

**GREATER JOHNSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Board of Education Business Meeting**  
**January 22, 2009**  
**Johnstown High School**

I. Called to order by President Curtis at 7:04 p.m.

ATTENDEES:

Leslie Buggeln-Bosworth	Robert Curtis	Susanne Fitzgerald
Robert Kosowicz	Scott Miller	Russell Martin (arrived 7:05 p.m.)
James Levin	John David Praught	

EXCUSED:

Joanne Freeman

OTHERS:

Katherine Sullivan, Superintendent                      Larraina Carpenter, District Clerk  
Ralph Acquaro, Interim Business Manager

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. MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE EMPLOYMENT HISTORY OF A PARTICULAR PERSON AND COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATIONS

*Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mrs. Fitzgerald to go to executive session for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person and collective negotiations at 7:06 p.m.*

VOTE:              7   Yes              1   No (Mr. Praught)

IV. MOTION TO RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

*Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Fitzgerald, to reconvene in public session at 7:32 p.m.*

VOTE:              8   Yes              0   No

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mr. Praught to approve the minutes of the Board of Education meetings held on January 8, 2009 and January 13, 2009.*

VOTE:              8   YES              0   NO

VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Mrs. Sullivan announced that the Internal Audit Report scheduled to be given by Joseph Heroux of Questar had been postponed.
- Mrs. Sullivan noted that the Leader Herald recently ran an article promoting the adoption of new policies by several area districts regarding tobacco use on school property, which article failed to mention that GJSD adopted a very comprehensive policy in 2004.
- Mrs. Sullivan announced an addition to the agenda of a motion rejecting bids for surplus buses. Mr. Aquaro discussed the purpose of a bus reserve and noted the district is working on a plan to put a proposition before the voters in May. He indicated that if the proposition passes, the fund will not become available until next year and, as the district won't be able to buy buses during the year lag, it would be best not to sell surplus buses right now.

## VII. COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS

- Mr. Miller reported the facilities committee met at 6 p.m. this evening and discussed several matters. Noted that the district must deal with the bus garage issue, as the current lease for the Crescendoe Road building expires June 30, 2008. The district will need to put a proposition before the voters in May in order to extend the lease while it looks to implement other options. The committee discussed security cameras and door buzzers for areas that can be hard to see, such as the Knox entry. Costs are eligible for aid; it was decided to obtain a quote. The committee discussed changing out locks for exterior doors, which can be done in-house, but will still be an expense of approximately \$4,000. Installing an entrance to the district administrative offices was proposed, also as an in-house project, except possible for brick removal. Also discussed was better signage to direct visitors to the various athletic fields and administrative offices. Mr. Praught inquired as to what is stored at Irving Street (track hurdles, fencing, irrigation equipment, multi-seasonal items). Mr. Curtis added that the district has had discussions with Gloversville regarding use of its bus garage and may pursue talks with Fulton County.

## VIII. BUSINESS ITEMS

### A. PERSONNEL

#### 1. Separations

#### 2. Leaves of Absence

#### 3. Abolishments

##### a. Abolishment of Groundskeeper Position

*Motion by Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded by Mr. Miller to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the abolishment of a Groundskeeper position, effective February 27, 2009*

VOTE:            8 YES                            0 NO

#### 4. Creations/Appointments/Adjustments

##### a. Creation of a Custodial Worker Position

*Motion by Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded by Mr. Miller to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the creation of a Custodial Worker position, effective February 28, 2009.*

VOTE:            8 YES                            0 NO

##### b. Permanent Appointment of Harry Wiggins, School Monitor (Cafeteria)

*Motion by Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded by Mr. Miller to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the permanent appointment of Harry Wiggins as a School Monitor (Cafeteria) effective January 27, 2009.*

VOTE:            8 YES                            0 NO

##### c. Probationary Appointment of Darcy Jo DiMaio, School Bus Attendant

*Motion by Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded by Mr. Miller to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the probationary appointment of Darcy Jo DiMaio as a School Bus Attendant, 10 months per year, \$7.75/hr, effective January 6, 2009. .*

VOTE:            8 YES                            0 NO

**d. Probationary Appointment of Jenna Wager, Teacher Aide (one to one)**

*Motion by Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded by Mr. Miller to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the probationary appointment of Jenna Wager as a Teacher Aide (one to one) 10 months per year, \$8.05/hr, effective January 8, 2009.*

VOTE:              8   YES                              0   NO

**e. Substitute Appointment of Darcy Jo DiMaio, Food Service Helper**

*Motion by Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded by Mr. Miller to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the substitute appointment of Darcy Jo DiMaio as a Food Service Helper, pay per the 2008/09 classified substitute pay schedule, effective January 23, 2009 to June 30, 2009.*

