



BOARD OF EDUCATION Minutes

Date of Meeting: January 22, 2014
Type of Meeting: WORKSHOP
Location: School 16

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

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

II. ROLL CALL

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

Members Absent: Ms. Martha Walsh

Also Present: Mr. John Carmello, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Donna Watson, Assistant Superintendent
of Curriculum and Instruction
Ms. Mary O'Neill, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Mrs. Kristen Miaski, Director of Human Resources
Ms. Kathleen Cietek, District Treasurer
Mrs. Erin O'Grady-Parent, School Attorney

CAC Members Present: Mary Ellen Adams Tom Meyer
David Heyward Jeannie Steigler
Ken Hughes Aimee Rigney

CAC Member Absent: Mary Marro-Giroux

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:30 pm Mr. Schofield made a motion to move to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a contractual matter and pending litigation. This was seconded by Mr. Strang and carried 8-0. Invited to attend were Mr. Carmello, Dr. Watson, Ms. O'Neill, Mrs. Miaski and Mrs. Parent-O'Grady.

IV. PUBLIC SESSION

At 6:05 pm Mr. Schofield called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Schofield welcomed members of the Citizens Advisory Committee.

V. PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

No public comment.

NON-ACTION ITEMS

VI. PRINCIPAL'S PRESENTATION - T. FORD

Dr. Tracy Ford, School 16 Principal, gave a power point presentation on operationalizing the regents reform agenda. His staff is implementing common core standards and developing curriculum and assessments to prepare students for success. There have been instructional shifts for ELA/Literacy and math. There are district monthly grade-level meetings and support from partnerships with Dr. Powell and Dr. Parker targeting culturally responsive instruction on common core standards. School 16 has also held a common core information meeting for parents. School turnaround efforts are aligned with school goals and district expectations of increasing academic achievement on NYS exams by 20 percent. Suspensions have been dramatically decreased due to Turnaround Room for in-school suspension and new mentoring program with teachers. Dr. Ford said there have been 2 suspensions to date and a third student who transferred for a total of 3 VADIR suspensions. Mr. Strang asked if this is the first year for the ISS program. Yes, there are 30-40 students this year resulting in more focused behavior. Dr. Ford would like to expand program next year. Mr. Carmello added that School 16 is an example of creative thinking and the Turnaround Room has been very effective. Mrs. Harvin thanked Dr. Ford for reducing suspensions; all students deserve a second chance.

VII. TREASURER'S REPORT - K. CIETEK

December Financials. Ms. Cietek reported that the majority of December transfers were salary related. The internal claims auditor reviewed 478 payment checks totaling \$7.7 million. In the General Fund we estimate using \$307,796 of the appropriated fund balance; this could change throughout the year if the revenues come in higher. School Lunch Fund is estimated to increase in revenue over expenditures of approximately \$57,000. All accounts have been reconciled. There were no questions.

VIII. POLICY REVIEW - J. CARMELLO

Mr. Carmello stated the Policy Committee discussed the following policies in December and NYSSBA sample policies were accepted. Textbook selection is recommended by curriculum leaders and handled by the Curriculum and Instruction Office. NYSSBA changes to the Field Trip policy are consistent with our language regarding chaperones. Policies 4321 and 4773 will be post-poned for discussion until the February workshop meeting after review by the school attorney.

1. Recommended for Revision:

- 4311.1 Display of the Flag (reviewed by committee 12/17)
- 4327 Homebound Instruction
- 4511 Textbook Selection and Adoption
- 4531 Field Trips and Excursions

- 4321 Programs for Students with Disabilities (reviewed by committee 11/26)
 4773 Diplomas for Students with Disabilities

ACTION ITEMS

IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS - HUMAN RESOURCES

A. Staff Matters - Unclassified (reviewed by D. Watson)

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

Second: Mr. Strang

Carried: 8-0

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 - Leave of Absence (Unpaid)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TENURE AREA</u>	<u>% SERVICE</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
a. Sarah Reedy	Special Ed-General	100%	PS-2	1/16/14 - 2/28/14

2. 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. Ian McShane	Assistant Principal	100%	THS	2/24/14	2/23/17	SBL, <u>Initial</u>	\$92,255 (Step 1)

3. Unclassified Employee - 2013-14 Student Interns (Unpaid)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>COLLEGE</u>	<u>AREA OF STUDY</u>	<u>SUPERVISOR</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>
a. Holly Aftel	College of St. Rose	Social Studies	Christina Buckley	THS
b. Cory Gransbury	Sage College	Physical Education	Jason Jones	CHS

