

CORTLAND ENLARGED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Meeting – Tuesday, August 20, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.
Kaufman Center, 1 Valley View Drive, Cortland NY

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was held on Tuesday, August 20, 2013 at the Kaufman Center, 1 Valley View Drive, Cortland, New York.

Present: Mr. Donald Colongeli (*arrived 8:05 p.m.*), Ms. Janet Griffin, Ms. Judith Murphy, Mr. John Natoli, and Ms. Alane Van Donsel

Absent: Ms. Melissa Davis-Howard and Mr. Daniel Sidebottom

Also Present: Mr. Michael Hoose, Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Judi Riley, Assistant Superintendent for Pupil and Personnel Services; Cortland Standard Representative; School and Community Representatives; and Ms. Margaret Baccaro, Clerk

1. **CALL TO ORDER and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Ms. Van Donsel called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **COMMUNICATIONS and RECOGNITION:**
 - a. Kudos Korner: None.
 - b. Audience Participation – on items related to the Agenda. There were no requests to address the Board.
 - c. Board Member Reports
 - 1) Feedback on August 15, 2013 Board Retreat – Mr. Hoose reported that Dr. Bruce T. Frasier, Executive Director Rural Schools Association of NY, facilitated the recent Board retreat. Dr. Frasier provided an overview of board/superintendent roles and responsibilities and then transitioned to the use of data in setting goals and improving school rankings and student achievement.
 - 2) Board Facilities Review Committee – Ms. Van Donsel reported the committee met on August 8, 2013. Ms. Van Donsel was elected as chairperson, and members decided to allow a community member, who has expertise in this area, to serve as an ad hoc committee member. The committee reviewed items under wrap-up, e.g., security system, water leaks after heavy rain, countertop failure and roofing projects. In addition, they discussed priorities for remaining capital project funds, a five-year plan and additional items that are on the radar including a pole barn roof, new phone system, sidewalks at the Jr.-Sr. High School and Smith, sound system and stage floor at the Jr.-Sr. High School, and energy performance programs.
3. **PRESENTATIONS:**
 - a. Capital Project Update

Mr. Lee Stepp, Lend Lease Construction Management, provided an update on the Phase 2 roofing project and stages of completion. He shared that there was damage to computers in the computer lab at Barry School during the recent heavy rains. The damages are being assessed by an independent insurance adjustor as well as one representing the roofing company. Sands Brothers Roofing Company has provided a reasonable cost estimate for replacing the roof on the Pole barn.
 - b. Failure Is Not an Option – Michael Hoose

Mr. Hoose and Ms. Riley provided an overview of the Failure Is Not an Option model of school improvement. Mr. Hoose shared that it had become apparent not long after his arrival that administrators and teachers were looking for direction. The District lacked a clear vision and mission for goal setting--a road map for the district. Two key points that occurred over the course of last year were: (1) Ms. Riley and Ms. Kaup reported that they had attended a Hope Foundation event, sponsored by Ithaca School District. They shared the book, *Failure is Not an Option*, authored by Dr. Alan Blankstein, founder and president of Hope Foundation. The administrative team decided to do a book study over the course of the year. (2) Simultaneously, the Professional Development Team elected to read *The Answer Is in the Room*, also authored by Dr. Blankstein, that focuses on developing professional learning communities. As a group it was decided to explore FNO with a wider audience.

This summer, the District hosted a Failure is Not an Option event, facilitated by Dr. Blankstein, for a group of teachers and administrators (members of the Council for Instructional Excellence and Professional Development Committee). One event activity included input on a district vision. At the administrative retreat, administrators repeated that activity and used the input from the event to formalize a District Vision Statement. In addition the FNO group established Guiding Values PRIDE (**P**rofessionalism, **R**espect, **I**ntegrity, **D**iligence, **E**xcellence and Equity) which will be shared with the

FNO group. This will be shared with staff on opening day. Going forward decisions will be made by the group on how to proceed.

