

**Tully Central Schools  
Board of Education – Regular Meeting  
Tully High School – Conference Room  
January 25, 2010 – 6:00 pm**

**MINUTES**

The President of the Board of Education called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

1. Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Motion by Mr. Burgett seconded by Mr. Drumm to approve the agenda. Vote 6-0. Motion carried.
  - Agenda Changes – Superintendent.  
Agenda Item 4: Mr. Pritts noted recognition of Mr. Dando's 100<sup>th</sup> win in basketball will be moved to the February 22 meeting as a family schedule conflict prevented Mr. Dando from attending tonight's meeting.
  - Approve Agenda

**MINUTES**

3. Motion by Mr. Burgett seconded by Mr. Steiger to approve the minutes of the previous meeting(s) – The Board noted the resignation with regret of Linda Cobler as library media aide in the high school was due to retirement and this should be clarified in the minutes.  
January 11, 2010 (Attachment – Item 1)  
Vote 6-0. Motion carried.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mr. Maureen Brophy  
Mr. James Bertolo  
Mr. John Burgett  
Mr. Mark Drumm  
Mr. Jan Kublick  
Mr. Ken Steiger  
Mr. Blaise Knapp, Student Ex Officio member

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Mr. Dan Twentyman

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT**

Mr. Kraig D. Pritts, Superintendent  
Ms. Tiffany Nesbitt, Business Administrator  
Mrs. Kimberly O'Brien, K-6 Principal  
Mrs. Debora M. Cox, Director of Special Education / K-6 Assistant Principal  
Mr. Mary Ann Murphy, Interim 7-12 Principal  
Mrs. Darlene Walowsky, Interim 7-12 Assistant Principal

## **OTHERS PRESENT**

Mrs. Mary D. Fisher, District Clerk

Mrs. Brophy opened the meeting to visitor comments. No comments were made.

## **RECOGNITIONS AND VISITORS**

### 4. Staff and Student Recognitions

- Mr. Ryan Dando – Basketball

5. The following visitors were recognized and welcomed: Patricia Bonfe, Marjorie Cooter, Sarah Brown-Paul, Wendy Fowler-Conner, Douglas Shetler, Amy Shetler, Cristine Hendricks, Christine Dietz, Johanna McKenna, Suzanne Hardy and Justine Shay.

## **PRESENTATIONS – DISCUSSION/ACTION**

6. Pre-K Proposal - Pre-K committee (Attachment – Item 2). Members of the Pre-K committee, Mrs. Patricia Bonfe, Mrs. Missy Cooter, Mrs. Cristine Hendricks, Mrs. Wendy Fowler-Conner and Mrs. Christine Dietz presented an in depth PowerPoint proposal. The presentation can be found on the school website. The committee thanked the Board for their time and interest in the proposal. The committee reported they visited pre-k programs at LaFayette, Onondaga and ESM. Board members asked questions about transportation, whether or not a limit can be set on the number of students attending the pre-k program and if there is interest in such a program. The committee suggested transportation should not be provided because from their visits to neighboring districts, parents make their own arrangements to get their children to a pre-k program, a limit can be set on the number of students and there is a tremendous amount of interest in the program.

A Board member noted we had previously denied a request from an organization to provide an after school program because we did not have the room so how do we have the room for a pre-k program at this time. Mr. Pritts noted what was required for the after school program was a much larger space. The pre-k program only needs a classroom and we have several available.

Board members also asked questions whether or not we could charge for the program. It was noted we could not and this would be totally taxpayer supported and a Board member suggested it might be best to offer this by proposition at the budget vote.

The committee discussed staffing, schedules and population in their presentation. They also presented additional information and described parental involvement in the program.

Board members asked whether 3, 4 and 5 year olds should be in the same class, whether or not 5 year olds could be given priority, inquired about the rules of a lottery system, curriculum, whether or not the program could be stopped once started and the status if the governor's proposal for budget cuts occurs. A Board member noted he did not think it was fair to say there would be no cost for a teacher because it is very possible we could be eliminating a position if the budget cuts occur.

A Board member asked whether or not programs such as this have been successful in the past, are we doing a great service to everybody or a service to some and is there grant money available. Mrs. Bonfe stated there is quite a bit of information available and we can get this from our

partnership with SUNY Cortland. Dr. Barduhn stated SUNY Cortland is delighted to be a partner with Tully on this and SUNY Cortland would be happy to provide information.

