

**GREATER JOHNSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Board of Education Business Meeting**  
**April 25, 2007**  
**Johnstown High School**

I. Called to order by President Praught at 6:00 p.m.

ATTENDEES:

John David Praught	Leslie Buggeln-Bosworth	Robert Curtis
James Levin	Susanne Fitzgerald	
Robert Kosowicz	Joanne Freeman	

ABSENT:

Russell Martin	Scott Miller
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OTHERS:

John S. Whelan	Katherine Sullivan
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II. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS

*"In accordance with its practice, the Board of Education of the Greater Johnstown School District does not permit oral comments from the public relating to specific personnel decisions regarding individuals employed by the District during the portion of its meeting where the Board permits public comment. Members of the public are welcome to send questions, comments or concerns regarding these or other matters to the Board in writing."*

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*Motion by Mr. Curtis seconded by Mrs. Fitzgerald to approve the minutes of the Board of Education meetings held on April 3, 2007 and April 11, 2007.*

VOTE:              7   YES                        0   NO

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S/ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

- Mr. Whelan advised that nominating petitions for three Board of Education seats were accepted until 5 p.m. today and that submissions were received from incumbents John David Praught, Joanne Freeman and Russell Martin; there were no other filers. Information packets regarding the 2007-08 Budget are available for anyone interested. The report card portion will be provided separately, as it was embargoed by the Commissioner of Education until today and not available when the packets were initially prepared. Anyone who has questions regarding proposition no. 2, which is the additional \$4M in funding being sought for the auditorium portion of the capital project, is encouraged to contact the Board or Administration.
- Mr. Whelan noted that, while some of the Capital Project contracts were recently awarded, the general construction contract will not be awarded until after the May 15 vote on proposition no. 2.
- Mr. Whelan announced that Pleasant Ave. Principal Kathy Dougherty has been selected to serve as the new Superintendent at Northville and noted that, while she is to be congratulated and is wished well, she will be missed here. Mrs. Dougherty replied that she will leave a little piece of her heart here and cherishes the memories and experiences she will be taking with her.
- Mrs. Sullivan announced that we have been awarded the sum of \$10,000 under a competitive Child Abduction Prevention Grant through the State Education Department. The money will be used to provide child abduction safety shows in each elementary building, for teacher training on June 12, a parent meeting to take place at 6:30 pm on June 12, and for materials for teachers and students. Mr. Praught acknowledged Mrs. Sullivan's diligence in obtaining good programs and stated we are lucky to have her.

V. **REPORTS (PRESIDENT/STANDING COMMITTEES)**

- Audit Committee (B. Curtis, Chairperson)
- Facilities Planning Committee (S. Miller, Chairperson)
- Academic Curriculum Committee (J. Freeman, Chairperson) next meeting 4 p.m. 04/30/07; reschedule Academic Workshop re: Facilities and Declining Enrollment from 04/25/07 to 05/23/07 immediately following Board meeting
- Extra-Curricular Committee (L. Buggeln-Bosworth, Chairperson)

VI. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

A. **PERSONNEL**

1. **Separations**

a. **Resignation of Priscilla Holcomb, School Bus Driver**

*Motion by Mr. Kosowicz seconded by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the resignation of Priscilla Holcomb as School Bus Driver, effective April 25, 2007.*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

b. **Retirement of Jean Harris, Cook**

*Motion by Mr. Kosowicz seconded by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the retirement of Jean Harris, Cook, effective June 30, 2007.*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

2. **Leaves of Absences**

3. **Abolishments**

4. **Creations/Appointments/Adjustments**

a. **Probationary Appointment of Sara Randolph, School Monitor (Cafeteria)**

*Motion by Mrs. Freeman seconded by Mr. Curtis to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the probationary appointment of Sara Randolph, as a School Monitor (Cafeteria), 10 months per year, \$7.15 per hour, effective March 26, 2007.*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

b. **Probationary Appointment of Marvin Zurschmiede, School Bus Driver**

*Motion by Mrs. Freeman seconded by Mr. Curtis to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the probationary appointment of Marvin Zurschmiede as a School Bus Driver, 10 months per year, \$11.88 per hour, effective March 29, 2007.*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

