

**CORTLAND ENLARGED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Board of Education Meeting – Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Kaufman Center, 1 Valley View Drive, Cortland NY**

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A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was held on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at the Kaufman Center, 1 Valley View Drive, Cortland, New York.

**Present:** Mr. Donald Colongeli, Ms. Melissa Davis-Howard (*departed at 7:07 p.m.*), Ms. Janet Griffin, Mr. John Natoli, and Mr. Daniel Sidebottom

**Excused:** Ms. Judith Murphy

**Absent:** Ms. Alane Van Donsel

**Also Present:** Mr. Michael Hoose, Superintendent; Ms. Judi Riley, Assistant Superintendent for Pupil and Personnel Services; Ms. Kristie Bliss, Director Curriculum and Instruction; Ms. Margaret Boice, Interim Director Business Services; Mr. Robert Martin, Director of Facilities; *Cortland Standard* Representative, School and Community Members; and Ms. Margaret Baccaro, Clerk

1. **CALL TO ORDER and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - Ms. Davis-Howard called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
  
2. **CONSENT ITEMS:**
  - a. Minutes of February 25, 2015 Regular Meeting
  - b. CSE/CPSE (Committee on Special Education/Committee on Pre-school Special Education) Recommendations  
610322291, 607001461, 610380835, 607001110, 610305424, 610362340, 610288582, 610305679, 607000611, 607001517, 610281270, 607000102, 610365373, 610341870, 610298186, 610323993, 610373829, 607000913, 610365680, 607001355, 610314521, 607000146, 610391558, 610288132  
**RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve the Consent Items as presented.**  
**Moved by Mr. Natoli, seconded by Ms. Griffin.**  
**Final Vote: Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion Carried.**
  
3. **OLD BUSINESS:** None
  
4. **NEW BUSINESS:**
  - a. Financial Reports: Treasurer’s Report, Trial Balance, Revenues, Intrafund Transfers, Appropriations, Warrant, Claims Monthly Report – January 2015  
**RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve Financial Reports dated January 2015 as presented.**  
**Moved by Mr. Sidebottom, seconded by Mr. Natoli. Discussion: None**  
**Final Vote: Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion Carried.**
  - b. Approval of 5-Year Computer Technology Service Contract with OCM BOCES July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2020  
**RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, to approve a 5-Year Computer Technology Service Contract with OCM BOCES July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2020 as presented.**  
**Moved by Ms. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Sidebottom. Discussion: None**  
**Final Vote: Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion Carried.**
  - c. Approval of Notice of Annual Meeting, defining the Budget Public Hearing Date, Polling Locations, Voter Registration Day, and Publication of Notice of Annual Meeting and Election, Bus lease proposition and Library Proposition as presented.  
**RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education for the Cortland Enlarged City School District hereby approves the Notice of Annual Meeting, defining the Budget Public Hearing Date, Polling Locations, Voter Registration Day, and Publication of Notice of Annual Meeting and Election, Bus Lease Proposition and Library Proposition as presented.**  
**Moved by Mr. Colongeli, seconded by Ms. Griffin. Discussion: None**  
**Final Vote: Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion Carried.**

- d. Universal Pre-K Contracts  
**RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the 2015-16 Universal Pre-Kindergarten Contracts as presented.**  
 Moved by Mr. Sidebottom, seconded by Mr. Natoli. Discussion: None  
 Final Vote: Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion Carried.

5. **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 11.47.**  
 Moved by Ms. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Sidebottom. Under discussion, the following retirements were accepted with deep regret: James Lumley (32 years), Colleen North (14 years), Maureen McDermott-Mulherin (25 years), Robert Walrath (30 years), David Darrow (29 years), and Pamela Platt (25 years).  
 Final Vote: Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion Carried.
- b. Approval of Non-Instructional Personnel Appointments - None
- c. Approval of 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 2337 and 2338.**  
 Moved by Ms. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Sidebottom. Discussion: None  
 Final Vote: Yes – 5, No – 0. Motion Carried.

