

(287)

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting – February 13, 2007
Riverhead High School Cafeteria

PRESENT: Vice President, Mr. W. Brian Stark; Mrs. Kathleen Berezny; Ms. Angela DeVito; and, Mrs. Christine Prete.

ABSENT: Mrs. Nancy G. Gassert.

LATE: Mrs. Mary Ellen Harkin and Mr. Timothy Griffing.

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Joseph F. Singleton, Ms. Lynn Kobylenski and Ms. Nancy Carney.

Vice President, Mr. Stark, opened the meeting at 5:37 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of Allegiance

A motion was made by Mrs. Berezny, seconded by Mrs. Prete, to recess to executive session to discuss personnel and legal matters (land acquisition).

Recess to
Executive Session

Yes 4 No 0
Motion Carried.

The Board of Education recessed to executive session at 5:38 p.m.

Mr. Griffing arrived at 5:52 p.m.

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

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

Return to
Open Session

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

The Board of Education returned to open session at 7:35 p.m.

A brief recess followed.

The meeting resumed at 7:43 p.m.

There were about 25 other people in attendance.

ALSO PRESENT: Mrs. Barbara O’Kula.

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A motion was made by Mrs. Prete, seconded by Mrs. Harkin, to approve the minutes of the following meetings:

Approval of Minutes
-Approved

- Regular Meeting – January 23, 2007
- Special Meeting – January 25, 2007
- Special Meeting – February 5, 2007
- Special District Meeting (Capital Projects Vote) – February 6, 2007

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Mrs. Prete, seconded by Mrs. Harkin, to approve the Treasurer’s Report and Budget Transfers for the month of December 2006.

Treasurer’s Report
And Budget Transfers
-December 2006
-Approved

| <u>Fund</u> | <u>Check Numbers</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|----------------|----------------------|----------------|
| General Fund | 20988-21518 | \$3,526,179.83 |
| Federal Fund | 8121-8146 | 36,284.75 |
| Cafeteria | 8140-8162 | 61,728.39 |
| Extraclassroom | 4308-4327 | 19,453.71 |

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Mrs. Harkin, seconded by Mrs. Prete, to amend the agenda as follows:

Amend Agenda
-Add: Civil Service
Personnel
-Approved to Amend

Add:

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

Emergency Conditional Appointment Pending Fingerprint Clearance

Katherine Torres – Leave Replacement, Interpreter, effective 2/14/07-3/30/07.

Yes 6 No 0
Motion to Amend Agenda Carried.

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Opportunity for
Superintendent

Mr. Singleton took special occasion to recognize two graduates of Riverhead High School who have recently been honored for their heroic acts in the line of duty. NYPD Officer Patrick Lynch (Class of 2002) and another rookie officer pursued and apprehended a suspect who brutally attacked another police officer with a baseball bat. Marine Corporal Cedric Brown (Class of 2000) is being awarded the Purple Heart for injuries sustained in a roadside bomb in Iraq while in a vehicle patrolling the streets for hidden explosive devices and suspected terrorists. Officer Lynch and his family were given a standing ovation. Corporal Brown will be honored in person for his service to our Country at another appropriate time.

Mr. Singleton thanked the community for getting the capital projects approved in a positive voter turnout on February 6th. A meeting with the architects is scheduled to move ahead as soon as possible with those projects.

*Gang Prevention
Efforts*
-Nancy Carney

Ms. Carney gave a grief presentation on the district's gang prevention efforts with regard to some recent events involving gang activity. The district continues to take pro-active steps to outline all programs that are in place. It is a community effort to address issues that are occurring. Some accomplishments are:

- A solid emergency response system in place (*i.e.*, lockdowns and procedures)
- Council for Unity, a nationally recognized anti-gang program to Riverhead
- Suspensions in all schools are dropping
- Renewed interest to see that security is up to par

Riverhead Central School District is working collaboratively with the community to address issues and help young people to become productive members of society.

Opportunity for
Board Members

Mrs. Prete stated the need for more oversight in curriculum and cited that the Council for Unity is an elective at the High School that offers 1 credit...this means that the course can be taken for four years with 4 credits earned. In her opinion, the course is not designed to enhance student's abilities. She, also, pointed out that the SAT preparation course (offered as an after-school program for a fee) is offered without credit. She urged the Board to generate more discussion and solicit community input into the development

of school curriculum. Mr. Stark agreed to more rigor in the curriculum with constant evaluation. Mr. Singleton stated that the Board has established a Curriculum Committee and that review of courses, credits earned, etc. should be done in a timely basis early in the year so everyone has a clear understanding of what courses are needed and wanted to serve the best interests of the children. Ms. Carney stated that a meeting is scheduled for February 26th with the Board Committee and a report of that meeting will be provided for the entire Board of Education. Mrs. Berezny suggested that the Board meet in a work-session with Ms. Carney.

