

HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, September 25, 2006

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Hastings-on-Hudson Union Free School District, Town of Greenburgh, County of Westchester, N.Y., held in the John J. Russell Lecture Room at the Farragut Complex on Monday evening, September 25, 2006. Present were Trustees Mary Wirth, Eric Sweeting, Patricia Anne Woods, Lindsey Hicks, Gabrielle Lesser, Caryn Campbell and Eileen Baecher. Also present were Robert I. Shaps, Superintendent of Schools, John L. Chow, Assistant Superintendent of Business Operations & Finance, Rebecca Gourevitch, Student Liaison, Nancy S. Caruso, District Clerk, and guests.

CALL TO ORDER:

Board of Education President Mary Wirth called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM. Eileen Baecher moved to adjourn the meeting into Executive Session to discuss specific personnel items and pending litigation. Patricia Anne Woods seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote. Following discussion, Lindsey Hicks moved to reconvene the Regular Meeting. Patricia Anne Woods seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

At 8:10 PM Board President Mary Wirth welcomed all to the Regular Meeting of September 25, 2006.

REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Superintendent Robert Shaps reported saying he had enjoyed his first month meeting all the staff, students and parents at all the differing school events. He noted recent test results where the elementary and middle school students had scored well above average. He announced that HHS had 15 students qualify for National Merit Scholarships. He also announced that HHS varsity football and soccer teams were undefeated thus far.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Ms. Wirth reminded all that the following announcements appear on the website and on WHOH.

- September 26 Grade 11 Parents/Guidance Breakfast Mtg. – HS Auditorium – 7:30 AM
- September 26 “Meet the Superintendent” Bob Shaps – Hillside Café – 8:30-10:00 PM
- September 27 Grade 10 Parents/Guidance Breakfast Mtg. – HS Auditorium – 7:30 AM
- September 27-29 Grade 6 trip to Nature’s Classroom – Kent, Connecticut
- September 28 Student/Board of Education Liaison Mtg. – Lloyd Library – 7:30 AM
- September 28 Audit/Finance Committee Mtg. –District Conference Room – 9:00 AM
- September 28 Back-to-School Night – HS Auditorium – 7:00 PM
- October 2 Schools & Offices Closed
- October 3 First full day of Kindergarten
- October 4 “Meet the Superintendent” Bob Shaps – FMS Cafeteria – 4:00-5:30 PM
- October 9 Schools & Offices Closed
- October 11 “Meet the Superintendent” Bob Shaps – HS Auditorium – 7:30-9:00 PM
- October 12 Grades K-2 Back-to-School Night – Hillside All Purpose Room – 7:00 PM
- October 13-14 **Homecoming Weekend:**

	<u>Sport</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
Oct. 13	Varsity Boys Soccer	Irvington	Irvington HS	7:00 PM
	Modified Girls Soccer	Harrison Team 2	LM Klein MS	4:15 PM
	Varsity Girls Soccer	Irvington	Irvington HS	4:15 PM
	JV Girls Tennis	Pearl River	Reynolds Field	4:30 PM
	Varsity Volleyball	Dobbs Ferry	Cochran Gym	4:30 PM
	Modified Cross Country	Port Chester	Port Chester HS	4:30 PM

	JV Volleyball	Dobbs Ferry	Cochran Gym	6:00 PM
Oct. 14	Varsity Cross Country	Manhattan Invitational	Van Cortlandt	TBA
	Varsity Football	Pleasantville	Reynolds Field	2:00 PM
	Hastings Alumni Association Annual Meeting – HS Auditorium – 11:00 AM			
	Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony – The Riverview Restaurant – 6:30 PM			

October 14 SAT I & II's at Hastings

PERSONNEL:

P.1. –P.10: Patricia Anne Woods moved to approve the following:

To grant a FML leave of absence, without pay, to **Maryanne Goeman** from May 2, 2007 to June 25, 2007

AND

To appoint **Irvin McKim** as a substitute teacher for the 2006-2007 school year, effective September 26, 2006

AND.

