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MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting – November 9, 2010
Riverhead High School Library

NOT BOARD APPROVED

PRESENT: Vice President, Mr. Gregory M. Meyer; Mrs. Kathleen V. Berezny; Ms. Angela M. DeVito; and, Mrs. Amelia Lantz.

ABSENT: President, Mrs. Ann Cotten-DeGrasse.

LATE: Messrs. Jeffrey Falisi and Timothy Griffing.

ALSO PRESENT: Ms. Nancy Carney, Mr. Joseph Ogeka, Jr., Mr. Michael Ivanoff; and, Dr. Lois Etzel.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Meyer at 5:48 p.m.

Call to Order

A motion was made by Ms. DeVito, seconded by Mrs. Lantz, to recess to executive session to discuss personnel.

Recess to
Executive Session

Yes 4 No 0
Motion Carried.

The Board of Education recessed to executive session at 5:49 p.m.

Mr. Falisi arrived at 6:03 p.m.

Mr. Griffing arrived at 6:05 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Griffing, seconded by Mr. Meyer, to return to open session.

Return to
Open Session

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

The Board of Education returned to open session at 7:10 p.m.

A brief recess followed.

The meeting resumed at 7:16 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of Allegiance

There were about 25 other people in attendance.

ALSO PRESENT: Mrs. Barbara O’Kula.

Mr. Meyer stated that Mrs. Cotten-DeGrasse was unable to attend tonight’s meeting due to family obligations out of state.

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A motion was made by Mr. Griffing, seconded by Mr. Falisi, to adopt the published agenda.

Adoption of Published
Agenda

A motion was then made by Ms. DeVito to introduce the following proposal for consideration by the Board this evening:

-Add: Spending Cap
4%
-Motion Failed

WHEREAS, the extraordinary downturn in the economic well-being of our community cannot be ignored, and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility and obligation of the Riverhead Central School District Board of Education to recommend an annual operating budget that reflects a balance between the need to provide educational opportunities and programs for all students with the requirement to consider the true ability of the community to support such with local property tax levies, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Riverhead Central School District Board of Education continues its past fiscal practice and imposes a spending cap on the budget to budget expenditure increases for the fiscal year 2011-2012, and, be it further

RESOLVED, that such spending cap be no more than 4.0% or the regional Consumer Price Index of January 2011, whichever is the lesser percentage.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Griffing.

In a discussion that followed, Mr. Griffing expressed concern as to any projection of what the Consumer Price Index will be at that time and that more dialogue was needed. Mrs. Berezny felt that the matter also needed to be discussed further as "food for thought" and perhaps be brought forth at another Board meeting.

Yes 1
Ms. DeVito

No 5
Mrs. Berezny
Mr. Falisi
Mr. Griffing
Mrs. Lantz
Mr. Meyer

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Motion Failed.

A motion was made by Ms. DeVito to also introduce the following proposal for the Board's consideration this evening:

-Add: Rescind
Professional Contract
-Motion Failed

WHEREAS, on September 28, 2010, the Riverhead Central School District Board of Education granted the Superintendent of Schools the authority to sign contracts for professional services not to exceed \$100,000, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education may have acted in haste and did not fully appreciate their fiduciary responsibility for all aspects of the 2010-2011 budget passed by the taxpayers of this school district, be it

RESOLVED, that Item D, page 6 of the September 28, 2010 Board of Education general business meeting be rescinded to allow for full and open discussion of its intent and consequences, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the professional contract signed on November 4, 2010 between Joseph Singleton and the Riverhead Central School District be voided.

The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lantz.

In a discussion that followed, it was the consensus of the Board of Education that this proposal needed further discussion as well.

Yes 1
Ms. DeVito

No 5
Mrs. Berezny
Mr. Falisi
Mr. Griffing
Mrs. Lantz
Mr. Meyer

Motion Failed.

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A motion was made by Mrs. Berezny, seconded by Mr. Griffing, to adopt the agenda as published.

Adoption of Published Agenda
-Approved

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

Comments from the community related to agenda topics only are:

Community Comments

-Where did the money come from to increase the Driver Education code? (Per Mr. Ivanoff, the course will be paid for by the students through the Adult Continuing Community Education (AC/CE) Program and the monies put in as revenue. The program is increased on a tuition basis and there is no cost to the district or impact upon the taxpayer.)

