

**TODAY'S
STUDENTS.**



**TOMORROW'S
LEADERS.**

THE ENLARGED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF TROY, NY

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Date of Meeting: December 19, 2012
Type of Meeting: **WORKSHOP**
Location: School 1

MINUTES

I. PUBLIC HEARING

At 6:00 pm Interim Superintendent Dr. Howard opened a public hearing. He stated the purpose of hearing is for comments on the application of True North Preparatory Charter School to extend its existing charter. No public comments were made.

Students from Troy High School's choir performed several holiday songs under the direction of Erin Mack.

II. PUBLIC SESSION CALLED TO ORDER

At 6:20 pm Mrs. Wager-Rounds, Board President, called the meeting to order. Mrs. Wager-Rounds stated the Board extends its condolences and prayers to the victims of the tragic shooting in Newtown, Connecticut. The shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School not only took the lives of brave teachers and innocent children, it shattered families and communities and shocked our nation. Mrs. Wager-Rounds requested a moment of silence in honor of these victims. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mrs. Anne Wager-Rounds, President
Mr. Bill Strang, Vice President
Ms. Ilene Clinton
Ms. Elizabeth Denio
Mrs. Carol Harvin
Mr. Tom Mayo
Mr. Jason Schofield
Mr. Michael Tuttmann
Ms. Martha Walsh

Members Absent: None.

Also Present: Dr. Brian Howard, Interim Superintendent
Mr. John Carmello, Assistant Superintendent
of Curriculum and Instruction
Ms. Mary O'Neill, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Ms. Kristen Miaski, Human Resources Director
Mrs. Erin O-Grady-Parent, School Attorney

IV. PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

No comments were made.

ACTION ITEMS

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS

(Reviewed by J. Carmello)

A. Staff Matters - Unclassified

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:

Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion for Consent Agenda for Items 1-3.

Second: Mr. Strang

Carried: 9-0

1. Unclassified Employee - Probationary Appointments

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TENURE AREA</u>	<u>% SERVICE</u>	<u>ASSIGN</u>	<u>PROB APPT START DATE</u>	<u>PROB APPT END DATE</u>	<u>CERT STATUS</u>	<u>SALARY RATE</u>
a. Heather Scarano (Retire L. Marschilok)	General Special Education	100%	THS	2/1/13 (RECALL)	1/31/15	Special Education, Permanent	\$46,250 (S-3, Col E)

2. Unclassified Employee - Temporary Appointments

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TENURE AREA</u>	<u>% SERVICE</u>	<u>ASSIGN</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATES</u>	<u>CERT STATUS</u>	<u>SALARY RATE</u>
a. Thomas Dansereau (Resign B. Wattie)	School Psychologist	100%	School 1	12/1/12 - until further notice	School Psych, Provisional	\$44,500 (prorated) (S-1, Col E)

3. Unclassified Employee - 2012-13 Substitutes

<u>NAME</u>	<u>CERTIFIED</u>	<u>UNCERTIFIED</u>	<u>TEACHING ASST</u>		<u>HOME TUTOR</u>	
	<u>(\$100.00 / day)</u>	<u>(\$90.00 / day)</u>	<u>Certified</u>	<u>Uncertified</u>	<u>Certified</u>	<u>Uncertified</u>
Shannon Behan		X	(amend appointment BOE Agenda 12/5/12, page 4)			
Kathleen Balint					X	
Thomas Dansereau					X	
Brad Hpuff		X				
Heather Scarano	X					
Charles Walker					X	

V. SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS - FINANCE

(Reviewed by M. O'Neill)

Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion to approve Item 1.

Second: Mr. Strang

Carried: 9-0

1. Contract Extension -Trinity Alliance of the Capital Region, Inc. (BOE 3-7-12) (Addendum I)

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 3-month extension with Trinity Alliance of Capital Region Inc. for residency verification services in the amount of \$4,800 to be paid from general funds.

VI. BOARD RESOLUTION

Mrs. Wager-Rounds introduced the members of Citizens Advisory Committee. She thanked them for returning to the committee to serve again.

Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion to approve Item 1.

Second: Mr. Strang

Carried: 9-0

1. Citizens Advisory Committee

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, in accordance with Policy 1210, hereby appoints the following citizens to assist with the development of 2013-14 budget and serve in an advisory capacity without pay.

Mary Ellen Adams

Ken Hughes

Richard Ellis

Tom Meyer

David Heyward

Jeannie Steigler

NON-ACTION ITEMS

VII. BUSINESS FINANCE REPORT

Treasurer's Report - Ms. O'Neill stated the reports have been sent to the Board in advance. She asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

VIII. 2013-14 BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

2013-14 Budget Report - Mr. Carmello gave a power point presentation and discussed the status of the District budget and projections for next year. He stated it has been a difficult four years as we balance a sound educational program with state and national fiscal challenges. A projection of costs include increases in retirement and employee insurance rates. Charter schools will continue to represent a significant cost to the District. There will be additional expenses with APPR regulations, upgrades to our technology infrastructure and the re-opening of the Middle School.

