

**Westport Central School District**  
**Regular Board of Education Meeting & Public Hearing**

**Place: Library**

**Thursday, June 17, 2010**

**Time: 6:30 PM**

**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order**

**at:**

**by:**

**A. Roll Call**

√ Alice LaRock

√ Tom Kohler

√ Dwayne Stevens

Jim Carroll - absent

√ Sue Russell

**B. Introduction of Attendees**

Also Present: John W. Gallagher, Ed. D. Superintendent

Jana Atwell, District Clerk

Cindy Moody, District Treasurer

Michele Friedman, Principal

Robert King, Supt. of Buildings & Grounds

Visitors: Nicole Sudduth

Kathi Desjardins

Megan Sudduth

Mallory Sudduth

Rick Hoffmann

Susan Satloff

Wayne Napper

Nancy Boyle

Paul Mudie

Daniel McCormick

Cathy Brankman

Matthew Jason

Kathryn Cramer

Jack Thompson

Joanne Mazzotte

Mary Mandy

Gwen Sherman

Kim Matthews

**C. Pledge of Allegiance**

Superintendent Gallagher presented Board Member, Dwayne Stevens with an Honorary Developmental Achievement Citation – Level 1. This citation is designed to recognize extensive time and effort for school board members who strive to continually expand their governance knowledge and skills.

**2. Financial**

Resolved that the Board of Education accepts and approves the following financial reports:

- Warrant Report 10C

- Warrant Report 11A

- Warrant Report 11B

- Warrant Report 11C

- Warrant Report 11D

- General Ledger Report From 6/1/10 to 6/30/10

- Multi-Fund Bank Account Reconciliation as of 4/30/10

- Treasurer's Report for Multi-Fund Month of April 2010

- Payroll Bank Account Reconciliation as of 4/30/10

Motion: Dwayne Stevens

Seconded: Sue Russell

Yes: 4 No: 0 Abstain: 0

**Accept**

President LaRock read a letter prepared by Board Member, Jim Carroll stating his personal opinions in response to an (email) letter addressed to Board Members from Ulrich Hoffmann regarding when and the detail to which the following issues were discussed prior to the May 18, 2010 budget vote: 1) class

consolidations, 2) comparative impact on costs and revenues of admitting and not admitting out-of-district students, 3) impact on costs and revenues of imposing a charge/fee on out-of-district students who attend WCS, 4) question of headcount/staff reductions or adjustments, 5) question of program reductions or adjustments, and 6) question of increasing staff pension contributions.

### **3. Public Comment** (15 minutes)

Our agenda offers two Public Comment sections, one at the beginning of the meeting and the other at the end. At this time we have set aside a 15 minute period giving anyone in the audience time to share their thoughts with us. Your opinions, ideas and concerns will be considered and taken under advisement. Questions or concerns needing an explanation or further information will be addressed at our next regular meeting.

Mr. Hoffmann questioned if Mr. Carroll's letter will be part of the minutes. President LaRock advised that the letter will not be part of the minutes however a copy will be available for Mr. Hoffmann.

Mr. Hoffmann asked if there were any additional comments from the members of the Board in response to his (email) letter. Comments were provided by Board Members Dwayne Stevens, Tom Kohler and Sue Russell.

Mr. Hoffmann wanted to point out that he was not re-asking the same questions, but would like to know when the issues were addressed.

### **4. CSE Recommendations**

Resolved that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education the approval of the CSE recommendation for the following student number P04-07-08, P03-09-10, P02-09-10, 003-02-03, 003-09-10, 008-09-10, 001-07-08, 002-05-06, 001-09-10, 011-09-10 x2, 504-02-10, 504-02-09, 004-09-10, 006-02-03, 002-09-10, 003-98-99 x2, and 006-06-07. (Recommendations attached.)

