

**GREATER JOHNSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Board of Education Business Meeting**  
**November 18, 2010**  
**Johnstown High School**

I. Called to order by Board President at 5:26 p.m.

ATTENDEES:

Paul VanDenburgh	Robert Curtis	Douglas Dougherty
Ronald Beck	Jennifer Spinnoble	Evamarie Mraz
Leslie Buggeln-Bosworth	James Levin	

EXCUSED:

Scott Miller

OTHERS:

Katherine Sullivan, Superintendent                      Larraina Carpenter, District Clerk  
Alice Sise, Business Manager (departed 7:31 p.m.)

II. **MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATIONS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 14 OF THE CIVIL SERVICE LAW**

*Motion by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth seconded by Mrs. Mraz to go to executive session to discuss collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law at 5:26 p.m.*

VOTE:              8   YES                        0   NO

III. **RECONVENE IN PUBLIC SESSION**

*Motion by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth, seconded by Mrs. Mraz, to reconvene in public session at 7:03 p.m.*

VOTE:              8   YES                        0   NO

IV. **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."*

- Dick Baker takes note of a resolution on the agenda regarding a leave of absence for the head custodian and a resolution appointing a new director of facilities. Wonders who will be filling the leave of absence and why the position of director of facilities wasn't advertised. Mrs. Sise explains that it would be premature to fill the head custodian's position before the Board approves his leave of absence and that an appointment will follow at a later date. She also explains that the resolution to appoint a new director of facilities is provisional as the position must be filled from a Civil Service list, which currently doesn't exist and will be created after an exam.

V. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth to approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting held on October 19, 2010.*

VOTE:              8   YES                        0   NO

## **VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- Mrs. Sullivan acknowledged the following August 2010 JHS graduates, noting they worked very hard for their diplomas and congratulations are in order:

Grace Anna Atkins	Nicholas A. Cannizzo	Alan P. Chaussee Jr.
Jennifer Michele Cummings	Brooke R. Danylak	Daniel G. DiMartino
Mark A. Horning	Matthew J. Kronk	Samantha Marie Sleezer
Owen M. Thomas	Ethan J. Tinker	Trevor North Turcotte
Kristine Marie Warn		

- Mrs. Sullivan referred to an email from Central Council PTA suggesting that the Perfect Attendance Award be discontinued; noted that the Principals agree; inquired where Board members stand on the issue. Mr. VanDenburgh indicated he would be disappointed if it was eliminated in its entirety, suggests an Excellence in Attendance Award allowing for some absences to discourage sick students from coming to school and exposing their classmates and school staff to germs. Mrs. Mraz concurs that the award should not be abolished altogether, but that the procedure should be reviewed. Mr. Curtis suggests sending to committee for further discussion; Mr. Beck volunteers to add it to the Academic Committee's schedule.
- Mrs. Sullivan referred to a request made by a neighbor of Glebe Street School to purchase several adjacent "swampy" lots from the district. Mr. Curtis notes the land has been used by Glebe Street students in the past for science projects and should be kept for future use; Mr. Beck thinks if money can be made, it should be sold. Board suggests that Mrs. Sullivan investigate further.
- Patricia Kilburn, District Director of Curriculum, Testing & Personnel, provided an Analysis of NYS Grade 8 Math Proficiency. Discussed the NYSED Commissioner's change to the cut scores for proficiency on grade 4-8 math and English Language Arts assessments to better align the results with college readiness. Reviewed data for eighth grade math scores and noted that, due to the cut score change, fewer students met or exceeded the proficiency standards in 2010; many students who would have previously achieved a level three (proficiency) are now at level two (basic knowledge). Provided a presentation on 8 Points Towards Improvement developed cooperatively by GJSD Administration and the Knox Math Department: 1) Understanding our Performance; 2) Instructional Focus; 3) Data Analysis; 4) Barrier Identification; 5) Grading Practices; 6) Revision of AIS Delivery; 7) Professional Development; 8) Customized Planning Time.

## **VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth thanked JHS Assistant Principal Ray Ruby and Athletic Director Jim Robare for providing updates on fall activities and sports at an Extra-curricular Committee meeting on November 4. Reported that clubs and classes have been meeting and planning a variety of activities and trips; girls field hockey competed in the Section II Class B championship finals, girls volleyball competed in the Section II class B championship finals; boys soccer competed in the Section II Class B championship finals; several Johnstown boys competed in the Section II cross country championships; boys golf tied for third in the Section II Class B golf tournament; and JHS sophomore Megan Bartlett will represent the Fonda-Johnstown swim team in diving at the NYS championships in Buffalo this weekend. Noted that overall sports participation for Fall 2010 increased to 377 from 345 in 2009. The total number of athletes signed up for winter sports for 2010 is 326, which is an increase from 288 in 2009. The committee also discussed sports team fundraising and reviewed guidelines distributed by Mr. Robare. Noted that students are not allowed by law to conduct 50/50 raffles as the NYS Comptrollers Office considers it to be gambling, but the Purple & Gold Club can do so if they have a license and donate the proceeds.

