

**RIVERHEAD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING  
Tuesday, March 25, 2014**

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

ABSENT: Christopher Dorr and Gregory M. Meyer.

ALSO PRESENT: Ms. Nancy Carney and Mr. Sam M. Schneider.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Board President, Mrs. Cotten-DeGrasse, called the meeting to order 6:05 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Amelia Lantz, second by Susan Koukounas.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

The Board of Education recessed to Executive Session at 6:05 p.m. for the purpose of discussion on personnel issues and the proposed acquisition, sale, or lease of real property.

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

Motion by Susan Koukounas, second by Kimberly Ligon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

The Board of Education returned to open session at 6:35 p.m.

A recess followed.

Mr. Dorr arrived at 7:00 p.m.

**OPEN TO PUBLIC**

The meeting resumed at 7:10 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

There were about 35 other people in attendance.

ALSO PRESENT: Mrs. Barbara O'Kula.

**ADOPTION OF PUBLISHED AGENDA**

Motion by Thomas Carson, second by Susan Koukounas.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

### **“1,000 Books” Awards**

Ms. Martha Kennelly, Director of MESTRACT, recognized students, Chase Montgomery and Logan Levesque, for completing the 1,000 Book Reading Program. This program is sponsored by MESTRACT in collaboration with the Riverhead Free Library and the Riverhead Central Faculty Association. The program encourages children to read and improve their vocabularies. Congratulations to these students on this great accomplishment.

### **Town Assessors’ Presentation – Veterans’ Exemption**

Laverne Tennenberg, Chairperson of the Board of Assessors in the Town of Riverhead, and Lisa Goree, Town of Southampton Assessor, spoke on the impact to the three townships that comprise the Riverhead Central School District. (Brookhaven Town Assessor, James Ryan, was unable to be present.) In December 2013, legislation was passed and signed into law by Governor Andrew Cuomo where school districts now may offer property tax exemptions to veterans who served during wartime. If the School District approves the new exemption, it will go into effect for the 2015-2016 school year. In Riverhead, taxes on the average assessment on a single family home would increase by about \$21 per year. The school tax bill on the average home in the Town of Southampton (\$310,000 assessed value) would increase by about \$24 per year; and, an increase of about \$19 in the Town of Brookhaven. Ms. Tennenberg estimated that the School District would stand to lose close to \$4 million in assessed valuation if the exemptions are approved since this exemption would come off the assessed valuation before the existing STAR on which the state reimburses school districts. Exact calculations of the reduction in the STAR property tax reimbursement that would result cannot be completed at this time until the necessary software is acquired. Unlike STAR, the state does not plan to reimburse the revenue a school district would lose from veterans who qualify for the new exemption. Instead, other taxpayers in the district would have to make up the difference.

Only veterans who served in the military during a “period of war” qualify and is defined as follows:

- The Persian Gulf Conflict (on or after August 2, 1990)
- The Vietnam War (February 28, 1961-May 7, 1975)
- The Korean War (June 27, 1950-January 31, 1955), or
- World War II (December 7, 1941-December 31, 1946)

The basic maximum allows a property exemption of:

- \$12,000 for a non-combat veteran
- \$8,000 additional for a combat veteran
- \$40,000 addition for a disabled veteran

Under the basic maximum exemption, the tax rate would increase by 0.49%.

Many veterans were present to express their support for approval of the veterans' tax exemption and their request that the Board of Education grant them full consideration.

Mrs. Lantz asked how many people in the audience were veterans and...how many people know a veteran? Just about everyone in the room raised their hands.

Mrs. Cotten-DeGrasse stated that the Board of Education is gathering information and will keep the public apprised if and when a public hearing is held.

#### **BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS PRESENTATION**

Rachelle Ayala, Coordinator of Marketing and Public Relations, spoke about Big Brothers Big Sisters of Long Island as a mentoring organization for community enrichment and asked the Board of Education to consider implementation of a site-based program in the elementary schools. Mentoring could take place in one of two ways:

- through community-based mentoring, or
- site-based mentoring (in-school or after-school)

Cost would be between \$5,000-\$7,500 for a program serving 10-15 matches. An adult volunteer from the community is matched on a one-to-one basis with a student who, due to family or environmental factors, could greatly benefit from the additional support and guidance that a mentor provides. All volunteer mentors are interviewed, screened and trained. Cost would cover transportation, administrative costs, and materials. In the past, they have served over 150 children in the Riverhead Central School District through a site-based program at Phillips Avenue Elementary School. That program ended in 2011 due to change-over in administrative staff and the lack of a liaison in the High School and elementary schools.

