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MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting – December 13, 2011
High School Cafeteria

NOT BOARD APPROVED

PRESENT: President, Mrs. Ann Cotten-DeGrasse; Vice President, Mr. Gregory Meyer; Mr. William Hsiang; Mrs. Amelia Lantz; and, Mrs. Kimberly Ligon.

LATE: Mr. Jeffrey Falisi.

ABSENT: Mr. Timothy Griffing.

ALSO PRESENT: Ms. Nancy Carney, Dr. Lois Etzel, Mr. Sam Schneider, and Mr. Joseph Ogeka, Jr.

Board President, Mrs. Cotten-DeGrasse, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Call to Order

A motion was made by Mr. Meyer, seconded by Mrs. Ligon, to recess to executive session to discuss personnel and collective negotiations.

Recess to
Executive Session

Yes 5 No 0
Motion Carried.

The Board of Education recessed to executive session at 5:31 p.m.

Mr. Falisi arrived at 5:40 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Hsiang, seconded by Mrs. Lantz, to return to open session.

Return to
Open Session

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

The Board of Education returned to open session at 7:07 p.m.

A brief recess followed.

The meeting resumed at 7:15 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of Allegiance

There were about 30 other people in attendance.

ALSO PRESENT: Mrs. Barbara O’Kula.

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A motion was made by Mr. Hsiang, seconded by Mrs. Ligon, to adopt the published agenda.

Adoption of Published
Agenda
-Approved

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

The Board of Education and Central Administration presented Jesse Meehan and Autumn Montgomery with certificates for having completed the 1,000 Book Program at the Riverhead Free Library. The program was provided by MESTRACT and certified by the teachers of the R.C.F.A. Ms. Martha Kennelly, Director at the Mid East Suffolk Teacher Center (MESTRACT) gave each participant a book bought by teachers of the R.C.F.A. to start their own personal library. MESTRACT is a consortium of school districts that band together to provide staff development and opportunities for children such as these to make sure that students enter school with strong vocabularies and a love for reading.

*Recognition of
Student Achievements*

There were no comments from the community related to Agenda topics only.

Community Comments

A motion was made by Ms. Hsiang, seconded by Mr. Meyer, to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Minutes

-Approval of Minutes

Regular Meeting – November 29, 2011
Special Meeting – December 1, 2011

Financial

-Financial

Month of October 2011

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Check Numbers</u>	<u>Amount</u>
General Fund	39809-40115	\$2,844,227.62
Federal Funds	10002-10024	97,733.61
Cafeteria	9325-9349	64,454.14
Extraclassroom	5342-5356	17,462.81
Capital Fund	None	

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Committee on Special Education

-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>
10/19/11	217555, 210200, 212069
10/25/11	224270, 219292, 224052, 222164, 223606, 221083, 222615
10/26/11	218143
11/14/11	221334, 221334
11/29/11	216059, 216130, 215619
09/19/11	999990076, 999990093, 999990091, 999990098

<u>C.P.S.E. MEETING</u>	<u>STUDENT NUMBERS</u>
11/09/11	225204, 226158, 225410, 225248, 225418, 225379, 226207

Personnel

-Personnel
-All Approved

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:

(AS PER THE ATTACHED SHEETS)

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:

(AS PER THE ATTACHED SHEETS)

Mrs. Lantz noted that there are 52 bus drivers on the Civil Service Personnel Recommendations....how many school bus drivers do we actually have? (Per Mr. Ogeka: 85).

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Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Mrs. Lantz, seconded by Mr. Meyer, to approve the following resolution:

First Reading of
Board Policies
-Series 0000-1400
-Approved

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District accepts the first reading of Board Policies 0000-1400.

Mrs. Cotten-DeGrasse stated that this is the first reading of just a third of all the policies being reviewed which will require three readings and will eventually be on the District's website for access.

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Meyer, seconded by Mr. Falisi, to approve the following resolution:

Call for Special
District Meeting
-April 3, 2012
-Approved

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District establishes April 3, 2012 as the special meeting date to vote on the contract for library services between the Riverhead Central School District and the Riverhead Free Library and the Baiting Hollow Free Library, and be it further

RESOLVED, that such meeting shall be held at the Riverhead Free Library, 330 Court Street, Riverhead, New York, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., and be it further

RESOLVED, that voter registration will be held on Monday, March 26, 2012 between the hours of 10:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the District Administration Office, 700 Osborn Avenue, Riverhead, New York, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the District Clerk and the School District Attorney prepare the legal notices and that the costs of such special meeting shall be reimbursed by such libraries.

