

VASSAR PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Special/Rescheduled Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

Date: May 15, 2014

Time: 6:30 P.M.

Place: High School Media Center

A. CALL TO ORDER:

1. The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by President Mike Kennard at 6:30 P.M.

B. ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Kennard , Ben Guile, Kirk Van Wormer, Russ Hubbard, Jeff Fackler, Jill Baase,
Randy Middlin

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Tom Palmer, Deb Dewey, Phil Marcy, Paul Wojno, Steve Wilkinson, Gene Pierce,
Matt Lambertson

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: ADDITION OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA:

1. MOTION by Ben Guile, support by Russ Hubbard to approve agenda with addition of items # F4, #L1c, and # N3.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)

E. BOARD RECOGNITION AND REMEMBRANCES:

1. Mrs. Scribner presented Middle School student whose essay came in 6th in the State out of 450 schools.

F. SPOTLIGHT OF MONTH:

1. Mr. Marcy present a 4th Grade student who raised \$1,000 for future students to attend Harley Nature Center.
2. Mr. Wojno presented the Top Ten Seniors.
3. Mrs. Piazza presented the Art Winners.
4. Mr. Wojno presented the State Wrestlers and Weightlifter.

G. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND CORRECTIONS:

1. MOTION by Randy Middlin, support by Jeff Fackler to approve the minutes from the April 21, 2014 Regular Meeting as presented.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)

H. ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS AND/OR COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. General Ledger Summary Comparison Reports-General Fund and Food Service: No comments.
2. Internal Fund Balance Sheet- No comments.
3. RECOMMENDATION by Kirk Van Wormer, support by Russ Hubbard to approve the payroll expenses in the amount of \$761,028.11.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)

RECOMMENDATION by Kirk Van Wormer, support by Jeff Fackler to approve the General Fund expenses in the amount of \$129,245.40.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)

Mr. Van Wormer: Transportation fuel prices went down to \$2.97 per gallon.

4. Committee Reports – NA

I. FINANCIAL ISSUES:

1. Mr. Pierce reviewed the proposed 2014-2015 ISD budget.

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MOTION by Randy Middlin, support by Jeff Fackler to support the ISD budget and adopt the Supporting Resolution as read.

ROLL CALL:

Hubbard – yes Guile – yes Kennard – yes Van Wormer – yes
Fackler – yes Baase – yes Middlin - yes

MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)

2. Mr. Palmer reviewed the budget amendments with the board. This amendment projects the district using \$420,680 of the fund balance leaving an estimated ending fund balance of \$239,032 which is \$18, 290 higher than the prior amended budget.

MOTION by Ben Guile, support by Jeff Fackler to adopt the Amended General Fund Budget resolution as read.

ROLL CALL:

Hubbard – yes Guile – yes Kennard – yes Van Wormer – yes
Fackler – yes Baase – yes Middlin - yes

MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)

3. Mr. Palmer informed the board that in 2014-2015 the district is not slated to receive Section 22j Performance-Based funding which we received this year (\$88,634). As of this date the State has yet to release their explanation for the loss of income. It is possible that our achievement levels have plateaued. No substantial increase means no funding but that is our best guess at this point.
4. Mr. Palmer updated the board on the 2014-2015 budget progress. Based on the latest Revenue Consensus held by the State they are projecting a \$1 billion shortfall for 2014-2015. We are not certain how this will effect State Aid. We hope the Governor will continue to give us the \$111 per pupil increase. Another scenario suggests a \$67 per pupil cut to State Aid. For future discussion Mr. Palmer would like the Board to consider looking at how much (%) they would like to see the fund balance increase per year.

J. CURRICULUM ISSUES:

1. The Institute for Excellence in Education will provide Math curriculum training to our district through a contract with our ISD. This will partially fill the loss of Dr. Makas. They will train 1st -5th Grade staff countywide. The ISD will cover the cost of \$72,500 and the districts will pay the ISD \$5,000 for the training. The cost is covered under the Title II Part A grant.

MOTION by Randy Middlin, support by Russ Hubbard to move forward with the Institute for Excellence in Education to provide curriculum training.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)

2. Headstart would like to have a 3 year old preschool program in Vassar and use Townsend North School. They will pay the district \$10,000 for use of the facility and \$10,000 for transportation. This does not effect current plans for Townsend North.