Mr. Carmello stated that revenues and expenses must balance but some expenses increase beyond our control. The District will learn the Governor's budget in mid-January and we will have a better idea of state aid proposals at that time. Troy is 60/40 (state aid/property taxes) and can be hurt more than other districts. Principals and department heads have been asked for their list of priorities but there has been so much already cut in the past. We will have to make tough choices but we need to keep our new mission statement in the forefront as we go through the budget process.

Building Use Committee Update - Dr. Howard reported that the Committee met on December 13th and concerns from the audience were addressed. At January 2nd BOE meeting, he will present the Committee's recommendation to the BOE and vote on January 16th. He anticipates a lot of questions and there will be considerations that require further research but cannot act on them until March 2013.

Discussion: Mrs. Harvin asked if Troy teachers are evaluated in time to receive grants. Mr. Carmello replied yes we met the deadline.
Mrs. Harvin asked if there is an increase in charter school enrollment since last year. Mr. Carmello replied yes. Mrs. Harvin stated that charter schools take money from our district.
Dr. Howard stated that Troy offers our students a premium education. Budget cuts do not effect the charter schools. We need the public to know that we out-perform the charter schools.
Mrs. Harvin asked if our student to teacher ratio is sufficient. Mr. Carmello replied that large class sizes were addressed and new classes were opened. Troy has maintained our programs (such as music and honors) despite budget cuts.

Mr. Ellis asked for an explanation of Trinity Alliance contract. Dr. Howard stated they verify residency of students enrollment in charter schools. Charter schools automatically receive money.
Mrs. Rounds asked if the "fiscal cliff" will effect our Title I funding. Mr. Carmello stated we are concerned our federal funding might decrease.

NYSSBA Creative Ways to Save Money

Vice President Bill Strang emailed BOE members with several suggestions for saving money based on recent NYSSBA convention. Commissioner King has stated that state aid is not forthcoming. Mr. Strang requested a projection for 4-5 years.
Mr. Strang suggested creative ways to save money through distance learning classes. Mr. Heiner said that THS updates can make this possible and we can share salaries of instructors with other districts. Mr. Tuttmann would like to see our CEIP (Career Exploration Internship Program) grow.
Mr. Strang said the investment in early childhood development is 9 to 1 according to Dr. King. We should focus on APPR in our UPK programs. Mr. Carmello replied Juli Currey includes this in professional development for UPK staff. Unfortunately, we do not get more grant money if we expand the UPK classes.
Mr. Strang suggested adding to the Adult Education program to generate revenue. Mr. Carmello said this program is self-sustaining but it is possible to expand it to raise revenue. He will discuss this with Mr. Bye.

Dr. Howard stated there will be an education advocacy effort among 47 area school districts regarding the educational fiscal crisis held on January 31st at Columbia High School. He encouraged Board members and the public to attend.

IX. REVIEW POLICIES

School Involvement in Political Activities 1310 - Mr. Strang did not receive any additional comments from BOE to change language. He added one sentence which stated candidates "are not restricted from collection of signatures for nominating petitions on school grounds, however, signature collection shall not occur in any school buildings while school is in session".

Use of Half-Day Attendance - Mr. Tuttmann learned that on Professional Development days when there are 1/2 day of school, high school class periods are compressed into 15 minute periods. He feels nothing can be taught in 15 minutes. Students feel it is not worth attending school on half days. Dr. Howard said we should be cautious about designing a schedule at the Board level. Students should be encouraged to attend and teachers are diligent with their instructional time.

School Safety Plan - As a result of recent tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School, Troy has looked over its emergency plans. District has site and district plans in place. They are practiced and police are on site for practices. These plans are updated annually. The annual Safety Plan should be approved by the Board each year at the re-organization meeting. On June 15, 2011 the Board approved an emergency plan. Questar has provided control training for administrators. Every building has a team to review this. This should be done annually and one person should be in charge. He suggested changing the title for Director of Facilities to "Director of Facilities and Safety" and there be a District Safety Committee formed to review what is in place. Dr. Howard also stated that staff should always wear ID badges.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS

- January 2, 2013 at 7:00 pm (PS1) - Business Meeting
- January 16, 2013 at 6:00 pm (PS1) - Workshop Meeting

XI. MOVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:50 pm Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion to move to Executive Session to discuss a contractual matter. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mayo and carried 9-0. Also invited in were Dr. Howard and Erin O'Grady-Parent, School Attorney.

XII. ADJOURN

Executive Session adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Mary Beth Bruno
Board Clerk