

**GREATER JOHNSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Discussion/Business Meeting
October 1, 2009 – Glebe Street Elementary**

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

ATTENDEES:

Scott Miller	Robert Curtis	Leslie Buggeln-Bosworth
Evamarie Mraz	Joanne Freeman	James Levin (arrived 7:05 p.m.)
Russell Martin	Ronald Beck	

ABSENT:

John David Praught

OTHERS:

Katherine Sullivan, Superintendent	Larraina Carpenter, District Clerk
Ralph Aquaro, Interim Business Official	

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 Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth seconded by Mr. Martin to approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on September 17, 2009.

VOTE: 7 YES 0 NO

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS

- Mrs. Sullivan thanked Glebe Street for hosting the Board meeting. Principal Crankshaw welcomed everyone and introduced the Glebe staff members in attendance. Mrs. Sullivan asked Principal Crankshaw to thank the Glebe Street students for writing notes to the Board.
- Mrs. Sullivan relayed a message from Athletic Director Jim Robare stating that sophomore Megan Bartlett has broken the school diving record from 1982. She is ranked fourth in the section and eleventh in the state.

V. COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS

- Mr. Miller reported the facilities committee met earlier in the evening. Members discussed purchasing and retrofitting the Crescendoe Road premises versus new construction off site or on school grounds for bus maintenance. Discussed estimated cost of \$1.6 million for Crescendoe versus \$576,000 to build new; also compared 3-year time frame to build off site versus 18 months at JHS. The committee's recommendation to the Board is to build on site, either where the Colonials used to play or where the student parking lot is – noted a big buffer zone to residences from this location. President Curtis inquired if any board members object to this location. Mr. Beck expressed worries about neighboring properties. Mr. Miller noted that when Crescendoe Road was leased, people in that area were given an opportunity to voice their concerns and accommodations were made and the same could be done in this instance. Mrs. Freeman inquired about fueling the buses; it would continue to

take place at the county, not here. Mr. Levin noted the buses could use the existing exit and it would not use up any further space than where student parking is now. Mr. Acquaro noted it would probably need to be fenced in for insurance purposes. President Curtis asked what would be the next step and Mrs. Sullivan indicated putting out an RFP for engineer/architect.

- Mr. Acquaro advised that the facilities committee also discussed options for Jansen Avenue, i.e., whether to keep for future use or to sell. Noted at a minimum, the sales price would need to be \$900,000 to cover debt service. If the building is kept and leased, recommend requirement for a minimum of 5 years guaranteed rent due to possibility of disappearance of state aid. Believes both to be viable options. Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth asked if a realtor has been consulted and if there is a market for sale or demand for lease space. Mrs. Sullivan indicated a realtor was contacted, there are no comparables; have received three calls expressing interest in lease and at least one seems viable. Mr. Beck asked if Lexington is interested. Mrs. Sullivan advised they haven't contacted her, but FMCC has. President Curtis asked about zoning issues; Mrs. Sullivan indicated she talked to Mr. Heberer and right now it is zoned public, but that can be looked at.
- ❖ President Curtis asked Board members to momentarily revert to the discussion about the bus garage and for each member to indicate, by a show of hands, whether they would support moving forward with building a bus garage on JHS grounds in the vicinity of the former Colonials football area / current student parking area. All eight members present raised their hands for yes. There were no nays or abstentions.
- Mr. Miller advised that the committee discussed the possibility of opening the gym at Jansen for use by our elementary programs and that the cost appeared minimal. Mr. Levin asked if the problem wasn't alleviated by removing the adult programs. He would like to see a schedule of gym usage before agreeing to open Jansen. President Curtis agreed that it should be determined, in consultation with Athletic Director Jim Robare, what gym space is actually needed first.
- Mr. Miller indicated the last item discussed by the committee was installation of surveillance cameras, with an overview of prices. The committee asked Mr. Acquaro to get card reader prices and look at including the cost with a capital project.
- Mr. Acquaro asked that, if the Board decides to keep Jansen, the sale of Irving be considered. President Curtis noted sale of the building would require voter approval and could be put on the ballot in May, without the need for a special election .

VI. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. PERSONNEL

1. Separations

a. Resignation of Jennifer Fisher, Teacher Aide (special education)

Motion by Mrs. Freeman seconded by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth to approve the resignation of Jennifer Fisher as a Teacher Aide (special education), effective September 25, 2009.

VOTE: 8 YES 0 NO

2. **Creations/Appointments/Adjustments**

a. **Permanent Appointment of Gregory Forgette, Custodial Worker**

Motion by Mrs. Freman seconded by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth to approve the permanent appointment of Gregory Forgette as a Custodial Worker, effective October 13, 2009.