7. 2010-2011 Budget: Administrative and Capital Budget Discussion – Mr. Pritts and Ms. Nesbitt presented an in depth PowerPoint presentation. This presentation can be found on the school website. Mr. Pritts noted this proposal is prior to the governor’s proposal and the amounts will all change as we continue to fine tune the budget.

A Board member noted it seems like we have more busses than in the past. Ms. Nesbitt noted the old busses have not yet been surplus and we will bring surplus requests to the Board.

Ms. Nesbitt noted the water and sewer charges had increased. The district had an issue in our water system. We had a minor leak which was resolved. A board member asked if the faucets had been retested. Mr. Pritts stated to the best of his knowledge they had not been retested and he would follow up on that.

The Board had questions on the five year building survey, debt service, BOCES aid, cost of the Knight Insight and the funding of charter schools.

Mr. Pritts noted the governor wants to take just over one million dollars away from us. This is 12.58% of our budget and we were one of the highest hit districts. The governor wants school districts to use their fund balance.

8. Goals reflection – Mr. Pritts and Board. Mrs. Brophy requested Board members review the goals reflection for the next meeting. The committee would appreciate your opinion on the goals. A Board member asked how the goals would be shared with the staff. Mr. Pritts noted they are posted on the website and Mrs. O’Brien stated the goals reflection had already been part of discussions with the staff. The other building administrators also shared the goals were frequently a part of their faculty meetings as well.

#### 9. Cabinet and Board Comments

- Cabinet. Mr. Pritts requested cabinet members send their comments to him so he can provide them to the Board in Tully at a Glance.

- Superintendent

- Australia: Mr. Pritts noted he had emailed information to the Board on the Australia Educator Exchange proposal. Dr. Barduhn spoke on the benefits of the proposal and it would open up an incredible opportunity for learning. Mr. Pritts noted the only cost to the district would be kept at a maximum of \$1,500 of in service payments to the participating educator. In service payments as allowed under the Tully Teachers’ Association agreement and are submitted to the Board for approval on an annual basis. Dr. Barduhn noted this is a world class program and SUNY Cortland has worked very hard over the last 12 years to establish links with Australia. A Board member asked why is Australia interested in working with Tully? Dr. Barduhn noted the Australia team actually visited another school district and they were most impressed with the students and staff at Tully. Australia is looking for development of long term relationships. Dr. Barduhn noted she has 12 other districts that would love to have this program. Australia is ready to go now. A discussion was held on the selection process of the teacher chosen to participate and the criteria as outlined in the proposal. Dr. Barduhn noted they are really looking for someone at an elementary level for this first exchange. Mr. Pritts noted it was suggested he also go over the first time to show

administrative support as the Australian district had already sent two administrators to Tully. If Mr. Pritts did go he would pay his own way without expecting reimbursement from the district. Dr. Barduhn noted travel to Australia would be end of July or early August. Dr. Barduhn noted one to two people from Australia would travel to Tully this January in a reciprocal exchange. She suggested if approved a report be provided to advise the Board of Education of the progress of the program. The Board stated they were very supportive of the proposal and instructed Mr. Pritts to proceed with the program.

- Other
- Board
  - Student Government. Mr. Knapp reported on the semi formal held last Friday, senior class has the necessary numbers for the senior trip, the indoor track team traveled to NYC this past weekend and the eighth graders are traveling to Quebec this weekend.
  - Committees
    - Athletic Council: No report.
    - Audit Committee: The committee reported they recently met and learned about GASB 45.
    - Facilities Committee: Mr. Drumm reported they recently met and discussed the latest building project, discussed facilities and the fact that the next building review has to be by an architect. The committee decided to put out a RFP (Request for Proposal) for that Building Condition Survey. The committee talked about the drain situation in the bus garage and the work toward resolution. The committee discussed the previous walk through of the buildings and the lack of resolution of items over the last couple years. He noted part of the problem is staffing and suggested we move forward in the creation of a maintenance person to keep these buildings in repair. A discussion was held on staffing.
    - Goals Committee: It was noted the goals review was discussed earlier in the meeting.
    - Legislative: Mr. Steiger urged the Board members to attend the February 6 legislative breakfast. Mr. Pritts, Ms. Nesbitt, Mr. Burgett, Mr. Steiger and Mr. Bertolo will attend. It was requested if any other Board member would like to attend to get their reservation into the district office.
  - Other

## **FINANCIAL ITEMS**

10. Motion by Mr. Bertolo seconded by Mr. Drumm to accept the financial reports of December 2009, subject to audit. (Attachment – Item 3) Vote 6-0. Motion carried.