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

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A motion was made by Mr. Hsiang, seconded by Mrs. Lantz, to approve the following resolution:

Bettina Court
Resolution
-Approved

RESOLVED, that the application of residents residing on Bettina Court as set forth in correspondence dated November 16, 2011, seeking the consent of the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District to alter the school district boundary line to permit such residents to attend the Hampton Bays Union Free School District is hereby denied in accordance with Education Law Section 1507.

Mrs. Cotten-DeGrasse stated that such a request would require the consent of all the districts to be affected.

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Meyer, seconded by Mr. Falisi, to approve the following resolution:

Overnight Field
Trip
-Approved

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District approves the field trip request of the Riverhead Varsity and JV Softball Teams (approximately 30 students) to participate inside a dome environment as a team at The Dome/The Adirondack Sports Complex in Queensbury, New York on March 16-18, 2012 at a total cost to the District not to exceed \$2,000 for transportation (busing/bus drivers), lodging, and substitutes.

Mrs. Cotten-DeGrasse commented that the Board of Education has been very generous in the past to allow students to take advantage of field trips. While the monies are appropriated for in the current budget, the District may not be able to continue to do this as it faces the challenges of the 2% property tax cap for 2012-2013.

Mr. Falisi stated that this trip is being funded by the Booster Club and thanked them for their support.

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

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A motion was made by Mr. Meyer, seconded by Mr. Hsiang, to approve the following resolution:

Overnight Field Trip
-Approved

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District approves the field trip request of the Middle School Advisor/8th Grade Band for one student and one chaperone to participate in the 31st Annual NYSBDA (New York State Band Director's Association) Symposium at the Doubletree Hotel Syracuse and Holiday Inn Carrier Circle in Syracuse, New York on March 1-3, 2012 at a cost to the District not to exceed \$1,800 for transportation (airfare and commute to/from airport), food, lodging, participation fees, and substitutes.

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Meyer, seconded by Mrs. Ligon, to approve the following resolution:

Acceptance of Donation
-Approved

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District gratefully accepts the donation of 50 tickets to the Long Island Aquarium from The Wedding Salon of New York, New York, to be used by students of the Riverhead Central School District.

Mr. Meyer stated that, as always, the District says "Thank You" for all donations.

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

The Superintendent, Ms. Carney, stated that school districts are facing new legislation – the 2% tax cap – which is really a tax levy limitation. The presentation tonight explains what the new state mandate is, some misconceptions out there, and what the impact upon the Riverhead Central School District will be. The tax levy is the figure that must be raised from the property taxes to cover expenses of the District after factoring in all other sources of revenue. The tax levy is divided proportionately among all property owners in all three townships (Riverhead, Southampton and Brookhaven) that make up the Riverhead Central School District and is based on the assessed value of their property.

Opportunity for Superintendent
-Tax Levy Limitation (2% Tax Cap)
Presentation

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School districts wishing to spend an amount that generates a tax levy increase at or above the 2% cap, plus exemptions (*i.e.*, capital costs and some pension costs), will be required to secure a passage rate of 60% of those voting. If we come in at a 2% tax increase or less, plus exemptions, the budget must pass by 50% + 1. If the budget fails, it can be resubmitted to voters on June 21, 2012; however, that budget can increase the tax levy by no more than 2% plus exemptions. If the second vote fails, the District will then operate on a budget with a 0% levy increase. The impact on the District if the budget is "rolled over" would be an estimated budget-to-budget increase equal to \$5,015,000 with an estimated tax levy increase of 5.78%. Thus, in order to be compliant with the tax cap law, the spending increase would have to be reduced by an estimated amount of \$3,100,000.

Existing contractually-bound increases, health insurance costs, and increasing unfunded mandates for testing and evaluation systems drive up costs. The Race To The Top initiative is an example of another unfunded mandate that requires school districts to hire consultants to grade state mandated tests, administer more tests more often, and provide additional training for administrators, principals and teachers along with the implementation of a new core curriculum. Cuts equal to these increases would need to be made to keep the tax levy in check.