-Why authorize the Superintendent to transfer funds between line item accounts at a threshold increased to \$25,000 when the original budget transfer policy had a lower cap of \$2,000? (As stated by Mr. Ivanoff, in an effort to operate the district in an efficient manner, it is easier to have the ability to move monies to the proper codes as they occur rather than wait for Board meetings that take place every two weeks and sometimes once a month. The Board will be made aware of the transfers at the next scheduled Board meeting.)

-objection by a former Board member who sat on the Audit Committee to the revised Budget Transfer policy under consideration. In her opinion, the \$25,000 is too high a figure and could cause problems in the future. She suggested that the Board take a more serious look into the amount being proposed.

A motion was made by Mrs. Berezny, seconded by Mr. Griffing, to approve the following:

CONSENT AGENDA
-Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes

Worksession – September 14, 2010
Regular Meeting – September 28, 2010
Special Meeting – October 7, 2010
Worksession – October 12, 2010

Budget Transfer

-Budget Transfer

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

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To Code:	From Code:	Amount
2850-421-00-2110	1620-180-99-2851	\$12,000.00

Personnel

-Personnel

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:

-Professional Personnel Recommendations

(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:

-Civil Service Personnel Recommendations
-All Approved

(AS PER THE ATTACHED SHEETS)

Yes 7 No 0
Motion Carried.

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

Second Reading of Board Policy
-#6150, Budget Transfers
-Approved

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District accepts the second reading of revised Board Policy #6150 – *Budget Transfers*.

Mrs. Berezny stated that she had spoken with the external auditor and now feels comfortable with the \$25,000 transfer limit as it is compliant with other school districts.

Yes 5
Mrs. Berezny
Mr. Falisi
Mr. Griffing
Mrs. Lantz
Mr. Meyer

No 1
Ms. DeVito

Motion Carried.

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

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District approves the third and final reading of revised Board Policy #1222 – *Relations with Booster Organizations*.

Third and Final Reading
Of Board Policy
-#1222, Relations with
Booster Organizations
-Approved

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

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

RESOLVED, that the Board of the Education of the Riverhead Central School District approves the Transportation Contract between the Riverhead Central School District and Eastern Suffolk BOCES for the purpose of providing transportation for special education children of said district for the period of service to begin September 1, 2010 and end June 30, 2011 at a total anticipated annual cost of \$175,670.00; and, authorizes the President of the Board of Education to sign such contract.

Regional Transportation
Program
-Approved

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

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

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District increases the Driver's Education Budget Code 2310-421-00-000 and the General Fund Budget by \$37,440.00.

Approval to Increase
Drivers Education Code
-Approved

Ms. DeVito requested an explanation as to why the need for this change if the Driver Education program is self-sustained? (Mr. Ivanoff stated that the tuition is paid up-front as the district needs to pay the company conducting the program. Registration fees are put through the General Fund and checks are made payable to the Riverhead Central School District which is part of the AC/CE program.)

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

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A motion was made by Mr. Griffing, seconded by Mrs. Berezny, to approve the following resolutions:

Extension of Bids
-Approved

WHEREAS, the District solicited bids in 2009 for School Bus Parts, Bid No. RH09-039; and

WHEREAS, the bid of Bus Parts Warehouse, 1 Thermold Drive, PO Box 441, Manlius, NY 13104 was the lowest bid received meeting the bid specifications; and

WHEREAS, the District accepted the bid of Bus Parts Warehouse and entered into an agreement that is renewable under the same terms and conditions through November 1, 2011; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the bid, School Bus Parts, Bid No. RH09-039; is extended until November 1, 2011.

WHEREAS, the District solicited bids in 2008 for Printing of Guidance Booklets Bid No. RH08-040; and

WHEREAS, the bid of Sav-On Printing, 598 Route 25A, Mt. Sinai, NY 11766 was the lowest bid received meeting the bid specifications; and

WHEREAS, the District accepted the bid of Sav-On Printing and entered into an agreement that is renewable under the same terms and conditions through November 18, 2011; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the bid, Printing of Guidance Booklets Bid No. RH08-040 is extended until November 18, 2011.