VOTE:              8   YES                              0   NO

**f. Casual Employment Opportunities 2008/09 School Year**

*Motion by Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded by Mr. Miller to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following list for the Casual Employment Opportunities for the 2008/09 school year:*

*Julianna Frederick            Sheil Murray                            Richard C. Baker  
Jeffrey Krempa*

VOTE:              8   YES                              0   NO

**B. COOPERATIVE ICE CREAM BID #09-07**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mr. Kosowicz to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to award the Cooperative Ice Cream Bid #09-07 to Gillette Creamery and Sycaway Creamery, as the lowest, qualified, responsible bidders, as seen in addendum #1.*

VOTE:              8   YES                              0   NO

**C. COOPERATIVE MEAT BID #09-08**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mr. Kosowicz to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to award the Cooperative Meat Bid #09-08 to Quandts and Ginsbergs, as the lowest, qualified, responsible bidders, as seen in addendum #2.*

VOTE:              8   YES                              0   NO

**D. COOPERATIVE CANNED FOOD BID #09-09**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mr. Kosowicz to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to award the Cooperative Canned Food Bid #09-09 to Quandts, Ginsbergs and Nardone, as the lowest, qualified, responsible bidders, as seen in addendum #3.*

VOTE:              8   YES                              0   NO

**E. SURPLUS VEHICLE BID #001-2009**

*Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education exercise its right to reject all Surplus Vehicle Bids and authorizes the return of all bid bonds and checks to the bidding vendors.*

VOTE:              8   YES                              0   NO

**IX. EDUCATION ITEMS**

**A. PERSONNEL**

- 1. **Separations**
- 2. **Leaves of Absence**
- 3. **Abolishments**
- 4. **Creations/Appointments/Adjustments**

**a. Term Appointments of Coaching Staff**

*Motion by Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded by Mr. Miller to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve term appointments of the following coaches for the 2008-2009 school year:*

<i>Aaron Mraz, baseball head coach</i>	<i>\$3,257</i>
<i>Jonathan Jennings, baseball assistant #1</i>	<i>\$2,399</i>
<i>Eric Laugen, boys' lacrosse head coach</i>	<i>\$3,257</i>
<i>Phillip Parillo, boys' lacrosse assistant #1</i>	<i>\$2,399</i>
<i>Denise Benton, girls' lacrosse head coach</i>	<i>\$3,257</i>
<i>Tracy Ringer, girls' lacrosse assistant #1</i>	<i>\$2,399</i>
<i>Ronald Savoie, girls' softball head coach</i>	<i>\$3,257</i>
<i>John St. Peter, girls' softball assistant #1</i>	<i>\$2,399</i>
<i>Teresa Brandt, girls' softball assistant #2</i>	<i>\$2,228</i>
<i>George Werle, boys' tennis head coach</i>	<i>\$2,000</i>
<i>Phillip Parillo, Casual Strength Coach</i>	
<i>(December 2008, January 2009, February 2009</i>	<i>\$343 per month</i>

VOTE:            7 YES                                    1 NO (Mr. Martin)

Discussion:    Mr. Curtis noted that there are no track coaches lined up for the spring; no in-house staff has stepped forward.

**B. CSE/CPSE MINUTES**

**1. Committee for Special Education**

*Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Levin to approve the minutes of the Committee for Special Education meetings held on 12/10/08, 12/16/08, 12/17/08, 12/18/08, 01/05/09, 01/09/09, 01/12/09, 01/14/09, and 01/15/09:*

<i>000166923</i>	<i>000306173</i>	<i>000115711</i>	<i>000281206</i>	<i>000140118</i>
<i>000140349</i>	<i>000900323</i>	<i>000900493</i>	<i>000140348</i>	<i>000134662</i>
<i>000176961</i>	<i>000184937</i>	<i>000305897</i>	<i>000185192</i>	<i>000140346</i>
<i>000185203</i>	<i>000195250</i>			

VOTE:            8 YES                                    0 NO

**C. STUDENT MATTERS**

**1. Winter Guard Trip to Salem, Massachusetts**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mrs. Fitzgerald to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the Winter Guard trip to Salem, Massachusetts to compete in the WGI Regional at Salem High School; leaving Johnstown High School on Friday, February 13, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. and returning on Saturday, February 14, 2009 at approximately 12:00 midnight.*

VOTE:            8 YES                                    0 NO

2. **Winter Guard Trip to Trumbull, Connecticut**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mrs. Fitzgerald to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the Winter Guard trip to Trumbull, Connecticut, to compete in the WGI Regional at Trumbull High School; leaving Johnstown High School on Friday, Saturday, February 28, 2009 at 6:00 a.m. and returning on Monday, March 2, 2009 at approximately 3:30 a.m.*

