

Minutes

Board of Education

Minisink Valley Central School District Board Meeting – March 9, 2006

A meeting of the Minisink Valley Central School District Board of Education was held in the central administration board room on March 9, 2006, 2006.

BOE MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. John Lenane, President
Mr. Wayne Hawkins, Vice-president
Mr. Shawn O'Connor
Mrs. Gina Richichi
Mr. Tracy Sutera
Mr. Victor Vignola

BOE MEMBERS ABSENT: Mrs. Michelle McDonald
Mr. Michael Sauchuk

DIST. PERSONNEL PRESENT: Dr. Martha Murray, Superintendent
Mrs. Priscilla Holden, Asst. Superintendent for Business
Mr. John Bell, Asst. Superintendent for Curr. & Instr.
Mr. Larry Daley, Director of Pupil Personnel Services
Mr. Brian Monahan, Director of Personnel
Mrs. Nancy Szymkowicz, District Clerk

VISITORS: 42
PRESS: 0

President Lenane called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mrs. Richichi offered the opening prayer.

A motion was made by Mr. O'Connor, seconded by Mrs. Richichi and unanimously carried that the board of education, upon recommendation of the superintendent, approves the minutes of the February 23, 2006 meeting and the amended minutes of January 26, 2006. (6-0)

Minutes

Mrs. Szymkowicz, district clerk, reported that there were two items of correspondence, a revised letter from Carl Onken, notifying the board of two openings on the Orange-Ulster Cooperative Board and a letter from Orange-Ulster Cooperative Board member Eugenia Pavek requesting the board's nomination to that board.

Corr.

A motion was made by Mr. O'Connor, seconded by Mrs. Richichi and unanimously carried that the board of education nominates Eugenia Pavek in support of her candidacy for election to the Orange-Ulster Board of Cooperative Educational Services. It is understood that two seats on the Orange-Ulster Board of Cooperative Educational Services will be up for election in April. (6-0)

BOCES
Nomination

President Lenane welcomed visitors and asked if anyone from the community had a comment. A community member expressed his opinion on the timeline for appointing coaches, a couple of community members questioned the decision not to move the previous meeting to a larger space, another read an online article from a coach in another district, another read a letter from former president of the Minisink Valley Youth Football League, another spoke about a former track coach, another questioned the athletic committee members qualifications, another questioned procedures in terminating coaches, another expressed his concern about material that had blown

Visitors

off the elementary building, signage, the pole barn, and another questioned the policy not to answer questions during this portion of the meeting.

Dr. Murray read the following statement:

“At our last meeting we had several community members address the board about their concerns over the handling of a personnel matter. We want you to know that we heard what you said and, although we were unable to answer all of your questions, we will continue to reflect on our practices and our procedures to see that they match the needs of our students and our community.

Message

The overall feeling of the February 23 board meeting was one of sadness. We share that sadness. I certainly regret any hurt I may have inflicted, however unintentional. We care about Minisink Valley.

We care about the people who live here, the people who work here, and the kids who go to school here. We can't promise to be perfect. We can promise to work hard and to do our best to serve the community we love and to provide a quality education for all its children.”

A motion was made by President Lenane, seconded by Mr. Vignola and unanimously carried to include in the minutes the statement that Dr. Murray read regarding the February 23 meeting. (6-0)

Dr. Murray welcomed Mr. Jack Latini, high school principal, who distributed information and reported on the three areas of course work available to high achieving students in the high school. He said that these course areas are honors, advanced placement and college credit courses.

HS Report

Dr. Murray reminded the community that the next budget work session is scheduled for March 16, at 7:00 PM. She said that the budgets being reviewed are transportation, payroll and benefits and said that the public is welcome.

Budget Work Session

Dr. Murray thanked Mrs. Gail Begle and her elementary school art class for the art work on display in the board room.

Art Display

A motion was made by Mr. Hawkins, seconded by Mr. Vignola and unanimously carried that the board of education, upon recommendation of the superintendent, directs the district clerk to give notice to the qualified voters of the school district of the Annual School District Public Hearing on the Budget and Annual School District Election and Vote of May 16, 2006. (6-0)

Annual Budget Vote

A motion was made by Mrs. Richichi, seconded by Mr. Vignola and unanimously carried that the board of education, upon recommendation of the superintendent, approves the appointment of Theresa Yackel, as Clerk Pro Tem, effective 4/18/06 through 4/24/06, in the absence of Nancy Szymkowicz, District Clerk. (6-0)

A motion was made by Mr. Hawkins, seconded by Mr. Sutera and unanimously carried that the board of education, upon recommendation of the superintendent, accepts the resignation of Lou Bucci, as girls' softball program assistant, effective 2/21/06. (6-0)

Resignation

A motion was made by Mrs. Richichi, seconded by Mr. O'Connor and unanimously carried that the board of education, upon recommendation of the superintendent, approves the medical leave of absence extension for Leslie Marshall, a custodial worker assigned to buildings and grounds, effective 3/6/06 and ending 4/3/06. (6-0)

Leave of Absence

A motion was made by Mrs. Richichi, seconded by Mr. O'Connor and unanimously carried that the board of education, upon recommendation of the superintendent, approves the following appointments:

Appointments

Robert Williams, a probationary appointment as a custodial worker assigned to the buildings and grounds department, effective 3/13/06 with probation ending 3/12/07, step 1, compensation in accordance with the current negotiated agreement between the CSEA and the BOE as listed. (6-0)

Lisa Carey, an extracurricular appointment as the girls' modified softball coach, effective 2/10/06, step 4, group 5, split contract compensation in accordance with the current negotiated agreement between the MVTA and the BOE as listed.

