

CORTLAND CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Regular Meeting – Tuesday, May 12, 2009

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, May 12, 2009.

Present: Ms. Lisa Hoeschele, Ms. Mary Lou Bordwell, Mr. Sean Clark, Mr. Joseph Lyman,
Mr. William Young

Absent: Dr. Bonni Hodges, Mr. Paul Marshall

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.** Ms. Hoeschele called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **COMMUNICATIONS and RECOGNITION:**
 - a. **Kudos Korner:**
 - 1) The Board recognized the winners of the YWCA Women's Essay Contest. The winners from Smith Elementary, all 6th graders, were Sydney Sherman (1st Place), Kimberly Cusson (2nd Place) and Nisarga Paul (3rd Place). The winners from the Junior High School, all 8th Graders, were Lydia Polley (1st Place), Matthew Bellardini (2nd Place), and Amanda DeGraff (3rd Place).
 - b. **Audience Participation:** There were no requests from the audience to address the Board.
 - c. **Board Member Reports:**
 - 1) **CNY School Boards Association Annual Meeting** – Auburn – May 28, 2009. Ms. Hoeschele asked the Board members to let Ms. Dorn know if they planned to attend. She also advised that we had received notification today that Dr. Hodges was being honored at this event as a Board Member of Achievement.
 - 2) **New York State Association of Small City School Districts 23rd Annual Conference** – “Opportunities in Crisis: Reshaping School Budgets,” - May 31 to June 1 – Albany. Ms. Hoeschele noted that information was distributed to the Board tonight. The speaker is Meryl Tisch, the newest Chancellor of the Board of Regents, and that this would probably be a very worthwhile conference to attend. Anyone interested should contact Ms. Dorn.
3. **PRESENTATIONS:**
 - a. **Operation Recognition:** Two veterans were awarded diplomas under the Operation Recognition Program. Mr. Leon Hamilton was present to receive his diploma, and Mr. John Martin will receive his diploma by mail. Mr. Spring thanked them for their service to their country, community and school by serving with the U. S. Army in Vietnam.
 - b. **Cortland Public Education Foundation Grant Recipients:** Ms. Kellyann O'Mara, Treasurer of the Cortland Public Education Foundation presented grants to this year's recipients:
 - 1) Ms. Gail Renninger-Smith, Smith Elementary, \$1,000 for the “Puppet Project: Integrating Puppets into the Curriculum.”
 - 2) Mr. Mike Winchell, JSHS, \$1,000 for the “Purple Paw” Program.
 - 3) Ms. Kim Pace, Barry Elementary, \$800 for the “Comprehensive Connection: Interactive Read Alouds” Program.
 - 4) Mr. Elizabeth Dubetsky, Barry Elementary, \$1,000 for the “Universal Education: Primary Guided Reading” program.
 - c. **Bullying Prevention – Parker Elementary.** Ms. Hoeschele introduced Kevin Yard the principal at Parker Elementary. Mr. Yard introduced 12 student members of the Peaceful Panthers, who explained what they have been doing as a 3-year plan to prevent bullying in their school. Their presentation also included a PowerPoint presentation and the results of a survey taken on reasons for bullying.
 - d. **3rd Quarter Academic Report.** Mr. Spring reviewed the 3rd quarter academic report for the elementary, junior high, and high school. Also included was a review of attendance, drop-out rates, and anticipated graduation rates. A discussion was held regarding our efforts in helping pregnant teens and teen mothers continue with their education.
4. **CONSENT ITEMS:**
 - a. **Minutes** of April 20, 2009 Regular Meeting and May 5, 2009 Public Budget Hearing
 - b. **Approval of CPSE/CSE Recommendations:** CPSE Recommendations of 4/22, 5/1 and 5/6/09; Randall CSE Recommendations of 4/20/09; Barry CSE Recommendations of 4/21, 5/5 and 5/6/09; Smith CSE Recommendations of 4/9 and 4/23/09; District CSE Recommendations of 4/20, 4/23, 4/27 and 4/30/09; and McEvoy CSE Recommendations of 4/28/09.

c. **BOCES Amendment #8**

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the Consent Items as presented. Moved by Ms. Bordwell, seconded by Mr. Young, no discussion. Final Vote: Yes – 5, No – 0.

5. **OLD BUSINESS:**

a. Final Approval Writer's Workshop Extended Field Trip.

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the final plans for a Young Writer's Retreat on May 30-31, 2009, at Camp Owahta, McGraw, New York, as presented. Moved by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Lyman, no discussion. Final Vote: Yes – 5, No – 0.

6. **NEW BUSINESS:**

a. Approval of Surplus Equipment List of May 12, 2009.

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve of the sale of surplus items as presented on the Surplus Equipment memo of May 12, 2009. Moved by Ms. Bordwell, seconded by Mr. Clark. Final Vote: Yes – 5, No – 0.

b. 1st Reading of Proposed Changes to Code of Conduct

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve of the first reading of proposed changes to the District-Wide Code of Conduct, as presented. Moved by Mr. Clark, seconded by Ms. Bordwell. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the procedures for and the role of the School Resource Officer and police officers in questioning students. It was moved by Ms. Bordwell and seconded by Mr. Lyman to withdraw the first motion and table the acceptance of the 1st Reading for further review by the Code of Conduct Review Committee. Final Vote: Yes – 5, No – 0.

7. **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. 10.33. Moved by Mr. Young, seconded by Mr. Clark. No discussion. Final Vote: Yes – 5, No – 0.

b. Approval of Non-Instructional Personnel Appointments - None

c. Approval of Instructional Personnel Appointments

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the appointments for Instructional Personnel as presented on Schedule of Appointment 2019. Moved by Mr. Young, seconded by Ms. Bordwell. No discussion. Final Vote: Yes – 5, No – 0.

8. **LEADERSHIP REPORTS:**a. **Director of Business Operations.** Mr. Martignetti noted that Requests for Proposals have been received for an independent auditing firm to do our annual audit for the next 3 years. He will be contacting the Audit Committee to schedule a time for them to interview the candidates and bring a recommendation back to the Board.b. **Assistant Superintendent for Pupil and Personnel Services.** No further report.c. **Superintendent.**

- 1) ELA Achievement. We met and exceeded our elementary goal of 80% at 81.4%. The Junior High goal was 75% and we reached 78%, the first year we have met our goal. The Board will send a letter to the instructional staff congratulating them on their accomplishment.

9. **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**

a. Ms. Lori Megivern stated, regarding the Code of Conduct revisions, she feels if the student is to be searched the parent should be notified.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, Ms. Hoeschele asked for a motion to adjourn. Moved by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Clark. Final Vote: Yes – 5, No – 0. Meeting adjourned at 8:59 PM.