VOTE:              8   YES                              0   NO

3. **Winter Guard Trip to Monmouth Junction, New Jersey**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mrs. Fitzgerald to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the Winter Guard trip to Monmouth Junction, New Jersey to compete in the WGI Power Regional at South Brunswick High School; leaving Johnstown High School on Saturday, March 21, 2009 at 6:00 a.m. and returning on Sunday, March 22, 2009 at approximately 10:00 p.m.*

VOTE:              8   YES                              0   NO

X. **BOARD OF EDUCATION ITEMS**

A. **MODIFICATION OF SCHOOL ELECTION DISTRICTS AND POLLING SITES**

*Board Member Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth presents the following resolution and moves its adoption, seconded by Board Member Mr. Praught:*

**WHEREAS**, the Greater Johnstown School District was previously divided into five election districts as follows:

*District 1: Consisting of the part of the School District located in Ward 1 of the City of Johnstown, and in General Election District No. 3 and 4 of the Town of Johnstown, with elections held at Pleasant Avenue School, Pleasant Avenue.*

*District 2: Consisting of that part of the School District located in Ward 2 of the City of Johnstown, and in General Election District No. 6 of the Town of Johnstown, with elections held at Jansen Avenue School, Jansen Avenue.*

*District 3: Consisting of that part of the School District located in Ward 3 of the City of Johnstown, and in General Election District No. 1 of the Town of Johnstown., with elections held at Knox Junior High School, South Perry Street.*

*District 4: Consisting of that part of the School District located in Ward 4 of the City of Johnstown, and in General Election District No. 5 of the Town of Johnstown., with elections held at Johnstown Public Library, West Clinton Street.*

*District 5: Consisting of that part of the School District located in the Town of Ephratah and the Town of Palatine, with elections held at Ephratah Fire Department, Route 10, Ephratah; **and***

**WHEREAS**, the Fulton County Board of Elections has eliminated General Election District No. 6 of the Town of Johnstown and redistributed the voters situated therein so that residents of the even side of State Highway 29A are combined with General Election District No. 1 of the Town of Johnstown, while residents of the odd side of State Highway 29A are combined with General Election District No. 2 of the Town of Johnstown; **and**

**WHEREAS**, the Fulton County Board of Elections has decreased its polling sites in the City of Johnstown and, in accordance with the federal Help America Vote Act and/or the New York State Election Reform and Modernization Act, has removed, or is in the process of removing, its lever voting machines from polling sites previously used by the Greater Johnstown School District; **and**

*WHEREAS, the Greater Johnstown School District has insufficient voting machines to support five school district polling sites,*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:*

*Election Districts in the Greater Johnstown School District shall henceforth be numbered and described using the municipal descriptions as follows:*

*District 1: Consisting of the part of the School District located in Wards 1, 2, 3 & 4 of the City of Johnstown, and in General Election Districts 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 of the Town of Johnstown, with elections held at Johnstown High School, 1 Sir Bills Circle,*

*District 2: Consisting of that part of the School District located in the Town of Ephratah Districts 1 & 2, and the Town of Palatine Districts 1, 2 & 3, with elections held at Ephratah Fire Department, Route 10, Ephratah..*

VOTE:              8   YES                        0   NO

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

- Mr. Praught requested clarification on numbers relating to lunch service. Mrs. Sullivan advised information will be provided monthly with the warrants.
- Mr. Praught suggested the lines of communication be kept open with Wheelerville regarding merging, despite the recent uproar, noting the economic condition of NYS may require it and those students traditionally come here in ninth grade anyway. Mrs. Sullivan said, as the GJSD and Wheelerville boards typically conduct a joint meeting once a year in the spring, it could be discussed then.
- Mr. Curtis offered an apology to the Caroga Lake community, indicating it would have been better to send an inquiry letter to them regarding a merger, rather than discussing it informally at a recent BOCES dinner and having them read about it in the paper.

**XII. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

February 12, 2009	Citizens Advisory Restructuring Mtg. Extra-Curricular/Academic Committee Business Meeting	5:30-7:30 PM 6:00-7:00 PM 7:30 PM Public Session Johnstown High School
February 26, 2009	Restructuring Focus Forum	Time TBD Johnstown High School
March 5, 2009	Restructuring Committee Meeting Discussion/Business Meeting	6:00-7:00 PM 7:00 PM Public Session Warren Street Elementary

**XIII. MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATIONS**

*Motion by Mr. Kosowicz, seconded by Mr. Miller to go to executive session for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person at 7:06 p.m.*

VOTE:              7   Yes                        1   No (Mr. Praught)

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion by Mr. Praught, seconded by Mr. Kosowicz, to adjourn at 9:30 p.m.*

VOTE:              8   Yes                        0   No

Respectfully submitted,

Larraina Carpenter, District Clerk