

Board of Education Minutes

Date of Meeting: March 22, 2017*
Type of Meeting: **REGULAR MEETING**
Location: Troy Middle School

**Meeting was re-scheduled from March 15, 2017 due to snow storm.*

I. Call to Order

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

A. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mrs. Carol Harvin
Ms. Mary Marro-Giroux
Mr. Tom Mayo
Mrs. Elizabeth Poletto
Mr. Jason Schofield
Mr. Michael Tuttmann
Mr. Bill Strang
Mrs. Anne Wager-Rounds

Members Absent: Mrs. Ann Apicella

Also Present: Mr. John Carmello, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Adam Hotaling, Asst. Superintendent for Business
Mrs. Erin O'Grady-Parent, School Attorney
Mrs. Stephanie Fitch, Citizens Advisory Committee
Mr. Ken Hughes, Citizens Advisory Committee

Also Absent: Dr. Donna Watson, Asst. Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
Mrs. Kristen Miaski, Director of Human Resources
Mary Ellen Adams, Citizens Advisory Committee

B. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:30 pm Mr. Schofield made a motion for Executive Session for pending litigation. Invited in were Mr. Carmello, Mr. Hotaling and Mrs. O'Grady-Parent.

C. PUBLIC SESSION

At 6:05 pm Mr. Schofield called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements: (1) Superintendent Carmello delivered nearly 5,000 signed letters demanding equitable State Aid early this month. Thank you to everyone who helped advocate for our kids; (2) Congratulations to the Troy High Girls Basketball Team for being named a 2016-2017 NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete Team and (3) The Troy High School Robotics team participated in the NY Tech Valley Regional's first competition at RPI this weekend. Troy's team made it all the way to semi-finals before being defeated.

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

There was no public comment.

II. Non-Action Items

A. TROY HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S PRESENTATION

Mr. Joseph Mariano, Jr., THS Principal, gave a power point presentation. He reviewed the District's goals and said Troy High is especially focused on graduation rates and the Code of Conduct. Troy High's vision is to make THS a place where all students are inspired to achieve success and are supported to perform to the best of their ability.

THS is proud that its graduation rate has increased to 83%; up 7% from last year and higher than other NYS high-needs urban/suburban districts which has a 70% graduation rate. This is a District-wide accomplishment. Graduate rates by ethnicity have also increased: Hispanic Students are 89% from 65% in 2015; African American students are 85% from 75% in 2015. Troy is above the state average of 68% for both groups. Mr. Mariano gave a breakdown of test scores for regents courses. There has been an increase in all regents results, except Geometry which remains low since the implementation of Common Core. He attributes THS success to his staff and additional supports.

Distance Learning program has grown at THS. There are also several new courses offered at THS this year: digital photography, creative crafts, textile fashion and computer programming. Troy's Mastermind students recently won their competition and students were congratulated. Efficacy initiative had a very successful launch and students are responding well.

III. Action Items

A. Superintendent's Recommendations - Human Resources

Staff Matters - Unclassified

(reviewed by D. Watson)

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:

Mr. Schofield made a motion to approve Items 1 - 10 as a Consent Agenda.

Second: Mr. Mayo

Carried: 8-0

1. Unclassified Employee - Leave of Absence (Unpaid)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TENURE AREA</u>	<u>% SERVICE</u>	<u>ASSIGN</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
Joyce Beauregard	Teaching Assistant	100%	PS-2	04/24/2017
Christine Cooney	Teaching Assistant	100%	TMS	04/13/2017
Kathleen Marthy	Special Education	100%	PS-14	06/05/2017
Kari Testo	Elementary	100%	PS-18	03/21/17-03/31/17

2. Unclassified Employee - Temporary Appointment

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>% SERVICE</u>	<u>ASSIGN</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>	<u>CERT. STATUS</u>	<u>SALARY RATE</u>
Amy Gettig	Speech Therapist	20%	PS-14	03/17/2017 - 06/30/2017	Speech and Language Dis., Initial	\$44,440 pro-rated (S-1, C-D)
<i>(New position - approved 3/1/2017)</i>						
Joshua Key	Teaching Assistant	100%	TMS	03/16/2017 - 06/30/2017	PE, Professional	\$24,998 pro-rated Level I
<i>(LOA - D. Kelley)</i>						
Tricia Koberger	SPED Teacher	100%	TMS	04/03/17 - 4/28/2017	Elementary, Permanent Reading, Perm. SPED, Permanent	\$46,965 pro-rated (S-2, C-I)
<i>(LOA - P. Martone)</i>						

