

March 10, 2009

President John Wapner called the Workshop Meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. The meeting was held in the high school auditorium. Board members in attendance were Elizabeth Macfarlane, Vice President; Ric Campbell; Michael Clark; Denise Dapice; Fred Hutchinson; Francis Iaconetti; David O'Connor; and, James Toteno.

Also attending were Lee A. Bordick, Interim Superintendent; Dr. Phyllis McGill, Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services; Diane T. Malecki, Business Administrator/District Clerk; Dr. Jean Scheriff, Director of Pupil Services; Charlotte Frye, Elementary School Principal; Ron Davis, High School Principal; John Thorsen, High School Assistant Principal; Gordon Fitting, Middle School Principal; Larry Burud, Middle School Assistant Principal.

The audience consisted of staff and members of the community.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the Board addressed the following items.

Motion by Francis Iaconetti, seconded by Fred Hutchinson, that the Board of Education approve the present agenda as written or amended. **Motion Carried 9-0**

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by David O'Connor, seconded by James Toteno, that the Board of Education approve **R. 102** as follows: **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education for the following students: #15121 on 02/05/09, #15178 on 01/29/09; #16042 on 02/03/09; #14223 on 01/29/09, #20013 on 01/21/09. **Motion Carried 9-0**

CSE RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion by Fred Hutchinson, seconded by David O'Connor, that the Board of Education accept the Consensus Agenda of the March 10, 2009 Board meeting, as written. **Motion Carried 9-0**
The Consensus Agenda consists of:

ACCEPT CONSENSUS
AGENDA

That the Board of Education amend the appointment of Paula Nuss, music teacher, from per diem substitute to long-term substitute, on Step 7 MA, at a salary of \$46,510, pro-rated for the period February 23, 2009 through June 26, 2009.

APPOINT – P. NUSS

That the Board of Education accept the resignation of Gwen Fosco, Spanish teacher, effective June 30, 2009.

RESIGNATION – G. FOSCO

March 10, 2009

That the Board of Education accept the resignation of Cortney DiGrigoli-Crannell, elementary education teacher, effective March 20, 2009.

RESIGNATION – C.
DiGRIGOLI-CRANNELL

That the Board of Education accept the resignation for the purpose of retirement from Susan Campbell, social studies teacher, effective June 30, 2009.

RETIREMENT – S.
CAMPBELL

That the Board of Education accept the resignation for the purpose of retirement from Beth Cioffi, elementary education teacher, effective June 30, 2009.

RETIREMENT – B. CIOFFI

That the Board of Education accept the resignation for the purpose of retirement from Katherine Cioffi, elementary education teacher, effective June 30, 2009.

RETIREMENT – K. CIOFFI

That the Board of Education accept the resignation for the purpose of retirement from Mary Gavin, elementary education teacher, effective June 30, 2009.

RETIREMENT – M. GAVIN

That the Board of Education accept the resignation for the purpose of retirement from Irene Hanna, Spanish teacher, effective June 30, 2009.

RETIREMENT – I. HANNA

That the Board of Education accept the resignation for the purpose of retirement from Beth Ann Hover, elementary education teacher, effective June 30, 2009.

RETIREMENT – B. HOVER

That the Board of Education accept the resignation for the purpose of retirement from John Kilcer, elementary education teacher, effective June 30, 2009.

RETIREMENT – J. KILCER

That the Board of Education accept the resignation for the purpose of retirement from Denise King, elementary education teacher, effective June 30, 2009.

RETIREMENT – D. KING

That the Board of Education accept the resignation for the purpose of retirement from Margo Storey, elementary education teacher, effective June 30, 2009.

RETIREMENT - M. STOREY

That the Board of Education accept the resignation for the purpose of retirement from Mary A. Kilcer, teaching assistant, effective June 30, 2009.

RETIREMENT – M. KILCER

That the Board of Education rescind the following 2008-2009 coaching appointments: James Spock, boys' varsity track coach;
Brent Theobald, boys' varsity track assistant coach

RESCIND COACHING
APPOINTMENTS

March 10, 2009

That the Board of Education appoint the following coaches for the 2008-2009 spring sports season:

APPOINT COACHES

-Daniel Kohler, boys' varsity track coach at a stipend of \$3,384.00

-Chelsea Donovan, boys' varsity track assistant coach at a stipend of \$1,901.00

WORKSHOP ITEMS

2009-2010 Educational Plan and Budget Presentation:

BUDGET PRESENTATION

Mr. Bordick, Interim Superintendent, began the budget presentation by noting the "upcoming Budget Meetings" which include:

March 24, 2009 6:30 PM

March 31, 2009 6:30 PM

April 7, 2009 6:30 PM

April 21, 2009 6:30 PM

May 12, 2009 "Budget Hearing" 6:30 PM

May 19, 2009 "Annual Budget Vote" 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM

Mr. Bordick spoke about the "Starting Point" of the budget process in November 2008 which looked at all operating expenses moving forward per contracts currently in place. Revenues were projected to be reduced by approximately 5% which indicated the potential of a budget-to-budget increase of slightly less than 8% and a levy increase of close to 18%.

