

**Tully Central Schools
Board of Education – Special Meeting
Tully High School – Conference Room
April 5, 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 #11. Mr. Pritts noted the rate of pay in the agenda received tonight is now correct. The agenda received before tonight had typographical errors in the rate of pay and we apologize for this error.
 - Approve Agenda

MINUTES

3. Motion by Mr. Burgett seconded by Mr. Steiger to approve the minutes of the previous meeting(s) –March 15, 2010 (Attachment – Item 1) Vote 6-0. Motion carried.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mrs. 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
Mrs. Mary Ann Murphy, 7-12 Principal
Mrs. Darlene Walowsky, Interim 7-12 Assistant Principal

OTHERS PRESENT

Mrs. Mary D. Fisher, District Clerk

RECOGNITIONS AND VISITORS

4. Staff and Student Recognitions

- Class of 2010 Academic Top Ten. The top ten students were recognized in order of rank, from lowest to highest grade: Blaise Knapp, Melissa Mincolla, Michael Roemer, Erin Reppenhagen, Carly Fowler, Deborah Noble, Calvin DeCarlo, Samantha Covey, Alexandra Klaben - Salutatorian and Lyndsie Collis - Valedictorian.

5. The following visitors were recognized and welcomed: Kathleen Doody, Barb Jordan, Jacklyn Vassallo, Paula Harty, Anne Marie Heymann, Peg Fritton, Wendy Fowler-Conner, Ralph Conner, Matt Chaffee, Kelly Reardon, Anne Robinson, Kelly Reppenhagen, Peter Reppenhagen, Suzanne Hardy, Kathe Naples, Ali Klaben, Joann Klaben, Gerald Klaben, Beth Lancer, Heather Edinger, Cynthia Moy, Erin Reppenhagen, Michael Reppenhagen, Kevin Noble, Jane Noble, Deborah Noble, Steven E. Pierce Sr., Denise Cardamone, Courtnie West, Elizabeth Weinstein-Shahan, Nathaniel Shahan, Melissa Mincolla, Carly Fowler, Donna Voggel, Gerhard O. Voggel, Sara Kicak, Cal DeCarlo, Sam Covey, Renee DeCarlo, Erica Cole, William Hardy, Bettemae Russell, Maryann Murray, Scott Murray, Amiee Pellettiere, Corinne Hust, Lisa Saile, Darlene Kennedy and Christine Dietz.

Mrs. Brophy opened the meeting to visitor comments. Mrs. Anne Robinson, Family and Consumer Science Teacher, thanked the Board for their many hours of service and noted she was here tonight to speak about the proposed impact on the elimination of course offerings in Family and Consumer Science. She hopes the program will be included in future budget development.

Mrs. Corinne Hust stated she had heard disappointment from some parents that the Spelling Bee winners were not recognized at a Board meeting. Mrs. Cox will recognize the winners at the next Board meeting.

Mrs. Darlene Kennedy asked if any good suggestions to help the budget had been received in response to the posting on the school website. Mr. Pritts noted a number of responses had been received and reviewed. Some of the suggestions would have cost the district because they are revenue generating. Some other suggestions we have heard about for a long time such as restructuring the bus load time frame for students at departure. We are looking at restructuring the dismissal process. It was suggested that this would provide more opportunities to have meetings at the end of the day. A suggestion was received to charge for participation in extracurricular activities which is not legal in this State. Another suggestion was for a four day work week which is not legal in this State. The District, including a Board member, met with the executive committee of Tully Teacher Association the same day the suggestions were received and it was a good exchange of information.

Mrs. Kennedy inquired on the cost of faculty children attending Tully Schools as opposed to their own district. Mr. Pritts stated we have 18 nonresident students attending the district, 11 through a Board policy of grandfathered students. Under Board policy, grandfathered students can attend through graduation but this does not carry over to a new owner of the property. As far as the seven

non-resident children of staff members attending our school, our attorney says it may be a condition of employment and require negotiation.

Mrs. Kennedy stated she knows that the salary and benefit package for teachers is a very touchy subject, salary and benefits of teachers, administrators and employees of the district. She knows the teachers do a wonderful job but the community members believe they are being hit hard. Is their consideration at all to give district employees a lower wage increase to help the budget. Mr. Pritts noted it is not appropriate to discuss negotiations in public forum. All bargaining unit agreements, except for one, are open at this time.

