Executive session*

At 7:03 pm. - Motion made by Mrs. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Jessen. Approved 5-0.

Returned to Open Session – 8:03 pm motion by Mr. Jessen and second by Mrs. Thomas to return to open session. Approved 5-0

3. Welcome

3.1 Public to be Heard

- Natalie Keeley asked for a longer recess period in exchange for a long school day.
- Jenn Lawrence presented a ‘thank-you’ note to Mrs. Thomas for demonstrating how to make paper in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade as part of the China Unit.
- Carolyn Burch expressed concern with the Common Core Modules and “how things are being taught.” A discussion ensued with regards to Common Core Learning Standards among the audience, BOE and the Superintendent in particular on the integration of science, social studies, math and ELA. There was a suggestion to lobby our legislators about these concerns.

3.2 SPUD Run Presentation

- Mr. Jessen presented a \$200 check to the senior from the 2013 SPUD Run.

4. Review and Approval of Minutes

- 4.1 Minutes from the Regular Meeting of Board of Education held on October 21, 2013. The Board of Education approved the minutes from the October 21, 2013 Regular Meeting of the Board of Education. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Smith. Approved 5-0.

5. Review and Approval of the District’s Financial Reports

5.1 Treasurer’s Report

5.2 Warrants

5.3 Cafeteria Report

The Board of Education approved the financial reports as presented. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0.

5.4 Budget Status Report (*No action required*)

6. Superintendent’s Report

- APPR: As you are aware, the district made substantial changes to our existing APPR plan as a result of an “APPR Forum” held with the faculty during the summer months. The district was not able to formally submit these changes until after September 1<sup>st</sup> in order to guarantee our increase allotment of state aid. Since September 1<sup>st</sup>, I have been working with NYSED on our modifications and, I believe, that we have finally reached a compromise and the plan should be approved shortly.

- STLE: NYSED has published a “Strengthening Teacher and Leadership Effectiveness” grant. Hartford will be spearheading the grant application and, if approved, the funding with the following districts participating: Hudson Falls, Argyle, Granville, and Fort Ann. I will be working closely with Dr. Jerry Steele from CASDA on trying to secure monies from this grant that the Washington County group can use to provide professional development, in-service opportunities, teacher and principal training, creating professional learning communities, and possibly hiring a Curriculum Coordinator to be shared among the districts.
- Common Core Forum: Senator Little is “hosting” a forum on the Common Core Learning Standards with Commissioner King on Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup> from 3:30p.m. – 5:30p.m. at the Schroon Lake CSD. Community members, BOE members, and educators are invited to attend.
- AASBA: The next AASBA dinner is scheduled for November 21<sup>st</sup> at the Queensbury Hotel. Jeff Honeywell from the law firm of Girvan and Ferlazzo will be presenting on the expedited 3020-a process.

## 7. Building Principals and Department Supervisor Reports

### 7.1 Middle/High School Report: Mr. Brian George:

- Girls and Boys Basketball programs began practicing on November 11; Over 30 girls JV & Varsity; Over 23 boys JV & Varsity
- Foreign Language Club- On November 1<sup>st</sup> held “Day of the Dead Dance” for grades 6-8 (raised \$207.00 and approximately 30 students attended.)
- Student Leadership Conference- November 6<sup>th</sup> at The Great Escape Lodge; 7 Class President Grades 6 -12 attended the conference (Gavon Darfler, Luke Casey, Adam Mitchell, Winston Getty, Trent Paradis, Ethan Pike- VP, and Tyler King); 2 Hartford Representatives on the planning committee (Alison Parrot, Mackenzie Boucher)
- Fall Sports Awards- November 6<sup>th</sup>; Varsity Volleyball Awards- (Most Improved-Jessica Getty; Players Choice- Alison Parrot; MVP- Jen Aubin); Varsity Soccer Awards- (Most Improved-Dennis Mullins; Players Choice- Thad Jones; MVP- Cameron Farley)
- FFA District Meeting- November 8<sup>th</sup> @ HCS, Over 300 members from 9 FFA chapters, Chapters drove from as far away as Chateaugay, Northern Adirondack and Salmon River and from just down the road in Argyle, Granville, Greenwich, Schuylerville and Salem to attend this annual event. After pizza the group went to the Civic Center for the Rodeo.
- Spirit Week Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> (Monday- Mustache Day; Tuesday-Twin Day; Wednesday-Super Hero Day; Thursday- Crazy Hair Day, Friday-Red and Black Day)
- Homecoming Dance- Grades 9 – 12 sponsored by the senior class- 104 students attended
- Turkey Trot – November 12- 45 students participated\
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Pig Roast Friday, Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Class will be touring our Alternative Energy Plant as part of their Unit on Energy. Tour will be led by our very own Mr. Cook
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade still collecting markers for their Colorcycle program
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade will be selling Poinsettias and Wreaths from Garden Time through December 11<sup>th</sup>;
- Upcoming Dates: Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> – 6:00 pm College Saving Program (Breanna Fulper – Edward Jones); Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> – Dime –a- Dip; Parent/Teacher Conference Days- Nov. 22<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. Dec. 6 – Dec. 11 Holiday Shopping; Dec 12- Tanager Voices Concert; Dec 19- Winter Chorus and Band Concert