Mrs. Cotten-DeGrasse stated that the Board of Education would take the proposal under consideration.

#### **RECOGNITION OF RETIREES - Gail Green and June Stevenson**

The Board of Education recognized Gail Green and June Stevenson (absent) with plaques in appreciation for their many years of dedicated service to the Riverhead Central School District.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING - EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FROM THE REPAIR RESERVE FUND**

Pursuant to Section 6-d of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York, the public hearing on the proposed appropriation of \$456,000 from the repair reserve fund for the purpose of repairing the paint at Riverhead High School, repairing interior and exterior door exit devices at Riverhead High School, repairing the HVAC Roof Top temperature controllers at Riverhead High School, repairing the plumbing and hot water mixing valve at Riverhead High School, repairing boiler room valves at Riverhead

Middle School, repairing boiler sections at Riverhead Middle School, repairing the gymnasium floor at Roanoke Avenue Elementary School, repairing condensate tank pumps and floats at Roanoke Avenue Elementary School, and repairing classroom flooring at Aquebogue Elementary School.

Mrs. Cotten-DeGrasse declared the public hearing open at 8:01 p.m.

Ms. Carney gave a brief presentation on the proposed repairs that administration wishes to see accomplished. The Repair Reserve Fund was authorized by the voters in May 2011 to fund up to \$5 million in repair work. It functions as a savings account and is funded by unused funds at the end of each year. The fund can also supplement needed repairs for projects that were not included in the October 2011 Bond. The District's goal is to maintain all infrastructure needed and to repair and/or restore to satisfactory condition that which has been decayed, deteriorated, weathered or become broken, torn, or inoperable. The procedure to access the Repair Reserve Fund is as follows:

Step 1: District Administration identifies projects that are needed.

Step 2: The Board of Education holds a public hearing on the projects to educate themselves and the public as to the intended repairs and total costs involved.

Step 3: The Board of Education votes to authorize use of the Repair Reserve Funds.

Projects being proposed are:

- painting of the entire High School to repair worn and peeling paint at a cost of \$230,000
- repair worn exit devices at the High School that are not ADA compliant at a cost of \$28,800
- repair worn pneumatic temperature units with digital controllers at the High School at a cost of \$79,200
- repair worn mixing valves at the High School to allow hot water to flow at the girls' locker room at a cost of \$8,200
- repair worn valves in the boiler room at the Middle School at a cost of \$10,800
- repair worn boiler sections at the Middle School at a cost of \$9,500
- repair worn flooring and subflooring at the Roanoke Avenue Elementary school at a cost of \$66,000
- repair broken pumps and floats at Roanoke Avenue Elementary School
- repair worn hardwood flooring and other surfaces at Aquebogue Elementary School at a cost of \$14,000

Mrs. Lantz expressed her concern that the hot water in the girls' locker room at the High School has not been in working order for a year. Mr. Dorr expressed the same concern. As a cost effective measure, Mrs. Lantz asked if the boiler room valves at the Middle School could be repaired versus the purchase of new ones.

Mrs. Cotten-DeGrasse stated that when the CPR Committee met, they made a list of things that they felt were absolutely needed, things to be considered, and things that could wait. These projects are all expenditures that can be done in an ongoing fashion as part of the District's ongoing maintenance.

Comments from the community included:

- Can any work be done in-house versus contracting out? Please look into that.
- If all work is not contracted out from monies in the repair reserve fund, can transfers of monies to cover costs supplement the general operating fund? (Mr. Schneider stated that if work is being done in-house, costs will be transferred from the repair reserve fund to the general operating fund. Purchase orders and contractual expenses are paid out of the general fund. Money is held in encumbrance until the work is done so purchase orders are issued this year and held until conclusion of work to be done.)
- These projects will all be prioritized? (Answer: Yes.)
- Why didn't the District order valves when we got the new boilers? (Ms. Carney stated that the valve replacement is on the Middle School boilers with old valves. Mr. Finnerty stated that the High School is getting a new boiler through the bond which is unrelated to the boiler at the Middle School. )
- Recommendation that everything should be replaced – not repaired. If the boiler was broken down a year ago, it should have been made known to the Board.

