



ENLARGED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF  
**TROY**

TODAY'S STUDENTS. TOMORROW'S LEADERS.

## Board of Education Minutes

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, April 19, 2016  
Type of Meeting: **REGULAR MEETING**  
Location: Troy High School

### I. Call to Order

At 5:30 pm Mr. Schofield called the meeting to order.

#### A. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mr. Jason Schofield, President  
Mr. Thomas Mayo, Vice President  
Mrs. Ann Apicella  
Elizabeth Denio  
Mrs. Carol Harvin  
Ms. Mary Marro-Giroux  
Mr. Bill Strang  
Mr. Michael Tuttman  
Mrs. Anne Wager-Rounds

Members Absent: None.

Also Present: Mr. John Carmello, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Donna Watson, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction  
Mr. Adam Hotaling, Assistant Superintendent for Business  
Mrs. Kristen Miaski, Director of Human Resources  
Mrs. Erin O'Grady-Parent, School Attorney

#### B. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:30 pm Mr. Schofield made a motion for Executive Session.

## C. PUBLIC SESSION

At 6:00 pm Mr. Schofield called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

## D. PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS NON-ACTION ITEMS

No public comment.

## E. DISTRICT NEWS

Mr. Schofield read the following announcements: RPI Engineering Ambassadors will attend THS to discuss STEM; 60 THS juniors attended first Junior College Night; 63 students received NHS pins in ceremony; THS MasterMinds placed first in their league; good luck to THS students Julian Schlemmer and Mutaz Ali who will compete in the national "We the People" competition in Washington, DC.

## II. Non-Action Item

### A. 2015-16 District Goals: Baseline and Progress Data

Dr. Donna Watson, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, gave a powerpoint presentation of baseline and progress for student data as an executive summary in response to 32 questions asked by the Board. She began with an explanation of Troy's "theory of action" stating our belief that all students WILL learn and achieve at high levels; if they don't WE will change what we do to ensure they do. Dr. Watson gave an overview of data as it relates to the District's 2015-16 goals.

Dr. Watson said we are focused on District Goal 1 beginning in PK to achieve proficiency. We are constantly assessing our students in Grades K-5 with a frequency of testing which include Questar pre/post ELA and Math; Reading Streets baseline unit tests, Fountas & Pinnell, Writing Pieces, Go Math chapter tests. Grades K-2 students are tested for letter naming and sound identification; Grades K-3 are tested for high frequency words. The District has hired David Abrams as an outside consultant to evaluate our assessments. School report cards are the tightest indicators for assessment levels. Data shows there is a significant drop in scores in first grade where we have the most rigorous curriculum and most expected growth. However, scores may drop because our students have varied range of skills set when they enter school.

Dr. Watson reviewed data for excessive absenteeism (more than 18 days). Troy is doing more home visits than ever and we send home letters. The High School's absenteeism is 1% and staff is doing a great job. Attendance in kindergarten is equally important.

We are working on increasing the number of students graduating with distinction. Honor roll data shows 60% of TMS students (average 84.5 or higher) and THS has 30-40% on high honor roll. Eighty-one percent of students are on track to graduation from THS.

Questions: (1) How many students take AP classes? There are 64 students (out of 1224 students); this does not include college classes. (2) Does first grade have enough support if that is where there is most growth? Teachers are deployed by reading level and support highest needs students, not necessarily by grade. (3) When suspension letters are sent, can parents come in to return students? School makes personal contact with parents before letters are sent. (4) Do two indicators flag a student needing intervention? All data migrates to one location so we know who is at risk for not meeting their target. (5) Could Board see a sample report of a student at risk? Sample will be sent in Friday report. Guidance Office collects data. "GURU" program implementation is almost complete so everyone will see all data at one time. (6) Do we track our students after graduation? We just purchased "Naviance" to track students after graduation.

Dr. Watson thanked the Board for their questions which are focused on our students. The District is using data to direct its decisions.

#### B. Troy High Principal's Presentation

THS Principal, Joseph Mariano Jr., gave a powerpoint presentation regarding the high school. He stated that THS's vision is to make provide a place where all students are inspired to achieve success. District goal is to increase regents diploma rate by 3% and students graduation with distinction by 5%. Mr. Mariano reported that in 2014-15 25% of graduates earned an advanced diploma. THS has numerous programs which foster success: AIS, P-Tech, Transitions, Sponsor-a-Scholar, Sunset Program and ALP. They also launched a new master schedule which gives increased time blocks of 80-minutes every other day for Algebra I, Algebra II and Geometry. Review Classes are helping to increase passing grades and rates have increased since 2013-14 with consistent growth. Suspension data shows a decrease by 21%.

