

**CORTLAND CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Board of Education Regular Meeting – Tuesday, March 24, 2009**

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A regular meeting of the Board of Education was held at 7:00 PM at the Kaufman Center, 1 Valley View Drive, Cortland, NY, on Tuesday, March 24, 2009.

**Present:** Mr. Paul Marshall, Ms. Mary Lou Bordwell, Mr. Sean Clark (arrived at 6:05 PM), Dr. Bonni Hodges, Mr. Joseph Lyman

**Absent:** Ms. Lisa Hoeschele, Mr. William Young

**Also Present:** Mr. Laurence Spring, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Arthur Martignetti, Director of Business Services; Ms. Judi Riley, Assistant Superintendent for Pupil and Personnel Services; Community Representatives; Mr. Scott Conroe, Cortland Standard; Ms. Carolyn Dorn, Clerk, Board of Education

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** In Ms. Hoeschele's absence, Mr. Marshall called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.
2. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**In accordance with Public Officer's Law Section 96, Subdivision 1, Mr. Marshall called for an Executive Session at 6:03 PM, to discuss particular persons. Moved by Dr. Hodges, seconded by Ms. Bordwell. Vote: Yes – 4, No – 0.**

**Mr. Marshall asked for a motion to adjourn the Executive Session at 7:00 PM. Moved by Dr. Hodges, seconded by Ms. Bordwell. Vote: Yes – 5, No – 0.**
3. **RECALL TO ORDER and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** Mr. Marshall recalled the regular meeting to order at 7:04 PM, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
4. **COMMUNICATIONS and RECOGNITION:**
  - a. **Kudos Korner:**
    - 1) Senior, Dan Foster, was recognized by the Board for his outstanding accomplishments on the Cortland Wrestling Team. For the 2009 season, he was a Class A Champion, a Section 3 Division 1 Champion, a New York State Championship Qualifier (for the second time), and had 50 wins. He had over 150 wins in his wrestling career at Cortland.
  - b. **Audience Participation.** There were no requests to address the Board.
  - c. **Board Member Reports -**
    - 1) **OCM BOCES Annual Meeting** – 4/2/09 at McEvoy Center – Deadline 3/25. If there is anyone interested in attending, they should let Ms. Dorn know tonight as the deadline is tomorrow.
    - 2) **New York State Association of Small City School Districts** – 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference. Mr. Marshall noted that this was a “save the date” announcement for this event on June 1, 2009. The title for the conference is, “Opportunities in Crisis: Reshaping School Budgets.”
5. **PRESENTATIONS:**
  - a. **Budget Review.** Mr. Martignetti reviewed highlights of the proposed 2009-10 budget to come before the Board for action on April 7, 2009. Mr. Martignetti noted that in developing this budget, all aspects of past budgets were reviewed to determine places where savings could be realized, while insulating students and programs from the adverse effects of reductions. He also advised that thoughtful investigation had been made of the amount of reserve funds that could be used to balance the budget. He reviewed the areas and amounts where it is felt reductions can be made. These areas included staff reductions; administrative, secretarial and Building and Grounds/Transportation reorganization; newsletter production reduction; reduced athletic contests; and purchasing one less bus than planned. The proposed budget totals \$41,372,972., the same amount as the 2008-09 budget, with no tax levy increase. Mr. Martignetti asked the Board to contact him or Mr. Spring if they had any questions/concerns, and he would make sure to include his replies in his presentation to the Board on April 7, 2009. He thanked the public for their input at the open budget meetings.
6. **CONSENT ITEMS:**
  - a. Minutes of March 10, 2009 Regular Meeting.
  - b. Financial Reports, Treasurer's Report, Intrafund Transfers, Warrants – February, 2009.
  - c. Approval of CPSE Recommendations of 3/11 and 3/18/09; CSE Elementary Recommendations of 2/26, 3/12, 3/10, 3/13, and 3/17/09 (2, Barry Revised); CSE Secondary Recommendations of 3/4, 3/11 and 3/12/09; CSE BOCES Recommendations of 3/17/09; and District Recommendations of 3/12 and 3/19/09.
  - d. BOCES Contract Amendment #7.  
**RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the Consent Items as presented. Moved by Dr. Hodges, seconded by Mr. Lyman. Vote: Yes – 5, No – 0.**