VOTE: 8 YES 0 NO

b. **Casual Employment Opportunities**

Motion by Mrs. Freeman seconded by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following individual(s) for Casual Employment Opportunities for the 2009/10 school year:

Jeff Blacha

VOTE: 8 YES 0 NO

c. **Creation of Two School Monitors (Cafeteria)**

Motion by Mrs. Freeman seconded by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth to create two School Monitors (Cafeteria) positions.

VOTE: 8 YES 0 NO

d. **Casual Employment Opportunities**

Motion by Mrs. Freeman seconded by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following individual(s) for Casual Employment Opportunities for the 2009/10 school year:

Corinne Cotter

VOTE: 8 YES 0 NO

e. **Probationary Appointment of Tammie Fletcher, Teacher Aide (Special Education)**

Motion by Mrs. Freeman seconded by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth to approve the probationary appointment of Tammie Fletcher, TeacherAide (Special Education), 10 months per year, \$8.05 per hour, effective September 28, 2009.

VOTE: 8 YES 0 NO

B. **Rescind Approval for Financial Agreement with Sovereign Leasing, LLC**

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Levin to rescind approval to accept a financial arrangement with Sovereign Leasing, LLC for school bus leasing, as approved by the Board of Education on August 13, 2009.

VOTE: 8 YES 0 NO

- b. **Appointments of Knox After-School Detention Supervisors**
Motion by Mrs. Freeman seconded by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve term appointments of the following individuals as Knox After-School Detention Supervisors, at \$15.00 per hour (by timesheet), during the 2009-2010 school year:

*Rebecca Hart
 Amanda Landsberg
 Jennifer VonderHeide*

VOTE: 8 YES 0 NO

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – CPSE, CSE, 504

1. **504 Committee for Special Education**
Motion by Mr. Martin seconded by Mr. Levin to approve the minutes of the Committee for Pre-School Special Education meetings held on, September 21, 2009:

000900595

VOTE: 8 YES 0 NO

2. **Committee for Pre-School Special Education**
Motion by Mr. Martin seconded by Mr. Levin to approve the minutes of the Committee for Pre-School Special Education meetings held on September 25, 2009:

000140378

VOTE: 8 YES 0 NO

3. **Committee for Special Education**
Motion by Mr. Martin seconded by Mr. Levin to approve the minutes of the Committee for Special Education meetings held on September 15, 18, 21, 22, 24 and 25, 2009:

000305976 000305967 000140381 000140382 000140297
 000140135 000135853 000115696 000140380 000140118
 000900595 000900706 000146826

VOTE: 8 YES 0 NO

VIII. BOARD OF EDUCATION ITEMS

1. **Suspension of Perfect Attendance Awards for 2009-10 School Year**
Motion by Mrs. Freeman seconded by Mr. Beck to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to suspend awards for perfect attendance during the 2009-2010 school year, to discourage the spread of the H1N1 pandemic flu virus by students who might otherwise attend school while ill.

VOTE: 8 YES 0 NO

2. **First Reading of Revised Policy #7362**
 #7362 – Bullying: Peer Abuse in the Schools

3. **Waiver of Second Reading and Adoption of Revised Policy #7362**
Motion by Mrs. Freeman seconded by Mr. Beck to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to waive the second reading of the following revised policy and adopt the same effective October 1, 2009.

#7362 – *Bullying: Peer Abuse in the Schools*

VOTE: 8 YES 0 NO

IX. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- Robin Kane thanked Mr. Curtis and Mrs. Freeman for attending the Marching Band Home Show. Indicated that while Johnstown students performed the National Anthem, they didn't participate in their own show. Thinks the GJSD music programs will never again have the participation or status they had previously.
- Corrina Pelkey read a prepared statement about second chances.
- Angela Clizbe inquired about a committee for future plans that was alluded to last year and asked when/if it would come about. President Curtis advised that the Board's academic committee will be in charge of arranging it.
- Mrs. Mraz encouraged participation in Homecoming festivities next weekend. Noted there is a 5k Run/Walk and a Kids Fun Run on October 10 – information and forms are available on the school web site; also hotdog cookout and bonfire the night before, and free admission to football game for Fan Appreciation Day.

X. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Oct. 13, 2009 (Tues)	Audit Committee Meeting	6:00 PM
	Business Meeting	7:00 PM JHS
Oct. 19-23, 2009	NYS School Board Recognition Week	
Nov. 5, 2009 (Thurs)	Academic/Extra-Curricular Meeting	6:00 PM
	Discussion/Business Meeting	7:00 PM JHS

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Levin to adjourn at 7:42 p.m.

VOTE: 8 YES 0 NO

Respectfully submitted,

Larraina Carpenter
District Clerk