

GREATER JOHNSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Business Meeting
September 21, 2005
Johnstown High School

- I. Called to order by Board President at 6:00 PM.

ATTENDEES:

Scott Miller	Joanne Freeman	Leslie Buggeln-Bosworth
Peter Cinelli	John David Praught	Russell Martin
Kathleen Leo	Richard McGuire	Robert Curtis (arrived 7:15 PM)

OTHERS:

John S. Whelan	Peter Hopke	Katherine Sullivan (arrived 6:15 PM)
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II. SUPERINTENDENT'S/ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

- A. Mr. Whelan introduced Ronald Limoncelli, Superintendent of the Greater Amsterdam School District, who spoke positively about the use and care of, and community support for, the multi-purpose synthetic turf field installed there two years ago. Several Board members expressed an interest in seeing the field in person and Mr. Limoncelli offered free admittance to Friday night's football game. Those interested are to see Mr. Whelan so that arrangements can be made for them to enter a specific gate at no charge.

- B. A welcoming reception was held for new personnel. Following introductions by Mr. Whelan and the Building Principals, a short recess was taken so that everyone could mingle and enjoy refreshments. Nearly all of the following newly appointed staff members were able to attend this evening's meeting:

Ericka B. Curley – Special Education Teacher, Glebe Street
Annette Hall – Teacher Aide, Glebe Street
Karen E. Jones – Grade 6 Teacher, Glebe Street
Leena Neet – Teacher Aide, Glebe Street
MaryJo Quinn – Kindergarten Teacher, Glebe Street
Karen Raspanti – Teaching Assistant, Glebe Street
Bobbie Jo Coons – Licensed Practical Nurse, Jansen Ave.
Patricia R. Sotero – Principal, Jansen Ave.
Tracy Veit – Kindergarten Teacher, Jansen Ave.
Kathleen M. Weiterschan – School Secretary, Jansen Ave.
Noreen Brownell – Teacher Aide, Pleasant Ave.
Rebecca L. Hayes – School Monitor, Pleasant Ave.
Jennifer Horskins – Grade 6 Teacher, Pleasant Ave.
Heather R. Vazal – Art K-12 Teacher, Pleasant Ave.
Sarah M. Barnhart – Pre-K Teacher, Warren Street
Anne Marie Christiano – Principal, Warren Street
Jeremy DeLyser – Custodial Worker, Warren Street
Joseph Lodestro – Custodial Worker, Warren Street
Neil Martin – School Monitor, Warren Street
Amy Shutter – Pre-K Teacher, Warren Street
Jeremy C. Weber – Physical Education Teacher, Warren Street
Anne M. Bagot – Social Studies Teacher, Knox Jr. High
Joan E. Capobianco – Spanish Language Teacher, Knox Jr. High
Matthew P. Greco – English Teacher, Knox Jr. High
Mark C. Jones – Science Teacher, Knox Jr. High
Amy S. Rizzo-Lamena, Science Teacher, Knox Jr. High
Eric C. Schneider – English Teacher, Knox Jr. High
Patricia Smicinzki – Teaching Assistant, Knox Jr. High

Laura L. Swider – English Teacher, Knox Jr. High
 Colleen M. Tabor – Physical Education Teacher, Knox Jr. High
 Rebecca Wilder – Math Teacher, Knox Jr. High
 Susan M. Williamsen – Health Teacher, Knox Jr. High
 Kellisue Ackernecht – Teacher Aide, JHS
 David P. Halloran – Vice Principal, JHS
 Jeffrey Kolakowski – Social Studies, JHS
 Joseph Lawrence – Long Term Sub, JHS
 Megan A. Morrison – Teacher Aide, JHS
 Susan L. Quackenbush – Registered Nurse, JHS
 Heather Welch – Physics Teacher, JHS
 Teshia J. McCormack – School Secretary, Special Education
 Frank Raspanti – Coordinator Special Education, Pupil Svcs. & Special Programs
 Michael Satterlee – Coordinator Health, Recreation & Extra-Curricular Activities

- C. Mr. Whelan, Mr. Hopke and Architect David Bonacci gave a presentation and answered questions regarding the various repairs and improvements that make up the proposed Capital Project. Information was provided regarding the total cost versus the local share cost of the project after state aid, and the projected annual impact on taxes should the voters approve the project. It was pointed out that, should the public fail to approve the project, many of the repairs will still need to be made, without being eligible for state aid reimbursement to reduce the local cost. Mr. Satterlee read emails from the District's football, field hockey and lacrosse coaches and the marching band and winter guard director, enumerating the benefits of a multi-purpose synthetic turf field.

