

Watervliet City School District
Watervliet, New York

BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

Minutes

DATE: *JANUARY 20, 2009*

TYPE OF MEETING: Regular Meeting

MEETING OPENED: 7:00 P.M.

WHERE: Watervliet Jr.-Sr. High School

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: President, Donna Neary-Hart
Vice President, Mark W. Scully
Christine Chartrand
Frank McGrouty
Virginia Mullaney

SUPERINTENDENT: Paul J. Padalino

STUDENT COUNCIL REP: Jessica Summers, Co-President

The meeting was opened at 7:00 P.M., with President Donna Neary-Hart officiating.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Mr. Bob Gusberti – 1212 Hillside Drive, Watervliet, New York 12189 – recommended that the District consider installing **LED lighting**. Mr. Gusberti also **praised the Girls' Basketball Team**, noting that they are doing a wonderful job.

Mr. Kaliel Williamson – 512 Fifth Avenue, Watervliet, New York 12189 – attends **Tech Valley High School** and was wondering if there will be any new 8th graders attending Tech Valley this coming year. Mr. Williamson provided pamphlets to the Board. Mrs. Neary-Hart **invited** Mr. Williamson to **present** one of his projects at a future Board meeting.

Ms. Meg Ebenhoch – 3 Ball Place, Watervliet, New York 12189 – offered several **suggestions** for the **web site**, including: coverage of more **upcoming events**; development of **press releases**; reporting on **commendations** students receive; and addition of e-mail links to **contact** teachers individually.

OLD BUSINESS

The proposed **change** to the **tax collection process** was discussed. **Mr. John Heid**, Business Manager, noted some of the benefits to collecting taxes in **September**. They include: equalization rates set by the State are more firm; STAR delays are likely to be settled; and assessed property values are more up-to-date.

The Board will **discuss** and **vote** on this **proposed change** at the **February 10, 2009** meeting.

BOARD STAFF AND STUDENT REPORTS

Bruce Wiggins, from **CSArch**, gave an **update** on the school district renovation project.

Ashad Thompson, an 11th Grader, recited "Fire and Ice" by Robert Frost, a **poem** he read in the **Poetry Out Loud Contest**.

ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Virginia Mullaney and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the Board of Education Minutes for the meeting held **December 16, 2008**, submitted by Bernadette L. Boardman, Clerk of the Board, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Virginia Mullaney and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **Committee on Special Education's** recommendations for the meetings held **December 11, 2008, December 16, 2008, January 6, 2009, January 8, 2009** and **January 13, 2009**, submitted by Janelle Yanni, CPSE Chair, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Virginia Mullaney and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **Committee on Pre-School Special Education's** recommendations for the meeting held **December 17, 2008**, submitted by Janelle Yanni, CPSE Chair, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Virginia Mullaney and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **Treasurer's Reports** for the month of **December 2008**, submitted by John Heid, Business Manager.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Virginia Mullaney and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **Payment Requests**, submitted by John Heid, Business Manager, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Virginia Mullaney and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **Substitute Registry** submitted by **BOCES**, as recommended by the Superintendent (packets #14, #15 and #16).

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Virginia Mullaney and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **resignation** of **Rose Mary Kelley** from the position of **Food Service Worker** at the **St. Brigid's Site** effective July 1, 2008, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Virginia Mullaney and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **appointment** of **Marie Lebro** to the position of **Self-Contained Special Education Teacher (9-12)** at the **Watervliet Jr. – Sr. High School**, beginning January 5, 2009, at a salary of \$37,281.00, plus master's degree and credit hours, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Virginia Mullaney and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **appointment** of **Erick Bernard** to the position of **Intramural Supervisor** for the **Watervliet Jr. – Sr. High School Weight Room**, for four sessions per week, two hours per session, beginning January 21, 2009, at a rate of \$16.52 per hour, as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Virginia Mullaney and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **appointment** of **Rachel Anderson** to the position of **Substitute After School Academic Intervention Services Teacher** at the **Watervliet Elementary School**, beginning January 21, 2009, at a rate of \$24.45 per hour.

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Virginia Mullaney and unanimously accepted, the Board **approved** the **creation** of an **After School Programs Substitute Teacher** for the 2008 – 2009 school year at the **Watervliet Elementary School**, beginning January 21, 2009, at an hourly rate per the WTA contract, as recommended by the Superintendent.

NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent Padalino noted that the **Budget Hearings** process will now be an **open format** to allow for input from the public. The schedule for the meetings will be posted on both the District's web site and VLT. Letters will be sent home to parents as well.

Mr. Padalino noted that a **press release** will be issued regarding the proposed change to the **tax collection process**.

Jessica Summers, Student Council Co-President, reported that the **Snow Ball** has been re-scheduled and it will now be held on Friday, February 27, 2009.

Ms. Summers noted that the Student Council will be **meeting** with Ms. Caplan to discuss the frequency of **military recruiters'** visits to the school.

Ms. Summers asked Superintendent Padalino to provide an update from **3M** regarding the film for the **windows**.

Frank McGrouty welcomed Marie Lebro to the District

Christine Chartrand noted that the **Mr. Watervliet** contest was great.

Mr. Padalino reminded everyone that next week is **Regents Exam** week for the High School students. He noted that the middle school students will follow their regular schedules.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Ms. Caplan thanked **Ashad Thompson** for reciting the poem to the Board, noting that it was part of the **Poetry Out Loud** contest.

Ms. Caplan also noted that only **one student** was absent for the **Grade 6-8 testing** currently taking place.

Mrs. Coleman, Kaliel Williamson's mother, gave kudos to the **Tech Valley High School** program. She asked that the school consider inviting other businesses to become involved in the program.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Donna Neary-Hart, seconded by Christine Chartrand and unanimously accepted, the Board **adjourned** the meeting at 7:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

*Bernadette L. Boardman
Clerk of the Board*

NOTE: All district appointments are subject to fingerprint clearance by the NYS Education Department and verification of Permanent or Pending Certification by NYS.