

GREATER JOHNSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education Business Meeting
April 27, 2005
Johnstown High School

I. Called to order by Board President at 5:00 PM.

ATTENDEES:

Richard McGuire

Brian Miller

John David Praught (Departed 8:07 PM)

Kathleen Leo (Arrived 5:10 PM, Departed 8:07 PM)

Russell Martin (Arrived 5:25 PM, Departed 8:07 PM)

Peter Cinelli (Departed 8:07 PM)

William Pollak

Joanne Freeman (Arrived 5:05 PM)

Christopher Swatt (Arrived 6:00 PM)

OTHERS:

John S. Whelan

Katherine Sullivan

Peter Hopke

II. **MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS NEGOTIATIONS**

Motion by Mr. Cinelli seconded by Mr. Praught to go to executive session for the purpose of discussing negotiations 5:01 PM.

VOTE: 5 Yes 0 No

III. **MOTION TO RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION**

Motion by Mr. Cinelli seconded by Mr. Praught to return to public session at 6:00 PM.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

IV. **SUPERINTENDENT'S/ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORTS**

- Dan Jones presented an overview of the Winter Guard program to date and its goals for the future. The Winter Guard members in attendance were congratulated for their hard work and competition successes.
- Mrs. Sullivan advised that Dr. Solby continues to offer his support and assistance with modifications to the Peanut Allergy Plan and would like to meet with the parents of the other peanut allergy students before the revised plan is finalized.
- Mrs. Sullivan congratulated seniors Jared Goderie and Samantha Hall, who won second and third place in the high school division of the Dailey Gazette's 2005 publishing contest.

V. **PRESIDENT'S REPORTS**

Mr. McGuire read a note of appreciation to the Board & Administration from Barbara Germain of the Johnstown Public Library regarding the Classic English Tea basket contributed for the storybook fundraising event.

VI. **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Capital Project – We are working with Dave Bonacci to set up meetings for the public.
- Academic – There will be a table set up with scholarship information during the Budget Hearing at Knox on May 3rd.
- Buildings & Grounds – The network operations center at Warren Street is ready to go. The museum building roof will be replaced this spring or summer. Some improvements have been made to the high school baseball diamond and other improvements are planned for there as well as at the softball field. Plans are being made to improve the nature trail behind Pleasant Avenue School.

VII. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR FOR COMMENTS ON AGENDA AND NON-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 business meeting where the Board permits the public comment on agenda and non-agenda items. The Board will accept written comments from the public on this subject matter and all other agenda and non-agenda items."

➤ None

VIII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Praught seconded by Mr. Swatt to approve the minutes of the Board of Education meetings held on April 7, 2005.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

IX. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. PERSONNEL

1. Separations

a. Resignation of Earl Harris, Cleaner

Motion by Mr. Praught seconded by Mr. Cinelli to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept the resignation, with regret, of Earl Harris as a Cleaner, effective March 4, 2005.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

b. Resignation of Robin Miller, Computer Lab Assistant

Motion by Mr. Praught seconded by Mr. Cinelli to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept the resignation, with regret, of Robin Miller as Computer Lab Assistant, effective April 8, 2005.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

2. Leave of Absence

a. Child Care Leave of Melissa Baker, Account Clerk Typist

Motion by Mr. Praught seconded by Mr. Cinelli to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to allow a child care leave of absence for Melissa Baker as Account Clerk Typist, effective June 2005 through September 2005.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

3. Abolishments

4. Creations/Appointments/Adjustments

a. Probationary Appointment of Earl Harris, Custodial Worker

Motion by Mr. Praught seconded by Mr. Cinelli to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the probationary appointment of Earl Harris as Custodial Worker, 12 months per year, \$10.70 per hour, effective March 7, 2005.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

b. Emergency Conditional Probationary Appointment of Frank Insognia, Cleaner

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Greater Johnstown School District hereby conditionally appoints Frank Insognia, to the position of Probationary Cleaner, \$8.50 per hour, effective March 3, 2005, subject to the rules of the Fulton County Personnel Department. In accordance with the Civil Service Rules, such appointment is a probationary appointment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this appointment is made on a conditional basis and subject to the receipt of a statement from Frank Insognia regarding criminal conviction(s) or pending criminal charges and the receipt of criminal background clearance from the Commissioner of Education. Mr. Insognia's continued employment is specifically contingent upon the District's receipt of notice, from the Commission of Education that he is fully cleared for employment:

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

c. Emergency Conditional Probationary Appointment of Clarence Foss, Computer Lab Assistant

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Greater Johnstown School District hereby conditionally appoints Clarence Foss, to the position of Probationary Computer Lab Assistant, \$10.00 per hour, effective April 25, 2005, subject to the rules of the Fulton County Personnel Department. In accordance with the Civil Service Rules, such appointment is a probationary appointment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this appointment is made on a conditional basis and subject to the receipt of a statement from Clarence Foss regarding criminal conviction(s) or pending criminal charges and the receipt of criminal background clearance from the Commissioner of Education. Mr. Foss' continued employment is specifically contingent upon the District's receipt of notice, from the Commission of Education that he is fully cleared for employment:

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

c. Substitute Appointment of David LaMere, School Bus Driver

Motion by Mr. Praught seconded by Mr. Cinelli to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the substitute appointment of David LaMere as School Bus Driver, pay per the classified 2004/05 pay schedule, effective April 1, 2005 through June 30, 2005.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

B. WARRANTS

Motion by Mr. Praught seconded by Mr. Cinelli to accept the recommendation of the District Auditor, to accept warrants #13 and #14 dated February 1-28, 2005, as seen in addendum # 1.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

C. TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion by Mr. Praught seconded by Mr. Cinelli to accept the recommendation of the District Treasurer, to accept the Treasurer's Report for February 1-28, 2005, as seen in addendum # 2.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

D. VENDOR LIST

Motion by Mr. Praught seconded by Mr. Cinelli to accept the recommendation of the District Treasurer, to accept the Treasurer's Report for February 1-28, 2005, as seen in addendum # 3.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

X. EDUCATION ITEMS

A. PERSONNEL

1. Separations

a. Resignation of Kevin Crampton, Director of Special Education

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mrs. Freeman to accept the resignation of Kevin Crampton, with regret, as Director of Special Education, Pupil Services & Special Programs, effective June 24, 2005.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

2. Leave of Absences

3. Abolishments

4. Creations/Appointments/Adjustments

a. Administrative Internship for Adam Barnhart

Motion by Mr. Swatt seconded by Mrs. Leo to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to acknowledge that Adam Barnhart has been approved for an Administrative Internship in the Greater Johnstown School District effective May 2005 through October, 2005.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

b. Probationary Appointment of Patricia R. Sotero as Principal

Motion by Mr. Swatt seconded by Mrs. Leo to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to hereby appoint Patricia R. Sotero to a three-year probationary term in the tenure area of principal effective July 1, 2005 and expiring on June 30, 2008. Patricia R. Sotero holds a permanent certification in the area of school administrator/supervisor. Patricia R. Sotero will be assigned to the position of elementary principal (10 month) and will be paid \$59,000 in accordance with the Johnstown Administrators' Association salary schedule.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

3. **Interscholastic Athletic Merger for Modified Football**

Motion by Mr. Cinelli seconded by Mrs. Freeman to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the interscholastic athletic merger between the Greater Johnstown School District and Wheelerville Union Free School for modified football effective for the 2005-2006 school year.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

4. **Interscholastic Athletic Merger for Modified Wrestling**

Motion by Mr. Cinelli seconded by Mrs. Freeman to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the interscholastic athletic merger between the Greater Johnstown School District and Wheelerville Union Free School for modified wrestling effective for the 2005-2006 school year.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

5. **Interscholastic Athletic Merger for Modified Baseball**

Motion by Mr. Cinelli seconded by Mrs. Freeman to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the interscholastic athletic merger between the Greater Johnstown School District and Wheelerville Union Free School for modified baseball effective for the 2005-2006 school year.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

6. **Interscholastic Athletic Merger for Modified Track**

Motion by Mr. Cinelli seconded by Mrs. Freeman to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the interscholastic athletic merger between the Greater Johnstown School District and Wheelerville Union Free School for modified track effective for the 2005-2006 school year.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

XI. BOARD OF EDUCATION ITEMS

1. **BOCES Board Vacancy**

Motion by Mr. Martin seconded by Mr. Swatt that the Board of Education cast one vote for Harold Walker to serve as a member of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services and that the District Clerk certify that at this public meeting, April 27, 2005, 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 Harold Walker.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

2. **BOCES Board Vacancy**

Motion by Mr. Martin seconded by Mr. Swatt that the Board of Education cast one vote for Josephine Watts to serve as a member of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services and that the District Clerk certify that at this public meeting, April 27, 2005, 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 Josephine Watts.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

3. BOCES Administrative Budget

Motion by Mr. Martin seconded by Mr. Swatt 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 \$1,110,100 during the school year 2005-2006 and to raise such sum by assessments to component school districts, non-component school districts, other BOCES, and other sources as deemed appropriate.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

4. First Reading of Revised Policy #7412, Academic Eligibility with Knox Junior High School Addendum

5. Waiver of Second Reading and Adoption of Revised Policy #7412, Academic Eligibility with Knox Junior High School Addendum

Motion by Mr. Martin seconded by Mr. Swatt to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent, to waive the second reading of Revised Policy #7412, Academic Eligibility with Knox Junior High School Addendum, and adopt the same effective April 27, 2005.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

6. Discussion of Revised Extra-Curricular Code Procedure

XII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- Dick Baker inquired again about the District assessing a tax on public utilities. Peter Hopke advised that we do assess a tax on telephone bills.
- Mr. McGuire questioned the status of the high school's student of the quarter recognition program.
- Mr. Pollak announced the school museum hours.
- Mr. Swatt inquired as to how the pre-k program acceptance procedure works.
- Mr. Swatt commented that there is a false rumor circulating that a member of the Administration has been covering for a misbehaving faculty member and he wants the public to know that there is no truth to it.

XIII. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

May 3, 2005	Public Budget Hearing	6:00 PM Public Session Knox Jr. High Auditorium
May 9, 2005	Annual Joint Board Meeting	7:00 PM Public Session Wheelerville Union Free School
May 12, 2005	Second Statement of Expenses due from Board Candidates	
May 17, 2005	Budget Vote & Election	Polls Open 12:00 – 9:00 PM
May 18, 2005	Business Meeting	6:00 PM Public Session Johnstown High School Cafe

XIV. MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE EMPLOYMENT HISTORY OF A PARTICULAR PERSON

Motion by Mr. Praught seconded by Mrs. Freeman to go to executive session for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person at 7:261 PM.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

XV. MOTION TO RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Mr. Praught seconded by Mr. Mrs. Freeman to return to public session at 8:07 PM.

VOTE: 9 YES 0 NO

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Swatt seconded by Mrs. Freeman to adjourn at 8:08 PM.

VOTE: 5 YES 0 NO

Respectfully submitted,

Larraina Carpenter
District Clerk