

CORTLAND CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education
Public Budget Hearing – May 5, 2009

A meeting of the Board of Education to present the proposed budget for 2009-10 to the public was held in the Auditorium of the Cortland Junior-Senior High School, 8 Valley View Drive, on Tuesday, May 5, 2009.

Present: Mr. Paul Marshal, Ms. Mary Lou Bordwell, Mr. Sean Clark, Dr. Bonni Hodges, Mr. Joseph Lyman, Mr. William Young

Absent: Ms. Lisa Hoeschele

Also Present: Mr. Laurence Spring, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Arthur Martignetti, Director of Business Services; Ms. Judi Riley, Assistant Superintendent for Support Programs; Community Representatives; Ms. Carolyn Dorn, Clerk

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Mr. Marshall called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
 - a. **Introductions of Board and Staff.** Mr. Marshall introduced the members of the Board of Education and Administrative Cabinet to the audience. He then introduced Mr. Spring for tonight's presentation of our Academic Performance and the proposed budget for 2009-2010.

2. **PRESENTATION**
 - a. **Academic Performance:**
 - 1) Mr. Spring welcomed everyone to the Budget Hearing. His presentation began with some proposed budget facts:

(a) Proposed Budget	= \$41,372,972 (same amount as last year)
(b) Dollar Increase	= ZERO
(c) Tax Levy Amount	= \$13,824,000 (same amount as last year)
(d) Proposed Dollar Increase	= ZERO

Mr. Spring then reviewed the elementary school, junior-senior high school, and athletic highlights from this year and achievement data.
 - b. **Proposed 2009-10 School Budget:**
 - 1) Mr. Martignetti reviewed the proposed 2009-2010 budget in detail. He explained the three components of the budget: Program Component of \$31,426,585 (75.96% of total budget, up 1.09% from last year); Administrative Budget \$4,423,996 (10.69% of total budget, down .60% from last year); and the Capital Component of \$5,522,391 (13.35% of total budget, down .49% from last year). He reviewed the estimated revenues and explained the cost to the taxpayer, giving examples of tax amounts before and after the City reassessment. Also noted was the fact that the Basic STAR and Enhanced STAR programs are not changing. The change to the STAR Program is in the refund checks that were mailed out.

3. **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:**
 - 1) Ms. Kathy Reynolds asked for an explanation of the increases shown under Curriculum and Staff Development from last year to this.
 - (a) Mr. Martignetti explained that the increase under Contractual Expense was due to it being funded under Fund Balance last year and put in as a line item this year. The increase under BOCES Services was due to realigning the services with the actual bills received.

- 2) Ms. Amy Rosas asked who would be assuming the responsibilities of Director of Curriculum and Instruction and Public Information Officer.
 - (a) Mr. Spring explained that the decision to not fill the Curriculum and Instruction Director position and to cut the Public Information Officer position were difficult decisions to make. The duties of the Director of Curriculum and Instruction have been distributed to various other administrator positions - the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Business Director, and Principals. The Public Relations position will be assumed by each of the buildings being responsible to contribute content for all newsletters, including the Tiger's Paw, for electronic communications.
- 3) Ms. Patricia Roeger asked about the increase in the Teacher Aide Substitutes and decrease in Teacher and Teaching Assistant Salaries. Mr. Martignetti explained that the amounts were just shifted to the proper budget codes.

Mr. Spring asked the public to please contact his office if they had any questions.

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

As there were no further questions, Mr. Marshall asked for a motion to adjourn the Public Budget Hearing at 7:50 PM, and go into Executive Session, in accordance with Public Officer's Law Section 96, Subdivision 1, to discuss collective negotiations and particular persons. Moved by Mr. Young, seconded by Mr. Lyman. Vote: Yes – 6, No – 0.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The Executive Session adjourned at 9:30 PM. Moved by Dr. Hodges, seconded by Mr. Lyman. Vote: Yes – 6, No – 0.

Carolyn Dorn, Clerk, Board of Education