**7. OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. Approval of 2009-10 Faculty/Student Calendar. **RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the 2009-2010 Faculty/Student Calendar as presented. Moved by Ms. Bordwell, seconded by Mr. Clark. Vote: Yes – 5, No – 0.**

**8. NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Approval of Resolution for Budget Public Hearing, Polling Locations, Publication of Notice of District Meeting. **RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the Resolution defining the Budget Public Hearing Date, Polling Locations and Publication of Notice of District Meeting, as presented, and as attached to these minutes. Moved by Dr. Hodges, seconded by Ms. Bordwell. Vote: Yes – 5, No – 0.**
- b. Approval of Letter to Support Speed Reduction on McLean Road in Lime Hollow Center Area. **RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve sending a letter from the Board of Education to the Regional Director of the NYS Department of Transportation, to support the reduction of the speed limit on McLean Road, near the Lime Hollow Center to 45 MPH, for the safety and well-being of our students, as well as the many other visitors frequenting the Lime Hollow Nature Center, as presented. Moved by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Clark. In discussion, Mr. Spring explained that the request had come from Cortlandville Councilman Ron Rocco. A lot of students visit the Nature Center from school programs, and he was in support of the request. Mr. Lyman noted his support of the speed change as he frequently travels that road agrees that excessive speed is used. Final Vote: Yes – 5, No – 0.**

**9. PERSONNEL ACTION:**

- a. Approval of Personnel Resignations and Leaves. **RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the Resignations and Leaves as presented on Resignations and Leaves Schedule No. 10.30. Moved by Dr. Hodges, seconded by Ms. Bordwell. Vote: Yes – 5, No – 0.**
- 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 Schedule of Appointment #985. Moved by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Clark. Vote: Yes – 5, No – 0.**
- c. Approval of Instructional Personnel Appointments. **RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the appointments for Instructional Personnel as presented on Schedule(s) of Appointment #2015 and 2016. Moved by Dr. Hodges, seconded by Mr. Clark. Vote: Yes – 5, No – 0.**

**10. LEADERSHIP REPORTS:**

- a. **Director of Business Operations -**
  - 1) Financial Summary Reports - Mr. Martignetti reviewed our Year-to-Date Expenditures, Revenues, Cafeteria Financial Reports, and Claim Auditor Report.
- b. **Assistant Superintendent for Pupil and Personnel Services.** No Report.
- c. **Superintendent -**
  - 1) Mr. Spring asked the Board to let either he or Mr. Martignetti know, after reviewing the proposed budget line-by-line, what they like, anything they would like looked at a second time, or if there are any items they would like further explained.
  - 2) Mr. Spring updated the Board on the State Budget Process and Federal Stimulus Package. He advised that we still needed to look at a conservative budget as it still isn't known if the State budget will be on time and we still need clarification and rules on the Federal Stimulus funds.

**11. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: (Individuals are requested to keep their comments to two minutes).**

- 1) Ms. Amy Rosas respectfully asked the Board to publish their meeting agendas ahead of time on-line. She also asked if meetings were being considered for the elementary schools like the public budget hearing planned for the High School. Mr. Marshall thanked her for her comments and said the Board would consider her requests and advise appropriately.
- 2) Mr. Michael Vail, Councilman for the Town of Virgil, advised the Board that the Virgil Town Board has established a franchise agreement with Corning Natural Gas Corporation for a low cost energy solution. The initial application to the Public Service Commission did not include any other establishment except for Hope Lake/Greek Peak Resort. However, the Town met with Corning many times and got them to agree to include the Town Hall, School, Fire Station and Highway Garage at no delivery charge, and he hope the school would take advantage of this.
- 3) Ms. Barbara Gage voiced her concern about her rights to be informed of disciplinary action taken in response to an incident at her child's school, and that there should be uniform disciplinary action throughout the District. Mr. Marshall asked her to put her concerns in writing to the Board and they would respond to her at a later time.

- 4) Mr. Jeremy Boylan, School Information Officer, advised that regarding the newsletter production reduction discussed at the open community budget meetings and stated above, \$34,000 of the \$51,438 savings mentioned were for printing costs, and the balance was for his salary. He has been advised that his position was being eliminated. If the School Information Officer position remained, there could still be a 2/3 cost reduction in having that position produce an on-line newsletter.
- 5) Ms. Lori Megivern, CUT President, asked if any of the cuts being planned in the proposed budget were to replace secretarial staff with answering machines, and Mr. Martignetti advised that there were no plans to do this.

