

**CATSKILL CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Catskill, New York  
**SPECIAL MEETING**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**  
**March 10, 2010**  
Secondary Library  
**7:00 P.M.**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** K. Allen, M. Bulich, R. Griffin, K. Haas, M. Leibowitz, J. Osswald, L. Warner

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** A. Jones

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** K. Farrell, K. Lewis, D. VanKleeck

The special meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:15 pm by Board President Griffin and the Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Call to Order

Roger Lane of the Catskill Education Foundation presented a check to the District for \$2,500 for the IABAS Traditional Brazilian Band project at Catskill Elementary School.

Catskill Education Foundation

There was no one who wished to address the board.

Visitor Recognition

Dr. Farrell reported that we exceeded this years' calendar snow days by one day so per the agreement when the calendar was set last year we will be taking back April 9<sup>th</sup>. She met with Patty Hulihan and Jim Maccaline last week to discuss the make-up day to this years school calendar. Patty and Jim stated that there were two years in the past that Superintendent days were used. I advised them that I would bring their concerns to you at this meeting.

Superintendent's Report

At the High School our students work has been showcased in the main hall. Mr. Wemitt has started something called parking paradise. We have an open slot at the main parking lot which is raffled off each week. This week the winner was Nancy Kunz. The High School's Mock Trial team had their competition last week in the Distance Learning Center and even though there is not supposed to be a tie, there was one. Judging the trials was a real lawyer and judge. Students involved are Trevor Martin, David Weber, Stephanie Tzanetakos, Sonia Bragulla, Josh Goldfarb, Kyle Tangney, Karlee Bergendorff, Cara Overbaugh and Beatriz Musong. The High School is doing a play on Peter Pan. There is a dress rehearsal on March 18<sup>th</sup> and invitations were sent to the Senior Center, the Fireman's Home, Home Sweet Home, The Pavillion and the Autumn Grove Senior Complex. The senior citizens get a reduced rate for the food and free transportation will be provided for them with the assistance of Coxsackie Transport.

Dr. Farrell passed around a T-shirt that the Middle School student council created and used as a fundraiser to raise money for Haiti relief. They collected a total of \$538, which is being donated to UNICEF.

The Elementary school Junior Trebalairs were welcomed by Senator Seward at the Empire State Plaza on March 5<sup>th</sup> where they took part in the "Music in our Schools.

Also some of our elementary and high school students went to Albany to see a River Rats game.

Benita Zahn of Channel 13 and Robert Altman, President of NPR TV visited our media center and spent about two hours with our students. Benita Zahn even mentioned her visit to the media center and that she was impressed by our students abilities on her blog.

Dr. Farrell also discussed the graduation rates and cohorts, the High School Senior trip to Washington, DC which will be brought to the board for action at the next meeting and the Parent Portal for SchoolTools. She also reported to the board that another district, Niagara Wheatfield, is providing netbooks to their fifth graders.

Dawn Scannapieco told the board that the elementary school students did a fundraiser called Change for Haiti and they collected \$1,070.

Dawn Scannapieco gave the board an update on how the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade is doing in math and how the curriculum has incorporated the smartboard into lessons. She also advised the board that new this year is AIS math for first grade.

Reading First and Math Presentation

Lisa Slutzky discussed discipline and her selection of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade for her prototype.

Christina Fabbie gave the board an update on the DIBELS. She emphasized on our progress and her goals for the year.

Holly Hebb and students, April Larsen and Kristen Martinez reported to the board about the daffodil sales that are done to raise money for the American Cancer Society. Their goal this year was \$300, which they surpassed. They collected \$610 and will do it again next year.

Daffodil Sales

Sharon Tedford explained to the board about the IABAS Traditional Brazilian Band project with the 3rd Grade. A date has not been set yet for their performance.

IABAS Traditional Brazilian Band

Terry Damon of Armlin Damon & McMordie gave the board an update on the ongoing construction projects. Terry discussed the EXCEL Phase 3 project and advised the board that the punch list of items to be done is 95% complete. He also discussed the Phase 4 project-Interior Phasing plan. Other items he discussed were the business office and superintendent's office buildings and maintenance building.