The public needs to be aware that the impact of the tax cap on our *needs versus allowable limits* will create a multiplier effect going forward. Each additional year will necessitate more budgetary cuts to keep within the 2% tax cap. School districts will be eliminating things from their budgets and be challenged with how to sustain and maintain what is most important and consider the implications on public education. We need conversation with our legislators to ask them to be involved in getting mandate relief as unfunded mandates contribute to a significant portion of school budgets.

Currently, meetings are being held with administrators and coordinators to determine the cost and scope of next year's programs. Public budget presentations will be held at Board meetings during February and March 2012...the proposed budget will be adopted at the April 17, 2012 Board meeting... and the School Budget Vote and Election of Board Members will be held May 15, 2012.

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The presentation is made part of the Supplemental File of the Minutes.

Ms. Carney made the following announcements on events taking place within our schools:

-District News

- the Riverhead High School NJROTC participated in the Annual Review and Inspection on December 9th and did a great job!
- Congratulations to Riverhead High School Cadet Brian Weinhardt who has been awarded a \$180,000 Navy scholarship to the college of his choice He is the second officer in the Class of 2012 in addition to NJROTC Cadet Lieutenant Amanda Gallo to be notified as a recipient of a \$180,000 Navy scholarship this month.
- The Riverhead High School NJROTC was also honored as recipient of the *Spirit of Riverhead* Award by the Riverhead Chamber of Commerce at their annual awards celebration on Friday, December 9th at the Sea Star Ballroom at the Hyatt Place Hotel on East Main Street.
- The Blue Masques presented the musical, "Working", this past weekend. Accolades to Sean O'Hara, Director of Fine Arts, and all who participated in one of the best performances ever! We look forward to their presentation of *West Side Story* in the spring of 2012.
- Congratulations to Jalyn Brown who has received a full basketball scholarship to C.W. Post.
- Please try to see all the holiday concerts that are taking place that showcase the talents of our students.
- The Riverhead High School Chamber Choir will perform at the First Baptist Church on December 18th @ 6:00 p.m.
- Happy Holidays to All!

Mrs. Lantz referred to an article that appeared in SCOPE's Education *Forum*, entitled "Teachers are Parents too!" that speaks to the power of parents and their influence about alcohol. A free seminar is being offered for parents and she inquired as to what the District does in this subject. (Mrs. Cotton-DeGrasse stated that, to the best of her knowledge, the District participates in the S.A.D.D. program but would look into it further.)

Opportunity for
Board Members

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Mrs. Cotton-DeGrasse thanked Riverhead SEPTA for the informative presentation, *The Bullyfrog Program*, on December 7th at the Riverhead Middle School; and, congratulated the NJROTC for their outstanding leadership and achievements.

Mr. Meyer urged the community to go to the District website: riverhead.net, and check out the winter concerts taking place, as well as, the winter sports that are kicking off. There will also be an update on the progress of the bond at the January 10th Board meeting.

Mrs. Barosa, President of the R.C.F.A., just got the news that a three-point shot was made at the buzzer by the boys' varsity basketball team to win the game against Sachem East 59-58. She extended best wishes to all for a healthy and happy holiday season.

Opportunity for
R.C.F.A.

Comments from the community are:

Community Comments

- invitation on behalf of the First Baptist Church to their Annual Gifted Community Concert this coming Sunday
- one of our students, Kristin Peragine, a High School Senior, will be receiving a Community Service Award at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast on February 16th.
- a graduate of Riverhead's Class of 2005 made an earnest request that the Board maintain the foreign language and visual arts programs in the 2012-2013 budget that are so critical to a student's education and supports applications to colleges.
- What are the RTTT mandates? (Ms. Carney explained that the federal Race to the Top program contains requirements from the State Education Department that are unfunded. They include specific training, the hiring of outside consultants to grade state-mandated tests, and a data system to track student progress. It is difficult to put real numbers on the associated costs since the program just started this year. A new evaluation system for teachers and principals also needs to be purchased and implemented to include training through BOCES and professional development. There are also new common core standards that will address what is important in the classroom and are ones that we embrace. Our philosophy is to keep the joy of learning alive in the classroom.)