In further discussion, Mrs. Prete brought to the forefront that parents need to know in an honest manner about the exact grades that are issued in students' report cards, specifically, that a student's grade cannot fall below 50 even though that child may have a real mark of 17. Ms. Grim, Assistant Principal at the High School, offered that this practice is done so that students don't get discouraged at the beginning of the school year and still have the chance to get a passing grade.

Mrs. Berezny thanked Officer Patrick Lynch for his chosen career path in law enforcement. Riverhead alumnae and the community are most proud of his accomplishment. She, also, commented on her attendance to the following seminars/events:

- January 24th, Dinner/conference - "Working Together for Long Island Schools", sponsored by Nassau-Suffolk Schools Boards Association, Nassau County Council of School Superintendents and Suffolk County School Superintendents Association @ the Huntington Hilton in Melville, New York
- January 31st, Executive Briefing sponsored by Eastern Suffolk BOCES, featuring Mr. Thomas Rogers, Executive Director of the New York State Council of Superintendents. Food was prepared by our culinary students as were the floral arrangements by BOCES students.
- February 10th, Regional Legislative Breakfast at Longwood Central School District. Sixteen school districts were in attendance along with federal and state legislators who provided an update from Albany.
- February 9th, the Chinese New Year celebration at Riley Avenue Elementary School along with Board members, Christine Prete and Angela DeVito. Special thanks to teachers, Ms. Maloney and Ms. Dorman for their efforts to coordinate the event.

Comments from the community included:

- concern of curriculum and parental and PTO commitment to thoroughly look at grammar, spelling and punctuation
- ensure that as many students as possible are entered into the BNL Science Fair (Mrs. Prete commented that group/classroom projects should be required at the 4th grade level and that curriculum should be aligned with each elementary school to measure data...each building should be on the same page to maintain a standard and continuity in our schools).
- status of cursive survey (Ms. Carney stated that the survey has been completed district-wide...assessments were conducted in the 4th, 5th and 6th grades. Results indicate that about 100 students are in need of remediation in cursive writing. Extra materials are being ordered – script will be introduced in the 2nd grade, and taught in 3rd grade with reinforcement in the 4th, 5th and 6th grades.)
- the President of the RCFA strongly suggested that teachers who are familiar with the curriculum at the secondary level be included in discussions in making any adjustments in alignment of curriculum as sequences in Math, Science, English and Social Studies are necessary to comply with rules for college.
- the President of the Flanders, Riverside, Northampton Civic Association commended the Board of Education for their quick response to correct/resolve the cursive writing situation

Community
Comments

A motion was made by Ms. DeVito, seconded by Mrs. Prete, to approve the following resolution:

Committee on
Special Education
-Approved
-Supplemental File

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> |
|-----------------------|--|
| 12/06/06 | 217336 |
| 12/13/06 | 209080, 213697 |
| 12/15/06 | 208899 |
| 12/18/06 | 208868 |
| 12/19/06 | 205598, 206759, 206842, 207771, 208702, 209065, 209866, 209693, 214392, 215454, 217101, 217189 |

| | |
|----------|---|
| 12/20/06 | 204476, 207645, 210820, 212043, 212058, 219218 |
| 01/03/07 | 214158, 215063, 216210, 219216, 219315, 219492 |
| 01/04/07 | 215509 |
| 01/16/07 | 206423, 208340 |
| 01/17/07 | 208476, 213065 |

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| <u>C.P.S.E. MEETING</u> | <u>STUDENT NUMBERS</u> |
| 01/11/07 | 221170, 220180, 222027, 222000, 220231, 220226, 220326, 220198, 221168, 221132 |
| 01/26/07 | 220270, 220128, 220236 |

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

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

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District adopts the attached school district calendar for the 2007-2008 school year.