3. Unclassified Employee - Mentor-Mentee Program

<u>MENTEE</u>	<u>TENURE AREA</u>	<u>ASSIGN</u>	<u>MENTOR</u>	<u>SALARY RATE</u>
JennaLee Ritacco	Special Education	CHS	Kyle DePaolo	\$500 stipend

4. Unclassified Employee P-TECH Curriculum Writing and Professional Development 2016-2017

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TENURE AREA</u>	<u>SALARY RATE</u>
Andrew Baitinger	Technology	\$32.00 per hour, up to 60 hours
Matthew Chapkosky	Social Studies	\$32.00 per hour, up to 60 hours
Taylor Colello	Mathematics	\$32.00 per hour, up to 60 hours
Joshua Conway	Science	\$32.00 per hour, up to 60 hours
Sara Ladopoulos	Language Arts	\$32.00 per hour, up to 60 hours
Nicole MacNeil	Mathematics	\$32.00 per hour, up to 60 hours
Matthew Marsh	Social Studies	\$32.00 per hour, up to 60 hours
Ryan Meikle	School Counselor	\$32.00 per hour, up to 60 hours

Marc Mostransky	Language Arts	\$32.00 per hour, up to 60 hours
Nancy Smith	Mathematics	\$32.00 per hour, up to 60 hours
Meghan Spring	Science	\$32.00 per hour, up to 60 hours
Elizabeth VonEitzen	School Counselor	\$32.00 per hour, up to 60 hours
William Whitty	Technology	\$32.00 per hour, up to 60 hours

5. Unclassified Employee 2016-2017 Parent Engagement and Involvement

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TENURE AREA</u>		<u>SALARY RATE</u>
Nicole Auriemma	School Psychologist	PS-14	\$32.00 per hour, up to 5 hours

6. Unclassified Employee Spring Musical 2017

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>SALARY RATE</u>
Rhonda Hermance	Properties	\$614.00

7. Unclassified Employees 2016-2017 Spring Sports

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION TITLE</u>		<u>SALARY RATE</u>
Elizabeth Close	Head Coach	Tennis	\$3,485.00
Eduardo Gutierrez	Head Coach	Tennis	\$3,485.00

(Rescind appointment, 3/01/17 agenda, page 4)

Joshua Key	Assistant Coach .50	Girls	\$1,965.50
		Outdoor Track	

8. Unclassified Employee 2016-2017 Student Interns (Unpaid)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>AREA OF STUDY</u>	<u>SUPERVISOR</u>	<u>ASSIGN</u>
Allison Wimmer	St. Rose	Physical Education	Tara Anthony	THS

9. Unclassified Employee 2016-2017 21st Century Afterschool Program [TMS]

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>	<u>SALARY RATE</u>
Danielle Haner		Teaching Assistant	\$26.00/hour, up to 15 hours/week

10. Unclassified Employees 2016-2017 Substitutes

NAME	<u>TEACHERS</u>		<u>TEACHING ASSISTANT</u>		<u>HOME TUTOR</u>	
	Certified	Uncertified	Certified	Uncertified	Certified	Uncertified
	\$100/day	\$90/day	\$12.00/hour		\$32.00/hour	
Kristin Connolly		X				
MaryGerard Connolly					X	
Emily DeViddio		X				
Nathan McCormick				X		
Neil Wahab					X	

Staff Matters - Classified (reviewed by K. Miaski)

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:

Mr. Schofield made a motion to approve Items 1 - 4 as a Consent Agenda.