4. Unclassified Employees - 2013-14 Substitutes

<u>NAME</u>	<u>CERTIFIED</u>	<u>UNCERTIFIED</u>	<u>TEACHING ASST</u>		<u>HOME TUTOR</u>	
	(\$100.00 / day)	(\$90.00 / day)	Certified (\$12.00 / hour)	Uncertified	Certified (\$31.00 / hour)	Uncertified
Eleanor Ayres	X					
Kelly Longwitz	X					
Ryan Sgroi	X					
Sara Vann	X					

B. 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 1-2 as a Consent Agenda.

Second: Mr. Strang

Carried: 8-0

1. Classified Employee - Provisional Appointment

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>% SERVICE</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>	<u>EFFECT DATE</u>	<u>SALARY RATE</u>
a. Talia Valenti (Retire S. Padalino)	Secretary	100%	THS	1/27/14	\$32,172 (prorated) (S-1, Gr 9)

2. 2013-14 Volunteers

PS-18

Tammy Esposito

Lynn Pafundi

Aimee Rigney

X, SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS - PROGRAMS

1. Capital Area School Development Association (CASDA) #C045-13-14 (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 a contract with Capital Area School Development Association (CASDA) for site visitations at Troy Middle School and School 2 plus five training sessions with Dr. Jerome Steele during period January 6, 2014 - June 30, 2014 at a cost not to exceed \$24,200. Contract shall be paid from SIG funds.

XI. SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS - BUSINESS FINANCE (reviewed by M. O'Neill)

Mr. Schofield made a motion to approve Items 1-6 as a Consent Agenda.

Second: Mr. Strang

Carried: 8-0

1. 2015 Building Condition Surveys (Addendum II)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby approves a proposal from Mosaic Associates Architects for the preparation of the 2015 Building Condition Surveys at a rate of \$ 0.115 per square foot for total cost of \$77,045.00 as set forth in proposal dated January 6, 2014.

2. 2013-14 Health Services Rates

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following Health Services Rate for the students attending private and parochial schools : \$621.73 per student.

3. Surplus of Equipment

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the computer equipment with respective serial numbers on file are no longer usable and do not hold value for re-sell are hereby deemed for surplus.

4. Bid Award - Calcium

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the bid for Calcium opened on October 11, 2013 at the Albany County Purchasing Cooperative hereby be awarded to the lowest bidder as follows:

Slack Chemical Company	1 item	\$3,327.00
465 S. Clinton Street		
Carthage, NY 13619		

5. Change Orders

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

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Order No.</u>	<u>Original Sum</u>	<u>Increase</u>
Sano-Rubin Construction Co., Inc.	GC-54	\$23,470,000	\$3,508
Schenectady Hardware & Electrical	EC-11	\$4,393,500	\$17,561
Schenectady Hardware & Electrical	EC-12	\$4,393,500	\$14,411
Schenectady Hardware & Electrical	EC-13	\$4,393,500	\$14,373
Mazone Plumbing & Heating, Inc.	PC-19	\$1,587,219	\$4,163

6. 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</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Troy Middle School PTO	8th Grade Field Trip	\$200.00

XII. BOARD RESOLUTIONS

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

Second: Mr. Strang

Discussion: Mrs. Wager-Rounds asked about the next step to sell School 1 building. Mr. Carmello indicated tonight's resolution allows us to get appraisals for fair market value. We will need to go to the public for a vote to approve a sale.

Carried: 8-0

1. Citizens Advisory Committee

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, in accordance with Policy 2260, hereby appoints the following citizens to assist with the development of 2014-15 budget and serve in an advisory capacity without compensation.

Mary Ellen Adams	Tom Meyer
David Heyward	Jeannie Steigler
Ken Hughes	Aimee Rigney
Mary Marro-Giroux	

2. Anticipated Sale of Real Property

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 finds that the real property located at 2920 Fifth Avenue, Troy, New York, 12180, including the school building situated thereon and known as "School 1". are no longer needed for educational purposes: and, be it further RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to obtain at least two (2) appraisals of said real property from licensed appraisers, said appraisers retained consistent with the requirements of the General Municipal Law and District policy, for the purpose of establishing the fair market value of said real property.

3. Acceptance of TTA Fact-Finding Report

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy accepts in its entirety the January 3, 2014 Report and Recommendations of fact-finder John T. Trela in the matter of the Fact-Finding Between the Troy Teachers Association, NYSUT and the Enlarged City School District of Troy.

Mr. Schofield read the following resolution added to the agenda.

4. §3020-a Disciplinary Matter - Termination (green sheet)

Mr. Schofield made a motion to approve the following resolution.