Mrs. Kennedy noted she does not want to see salaries reduced or cut. Community members have noted however it is more difficult for them, taxpayers are taking cuts. The community is having a difficult time while district employees continue to get increases and have a good benefit package. Mr. Pritts noted some letters have come to him and the Board and have echoed that same sentiment as far as budget impact. Mr. Drumm commended Mrs. Kennedy for the courage to come to the Board and speak. He noted the Board has received numerous anonymous phone calls and letters from the community.

Mrs. Becky Harris asked if there had been a corresponding cutback in extracurricular activities. She noted this year some advanced placement classes had been cut and now talking about cutting home career courses. She was advised that the presentation would demonstrate that extracurricular areas across all areas were involved in reductions.

Mrs. Denise Cardamone spoke that she had attended the legislative meeting with Corrine Hust. She noted Mr. Steiger did an incredible job.

PRESENTATIONS – DISCUSSION/ACTION

6. 2010-2011 Budget. Mr. Pritts and Ms. Nesbitt presented an in depth PowerPoint presentation. The presentation can be found on the school website. The presentation outlined two full time positions cut in the elementary school primarily related to reduced enrollment. Additionally, two positions in the junior-senior high school would be reduced from full time to part time. A third position in the high school is still not decided as the status of that position depends upon how a new Physics teacher is hired. If the new position can be shared with another district, there will be no further reduction of current staffing in this department. The presentation also noted the reduction of one part time cleaner position, one of two indoor track coaches due to reduced participation levels, the inability to add junior high teams if there are large numbers of participants and the return to a previous contract level of one music director for the high school musical production instead of two.

Other areas were also presented as well as the use of buffers and reserves to cover the lost revenues.

Mr. Pritts noted that administrators will have some new staff members which will result in a lower cost. The Director of Special Education will be taking on some additional responsibilities. We are trying to do more with less. It was also pointed out that the district is planning to phase out the Dean of Students position over the next two to three years.

Mr. Pritts noted we have to adopt a budget by April 23. Mrs. Jean Reed asked if the district office had been looked at their budget as far as two full time secretaries. Mr. Pritts noted he had only one

secretary and the business office had a treasurer, payroll clerk and a full-time secretary. Mrs. Reed asked if there was some system we could use to outsource these positions. Ms. Nesbitt noted it had been looked at with BOCES and it was not going to save us any money. Mrs. Reed stated she thought in modern times she thought we could downsize a little more.

Mr. Matthew Chaffee asked when the detailed budget would be available to the public. Mr. Pritts noted it is required to be available once the Board adopts it and it will be put on the school website, even though this step is not required and also will be available in building offices. Mr. Pritts noted all budget presentations to date are available on the website.

7. Cabinet/Board Comments

- District. Mr. Pritts referred to agenda item #17. FFA will share the cost of transportation to attend the State convention.

- Building Spotlights

High School: Mrs. Murphy spoke about the recent visit by Elliott Merenbloom. He is an expert in scheduling and provided us with excellent ideas to improve on our scheduling process. Mrs. O'Brien noted as a result of his visit the elementary school is looking at their class schedule a different way and excited about the changes.

- Board

- Student Government: Mr. Knapp reported on the March Madness dance, Senior to Senior luncheon and the graduation planning meeting. He invited everyone to the World Awareness Night II to be held on April 8 at 6:00 pm. Mr. Pritts noted Channel 10 News had interviewed Mr. Knapp and administrators about the budget today and it went very well.

- Committees

Athletic council: No report.

Audit Committee: Mr. Bertolo reported the committee had met last week with the business office and internal auditor regarding fixed assets. It was very successful and we discussed things to improve upon. Mr. Kublick noted there is a possibility of sharing a bar code reader with Fayetteville-Manlius School District.

Facilities Committee: Mr. Drumm noted the facilities committee has not met but he has good news on the drains and bus garage. The engineer has come up with a very good solution. The drains in the bus garage are supposed to be tied into the sanitary sewer line. Since they have never been connected properly Mr. Drumm noted we have to install an oil separator. Mr. Pritts stated most likely at the next Board meeting we will have a brief hearing and it will be covered to the Board in the weekly communication.

Goals Committee: No report.