**c. Permanent Appointment of Toni Horning, School Bus Attendant**

*Motion by Mrs. Freeman seconded by Mr. Curtis to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the permanent appointment of Toni Horning as a School Bus Attendant, effective May 2, 2007.*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

**B. WARRANTS – February 2007**

*Motion by Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded by Mr. Levin to accept the recommendation of the District Auditor, to accept the following warrants for February 2007, as seen in addendum # 1:*

General (A):                            # 38, 40  
School Lunch (C):                    # 17, 18  
Federal (F):                            #17, 18  
Trust & Agency (TA):                # 18

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

**C. TREASURER’S REPORT – February 2007**

*Motion by Mrs. Freeman seconded by Mr. Levin to accept the recommendation of the District Treasurer, to accept the Treasurer’s Report for February 2007, as seen in addendum # 2.*

1. Appropriation Status Report
2. Unrestricted Cash Balance
3. Handwritten Checks
4. Budget Transfer Schedule #5
5. Vendor Listing by Number (Vendor Additions)

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

**D. COOPERATIVE MEAT BID #07-15**

*Motion by Mrs. Freeman seconded by Mr. Levin to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to award the Cooperative Meat Bid #07-15 to Quandt’s Food Service and Ginsberg’s Food Service, as the lowest, qualified, responsible bidders, as seen in addendum # 3.*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

**E. TAX SHELTERED ANNUITY**

*Motion by Mrs. Freeman seconded by Mr. Levin to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to add Prudential’s American Skandia variable annuity to the list of prospective companies for tax sheltered annuities, as seen in addendum # 4.*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO



**b. Adjustments to Term Appointments for Softball Assistants**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mrs. Freeman to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to adjust the term appointments of the following softball assistants for 2006-2007:*

*Clint Froschauer, Softball Assistant #1* \$2,341  
*Jennifer Rockwell, Softball Assistant #2* \$2,062

VOTE: 7 YES 0 NO

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – CSE, CPSE**

**1. Committee for Special Education**

*Motion by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth seconded by Mrs. Fitzgerald to approve the minutes of the Committee for Special Education meeting(s) held on February 12, 2007, March 27, 2007, March 29, 2007, March 30, 2007, April 2, 2007, April 3, 2007, April 4, 2007, April 5, 2007, April 16, 2007 and April 17, 2007:*

000200005	000240007	000900123	000900123	000900083
000950056	000920046	000930054	000930038	000930046
000940034	002500073	009140017	000920078	009140145
009140049	009140130	000920088	000920060	000940017
000240009	002400050	000920062	002500019	000940016
002400062	000930037	009140150	000920061	000930060
000930026	000930065	009140003	000240021	002500014
000940057	000930050	000940019	000980017	000200014
000970030	009140018	000940028	000950027	000950009
000960025	000940012	002400064	000940031	000950057
000250003	000930053	000950022	000950030	

VOTE: 7 YES 0 NO

**C. STUDENT MATTERS**

**1. JHS French Exchange Club Trip to Montreal, Canada**

*Motion by Mrs. Freeman seconded by Mr. Curtis to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the JHS French Exchange Club trip to Montreal, Canada; leaving Johnstown High School on Saturday, May 12, 2007 at approximately 7:00 a.m. and returning on Sunday, May 13, 2007 at approximately 5:30 p.m.*

VOTE: 7 YES 0 NO

**VIII. BOARD OF EDUCATION ITEMS**

**1. BOCES Administrative Budget**

*Motion by Mr. Curtis seconded by Mr. Levin that the Hamilton-Fulton-Montgomery Counties Board of Cooperative Educational Services be authorized to expend the sums of money set forth in the Administrative Budget document in the total amount of \$1,315,040 during the school year 2007-2008 and to raise such sum by assessments to component school districts, non-component school districts, other BOCES, and other sources as deemed appropriate.*

