

**RIVERHEAD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION – February 11, 2014**

**PRESENT:**

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

**LATE:** Gregory M. Meyer.

**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 6:01 p.m.

**RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Christopher Dorr, second by Amelia Lantz.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried.

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

The Board of Education recessed to executive session at 6:01 p.m.

Mr. Meyer arrived at 6:10 p.m.

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

Motion by Amelia Lantz, second by Kimberly Ligon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried.

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

The Board of Education returned to open session at 7:25 p.m.

A brief recess followed.

**OPEN TO PUBLIC**

The meeting resumed at 7:30 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

There were about 15 other people in attendance.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Barbara O'Kula.

**ADOPTION OF PUBLISHED AGENDA**

Motion by Gregory M. Meyer, second by Kimberly Ligon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

## MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING: February 11, 2014

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

•Please tell the public what the contract with VHB Engineering is for. (Per Mrs. Cotten-DeGrasse: It has to do with the SEQRA process (environmental study) and traffic study for possible purchase of land to relocate the bus garage.) Is this the land on Edwards Avenue? (Answer: Yes.)

### APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

#### Approval of Minutes

-Regular Meeting – January 14, 2014

#### 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 PERSONNEL 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 PERSONNEL SHEETS)

Motion by Thomas Carson, second by Christopher Dorr.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

### OLD BUSINESS

(None)

### NEW BUSINESS

#### Approval of Sale of Real Property

WHEREAS, on November 8, 2012, the Board of Education adopted a resolution declaring District real property on Tuthills Lane, Aquebogue, NY to be surplus to the District's need; and

WHEREAS, on January 9, 2014, the Riverhead Central School District finalized and closed on the sale of the development rights of the land to Suffolk County as part of the Suffolk County New Drinking Water Protection Program;

MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – FEBRUARY 11, 2014

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District hereby authorizes the District administration to conduct a bidding process to sell the remaining fee to 25+/- acres of District owned land and to sell the fee simple absolute to 2 +/- acres of District owned land located at SCTM No. 0600-046.00-03.00-005.000; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the bidding process shall be advertised in local media, including in the official publications of the School District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education shall have final approval over the sale price as submitted by bidders; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education shall have the right to reject all bids and order the process be redone if doing so would be in the best interest of the Riverhead Central School District.

Motion by Gregory M. Meyer, second by Thomas Carson.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Approval of Change in 2013-2014 School Calendar

RESOLVED, that due to the use of snow days, the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District hereby modifies the official 2013-2014 calendar to convert Monday, April 14, 2014 from a day of school recess to a day when school shall be in session; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that should one additional snow day be needed, the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District hereby modifies the official 2013-2014 calendar to convert Tuesday, April 15, 2014 from a day of school recess to a day when school shall be in session; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that should two additional snow days be needed, the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District hereby modifies the official 2013-2014 calendar to convert Wednesday, April 16, 2014 from a day of school recess to a day when school shall be in session.

Motion by Christopher Dorr, second by Thomas Carson.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING – FEBRUARY <sup>11</sup>, 2014

Approval of Contract

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District hereby approves a contract with VHB Engineering, Surveying and Landscape Architecture, previously approved for \$10,000, for an additional \$22,500; and, further authorizes the President of the Board of Education to sign the memorandum.

Motion by Gregory M. Meyer, second by Susan Koukounas.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Approval of Out of State Field Trip-NJROTC

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District approves the request of the NJROTC Drill Team (approximately 45 students) to participate in the Area 4 Championship Drill Meet on March 1, 2014 at Colt's Neck High School in New Jersey at no cost to the District.

Motion by Kimberly Ligon, second by Gregory M. Meyer.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Approval of Out of State Field Trip-Varsity Boys' Track and Field

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District approves the field trip request of the Riverhead Varsity Boys' Track and Field team (up to 10 students) to participate in the Penn Relays in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on April 25-26, 2014 at a total cost to the District not to exceed \$1,100.