Mr. Mariano reported that the graduation rate in 2015 was 78.17% and 5 year rate was 84.34%. Looking ahead, he is excited about 60 students in P-Tech 9th Grade program, Naviance, Expanding the distance learning opportunities, more collaboration with 8th grade teams to better program incoming Freshman and new course offerings in Visual Arts and Computer Science.

#### C. Treasurer's Report

Mr. Adam Hotaling, Assistant Superintendent for Business, reported on March financials. He stated that all spending was cut off on April 1st so we will have a better idea of year-end balances at the next meeting. The internal claims auditor reviewed 315 claims totaling \$4.3 million. All accounts have been reconciled.

#### D. Policy Review - J. Carmello

Mr. Carmello reported on policies reviewed by the Policy Committee in February. All policies were updated within the past two years but NYSSBA recommended additional changes that the Board will approve. Discussion of Policy 5420 will be postponed until the May meeting.

1. 1120 School District Records
2. 4710 Grading Systems

3. 8630 Computer Resources and Data Management
4. 5420 Student Health Services
5. 6900 Disposal of District Property

### III. Action Items

#### A. Questar Resolutions

**Mr. Schofield made a motion to approve Items 1 and 2 as a Consent Agenda.**

**Second: Mr. Mayo**

**Discussion: Congratulations to Mary Marro-Giroux who was nominated to the Questar Board.**

**Carried: 9-0**

##### 1. Questar III - Board of Cooperative Educational Services

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy hereby casts its votes for the following candidates to fill (4) vacancies on the Rensselaer, Columbia, Greene Counties Board of Cooperative Educational services:

- a. RESOLVED: that the Board of Education casts its vote for the election of Mr. Edmund Brooks, Valatie, NY (District of Residence: Ichabod Crane Central School District), to a term as a member of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene Counties commencing July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2019.
- b. RESOLVED: that the Board of Education casts its vote for the election of Mrs. Lynn Clum, Germantown, NY (District of Residence: Germantown Central School District), to a term as a member of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene Counties commencing July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2019.
- c. RESOLVED: that the Board of Education casts its vote for the election of Mrs. Mary Marro-Giroux, Troy, NY (District of Residence: The Enlarged City School District of Troy), to a term as a member of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene Counties commencing July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2019.
- d. RESOLVED: that the Board of Education casts its vote for the election of Mrs. Nadine Gazzola, Hudson, NY (District of Residence: Taconic Hills Central School District), to a term as a member of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene Counties commencing July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2019.

##### 2. Questar III BOCES Tentative Administrative Budget 2016-17

RESOLVED: that the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Rensselaer, Columbia and Greene Counties is authorized to expend the sum set forth in the 2016-17 tentative Administrative budget document in the amount of \$5,882,746.

**B. Superintendent's Recommendations - Human Resources**

Staff Matters - Unclassified (reviewed by D. Watson)

**Mr. Schofield made a motion to approve Items 1 through 5 as a Consent Agenda.**

**Second: Ms. Marro-Giroux**

**Carried: 9-0**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, NY, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following unclassified personnel actions:

1. Unclassified Employee - Resignation

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TENURE AREA</u>	<u>% SERVICE</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
Susan Parrow	TA/Media Specialist	50%	PS-18	5/2/2016

2. Unclassified Employee - Leave of Absence (without pay)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TENURE AREA</u>	<u>% SERVICE</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
Christopher Wolff	Technology	100%	THS	4/21/2016

3. Unclassified Employee - 2015-16 Professional Development

Parent Engagement and Involvement - Literacy Activities [April 2016 - June 2016]

Diane Allen	\$31.00/hour up to 12 hours	Title I Funds
Judi Gawinski	\$31.00/hour up to 12 hours	Title I Funds
Linda Stumbaugh	\$31.00/hour up to 12 hours	Title I Funds

4. Unclassified Employee - 2015-16 PS16 Tutors

<u>NAME</u>	<u>SALARY RATE</u>
Sara Olsen	\$31.00 / hour
Kelly Poland	\$31.00 / hour

5. Unclassified Employee - 2015-16 Substitutes

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TEACHERS</u>		<u>TEACHING ASST</u>		<u>HOME TUTOR</u>	
	<u>Certified / Uncertified</u>		<u>Certified / Uncertified</u>		<u>Certified / Uncertified</u>	
	<u>(\$100 / day) / (\$90 / day)</u>		<u>(\$12.00 / hr)</u>		<u>(\$31.00 / hr)</u>	
Katherine Daggett		X		X		X
Carlene Benson	X		X		X	
Michael Bevevino		X		X		X
Nicole Skiba		X		X		X
Alyssa Jackey		X		X		X

**Staff Matters - Classified** (reviewed by K. Miaski)

**Mr. Schofield made a motion to approve Items 1 through 3 as a Consent Agenda.**

**Second: Mr. Mayo**

**Carried: 9-0**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, NY, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following classified personnel actions:

