

**SOUTH COLONIE CENTRAL SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION**



MINUTES

**March 18, 2014
District Office**

7:00 pm



CoRe VaLueS

We Believe :

- * That all children can learn.
- * In educating the whole child so he/she can meet the District's Standards.
- * In focusing on student achievement.
- * In providing a comprehensive and enriched curriculum for all students, reflecting the needs and available resources of the community.
- * That the combined commitment of the Board of Education, staff, families, students, and community is the key to educational success.

Mission Statement

Preparing successful contributing citizens of the world through school, family and community partnerships, while addressing the diverse needs of all students.

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the South Colonie Board of Education was called to order by Board President, Mr. Ryan at 7:00 pm.

1. ROLL CALLMembers Present:

Brian Casey	Neil Johanning	Leonard Motto
Rose Gigliello	David Kiehle	James T. Ryan
Shelle Jaquish	Christine Mele	Edward Sim

Also Present:

Jonathan Buhner, Superintendent of Schools
 Tim Backus, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction
 Sherri Fisher, Assistant Superintendent for Management Services & Strategic Planning
 David Seaver, Director of Human Resources
 Jamie Mroczko, District Clerk

2. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Mr. Ryan led the pledge to the flag.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Sim and seconded by Ms. Gigliello, that the minutes of the Regular Meeting on March 4, 2014, be approved.

 9 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

Vote Carried: 9 – 0 – 0

4. COMMUNICATIONS**A. Correspondence/Board Activities**Mr. Ryan

- Expressed condolences on behalf of the Board of Education to the family of Don Walton, teacher at Colonie Central High School, who recently passed away. A scholarship fund in memory of Mr. Walton has been established by the family.
- Expressed get well wishes on behalf of the Board of Education to Bruce Darrow, Custodian at Lisha Kill Middle School, who was recently taken ill. Mr. Buhner stated that Mr. Darrow thanked the Board for the card that was sent and reported that he is feeling better.

- Attended the Capital Conference; met with Senator Breslin and Assemblyman Steck.
- Recognized students who recently competed in the Regional Odyssey of the Mind Tournament. The team from Saddlewood Elementary School won its age group and will head to the State Competition in Binghamton.
- Recognized Connor Cragon, a Junior at Colonie Central High School, who won first place at the 2014 Capital District Engineer's Week student bridge design contest.
- Recognized the Colonie Central High School Varsity Girls' Bowling Team who finished second at the NYS Championships.
- Board members received an invitation to attend the Forest Park Earth Day Celebration on April 22. Albany County Executive Daniel McCoy will attend to recognize the Forest Park students for their efforts in recycling.

Mr. Johanning

- Attended the Capital Conference on March 9 and 10.
 - Three panels presented on March 9: the NYSSBA Team provided a summary overview; an Education Panel with Commissioner King and Chancellor Tisch reviewed a plan for moving forward and discussed Common Core; and a Budget Discussion was held with suggestions for improvement.
 - On March 10 a representative from the Governor's office was present to listen to concerns and take them back to the Governor and a ceremony was held to honor school board members.
 - Representatives from South Colonie, North Colonie and Menands school districts met with legislators; the visits were very productive.
- Attended the PTA Scholarship interviews at UAlbany. The top three candidates will proceed to the next round.

Ms. Gigliello

- Attended the Capital Conference on March 10; the Deputy Secretary spoke.
- Attended the Safe Schools meeting on March 18. Mr. Seaver did an excellent job.

Mr. Sim

- Attended the Communications Committee meeting on March 5; will provide a report later in the meeting.
- Attended the Safe Schools meeting on March 18.

Mr. Casey

- Attended the Robotics Regional Competition at RPI. The team from the High School finished third.

Ms. Mele

- Attended the Capital Conference on March 9 and 10. As a new Board member, found it to be a great experience.

Mr. Buhner

- Attended the NYSCOSS Mid-Winter Conference in Saratoga Springs. Discussed legislative items, funding and communicated concerns with elected officials.

Ms. Fisher

- Attended the Statewide NYSASBO meeting; a representative from the Governor's office attended.
- Attended the annual Spring Leadership Conference as President of the Capital Region Chapter.