Motion by Gregory M. Meyer, second by Christopher Dorr.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Approval of Out of State Field Trip-Varsity Girls' Track and Field

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District approves the field trip request of the Riverhead Varsity Girls' Track and Field Team (up to 10 students) to participate in the Penn Relays in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on April 24-25, 2014 at a cost to the District not to exceed \$2,000.

MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING: FEBRUARY 11, 2014

Motion by Thomas Carson, second by Gregory M. Meyer.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Approval of Field Trip-Boys' & Girls' Winter Track and Field Teams

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District approves the field trip request of the Boys' and Girls' Winter Track & Field Teams (up to 10 students) to participate in the Winter Track & Field events for the NYSPHSAA Championships at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, on February 28-March 1, 2014 at a cost to the District not to exceed \$800.

Motion by Amelia Lantz, second by Gregory M. Meyer.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Acceptance of Donation-Target

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District accepts the donation from Target in the amount of \$700 for a field trip to Atlantic Aquarium to the Riverhead High School; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District hereby authorizes a budgetary increase to the budget line of 2110-424-01-1000 in the amount of \$700.

Motion by Amelia Lantz, second by Christopher Dorr.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Acceptance of Donation-Home Depot

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District accepts the donation from Home Depot of molding, wood and doors for the Middle School production of "Guys and Dolls".

Motion by Gregory M. Meyer, second by Thomas Carson.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

## MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING: FEBRUARY 11, 2014

### OPPORTUNITY FOR SUPERINTENDENT

Ms. Carney gave the first in a series of budget presentations on the 2014-2015 proposed budget. The Board's goal is to design and adopt a budget that stays within limits of the 2% tax cap, maintains programs for students to the greatest extent possible, and recognizes our fiscal responsibility to the taxpayers and residents of the School District.

According to Governor Cuomo's budget, the proposed state aid figures for Riverhead is set to increase by nearly \$1.4 million next year. This enables us to maintain our programs and stay within the state-mandated 2% tax levy cap for the proposed 2014-2015 budget.

Proposed preliminary budgets for General Support, Benefits and Debt Service are as follows:

- General Support – Proposed \$3,688,376; overall decrease of -5.33%
- Benefits – Proposed \$30,543,568; overall increase of .50%
- Debt Service – Proposed \$6,341,587; overall increase of 72.54%

Major increases in the budget include \$594,332 for additional charter school costs now that they have expanded to include 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades; and, the first payments are coming due on the \$78,334,247 construction bond approved by the voters on October 11, 2011 for \$2.8 million in additional debt service costs.

Future presentations will be held on the following dates up until the Budget Vote on May 20, 2014:

- February 25
- March 11
- March 25
- April 8
- April 22 (Adoption of proposed 2014-2015 budget)
- May 13 (Public hearing on proposed budget)
- May 20 (Budget Vote-6:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. at local polling locations)

Mrs. Cotten-DeGrasse presented certificates to Mrs. Koukounas, Mrs. Lantz, Mr. Dorr, and Mr. Meyer who have made every effort to avail themselves and participate in webinars, workshops, intensive courses, NYSSBA Conventions, and the NYSSBA School Board Academy.

The Superintendent made the following announcements on happenings within the District:

–Members of the Board of Education, Triton Construction, BBS Architects, High School administration, faculty, and student body gathered this morning to conduct a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the entrance of the new library/media center at the High School. The

## MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING: FEBRUARY 11, 2014

construction of the new additions at the High School is well underway and plans to break ground at the Middle School will happen this summer. The LGI (Large Group Instruction) room will soon be ready and four new bathrooms should be on-line after the winter break. Plans for Roanoke and Pulaski Street Schools have been submitted to the State...work is anticipated to start this fall.