**12. ADJOURNMENT.**

**There being no further business, Mr. Marshall asked for a motion to adjourn at 7:42 PM. Moved by Mr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Bordwell. Vote: Yes – 5, No – 0.**

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Carolyn Dorn, Clerk, Board of Education

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING, BUDGET VOTE,  
VOTE ON THE ACQUISITION OF SCHOOL BUSES, AND ELECTION  
CORTLAND ENLARGED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that a public hearing of the qualified voters of the Cortland Enlarged City School District, City of Cortland, New York, will be held in the City and County of Cortland, New York in said District on May 5, 2009, at 7:00 PM, at the Cortland Junior Senior High School, 8 Valley View Drive, Cortland, prevailing time, for the transaction of business as authorized by Education Law, including the following items,

1. To receive such reports of the officials of the School District as shall be submitted.
2. To discuss all the items hereinafter set forth to be voted upon by voting machines at the vote and election to be held on May 19, 2009.
3. To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting pursuant to the Education Law of the State of New York and acts amendatory thereto.

**AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that said vote and election will be held on May 19, 2009, between the hours of 12:00 noon and 9:00 PM, prevailing time, at the following polling locations in the Cortland Enlarged City School District:

**City:**

<u>Ward:</u>	<u>School District</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Address</u>
1-8	1	Kaufman Center	1 Valley View Drive

**Cortlandville, Lapeer, Hartford, Virgil:**

<u>LD/ED/Town</u>	<u>School District</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Address</u>
12-1 CT	9	Cortlandville Town Hall	Terrace Road
13-3 & 4 CT	9	Cortlandville Town Hall	Terrace Road
14-6 CT	9	Cortlandville Town Hall	Terrace Road
18-1 LA	10	Virgil Elementary School	Church Street, Virgil
19-1 HA	10	Virgil Elementary School	Church Street, Virgil
19-2 VI	10	Virgil Elementary School	Church Street, Virgil

at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting machine upon the following items:

1. To adopt the annual budget of the School District for the fiscal year 2009-2010 and to authorize the requisite portion thereof to be raised by taxation on the taxable property of the district.
2. To elect three (3) members of the Board of Education for three year terms commencing July 1, 2009, and expiring on June 30, 2012.
3. To vote upon the adoption of the following proposition, which will appear as Proposition No. 2 on the voting machines:

## **PROPOSITION 2**

Shall the Board of Education of the Cortland Enlarged City School District be authorized to acquire by either lease or purchase, and finance, one (1) 66-passenger school bus and one (1) 7-passenger school bus (car or van) at an estimated cost not to exceed \$138,000, including necessary furnishings, fixtures and equipment and all other costs incidental thereto, and to expend a total sum not to exceed \$138,000, which is estimated to be the total maximum cost hereof, and levy a tax which is hereby voted for the foregoing in the amount of \$138,000, subject to applicable amounts of state assistance available or to any revenues available for such purpose from any other source, which shall be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education and in anticipation of the collection of such tax, bonds, notes and installment purchase contracts of the District are hereby authorized to be issued or executed at one time, or from time to time, in the principal amount not to exceed \$138,000, and a tax voted to pay the interest on said obligations when due?

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that the proposition set forth on the voting machine label shall appear as to follows:

## **PROPOSITION 2**

Shall the Board of Education of the Cortland Enlarged City School District be authorized to acquire by either lease or purchase, and finance, one (1) 66-passenger school bus and one (1) 7-passenger school bus (car or van) at an estimated cost not to exceed \$138,000, including necessary furnishings, fixtures and equipment and all other costs incidental thereto, and to expend a total sum not to exceed \$138,000, which is estimated to be the total maximum cost hereof, and levy a tax which is hereby voted for the foregoing in the amount of \$138,000, subject to applicable amounts of state assistance available or to any revenues available for such purpose from any other source, which shall be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education and in anticipation of the collection of such tax, bonds, notes and installment purchase contracts of the District are hereby authorized to be issued or executed at one time, or from time to time, in the principal amount not to exceed \$138,000, and a tax voted to pay the interest on said obligations when due?

