

# **RIVERHEAD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING BOARD OF EDUCATION - January 28, 2014**

## **PRESENT:**

Board President, Mrs. Ann Cotten-DeGrasse; Mr. Thomas Carson;  
Mr. Christopher Dorr; Mrs. Susan Koukounas; and, Mrs. Kimberly Ligon.

**ABSENT:** Gregory M. Meyer.

**LATE:** Mrs. Amelia Lantz.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Ms. Nancy Carney, Mr. David Wicks, and Mr. Sam M. Schneider.

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Mrs. Cotten-DeGrasse called the meeting to order at 5:35 P.M.

## **RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Christopher Dorr, second by Kimberly Ligon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Thomas Carson, Ann Cotten-DeGrasse, Christopher Dorr, Susan Koukounas,  
Kimberly Ligon

Not Present at Vote: Amelia Lantz

The Board of Education recessed to executive session at 5:35 p.m. to discuss executive session topics.

Mrs. Lantz arrived at 5:53 p.m.

## **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

Motion by Christopher Dorr, second by Susan Koukounas.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Thomas Carson, Ann Cotten-DeGrasse, Christopher Dorr, Susan Koukounas,  
Amelia Lantz, Kimberly Ligon

The Board of Education returned to open session at 7:06 p.m. A brief recess followed.

Mrs. Lantz left the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

## **OPEN TO PUBLIC**

The meeting resumed at 7:14 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

There were about 30 other people in attendance.

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ALSO PRESENT: Mrs. Barbara O’Kula.

ADOPTION OF PUBLISHED AGENDA

Motion by Thomas Carson, second by Kimberly Ligon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Thomas Carson, Ann Cotten-DeGrasse, Christopher Dorr, Susan Koukounas, Kimberly Ligon

OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY (Related to Agenda topics only)

No comments were heard from community members.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Financial

November 2013

| <u>Fund</u>    | <u>Check Numbers</u> | <u>Amount</u>  |
|----------------|----------------------|----------------|
| General Fund   | 47199-47525          | \$2,877,411.63 |
| Federal Funds  | 10583-10594          | \$ 75,602.14   |
| Cafeteria      | 9917-99              | \$ 55,133.97   |
| Extraclassroom | 5802-5816            | \$ 26,537.17   |
| Scholarship    | none                 |                |
| Capital        | 2556-2570            | \$1,526,630.54 |

Committee on Special Education

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District accepts the following recommendations of the Committee on Special Education regarding children with disabilities and whose Individualized Education Plans need to be implemented:

| <u>C.S.E. MEETING</u> | <u>STUDENT NUMBERS</u>                                    |
|-----------------------|---|
| 10/10/13              | 213039  |
| 10/18/13              | 216575  |
| 10/21/13              | 215562  |
| 10/22/13              | 213892, 216352, 213812, 215123, 214756, 213578,<br>215749 |
| 10/24/13              | 214316  |
| 10/28/13              | 219582  |
| 10/30/13              | 224634  |

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|          |  |
|----------|--|
| 10/31/13 | 215776   |
| 11/03/13 | 226016   |
| 11/06/13 | 221207, 220544, 219039, 221334, 221204, 221272,<br>221273  |
| 11/07/13 | 216767, 215435, 214232, 215788, 214017, 216010,<br>216274, 218453  |
| 11/08/13 | 214561, 211693   |
| 11/12/13 | 223308, 212893, 215171   |
| 11/13/13 | 224457, 218065, 218042   |
| 11/15/13 | 225134, 226450, 222659, 226273, 226079, 226530,<br>225173, 225561, 225260, 217652, 227133, 226596,<br>217231                                 |
| 11/21/13 | 214036, 214569, 216171, 217098, 217164, 215770,<br>217371, 214033  |
| 11/22/13 | 223312, 224458, 223623, 224574   |
| 11/25/13 | 224331, 224049, 224143, 223203, 223297, 223329,<br>223245, 223215, 223549, 218218, 216170, 216493,<br>216127, 226113, 219312, 221426, 221275 |
| 12/02/13 | 218285   |
| 12/03/13 | 223217, 225360, 222244, 223569, 222662, 225162,<br>22308   |
| 12/04/13 | 221544, 221524, 221157, 221312, 221127, 220284   |
| 12/07/13 | 218691, 219190, 219014, 217481   |
| 12/10/13 | 222344, 225580, 225625, 226388, 222614, 220203,<br>225244, 225451  |
| 12/12/13 | 224532, 226447, 226656, 224378, 222680, 226419,<br>222309, 218343  |
| 12/16/13 | 222397, 222512, 219695   |
| 12/19/13 | 225539, 223183, 222525, 224360, 226158, 225565,<br>224299  |
| 12/20/13 | 218280   |
| 12/23/13 | 220260   |
| 12/31/13 | 216717   |
| 01/02/14 | 214248, 214006   |

C.P.S.E MEETING STUDENT NUMBERS

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| 12/11/13         | 228268, 227156, 227360, 227170, 227166, 228195,<br>228196, 227259, 228260 |
| 01/09/14         | 228272, 227276  |
| <u>PAROCHIAL</u> |   |
| 10/28/13         | 224448  |
| 12/16/13         | 999990421, 223026, 217281, 999990093, 216728,<br>999990018                |

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Budget Transfer

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District approves the following budget transfer in the 2013-2014 budget:

| <u>To Code:</u>  | <u>From Code:</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 2630-491-00-1001 | 2110-134-12-2330  | \$ 69,000.00  |

Personnel – Professional

RESOLVED, that on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following Professional Personnel recommendations be approved per Supplemental File Personnel Report and are subject to Board Policy #9310.