VIII. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

A. **PERSONNEL**

1. **Separations**

a. **Resignation of Russell Warner, Bus Driver**

*Motion by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth seconded by Mr. Beck to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept the resignation of Russell Warner as Bus Driver effective October 27, 2010.*

VOTE:             8   YES                             0   NO

b. **Resignation of Donna Bargy, Registered Professional Nurse**

*Motion by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth seconded by Mr. Beck to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept the resignation of Donna Bargy as Registered Professional Nurse effective November 18, 2010.*

VOTE:             8   YES                             0   NO

c. **Termination of Wendy Sievert, School Bus Attendant**

*Motion by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth seconded by Mr. Beck to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to terminate the employment of Wendy Sievert as a School Bus Attendant, effective October 29, 2010.*

VOTE:             8   YES                             0   NO

2. **Leaves of Absence**

a. **Leave of Absence, Leo Loveless, Head Custodian**

*Motion by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth seconded by Mr. Beck to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve a leave of absence for Leo Loveless as Head Custodian effective November 1, 2010 to October 31, 2011.*

VOTE:             8   YES                             0   NO

3. **Abolishments**

4. **Creations/Appointments/Adjustments**

a. **Permanent Appointment of Allan MacVean, Bus Driver**

*Motion by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth seconded by Mr. Beck to approve the permanent appointment of Allan MacVean as Bus Driver effective November 8, 2010.*

VOTE:             8   YES                             0   NO

b. **Permanent Appointment of Tammy VanAvery, Head Cook**

*Motion by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth seconded by Mr. Beck to approve the permanent appointment of Tammy VanAvery as Head Cook, effective December 2, 2010.*

VOTE:             8   YES                             0   NO



**C. TREASURER'S REPORT – July 2010**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth to accept the recommendation of the District Treasurer, to accept the Treasurer's Report for July 2010, as seen in **addendum #2.***

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

VOTE:              8   YES                        0   NO

**D. WARRANTS – August 2010**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth to accept the recommendation of the District Auditor, to accept the following warrants for August 2010, as seen in **addendum #3:***

- |                                 |               |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| <i>General (A):</i>             | <i>#7, 8,</i> |
| <i>School Lunch (C):</i>        | <i>#3, 4,</i> |
| <i>Federal (F):</i>             | <i>#3, 4,</i> |
| <i>Trust &amp; Agency (TA):</i> | <i>#5, 7,</i> |
| <i>Expendable Trust (TE):</i>   | <i>#1</i>     |

VOTE:              8   YES                        0   NO

**E. TREASURER'S REPORT – August 2010**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth to accept the recommendation of the District Treasurer, to accept the Treasurer's Report for August 2010, as seen in **addendum #4.***

1. *Unrestricted Cash Balance*
2. *Budget Transfer Schedule #3*
3. *Handwritten Checks*
4. *Revenue Budget Status*
5. *School Lunch Program Profit & Loss Statement*
6. *Appropriation Status Report*
7. *Vendor Listing by Number (Vendor Additions)*

VOTE:              8   YES                        0   NO

**F. Bus Transportation Bid #11-09**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to award the Bus Transportation Vehicle Bid #11-09 to Brown Transportation, Inc.*

VOTE:              8   YES                        0   NO

**IX. EDUCATION ITEMS**

**A. STUDENT MATTERS**

**B. PERSONNEL**

**1. Separations**



**d. Sixth Period Course Stipends for High School Teachers**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the payment of sixth period course stipend(s) to the following individual(s) for the 2010-2011 school year:*

*Yvette Auty, Business Math CT \$3500  
Ronald Savoie, CADD 3&4 \$3500 (prorated from 10/4/10)*

*VOTE:             8   YES                             0   NO*

**e. Term Appointments of Co-Curricular Staff**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve term appointments of the following individuals as co-curricular advisors for the 2010-2011 school year:*

*Daniel Smith, Winterguard Assistant                           Unpaid  
Louise Carville, Senior Class Advisor                           Unpaid  
Laurel Headwell, Freshman Class Advisor                   \$ 857 (prorated)*

*VOTE:             8   YES                             0   NO*

**f. Appointment of JHS After-School Detention Supervisor**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the appointment of Jeff Kolakowski as JHS After-School Detention Supervisor, at \$15.00 per hour (by timesheet), during the 2010-2011 school year, beginning November 12, 2010.*

*VOTE:             8   YES                             0   NO*

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – CSE, CPSE, 504 Committee**

**1. Committee for Pre-School Special Education**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth to approve the minutes of the Committee for Pre-School Special Education meetings held on October 27, 2010:*

000140426

*VOTE:             8   YES                             0   NO*

**2. Committee for Special Education**

*Motion by Mr. Levin seconded by Mrs. Buggeln-Bosworth to approve the minutes of the Committee for Special Education meetings held on October 19, 20 and 21, 2010 and November 1 and 4, 2010*

000306014    000306087    000901061    000125806    000116628  
000306263    000125807    000136066    000900197    000900633  
000901040    000140243    000901036    000195302    000185229

*VOTE:             8   YES                             0   NO*