### 7.2 Elementary Report: Mrs. Bethellen Mannix –

- Pumpkin Decorating with Tricia Stewart and FFA students (10/22/13) Several 1st graders attended.
- PTA Halloween Party (10/24/13) - Over 150 participants K-5.
- Halloween Sing-a-long (10/31/13). Thank you to Lynnette for her willingness to incorporate sing-a-longs into our Citizens’ Assemblies. Looking forward to student performances incorporated into Parents’ and Grandparents’ Breakfasts this year.
- Salvation Army picked up discarded textbooks last week. Thank you to Kerry Babson for initiating this.
- K-5 Bus Safety Presentation (11/13/13) - Chip, Connie and Mark.
- Student Recognition: Bus Riders of the Month (October) –Citizens’ of the Month (October), Chronicle Entries: Sophia Anderson, Kallie Knoll.
- Turkey Trot - 45 runners grades 3-8; all participants received some type of food donation.
- Casella Recycling – Anthony Jones’ picture used 2 years in a row.
- Harvest Fest (11/15/13). Started day with a Harvest Breakfast (thank you to Melanie and parents). 6 stations in the afternoon.

- SUNY Adirondack Touring Theatre For Children (11/18/13). Plant a Good Deed performance.
- Classroom News: Grade 3 – Whitehall Elks donated dictionaries to all 3rd graders today. Amy Thomas – noted growth this year between September and November by the “average” student is remarkable; Common Core and Words Their Way materials were expensive, but are assisting students in making greater progress.
- Upcoming Events: Tuesday and Wednesday, November 19th and 20th: Tanager Pride Parties (thank you to Gwynne Cosh for organizing and all staff for helping). Friday, Monday and Tuesday, November 22nd, 25th and 26th: Parent-Teacher Conferences – 11:30 dismissal for K-8. December 9th, 10th and 11th: PTA Holiday Shop for K-5 students. Thursday, December 12th: Elementary Winter Concert 6:00pm. December 19th: Movie after school for grades 3-5 sponsored by Foreign Language Club

8. Old Business: *There is no old business to conduct*

9. New Business

- 9.1 CPSE/CSE/504 Recommendations: The Board of Education accepted the recommendations of the CPSE/CSE/504 Committee. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0.
- 9.2 Appointment: Modified Girl’s Basketball. Mr. Sean Farley has submitted a letter of intent for the vacant position of modified girl’s basketball coach position for the 2013-2014 school year and comes with the recommendation of Coach Harrington, the Varsity Girl’s Basketball coach. The Board of Education appointed Mr. Sean Farley to the position of Modified Girl’s Basketball Coach for the 2013-2014 school year. The appointment is contingent upon the successful completion of the required New York State coaching requirements. The stipend will be per the contract of agreement with the Hartford Faculty Association. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0.
- 9.3 Enrollment of a non-resident student: Mrs. Kristy Genevick has submitted a request to allow her son, Cole (grade 6), to attend the Hartford Central School District as a nonresident student for the 2013-2014 school year. The Board of Education approved Mrs. Genevick’s request for her son Cole to attend the Hartford Central School District as a nonresident student for the 2013-2014 school year. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 5-0.
- 9.4 Appointment of a Cheerleading Advisor: At the October 2013 Board of Education meeting, the Board of Education agreed to re-instate the Cheerleading program as long as it is a self-sustaining club. Ms. Lori Fleming has submitted a letter of intent to be appointed as the cheerleading advisor. The Board of Education appoints Ms. Lori Fleming as the Cheerleading advisor for the 2013-2014 school year. The appointment is contingent upon the club becoming self-sustaining and adhering to the established financial/fundraising calendar. \$650 is due on January 3<sup>rd</sup> and the remaining balance of the stipend is due at the conclusion of the season. (*Ms. Fleming is aware, and in agreement, that the stipend will not be paid unless the full cost is raised*). Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 5-0.
- 9.5 Leave of Absence: FMLA – Ms. Sarah Bean has submitted a letter to the district requesting Family Medical Leave to begin on or about May 5<sup>th</sup> and terminate on June 30, 2014. The Board of Education approved the FMLA request of Ms. Bean per the stipulations of the leave agreement. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Fish. Approved 5-0.
- 9.6 Appointment: Volunteer Assistant Coach: Mr. Duane Flower has submitted a letter requesting consideration to be appointed as a non-paid, volunteer assistant coach for the Modified Girls’ Basketball team. The Board of Education appointed Mr. Flower as a non-paid, volunteer assistant coach for the 2013-2014 Girls’ Modified Basketball team. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mr. Smith. Approved 5-0.
- 9.7 Adult Prices for Breakfast and Lunch: Mrs. Howe has forwarded a memorandum from NYSED regarding breakfast and lunch prices for adults. According to the memo, since the district receives “severe need reimbursement” for breakfast we must charge a minimum of \$2.00 plus tax for an adult breakfast. Also, as the district receives “under 60% plus the additional .06 cents for lunch”, we must charge a minimum of \$3.33 plus tax for adult lunches. The Board of Education approved an increase in the price of adult breakfasts to \$2.00 plus tax and adult lunches to \$3.33 plus tax. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0.

