

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Roderick Dressel, Jr, Board Vice President.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Stephen Bagley
Brian Cournoyer
Roderick Dressel, Jr.
Dominick Profaci
Ruth Quinn
Edgar Rodriguez

QUORUM CHECK

EXCUSED Patrick Rausch

ALSO PRESENT: Maria Rice, Superintendent of Schools
Jo-Anne Dobbins, Director of Pupil Personnel Services (arrived at 6:14PM)
Debra Hogencamp, Principal of Duzine Elementary School (arrived at 6:14PM)

ROLL CALL The roll was called as reflected above. ROLL CALL

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG PLEDGE

EXECUTIVE SESSION EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Mr. Profaci and seconded by Mr. Bagley that the Board of Education move into Executive Session at 6:04 PM for the purpose of discussing the employment history of particular individuals and discussing negotiations with a firm or company. Motion carried 6 - 0 with 6 members voting.

Out of Executive Session - Motion made by Mr. Bagley and seconded by Mr. Cournoyer that the Board return to Public Session at 6:29 PM. Motion carried 6 - 0 with 6 members voting. Maria C. Rice was appointed as Clerk Pro Tempore for this portion of the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER CALL TO ORDER

The Public Meeting was called to order at 6:32 PM Roderick Dressel, Jr, Board Vice President.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Stephen Bagley
Brian Cournoyer
Roderick Dressel, Jr.
Dominick Profaci
Ruth Quinn
Edgar Rodriguez

QUORUM CHECK

EXCUSED Patrick Rausch

ALSO PRESENT: Maria Rice, Superintendent of Schools
Richard Linden, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Jo-Anne Dobbins, Director of Pupil Personnel Services
Elena Maskell, District Clerk

ROLL CALL The roll was called as reflected above. ROLL CALL

AGENDA CHANGES AGENDA CHANGES

Mr. Dressel stated there are three minor adjustments to the current agenda. The first was to add an item 5.a titled “Testimony to the Governor’s NY Reform Commission” wherein the board would discuss their statement drafted by Ms. Quinn and the Legislative Action Advisory Committee. The second is to add the words “with medical insurance for November 2012” to personnel agenda item 6.3. The last change is the effective date of Diana Minge Najera’s instructional resignation to June 30, 2012 regarding personnel agenda item 6.4.

Motion made by Mr. Profaci and seconded by Mr. Bagley to approve the above agenda changes. All in favor with none opposed. Motion carried 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bill Kemble

Daily Freeman

MINUTES OF MEETING

MINUTES

Motion made by Mr. Cournoyer and seconded by Mr. Profaci that the Board of Education approve the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education accept the minutes of the Business Meeting of October 3, 2012. Motion carried 6 - 0 with 6 members voting.

5.a Testimony to the Governor’s NY Reform Commission

Ms. Quinn stated she revised the draft from the last meeting and has presented the statement to the Board Members for approval. Discussion ensued.

The statement is as follows with changes as discussed:

To the Honorable Members of the New York State Education Reform Commission,

As trustees of the Board of Education of the New Paltz Central School District (NPCSD), we are tremendously proud of our top performing school district. We are a medium-sized school district with approximately 2,250 students in a community of 19,569 residents, comprised of seven towns. Despite the economic recession, our high performing school district makes our area a desirable place to live and we have experienced steady enrollment.

The NPCSD ranks high on many comparative academic measures. Elementary students from kindergarten through grade 8 outperformed their counterparts in Ulster County in five of the six grades tested in ELA and in three out of the six grades tested in math. New Paltz High School graduated the highest percentage of students with Regents diplomas (94%) in the county and had the lowest dropout rate (<1%). Our high school has also been listed on *Newsweek/Washington Post* Best High Schools in the nation for six consecutive years.

The NPCSD is not only a high performing district but it is also an efficient one, sustaining an annual per pupil expenditure (PPE) below the county median. The district has been fiscally responsible while maintaining its quality programming creating budgets that have been below the rate of inflation. Over the course of four years, inflation rate was 5.8% but our school budget increased on average only 2.9% yearly, and concurrently state aid decreased five percentage points over those same four years.

This year, the tax cap required a supermajority (60% voter approval) to increase the tax levy beyond the cap. We proposed a tax levy of 4.4% (1% above the NPCSD tax cap of 3.4%) to preserve the quality of education offered in our district. A simple majority of our voters approved this budget. However, even though 59.39% of the voters approved the budget, it did not pass by 18 votes. As a result of the supermajority provision, the “no” votes weighed heavier, which is not democratic and arguably unconstitutional.

As trustees we have worked hard to balance the needs of our taxpayers with our responsibility to our students. We implemented innovative cost savings by creating a central business office with our neighbors in the Highland Central School District and we decreased the budget by.34%, mostly with program cuts and we used our fund balance and reserves to preserve what we could. Even with this total spending decrease, our taxpayers still faced an increase in their tax bills because of decreases in state and federal aid, and even more unfunded mandates.