MOTION by Jeff Fackler, support by Jill Baase to move forward with the Headstart program.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)

K. BY-LAWS AND POLICY ISSUES:

L. PERSONNEL ISSUES:

- 1 MOTION by Russ Hubbard, support by Ben Guile to accept the resignation letters with regrets for the following staff:

Ann Hecht, Administrative Assistant of Special Education and Purchasing
Dr. Elaine Makas, Curriculum Director
Robert Nowotny, Athletic Director

MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)

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- 2 The Support Staff Layoff list was determined by the results from the Committee at Central School who took a look at how their staff provided instruction and what the basic needs were that needed to be filled. Then administration looked at seniority lists and plugged in staff accordingly. It was decided to move from using Title I paraprofessionals to Title I classrooms. Moving Kindergarten to Central School save the district approximately \$63,000. It is still the plan.

MOTION by Jeff Fackler, support by Kirk Van Wormer to accept the resolution to Layoff Support Staff.

ROLL CALL:

Hubbard – no	Guile – yes	Kennard – yes	Van Wormer – yes
Fackler – yes	Baase – yes	Middlin - yes	

MOTION CARRIED (6 yes, 1 no)

M. STUDENT ISSUES:

N. OPERATIONAL ISSUES:

1. Mr. Schuler informed the board that Meijer is donating a new baseball scoreboard to the district. Meijer will be advertising on the scoreboard and Cooks' GMC will donate \$1500 toward the installation. Mr. Schuler asked the board to allow Meijer to advertise on the scoreboard.

MOTION by Russ Hubbard, support by Ben Guile to accept the advertising on the new baseball scoreboard.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)

2. Mr. Wilkinson reviewed the current bussing situation. In the 12 years he has been with the district only 1 bus has been purchased. This year the district had to replace a motor and a transmission on a bus at a cost over \$13,500. We have 2 busses that are questionable at this point. To lease a propane bus the cost is \$14,800 per year for 3 years. The cost of the propane can be locked in at \$1.07/gallon at this time. The Federal Government will pay \$0.50/gallon for the fuel used as part of a green initiative. The lease allows for 15,000 miles annually. We put 14,000 on a bus.

MOTION by Randy Middlin, Ben Guile not to lease any propane busses at this time.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)

3. Matt Lambertson informed the board that the E-911 phone compliance/network infrastructure bid obtained by the ISD was considerably higher than planned. So the district put out its own bid out to approximately 190 companies this week. The hope is for the bid to come in at about half the cost of the ISD bid. Mr. Lambertson is also looking into grant funding to help fund our technology needs.

O. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

1. There was NO public participation COMMENT at this meeting.

P. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS:

1. Graduation is Sunday, June 1st at 2:00pm. To hand out diplomas please arrive at 1:00pm.

Q. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS:

- o Mr. Wojno: 67 students went on the Fine Arts trip to New York City. Interestingly, Vassar's Prom ran at the same time/place as Millington's. Both districts had photo booths and lots of pictures from students of both districts. The award assembly had over \$13,000 in scholarships awarded. The Middle School Robotics team has its first competition this Saturday. Something new, Vassar students video-conferenced with Vassar graduates who have earned PhD's to get students to start thinking about life after graduation and college.

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- Mr. Marcy: Staff went to other school districts and observed their base camps. Science Alive is coming back. June 11th is the End of Year Picnic. Thank you Central Shop Rite for your donations.
- Mrs. Dewey: Kindergarten is testing online and doing a super job. Central, Middle and High Schools are having some troubles with the testing.

R. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

- Mr. Van Wormer: Everybody be OPTIMISTIC.

S. CLOSED SESSION:

1. MOTION by Russ Hubbard, support by Ben Guile to go into closed session at 9:07pm to discussion union contract negotiations for Secretaries, Bus Drivers, and Teachers

ROLL CALL:

Hubbard – yes

Guile – yes

Kennard – yes

Van Wormer – yes

Fackler – yes

Baase – yes

Middlin - yes

MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)

2. MOTION by Ben Guile, support by Kirk Van Wormer to return to open session at 9:40pm.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)

3. No action taken.

T. DATES TO REMEMBER:

May 23 – Last day for Seniors

May 26 – Memorial Day No School, Office Closed

June 1 – Graduation at 2:00pm

June 10 – Exams, half day for students

June 11 – Exams, (half) last day of school for students

U. NEXT REGULAR OR SPECIAL MEETING:

June 9– Special Meeting/Budget Hearing in the High School Media Center @ 6:00pm

June 9 –Regular Meeting in the High School Media Center @ 6:30pm

V. ADJOURNMENT:

1. MOTION by Kirk Van Wormer, support by Ben Guile to adjourn the meeting at 9:40pm.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimous)

DATED 6-23-2014

SIGNED: Russ Hubbard
(Secretary)