Armlin Damon & McMordie

Dr. Farrell further reported that last week that she visited Senator Seward with the Leadership Greene students, three from Catskill and three from Cairo, and Patrick Hernandez in Albany. They were welcomed into the session by Senator Seward.

Leadership Greene

Dr. Farrell also said that the Catskillopoly game has been delivered and will be available for sale on Saturday. She also had a game at the meeting for the board to look at.

Catskillopoly Game

The board discussed the following personnel items:  
 Appointment of Brent Goettschke, Modified Softball Coach  
 Additional after-school appointments

Discussion of Personnel Items

The board discussed the following business office items:

- Receiving of Treasurer’s Reports
- Awarding of School Pictures Request for Proposal
- Approval of Budget Transfers

Discussion of  
Business Office Items

Kimberly Lewis gave the board an update on the progress with the budget. She told the Board members that the current numbers reflect an approximate 7.25 percent increase to the tax levy. The targeted reductions take about \$400,000 from overall programs, and another \$600,000 from staffing. Items that would be eliminated are all modified sports, summer camps, and snow boarding, and some clubs, including photography, drama and chess.

Budget Update

Board President Griffin stated that the board should give the budget team a target percentage to work toward; he suggested an increase of no more than 5 percent.

The board also had a brief discussion about the possibility of changing the district’s transportation rules, in order to decrease expenses, possibly lengthening the minimum distance from a student’s home.

The board discussed the following other items:

- Minutes
- Donations
- Adoption of 2010-2011 School Calendar
- Declaration of Obsolete library books
- Approval of Babe Ruth Contract

Discussion of Other  
Items

Board President Griffin requested that the Babe Ruth contract be acted upon tonight due to game schedule and the timing of the next meeting. He stated that the contract starts on April 1<sup>st</sup> and our next meeting is March 31<sup>st</sup>.

***A MOTION (Leibowitz/Warner) to amend the agenda and approve the Babe Ruth contract for the 2010 Spring athletic season. VOTE: Unanimous, 7-0. Motion carried unanimously.***

Approval of Babe  
Ruth Contract

There were no committee reports

Committee Reports

The future board meetings are as follows:

- March 18, 2010 – GCSBA Meeting – Secondary Library – 6:00 PM
- March 31, 2010 – Regular Meeting– Possible Budget Adoption –Secondary Library
- April 13, 2010 – Special Meeting –Secondary Library
- April 27, 2010 – Regular Meeting - Vote on BOCES Annual Budget & BOCES Board Members – Secondary Library
- May 4, 2010 – Tuesday - Public Hearing – CHS Auditorium – 7:00 PM
- May 12, 2010 – Workshop/Special Meeting – Secondary Library
- May 18, 2010 – Tuesday - Board Member & Budget/Propositions VOTE  
6:00 AM – 9:00 P.M. – CHS Gymnasium
- May 26, 2010 – Regular Meeting – Secondary Library
- June 9, 2010 – Workshop/Special meeting/Academic Awards–CHS Cafeteria – 6:30 PM
- June 30, 2010 – Regular Meeting – Secondary Library

Future Meetings

Dr. Farrell reminded the board of the Greene County School Boards Association meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup> at the high school cafeteria at 6:00 PM

GCSBA Meeting

Break

The board took a short break at 9:15 PM

***A MOTION (Bulich/Allen) to go into executive session at 9:24 PM for the purpose of discussions regarding the educational history of particular individuals.***

Executive Session

***VOTE: Unanimous, 7-0. Motion carried unanimously.***

There was a consensus to return to public session at 11:50 PM.

Public Session

***A MOTION (Leibowitz/Warner) to approve the following resolution regarding an appointment. VOTE: Unanimous, 7-0. Motion carried unanimously.***

Appointment of  
Director of Guidance

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education hereby appoints Dawn Scannapieco to the position of Director of Guidance, effective March 10, 2010 through June 30, 2010 at an annual salary of \$4,000, prorated (\$1,400).

Dawn Scannapieco

***A MOTION (Jones/Leibowitz) to adjourn the meeting at 11:10 PM.***

Adjournment

***VOTE: Unanimous, 7-0. Motion carried unanimously.***

\_\_\_\_\_  
Donna Van Kleeck, District Clerk

\*Note: 1-850 would include minutes from previous meetings since July 1, 2005.