Mrs. Cotten-DeGrasse declared the hearing closed at 8:28 p.m.

#### Preliminary 2014-2015 Budget Presentation: Revenues, Projected Tax Levy and Ballot Propositions

Ms. Carney gave an overview of the total tentative revenue budget amounting to \$120,725,992 that carries a budget-to-budget increase of 2.66% and an anticipated 2.40% change in the 2014-2015 property tax levy. The District is also proposing two ballot propositions to be placed on the ballot for voter approval on May 20, 2014. They are:

- 1.) Authorization to spend \$3,988,000 toward a new 5-year plan to purchase about 40 buses (35 propane powered large buses and 5 handicapped accessible vans) to be funded through the issuance of bonds; and
- 2.) Authorization to issue an easement to Head Start to allow them to keep in place an existing water pipe on District property at the Phillips Avenue Elementary School. In 1994, the School District sold a portion of its land at Phillips Avenue Elementary School to L.I. Head Start for their use for pre-school education. The transfer was never formalized by the County Health Department and in order to receive a final operating permit for the new sanitary system at Phillips, the transfer must be recognized by the County.

Opportunity for Members of the Community to address the Board of Education (Related to Agenda topics only)

No further comments were made by members of the community.

#### APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

##### Approval of Minutes

-Regular Meeting – February 11, 2014

-Special Meeting – February 20, 2014

#### FINANCIAL

##### Month of January 2014

| <u>Fund</u>    | <u>Check Numbers</u> | <u>Amount</u>  |
|----------------|----------------------|----------------|
| General Fund   | 48041-48337          | \$3,034,437.35 |
| Federal Funds  | 10611-10626          | \$ 119,113.50  |
| Cafeteria      | 9971-9998            | \$ 43,594.51   |
| Extraclassroom | 5843-5850            | \$ 5,695.22    |
| Scholarship    | none                 |                |
| Capital        | 2591-2610            | \$ 956,457.30  |

#### 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>  |
|-----------------------|---|
| 10/24/13              | 216331  |
| 10/30/13              | 220605, 211881, 223371  |
| 11/07/13              | 216707  |
| 11/15/13              | 226183  |
| 11/25/13              | 217371  |
| 12/09/13              | 215278, 223396  |
| 12/12/13              | 215116, 216238, 217559, 217605, 217338,<br>216498, 214088, 213390, 217436 |
| 12/16/13              | 215453  |
| 12/19/13              | 215768, 213136, 215277, 216176, 216159,<br>214471, 212602, 214673         |
| 01/09/14              | 216344, 213897  |
| 01/15/14              | 220300, 220001, 221283, 220737, 221406,<br>221226, 221083, 221145, 224504 |
| 01/21/14              | 216651, 216331, 215792  |
| 01/23/14              | 226106, 222397, 223583, 216165  |
| 01/27/14              | 224142  |
| 01/29/14              | 220497  |

|          |                                |
|----------|--------------------------------|
| 01/30/14 | 222138, 224532, 226083, 223186 |
| 02/04/14 | 225360, 222662, 226194, 222252 |
| 02/06/14 | 225312, 225134, 226658         |
| 02/10/14 | 221114, 221316                 |
| 02/11/14 | 215160                         |
| 02/12/14 | 214058                         |
| 02/14/14 | 218285, 217243, 217697         |
| 02/26/14 | 219263                         |
| 03/03/14 | 220420                         |
| 03/04/14 | 225218, 220174                 |
| 03/06/14 | 220477                         |
| 03/07/14 | 221275, 220416                 |

C.P.S.E. MEETING STUDENT NUMBERS

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| 01/28/14 | 227068  |
| 02/12/14 | 228274, 228272, 228192, 228264, 229186            |
| 02/25/14 | 229114, 227072, 229018, 227276, 229114,<br>229180 |
| 03/05/14 | 227426, 228126, 229184, 229184                    |

**PAROCHIAL**

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| 01/27/14 | 225227                                     |
| 02/07/14 | 999990445, 999990087, 999990438, 999990427 |

**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 Susan Koukounas.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