VOTE: 7 YES 0 NO

2. **BOCES Board Vacancy**

*Motion by Mr. Curtis seconded by Mr. Levin that the Board of Education cast one vote for William Finch, 1480 Kringsbush Road, St. Johnsville NY 13452 to serve as a member of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services and that the District Clerk certify that at this public meeting, April 25, 2007, the Greater Johnstown School District Board of Education adopted a resolution to cast its vote in the annual election of members of the Board of Educational Services for William Finch.*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

3. **BOCES Board Vacancy**

*Motion by Mr. Curtis seconded by Mr. Levin that the Board of Education cast one vote for Robert Townsend, 805 Co Hwy 126, Amsterdam NY 12010 to serve as a member of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services and that the District Clerk certify that at this public meeting, April 25, 2007, the Greater Johnstown School District Board of Education adopted a resolution to cast its vote in the annual election of members of the Board of Educational Services for Robert Townsend.*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

4. **Appointment of Alternate Member to Board of Registration**

*Motion by Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded by Mr. Levin to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to appoint Emily Kralovic (R) of 213 Pleasant Avenue, Johnstown, as an alternate to the Board of Registration for the Board of Registration Meeting to be held at the high school from the hours of 12:00 NOON to 4:00 PM on May 1 2007, or as otherwise needed; and that the flat rate of pay for said member shall be \$7.15 hour for a total of \$28.60 for each meeting consisting of four hours.*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

5. **Appointment of Alternate Election Inspector**

*Motion by Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded by Mr. Levin to approve the individual listed below to serve as an alternate election inspector for the May 15, 2007 Board of Education Election and Budget Vote:*

**Jansen Avenue**  
*Helen Myzal (R)*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

6. **Parochial or Private School Transportation**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mr. Kosowicz to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the timely requests of the following parents or guardians of parochial or private school children residing in the School District for their children to be transported to the following parochial or private schools outside of the School District during the 2007-08 school year:*

- *Marrone, three students to St. Mary's*
- *Menconi, two students to Perth Bible Christian Academy*
- *Morley, two students to Fords Bush Bible Church*

VOTE:              7   YES                              0   NO

**IX. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

- Dick Baker questioned the cost to maintain a new auditorium if the bond vote is approved.
- Mrs. Fitzgerald noted that our district is highlighted in a recent issue of New York Teacher magazine for a project between Knox Jr. High and the Public Library encouraging short story writing. Kathy Zajicek added that 500,000 copies of the paper are sent out across the state, giving us good exposure. The article can currently be viewed online at the following url: [http://www.nysut.org/cps/rde/xchg/nysut/hs.xsl/newyorkteacher\\_7360.htm](http://www.nysut.org/cps/rde/xchg/nysut/hs.xsl/newyorkteacher_7360.htm)
- Mrs. Sullivan indicated that a nationally known speaker requested permission to use our Response to Intervention process at Guilderland and also recently presented it at a conference of NYS CSE chairs in Lake Placid.
- Mrs. Freeman inquired about plans for summer school and summer lunch during construction. Mr. Whelan advised that we have applied for summer lunch and are looking at Pleasant Ave. as a modified 7-12 summer school, but there will be no Summer Spark as Knox will be closed for asbestos abatement, the basement at JHS will undergo asbestos abatement and there will be work going on at most of the elementary schools.

**X. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

May 1, 2007	Voter Registration Budget Hearing & Candidates Night	Noon – 4:00 PM JHS 6:30 PM Knox Jr. High
May 9, 2007	Discussion/Business Meeting	6:00 PM Public Session Knox Junior High
May 15, 2007	Budget Vote & Board Elections Results to be Announced	Polls Open Noon – 9:00 PM Approx. 9:30 PM, JHS Cafe
May 23, 2007	Business Meeting	6:00 PM Johnstown High School

**XI. MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE EMPLOYMENT HISTORY OF PARTICULAR PERSONNEL**

*Motion by Mr. Curtis seconded by Mr. Kosowicz to go to executive session for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person at 6:36 p.m.*

VOTE:            7 Yes            0 No

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth to adjourn at 7:38 p.m.*

VOTE:            7 YES            0 NO

Respectfully submitted,

Larraina Carpenter, District Clerk