- 9.8 Line Item Transfers: Per district policy, any line items transfers that exceed \$1,000 must be approved by the Board of Education. Included within the Board packet is a listing of recommended line item transfers. The Board of Education approved the recommended transfers. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0.
- 9.9 Corrected School Tax Bills: The district received notification from the office of Washington County Real Property Tax Services in regards to three land parcels within the district that were issued incorrect tax bills due to errors in the assessment. One property was not originally credited with an agricultural exemption, the second property was only credited for the basic STAR exemption and should have been credited with the enhanced STAR, and the third property was purchased by the Hartford Fire Department and should be wholly exempt. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 4-1-0. Voice Vote: Mr. Getty, Abstained, Mrs. Thomas, Yes; Mr. Jessen, Yes; Mr. Fish, Yes; and Mr. Smith, Yes.
- 9.10 Authorization to Issue Refunds: As determined through the Washington County Real Property Tax Service, the Board of Education should formally authorize a representative of the district with the ability to issue, or sign off, on tax refunds. (*This authorization will also become part of the re-organizational meeting held in July*). The Board of Education authorized the Superintendent of Schools to issue and/or sign-off on tax refunds. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0.
- 9.11 Surplus Equipment: When examining the cheerleading uniforms, it was discovered that the district was in possession of a variety of cheering garments that are not usable (stained, torn, etc.). The Board of Education identified the garments as surplus equipment and allows for their proper disposal. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0.
- 9.12 Leave of Absence: FMLA – Mrs. Natalie Giblin has submitted a letter to the district requesting Family Medical Leave to begin on or about May 5<sup>th</sup> and terminate on June 30, 2014. The Board of Education approved the FMLA request of Mrs. Giblin per the stipulations of the leave agreement. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0.
- 9.13 Fiscal Resolution: Included within the Board Packet is a proposed resolution calling for greater fiscal equality for the Hartford CSD. The Board of Education adopted the proposed resolution. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0. Voice Vote: Mr. Getty, Yes, Mrs. Thomas, Yes; Mr. Jessen, Yes; Mr. Fish, Yes; and Mr. Smith, Yes.
- 9.14 Retirement: Mrs. Constance Knights has submitted a letter of retirement as a bus driver for the district. The Board of Education accepted Mrs. Knights letter of retirement with gratitude for her dedication and service to the district over the last twenty-three years. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0.
- 9.15 Leave of Absence: Mrs. Rita Swezey has submitted a letter to the district for a leave of absence to begin on November 26<sup>th</sup> and terminate on or about January 7, 2014. The Board of Education approved the request of Mrs. Swezey per the stipulations of the leave agreement. Motion made by Mr. Jessen and seconded by Mrs. Thomas. Approved 5-0.
- 10.0 Executive Session – There was no need for another Executive Session
- 11.0 Adjournment – 9:20 pm motion by Mrs. Thomas and second by Mr. Jessen. Approved 5-0

Respectfully submitted,

---

Marjorie M. Durling  
District Clerk