**Old Business**  
(None)

**New Business**

**Recognition of Retirees**

1.) WHEREAS, Gail Green, School Bus Monitor, will retire on March 28, 2014, after completing 16 years of dedicated and exceptional service in her time in the Riverhead Central School District, and

WHEREAS, Gail Green has always been professional and has demonstrated concern for the well-being and safety of her students every day. She has maintained a positive attitude throughout the years, is friendly, compassionate, and considerate, and

WHEREAS, Gail Green has established and maintained professional and collaborative relationships with her coworkers, school personnel, and parents throughout her career, and

WHEREAS, Gail Green is looking forward to relocating to Virginia with her husband, James Green,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education that having accepted the resignation for retirement purposes of Gail Green, School Bus Monitor, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education takes great pleasure in recognizing Gail Green, School Bus Monitor and, herewith, expresses its sincere gratitude for the invaluable effort and work she has done for the Riverhead Central School District, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be spread upon the permanent minutes of the Board and that copies be sent to Gail Green to share with her family.

2.) WHEREAS, June Stevenson, Food Service Worker, will retire on April 11, 2014, after completing 9 years of dedicated service in her time in the Riverhead Central School District; and

WHEREAS, June Stevenson has always been friendly and provided "service with a smile" to the students and staff at Aquebogue school; and

WHEREAS, June Stevenson has consistently gone the extra step in her job, including leaping over the counter to perform the Heimlich maneuver on a choking student. She is always pleasant to be around and is greatly admired by her staff;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education, that having accepted the resignation for retirement purposes of June Stevenson, Food Service Worker, and



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education takes great pleasure in recognizing June Stevenson, Food Service Worker and, herewith, expresses its sincere gratitude for the invaluable effort and work she has done for the Riverhead Central School District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be spread upon the permanent minutes of the Board and that copies be sent to June Stevenson to share with her family.

Motion by Thomas Carson, second by Susan Koukounas.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

### **Third and Final Reading of Board Policies**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District hereby accepts the second reading of the following Board policies:

| <u>Policy Number</u> | <u>Policy Title</u>                  |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 5205                 | Co-Curricular Eligibility Policy     |
| 5405                 | Student Wellness                     |
| 5300, 5310.1         | Code of Conduct                      |
| 6700, 6700-R.1       | Purchasing and Purchasing Regulation |

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

### **Approval of Repair Reserve Fund Expenditure**

WHEREAS, on March 25, 2014, the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District held a duly advertised public hearing to examine the plans to expend \$456,000.00 from the repair reserve fund for the purpose of repairing the paint at Riverhead High School, repairing interior and exterior door exit devices at Riverhead High School, repairing the HVAC Roof Top temperature controllers at Riverhead High School, repairing the plumbing and hot water mixing valve at Riverhead High School, repairing boiler room valves at Riverhead Middle School, repairing boiler sections at Riverhead Middle School, repairing the gymnasium floor at Roanoke Avenue Elementary School, repairing condensate tank pumps and floats at Roanoke Avenue Elementary School, and repairing classroom flooring at Aquebogue Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education is desirous of seeing these repairs take place using funds as described herein; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District hereby authorizes an increase to the 2013-2014 budget, in budget line A1621-487-10-1001, in an amount not to exceed \$456,000.00, to be offset by the Reserve for Repair, pursuant to General Municipal Law Section 6-d; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District hereby authorizes the President of the Board of Education and the Superintendent to sign any necessary contracts with vendors and service providers to effectuate these repairs.

In a discussion that followed relating to Mrs. Lantz's request for further information on the cost effectiveness of refurbishing the valves versus purchasing new ones, it was agreed by the Board of Education to authorize the repairs as is with instruction to explore different alternatives to making repairs that are cheaper. Mrs. Cotten-DeGrasse stated that whatever savings are realized, the monies will go back into the fund.