4. CONSENT ITEMS:

- a. Minutes of August 6, 2013 Regular Meeting
 - b. CSE/CPSE (Committee on Special Education/Committee on Pre-school Special Education) Recommendations
610307161, 607000499, 607001020, 610387747, 607000783, 607000395, 607001041, 607001018
 - c. Appointment of Tax Collector – Judy Brown
- RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve the Consent Items as presented.**
- Moved by Ms. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Natoli. No further discussion.**
- Final Vote: Yes – 4, No – 0. Motion Carried.**

5. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Code of Conduct 2nd Reading
- RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the Code of Conduct (2nd Reading) as amended.**
- Moved by Mr. Natoli, seconded by Ms. Griffin.** Under discussion members discussed at length the addition of a behavior contract after a third offense. Mr. Natoli was firm that he would only approve a behavior contract if the penalty would be reduced by only one-half year. Members agreed to this modification and approved the code as **amended**. Changes to the Code will be highlighted in bold text to bring attention to the changes.
- Final Vote: Yes – 4, No – 0. Motion Carried.**

6. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Financial Reports: Treasurer’s Report, Trial Balance, Revenues, Intrafund Transfers, Appropriations, Warrant, Claims Monthly Report and Extra Classroom Activity Fund Quarterly Reports June 2013
- RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve Financial Reports dated June, 2013 as presented.**
- Moved by Ms. Griffin, seconded by Ms. Murphy. No further discussion.**
- Final Vote: Yes – 4, No – 0. Motion Carried.**
- b. Approval of Contract Agreement for Superintendent - *Tabled*
 - c. Approval of BOCES Transportation Request for Special Education Program
- Resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the renewal of the Transportation Contract with OCM BOCES for the daytime transportation of special education students attending BOCES for therapeutic and/or program needs as presented.**
- Moved by Ms. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Natoli. No further discussion.**
- Final Vote: Yes – 4, No – 0. Motion Carried.**
- d. 1st Reading Erie I BOCES Policy Revisions to Section 5000 Non-Instructional/Business Operations – Policies – *Tabled*
 - e. CAPCO/Head Start Food Service Program Pricing
- RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the CAPCO/Head Start Program contracted pricing for meals for 2013-14 as presented.**
- Moved by Ms. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Natoli. No further discussion.**
- Final Vote: Yes – 4, No – 0. Motion Carried.**
- f. Approval of Rental Agreement for Ice Hockey at Cortland Sports Complex, Inc
- RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve the continuation of the agreement with the Cortland Sports Complex, Inc. for Cortland/Homer combined ice hockey for 2013-14, at a fee of \$155 per hour, split evenly between the two districts, as presented.**
- Moved by Mr. Natoli, seconded by Ms. Griffin. No further discussion.**
- Final Vote: Yes – 4, No – 0. Motion Carried.**
- g. Contract Renewal for Virgil Snow Removal and Sanding for the 2013-14 School Year
- RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the agreement between Cortland Enlarged City School and the Town of Virgil for Snow Removal and Sanding at Virgil School for 2013-14 as presented.**

Moved by Ms. Griffin, seconded by Ms. Murphy. No further discussion.

Final Vote: Yes – 4, No – 0. Motion Carried.

- h. Approval of Snow Plowing Service Agreement with the City of Cortland for the 2013-14 Fiscal Year **Resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Cortland Enlarged City School District hereby approve the agreement for snow plowing service for the 2013-14 fiscal year with the City of Cortland.**

Moved by Mr. Natoli, seconded by Ms. Griffin. No further discussion.

Final Vote: Yes – 4, No – 0. Motion Carried.

- i. Approval of Appointment of Impartial Hearing Officer Joan Alexander, Esq. **RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the Appointment of Impartial Hearing Officer Joan Alexander, Esq., as presented.**

Moved by Ms. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Natoli. No further discussion.

Final Vote: Yes – 4, No – 0. Motion Carried.