1. Classified Employee - Resignation

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>% SERVICE</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
Catherine Farrell	Clerk	50%	Human Resources	5/12/2016

2. Classified Employee - Full Time Probationary

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>% SERVIC</u>	<u>PROB APPT START DATE</u>	<u>PROB APPT END DATE</u>	<u>SALARY RATE</u>
Matthew Hemeon	Senior Custodian	100%	8/6/2015	2/5/2016	\$40,124 (pro-rated) S-2, Gr 14S

3. 2015-16 Volunteers

PS-16  
Ryan Quackenbush

**C. Superintendent's Recommendations - Programs** (reviewed by D. Watson)

**Mr. Schofield made a motion to withdraw Item 3.**

**Second: Mr. Mayo**

**Mr. Schofield made a motion to approve Items 1 and 2 as a Consent Agenda.**

**Second: Mr. Mayo**

**Carried: 9-0**

1. Contract - Brandon Abdullah's Martial Arts & Fitness

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a contract with Brandon Abdullah's Martial Arts & Fitness from May 2, 2016 - June 16, 2016 project-based learning martial arts at School 2 in the amount of \$3,500 to be paid from Community Schools grant funds.

[Brandon Abdullah's Martial Arts - Click Here](#)

2. Contract - Dr. Claudia Lingertat-Putnam, PhD

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a contract with Dr. Claudia Lingertat-Putnam, PhD from January 4, 2016 - June 30, 2016 for service learning projects in 21st Century Program (TMS) in the amount of \$1800 to be paid from 21st Century funds.

[Dr. Claudia Lingertat-Putnam - Click Here](#)

3. Rensselaer County Dept. of Mental Health      **WITHDRAWN**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve an agreement with Rensselaer County Department of Mental Health from September 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 for crisis evaluation and consultation at School 2 (T, W, Th) at a cost of \$5,000 to be paid from Community Schools grant.

[Dept. of Mental Health - Click Here](#)

**D. Superintendent's Recommendations - Business Finance**

(reviewed by A. Hotaling)

**Mr. Schofield made a motion to approve Items 1 through 3 as a Consent Agenda.**

**Second:            Mr. Mayo**

**Carried:           9-0**

1. 2015-16 Health Services Contracts (receivable)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following Health Services Contracts to be billed for reimbursement for health services for non-district students who attend private and parochial schools within the Troy City School District.

<u>School District</u>	<u>Students</u>	<u>Invoiced</u>
City School District of Albany	8	\$5,171.28
Averill Park Central School District	23	\$14,867.43
Berlin Central School District	2	\$1,292.82
Brunswick-Brittonkill Central School District	8	\$5,171.28
Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School	1	\$646.41
Cohoes City School District	5	\$3,232.05
Coxsackie-Athens Central School District	1	\$646.41
East Greenbush Central School District	3	\$1,939.23
Guilderland Central School District	1	\$646.41
Green Island Union Free School District	2	\$1,292.82
Lansingburgh Central School District	85	\$54,944.85
Menands Union Free School District	2	\$1,292.82
North Colonie Central School District	14	\$9,049.74
Rensselaer City School District	3	\$1,939.23
Shenendehowa Central Schools	4	\$2,585.64

South Colonie Central Schools	3	\$1,939.23
Waterford-Halfmoon Union Free School District	5	\$3,232.05
Watervliet City School District	12	\$7,756.92
TOTAL	182	\$117,646.62

2. Out-of-State Conference/Field Trip

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby approves the following out-of-state conference or field trip:

<u>Field Trip</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Paid By</u>
Six Flags NE Agawam, MA	TMS 7th Grade	6/1/2016	PTO funds

3. Donations

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby accepts the following donations:

<u>Donor</u>	<u>Purpose/Items</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Huddle, Inc.	Troy High athletics	\$500.00
School 16 PTA	Field trips	\$2,362.00

**E. Future Meetings**

Discussion:

Mrs. Harvin said Mr. Carmello did a wonderful job on the budget. She invited the public to come out and vote on May 17.

Ms. Marro-Giroux has heard complaints that there is not enough food in the lunch program; portions are small. Mr. Hotaling said portions are bound by federal regulations. Students get first meal at no cost but a second meal has to be purchased. Ms. Marro-Giroux would like to bring her concerns to our rep in Congress.

1. May 4, 2106 - BOE Meeting at 6:30 pm (TMS)
2. May 11, 2016 - Meet the Candidates at 6:30 pm (TMS)
3. May 17, 2016 - Budget Vote/BOE Election/Capital Project
4. May 18, 2016 - BOE Meeting at 6:00 pm (School 12)

**IV. Adjourn**

At 7:20 pm Mr. Schofield made a motion to adjourn the meeting. This was seconded by Mr. Mayo and carried 9-0.

Respectfully submitted by,

*Mary Beth Bruno*

Mary Beth Bruno, Board Clerk