-Kudos to David Densieski, Principal at Pulaski Street School, and Amy Brennan, Literacy Coach, whose efforts to integrate the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade ELA Common Core Standards into the curriculum and in the teaching of a Reading and Writing Project Information Unit have been recognized by Lucy Calkins, the founding director of Columbia University Teachers' College Reading and Writing Project. Professor Calkins will include techniques used by Pulaski Street School teacher, Christopher Gatz, and Literacy Coach, Amy Brennan, as well as work by students in her upcoming book - "Units of Study in Opinion, Information, and Narrative Writing Middle School Series Bundle, Grades 6-8: A Common Core Workshop Curriculum."

-Riverhead High School Senior, Maria Valdivia, received a senior award at the Parrish Art Museum's School Art Festival on February 8<sup>th</sup> for her computer graphics project titled, "Human Corruption".

-The High School Spanish Club visited the Museum of Modern Art on February 7<sup>th</sup> and saw Picasso's "Tres Musicos" and other works of art they had studied in class.

-Key Club students have been visiting the elementary schools to share a message about "Going Green" and present lessons on reducing, reusing, decomposition, and recycling.

-Kelly Dillon's class participated in the Great Kindness Challenge at the Roanoke Avenue Elementary School; and, along with the classes of Donna Verbeck and Gary Karlson, the students have made more than 200 Valentines for distribution to military personnel.

-The High School Varsity Wrestling Team participated in the League Championship on February 10 when Eddie Matyka won all four of the bouts he wrestled. He will be joined in the Section XI Division I Tournament on March 16 at Hofstra University by five other students.

-High School student, Maddie Blom, qualified for the N.Y.S. meet at Cornell University in Ithaca on March 1 in the shot put. She finished second in the Section XI championships at Suffolk County Community College in Brentwood on February 8<sup>th</sup> with a throw of 35' 9½". In the long jump, Ashley Courts landed 6<sup>th</sup> place with a distance of 16' 9½". Congratulations to both girls!

-The Middle School Honors Concert is scheduled for Wednesday, February 12 @ 7:00 p.m. at Pulaski Street Hovey Hall Auditorium.

-The Black History/Unity Celebration at Riverhead High School is scheduled for Thursday, February 13 @ 6:30 p.m. in the High School Auditorium.

-Kudos to the Riverhead Middle School Middle Masques for their great performances in the presentation of *Guys and Dolls Jr.* with a special appearance by our Board member, Gregory Meyer.

## MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING: FEBRUARY 11, 2014

### OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Meyer congratulated the NJROTC Unit...once again, they are setting the bar for the rest of the northeast. They won 1<sup>st</sup> Place Overall in the Varsity division at a recent drill meet in North Rockland High School and won 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Overall in the 1<sup>st</sup> Year Cadet Division against 12 other schools. He also stated his pleasure to be a part of the Riverhead Middle School Middle Masque production of *Guys and Dolls Jr.* and thanked them for letting him be a part of it. It was an awesome experience. Special thanks to Ed Tholl (Show Director) and Pat Skura (Show Producer) for their help in making it all happen. The talent shown is unbelievable and everything from the building of the sets, choreography, decorations, etc. was done by the kids...it was truly a student-run play.

### OPPORTUNITY FOR R.C.F.A.

(No comments)

### OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY

Community comments included:

-Mr. Densieski, Principal at Pulaski Street School, stated that the book written by Professor Calkins is what Teachers' College has put out for the middle school units of study for last year. In building that book, they used Mr. Gatz's class to do some of that work. These books are used by teachers to help guide them and we are very proud of this recognition.

-The numbers given in state aid by *Newsday* are wrong (Ms. Carney stated that our numbers are from the state aid website.)

-With overcrowding at Roanoke...is redistricting being considered? (Ms. Carney stated that this is being addressed at a meeting on Thursday. Roanoke and Phillips Avenue Schools have the greatest increase in enrollment and the District is looking at kindergarten registration and classes to alleviate overcrowding.)

-A traffic study of Edwards Avenue and Route 25 cites it as one of the worst intersections...purchasing that land will not give us any money back because it is not considered a capital project.

### ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Amelia Lantz, second by Christopher Dorr.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara O'Kula

District Clerk



MINUTES: February 11, 2014

**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>		
Martin Faint	ESL Teacher	2/1/14
Lindsey Fuhs	Elementary Teacher	2/1/14
Jay Lebowitz	Art Teacher	2/1/14
Brenda Simonetta	Elementary Teacher	2/1/14
<b><u>Appointments:</u></b>		
<b><u>Leave Replacement:</u></b>		
Laura LeGrady	Reading Teacher - Riley (Replacing Tara Cunningham)	2/10/14-3/28/14
<b><u>Coaching:</u></b>		
Leif Shay	Winter Weight Training	2013-2014 school year
Ralph Pepe	Boys' Lacrosse Varsity Assistant	2013-2014 school year
Evan Philcox	Boys' Lacrosse JV Head	2013-2014 school year
Christopher Nentwich	Boys' Lacrosse JV Assistant	2013-2014 school year
Stephen Czelatka	Boys' Lacrosse Middle School Head	2013-2014 school year
Andrew Rodriguez	Boys' Lacrosse Middle School Assistant	2013-2014 school year
Robert Lum	Boys' Tennis Varsity Head	2013-2014 school year
Hassan Olowu	Boys' Spring Track Middle School Head	2013-2014 school year
William Razzano	Boys' Spring Track Middle School Assistant	2013-2014 school year
James Janecek	Girls' Lacrosse Varsity Assistant	2013-2014 school year
Kristen Hordy	Girls' Lacrosse JV Head	2013-2014 school year
Andrew Aleksandrowicz	Girls' Lacrosse Middle School Head	2013-2014 school year
Rebecca Winkel	Girls' Lacrosse Middle School Assistant	2013-2014 school year
<b><u>Volunteer Coach:</u></b>		
Blayne P. McEneaney	Boys' Lacrosse - All Levels	2013-2014 school year
<b><u>Advisors:</u></b>		
Nancy King	Wellness Club - Middle School	2013-2014 school year
David Loddengaard	Pit Orchestra - High School	2013-2014 school year
<b><u>Professional Development:</u></b>		
Robert Brandi	Video Record Your Lesson Flipped Classroom	3/1/14-3/8/14 4/26/14-5/3/14
<b><u>Substitute Teachers:</u></b>		
Jaime MacDonald	Substitute Teacher	2013-2014 school year
Kaitlyn Mickaliger	Substitute Teacher	2013-2014 school year

MINUTES: February 11, 2014

**Personnel**

**2. Civil Service Personnel:**

<b><u>Name:</u></b>	<b><u>Title:</u></b>	<b><u>Date:</u></b>
<b><u>Change in Hours:</u></b>		
Willie Austin	School Bus Driver	2/3/14
George Sutton	School Bus Driver	1/21/14
<b><u>Appointments:</u></b>		
<b><u>Change in Status:</u></b>		
Jaraby Thomas	From: Special Education Aide To: School Teacher Aide	2/10/14
<b><u>Substitute School Teacher Aide:</u></b>		
Julian Cope-Edwards	Substitute School Teacher Aide	2013-2014 school year
Amy Gosker	Substitute School Teacher Aide	2013-2014 school year
<b><u>Adjustment to FMLA Dates:</u></b>		
Christine Peters	Senior Clerk Typist	From: 1/10/14-2/7/14 To: 1/10/14-1/24/14
<b><u>Extension of Workers' Compensation Leave of Absence:</u></b>		
Charles Clairborne, Jr.	Guard	From: 10/30/13-1/2/14 To: 10/30/13-2/13/14
<b><u>Unpaid Leave of Absence:</u></b>		
Charisse Clairborne	Special Education Aide	2/28/14-4/11/14
Margaret Domino	School Bus Driver	1/24/14-1/27/14
<b><u>Extension of Unpaid Leave of Absence:</u></b>		
Melisa Dutton	School Bus Driver	From: 11/26/13 (.6 day)-1/17/14 To: 11/26/13 (.6 day)-1/21/14
<b><u>Termination of Employment:</u></b>		
Joann Bonne'	Special Education Aide	2/11/14