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- Are there any waiver options on the RTTT initiative? (Per Mrs. Cotten-DeGrasse: No, the process will cost us more than what we get out of if. A guesstimate would be \$40,000 per year.)
- comment that our Music Department is phenonemal and the foreign language department is very valuable...their importance cannot be stressed enough.

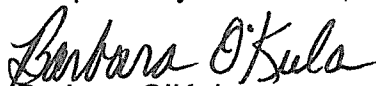
A motion was made by Mr. Falisi, seconded by Mr. Meyer, to adjourn the meeting.

Adjournment

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara O'Kula
District Clerk

NOT BOARD APPROVED

Personnel

Professional Personnel Recommendations:

Name:	Title	Date
<u>Appointments:</u>		
Jennifer Simoes	Home Instructor	11/29/2011-6/30/2012
David Cholden	Substitute Teacher	2011-2012
Georgia Gabrielsen	Substitute Teacher	2011-2012
Kyle Stephenson	Substitute Teaching Assistant	2011-2012

10-11 Title II A Grant

Maria Dounelis	Curriculum Writing Physical Education	1/3/12-6/22/12
Steve Gevinski	Curriculum Writing Physical Education	1/3/12-6/22/12
Scott Hackal	Curriculum Writing Physical Education	1/3/12-6/22/12
Leif Shay	Curriculum Writing Physical Education	1/3/12-6/22/12
Emily Puccio	Collegial Circles - <i>Read Aloud for Secondary Teachers</i>	January-February 2012

Extension of Appointment

Rebecca Winkel	Substitute Teacher Leave Replacement <i>(Samantha Heidtmann Un-paid Child Care Leave)</i>	2/1/12-6/30/12
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Civil Service Personnel Recommendations:

Name:	Title	Date
Carol Cardone	Clerical Substitute	12/14/11-6/30/12
Jessica Talmage	Student Worker Level I	2011-2012 School Year

Change in Hours:

Adele Abrahamsen	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Robert Aginsky	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Jeanne Bubka	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Raymond Butler	School Bus Driver	12/01/11-6/30/12
Sharon Butts	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Theresa Cahill	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Barry Carr	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Vincent Ciolino	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Joseph D' Angeli	School Bus Driver	12/01/11-6/30/12
Deanna Davis	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Michelle Diming	School Bus Driver	12/01/11-6/30/12
Margaret Dutton	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
William Fitzpatrick	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Keith Fowley	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Richard Gallo	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Ivelisse Gonzalez	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Bruce Grutschow	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Susan Harrison	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Stephen Jeski	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Karen Kelly	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Kathy Knight	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Karen Lucadamo	School Bus Driver	12/01/11-6/30/12

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Civil Service Personnel Recommendations (Continued):

Change in Hours (Continued):

John Lupfer	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Maureen Madigan	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Pamela Moore	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Camal Ouyahia	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Louis Passantino	School Bus Driver	12/01/11-6/30/12
Rosalie Petty	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Walter Pytell	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Alice Scorzelli	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Michael Slovensky	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Julie Snow	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Patrice Stokley	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
George Sutton	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Latasha Sutton	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Robert Szczepanik	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Karen Turbush	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Kelly Turbush	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Suzanne Velys	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Paula Warner	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
John Weber	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Cassandra Weston	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Laurie Wulforst	School Bus Driver	12/19/11-6/30/12
Edna Atkins	School Bus Monitor	12/19/11-6/30/12
Francis Cobb	School Bus Monitor	12/19/11-6/30/12
Melisa Dutton	School Bus Monitor	12/19/11-6/30/12
Patricia Hamill	School Bus Monitor	12/19/11-6/30/12
Latisha Johnson	School Bus Monitor	12/19/11-6/30/12
Lynn Ligon	School Bus Monitor	12/19/11-6/30/12
Uniesha Scott	School Bus Monitor	12/19/11-6/30/12
Barbara Weston	School Bus Monitor	12/19/11-6/30/12
Dorothea Widmann	School Bus Monitor	12/19/11-6/30/12

Volunteer

Lawrence Gerosa	Bible Club Volunteer	2011-12 School Year
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Extension of Un-paid Leave of Absence

Kathleen Timpona	Special Education Aide	From: 10/19/11-1/31/12 To: 2/1/12-6/30/12
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