



ENLARGED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF

TROY

TODAY'S STUDENTS. TOMORROW'S LEADERS.

BOARD OF EDUCATION
475 First Street
Troy, NY 12180

Date of Meeting: March 18, 2015
Type of Meeting: **WORKSHOP MEETING**
Location: Troy High School

MINUTES

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

At 5:30 pm Mr. Schofield called the meeting to order.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mr. Jason Schofield, President
Mrs. Ann Apicella
Mrs. Carol Harvin
Ms. Mary Marro-Giroux
Mr. Tom Mayo
Mr. Michael Tuttmann
Mrs. Anne Wager-Rounds

Members Absent: Ms. Elizabeth Denio
Mr. Bill Strang

Also Present: Mr. John Carmello, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Donna Watson, Assistant Superintendent
of Curriculum and Instruction
Mr. Terry Blanchfield, Interim Superintendent for Business
Mrs. Kristen Miaski, Director of Human Resources
Mrs. Erin O'Grady-Parent, School Attorney

Citizens Advisory Committee: Mr. David Heyward
Mr. Ken Hughes
Mr. Tom Meyer
Absent: Mrs. Mary Ellen Adams

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Schofield made a motion at 5:30 pm to move to Executive Session regarding pending litigation. Invited in were Mr. Carmello, Dr. Watson, Mr. Blanchfield, Mrs. Miaski and Mrs. Parent-O'Grady.

IV. PUBLIC SESSION AND DISTRICT NEWS

At 6:00 pm Mr. Schofield called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Schofield made several announcements: U.S. Attorney's office will partner with Troy Schools on crime prevention program called "Leadership Project"; Senator Breslin and Assemblymember McDonald visited School 2; TMS is holding 24th Career Day organized by teacher Linda Lupian. Ms. Lupian is retiring after 43 years with the District; National Junior Honor Society raised \$2300 at Friday's basketball game to benefit "Doctors without Borders"; and Drama Club musical is "9 to 5" on March 27 and 28.

V. PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

NON-ACTION ITEMS

VI. TROY HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S PRESENTATION - J. MARIANO

Mr. Joseph Mariano, THS Principal, gave an annual report on Troy High School. He reviewed the District goals and vision to make THS a place where ALL students are inspired to achieve success. THS goals are to increase regents diploma graduation rate by 3%; student achievement by 5% and improve student violations of the Code of Conduct by 5%. All teachers will collect and act on student achievement data. THS suspension rate has decreased from last year by 12%; regents diploma rate has increased by 21% and graduation rate is 83%. Mr. Mariano stated average graduation rate for poor districts (similar to Troy) is 66% but Troy's rate is closer to wealthier districts. Mrs. Rounds said this is great news and students are products of our elementary schools; this is an accomplishment for the entire District.

New programs this year: "Argue like a lawyer"; Algebra I and Troy Riverfront P-Tech Program. Mrs. Harvin would like to see programs afterschool to keep students off streets. Looking ahead THS will have 2nd cohort of P-Tech; additional colleges courses in high school, distance learning and parent portal. Mr. Mariano thanked the Board, administration and staff for their support.

VII. GRADES 3-8: A STATUS UPDATE ON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT - D. WATSON

Dr. Donna Watson, Assistant Principal for Curriculum and Instruction, provided an update on student achievement for Grades 3-8. Dr. Watson stated Troy's theory of action is that every student WILL learn and achieve at high levels; if they don't than WE will change what it is we do to ensure that they learn and achieve at high levels.

There are new District-wide systems in place for 2014-15 to graduate our students college and career ready, beginning with PreK: (1) curriculum management system - "Curricuplan" electronic maps aligned to the Common Core; (2) elementary schedule built around core academic areas; (3) tri-semester, standards-based elementary report card. Old report cards did not measure work of the common core; now report card follows what is taught. Data systems drive what we do. There is on-going review and analysis of student achievement information, Rtl processes and data meetings. Rtl tracks a student's success.

Dr. Watson showed a chart of student growth in F&P reading level by school at pre-test point (September) and mid-year (February). The vast majority of students are showing growth. Dave Abrams is doing an assessment audit which examines Troy's level of rigor. Dr. Watson thanked the Board for asking how the students are doing.

VIII. BUDGET DEVELOPMENT DRAFT 2 - J. CARMELLO

Mr. Carmello presented budget information regarding Draft 2. There is a correction from Draft 1 discussed at last workshop: tax levy would be 27.14% increase and budget gap at \$8.6 million. Draft 2 showed a savings of \$2,745,078 with tax levy increase of 19.34% increase; budget gap is \$5.8 million. Our goal is to develop a budget that is fiscally responsible and educationally sound. At the April workshop meeting will we be setting priorities.

Advocacy Efforts - Mr. Carmello met with legislators on Lobby Day; Senator Breslin and Assemblyman McDonald visited School 2; there is on-going communication with elected officials; in addition to advocacy sheet. He attended NYS Small Cities budget seminar with Mr. Tuttmann. We are hopeful our efforts will again yield positive results for Troy.