III. REPORTS (PRESIDENT/STANDING COMMITTEES)

President McGuire asked the Board members if they needed more time to consider his proposal from the last meeting regarding possible changes to the public comment sections of the agenda. After discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion by Mrs. Freeman, seconded by Mr. Curtis, (as amended), to re-format future Board of Education agendas to hear public comment regarding only agenda items at the beginning of meetings, and to hear public comment regarding non-agenda items at the end of meetings, commencing with the next Board meeting.

VOTE: 7 YES 2 NO (Praught, Miller)

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Praught seconded by Mr. Martin to approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on September 7, 2005.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

V. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. PERSONNEL

1. Separations

a. Resignation of Beth Thomas, Library Typist

Motion by Mr. Curtis seconded by Mrs. Leo to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the resignation of Beth Thomas, with regret, as a Library Typist, effective August 23, 2005.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

b. Resignation of Tamie Martin, School Monitor (Cafeteria)

Motion by Mr. Curtis seconded by Mrs. Leo to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the resignation of Tamie Martin, with regret, as a School Monitor (Cafeteria), effective September 6, 2005.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

c. Resignation of Annette Hall, School Monitor (Cafeteria)

Motion by Mr. Curtis seconded by Mrs. Leo to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the resignation of Annette Hall, with regret, as a School Monitor (Cafeteria), effective September 6, 2005.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

2. Leave of Absences

3. Abolishments

4. Creations/Appointments/Adjustments

a. Permanent Appointments

Motion by Mr. Martin seconded by Mr. Cinelli to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following permanent appointments:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Kelly Day	Teacher Aide	September 7, 2005
Kelly Gray	Teacher Aide	September 7, 2005
Darlene Ripple	Clerk	August 1, 2005

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

b. Creation of School Bus Attendant

Motion by Mr. Martin seconded by Mr. Cinelli to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the creation of a School Bus Attendant position effective September 13, 2005.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

c. Probationary Appointments

Motion by Mr. Martin seconded by Mr. Cinelli to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following probationary appointments:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Pay/hr</u>
Rebecca Hayes	School Monitor (Café)	9/7/05	\$6.47
Rebecca Hayes	School Bus Attendant	9/13/05	\$6.47
Noreen Brownell	Teacher Aide (1:1)	9/7/05	\$6.98
Kellisue Ackernecht	Teacher Aide (1:1)	9/7/05	\$6.98
Kellisue Ackernecht	School Bus Attendant	9/12/05	\$6.47
Neil Martin	School Monitor (Café)	9/7/05	\$6.47
Megan Morrison	Teacher Aide (1:1)	9/7/05	\$6.98
Joseph LoDestro	Custodial Worker	9/6/05	\$11.07

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

d. Temporary Appointment of Jeremy DeLyser, Custodial Worker

Motion by Mr. Martin seconded by Mr. Cinelli to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the temporary appointment of Jeremy DeLyser as Custodial Worker, \$11.07 per hour, effective September 7, 2005.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

e. Substitute Appointments

Motion by Mr. Martin seconded by Mr. Cinelli to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following substitute appointments with a pay rate per the 2005/05 classified substitute pay schedule:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effective Dates</u>
Amy Savage	Food Service Helper	9/7/05 to 6/30/06
James Pertell	Bus Driver	9/6/05 to 6/30/06
Betty Chambers	Teacher Aide (1:1)	9/7/05 to 9/7/05
Susan Hansen	Clerk	9/12/05 to 6/30/06

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

f. Casual Employment Opportunities for the 2005/06 School Year

Motion by Mr. Martin seconded by Mr. Cinelli to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following for the Casual Employment Opportunities for the 2005/06 school year:

Richard Baker	Adam Barnhart	Heather Dodson
Jim Donovan	RoseAnn Duross	Clint Froschauer
Scott Hale	Erika Hock	Andrew Jablonski
Jon Jennings	Claudia Jurica	Bob Kraemer
Eric Laugen	Hanz Litz	Judy Loucks
Sean Mahon	Victor Malagisi	Debbie Miller
Mark Ralbovsky	Pamela Ralbovsky	William G. Roth (Gregg)
Erica St. Peter	Patricia St. Peter	Ron Savoie
Steve Smith	Dylan Thomarie	Kathryn Zayicek
Corrine Cotter		