- j. Approval of Field Placement Agreement between Cortland Enlarged City School District and State University of New York College at Cortland, Kinesiology Department for 2013-14 **RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the Field Placement Agreement between Cortland Enlarged City School District and State University of New York College at Cortland, Kinesiology Department for 2013-14, as presented.**

Moved by Ms. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Natoli. No further discussion.

Final Vote: Yes – 4, No – 0. Motion Carried.

- k. Authorize Superintendent to enter into a Shared Transportation Services Agreement between Cortland Enlarged City School District and Marcellus School District for Transportation to NYS School for the Blind **RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education of the Cortland Enlarged City School District hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to enter into an agreement with Marcellus Central School District for purpose of providing transportation for Marcellus students to the New York State School for the Blind.**

Moved by Ms. Griffin, seconded by Ms. Murphy. No further discussion.

Final Vote: Yes – 4, No – 0. Motion Carried.

7. PERSONNEL ACTION:

- a. Approval of Personnel Resignations and Leaves **RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve the Resignations and Leaves as presented on Resignations and Leaves Schedule 11.17.**
 Moved by Mr. Natoli, seconded by Ms. Griffin. No further discussion.
Final Vote: Yes – 4, No – 0. Motion Carried
- b. Approval of Non-Instructional Personnel Appointments **RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the appointments for Non-Instructional Personnel as presented on Schedules of Appointment 1093 and 1094.**
 Moved by Ms. Griffin, seconded by Ms. Murphy. No further discussion.
Final Vote: Yes – 4, No – 0. Motion Carried.
- c. Approval of Administrative and Instructional Personnel Appointments **RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve the appointments for Instructional Personnel as presented on Schedules of Appointment 2252, 2253, 2254 and 2255.**

Mr. Colongeli arrived at 8:05 p.m.

Moved by Mr. Natoli, seconded by Ms. Murphy. No further discussion.

Final Vote: Yes – 4, No – 0, Abstain – 1 (Mr. Colongeli). Motion Carried.

8. LEADERSHIP REPORTS:

- a. Director of Business Operations – None
- b. Assistant Superintendent for Pupil and Personnel Services
- 1) Student Enrollment Update – Ms. Riley reported that although we have had many moves in, out and throughout the district, enrollment has remained stable. At this time we have no overenrolled classes, and we are working to return students from previously overenrolled sections to their home schools.
 - 2) Recruitment Update – Ms. Riley reported that following tonight's appointments we have seven openings yet to be filled. Those positions are in the interview stage of the recruitment process.

- c. Superintendent
 - 1) Change Order Summary – Mr. Hoose reviewed change order GC-0453 for \$8,035.
 - 2) APPR Feedback – Mr. Hoose reported that we have not received the growth scores for teachers and principals from the State. They are expected later in the week.
 - 3) LERA of Central New York Invitation Discussion on Teacher Evaluations and Collective Bargaining – Mr. Hoose shared that he and Ms. Riley will be attending this workshop since the District has three contracts coming up for renewal this year,
 - 4) Board Retreat – Members will receive tomorrow, via e-mail, a survey to complete on the August 15 Board retreat.
 - 5) OCM BOCES Referendum – Mr. Hoose reminded members that BOCES has announced a tentative capital project. Should the project move ahead BOCES will be required to hold a public referendum. It has been decided that polling places will not be housed in component districts as there may be a potential (mistaken) public perception that such a referendum automatically signals an increase in the tax levy.

- 9. **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: (Individuals are requested to keep their comments to two-minutes per speaker).** There were no requests to address the Board.
- 10. **NEXT MEETING AGENDA REVIEW** – None.
- 11. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – No executive session was required.
- 12. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Hoose took a moment to express his appreciation and compliment all staff for the work they have done over the summer.

As there was no further business to discuss, Ms. Van Donsel asked for a motion to adjourn the Regular meeting at 8:23 p.m.

Moved by Mr. Natoli, seconded by Ms. Murphy.

Final Vote: Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion Carried.

Ms. Margaret Baccaro, Clerk