Motion: Tom Kohler                      Seconded: Sue Russell                      Yes: 4    No: 0    Abstain: 0                      **Accept**

### **5. Reports/Presentations**

#### **a. Superintendent's Report**

- The 2010 retirement incentive program was presented by Dr. Gallagher. Employers that participate in the NYS and Local Employees' Retirement System can elect to provide incentive benefits to certain members on or before August 31, 2010. Part A provides eligible employees with one (1) additional month of service credit for each year of service credit as of the date of retirement. Part B allows Tier 2, 3 and 4 members who are at least age 55 and have 25 or more years of service to retire without a benefit reduction. Further discussion to occur at July 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### **b. Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds Report**

- The buildings and grounds are being prepared for graduation.  
- Repairs are being made on the fence on Sisco Street.  
- A master "work" calendar is being formulated for next year.

#### **c. Board Committee Reports**

- Youth Commission – June 7, 2010  
No report available.

### **6. Long Range Planning**

#### ➤ Administrative Structure

○ Superintendent Position 1/14/10

#### ➤ Non-Resident Students

○ Tuition 7/6/09, 8/13/09, **6/17/10**

Currently working on a "white paper" for non-resident students.

- Shared Services
  - Funding Assistance 7/6/09
- Facility
  - Generator Project 8/17/09, 10/15/09, 11/12/09, 1/14/10, 4/8/10, **6/17/10**  
Continuing to seek funding.
  - The Wall 8/17/09, 1/14/10
  - Solar Power & Energy Use Reduction 11/12/09, 1/14/10, 5/11/10, **6/17/10**  
Continuing to seek funding.

## 7. Minutes

Resolved that the Board of Education does hereby approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Education held on:

- **May 11, 2010** (Regular Meeting & Public Hearing) as presented
- **May 18, 2010** (Annual Meeting, Election & Budget Vote) as presented

Motion: Dwayne Stevens      Seconded: Sue Russell      Yes: 4    No: 0    Abstain: 0      **Accept**

## 8. New Business

### A. Personnel

1. Appointments (none at this time)

2. Intent to Retire – McCormick

Resolved that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education the acceptance of the letter of retirement as submitted by Daniel J. McCormick from his position as Guidance Counselor effective July 2, 2010.

Motion: Dwayne Stevens    Seconded: Tom Kohler    Yes: 4    No: 0    Abstain: 0    **Accept**

3. Leave of Absence - Rascoe

Resolved that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education the acceptance of the letter as submitted by Bradley Rascoe requesting an emergency leave of at least twenty (20) weeks beginning September 7, 2010 in order to care for his daughter. He anticipates returning to his position on January 31, 2011. However, due to extenuating circumstances there may be a need to extend the leave.

Motion: Dwayne Stevens    Seconded: Tom Kohler    Yes: 4    No: 0    Abstain: 0    **Accept**

4. Tenure (none at this time)

5. Child Rearing Leave (none at this time)

6. Unpaid Leave (none at this time)

7. Termination (none at this time)

8. Elimination of Position (none at this time)

9. Resignation (none at this time)

### B. Miscellaneous

1. Installment Plan for School Taxes - Discussion

The Board agreed they would like a resolution to be available at the July 8, 2010 meeting authorizing an installment plan for school taxes.

2. Emailing Tax Bill Receipts - Discussion

If a receipt is required, the payee must specifically request a receipt otherwise their check is used as the receipt.

3. 2010-2011 School Calendar Revision

Resolved that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education

the approval of the revised 2010-2011 school calendar as presented. (Revised calendar attached.) Please refer to website for current posting.

Motion: Dwayne Stevens Seconded: Sue Russell Yes: 4 No: 0 Abstain: 0 **Accept**

4. Section VII Merger Applications – Baseball, Track & Field and Tennis  
Resolved that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education the approval of the Section VII merger applications to merge varsity baseball with Keene Central School and to merge track & field and tennis with Keene, Elizabethtown-Lewis and Moriah Central Schools for the 2010-2011 school year. (Merger applications attached.)