Mr. Bordick pointed to two graphs noting that Chatham CSD's "Tax Levy" in relation to student enrollment reflected an ever growing gap over the course of the past 5 years. This gap represents the growing per pupil cost of education in the Chatham Central School District.

Mr. Bordick emphasized that the Chatham CSD Operating Budget required close review, scrutiny and "scrubbing" to determine where costs could be cut without impacting the "Core Educational Program", the District's guiding principle.

Mr. Bordick stated that the "guiding principles for the budget reduction process" are to:

- Preserve Chatham's Core Educational Program.
- Reduce Positions Without Affecting Staff.
- Staff Reductions Will Be Based on Enrollment.

March 10, 2009

“Teaching and Learning” are the core and the central focus of the Chatham Central School District and were highlighted throughout Mr. Bordick’s presentation.

Several “Enhancements” to the “Core Educational Program” included in the current ‘Proposed Budget’ are the continuation of Columbia-Greene College Courses and the National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI) along with the following proposals: 8th Grade Math/Science/Technology (MST), 8th Grade Panther Plus Expansion, Financial Literacy Course, Model Congress Expansion and a 1.0 FTE Technology Integration Teacher and one non-core proposal of a Central Receiving Department for the District.

Mr. Bordick spoke to the close scrutiny employed by the Board of Education and the District Administration and how this scrutiny culminated in reductions of operating expenses through retirement/attrition of staff, cuts in equipment and supplies, postponement of bus purchases, return of special education students to the District and the 1-Bell routing in Transportation and yet maintained the “core Educational Program” at the levels that the parents and community expect.

Mrs. Malecki, the School Business Administrator presented the department budgets with highlights as to what elements changed and why.

The previously mentioned reductions in budget-to-budget cost of operations afforded the District a decrease of 1.67% from 2008-2009 adopted budget. The subsequent Tax Levy is now at a 1.55% increase over the 2008-2009 Levy.

The overarching goal of maintaining the District’s core values of “Teaching and Learning” for our students is achieved while providing our community a minimal tax levy increase of 1.55%.

Future Agenda Items:

- Town Hall Meeting – 3/31/2009 to discuss 1-Bell Transportation Routing System

Public Comment: the majority of the comments and questions from the audience, both pro and con, were in regard to the proposed 1-bell transportation system and included the following concerns:

- Possible staff reductions
- How the District’s reduction in state aid might affect the tax rate

PUBLIC COMMENT

March 10, 2009

- How safety of students will be maintained with K-12 composition of buses.
- What will the discipline process be?
- How safety of full buses will be maintained.
- Concerns about length of bus ride for students.
- What will the start and end time be fore each building?
- Survey of parents at Greenville CSD about their 1-Bell routing system.
- How will the District provide adequate busing in case of emergency?
- How will “No-Shows” be notified?
- Details as to what will be lost with the 1-Bell system.
- The 1-Bell system will continue to show savings in future budget cycles.
- How will divorced parent’s multiple pick-up/drop-off points be handled?
- Details as to what the specific cuts are.
- The need to keep an “Open Mind” about the process.
- Daycare should be more manageable with 1-pickup time and 1- drop-off time.
- Little cuts now to avoid big cuts in the future.
- Instructional staff will have consistent meeting times.
- Method to keep Tax levy in control.

Additional concerns not related to the 1-Bell system included:

- How will the District use funding received from the Stimulus Package?
- How will adult education programs be communicated to those community members without computer access?
- Requested more detailed information the cuts.
- List of dissolved extracurricular Clubs.

Numerous community members thanked the retiring staff for the years of service and education that each provided the District students.

Mr. Bordick spoke to the audience about the December 16, 2008 1-Bell versus 2-Bell routing system analysis presented by Merle Winn, the Transportation consultant from VersaTrans. Unlike the analysis, the District’s goal is to “Preserve Staff and their benefits” while making the system more efficient. Mr. Bordick affirmed that the 1-Bell routing system is not a “done deal”. However, the real issue becomes in order to keep the tax levy under control with a 2-Bell routing system something will have to go.

March 10, 2009

Motion by Fred Hutchinson, seconded by Francis Iaconetti, that the Board of Education appoint Lee Bordick as District Clerk Pro-Temp for the remainder of the meeting. **Motion Carried 9-0**

DISTRICT CLERK PRO-TEMP

Motion by Fred Hutchinson, seconded by Francis Iaconetti, that the Board of Education enter Executive Session to discuss issues relating to collective bargaining. **Motion Carried 9-0**
Entered Executive Session at 8:13 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Francis Iaconetti, seconded by Elizabeth Macfarlane, that the Board of Education resume Regular Session. **Motion Carried 9-0**

REGULAR SESSION

Resumed Regular Session at 9:20 p.m.

Motion by Fred Hutchinson, seconded by Ric Campbell, that the Board of Education adjourn the March 10, 2009 Workshop Meeting. **Motion Carried 9-0**
Meeting adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Diane T. Malecki
District Clerk

Lee Bordick
District Clerk Pro Temp