

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE KINGSTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
OCTOBER 3, 2007
CIONI ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: M. Bowers, A. Coston, C. Farrell, D. Fletcher,
M. McCoy, J. Shaughnessy, M. Tack

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: G. Gretzinger, S. Miller, M. Corsones, J. Preville,
R. Pritchard

OTHERS PRESENT: Public, Media

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Farrell, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. All board members were present with the exception of K. Germain and I. Horowitz who were excused.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Dr. Tack; seconded by Ms. Bowers the board members unanimously agreed to adjourn into executive session @ 6:34 p.m. to discuss collective bargaining under the Taylor Law; matters leading to the employment of particular individual(s), review of programs and placements of students with disabilities, the proposed acquisition, sale, or lease of real property or the proposed acquisition of securities or the sale or exchange of securities held by the public body; but only when publicity would substantially affect their value, and the employment history of particular individual(s)..

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

The board members returned to public session at 7:55 p.m.

ACTION PERTAINING TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Nothing was offered at this time.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Greg Malia, KHS Nordic Ski Team Club Coach, addressed the Board regarding creating a Varsity Sport from the club team.

Unidentified parents and students spoke regarding their daughters participation on the Nordic Ski Team and the positive experiences.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Montessori Public School: A Proposal

Mr. Gretzinger stated that discussion had started over a year ago with Ms. Valerie Hannum regarding Montessori Schools as an alternative form of education. He explained that he would like to see a pilot program begin next school year. Ms. Hannum gave a brief history of her experience with Montessori and how they have begun implementing some of the Montessori techniques at Graves in the younger grades. Discussion followed.

NEW BUSINESS

NYSSBA Annual Business Meeting: Proposed Resolutions

Mr. Farrell suggested that the board only discuss the resolutions that they had some questions about whether or not to support. Ms. Bowers brought resolutions #10 Opposition to Charter School, #15 Retention of Bilingual Teachers and #16 Partial State Funding of Charter Schools up for discussion. The majority of the board agreed with NYSSBA's recommendation on 10 & 15 and was split on 16. Mr. McCoy will vote at his discretion on #16.

OLD BUSINESS

Board Goals & Performance Evaluation

Dr. Fletcher made a motion to table the above discussion until the next Board Workshop; seconded by Dr. Tack. The motion carried on a vote of 6:1:2; No: Mr. Farrell; Absent: Ms. Germain and Mr. Horowitz.

Kingston Indoor Sports Dome

Mr. Glen Maisch reported on the income analysis that the Board had previously asked for. Discussion followed.

OTHER OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Tack inquired about the hand washing at George Washington School. Mr. Gretzinger responded that they now have hand sanitizers.

Ms. Bowers inquired about the numbers of Kindergarten students per class at Myers. Mr. Gretzinger responded that other schools have raised the issue as well and that they are keeping an eye on the numbers.

Ms. Bowers also inquired about Regents week in January and instructional time. Mr. Gretzinger responded that he would speak with Ms. Anderson and report back.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Audit & Finance Committee

Dr. Fletcher reported that they had gone through the vehicle inventory and the recommendation to Mr. Cunningham was to phase out 2 of the 4 sedans that are used to attend conferences since we do offer mileage reimbursements and transfer one to the attendance officer to replace an older car. He also reported that the replacement of the district vehicles has gone very well over the last few years increasing efficiency and placing the money in the budget for this purpose should be continued. The committee also discussed establishing a 5 year building plan. He announced the next Audit and Finance Committee on Tuesday, October 16 at 11:00 a.m.

Carnegie Building

Mr. Shaughnessy reported that they are waiting for a meeting with the architect and BBL on October 24th at 11:30 a.m. He also spoke with Robert Mann concerning their fundraising efforts and he stated that the firm that is handling the fundraising will be at the CCE open house on Friday, October 5th

Dietz Committee

Mr. Horowitz was not present to report.