Second: Mr. Mayo

Carried: 8-0

1. Classified Employee - FT Provisional Appointment

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>% SERVICE</u>	<u>ASSIGN</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>	<u>SALARY RATE</u>
Stephen Warner	High Pressure Boiler Operator	100%	District	03/17/2017	\$39,800 pro-rated (S1, Gr.-16)

(Resigned - D. Stewart)

2. Classified Employee 2016-2017 Temporary Appointment

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>% SERVICE</u>	<u>ASSIGN</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>	<u>SALARY RATE</u>
Barry Cox	Sr. Custodian	100%	THS	03/06/2017 - 06/17/2017	\$39,927 pro-rated

(LOA - M. Hemeon)
(amend Salary Rate, 03/01/17 Agenda, page 5)

(S1, Gr. 14S)

3. Classified Employee 2016-2017 Volunteers

<u>PS-2</u>	<u>PS-14</u>	<u>PS-18</u>
Devon Diego	Cindy Darling Carter	Michael Croll
Sade McKenzie	Amanda Olivo-Vukovic	
Jamel Mosely	Robyn Sheldon	

4. Classified Employee 2016-2017 Substitutes

NAME	CLERK	NURSE	MONITOR	LUNCH AIDE	TEACHER AIDE	MAINT.	LABORER
	\$11/hr	\$14/hr	\$10/hr	\$10/hr	\$10/hr	\$12/hr	\$11/hr
Eudoxie Davies		X					
Thomas Hambrick						X	X
Dominick Rizzo			X				

B. Superintendent's Recommendations - Programs (D. Watson)

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

Second: Mr. Mayo

Carried: 8-0

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

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 March - June 8, 2017 for (12) mixed martial arts classes, uniforms and gear for up to \$5700 (for extra classes) to be paid from My Brother's Keeper grant.

[Brandon Abdullah's Martial Arts & Fitness](#)

2. Contract - YMCA (School 2)

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 the YMCA from March - August 2017 for health and fitness sessions at a cost of \$750 to be paid from Title I.

<u>YMCA</u>

3. Out of State Conferences and Field Trips

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby approves out of state conferences and field trips:

CONFERENCES:

a. Learning and the Brain (Arlington, VA)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Paid By</u>
April 7-9, 2017	Sam Aronowitz Mary Frances Jaromin Esma Simohamed Jennifer White	SIG-G funds

b. Adapting Reading Units of Study to Support Classrooms Full of ELLs (San Diego, CA)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Paid By</u>
April 25, 2017	Jamie Bowen Loreley Noonan	Title III funds

c. Closing the Achievement Gap: Strategies for Excellence with Equity (Cambridge, MA)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Paid By</u>
July 10-14, 2017	Nicole Auriemma Jaimie Bowen Karen Cloutier Lamont Garland Anthony Mauriello Renee Patti Lauren Reynolds William Wendelken	Title I funds

FIELD TRIPS:

<u>Destination and Date</u>	<u>Students</u>	<u>Paid By</u>
d. Washington, DC June 26-28, 2017	TMS Grade 8	fundraising
e. Italy February 2019	THS Grades 9-12 Italian Classes	fundraising

C. Superintendent's Recommendations - Business Finance (A. Hotaling)

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

Second: Mr. Mayo

Discussion: Mr. Tuttmann said he hopes we will have better service for our taxpayers.

Carried: 7-0-1 (Mr. Mayo abstained from Item 1).

1. Official Bank Depository - All Funds (amend BOE Re-Org 7-2-16)

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, designate the following bank as depositories of the District funds effective March 16, 2017 through June 30, 2017:

Key Bank and Pioneer Commercial Bank

Capital DASNY - Checking	School Dinner - Checking
Capital Fund - Checking	School Lunch Fund - Checking
District Reserve Fund	Special Aid Fund - Checking
Debt Service - Checking	Student Activities Fund - Checking
General Fund - Money Market	Tax Account - Money Market
General Fund - Checking	Trust & Agency Fund - Checking
Payroll - Checking	

2. Financial Reports

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby approves the January 2017 financial report.

[January Financials](#)

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>
Nathan H. Kelman, Inc.	THS baseball hats	\$300.00
Thomas & Frances Stack	THS baseball hats	\$200.00

V. Board Resolution

Mr. Schofield made a motion to approve Item 1.

Second: Mr. Mayo

Carried: 8-0

1. MOA - CSEA (Substitute Hourly Rates)

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy hereby approves a Memorandum of Agreement with CSEA to approve an amendment to the CSEA contract for the period of July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2019.

