

*** Revised ***

**HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING**

*** Revised ***

Tuesday, May 6, 2008

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 Tuesday evening, May 6, 2008. Present were Trustees Eric Sweeting, Gabrielle Lesser, Eva Neubauer Alligood, Eileen Baecher, Caryn Campbell, Lindsey Hicks and Mary A. Wirth. Student Liaison Rebecca Gourevitch was absent. Also present were Robert I. Shaps, Superintendent of Schools; David Hayes, District Clerk; members of the administration and guests.

CALL TO ORDER:

Board of Education President Eric Sweeting called the meeting to order at 7:16 PM. Mary Wirth moved to adjourn the meeting into Executive Session to discuss matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of any particular person or corporation. Gabrielle Lesser seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote. Following discussion, Eva Alligood moved to reconvene the Regular Meeting. Mary Wirth seconded and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

At 8:09 PM Board President Eric Sweeting welcomed all to the Regular Meeting of May 6, 2008.

REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Shaps announced that two voter registration sessions will take place in the Hastings High School Lobby. . .The first one is on Saturday, May 10th from 10am to 2pm and the second is on Wednesday, May 14th from 4pm to 8pm. For more information please call the District Clerk at 478-6206.

And in keeping with the voting theme, Mr. Shaps announced that the Rivertowns League of Women’s Voters, in conjunction with the Hastings PTSA, are sponsoring a “Meet the Board Candidates Night” on Monday, May 12th at 7pm in the Orr Room at the Hastings Public Library. This year, there are three candidates running for two seats and they are Donna Laing, Jodie Meyer and Gabrielle Lesser.

And if anyone would like to learn more about next year’s school budget, the Hastings PTSA is sponsoring a Budget discussion on Tuesday, May 13th at 7pm right here in the Russell Lecture Room.

He then reported that on November 30, 2007, Farragut Middle School teacher Jackie Marcus and her 5th grade class planted 260 tulip bulbs, which are now in full bloom. So thanks to Mrs. Marcus and her students for helping make FMS and even more beautiful place to teach and learn.

And that at a ceremony on May 8th at 7pm in the High School Lobby, 28 students will be inducted into the National Art Honor Society. They were; Sam Adair, Darla Barolini, Clara Bauman, Emily Bernstein, Diana Bouhassira, Katie Brittenham, George duPont, Alden Freed, Abner Garcia, Jackie Guhanick, Hallie Hayden, Aliana Heffernan, Allison Hopkins, Noah Koch, Daphne Lee, Mira Lieman-Sifry, Chelsea Michaelis, Sara Minsley, Nicole Pollina, Leila Quinn, Beth Scheiber, Allison Schorr, Suzanna Spieler, Chris Spinozzi, Miya Tsudome, Graham Vunderink, Matthew Wiener, and Emily Wissemann. The evening’s guest speaker was Maria DeAngelis, who graduated from Hastings High School and teaches sculpture and ceramics at Scarsdale High School where she serves as Art Department Chair since 1993.

Superintendent Shaps concluded his report by announcing some additional colleges and universities accepting members of the Class of 2008: Occidental College, Wesleyan University, Boston University, Carleton College, Lynn University, McGill University, Emerson College, University of Pittsburgh, Union College and Parsons School of Design in Paris.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

May	5-16	Advanced Placement Exams	
May	5-16	School Days – Historical Society exhibit on display in HHS Lobby	
May	5	Board of Education Policy Committee Meeting – Russell Lecture Room	7:45 am
May	6	HHS Parent Liaison Meeting – Room 225	6:45 pm
May	6	Board of Education Meeting – Russell Lecture Room	
		- Executive Session	7:15 pm
		- Regular Meeting	8:00 pm
May	7-9	Grade 8 Trip to Boston	

May	7	Board of Education Facilities Committee Mtg. – District Conference Room	7:45 am
May	7	Community Leaders Group Meeting – Russell Lecture Room	3:30 pm
May	8	National Art Honor Society Inductions – HHS Lobby	7:00 pm
May	10	Voter Registration – HHS Lobby	10 am – 2 pm
May	10	Hastings Education Foundation Benefit and Auction – Alder Manor	7:00 pm
May	12	“Meet the Board Candidates Night” – Orr Room, Hastings Public Library	7:00 pm
May	13	Diversity/Social Emotional Learning Committee Mtg. – Russell Lecture Room	3:15 pm
May	13	PTSA-sponsored 08-09 School Budget Discussions – Hillside Café	7:00 pm
May	14	HASP Graduation – Russell Lecture Room	8:00 am
May	14	Board of Education Finance Committee Meeting	12:30 pm
May	14	Voter Registration – HHS Lobby	4 pm – 8 pm
May	15	Student/Board of Education Liaison Committee Mtg. – Lloyd Library	7:45 am
May	15	HHS Academic Field Day	
May	15	SEPTA General Membership Meeting – Hillside Café	7:30 pm
May	16-17	“Seussical” Grades 5/6 Musical – HHS Auditorium	7:00 pm
May	17	PTSA Sporting Goods Tag Sale – James Harmon Community Center	9 am – 3 pm
May	19	PTSA New Book Fair for FMS/HHS – HHS Lobby	8 am – 4 pm
May	19	Senior Alternative Internships Begin	
May	19	FMS Parent Liaison Meeting – Lloyd Library	6:45 pm
May	19	Board of Education Meeting – Russell Lecture Room	
		- Executive Session	7:15 pm
		- Regular Meeting	8:00 pm
May	20	Budget Vote and Trustee Election – Cochran Gym	7 am – 9 pm
May	20	PTSA New Book Fair for FMS/HHS – HHS Lobby	8 am – 9 pm
May	20	Grade 7/8 Spring Concert – HHS Auditorium	7:00 pm