Second: Mr. Strang

Carried: 8-0

WHEREAS, pursuant to Education Law §3020-a a hearing was held on said charges before a duly appointed Hearing Officer; and

WHEREAS, by Final Decision of the Hearing Officer, dated January 17, 2014, Kandy Fairley was found guilty of all charges and specifications preferred against her pursuant to Education Law §3020-a; and

WHEREAS, the Hearing Officer has imposed the penalty of termination from employment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby implements the Hearing Officer's Decision, dated January 17, 2014, in the Matter of the Enlarged City School District of Troy v. Kandy Fairley; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to the Hearing Officer's decision, Kandy Fairley is hereby terminated from her employment with the Enlarged City School District of Troy effective immediately.

XIII. 2014-15 BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

Draft 1. Mr. Carmello presented Draft 1 of the budget for discussion. He reminded the public of the District's mission and goals and thanked the Board for providing specific goals to work toward. Mr. Carmello and Dr. Watson are reviewing the goal regarding suspensions and TAC team is working on disproportion of suspensions throughout the District. 2013-14 budget was \$97,428,554. Proposed Draft 1 for 2014-15 school year includes a rollover of the current budget with built-in cost increases such as salaries, benefits, BOCES, charter school tuition and debt service.

Health Insurance. Health insurance will have a 6% increase and retirement rates from TRS will increase slightly from 16.5% to 17% but there will be a decrease from ERS by approximately 3% depending on the tier. We can no longer use TRS in the tax cap. There is uncertainty with the "Affordable Health Care Act" because it requires the District to offer health care to employees working more than 30 hours per week.

There will be a large increase in debt service to \$3.2 million but it is offset by state aid, therefore a portion of this money will be returned to the District. We estimate a 4% increase for BOCES services. Administrators prepared a "wish list" which totaled 10 teachers, 8 teaching assistants and 2 CSEA members.

Charter Schools. Charter School tuition is frozen at \$15,986 per student but this is much higher than neighboring districts. Last year we budgeted for \$12,810,842 and as of January we were billed for 777 students. Efforts to bring back our students have paid off; we are 20 students below budget this year. Rosemary Fagan conducted an outreach campaign which resulted in 14 elementary students coming back; 42 students returned to the Middle School. Troy Prep will add grades 3 and 4. We have made a conservative projection of 20% increase for 2014-15 budget. Mr. Heyward and Mr. Tuttman asked about tuition rates. The State determines Troy's rate and it is important that we continue to verify residency for charter students.

Tax Levy Cap. Mr. Carmello stated that 2012-13 tax cap of 2% translated to 3.61% tax levy; 2013-14 tax cap of 2% translated to 4.01% which was \$300,000 below the tax cap. The tax cap for 2014-15 is 1.4648% and many exemptions will not be available this year. We are waiting to see what the actual tax cap will be. It will be very difficult if it is under 2%. We will be doing a letter campaign to government leaders.

Transportation. Mr. Carmello will have information with scenarios for potentially reducing Troy's distance requirement at the next workshop meeting. We are much lower than State requires. He will report on how many students are impacted by a change. Mr. Strang asked for an update on the transportation bid process. Bids were received from Durham, First Student and Folmsbee. There was a cooperative bid with Lansingburgh, Menands, Waterford and Green Island. Mr. Carmello has discussed a voucher system with CDTA for the high school students that could result in savings.

Questions. Parent Dawn Watson said there are some instances where there are not sidewalks but the distance is close to school. Mr. Carmello responded there will be an exception to the distance requirement contingent on available sidewalks and traffic volume; safety would take priority over distance. CAC Jeannie Steigler said charter schools in Albany would need transfers if we use CDTA. Mr. Carmello said CDTA will give us a flat rate for the first few years.

Governor's Budget. We are still analyzing the Governor's budget which was released yesterday. There is no increase in the foundation aid. Gap elimination restoration is \$900,000 but gap elimination adjustment takes back \$3.3 million from us. On January 30th there will be another advocacy night "Schools Still in Fiscal Peril" at Colonie High School which will be followed by our letter campaign. Mr. Carmello is also sending a letter to parents about this event.

XIV. FUTURE MEETINGS

Mrs. Harvin said student artwork was displayed at Siena College's Martin Luther King Jr. celebration from Schools 14, 16, 18 and Carroll Hill.

1. January 29, 2014 at 6:00 pm (TMS) *Executive Session only*
2. February 5, 2014 at 7 pm (TMS)
3. February 12, 2014 at 6 pm (CHS)
4. February 26, 2014 at 6 pm (PS18)

XV. ADJOURN

Mr. Schofield made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 pm. This was seconded by Mr. Strang and carried 8-0.

Respectfully submitted by,

Mary Beth Bruno
Board Clerk