Motion by Kimberly Ligon, second by Susan Koukounas.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

#### **Approval of Ballot Proposition to Authorize Purchase of School**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District hereby authorized the presentment to the voters, at the annual School Budget Vote and Election of Board Members on May 20, 2014, a proposition to read as follows:

**RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE RIVERHEAD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, IN THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, NEW YORK, AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. At the Annual District Meeting and Election of the qualified voters of Riverhead Central School District, in the County of Suffolk, New York (the "District"), to be held on May 20, 2014, a Bond Proposition in substantially the form as hereinafter set forth shall be submitted to the qualified voters of said District. Said Bond Proposition shall appear in the Notice of Annual District Meeting and Election to be held May 20, 2014, and the District Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to include such Bond Proposition in said Notice by inserting therein substantially the following paragraphs:

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that a Bond Proposition in substantially the following form shall be presented to the qualified voters of the District at such Annual District Meeting and Election:

#### **BOND PROPOSITION**

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District, in the County of Suffolk, New York (the "District"), is hereby authorized to purchase various school buses for use by the District, and to expend therefor, including preliminary costs and costs incidental thereto and to the financing thereof, an amount not to exceed the estimated total cost of \$3,988,000;

(b) that a tax is hereby voted in the aggregate amount of not to exceed \$3,988,000 to pay such cost, said tax to be levied and collected in installments in such years and in such amounts as shall be determined by said Board of Education; and

(c) that in anticipation of said tax, bonds of the District are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of not to exceed \$3,988,000 and a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on said bonds as the same shall become due and payable.

Section 2. Said Bond Proposition will appear on the ballot labels inserted in the voting machines used for voting on May 20, 2014, in substantially the foregoing form.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion by Susan Koukounas, second by Kimberly Ligon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

#### **Approval of Ballot Proposition to Grant an Easement to L.I. Head Start Development Services, Inc.**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following proposition to obtain the approval of the voters of the District for the grant of an easement to L.I. Head Start Development Services, Inc. be added to the legal notice for the Annual Meeting and Election of the District Scheduled to be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2014, to wit:

Shall the Board of Education be authorized to grant a water service easement over the lands of the certain real property located in the Town of Southampton comprised of approximately 1,732± square feet or .04± acres, and designated on the Tax Map of the County of Suffolk as part of 0900-140.00-02.00-022.000 and 0900-141.00-01.00-011.001 and as more fully described in a legal description on file in the Office of the District Clerk, to L.I. Head Start Development Services, Inc., which easement shall be granted on substantially the terms and conditions set forth in a contract of sale on file in the Office of the District Clerk.

Motion by Susan Koukounas, second by Christopher Dorr.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

#### **Call for Special Meeting of component Boards of Education**

WHEREAS, all component district Boards of Education are requested to meet on Wednesday, April 23, 2014 to vote on the Board of Cooperative Educational Services Administrative Budget for 2014-2015 and to elect Members of the Eastern Suffolk BOCES Board, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District will hold a special meeting for such purpose on April 23, 2014 at the District Administration Office, 700 Osborn Avenue, Riverhead, New York at 10:00 a.m.

Motion by Susan Koukounas, second by Amelia Lantz.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

#### **Approval of Contract – L.K. McLean Associates**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District hereby approves a contract with L.K. McLean Associates, PC, Consulting Engineers, for professional survey and mapping services in the amount of \$42,300 to be funded out of the October 2011 Construction Bond; and, further authorizes the President of the Board of Education to sign the contract.

Motion by Susan Koukounas, second by Christopher Dorr.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

#### **Approval of Field Trip**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District approves the field trip to the Medieval Times Tournament in Lyndhurst, New Jersey for all sixth grade students (approximately 390 students) to the performances on Tuesday, May 6, 2014 (1/2 students) and Wednesday, May 7, 2014 (1/2 students). The total cost to the District is not to exceed \$7,300.

Motion by Christopher Dorr, second by Kimberly Ligon.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

#### **Acceptance of Donation**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District accepts the donation of a Zoll AED from The AED Fundraising Committee of Riverhead Little League to the Riverhead Central School District for use by the softball teams.

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

## Opportunity for Superintendent

Ms. Carney made the following announcements:

-Many thanks for the donation of the AED and...speaking of AED's, a public *Thank You* to all the people who responded to a very serious, life threatening situation on Crazy Sports Night this past Friday evening. All first responders and staff members who assisted to do whatever was necessary to make sure the situation was handled properly will be honored at an upcoming Board meeting.

-The Crazy Sports Night event, hosted by the High School PTO Executive Council and the R.C.F.A., raised over \$5,000 of which \$4,000 is being donated to the Brendan House, a home for victims of traumatic brain injury.