Legislative: Mr. Steiger reported Renee DeCarlo, Corrine Hust and Denise Cardamone were great participants in attending the sales tax meeting at the county chambers. There are three proposals on the table right now. The school proposal will be put forward. We were in a meeting this afternoon working with volunteers from Eric Mower and Associates. We have a proposal to be released tomorrow morning and it will be put on the school website. If we lose sales tax entirely, it amounts to about 3 percent on our tax levy. A Google link has been set up on the school website as a resource to contact our county and state legislators. Mrs. Darlene Kennedy thanked Mr. Steiger for doing this. She would like to be proactive and having a template is very helpful. Mr. Steiger stated it is very important that legislators hear from the voters and not just school Board members. Mr. Steiger noted that school taxes are the only level of government that the budget gets voted on. There was a discussion about sales tax sharing among various counties around the state. Mr. Steiger noted 14 counties do not share with any school districts, they keep 100% of sales tax revenues generated. Mr. Steiger encouraged people to contact their legislators.

FINANCIAL ITEMS

8. Motion by Mr. Burgett seconded by Mr. Bertolo to accept the financial reports for February 2010, subject to audit. (Attachment – Item 2) Vote 6-0. Motion carried.

- Treasurer's Reports
- Extra Classroom Reports
- School Lunch Fund Reports
- Revenue Budget Status Reports 07/01/09-02/28/10

POLICIES

9. Policies – none

OLD BUSINESS

10. Old business – none

PERSONNEL

Motion by Mr. Drumm seconded by Mr. Burgett to approve items numbered 11 and 12 by consent. Vote 6-0. Motion carried.

11. Approved the following substitute lists:

- Substitute Teacher – Certified and Non-Certified
- Substitute Teaching Assistant – Certified and Non-Certified

(Attachment – Item 3)

12. Accepted the request from Kimberly Abel for an extension of leave from her position of Elementary Teacher from May 14, 2010 with an anticipated return date of June 14, 2010. (Attachment – Item 4)

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Mr. Steiger seconded by Mr. Drumm to approve items numbered 13-17 by consent. Vote 6-0. Motion carried.

13. Approved the individuals listed on the attachment as election inspectors, election registrars and voting machine setup-repair for the May 18, 2010 budget vote. (Attachment – Item 5)

14. Approved as a surplus item the bus per the attached memo dated March 17, 2010 and the business administrator is authorized to dispose of the bus by the best available method at her discretion. (Attachment – Item 6)

15. Accepted the donation of items from Cornell Cooperative Extension and Mrs. Theresa Spain as listed on the attached memo dated March 25, 2010. (Attachment – Item 7)

16. Approved the contract for the Alcohol-Drug Abuse Prevention and Education Program for the calendar year 2010 and the President of the Board of Education is authorized to sign the agreement. (Attachment – Item 8)

17. Approved the recommendation that selected Tully FFA Chapter members be authorized to participate in the Agriculture Competition and FFA State Convention from May 6-8, 2010 per the attachment. (Attachment – Item 9)

After discussion, item 18 was tabled to the April 19, 2010 Board meeting. Mr. Bertolo requested Ms. Nesbitt contact scrap metal dealers to see what they would give for the surplus buses.

18. Approval: It is recommended that the Board of Education award the bids of \$1,660.00 for surplus bus #108 and \$2,160.00 for surplus bus #113 to the highest bidder, Mathies & Sons Inc. (Attachment – Item 10)

MEETING AND DATES – as provided by Cabinet

April 8 -	World Awareness Night II – 6:00-8:30 pm
April 9 -	Junior High dance – high school – 6:30 pm
April 10 -	ACT Test – high school Chicken BBQ, Car Wash, Bottle Drive-After Prom Party
April 10-11 -	Art Club to NYC
April 19 -	Board of Education meeting – high school – 6:00 pm
April 19-23 -	Spring Recess – no classes
April 26-28 -	NYS ELA Assessment - Grades 3-8
April 29 -	Kindergarten’s Nursery Rhyme Show – 6:00 pm
April 29 -	Elementary Open House – 6:30 pm
April 30 -	One Act Plays – 7:00 pm

ROUND TABLE

Public comments

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Mr. Burgett seconded by Mr. Drumm to adjourn into executive session for the discussion of personnel issues and negotiations at 7:20 pm. Vote 6-0. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Bertolo seconded by Mr. Drumm to return from executive session at 10:08 pm. Vote 6-0. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Burgett seconded by Mr. Bertolo to adjourn at 10:09 pm. Vote 6-0. Motion carried.