Motion: Seconded: Yes: No: Abstain: Accept Reject **Table**  
*Tabled to Executive Session.*

5. Resolution in Support of Retention of Cornell Cooperative Extension – Essex County in Their Current Location and in Support of Renovation of Their Building

Resolved that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education the approval of the following resolution:

**Whereas**, Cornell Cooperative Extension-Essex County, housed in the Cornell Cooperative Extension Building at the Essex County Fairgrounds in Westport, employs as many as 19 people, is one of the largest employers in the town, whose presence is economically beneficial to the town; and

**Whereas**, the Cornell Cooperative Extension Building is in need of renovation in order to provide handicapped access, improve energy efficiency, improve the suitability of the building for its main uses of providing office and meeting space, and preserve the building; and

**Whereas**, the Cornell Cooperative Extension building is an historic building included in the National Register Historic District of the Essex County Fairgrounds, which contributes to the character and charm of Westport and is an asset to the community;

**Now Therefore Be It Resolved** that the Westport Central School District strongly supports the continued location of the Cornell Cooperative Extension-Essex County staff in Westport at their present location and the preservation of the 19 jobs it provides, and

**Be It Further Resolved** that the Westport Central School District strongly supports renovation of the Cornell Cooperative Extension building in order to provide a safe, efficient, and legally compliant work and meeting place, and in order to preserve this important historic resource in the Town of Westport.

Motion: Tom Kohler Seconded: Sue Russell Yes: 4 No: 0 Abstain: 0 **Accept**

6. Field Trip Requests – Town of Westport Youth Commission  
Resolved that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education the approval of the following field trip requests as submitted by Vera Martin on behalf of the Youth Commission 2010 Summer Program:

a) The Adirondack Museum, Blue Mountain Lake on July 9<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

b) Under the Tent, Ticonderoga on July 14<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

c) 1812 Homestead, Willsboro on July 16<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

d) Pirates Cove, Lake Placid on July 23<sup>rd</sup> from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

e) Charles Dickert Memorial Wildlife Museum, Saranac on July 30<sup>th</sup> from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

f) Cumberland 12 Movie Theater and Bowling Alley, Plattsburgh on August 6<sup>th</sup> 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Motion: Dwayne Stevens Seconded: Sue Russell Yes: 4 No: 0 Abstain: 0 **Accept**

7. Westport Education Association (Teacher Bargaining Unit) Agreement Extension 7/1/10 – 6/30/13

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Westport Central School District Board of Education authorizes the Board of Education President, Alice LaRock, to sign the three (3) year extension of the agreement between the Superintendent of Schools and the Westport Education Association (Teacher Bargaining Unit) effective July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2013.

Motion: Sue Russell    Seconded: Tom Kohler    Yes: 4    No: 0    Abstain: 0    **Accept**

**9. Additional Items to Discuss**

Dwayne Stevens suggested the Board begin considering what the next steps will be for the school with the defeat of the Municipal Building Project.

**10. Public Comment** (15 minutes)

Dan McCormick thanked the Board, the teachers' association and many community members for their generous support in sending the Quiz Bowl members on their trip to New Orleans for national competition.

**11. Executive Session**

(#5) Collective negotiations pursuant to article 14 of the Civil Service Law and (#6) the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation.

In: 7:30 PM    Motion: Dwayne Stevens    Seconded: Tom Kohler    Yes: 4    No: 0    Abstain: 0  
**Accept**

Out: 8:49 PM    Motion: Sue Russell    Seconded: Dwayne Stevens    Yes: 4    No: 0    Abstain: 0  
**Accept**

Principal Friedman was invited to attend Executive Session. She was excused at 8:20 PM.

Section VII Merger Applications – Baseball, Track & Field and Tennis

Resolved that the Superintendent of Schools recommends to the Board of Education the approval of the Section VII merger applications to merge varsity baseball with Keene Central School and to merge track & field and tennis with Keene, Elizabethtown-Lewis and Moriah Central Schools for the 2010-2011 school year. (Merger applications attached.)

Motion: Sue Russell    Seconded: Dwayne Stevens    Yes: 3    No: 1    Abstain: 0    **Accept**  
Roll Call Vote: Russell – yes, Stevens – no, Kohler – yes, LaRock - yes

**12. Adjournment**

Time: 8:50 PM    Motion: Sue Russell    Seconded: Dwayne Stevens

**Next Meeting:** -Reorganization and Regular Meeting Thursday, July 8, 2010 6:30 PM in the Library

Approved by the BOE: July 8, 2010

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Jana Atwell, District Clerk