B. Requests to Speak

Kimberly Leva – Ms. Leva, School Counselor at Colonie Central High School, spoke regarding the proposed budget cuts of a School Psychologist and Counselor. Ms. Leva stated that she has been with the District for 15 years and requested to address the Board and read a statement to advocate for the restoration of these positions, which she believes are essential to effectively support the whole student.

Mr. Buhner responded that Ms. Leva made some valid points and the District is aware that the students need supports; unfortunately these are difficult fiscal times for public schools. If the District is fortunate and receives restored funding, a plan has been developed for the consideration of proposed restoration of tiered priorities.

Mr. Johanning commented that during his meetings with Assemblyman Steck and Senator Breslin, they stated that they would like to hear from community members. He suggested letter-writing campaigns to make our legislators aware of these concerns.

5. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION AND STUDY**A. Budget Discussion**

Sherri Fisher, Assistant Superintendent for Management Services & Strategic Planning provided a report on the first draft of the 2014-2015 budget. This draft is premised on the Governor's revenues; priorities for potential restoration have been identified. Additional adjustments may be expected once the State aid revenue information has been made available.

B. School Facility Report Card

Mr. Buhner provided a report on the School Facility Report Cards for each site. The report contains general information about each building in the District, including size, construction date, operation and maintenance records, energy costs, health and safety environmental awareness. This document is part of the mandated Five Year Facility Plan.

C. 2014-2015 School Calendar

The 2014-2015 School Calendar (Policy 4110) provides for 181 days of student attendance and four (4) staff development days for a total of 185 days. The Board reviewed the 2014-2105 School Calendar at the March 4, 2014 meeting and will take action on Item 9 of this agenda.

D. Board Committee Reports

Mr. Motto, Committee Chairperson, provided a report on the Strategic Planning Committee meeting which was held on March 4, 2014.

Mr. Sim, Committee Chairperson, provided a report on the District Communications Committee meeting which was held on March 5, 2014.

6. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

The Superintendent recommends approval of the following:

A. Committee on Special Education

Placements as indicated on the attached sheets.

B. In-Service Courses

1. Five (5.0) in-service credits for participation in and completion of the 75.0 contact hours course, “Dudley Observatory Rising Star Internship Program (#13-14-95), sponsored by the Bender Scientific Fund and NY Space Grant Consortium. The course will be held April, 2014 through April, 2015 twice a month at various times, (6-7 hours per month) at the Dudley Observatory, 107 Nott Terrace, Suite 201, Schenectady, NY. Lisa Thayer (Sand Creek Middle School) is the contact person.
2. Three (3.0) in-service credits for participation in and completion of the 45.0 contact hours course, “The 21st Century Classroom” (#13-14-96), sponsored by the New York Center for Teacher Development (NYCTD). The course will be held from April 2, 2014 through May 6, 2014 at various times as an online course. Gianleo Duca (Colonie Central High School/Sand Creek Middle School) is the contact person.
3. Three (3.0) in-service credits for participation in and completion of the 45.0 contact hours course, “Dealing with Parents: Fostering Positive Relationships” (#13-14-97), sponsored by the New York Center for Teacher Development (NYCTD). The course will be held from April 30, 2014 through June 3, 2014 at various times as an online course. Gianleo Duca (Colonie Central High School/Sand Creek Middle School) is the contact person.

4. Three (3.0) in-service credits for participation in and completion of the 45.0 contact hours course, “Common Core Standards” (#13-14–98), sponsored by the New York Center for Teacher Development (NYCTD). The course will be held from May 14, 2014 through June 17, 2014 at various times as an online course. Gianleo Duca (Colonie Central High School/Sand Creek Middle School) is the contact person.
5. Three (3.0) in-service credits for participation in and completion of the 45.0 contact hours course, “Data Driven Instruction” (#13-14–99), sponsored by the New York Center for Teacher Development (NYCTD). The course will be held from June 25, 2014 through July 15, 2014 at various times as an online course. Gianleo Duca (Colonie Central High School/Sand Creek Middle School) is the contact person.
6. Three (3.0) in-service credits for participation in and completion of the 45.0 contact hours course, “Common Core Standards and the Special Education Student”, (#14-15–03), sponsored by the New York Center for Teacher Development (NYCTD). The course will be held from July 9, 2014 through July 29, 2014 at various times as an online course. Gianleo Duca (Colonie Central High School/Sand Creek Middle School) is the contact person.
7. Three (3.0) in-service credits for participation in and completion of the 45.0 contact hours course, “Understanding Learning Disabilities” (#14-15–04), sponsored by the New York Center for Teacher Development (NYCTD). The course will be held from August 6, 2014 through August 26, 2014 at various times as an online course. Gianleo Duca (Colonie Central High School/Sand Creek Middle School) is the contact person.