*Ms. Davis-Howard turned the meeting over to Vice-President Griffin, and departed at 7:07 p.m.*

6. **PRESENTATIONS:**

- a. *The Leader in Me* - Randall School 6<sup>th</sup> Graders  
 Mr. Cliff Kostuk, Principal Randall Elementary School, introduced Mrs. Nancy Thompson, 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Randall. Ms. Thompson explained that the students would be doing a presentation based on the teachings of Dr. Stephen Covey, author of *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*. Sixth graders Tahlik Dennis, Kara Brown, Nathaniel Mrozowski, Malana Booker, Dakota Soule, and Rheona Allen delivered the presentation, *The Leader in Me*. The students explained that the whole school practices the seven habits, with staff working to inspire greatness, one child at a time while students are striving to become leaders by getting better grades, behaving appropriately, and being engaged in learning.
- b. 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Academic Report – Kristie Bliss  
 Ms. Kristie Bliss, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, began the second quarter academic report by explaining that quarter reports show student achievement at a specific point in time. They provide information for discussion and subsequent action. Reflecting on the data, provides insight about: student achievement, student growth, and program effectiveness. She presented charts for grades K-6 reflecting data gathered from report card grades showing percentages of students meeting, approaching and struggling to achieve grade level for course standards in ELA, math, social studies, science and health. In addition Ms. Bliss provided a two-year history of students with high attendance. Next, Ms. Bliss reported on the academic progress for grades 7-12. She presented charts reflecting the percent meeting or exceeding standards, percent approaching standards, percent struggling to achieve standards and percent incomplete and/or medical. She also provided charts reflecting the percent of students passing vs. failing courses, percent of students failing one or more courses, a two-year history of students with high attendance and a five-year drop-out comparison. She summarized with a slide showing the percent of students on Merit List or Honor Roll.

7. **COMMUNICATIONS and RECOGNITION:**

- a. Kudos Korner: None
- b. Audience Participation – There were no requests to address the Board on items relating to the agenda.
- c. Board Member Reports

- 1) BOE Policy Committee Meeting – Mr. Natoli reported on March 3, 2015 the committee met to continue work on policies relating to technology. Ms. Denise Fox, IT Administrator, is assisting with the review of these policies.
- 2) BOE Facilities Committee – Next Meeting March 26, 2015, 3:30 p.m.
- 3) OCM BOCES Annual Meeting – The OCM BOCES Annual Meeting will be held April 1, 6:00 p.m. at the McEvoy Campus with a dinner prepared by the Culinary Arts students. Members were asked to complete the reservation form provided, and return it to the Clerk after the meeting.
- 4) Feedback on 2015 NYSCOSS Annual Winter Institute and Lobby Day – Mr. Hoose shared that NYSCOSS, a professional and advocacy organization of service to school superintendents in NYS, sponsors this annual conference in Albany. Rather than meeting on Lobby Day, this year Cortland County Superintendents chose to meet with Senator Seward at his local office--they found this to be more effective. In addition, Mr. Hoose has spoken at length to Assemblywoman Lifton regarding various strategies for redistribution of funds. Senator John Flannigan, Senate Education Committee Chair, shared at the conference that districts will be getting more funds this year; however, there will be strings attached especially around the APPR process.

**8. LEADERSHIP REPORTS:**

- a. Director of Business Services – Ms. Boice reported that auditors D’Arcangelo & Co., LLP have been in the district this week conducting an internal audit. She expects a very useful report from this firm.
- b. Assistant Superintendent for Pupil and Personnel Service
  - 1) Update on Director of Business Services – Ms. Riley shared that eight candidates were invited for initial interviews with seven accepting. The interviews are scheduled for this week.
- c. Director of Curriculum and Instruction – Ms. Bliss shared that the state review of our elementary Focus School had been conducted. Although the District has not yet received a formal report, the review team reported that they had tremendous respect for our school and staff. They commented that they had never seen a staff with such urgency about improvement.
- d. Superintendent – Mr. Hoose had no items to add.

**9. BOARD MEMBER ACTIVITIES:** There were no activities to report.

**10. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:** There were no requests to address the Board.

**11. NEXT MEETING AGENDA REVIEW:** There were no additional agenda items.

**12. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**In accordance with Public Officer’s Law Section 96, Subdivision 1, Ms. Griffin called for an Executive Session at 8:11 p.m. to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person. Action will be taken following Executive Session.**

**Moved by Mr. Colongeli, seconded by Mr. Natoli. Discussion: None**

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

**The Executive Session adjourned at 8:30 p.m..**

**Moved by Mr. Sidebottom, seconded by Ms. Griffin. Discussion: None**

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

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

**As there was no further business to discuss, Ms. Griffin asked for a motion to adjourn the Regular meeting at 8:31 p.m.**

**Moved by Mr. Sidebottom, seconded by Mr. Colongeli. Discussion: None**

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