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

Adoption of School
Calendar
-2007-2008
-Adopted

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

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District will hold a public hearing on February 27, 2007 at 7:30 o'clock p.m. prevailing time at the Riverhead High School cafeteria, 700 Harrison Avenue, Riverhead, New York for the purpose of hearing all interested persons regarding amendments to the income eligibility limits for Senior Citizen Real Property Tax Exemptions pursuant to the real property tax law effective for the fiscal year beginning December 1, 2007; and, authorizes the District Clerk to prepare the appropriate legal notices for such.

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

Public Hearing
-February 27, 2007
-Amendments to
eligibility limits for
Senior Citizen Real
Property Tax
Exemptions
-Approved

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

Award of Bids
-Approved

WHEREAS, bids for **Air Conditioning Repairs, Service, Installation and Replacement** were opened on January 11, 2007 and

WHEREAS, such bids have been reviewed by the Plant Facilities Administrator and Purchasing Agent and recommended award by the Board of Education, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District awards the contract as the Primary Contractor for Air Conditioning Repairs, Service, Installation and Replacement for the 2006-2007 school year to East Coast Mechanical Services, Inc., 14 Frontier Trail, Manorville, New York 11949 as follows:

Base Bid as the Primary Contractor

Labor Rate:
Straight Time – Hourly Rate \$ 65.00 per hour
Overtime – Hourly Rate \$ 97.50 per hour

Ten (10) bid packages were distributed and bids were received from:

Best Climate Control Corp
East Coast Mechanical Services, Inc.
Commercial Instrumentation Services, Inc.
Hi-Tech Air Conditioning

WHEREAS, bids for **Air Conditioning Repairs, Service, Installation and Replacement** were opened on January 11, 2007 and

WHEREAS, such bids have been reviewed by the Plant Facilities Administrator and Purchasing Agent has recommended award by the Board of Education, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District awards the contract as the Secondary Contractor for Air Conditioning Repairs, Service, Installation and Replacement for the 2006-2007 school year to Commercial Instrumentation Services, Inc., 261 W. Hoffman Avenue, Lindenhurst, New York 11757 as follows:

Base Bid as the Secondary Contractor

Labor Rate:
Straight Time – Hourly Rate \$ 70 per hour
Overtime – Hourly Rate \$ 105 per hour

Ten (10) bid packages were distributed and bids were received from:

- Best Climate Control Corp
- East Coast Mechanical Services, Inc.
- Commercial Instrumentation Services, Inc.
- Hi-Tech Air Conditioning

WHEREAS, bids for **Miscellaneous Roofing Repairs** were opened on January 11, 2007 and

WHEREAS, such bids have been reviewed by the Plant Facilities Administrator and Purchasing Agent has recommended award by the Board of Education, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District awards the contract as the Primary Contractor for Miscellaneous Roofing Repairs for the 2006-2007 school year to Saracino Construction, 36 Potter Avenue, Patchogue, New York 11772 as follows:

Base Bid as the Primary Contractor

Labor Rate:
Supervisor \$ 70 per hour
Mechanic \$ 70 per hour
Helper/Apprentice \$ 70 per hour

Equipment charges when used by vendor:

| | |
|----------------------------|--------|
| Hot tar tanker & equipment | \$ 275 |
| Hot tar kettle & equipment | \$ 100 |
| Dump truck, 10 yards | \$ 300 |
| Electric generator | \$ 35 |

Twelve (12) bid packages were distributed and bids were received from:

- Saracino Construction
- More Contracting & Consulting
- Tailored Roofing
- Hart Roofing
- Vezandio Contracting
- Statewide Roofing
- Dynasty RSW

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

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

Overnight/Out of State
Field Trips
-Approved

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District approves the request of the Riverhead Varsity Cheerleaders (22 members) to compete at the Rhodey All-Star COA Competition in Providence, Rhode Island on February 24-25, 2007 at the Convention Center in Providence, Rhode Island. Cost to the parents/students totals \$2,616.50; total cost to the District is \$920.50; and, transportation is subject to approval pursuant to Board policy.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District approves the request of the Riverhead Junior Varsity Cheerleading team (20 members) to compete in the 2007 MGN Cheerleading Nationals in Hershey, Pennsylvania on March 9-11, 2007. Cost to the parents/student totals \$4,815; cost to the District totals \$1,711; and, transportation is subject to approval pursuant to Board policy.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District approves the request of the Riverhead Varsity Boys' Lacrosse team (25 members) to attend the Lacrosse Jamboree at Norwalk, Connecticut on March 23-24, 2007. Cost to the parents/students totals \$2,392.92; cost to the District totals \$984.12; and, transportation is subject to approval pursuant to Board policy.