WHEREAS, on September 25, 2006 it was determined that a vacancy exists for a substitute teacher for the 2006-07 school year which will be integral to Hastings-on-Hudson's operations in the 2006-07 school year; and

WHEREAS, the Board has identified **Lesley E. Gold** as a qualified candidate and wishes to appoint her to a substitute teacher position for the 2006-07 school year, effective September 26, 2006; and

WHEREAS, Lesley E. Gold, as a new hire, is required by state law to submit to a background check and obtain clearance from the State Education Department before being eligible for employment; and

WHEREAS, Lesley E. Gold has not yet obtained such clearance but has attested to the fact that she has never been convicted of a crime.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Board hereby resolves to conditionally appoint Lesley E. Gold on an emergency basis to the position of substitute teacher for the 2006-07 school year subject to such limitations as are set forth in Board Policy #6170.
2. Upon receipt of notice from the State Education Department that Lesley E. Gold has obtained conditional clearance her emergency status shall be changed to conditional status. Upon receipt of notice that she has obtained full clearance, her conditional status shall be removed, she shall no longer be subject to Board Policy #6170 and she shall be accorded the same status and seniority as if she had possessed such clearance as of the date of her conditional appointment.
3. In the event that clearance is denied, the Board shall reconvene to ascertain what steps, if any, shall be taken with regard to Lesley E. Gold's continued employment by the Board.

AND

To appoint the following individuals to Schedule B positions for the 2006-07 school year:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>STEP</u>	<u>STIPEND</u>
Stefanie Denison	Elementary Student Gov't. Co-Advisor	1	\$654
Stefanie Denison	Hillside Bookstore Co-Manager	1	\$654
Robert Matos	HS Yearbook Co-Advisor	1	\$1,398
Rachel Pilla	Elementary Student Gov't Co-Advisor	1	\$654
Rachel Pilla	Hillside Bookstore Co-Manager	1	\$654
Robyn Royal	HS Yearbook Co-Advisor	1	\$1,398
Kerry Tighe	Jr. Student Council Advisor, Grades 5-6	1	\$2,104

AND

To amend **Robert Galinski's** position as a Teacher Aide, 10-month, Column III, Step 6, from 7 hours to 8 hours per day, effective September 26, 2006

AND

To amend **Pat Spana's** position as a Teacher Aide, 10-month, Column III, Step 8, from 6.75 hours to 7 hours per day, effective September 26, 2006

AND

To increase the hourly rate for **Pat Varcasia**, retired Office Assistant, from \$15.00 to \$18.00 per hour, effective September 26, 2006

AND

To appoint **Juan Villamar** as a substitute custodial worker at the rate of \$12.00 per hour, effective September 26, 2006

AND

WHEREAS, at previous meetings, the Board of Education of the Hastings-on-Hudson Union Free School District appointed the following employees to various positions on an emergency basis, consistent with Board Policy #6170; and

WHEREAS, by statute, such emergency appointments expire after twenty (20) business days after such appointment or upon receipt of conditional clearance by the State Education Department, whichever occurs sooner; and

WHEREAS, the emergency appointment period is set to expire for these employees; and

WHEREAS, these employees are in positions that are integral to the proper functioning of the District;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the emergency appointments of the following employees are extended and renewed until October 25, 2006:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Rosinna Aviles | David Freedman | Gina Manendez |
| Majiid Benarafa | Gina Gerdes | Elana Brownstein Militzok |
| Tanya Bobson | John Hudak | Joe Morante |
| Janice Bochicchio | Kristine Kesselman | Kristen Morgan |
| Myra Brent | Michael King | Judith Sanseverino |
| Shira Cahn-Lipman | Jeanette Kocur | Randy Shaw |
| Valerie Civitano-Gill | Krista Lifrieri | Holly Silvestri |
| Kelly Clark | Nicole LaVista | Merle Sternberg |
| Eileen Cruz | Jody Lyn | Travis Thornton |
| Matthew Dachik | Charles Marion | Laurie Walton |
| Victoria DiSalvo | Elizabeth Marouk-Coe | |
| Lauren Dwyer | Robert Matos | |
| Eszter Fejer-Kui | Stephanie Mayer | |

AND

WHEREAS, a proceeding was commenced against **Ricardo Villalozos** based upon a Notice dated July 18, 2005 from Dr. John J. Russell, Superintendent of Schools, pursuant to New York Civil Law #75; and