(SEE ATTACHED SHEETS)

Personnel – Civil Service

RESOLVED, that on the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following Civil Service Personnel recommendations be approved per Supplemental File Personnel Report and are subject to Board Policy #9310:

(SEE ATTACHED SHEETS)

Motion to approve all items of the Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion by Thomas Carson, second by Kimberly Ligon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Thomas Carson, Ann Cotten-DeGrasse, Christopher Dorr, Susan Koukounas, Kimberly Ligon

**OLD BUSINESS** (to include follow-up of questions from prior Board meeting unable to be addressed at the time)

- an example of the new marching band uniforms was displayed to the Board of Education and community
- the maintenance of uniforms (*i.e.*, cleaning, storage) was not included in the uniform bid – it will be another expense.
- the contract with Education Inc. is used specifically for students who are hospitalized at the rate of \$55/hr.

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### OPPORTUNITY FOR SUPERINTENDENT

As part of the ongoing presentations on Common Core, Ms. Carney introduced Dr. Stephen Hudson, Associate Principal at the Pulaski Street School, who gave a presentation on the shifts in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Common Core Standards in Mathematics that work together and upon each other. The six shifts are:

1. Focus – strong foundational knowledge and deep conceptual understanding
2. Coherence – progression of concept
3. Deep Understanding – access concepts from a number of perspectives
4. Fluency – speed and accuracy
5. Application – word problems, real-world problems, and modeling
6. Dual Intensity – practicing and understanding applied to mathematical concepts

EnVision Math common core is being utilized as well as “sprints” and “close reading” skills. A “sprint” is a fluency drill that infuses facts, recall and deep understanding. “Close reading”, learned in English Language Arts, is a careful and purposeful rereading of a text. Teachers are working in a collaborative effort in all subjects and grade levels to increase rigor and do all that is possible to help our children succeed in a competitive world.

Ms. Carney made the following announcements:

- Congratulations to Amanda Sanders on receiving tenure – she is a dynamite teacher.
- Phillips and Roanoke Avenue Schools are participating in the “Great Kindness Challenge” this week...the goal of which is to create a culture of kindness in our schools and to make better choices and respect each other.
- Forty-seven High School students performed in the 2014 Hamptons Music Educator Association (HMEA) Festival on January 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Tyler Reinhart from Johnson and Wales University in Providence, Rhode Island, was a guest chef who recently taught in the Food Prep class at Riverhead High School.
- Mindy Benze’s class at the Middle School just completed a “Water Challenge” where students and some teachers pledged to drink only water for two weeks to raise awareness of the water crisis around the world. The money they saved from not purchasing soda, and other beverages was donated to *The Water Project*. So far they have collected over \$500.
- Congratulations to all participants of the Boys’ Track Relay Teams who competed at Suffolk Community College in Brentwood on January 25 and won League titles.
- On February 7<sup>th</sup>, the School of Dental Medicine Day Care Center at Stony Brook University will be offering free dental screening, cleaning and fluoride treatments for children between the ages of 1-17. Please contact your building principal to schedule an appointment for your child.
- Riverhead Middle School Middle Masques will present “Guys and Dolls” on January 31 and February 1, 7, and 8 at the Middle School Cafetorium.

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- The John Mendreski Memorial Student/Teacher Badminton Tournament will be held on February 26 from 3-6 p.m. in the High School gymnasium.
- A ribbon-cutting ceremony at the new High School library will be announced once the date has been determined.

### Contracts under \$25,000 approved and executed by the Superintendent of Schools:

|                                 |  |            |
|---------------------------------|--|------------|
| Accurate Investigative Services | Investigative Services                   | \$2,500.00 |
| New York Therapies              | Home Based Speech & Teaching Services    | \$4,000.00 |
| Achievement Therapies LLC       | Home Based Occupational Therapy Services | \$4,000.00 |

On behalf of the Board of Education, Mrs. Cotten-DeGrasse congratulated Amanda Sanders on her granting of tenure this evening and commended her for her dedication to the Riverhead Central School District.

Christopher Butterfield, Vice President of the R.C.F.A., complimented the Board of Education on the decisions that have to be made on every aspect of our schools. It is hoped that all stakeholders will be included in the decision-making process. Keep up the good work.