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

Ms. Carney introduced Ms. Karen Ball, School Lunch Manager, who proceeded to give a Power Point presentation on the *Child Nutrition Program*. In 2009-2010, the district served almost 409,000 lunches and over 122,000 breakfasts. Thus far, over 2,500 meal applications have been tabulated, reviewed, and entered into computerized cash registers for free and reduced price meals. At this time, 47% of our students are on free or reduced meals (Note: In 2008, we were at 38%). The annual

Opportunity for
Superintendent
-*Child Nutrition
Presentation*
-Karen Ball, School
Lunch Manager

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budget for the Child Nutrition Program is approximately \$1.75 million, and, all food, equipment, materials and supplies are put out for bid to receive the best pricing possible. To our credit, Riverhead Central School District is the only school district on Long Island to receive the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Grant in 2008, and the only district to have the grant for two consecutive years. While both the federal and state governments give us money and food to meet dietary guidelines, we do not receive enough money to cover our expenses and the food isn't necessarily what students like or what we would like to serve (last year the Child Nutrition Program lost over \$31,000). A computerized system has been installed to improve the program and accurately determine the number and eligibility status of meals being consumed each day and to allow for online payments; and, a number of choices for meals have been introduced each day in the elementary schools (*i.e.*, wraps, grilled chicken salads, chef's salads, and assorted sandwiches). In 2009, Riverhead received the Healthier Generation Bronze Award for meeting the stringent criteria set by the Clinton Foundation and the American Heart Association. Riverhead also received the New York State Best Practices Award in 2009 for excellence in promoting healthy choices/nutrition education.

Ms. Karen Mickaliger, School Nurse, spoke on the protocol and procedures to address allergies to ensure the safety of students. Any health or life-threatening concerns are dealt with and an emergency plan of action is established, starting with the physician. While there are no guarantees to have a peanut product free school, the schools do their vigilance to make individual assessments for any child who has an allergic reaction to certain food products.

A Wellness Committee meets several times throughout the school year and information can be found on the district website: www.riverhead.net. The district welcomes anyone with ideas and encourages people to join as we can only learn from others' input.

Ms. Carney noted that the district is very committed to having working cafeterias in all buildings to provide fresh and healthy foods to our students in partnership with local farmers and businesses.

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Ms. Carney announced that the East End Gang Awareness Committee will be giving a presentation on November 16th in the High School auditorium from 7:00-9:00 p.m. The presentation will provide essential information for adults on building a safe community, violence prevention, and investing in our youth.

Mrs. Lantz reported on the CPR Committee meeting held on October 19th at the Middle School. There has been little, if no change in the building for at least 25 years and it is amazing at what the building lacks. A list of priority projects based on *needs* and not *wants* is being drafted. The next meeting is scheduled for November 17th at 6:30 p.m. at the Pulaski Street School.

Opportunity for Board
Members
-Committee Report, etc.

Ms. DeVito made reference to the Riverhead Business Advisory Committee and their efforts to create an Essential Skills Academy for the High School. The Committee would like to do a presentation at the December 14th Board meeting. (Mr. Meyer welcomed it.)

Mrs. Berezny commented on the following:

- upcoming Gang Awareness presentation, *Nobody Wants Your Child*, at the High School on November 16 with motivational speaker, Milton Creagh
- the Key Club recently held their *Be Homeless Night* at the High School Commons Area. Proceeds from this fundraiser go to Maureen 's Haven Homeless Outreach Program.
- BENGO at the Middle School raised funds for the *Alice in Wonderland* production by the Riverhead Middle School Masques in January.
- on October 22nd, she and Key Club Advisor, Louise Wilkinson, took part in the Honor Flight Network that is a non-profit organization created solely to fly veterans to visit the memorials dedicated to honor their sacrifices. These heroes are transported to Washington, D.C. to visit and reflect at the National WWII Memorial in Washington, D.C. The veterans of this war represent a generation whose time is running out. Top priority is given to senior veterans, WWII survivors and other veterans who may be terminally ill. It is a way of paying a small tribute to those who gave us so much and provide them with a memorable, safe and rewarding Tour of Honor.