State Budget - One House has budget complete; Assembly budget shows \$1.8 billion increase in School Aid and no link to Governor's Reform Agenda; Senate budget shows \$1.9 billion increase in school aid and is not contingent upon passage of Reform Agenda. We are hopeful for a April 1st budget deadline.

Areas of Savings - Deputy Treasurer position \$25,000; debt service BAN interest \$160,000; technology purchase BOCES \$456,000 and Brighter Choice bus \$34,000. Troy has 33 students who attend Brighter Choice and we are reaching out them to come back.

Tax Levy - Maximum allowable tax cap is 2.75%. We need to decide what levy amount to put before the voters. Tax cap cannot be made up in future year because there is a limit. Troy does not have a strong tax base. Mr. Meyer, CAC member, asked what drives the tax cap. It is based on TRS & ERS, capital project exemptions, cost of living adjustment and property growth. The tax freeze law is still in place if we stay under the tax cap. Mr. Schofield requested the Board be given several options based on different percentages of tax levy.

IX. TREASURER'S REPORT - K. CIETEK

February Financials - Ms. Cietek, District Treasurer, reported that the majority of transfers are salary related. Internal claims auditor reviewed 307 payments totaling approximately \$5.7 million.

General Fund - the appropriation summary report may look slightly different from last month due to N-Vision conversion. School Lunch Fund - THS serving line bid has been awarded and will be completed over the summer. Special Aid - all grants are approved. Treasurer's Report - all accounts have been reconciled.

ACTION ITEMS

X. SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS - HUMAN RESOURCES

A. Staff Matters - Unclassified (Reviewed by D. Watson)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, NY, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following unclassified personnel actions:

Mr. Schofield made a motion to approve Items 1-7 as a Consent Agenda.

Second: Ms. Marro-Giroux

Carried: 7-0

1. Unclassified Employee - Retirements

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TENURE AREA / POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>% SERVICE</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
a. Maitri Blednick	School Psychologist	100%	PS-16	6/30/15
b. Celine Casey	Remedial Reading	100%	TMS	4/3/15
c. Cathleen Elia	Social Studies	100%	THS	6/30/15
d. John Hickey	Elementary	100%	PS-18	6/30/15
e. Rebecca Kaiser	Science	100%	THS	6/30/15
f. Heather Kilmer	Teaching Assistant	100%	THS	6/30/15
g. Caroline Lee	Science	100%	TMS	6/30/15
h. Linda Lupian	Home & Careers	100%	TMS	6/30/15
i. Angela Mariella-Sauter	Special Ed-General	100%	CHS	6/30/15
j. Elizabeth North	Special Ed-General	100%	PS-16	6/30/15
k. Jennifer Rice	Science	100%	THS	6/30/15
l. Ronald Sousa	Special Ed-General	100%	THS	6/30/15
m. Jane Wells	Elementary	100%	PS-18	6/30/15

2. Unclassified Employee - Temporary Appointment

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TENURE AREA / POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>% SERVICE</u>	<u>ASSIGN</u>	<u>EFFEC DATE</u>	<u>CERT STATUS</u>	<u>SALARY RATE</u>
a. Jourdan Vatalaro (D. Nichols)	Physical Education	100%	PS-2	3/16/15 - 6/30/15	Physical Education, Initial	\$42,500 (prorated) (S-1, Col A)

(amend effective date BOE Agenda 3/4/15, page 2)

3. Unclassified Employees - 2014-15 PS-2 Parent Engagement Activities

Faculty and staff to work parent engagement activities through August 2014 for up to 10 hours each at \$31.00 / hour for teachers and \$26.00 / hour for teaching assistants.
(amend max hours BOE Agenda 11/19/14, page 3)

4. Unclassified Employees - 2014-15 PS-2 Parent Engagement Activities

Faculty and staff to work parent outreach/involvement activities through August 2015 for up to 6 hours each at \$31.00 / hour for teachers and \$26.00 / hour for teaching assistants.

5. Unclassified Employees - 2014-15 Spring Sports

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION TITLE</u>		<u>SALARY RATE</u>
a. Bobby Burns	Assistant Coach	BOYS TRACK & FIELD	\$3,892.00
b. Brian Benner	Varsity Coach	LACROSSE	\$5,220.00

6. Unclassified Employees - 2015-16 Fall Sports

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION TITLE</u>		<u>SALARY RATE</u>
a. Bobby Burns	Head Coach	FOOTBALL	\$5,220.00

7. Unclassified Employees - 2014-15 Substitutes

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADMIN</u> (\$400 / day)	<u>TEACHERS</u>		<u>TEACHING ASST</u>		<u>HOME TUTOR</u>	
		<u>Certified</u> (\$100 / day)	<u>Uncertified</u> (\$90 / day)	<u>Certified</u> (\$12.00 / hour)	<u>Uncertified</u>	<u>Certified</u> (\$31.00 / hour)	<u>Uncert</u>

Edward Bein		X					
Carrie Dwyer						X	
Rose Gorman				X			

B. Staff Matters - Classified

(Reviewed by K. Miaski)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy, NY, hereby accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following classified personnel actions:

Mr. Schofield made a motion to approve Items 1-4 as a Consent Agenda.