-Over 36 people attended the Annual SCOPE Service Awards Dinner in Holbrook on March 24<sup>th</sup>. Award winners are:

|                             |                    |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| School Board Service Award  | - Kimberly Ligon   |
| Community Service Award     | - Molly O'Connor   |
| Administrator Service Award | - Debra Rodgers    |
| Teacher Service Award       | - Vanessa Williams |
| Support Staff Service Award | - Amala Cain       |

-Students at Riley Avenue Elementary School and art teacher, Melissa Haupt, worked with visiting artist, Clare Bennett, to create a 6' x 4' mosaic for the new library. About 600 students had a hand in creating this intricate mosaic of tile and stained glass. The unveiling of the mosaic was held this morning at the Riley Avenue Elementary Library and will be featured on News 12 Long Island tonight.

-Commendations to Pulaski's Literacy Coach, Amy Brennan, who attended the Teachers' College Reading and Writing Project Saturday Reunion on March 22. She attended a workshop presented by Maggie Beattie Roberts, Pulaski Street's staff developer and co-author of the "Units of Study in Argument, Information and Narrative Writing Middle School Series, Grades 6-8."

-The Riverhead Middle School held their Annual Roman Banquet on March 20<sup>th</sup>. The banquet featured a play, entitled "How Atlanta Got Her Groove Back" which was written by High School Seniors. *Thank You* to all who helped make this annual event such a huge success.

-The Varsity Bowling Team has been awarded the Outstanding Sportsmanship Award by Section XI.

-Congratulations to Brandon Tolliver who will be taking to the court for the SUNY-New Paltz Hawks. Brandon has been honored as an All-League player, an All-Conference player, and as a member of the Academic All-County Team. He plans to major in psychology at SUNY-New Paltz.

-There will be a Common Core Presentation on March 27<sup>th</sup> in the LGI Room at the High School. This is an opportunity for parents to ask questions about the implementation of the Common Core Learning Standards.

-This weekend marks the beginning of opening night of the Blue Masques production of The Wiz.

-The NJROTC will hold their Annual Auction and Raffle on April 5 from 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at the High School.

-There will be an informational hearing this Thursday at the Cornell Cooperative Extension building from 6:00-8:00 p.m. about improvements that will be incurring on Main Street and Roanoke Avenue on up to Route 58.

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

|                     |                                   |                          |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Mill Neck           | Interpreting Services             | Not to exceed \$1,000.00 |
| Interpreter Service |                                   |                          |
| Lawrence Farrell    | Professional Development          | \$ 4,800.00              |
| Laura Grable        | Interpreting for LOTE/FLACS exams | Not to exceed \$3,750.00 |
| Teacher's College   | Professional Development          | Not to exceed \$8,000.00 |
| Paulette Bates      | Sign Language Interpreter         | \$50/hour                |
| Town of Riverhead   | Rental Contract for Roanoke Ave   | No fee                   |
|                     | School Field Day at Stotzky Park  |                          |
| Cornell             | Memorandum of Understanding for   |                          |
| Cooperative         | Yaphank Farm for Roanoke Avenue   | No fee                   |
| Extension           | School                            |                          |

#### **Opportunity for Board Members**

(No comments.)

#### **Opportunity for R.C.F.A.**

(No comments.)

#### **Opportunity for Members of the Community**

-A Riley Avenue parent and committee chair for the 4<sup>th</sup> grade activities and field trip committee have been planning a field trip since February to the Fire Island lighthouse as well as a charter fishing trip at Cap Tree. They are waiting for approval so they can make the necessary reservations, busing, etc. and want to know what steps need to be taken. They have submitted the necessary Field Trip Request Form but understand there is some delay in processing. (Ms. Carney offered to look into the matter.)

-The parent of a 4<sup>th</sup> grader at Riley Avenue Elementary School inquired if the Board of Education had approved a response to her concerns and requested a meeting with the Board of Education, Superintendent of Schools, and Mr. David Enos, Principal at the Riley Avenue Elementary School. The parent handed copies of her letter to the District Clerk and Mrs. Cotten-DeGrasse stated that they would get back with a date and time to meet.

-Has the Board come up with an plan for redistricting? (Per Mrs. Cotten-DeGrasse: No.) Has there been any discussion on redistricting? (Per Mrs. Cotten-DeGrasse: Yes.)