### Comments from the community include:

- concern as to how a 5<sup>th</sup> grader can analyze questions and break them down into a plan and solve it in one class session and that they not become dependent upon the team approach. (Ms. Carney stated that upon observation of students in the classrooms, they are learning to problem solve in a way that will be a life-skill.)
- a parent expressed her personal situation on a bus issue where kids are not finding seats and as a result, presents a safety issue. (Mr. Schneider offered to contact this parent as he was not comfortable discussing specifics in this forum.)
- there has been no mention of minority students and of the different economic and social statuses...Common Core does not allow for individuality.
- Is the Local Assistance Plan at Roanoke, Pulaski and Phillips public information? (Per Mrs. Cotten-DeGrasse: It is on our website.)
- How does Common Core help students with disabilities and bring them up to level? (Per Ms. Carney: One of the great weaknesses of the implementation of Common Core is that the modules have not addressed these students that are at different levels...differentiation needs to be addressed and we are trying to find a balance to increase rigor and modify based on where the students are at. We are trying to be thoughtful and careful to find a balance where people are feeling comfortable.)

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RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Thomas Carson, second by Christopher Dorr.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Thomas Carson, Ann Cotten-DeGrasse, Christopher Dorr, Susan Koukounas,  
Kimberly Ligon

Not Present at Vote: Amelia Lantz

The Board of Education recessed to executive session to discuss personnel at 8:04 p.m.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Motion by Thomas Carson, second by Christopher Dorr.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Thomas Carson, Ann Cotten-DeGrasse, Christopher Dorr, Susan Koukounas,  
Kimberly Ligon

Not Present at Vote: Amelia Lantz

The Board of Education returned to open session at 8:34 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Kimberly Ligon, second by Susan Koukounas.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Thomas Carson, Ann Cotten-DeGrasse, Christopher Dorr, Susan Koukounas,  
Kimberly Ligon

Not Present at Vote: Amelia Lantz

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara O'Kula  
District Clerk

**Personnel**

**1. Professional Personnel:**

| <b><u>Name:</u></b>                                   | <b><u>Title:</u></b>  | <b><u>Date:</u></b>   |
|---|---|-----------------------|
| <b><u>Salary Advancements:</u></b>                    |   |                       |
| Claudia Anaya   | Bilingual Elementary Teacher  | 2/1/14                |
| Jacqueline Andrejack                                  | Special Education Teacher   | 2/1/14                |
| Robert Klipstein                                      | Elementary Teacher  | 2/1/14                |
| James Laffey  | Social Studies Teacher  | 2/1/14                |
| <b><u>Appointments:</u></b>                           |   |                       |
| <b><u>Tenure:</u></b>                                 |   |                       |
| Amanda Sanders  | Elementary Teacher  | 1/31/14               |
| <b><u>Change in Status:</u></b>                       |   |                       |
| Kelly Dillon  | From: Substitute Teacher<br>To: Elementary Teacher - Roanoke<br>Leave Replacement ( <i>Replacing Kelly Cregan</i> ) | 11/18/13-2/14/14      |
| <b><u>Substitute Teacher:</u></b>                     |   |                       |
| Susan Squires   | Substitute Teacher  | 2013-2014 school year |
| <b><u>Adjustment to Salary:</u></b>                   |   |                       |
| Theresa Curry   | Modeling in K-12 Common Core Mathematics  | 10/28/13-11/18/13     |
| <b><u>Workers' Compensation Leave of Absence:</u></b> |   |                       |
| Deborah Hermann                                       | Reading Teacher   | 1/10/14-1/16/14       |
| Janine Mastropaolo                                    | School Social Worker  | 2/13/14-2/14/14       |



**Personnel**

**2. Civil Service Personnel:**

*The Superintendent of Schools recommends the following personnel actions:*

| <b><u>Name:</u></b>                          | <b><u>Title:</u></b>   | <b><u>Date:</u></b>   |
|--|--|-----------------------|
| <b><u>Changes in Status:</u></b>             |  |                       |
| Kathleen Fata                                | From: Substitute School Teacher Aide<br>To: Special Education Aide - Aquebogue<br><i>(Replacing Tameka Pinckney)</i> | 1/29/14               |
| Latasha Johnson                              | From: Substitute School Teacher Aide<br>To: Special Education Aide - Aquebogue<br><i>(Replacing Irene Armenia)</i>   | 1/29/14               |
| <b><u>Substitute Custodial Worker I:</u></b> |  |                       |
| Robert Bartalits                             | Substitute Custodial Worker I  | 2013-2014 school year |
| <b><u>Substitute Guard:</u></b>              |  |                       |
| Mattie Johnson                               | Substitute Guard   | 2013-2014 school year |
| <b><u>Unpaid Leave of Absence:</u></b>       |  |                       |
| Michelle Diming                              | School Bus Driver  | 1/16/14               |
| Barbara Wittenberg                           | Special Education Aide   | 11/21/13-6/30/14      |
| <b><u>Retirement:</u></b>                    |  |                       |
| Gail Green                                   | School Bus Monitor   | 3/28/14               |
| Ronald L. Johns                              | Custodial Worker I   | 6/27/14               |