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Griffing, seconded by Mrs. Harkin, 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 \$600 from the Great Rock Golf Club for use at the Riverhead Middle School.

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

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

Appointment of CSE
Chairperson
-Joseph Colantuoni
-Approved

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Riverhead Central School District approves the appointment of Joseph Colantuoni as CSE Chairperson at the rate of \$400 per day – up to 30 days – as funded through the Federal 611 Grant.

In a discussion that followed, Mrs. Berezny requested an explanation of this appointment. Ms. Chappell stated that it is a 30-day appointment for Mr. Colantuoni, who is a prior employee with good working knowledge who can assist and perform in a back-up capacity for approximately 600 CSE meetings and about 100 CPSE meetings between now and June. It is being funded through an IDEA grant. Mrs. Berezny requested a copy of the contract for his services.

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

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

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
-Approved

Emergency Conditional Appointment Pending Fingerprint Clearance

Joseph Riccio – Leave Replacement, Mathematics Teacher, effective 2/12/07-6/30/07.

Lorraine Dunkel – Special Education Teacher, effective 3/1/07-2/28/10.

Appointments

Margaret Murray – Substitute Teacher, effective 2/14/07-6/30/07.

Change in Status

Jennifer Torquato – To: Leave Replacement, Elementary Teacher, From: Substitute Teacher, effective 3/7/07-4/24/07.

Sheera DesJardin – To: Permanent Substitute Teacher, From: Substitute Teacher, effective 2/5/07-6/30/07.

Susan Monahan – To: Permanent Substitute Teacher, From: Substitute Teacher, effective 2/5/07-6/30/07.

Kellyann Parlato – To: Leave Replacement, 4/5 Spanish Teacher, From: Substitute Teacher, effective 11/16/06-6/30/07.

Salary Advancements: Effective 2/1/07

Michelle Accardi – From: Masters-Step 5, To: Masters+15-Step 5.

Jamaal Boyce – From: Masters+15-Step 4, To: Masters+30-Step 4.

Patrick Burke – From: Masters-Step 5, To: Masters+15-Step 5.

Suzanne Delaney – From: Masters+60-Step 21, To: Masters+75-Step 21.

Kelly Evers – From: Masters+60-Step 6, To: Masters+75-Step 6.

Lauren Farber – From: Bachelors+30-Step 5, To: Masters+15-Step 5.

Therese Godoy – From: Masters+45-Step 21, To: Masters+60-Step 21.

Nadine Greenberg – From: Masters+45-Step 4, To: Masters+60-Step 4.

Victor Guadagnino – From: Masters+45-Step 14, To: Masters+60-Step 14.

Kathleen Horn – From: Masters+15-Step 5, To: Masters+30-Step 5.

Cara Koenig – From: Masters-Step 2, To: Masters+15-Step 2.

Vincent Maccone – From: Bachelors+30-Step 2, To: Masters-Step 2.

Kristen Realander – From: Bachelors-Step 3, To: Bachelors+30-Step 3.

Melissa Ries – From: Masters+15-Step 6, To: Masters+30-Step 6.

Matthew Smorra – From: Masters+30-Step 3, To: Masters+45-Step 3.

Shelley Sprung – From: Bachelors+30-Step 3, To: Masters-Step 3.

Corey Swenk – From: Masters+60-Step 7, To: Masters+75-Step 7.

Xiomara White – From: Masters+30-Step 6, To: Masters+45-Step 6.

Request for Unpaid Leave of Absence

Kelly Lester – Leave Replacement, Elementary Teacher, effective 2/15-16/07.

Chantel Walsh – ESL Teacher, effective 1/24/07-2/2/07.

Request for Maternity/Child Care Leave

Suzanna LoMagno – Elementary Teacher, 4/9/07-4/20/07 Using accumulated sick time; 4/23/07-5/18/07 Unpaid FMLA..

Sunita Rodriguez – Elementary Teacher, 3/12/07-4/27/07 Using accumulated sick time; 4/30/07 Unpaid.

Carolyn Colantropo – Elementary Teacher, 3/7/07-4/24/07 Using accumulated sick time.

Kelli Thompson – Elementary Teacher, 3/2/07-3/30/07 Using accumulated sick time; 4/9/07-6/22/07 Unpaid FMLA..