-It is hoped that this Board of Education will do what has to be done on redistricting as it is long overdue.

-It is the understanding of many parents in the community that the valedictorian intends to deliver his valedictorian speech at graduation in another language. She implored the Board of Education to not allow him to interject another language besides English into his speech as this is America and we speak English. (Mrs. Cotten-DeGrasse referred to a valedictorian who gave his entire valedictorian speech at Princeton in Latin and gave credit to our Latin teacher at the time; therefore, it is not without precedent.)

(Ms. Carney stated that it was her understanding that he has invited his grandparents to this country to witness his incredible accomplishment. In his speech, he plans to deliver a message in his native language as a personal message to his grandparents and not the overall speech. The speech would have to be approved by his advisor and administration.)

-If the speech is to be delivered in another language, then please provide a translator.

-As a school district, we pride ourselves on our diversity and embracing all cultures and if this young man feels the need to address his family and audience in his native tongue, she would hope that he would not be curtailed in doing so and that the community would respect and embrace that.

-In the sense of Title I schools and the current issue of transportation of children being sent to the Riley Avenue or Phillips Avenue Elementary Schools, it appears that by having Title I schools, we have accomplished a certain degree of segregation in our student population in the four elementary schools; and, it could be that under Title I assessments of practices or balances, those funds could be jeopardized. As the Board takes up the issue of District lines, please consider this.

### **Adjournment**

Motion by Amelia Lantz, second by Susan Koukounas.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara O'Kula

District Clerk

MINUTES OF: March 25, 2014

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

**Professional Personnel:**

**Name:**

**Title:**

**Date:**

**Salary Advancement:**

Kellyann Parlato

Foreign Language Teacher

2/1/14

**Appointments:**

**Leave Replacement:**

Jamie McCarrick

Special Education Teacher - High School  
*(Replacing Victoria Perrone)*

3/17/14-5/2/14

**Extensions of Leave Replacements:**

Jennifer Boese

Guidance Counselor - High School  
*(Replacing Anastasia Cobis)*

From: 2/24/14-4/4/14  
To: 2/24/14-6/13/14

Kelly Dillon

Elementary Teacher - Roanoke  
*(Replacing Kelly Cregan)*

From: 11/18/13-3/14/14  
To: 11/18/13-4/22/14

Laura LeGrady

Reading Teacher - Riley  
*(Replacing Tara Cunningham)*

From: 2/10/14-3/28/14  
To: 2/10/14-4/25/14

**Substitute Teachers:**

Robert Barker

Substitute Teacher

2013-2014 school year

Samantha Mallahy

Substitute Teacher

2013-2014 school year

**Unpaid FMLA:**

Anastasia Cobis

Guidance Counselor - High School

4/21/14-6/13/14

**RCFA Sick Bank:**

Kelly Cregan

Elementary Teacher

3/25/14-4/22/14

Antonio Lawrence

Physical Education Teacher

3/17/14-5/21/14



MINUTES OF: March 25, 2014

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

**Civil Service Personnel:**

**Name:**

**Title:**

**Date:**

**Appointment:**

**Substitute Custodial Worker I:**

|                |                               |                       |
|----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Brian Beaulieu | Substitute Custodial Worker I | 2013-2014 school year |
|----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|

**Workers' Compensation Leave of Absence:**

|                 |                        |                 |
|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Suzanne Norbury | Special Education Aide | 3/13/14-3/26/14 |
| Richard Pinney  | Custodial Worker I     | 3/5/14-3/7/14   |

**Unpaid Leaves of Absence:**

|                 |                     |                           |
|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Ellen Rausch    | Senior Clerk Typist | 4/7/14<br>6/12/14-6/16/14 |
| Stephen Santoro | School Bus Driver   | 3/17/14-3/21/14           |
| Julie Snow      | School Bus Driver   | 3/17/14-3/18/14           |

**Retirement/Resignation:**

|                |                                 |         |
|----------------|---------------------------------|---------|
| June Stevenson | Food Service Worker - Part Time | 4/11/14 |
|----------------|---------------------------------|---------|

**Resignation:**

|            |                            |         |
|------------|----------------------------|---------|
| Amy Gosker | School Monitor - Part Time | 3/24/14 |
|------------|----------------------------|---------|