- Treasurer's Reports
- Extra Classroom Reports
- School Lunch Fund Reports
- Revenue Budget Status Reports 07/01/09-12/31/09

## **POLICIES**

11. Policies – none

## **OLD BUSINESS**

12. Old business – none

**PERSONNEL**

Motion by Mr. Burgett seconded by Mr. Kublick to approve items numbered 13 and 14 by consent. Vote 6-0. Motion carried.

13. Accepted with regret the resignation due to retirement of Allen Shreffler as library media specialist in the high school effective June 30, 2010. (Attachment – Item 4)

14. Accepted the resignation of Mary Ann Murphy as 7-12 Assistant Principal based on her appointment to the position of 7-12 Principal to which she was appointed on December 21, 2009. (Attachment – Item 5)

**NEW BUSINESS**

Motion by Mr. Drumm seconded by Mr. Burgett to approve items numbered 15-18 by consent. Vote 6-0. Motion carried.

15. Approved the CSE Placement recommendations. (Attachment – Item 6)

16. Approved the attached listing of volunteers to serve as volunteers in the high school. (Attachment – Item 7)

17. Approved the attached resolution for recertification of the Shared Decision Making Plan to the state. (Attachment – Item 8)

18. Approved the agreement for health and welfare services dated January 25, 2010 between the Auburn Enlarged City School District and the Tully Central School District from September 1, 2009 – June 20, 2010 and the Superintendent of Schools, President of the Board of Education and the District Clerk are authorized to sign the agreement. (Attachment – Item 9)

**MEETING AND DATES – as provided by Cabinet**

January 26-29 -	Regents Exams
January 29-30 -	Junior High All County Festival
January 28-31 -	8 <sup>th</sup> grade trip to Quebec, Canada
February 1 -	Half day for students morning only. Student dismissal approximately 11:30 am. Staff development afternoon.
February 5-6 -	Elementary School Drama Performance – Annie
February 12 -	Junior High Dance – high school - 6:30 pm
February 15 -	Presidents Day – School closed
February 16-19 -	Winter Recess – No classes
February 22 -	Board of Education meeting – high school – 6:00 pm
February 23 -	Cabaret night – high school

## **ROUND TABLE**

Mrs. Brophy opened the meeting to visitor comments. There were no public comments.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Mr. Drumm seconded by Mr. Steiger to adjourn into executive session for the discussion of personnel issues and negotiations at 8:40 pm. Vote 6-0. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Bertolo seconded by Mr. Drumm to return from executive session at 9:58 pm. Vote 6-0. Motion carried.

## **PERSONNEL**

14a. Motion by Mr. Drumm seconded by Mr. Burgett that Collette Todd be granted an extension of appointment as a long term substitute Special Education Teacher from January 31, 2010 through June 30, 2010. This appointment is per the terms of the 2007-2010 Tully Teachers' Association agreement. Vote 6-0. Motion carried.

14b. Motion by Mr. Bertolo seconded by Mr. Steiger that Darlene Walowsky be granted an extension of her leave of absence from her position as teacher from January 31, 2010 through June 30, 2010. Vote 6-0. Motion carried.

14c. Motion by Mr. Steiger seconded by Mr. Drumm that Darlene Walowsky be granted an extension of appointment as Interim Assistant Junior-Senior High School Principal from January 31, 2010 through June 30, 2010 at her current rate of pay.

There was a discussion regarding the possibility of adding a community member to the audit committee.

There was a discussion regarding graffiti on the junior senior high school building and the Board was advised that the district had pressed charges and was seeking restitution.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Mr. Kublick seconded by Mr. Steiger to adjourn at 10:10 pm. Vote 6-0. Motion carried.