

**MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE KINGSTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOVEMBER 28, 2007
SOPHIE FINN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

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

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: G. Gretzinger, M. Corsones, S. Miller, J. Previll, 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 6:04 p.m. All board members were present with the exception of Dr. Tack who arrived at 6:20 p.m. and Mr. Horowitz who was excused.

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME: Mr. Anthony Erena

Mr. Erena welcomed the Board, gave a brief history of Sophie Finn's past and stated that recently New York State acknowledged that Sophie Finn is a rapidly improving elementary school based on their state testing scores. He spoke about several successful programs that have been taking place at Sophie Finn Elementary. A brief discussion followed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Parents of a Special Education student began to speak and Mr. Farrell advised them that the issue could not be addressed during public comment due to FERPA and board policies; however someone would get back to them for a private discussion.

Mr. Gretzinger introduced Kevin Brice, President of the KHS TV Studio who presented the board with a brief video in response to the recent articles and letters to the Editor of the Daily Freeman regarding saying the Pledge of Allegiance in Spanish honoring Spanish month at the high school.

WORKSHOP TOPICS

District Reading Program

Mr. Gretzinger explained that the board had received a detailed report in their packets last week and that Ms. Corsones will answer any questions that the Board has about the information they received. Questions and answers followed regarding Reading Recovery and Harcourt Trophies programs.

Regents Week at KHS

Ms. Anderson reported on the changes to the schedule for Regents Week. She explained that due to test modifications space is limited and a shortage of teachers due to scoring. However, working with the Diversity Cadre for 9th graders and offering the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) test to 10th graders will bring more students to school. Discussion followed.

Schedule C. Stipends

The Board stated that they would like to see a more equitable distribution of the monies budgeted for Schedule C amongst the Co-Curricular Advisors, Band, Drama and Sports. Discussion followed.

BOCES Services

Mr. Pritchard explained the differences between the co-sers, administrative, special education, and alternative education programs and the refunds from State Ed aid. Discussion followed.

ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business before the board and on a motion by Mr. McCoy; seconded by Dr. Tack, the Board Members unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m.

Camille Ellsworth
District Clerk