C. Health & Welfare Contracts

1. Approval of a contract with the Lansingburgh Central School District for the 2013-2014 school year to provide health and welfare services to nine (9) South Colonie resident students attending non-public schools located in the Lansingburgh Central School District. The health service cost per pupil is \$455.71. The total cost of the contract shall be \$4,101.39.
2. Approval of a contract with the North Greenbush Common School District for the 2013-2014 school year to provide health and welfare services to eight (8) South Colonie resident students attending non-public schools located in the North Greenbush Common School District. The health service cost per pupil is \$216.00. The total cost of the contract shall be \$1,728.00.

D. Transportation Contracts

1. Approval of a thirty-one (31) day emergency transportation contract with Star & Strand Transportation. Inc., 360 Fifth Street, Troy, NY, for transportation of one (1) student from St. Margaret's Center, 27 Hackett Boulevard, Albany, NY, to Forest Park Elementary, 100 Forest Drive, Albany, NY. Transportation will begin February 24, 2014 and end March 29, 2014, at a cost of \$200.00 per day. The total cost of the contract shall be \$4,200.00.
2. Approval of a thirty-one (31) day emergency transportation contract with Brown Transportation, 12 South Bridge Street, Fonda, NY, for transportation of one (1) student from 259 Division Street, Amsterdam, NY, to Northeast Parent and Child Society, 1821 Hamburg Street Schenectady, NY. Transportation will begin March 12, 2014 and end April 11, 2014, at a cost of \$150.00 per day. The total cost of the contract shall be \$3,300.00.

E. Tax Refund

Approval of a 2013-2014 tax refund payable to Debra L. Kuebler in the amount of \$344.17. The property is located at 1101 Clute Crest Drive, Niskayuna, NY 12309 (Tax Map #60.12-1-71).

F. Donation

Donation from CREATE, the State Education Department, the University of the State of New York, Albany, New York 12234, of ten (10) Dell Optiplex GX620 computers valued at \$400.00 for use in the District's technology program.

A motion was made by Mr. Sim and seconded by Mr. Kiehle, that the above stated Reports and Recommendations be approved.

 9 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

Vote Carried: 9 – 0 – 0

7. PERSONNEL – INSTRUCTION

A motion was made by Mr. Casey and seconded by Ms. Gigliello, that the Instructional Personnel changes listed on the attached sheets dated March 18, 2014 be approved.

 9 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

Vote Carried: 9 – 0 – 0

8. PERSONNEL – SUPPORT

A motion was made by Mr. Motto and seconded by Ms. Gigliello, that the Support Personnel changes listed on the attached sheets dated March 18, 2014 be approved.

 9 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

Vote Carried: 9 – 0 – 0

A motion was made by Ms. Gigliello and seconded by Ms. Jaquish, to **enter** Executive Session to discuss fiscal matters and employment matters relating to particular persons.

9 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

Vote Carried: 9 – 0 – 0

The Board entered into Executive Session at 8:19 pm.

Mr. Casey and Mr. Sim left the meeting prior to Executive Session.

A motion was made by Mr. Motto and seconded by Mr. Johanning to **adjourn** Executive Session.

7 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

Vote Carried: 7 – 0 – 0

The Board adjourned Executive Session at 9:15 pm and returned to Public Session.

12. ADJOURN MEETING

A motion was made by Mr. Kiehle and seconded by Ms. Mele, that the Regular Meeting be adjourned.