Michele Koronkiewicz – Spanish Teacher, 4/23/07-5/29/07 Using accumulated sick time; 5/30/07-6/22/07 Unpaid FMLA..

Natasha Tumbarello – School Psychologist, 4/9/07-4/23/07 Using accumulated sick time; 4/24/07-5/21/07 Unpaid Child Care Leave.

Change in Maternity/Child Care Leave

Debra Mitchell – Speech Teacher, To: 1/10/07-1/31/07 Using accumulated sick time, 2/1/07-4/13/07 Unpaid FMLA; From: 2/26/07-3/7/07 Using accumulated sick time, 3/8/07-4/13/07 Unpaid FMLA.

Resignation

Hope Obermeier – Permanent Substitute Teacher, effective 1/26/07.

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

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

Civil Service
Personnel
Recommendations
-Approved as Amended

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:

Emergency Conditional Appointments Pending Fingerprint Clearance

Jermayne Hopkins – Substitute Guard, effective 2/14/07-6/30/07.

Marian Battles – Substitute Hourly Food Service Worker, effective 2/14/07-6/30/07.

Dorothy Buczynski – Substitute Clerk Typist, effective 2/14/07-6/30/07.

Katherine Torres – Leave Replacement, Interpreter, effective 2/14/07-3/30/07.

Appointment

Willie Austin – Substitute Guard, effective 9/1/06-6/30/07.

Change in Status

Jerome Gilliam – To: Custodial Worker I, From: Part-time Custodial Worker 1, effective 2/14/07.

Change in Hours

Wendy Drumm – School Bus Driver, To: 8 hours per day, From: 7.5 hours per day, effective 2/5/07.

Paula Warner – School Bus Driver, To: 7.5 hours per day, From: 6 hours per day, effective 2/5/07.

Jennifer Burke – School Bus Matron, To: 6 hours per day, From: 5.5 hours per day, effective 9/7/06.

Mary Frazier – Hourly Food Service Worker, To: 6.5 hours per day, From: 4.5 hours per day, effective 2/14/07.

Kathryn Cooper – 1:1 Special Education Aide, To: 7 hours per day, From: 6.5 hours per day, effective 1/18/07.

Request for Unpaid Leave of Absence

Gundula Dueperthal – School Bus Driver, effective 3/6/07-3/13/07.

Request for Extension of Paid Catastrophic leave

Thomas Jasinski – Guard, To: 2/16/07-3/18/07, From: 1/17/07-2/16/07.

Request for Paid Catastrophic Leave

Joseph Pettiford – School Bus Driver, effective 2/14/07-3/16/07.

Resignations

Tracy Childress – School Bus Driver, effective 2/7/07.

Lillian Ramos – Part-time 12-month Clerk Typist, effective 2/7/07.

Yes 6 No 0

Motion Carried as Amended.

Additional comments from the community are:

Community
Comments

- plans for when Spanish teacher leaves (Ms. Carney stated that a certified teacher will be in place by the end of March and that the severity of the situation is well understood...classes will be taught by certified personnel). Mr. Singleton, also, stated that every district is recruiting Spanish teachers and we are fortunate in that we have some possibilities. The district plans to have an experienced person in place prior to the present teacher going out on leave. When the district receives knowledge that a teacher is going out on leave, ads are placed immediately...the district needs to actively recruit language teaches that demand a higher salary.
- status of proposal to name the High School auditorium in honor of Charles Cardona (Mr. Stark stated that the proposal warrants consideration).
- suggestion that our school security become involved with Suffolk School Security Alliance (as has been implemented in Hauppauge Schools) and use of Long Island based companies to fortify security
- does the district use GPS on our school vehicles as a tool for security and accountability to track any individual doing his/her job?
Answered by Mr. Singleton: No, we do not.
- does the district first look in-house to fill job postings? (Mr. Singleton stated that all positions are posted internally before looking to outside the district.)

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-does the district have existing personnel holding specific Civil Service titles who are not working in that titled capacity? As answered by Mr. Singleton: Yes.

Mrs. Berezny requested an update on the Little Flower study. Mr. Singleton stated that information will be provided to the Board and public at the February 27th Board meeting.

Mrs. Prete extended birthday wishes to Nancy Carney, Lynn Kobylenski and Laurie Downs, President of the High School PTSO.

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

Adjournment

Yes 6 No 0
Motion Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara O'Kula
District Clerk