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You can visit www.Honor Flight.org for more information on the programs and the tour schedules they offer. The Key Club would like to undertake an initiative where the community may donate or raise money to help and honor our nations' veterans.

There were no comments made on part of the R.C.F.A.

Opportunity for R.C.F.A.

Additional comments from the community included:

Community Comments

-A resident of Flanders recently attended a civic meeting where it was announced that a family services, non-profit organization is buying land from Southampton Town in the Enterprise Zone. They propose to put their facility on the property adjacent to the Phillips Avenue School. Is the Board aware that a drug program center will be so close to one of our schools? (Mr. Meyer stated that the Board has not heard about this and would appreciate learning more.)

-Why was the hiring of Joseph Singleton not done by a separate resolution and why no vote in public? (Mr. Meyer stated that the Board does not discuss personnel issues in public. However, he stated that the hiring brings expertise in certain areas and that Mr. Singleton will help with fiduciary items.)

-What is the justification for the resolution authorizing the Superintendent to sign contracts for professional services (as approved on September 28, 2010) since the public will now have no knowledge of who was hired and why until after the fact? (Mr. Ivanoff stated that it includes all contracts so that the process can be expedited and streamlined.)

-Did the Audit committee discuss the revised budget policy under review? (Per Ms. Carney: Yes).

-Suggestion that if the resolution delegating authority to the Superintendent to sign contracts for professional services not to exceed \$100,000 stays on the books, then the minutes (after the fact) should show what was approved or what has been transferred in the budget.

-The Key Club Advisor spoke about her recent Honor Flight trip to Washington, D.C. The Honor Flight program assigns people to assist WWII veterans who are now elderly and have yet to see the WWII memorial. The Key Club is anxious to start fundraisers to give baskets of food to those in need and to support a flight to escort the veterans and celebrate these individuals who are responsible for the freedoms we enjoy today.

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A motion was made by Mr. Griffing, seconded by Mrs. Lantz, to
adjourn the meeting.

Adjournment

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Barbara O'Kula
District Clerk

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Professional Personnel Recommendations:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title & Area:</u>	<u>Effective Date:</u>
<u>Appointments:</u>		
Dingwall, Lisa	Special Education Teacher - Pulaski (Rep. Salvatore Cani)	Probationary 11/10/10 -
Kretschmer, Arthur	8th Gr. Boys' Basketball Middle School Head Coach	Winter 2010-11
<u>Substitute Appointments:</u>		
DiMartino, Robert	Substitute Teacher	11/10/10-
<u>Extra Assignments:</u>		
Pagliarulo, Salena	Reconnecting Youth - BOCES Grant	2010-11 School Year
<u>Resignation:</u>		
Kneski, Ed	8th Grade Boys' Basketball Middle School Head Coach	10/21/10

Civil Service Personnel:

<u>Change in Status:</u>			
Crump, Timothy	To: Security Guard - Middle School From: Substitute Security Guard (Rep. Elliott Jacobs)	10/25/10	8 hours per day
Nash, Mildred	To: Food Service Worker - High School From: Food Service Worker - Phillips Ave. (Rep. Barbara Pelis - Retired)	11/10/10	To: 6 hours per day From: 4 hours per day
<u>Change in Hours:</u>			
Gregg, Leah	Teacher Aide - Aquebogue	9/1/10	To: 6.5 hours per day From: 6.0 hours per day
Mielnicki, Claire	Teacher Aide - Aquebogue	9/1/10	To: 6.5 hours per day From: 6.0 hours per day
<u>Appointments:</u>			
Gembeski, William	Student Cafeteria Worker - High School	11/10/10-6/30/11	
Greenwood, Edward	Student Cafeteria Worker - High School	11/10/10-6/30/11	
Smith, Kathleen	Summer Work - Master Schedule	7/1/10-8/31/10	
<u>Substitute Appointments:</u>			
McLeod, William	Substitute Custodial Worker I	11/10/10-6/30/11	
<u>Unpaid Leave of Absence:</u>			
Burke, Jennifer	P/T Food Service Cashier - Riley Avenue	11/8/10 - 2/28/11	
<u>Extension of Unpaid Leave of Absence</u>			
Brown, Linda	Bus Driver	10/18/10 - 12/31/10	