Second: Ms. Marro-Giroux

Carried: 7-0

1. Classified Employee - Retirements

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>% SERVICE</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
a. Joyce Blais	Typist	100%	PS-2	9/4/15
b. Jean Gunther	School Nurse	100%	THS	6/30/15
c. Kathryn Pettit	Attendance Aide	100%	District/THS	4/30/15

2. Unclassified Employee - Leave of Absence

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>% SERVICE</u>	<u>ASSIGNMENT</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>
a. Sbah Sindhu	School Nurse	100%	District	3/23/15 - 6/30/15

3. Classified Employee - 2014-15 Substitutes

<u>NAME</u>	<u>CLERK</u> (\$11 / hr)	<u>NURSE</u> (\$14 / hr)	<u>MONITOR</u> (\$10 / hr)	<u>TEACHER AIDE</u> (\$10 / hr)	<u>MAINT HELPER</u> (\$11 / hr)
Cathryne Collington			X	X	
Ciara Coger					
Lois Richardson	X			X	
Edward Thompson, Jr			X		

4. 2014-15 Volunteers

<u>PS-2 (RPI)</u>	<u>PS-2</u>	<u>PS-14</u>
Brian Callahan	William Barry Jr.	Kim Bloomfield
Laquana Cooke	Loretta Fantroy	
Michael Lachney		
<u>PS-2 (TechValley Center of Gravity)</u>		
Daniel Corda		
<u>PS-2 (School of Rock)</u>		
Will Grandin		
Thomas Monrell		
Nicholas Palazeke		
Jennifer Stella		
Emily Trotter-Bodie		

XII. SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS - PROGRAMS (Reviewed by D. Watson)

Mr. Schofield made a motion to approve Items 1-3 as a Consent Agenda.

Second: Mrs. Wager-Rounds

Carried: 7-0

1. Contract - Ironwill Fitness (Addendum I)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby approves a contract with Ironwill Fitness for martial arts instruction and wellness activities at School 2 for March 11, 2015 through May 20, 2015 in the amount of \$750.00 to be paid from Community Schools grant.

2. Contract - School of Rock (Addendum II)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby approves a contract with School of Rock for music and vocal instruction activities at School 2 for March 11, 2015 through May 20, 2015 in the amount of \$3000.00 to be paid from Community Schools grant.

3. Contract - Brown SAT Prep (Addendum III)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby approves a contract with Christopher Brown of Brown SAT Prep for SAT and PSAT review classes at Troy High School at rate of \$130 per student, with maximum \$3250 maximum, to be paid from General Funds.

XII. SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS - BUSINESS FINANCE (reviewed by T. Blanchfield)

Mr. Schofield made a motion to approve Items 1-4 as a Consent Agenda.

Second: Mrs. Wager-Rounds

Discussion: Mr. Carmello stated that we are waiting for the ground to thaw to begin installation of School 2 playground. We are planning a celebration in May.

Carried: 7-0

1. Construction of School 2 Playground

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby approves the installation of new playground equipment, basketball court and fencing at School 2. Such equipment shall be paid from School Lunch funds.

2. Bid Awards for Technology Capital Project

- a. Electrical

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby awards the bid opened on February 18, 2015 for Electrical for district-wide IT and Security Reconstruction to the lowest and most responsible bidder in the following amount:

Stilsing Electric Inc.	\$31,975.00
500 South Street	
Rensselaer, NY 12144	

- b. Communications Cabling (state contract)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby awards the bid opened on February 18, 2015 for Communications Cabling for district-wide IT and Security Reconstruction to the lowest and most responsible bidder in the following amount:

Advanced Network Services	\$262,000.00
12 Elmwood Road	
Albany, NY 12204	

c. LAN Devices (state contract)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby awards the bid opened on February 18, 2015 for LAN Devices for district-wide IT and Security Reconstruction to the lowest and most responsible bidder in the following amount:

Annese & Associates 747 Pierce Road Clifton Park, NY 12065	\$1,260,130.30
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d. Security Systems (state contract)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby awards the bid opened on February 18, 2015 for security systems for district-wide IT and Security Reconstruction to the lowest and most responsible bidder in the following amount:

Stanley Security Systems 40 Gardenville Parkway West, Suite 105 West Seneca, NY 14224	\$741,104.28
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3. Surplus of Equipment

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby approves an ice machine at THS that damaged and no longer functional to be surplused and recycled.

4. Donation

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby accepts the following donation:

<u>Donor</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Tractor Supply Company	power tools to be shared by Maintenance Dept. and THS Shop Staff	\$2000.00

XIII. FUTURE MEETINGS

1. April 1, 2015 at TMS (7 pm)
2. April 8, 2015 at TMS (6 pm) AS NEEDED
3. April 15, 2015 at TMS (6 pm) AS NEEDED
4. April 21, 2015 at School 12 (6 pm)