Our district, like many others across the state, has been hit with the perfect storm: decreases in federal aid, decreases in state aid, increased unfunded mandates, decreases in fund balance and reserves, and capped revenues (the tax “cap”). As a result, our board made the difficult decision to cut our pre-kindergarten program, to lay-off teachers, which significantly increased class sizes, and to cut many after-school and extracurricular activities. There is enough documentation about the value of early learning and the importance of class size to student achievement that it should be obvious that these cuts directly impacted our program. There is no doubt; we are now in the process of dismantling our excellent education program.

In recent years, the Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA) has been developed to close the gap in the New York State budget. The result has been to reduce aid to school districts across the state. The GEA represents about \$2,000,000 that is deducted from New Paltz Central School District’s state aid.

And at the same time revenues are diminishing, state mandates requiring excessive testing, onerous reporting, and increasing administrative attention and costs have driven up the expense of education. Not only will our students be spending more time being assessed, but also our administrators will be spending significant time evaluating teachers. The

NPCSD will receive a total of \$68,445 in Race to the Top funding over 4 years, and yet the cost of implementing the program far exceeds the funding (in 2011-12 alone, the district has expended over \$80,000 for RTTT/ APPR mandated expenses including staff professional development, substitutes, curriculum development, assessments, and other related expenses. This does not account for lost staff time and lost student learning time.). It will take over 525 administrative hours per year just to observe teachers. Hundreds of additional hours are required to write-up the observations, conduct the post-observation conferences, conduct mid-year conferences, summative conferences, composite scoring, and composite reviews. It also doesn't include the cost or time for developing State Learning Objectives.

At a time of significant budget cuts and decreased revenue we are also transitioning over to a new curriculum the Common Core State Standard. This means that we have added expenses for training, consultants, tests, new software, computers, and infrastructure such as network improvements. A likely outcome of transitioning to the CCSS is that a lot of private business will make money while less money is directed towards the classroom.

The way that schools are funded is untenable. Not only do we need a moratorium on unfunded mandates, we also need a review of current mandates to provide our schools with real mandate relief. We also need New York State to place a higher value on education. Reliance on the local property taxpayer coupled with decreasing state aid is creating a situation that is failing both our students and our taxpayers. It is undermining the fabric of our community and the excellent education program we have worked so hard to create.

We are proposing:

- A moratorium on new unfunded mandates and a review of current unfunded mandates to provide mandate relief where appropriate
- Repeal the Gap Elimination deduction from state aid
- Increase the amount of aid for schools to be in full compliance with the CFE court ruling
- Revise APPR to provide adequate funding for administering it and time and flexibility for implementing it
- Fund technology improvements, text books, and tests that schools need to implement the Common Core State Standards
- Repeal the tax cap and its undemocratic supermajority provision
- Repeal the prevailing wage and WICKS laws requirements which add significant costs to capital projects
- Place a value on early education by funding Prekindergarten and Kindergarten

As trustees of the NPCSD, we are not willing to watch our school district's stellar educational program be dismantled piece by piece as we quickly move towards educational insolvency and ultimately to fiscal insolvency. This is not in the best interest of our students, our community, or New York State. We need our schools to be sufficiently funded in an equitable manner and we need Albany lawmakers to adequately fund preK-12 public education while providing relief from unfunded mandates.

All six members agreed to change the first bullet as written and leave the rest as presented. Mr. Dressel thanked the committee for all of their hard work in preparing this statement.

PERSONNEL (CONSENT AGENDA)

PERSONNEL

Motion made by Mr. Cournoyer and seconded by Ms. Quinn that the Board of Education approve the following personnel consent agenda items 6.1 through 6.12:

6.1 Approval of Settlement Agreement for State Education Department Case # 19398

Recommendation – that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby approve the following:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby authorizes the Board President to execute a Settlement Agreement dated October 2012 regarding SED Case No.19398, as presented to the Board at this meeting. A copy of such agreement shall be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting.

6.2 Home Tutors

Recommendation - that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint the following instructional employees, on an as-needed basis with remuneration as per NPUT contract effective for the 2012-2013 school year:

Name

Karen J. Bryant
Mary Woodburn

6.3 Extension of Administrative Leave of Absence

Recommendation - that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby approve an extension to the unpaid leave of absence for the following administrative employee with medical insurance through November 2012:

Name	Title	Effective Dates
Kathleen M. Clark	Special Education Coordinator	10/11/12 – 11/8/12

6.4 Instructional Resignations

Recommendation - that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby approve the resignations of the following instructional employees:

Name	Tenure Area	Effective Date
Jennifer Bruntl	Elementary	10/31/12
Diane Minge Najera	Elementary	06/30/13

6.5 Correcting Resolution – Instructional Appointment Substitute

Recommendation - that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby approve a resolution to correct the spelling of the name of substitute Dora Dalgoutte, originally spelled Dana Dalgoutte from a resolution previously approved at the October 3, 2012 Board Meeting.