**AND FURTHER NOTICE IS GIVEN**, that a copy of the statement of the amount of money which will be required to fund the school district's budget for 2009-2010 exclusive of public monies, may be obtained by any resident of the district during business hours beginning April 24, 2009, except Saturday, Sunday or holidays, at the District Office, 1 Valley View Drive, Cortland, New York.

**AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that petitions nominating candidates for the office of member of the Board of Education shall be filed with the Clerk of said School District at the District Office, 1 Valley View Drive, Cortland, New York, not later than April 29, 2009, between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM. Vacancies on the Board of Education are not considered separate, specific offices; candidates run at large. Nominating petitions shall not describe any specific vacancy upon the Board for which the candidate is nominated; must be directed to the Clerk of the District; must be signed by at least 100 qualified voters of the District; must state the name and residence of each signer, and, must state the name and residence of the candidate.

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that qualified voters of the District may obtain applications for an absentee ballot from the office of the Clerk of the District. Completed applications must be received by the Clerk of the District no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 18, 2009, and must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on May 12, 2009 if the absentee ballot is to be mailed to the voter. Completed applications received after 4:00 p.m. on May 12, 2009 will require the voter to personally appear at the office of the Clerk of the District to receive an absentee ballot. A listing of all persons to whom an absentee ballot is issued will be available for inspection by any qualified voter in the office of the Clerk of the District between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. through May 18, 2009, except on Saturdays, Sundays or holidays. Any qualified voter, may upon examination of such list, file written challenge of qualifications as a voter of any person

whose name appears on such list, stating the reasons for the challenge. Such written challenge shall be transmitted by the Clerk or designee to the Inspectors of Election on election day.

**AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that personal registration of voters is required either pursuant to 2014 of the Education Law or pursuant to Article 5 of the Election Law. If a voter has heretofore registered pursuant to 2014 of the Education Law and has voted at an annual or special district meeting within the last four (4) calendar years, he or she is eligible to vote at this election; if a voter is registered and eligible to vote under Article 5 of the Election Law, he or she is also eligible to vote at this election. All other persons who wish to vote must register.

The Board of Registration will meet for the purpose of registering all qualified voters of the District pursuant to 2014 of the Education Law at the Kaufman Center, 1 Valley View Drive, Cortland, New York, on May 5, 2009, between the hours of 3:00 PM and 8:00 PM to add any additional names to the Register to be used at the aforesaid election, at which times any person will be entitled to have his or her name placed on such Register, provided that at such meeting of the Board of Registration he or she is known or proven to the satisfaction of said Board of Registration to be then or thereafter entitled to vote at such election for which the register is prepared. The register so prepared pursuant to 2014 of the Education Law will be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the School District in the City of Cortland, New York, and will be open for inspection by any qualified voter of the District beginning on May 6, 2009, between the hours of 8:00 AM and 3:00 PM, prevailing time, on weekdays, and each day prior to the day set for the election except Saturday and Sunday, and at the polling place(s) on the day of the vote.

**AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that pursuant to 2014 of the Education Law of the State of New York, the Board of Registration will meet on May 5, 2009, between the hours of 3:00 PM and 8:00 PM, prevailing time, at the District Offices, 1 Valley View Drive, Cortland, New York, to prepare the Register of the School District to be used at the election to be held on May 19, 2009, and any special district meetings that may be held after the preparation of said Register, at which time any person will be entitled to have his or her name placed on such Register provided that at such meeting of said Board of Registration he or she is known or proven to the satisfaction of such Board of Registration to be then or thereafter entitled to vote at the school election for which said Register is prepared, in any special district meeting held after May 19, 2009.

**AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN**, that pursuant to a rule adopted by the Board of Education in accordance with 2035 of the Education Law, any referenda or propositions to amend the budget, or otherwise to be submitted for voting at said election, must be filed with the Board of Education at the Board of Education Offices, 1 Valley View Drive, Cortland, New York, on or before April 20, 2009, at 4:30 PM. prevailing time; must be typed or printed in the English language, must be directed to the Clerk of the School District; must be signed by at least 100 qualified voters of the District; and must state the name and residence of each signer. However, the School Board will not entertain any petition to place before the voters any proposition the purpose of which is not within the powers of the voters to determine, or any proposition which fails to include a specific appropriation where the expenditure of monies is required by the proposition.

Dated: Cortland, New York  
April 3, 13, 27, May 11, 2009

**Carolyn Dorn, District Clerk**