WHEREAS, as a result thereof Joseph Wooly was duly designated as the Hearing Officer by the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, the Hearing Officer held a hearing at which Mr. Villalozos was represented by counsel; and

WHEREAS, the Hearing Officer has rendered findings of fact and recommendations based upon the record presented at the aforementioned hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has had an opportunity to review the record in this matter, as well as the findings and fact and recommendations of the Hearing Officer;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Hastings-on-Hudson Union Free School District hereby adopts the Hearing Officer's findings of fact and determinations as to guilt on the charges and specifications preferred in which he found guilt, as more fully set forth in the decision of the Hearing Officer dated August 1, 2006, and also hereby adopts the Hearing Officer's findings of fact and determinations as to innocence on the charges relating to Mr. Villalozos' engagement in various activities on May 25, 2005, as more fully set forth in the decision of the Hearing Officer dated August 1, 2006; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby adopts the recommendation of the Hearing Officer as to an appropriate penalty and finds, itself, that the penalty of termination is appropriate and, as such, hereby terminates the services of Mr. Villalozos as an employee of the District, effective October 1, 2006, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the District Clerk is hereby directed to forward a certified copy of this Resolution together with a copy of the Hearing Officer's decision and a copy of the record in this matter to the Personnel Officer of Westchester County pursuant to Civil Service Law §75, Subdivision 3.

Lindsey Hicks seconded the motion and Items P.1. through P.10. were carried by unanimous vote.

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION:

C&I.1. Strategic Plan Quarterly Report Update: Curriculum, Instruction and Personnel ("CIP") Position:

Superintendent of Schools Robert Shaps went through with the Board a presentation of situations as they stand and projections for the future. Of special concern were the qualifications for the proposed Director of CIP and the timeline for the search.

PUBLIC HEARING: No comments or questions were raised at this time.

MINUTES: Lindsey Hicks moved to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 11, 2006. Gabrielle Lesser seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

C.1. C.I.A.C: Eric Sweeting reported saying discussion centered around the Physics Regents for Seniors as it is disrupted by the new Senior Alternatives schedule. There are possibly 30 students involved.

- Mary Wirth remarked that there were some Facilities issues to be discussed soon.
- The Board asked that an update on the other new courses be scheduled and an update from the Science Assessment Committee.

BUSINESS:

B.1. & B.2. Patricia Anne Woods moved to approve the following resolutions

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Hastings-on-Hudson Union Free School District hereby consents to the merger of the Hastings Boys Swimming Team with the Boys Swimming Team of the Ardsley School District for the 2006-07 school year; and be it further RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools are hereby authorized to execute the Letter of Intent of such merger

AND

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Hastings-on-Hudson Union Free School District hereby consents to the merger of the Hastings Girls Swimming Team with the Girls Swimming Team of the Ardsley School District for the 2006-07 school year, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools are hereby authorized to execute the Letter of Intent of such merger.

Eileen Baecher seconded the motion and Items B.1. & B.2. carried by unanimous vote

B.3. Patricia Anne Woods moved to approve the student tutoring proposal with Peekaboo Learning Corp. for the 2006-07 school year for a fee not to exceed \$3,700.00 and to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to execute the proposal letter.

Lindsey Hicks seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

B.4. & B.5. Lindsey Hicks moved to accept the Treasurer's Report for July 2006

AND

To accept the Revenue and Expenditure Reports for August 2006

Eric Sweeting seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

B.6. Gabrielle Lesser moved to accept with thanks a donation of \$2,000.00 from The Rockefeller University.

Lindsey Hicks seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Old Business-Board of Education:

- Joint Meeting with Village Board
- Board Manual
- Follow-up on Retreat; 2 more Retreats

Old Business-Audience to Board

- No comments were made at this time

New Business-Board of Education:

- Westchester-Putnam School Boards Association's 2006 NYSSBA Proposed Resolutions: Discussion resulted in Gabrielle Lesser and Eileen Baecher to collect reactions.
- Board Attendance at School Events: Divide them up. Homecoming?

New Business-Audience to Board.

- No comments were made at this time.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Board President Mary Wirth declared the meeting closed at 9:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Caruso
District Clerk