PERSONNEL

P.1 Mary Wirth moved to approve the following recommendation:

To appoint **Jeanette Kocur** to tenure in the School Counseling and Guidance tenure area, effective July 2, 2008.

Caryn Campbell seconded and Item P.1 carried by a unanimous vote.

P.2 Mary Wirth moved to approve the following recommendation:

To appoint **Randie Shaw** to tenure in the School Counseling and Guidance tenure area, effective July 2, 2008.

Gabrielle Lesser seconded and Item P.2 carried by a unanimous vote.

P.3 Caryn Campbell moved to approve the following recommendation:

To appoint **Louis Adipietro** to tenure in the Assistant Principal – High School tenure area, effective July 5, 2008.

Mary Wirth seconded and Item P.3 carried by a unanimous vote.

P.4 Gabrielle Lesser moved to approve the following recommendation:

To appoint **John Buchanan** to tenure in the Social Studies 7-12 tenure area, effective September 1, 2008.

Mary Wirth seconded and Item P.4 carried by a unanimous vote.

P.5 Mary Wirth moved to approve the following recommendation:

To appoint **Stefanie Denison** to tenure in the Special Education tenure area, effective September 1, 2008.

Lindsey Hicks seconded and Item P.5 carried by a unanimous vote.

P.6 Gabrielle Lesser moved to approve the following recommendation:

To appoint **Daniel Kerness** to tenure in the Music 7-12 tenure area, effective September 1, 2008.

Mary Wirth seconded and Item P.6 carried by a unanimous vote.

P.7 Mary Wirth moved to approve the following recommendation:

To appoint **Jasminne Paulino** to tenure in the Foreign Language 7-12 tenure area, effective September 1, 2008.

Caryn Campbell seconded and Item P.7 carried by a unanimous vote.

P.8 Mary Wirth moved to approve the following recommendation:

To appoint **Marc Zelmanowicz** to tenure in the Science 7-12 tenure area, effective September 1, 2008.

Gabrielle Lesser seconded and Item P.8 carried by a unanimous vote.

P.9 Lindsey Hicks moved to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, on May 6, 2008 it was determined that a vacancy exists for a 1.0 FTE probationary Social Studies 7-12 teacher for the 2008-2009 school year, which will be integral to Hastings-on-Hudson’s operations in the 2008-2009 school year; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board has identified **Caralyn J. Feder** as a qualified candidate and wishes to appoint her to a 1.0 FTE probationary position as a Social Studies 7-12 teacher for the 2008-2009 school year, effective September 1, 2008, as follows:

Tenure Area:	Social Studies 7-12
Salary Placement:	MA+20, Step 4
Date of Commencement of Probationary Service:	September 1, 2008
Date of Expiration of Probationary Service:	June 30, 2011
Anticipated Tenure Date:	September 1, 2011
Certification Status:	Provisional

Gabrielle Lesser seconded and Item P.9 carried by a unanimous vote.

P.10 Mary Wirth moved to approve the following recommendation:

To amend the 12 week FMLA leave of absence, without pay, of **Gloria Szeszko** to March 18, 2008 through June 9, 2008, followed by a parental leave of absence, without pay, from June 10, 2008 through June 30, 2008.

Eileen Baecher seconded and Item P.10 carried by a unanimous vote.

2008-2009 SCHOOL BUDGET HEARING

No comments were made at this time

PUBLIC HEARING

No comments were made at this time

COMMITTEE REPORTS

C.1 Board Operations Committee: Gabrielle Lesser reported that the Committee discussed preparations for both the upcoming min-retreat, with a date of June 9th, and the larger fall retreat at the beginning of the 08-09 school year. The mini retreat will focus on the progress of Board goals set at the start of the year, the form used for the evaluation of the superintendent, the addition of Superintendent Shaps’ goals he set for himself and agreement on a common definition of the rating scale.

C.2 Policy Committee: Eric Sweeting reported that the Committee met on May 5th and discussed four policies. One dealing with changes in the paperwork requirements regarding Medicaid reimbursements, one regarding the Code of Conduct and that rather than going through the Code line-by-line this year, each school wrote an introduction, one regarding the Compact For Learning and State requirements for site-based management. Mary Wirth added that a Compact For Learning subcommittee was formed consisting of BLT members to discuss and outline how the Compact will be implemented, and a final policy dealing with the use of surveillance cameras, specifically how they are used and not used, and who has access to review footage, etc.