6.6 Instructional Appointment - Substitutes

Recommendation that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent, does hereby appoint the following substitute teachers with remuneration as per rates established at the July 11, 2012 Organizational Meeting:

Name	Effective Dates
Francis Mancuso	10/04/12 - 6/30/13
Mary Leahy	10/10/12 - 6/30/13
Lillian C. Bonet	10/18/12 - 6/30/13
Rachel DeVona	10/18/12 - 6/30/13
Kelly Kondas	10/18/12 - 6/30/13
Holly Langan	10/18/12 - 6/30/13
Jamie Rodriguez	10/04/12 - 6/30/13
Katherine Roos	10/04/12 - 6/30/13
Carolann Samodulski	10/18/12 - 6/30/13

6.7 Recall from Preferred Eligibility List

WHEREAS, there is a vacancy in the elementary tenure area and Christiane Dates is the most senior individual on the elementary tenure area preferred eligibility list;

BE IT RESOLVED that Christiane Dates is hereby recalled from the elementary tenure area preferred eligibility list to the full-time position of elementary teacher effective November 1, 2012.

6.8 Instructional Appointment – Interim Administrative Replacement

Recommendation that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent, does hereby appoint the following interim administrative replacement effective September 18, 2012:

Name	Title	Salary
Thomas Turchetti	Interim Coordinator of Special Education	\$550 per day

6.9 Instructional Leave Replacement Appointment

Recommendation - that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby approve the leave replacement appointment of the following instructional employee:

Name	Title	Effective Dates	Step/Salary
Jill Terkelsen	Elementary	11/1/12 - 6/30/13	MA Step C (\$61,850) prorated

6.10 Middle School Advisorships

Recommendation - that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint the following instructional employees to the following Middle School advisorships for the 2012/2013 school year, with remuneration as per NPUT contract:

Title	Name	Salary
Student Council	Jennifer Hicks and Nicole M. Sullivan	\$ 740.00/each
Mirror	Susan Pereira	\$2,050.00
Reflections	Randi Rosen	\$1,480.00
Yearbook	Jill Belgrave	\$2,050.00
Art Club	Kim Sturgis	\$2,050.00
Drama Club	Mary Holmes and Lauren O'Malley	\$ 920.00/each
School of Rock	Scott Milici	\$3,170.00
Geography Bee	Trina Naclerio	\$ 920.00
All County Band	Scott Milici	\$2,050.00
All County Chorus	Nicole Ferrante	\$1,480.00

6.11 Non-Instructional Resignations

Recommendation - that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby accept the resignations of the following non-instructional employees:

Name	Title	Effective Date
Christine Giangrasso	Food Service Helper	10/12/2012
Maria Martinez	School Monitor	10/01/2012

6.12 Non-Instructional Appointments

Recommendation - that the New Paltz Central Schools Board of Education, upon the recommendation of Maria C. Rice, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint the following:

Name	Title	Effective Date	Salary	Hours
Chris Ruger	School Monitor	10/18/2012	\$10.50/hr	2 ½ hours per day
Kelly Sue Brooker	School Monitor	10/18/2012	\$10.50/hr	2 hours per day

MOTION carried 6 - 0 with 6 members voting.

OLD BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Motion made by Ms. Quinn and seconded by Mr. Bagley that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

7.1 Request for Approval of Committee on Special Education Recommendations and Student Placements

Recommendation - that the following resolution be approved: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the New Paltz Central School District approve the Committee on Special Education (CSE) and Committee on Pre-School Special Education (CPSE) recommendations and student placements: 9615,10060, 8103, 9312,12338, 8001, 9301, 12835, 12809, 12471, 10640, 9610, 8036, 2571, 10349, 12868, 12926, 10368 .

All in favor with none opposed. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion made by Ms. Quinn and seconded by Mr. Cournoyer to approve the following resolution:

7.2 Request for Approval of Facilities Use Form for Pop Warner Football

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the following building facilities use request form for Pop Warner Football to use the Floyd A. Patterson Field Complex for Pop Warner games on October 13, 2012, pursuant to New Paltz Central School District Policy 3280.

All in favor with none opposed. Motion carried 6-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Mr. Bagley and seconded by Mr. Profaci to move into Executive Session at 6:48 PM to discuss receiving advice from the district’s attorney regarding pending litigation and discussing the employment history of a particular firm or company. Motion carried 6 - 0 with 6 members voting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Stephen Bagley
Brian Cournoyer
Roderick Dressel, Jr.
Dominick Profaci
Ruth Quinn
Edgar Rodriguez

QUORUM CHECK

EXCUSED Patrick Rausch

ALSO PRESENT: Maria Rice, Superintendent of Schools
David Shaw, Shaw Perelson, May & Lambert

Out of Executive Session

Motion made by Mr. Bagley and seconded by Ms. Quinn that the Board return to Public Session at 9:51 PM. Motion carried 6 - 0 with 6 members voting.

RETURN PUBLIC SESSION

ADJOURN

Motion made by Mr. Cournoyer and seconded by Mr. Profaci that the Board adjourn at 9:52 PM. Motion carried 6 - 0 with 6 members voting.

ADJOURN

Respectfully submitted,

Elena Rae Maskell
District Clerk