7 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain

Vote Carried: 7 – 0 – 0

The Regular meeting of the Board of Education was adjourned at 9:16 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jamie S. Mroczko
District Clerk

7. PERSONNEL – INSTRUCTION**A. Leave of Absence**

- Name: Jessica Maguire
Position: Special Education Teacher
Type: Child Care Leave
Location: Sand Creek Middle School
Effective Date: March 13, 2014
Ending Date: March 28, 2014

B. Long-Term Replacement

- Name: Rachael Mann
Address: 42 Mordella Road, Albany, NY 12205
Type: Long-Term Replacement
Teaching Area: Special Education
Location: Sand Creek Middle School
Effective Date: March 13, 2014
Ending Date: March 28, 2014
Salary: Salary Schedule II, Step 1, per SCTA Contract (pro-rated)
Education: B.S. from Siena College, M.S. from College of St. Rose
Certification: Initial in Students with Disabilities (Grades 1-6)

C. Long-Term Substitute

- Name: Adrianna Gaeta
Address: 201 Park Avenue, Apt. 28, Albany, NY 12202
Type: Long-Term Substitute
Teaching Area: English
Location: Colonie Central High School
Effective Date: February 28, 2014
Salary: Salary Schedule I, Step 1 per SCTA Contract (pro-rated)
Education: B.A. from College of St. Rose
Certification: Initial in English Language Arts 7-12
- Name: Nicole Provost
Address: 2015 Michael Lane, Schenectady, NY 12306
Type: Long-Term Substitute
Teaching Area: Special Education
Location: Veeder Elementary School
Effective Date: March 14, 2014
Salary: Salary Schedule I, Step 1 per SCTA Contract (pro-rated)
Education: B.S. from Siena College, M.S. from College of St. Rose
Certification: Initial in Students with Disabilities (grades 1-6)

D. Substitute Teachers

Approval of Substitute Teachers on the attached list for regular, conditional or emergency conditional appointments.

E. Lunch Supervision for the 2013-2014 School Year

Rescind the following previously approved position effective 03/21/14:

Forest Park Elementary School

Patricia Vardaro

Appoint the following previously approved position at the approved rate of compensation effective 03/21/14:

Forest Park Elementary School

Mary Anne Snyder

F. Interscholastics for Fall – 2013-2014 School Year

Rescind the following previously approved position:

Sand Creek & Lisha Kill Middle Schools/Modified

Coach Girls Softball

Heather Fiore

Appoint the following previously approved positions at the approved rate of compensation:

Colonie Central High School

Coach 9th Grade Girls Softball

Elyse Weiglhofer

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Sand Creek & Lisha Kill Middle Schools/Modified

Coach Girls Softball

Tracey Johnas

G. Notification

Notification with regret of the death on March 9, 2014 of Mr. Donald Walton, a Social Studies Teacher at Colonie Central High School. Mr. Walton was an employee of the District for over 15 years.

8. PERSONNEL – SUPPORT**A. Retirements**

1. Name: Gail Fiato
Position: Permanent School Monitor (SC)
Effective: June 30, 2014

B. Appointments

1. Name: Huaning Wang
Address: 69 Mary Hadge Drive, Schenectady, NY 12309
Position: School Bus Driver Substitute
Effective: March 6, 2014
Salary: \$15.00 per hour
2. Name: Christopher Barlette
Address: 2 Robinson Lane, Loudonville, NY 12211
Position: Break-In School Bus Driver
Effective: March 3, 2014
Salary: Not paid during training
3. Name: Paula Pitcherello-Miner
Address: 20 Dory Lane, Albany, NY 12205
Position: Food Service Helper
Hours: 3.5 hours per day
Effective: March 19, 2014
Salary: \$11.23 per hour, per CSEA Contract
Current Location: Sand Creek Middle School
Probationary Period: March 19, 2014 through November 26, 2014
4. Name: Joseph George
Address: 3 Felicia Court, Albany, NY 12205
Position: Break-In School Bus Driver
Effective: March 10, 2014
Salary: Not paid during training
5. Name: Cassidhe Whalen
Address: 513 Shaker Run, Albany, NY 12309
Position: Custodial Worker Substitute
Effective: March 17, 2014
Salary: \$10.75 per hour

6. Name: Krystal Close
Address: 1129 Central Ave. Apt. 1, Albany, NY 12205
Position: Food Service Helper
Hours: 3.5 hours per day
Effective: March 19, 2014
Salary: \$11.23 per hour, per CSEA Contract
Location: Sand Creek Middle School
Probationary Period: March 19, 2014 through November 26, 2014
7. Name: John Kelly
Address: 69 Tennessee Avenue, Albany, NY 12205
Position: School Bus Driver Substitute
Effective: March 10, 2014
Salary: \$15.00 per hour

C. Change of Hours

Effective March 19, 2014:

Joanne McManus	Food Service Helper	3.0 hours per day to	LK
		3.5 hours per day	