Kevin Gallagher, an extracurricular appointment as the program assistant for girls' softball, effective, 3/10/06, step 8, group 5, compensation in accordance with the current negotiated agreement between the MVTA and the BOE as listed.

Daniel Gallo, an extracurricular appointment as the girls' modified softball coach, effective 2/10/06, step 4, group 5, split contract, compensation in accordance with the current negotiated agreement between the MVTA and the BOE as listed.

Chet Krinsky, as a volunteer coach for the lacrosse team, effective 3/10/06.

Mr. Bell discussed and shared samples of the Grade 3 New York State Math Test.

Curr.

A motion was made by Mr. O'Connor, seconded by Mrs. Richichi and unanimously carried that the board of education, having reviewed the minutes of the Committee on Preschool Special Education held on 2/23, pertaining to students #18563, 19054, 16769, and 17654, arranges for student placement as determined by the Committee on Preschool Special Education. (6-0)

CPSE

A motion was made by Mr. Hawkins, seconded by Mr. O'Connor and unanimously carried that the board of education, having reviewed the minutes of the Committee on Special Education held on 2/2, 2/16, 2/21, 2/22, 2/24, 2/27 and 2/28, pertaining to students #17538, 17986, 14358, 10234, 9315, 16323, 14825, 9269, 16126, 12232, 13567, 15163, and 18547, arranges for student placement as determined by the Committee on Special Education. (6-0)

CSE

A motion was made by Mr. Vignola, seconded by Mr. Hawkins and unanimously carried that the board of education, upon recommendation of the superintendent, approves the warrant for checks dated February 23, 2006. (6-0)

Finance

A motion was made by Mr. Hawkins, seconded by Mrs. Richichi and unanimously carried that the board of education, upon recommendation of the superintendent, accepts the Internal Claims Auditor's report and approves the warrants for checks dated March 9, 2006 (6-0)

A motion was made by Mrs. Richichi, seconded by Mr. Sutera and unanimously carried that the board of education, upon recommendation of the superintendent, approves the Capital Fund warrant for checks issued in the month of February. (6-0)

A motion was made by Mr. O'Connor, seconded by Mr. Hawkins and unanimously carried that the board of education, upon recommendation of the superintendent, approves a contract with the Florida Union Free School District for the 2005-06 school year for the provisions of health services to ten (10) Minisink-resident students who attend St. Joseph's School within the Florida school district, and approves payment in the amount of \$5,765.20. (6-0)

A motion was made by Mr. Vignola, seconded by Mr. Hawkins and unanimously carried that the board of education, upon recommendation of the superintendent, awards the contract for independent (external) audit services for the school year ended June 30, 2006, to Nugent & Haeussler, P.C., in an amount not to exceed \$26,200. (6-0)

A motion was made by Mr. O'Connor, seconded by Mrs. Richichi and unanimously carried that the board of education, upon recommendation of the superintendent, approves policy #5510 *Accounting of Funds* for a second reading and adoption. (6-0)

Policy

A motion was made by Mr. O'Connor, seconded by Mrs. Richichi and unanimously carried that the board of education, upon recommendation of the superintendent, approves the following policies for first readings: (6-0)

#2350 Awarding of Diplomas, to allow for actively serving employees, who have served at least 25 years in the district, to award a diploma to an immediate family member.

#7122.3 Leaving School Property, to reflect that lunch hour is not the only time students are restricted from leaving school grounds unless they meet certain criteria.

#7240 Matriculation Policy, that sophomores and juniors as well as seniors may take college courses or college-level and advanced work if they have met their state requirements.

Change Orders

A motion was made by Mr. O'Connor, seconded by Mr. Sutera and unanimously carried that the board of education, upon recommendation of the superintendent, approves the change order PC-02 in the amount of \$13,138.75 to T.M. Brennan to provide modifications to three canopy drains. (6-0)

A motion was made by Mr. Sutera, seconded by Mrs. Richichi and unanimously carried that the board of education authorizes the board president to enter into a contract with Thomas Associates for construction management services for the elementary school project in the amount of \$590,000, upon approval of said contract by the school attorney. (6-0)

Construction Management Contract

Mrs. Richichi discussed the Finance Committee's review of the following budgets: operations and maintenance, BOCES Instructional, instructional, misc., finance, legal, printing and mailing, data processing, insurance/special items, debt service, interfund transfers and staffing. She reminded everyone that the next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for March 16 at 6:30 PM and is open to the public.

Finance Comm.

Mr. O'Connor said that he had enjoyed the excellent Pops Concert that included students from the middle school and high school joint concert. President Lenane said that he had attended the girls' basketball first round state playoff game at SUNY New Paltz and was looking forward to attending the next game at Pace University in Pleasantville. Mr. Sutera reported that two of our wrestlers, Corey Lempka and Marcus Gurdineer placed 5th in the states and Marcus Gurdineer and Sean Taft qualified to go on to Ohio to compete in the Senior National Wrestling Tournament. He also said that Corey Lempka qualified for the Junior National Wrestling Tournament.

District Events

A motion was made by Mr. Hawkins, seconded by Mrs. Richichi and unanimously carried that the board of education, upon recommendation of the superintendent, enter into executive session at 9:03 PM to discuss matters of contract negotiations and matters made exempt under federal law, FERPA. During executive session the board discussed matters of contract negotiations and matters made exempt under federal law, FERPA. (6-0)

Exec. Session

A motion was made by Mr. O'Connor, seconded by Mrs. Richichi and unanimously carried to resume public session at 11:45 PM. (6-0)

There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Mr. Vignola, seconded by Mr. Sutera and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 11:52 PM. (6-0)

Adj

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Szymkowicz
District Clerk