Dr. Tack inquired about the use of the new scoreboard. He stated that he had been contacted with concerns because they had not been able to use the scoreboard at JV games. A brief discussion followed and the matter would be followed up.

Safety Committee

Dr. Fletcher reported that one of the concerns of the committee was a policy for notification of sex offenders living in the community. He stated that he advised bringing it to the policy committee and has since found out that Mr. Farrell was already working on that and it will be added to the next policy committee agenda.

Policy Committee

Ms. Bowers reported that they had met on Tuesday, October 2nd and they had a spirited discussion on whether a policy is needed if it is school law and they are reviewing NYSBBA draft policies.

RESOLUTIONS (Consent Agenda)

Mr. Farrell asked if anyone had any items to remove from the consent agenda. Dr. Tack made a motion to adopt the consent agenda as is; seconded by Rev. Coston. Questions and answers followed. Mr. Farrell also acknowledged Resolution B25 as a donation from Hannaford's to Edson Elementary School for \$1000.00. The motion to adopt carried unanimously.

- Resolution #2007-S11 - Committee on Preschool Special Education Recommendations**
- Resolution #2007-S12 - Committee on Special Education Recommendations**
- Resolution #2007-S13 – Section 504**
- Resolution #2007-P28 - Professional Personnel – Appointments, LOA, Change of Status**
- Resolution #2007-P29 - Professional Personnel – Pool Director**
- Resolution #2007-P30 - Professional Personnel – Appointment – Phys Ed Asst**
- Resolution #2007-P31 – Professional Personnel – Appointment – Teachers in Charge**
- Resolution #2007-P32 – Professional Personnel – Appointment – Substitute Teachers**
- Resolution #2007-CS06 – Civil Service – Appointments, Change of Status, Resignations, and Terminations**
- Resolution #2007-B20 – Approval: Bid Award for Elevator Service, Testing and Inspection**
- Resolution #2007-B21 – Approval: Bid Award for NSF Stamped Spring Water Service**
- Resolution #2007-B22 – Approval: Proposal for Phase I Environmental Assessment for the Tillson Elementary School**
- Resolution #2007-B23 - Approval: Lease Extension for 918 Ulster Ave**
- Resolution #2007-B25 - Budget Revision: Mini-Grant Acceptance**
- Resolution #2007-B26 - Authorization: Permit Contract Exchanges Ulster District's 403(b) Plan**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Special Meeting of September 19, 2007

Dr. Tack made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 19, 2007 special meeting; seconded by Mr. McCoy. The motion carried unanimously.

BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Tack stated that he attended open house at the high school and he thought Ms. Anderson did a great job using KHS TV and that Bailey's open house had been very well attended.

Mr. Farrell stated that he had the opportunity to attend open house at Bailey and KHS and he was very impressed at how the TV station did the opening announcements at the high school. He stated that he thought the principal and vice principal at Bailey did an excellent job of walking the parents through the school and it was very well organized. He found the teachers in both schools delivering a very positive message about the schools and the programs that they were offering.

Mr. Shaughnessy stated that he had the opportunity to attend the open house at George Washington where the PTA sponsored a barbeque for the community and there were hundreds of people there.

Mr. Gretzinger reminded everyone that John Voerg will be honored by the Mid-Hudson Study Council, receiving the award for Excellence in Administration, on Wednesday, October 10th.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Chris McGeaver commented on the Montessori School Proposal.

Mr. Gretzinger introduced Lynn Umble to the Board who has accepted a voluntary transfer to the guidance office at the High School.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Dr. Tack made a motion to return to executive session @ 10:10 p.m. for the purpose of discussion of the employment history of particular individual(s); seconded by Ms. Bowers. The motion carried unanimously.

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

Board members returned to executive session at 10:24 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business before the Board and on a motion by Mr. Shaughnessy; seconded by Ms. McCoy, the board members unanimously agreed to adjourn at 10:25 p.m.

Camille Ellsworth
District Clerk