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

B. AUTHORIZATION FOR PETTY CASH FUNDS

Motion by Mr. Praught seconded by Mr. Curtis that the Board of Education establish petty cash funds for the Athletic Department, Patricia St. Peter, in the amount of \$100.00 in accordance with Commissioner's Regulation 170.4: 8NYCRR§170.4(e), for the 2005/06 school year.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

VII. EDUCATION ITEMS

A. PERSONNEL

1. Separations

c. Term Appointments of Co-Curricular Advisors

Motion by Mrs. Freeman seconded Mrs. Leo to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the term appointments of following individuals as Co-Curricular advisors for the 2005-2006 school year:

<i>Jeff Kincheloe, junior class advisor</i>	<i>\$1,326</i>
<i>Ronald Beck, freshman class advisor</i>	<i>\$ 796</i>
<i>Jennifer Gonyea, marching band asst #3(percussion instructor)</i>	<i>\$1,167</i>
<i>Sarah Corrigan, JHS musical director</i>	<i>\$2,387</i>
<i>James Morton, JHS musical accompanist</i>	<i>\$1,326</i>
<i>Connie Lais, JHS French exchange advisor</i>	<i>\$ 530</i>
<i>Meredith Fagan, JHS Honor Society advisor</i>	<i>\$ 796</i>

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

d. Sixth Period Course Stipends for High School Teachers

Motion by Mrs. Freeman seconded by Mr. Cinelli to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the payment of sixth period course stipends to the following individuals for the 2005-2006 school year:

<i>Sharon Humphrey, I/O Choices</i>	<i>\$3,500 (two semesters)</i>
<i>Connie Lais, French</i>	<i>\$3,500 (two semesters)</i>
<i>Sean Mahon, DDP1&2</i>	<i>\$3,500 (two semesters)</i>
<i>Kathy Zajicek, Ceramics</i>	<i>\$3,500 (two semesters)</i>
<i>David Rockwell, Chemistry Lab, 5.5 sections</i>	<i>\$1,750 (two semesters)</i>
<i>Tara Bruce, AIS Lab, 5.5 sections</i>	<i>\$1,750 (two semesters)</i>

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – CSE, CPSE

C. STUDENT MATTERS

VIII. BOARD OF EDUCATION ITEMS

IX. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

“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.”

- Mr. Martin read portions of a letter sent to his daughter, the Teacher of the Year in Alabama, by the Teacher of the Year from Mississippi, describing the devastation wrought in her community and school by Hurricane Katrina and the hardships they are now facing. Mr. Martin made an emotional plea for our community to make an effort to assist them. Mr. McGuire inquired whether it would be possible for Johnstown to “adopt” the school. Mr. Whelan will look into the particulars.
- Robin Luck, a resident of Cresendoe Road, expressed various concerns regarding pollution, traffic flow and employee parking with regard to a proposal for the District to lease a building on her street for a bus garage. Mr. Hopke addressed her questions based on information available to us at this time.
- Dick Baker asked what our enrollment numbers are this year compared to prior years. Mrs. Sullivan advised that final figures with regard to enrollment versus attendance will not be completed until next week, however at this point it appears fairly consistent, with perhaps thirty more students.

- Dick Baker asked whether we are using distance learning facilities and equipment. Mr. Whelan and Mrs. Sullivan advised that although we review this option annually, we are not currently participating in distance learning. They indicated our students have the opportunity of AP courses and have the college close by, and distance learning is sometimes more suited to smaller schools without these services.
- Dick Baker asked why the pool isn't open to the community. He was advised that while open swim had been offered on various occasions in the past, there was little or no participation. The possibility of offering it again is considered periodically.
- Mrs. Sullivan mentioned that there has been some confusion generated by a web site with a similar name to ours, which is not under our control. She announced that there will be a presentation of the school's web site, www.johnstownschoools.org, at next month's meeting.
- Mr. Curtis said he had observed traffic problems at Knox with cars passing school buses. He asked that this matter be looked into.
- Mr. Curtis noted that some bus drivers allow student athletes to eat on buses traveling to and from events, while some drivers do not. He asked for consistency among the drivers and suggested that the privilege of eating be allowed unless abused. Mrs. Freeman indicated the band and winter guard have encountered a similar situation.

X. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

October 4, 2005	Capital Project Vote	Polls Open Noon – 9:00 PM
October 5, 2005	Discussion/Business Meeting	6:00 PM Public Session Pleasant Ave. Library
October 19, 2005	Business Meeting	6:00 PM Public Session Johnstown High School

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Praught seconded by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth to adjourn at 8:11 PM.

VOTE: 9 Yes 0 No

Respectfully submitted,

Larraina Carpenter
District Clerk