BUSINESS

B.2 – B.3, B7.-B8 Mary Wirth moved to approve the following recommendations:

To engage the services of William C. Seepaul Jr. to be a guest speaker for HHS Art students in the amount of \$300.

AND

To engage the services of Mary Fennell for consultation with AP Studio Art Teachers and AP Studio Art students to help in preparation of their portfolios in the amount of \$300.

AND

To engage the services of Dr. Judith Sambol for Bilingual Psychological Services in the amount of \$1,000.

AND

To engage the services of Lee Schlesinger to be a guest speaker for Syracuse University Project Advance (SUPA) students in the amount of \$300.

Gabrielle Lesser seconded and Items B.2, B.3, B7, and B.8 carried by a unanimous vote.

B.1 Mary Wirth moved to approve the following recommendation:

To approve a contract with Seacliff Educational Solutions to provide eBoard Teacher Web Site Hosting Service in the amount of \$2,500.00 for the 2007-2008 school year, and to authorize the Superintendent to execute the contract.

Gabrielle Lesser seconded and Item B.1 carried by a unanimous vote.

B.4 Mary Wirth moved to approve the following recommendation:

To engage the services of Jessica Linton for a Kindergarten Dance Residency to take place from May 2nd to June 4th in the amount of \$2,000.

Eva Alligood seconded and Item B.4 carried by a unanimous vote.

B.5 Mary Wirth moved to approve the following recommendation:

To approve a contract with Educational Data Services, Inc. to participate in the New York Skilled Trades Bidding Program for the 2008-2009 school year in the amount of \$1,600.00, and to authorize the Superintendent to execute the contract.

Gabrielle Lesser seconded and Item B.5 carried by a unanimous vote.

B.6 Mary Wirth moved to approve the following recommendation:

To approve a contract with Educational Data Services, Inc. to participate in the New York Cooperative Bidding Program for the 2008-2009 school year in the amount of \$4,900.00, and to authorize the Superintendent to execute the contract.

Caryn Campbell seconded and Item B.6 carried by a unanimous vote.

B.9 Mary Wirth moved to approve the following recommendation:

To engage the services of Cliff Mendelson to work 3 days with students to create a large-scale tile mural in the amount of \$1,500.

Lindsey Hicks seconded and Item B.9 carried by a unanimous vote.

B.10 Mary Wirth moved to approve the following recommendation:

To establish a Girls Softball/Boys Baseball Booster Club in accordance with Board of Education Policy No.: 3260 for the 2007-2008 school year.

Gabrielle Lesser seconded and Item B.10 carried by a unanimous vote.

B.11-B.12 Mary Wirth moved to approve the following recommendations:

To approve the following Committee on Special Education recommendations for the 2007-2008 school year: #90-043 #89-029 #90-024 #89-013 #90-005 #00-013

AND

To approve the following Committee on Special Education recommendations for the 2008-2009 school year:

#93-002 #92-036 #99-012 #97-029 #95-033 #92-022 #92-000 #97-018 #92-034 #91-038

Eva Alligood seconded and Items B.11-B.12 carried by a unanimous vote.

B.13 Caryn Campbell moved to approve the following recommendation:

To appoint Jan Gustafson as Chief Inspector of Elections for the Hastings-on-Hudson U.F.S.D. Annual Budget Vote and Election to be held on May 20, 2008.

Mary Wirth seconded and Item B.13 carried by a unanimous vote.

B.14 Mary Wirth moved to approve the following recommendation:

To appoint Camilla Relucio to serve as a technology consultant, effective May 6, 2008, at a per diem rate of \$600, and to authorize the Superintendent to approve the contract.

Caryn Campbell seconded and Item B.14 carried by a unanimous vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

Old Business – Board of Education

No comments were made at this time.

Old Business – Audience to Board of Education

No comments were made at this time.

New Business – Board of Education

N.B.1 Re-organization Meeting Date: Mr. Shaps reminded the Board that School Law calls for the re-organization meeting to be on the first Tuesday of July unless it is a recognized holiday, which this year happens to be Tuesday, July 1st, or the Board could pass a resolution calling for the reorganization meeting any day within the first 15 days of July. Two, possibly three, board members will be out of town on 7/1/08 so the dates of 7/7 or 7/8 were discussed, each would be in the AM allowing members to get off to work. It was decided that on the May 19, 2008 Board of Education agenda, a resolution would be included allowing the Board to select a date for the re-organization meeting within the first 15 days of July, and the actual date and time would be set then as well.

New Business – Audience to Board of Education

Gabrielle Lesser stated that there is a lot of great and valuable feedback from the Budget Community Forum and the Board discussed the best ways to make this information public, possibly by posting it on the website.

Mr. Shaps thanks the Simchick family for hosting a Superintendent's Coffee.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Eric Sweeting, Board President, declared the meeting closed at 9:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

David Hayes, District Clerk