



SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

March 24, 2014
Central Office
8:00 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Yashu Putorti, Chairman
Saundra Gesek
Kristen Harmeling
Jay Hatfield
Jennifer Magri
Fred Stanek
Ed Strumello
Lee-Ann Dauerty, Board Clerk

Board Members Absent: Theodora Klarides
Allison Sobieski-McAndrew

Others in Attendance: Christine Syriac, Superintendent of Schools
Rick Belden, Assistant Superintendent, Finance & Operations
Nancy Snopkowski, Associate Superintendent
Virginia Tagliatela, Director of Special Services
Glenn Lungarini, Principal, SHS
Jim Freund, Asst. Principal, SHS
Paul Lucke, Asst. Principal, SHS
Bernadette Hamad, Principal, SMS
Ernie DiStasi, Asst. Principal, SMS
Mary Sue Feige, Principal, BS
Kris Boyle, Asst. Principal, BS
David Olechna, Principal, CLS
Leslie Sojka, Asst. Principal, CLS

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Mr. Putorti called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 8:00 p.m.

II. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE 2014-2015 BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET BASED ON THE BOARD OF FINANCE RECOMMENDED NUMBER

Mrs. Syriac reviewed the revised road map of the 2014-2015 budget, reviewed the line item adjustments, and then asked the Board members if they had any questions. Mrs. Harmeling asked if we can include the Special Education students we enrolled in November and December. Mr. Belden said we constantly monitor and review Special Education students with Virginia Tagliatela and if it were to impact the budget, he would inform the Board. Mrs. Harmeling asked if there were any non teaching position (such as a custodial position) that is currently open that possibly cannot be filled. Mrs. Syriac confirmed that they looked at non teaching open positions, including an open custodial position but after discussions with Mr. Natzel it was determined not to be feasible to not fill the position. However, it will not be filled until after the referendum is passed. She said there are some teaching positions that will be posted before the budget is finalized and this is because if we wait it will be difficult to get good people for the positions.

Ms. Harmeling asked if the STEM teaching position will be going forward since the Board had previously committed to it. Mrs. Syriac reminded her that she did not get a firm commitment on the STEM teaching position from the Board and the position will not be moved forward at this time. Ms. Gesek asked if the two language arts positions at the middle school are necessary and Mrs. Syriac confirmed that they are needed in order to make the schedule work. Mr. Hatfield asked why we are publicly making the revisions known when in the past we said that would not happen. Mr. Putorti explained that this would be the only time this will be done and it is to let the Board know what is being revised since it will be discussed in the webinar on Wednesday. Mr. Hatfield asked if cutting an intern at the high school would cause any problems with substitutes since we had previously been told substitutes were hard to get. Mrs. Syriac confirmed that it would not impact the situation because they have building substitutes and the cost is comparable. She said currently the high school has two interns while the middle school and both elementary schools each have one. With the change, all schools will have one intern. Mr. Hatfield asked about the original plan of having the content coordinator work between the middle school and the high school and since we are going to now hire a language arts teacher instead; would they be moving between the two schools also? Mrs. Syriac said the movement between the two schools was mainly because of the curriculum piece of the job. Since it is now a teaching job, it would not be split between the middle school and high school. Mr. Strumello asked about the difference in the salaries of the science, language arts, and STEM teaching positions and Mrs. Syriac explained the STEM teacher was a new position so benefits are included in the salary.

MOTION: (Mr. Stanek/sec., Mr. Strumello) to approve the revised 2014-2015 Board of Education Budget proposal of \$895,463 (2.89%) as presented

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

III. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Ms. Harmeling) to adjourn the meeting

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Magri, Mr. Putorti, Mr. Stanek, Mr. Strumello

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Submitted by:
Lee-Ann Dauerty
Board Clerk