VI. Budget Presentation

2017-18 Budget Overview - Draft 2

Mr. Carmello began his presentation with the budget goal to be fiscally responsible and educationally sound; this will be more difficult this year than in the recent past. Draft 1 of the budget was at \$113,587,468 with a gap of \$2,597,042 (presented on February 15th). Draft 2 of the budget is \$113,040,797 with a gap remaining of \$2,050,371. The total change from Draft 1 is \$546,671. Revenues have not changed. We are waiting on State budget numbers.

Tax Cap - This year's tax cap is .45% or \$160,000; this is less than half a percentage point. It will be difficult to go below the tax cap this year. Foundation Aid is still over \$9 million underfunded. We are in a holding pattern until State aid numbers are available.

State Assembly and Senate bills have been released. Assembly bill shows an increase by \$1.8 billion over 2016-17; including \$1.4 billion increase in Foundation Aid. A tax cap provision would codify the changes to the tax cap originally made in 2015 which would help Troy. Community Schools funding is a "set-aside" item and would be funded as a separate aid category. Senate bill shows an increase of \$1.2 billion over 2016-17, including a \$906 million increase in Foundation Aid. It does not include a phase-in schedule for the Foundation Aid formula. Community Schools would have increased funding of \$125 million over 2016-17. This is \$75 million more than the Executive's proposal. The Senate bill accepts the Executive's proposal on charter schools, including "unfreezing" charter school basic tuition. Troy has one of the highest tuition rates in the area at \$15,986. If unfrozen the new rate would be \$13,700 and this would close our gap.

Discussion: Mr. Tuttmann asked how much we receive in revenue from a PILOT. Mr. Carmello answered approximately \$1 million payment to school. Ms. Marro-Giroux asked what is the difference between unfrozen tuition and reimbursement. Mr. Hotaling answered reimbursement comes in the following school year and causes a gap.

Other Considerations - Mr. Carmello said he had a conversation with the Mayor about School Resource Officers (SROs). We have them now in TMS and THS and will continue to need them. We are asking the Mayor to split the cost. Discussions are still taking place and SROs do not appear in the Draft 2. We are still waiting on final numbers for prescription drug rates. Tier 2 and Tier 3 requests would greatly benefit our students but cannot be put in the budget until we have closed the gap.

Advocacy Efforts - Mr. Carmello and Mr. Hotaling had several face-to-face meetings with our legislators and have ongoing communication with elected officials through out the year. They delivered 5,000 advocacy letters from our stakeholders. Mr. Tuttmann said he applauds Mr. Carmello's efforts.

Capital Reserve Fund - Mr. Carmello stated the Building Condition Surveys (BCS) identified over \$50 million in needed improvements to our buildings. Last May the voters passed a \$23.3 million project to address the greatest needs in the District. The Capital Project Committee has confirmed numerous additional areas of need: School 16 improvements, classroom space, storage, educational window replacements, pool area reconstruction, etc. We need to plan for the future and establish a Capital Reserve to help cover the local share of any future capital projects. Voter approval is needed to establish the fund and authorize spending. The Board will have a special Board meeting next week (March 27 at 6 pm) to discuss further and approve a resolution within 45-day notice needed to appear on the May ballot.

Discussion: Mr. Schofield asked if there is a limit on how much we can borrow. Mr. Hotaling responded there is a constitutional debt limit that is calculated. We are approaching that and can only exceed it with 60% majority vote. Ms. Marro-Giroux asked if we should use a higher amount in case costs increase over the term; she would like to discuss different scenarios at the next meeting. Mr. Hotaling said a higher amount could risk approval by the voters.

Mr. Carmello concluded the presentation by saying the budget development calendar may need to be modified depending on when we have State aid information.

VII. Executive Session and Adjourn

Future Meetings

- a. April 4, 2017 at 6:30 pm (TMS)
- b. April 12, 2017 at 6:00 pm (TMS)
- c. April 25, 2017 at 6:00 pm (School 12)

Motion for Executive Session

At 7:30 pm Mr. Schofield made a motion to adjourn the public session and return to Executive Session. Mr. Mariano was invited to attend. This was seconded by Mr. Mayo and carried 8-0. Executive Session ended at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,



Mary Beth Bruno, Board Clerk

