

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OWEN D. YOUNG CENTRAL SCHOOL  
Regular Meeting - April 27, 2011**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cathy Mayton-Collins, Matthew Jacoby, Mark Peters, Howard Lanphier and Lawrence Snyder.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Virginia Keegan, Superintendent; Jodie Rodriguez, Business Manager; Marilyn Kennerknecht, District Clerk and 20 guests.

President Mayton-Collins called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. followed by the Pledge to the Flag.

In a motion by Trustee Jacoby, seconded by Vice President Snyder, the Meeting Agenda was approved.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

In a motion by Vice President Snyder, seconded by Trustee Lanphier, the Consent Agenda was approved. Superintendent Keegan requested that since this is a personnel decision, she would like Action Item "C" to be discussed in Executive Session.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- a. Approval of Board Minutes for April 13, 2011
- b. Approval of March 2011 Financial Reports

**DISTRICT PRESENTATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were numerous district residents in attendance expressing their accolades and support regarding Superintendent Keegan. Comments can be heard and seen in their entirety on the website

**BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Budget Notice Requirements**

The budget newsletter will be going out to taxpayers this week. Mrs. Rodriguez has a packet of information that is available to the public regarding budget details, administrator salary disclosure, property tax report card, budget newsletter, school report card and property tax exemption report.

In a motion by Trustee Lanphier, seconded by Vice President Snyder, Executive Session is moved after President's Report.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Keegan thanked everyone in attendance for their support.

- A. Yearbook Update –The yearbook is underway but are still awaiting senior pages to be turned in.
- B. Awards' Night – President Mayton-Collins and Superintendent Keegan had a brief discussion regarding possibly combining the Athletes Award Night and the Scholars Award Night. President Mayton-Collins suggested checking with the Student Council to see how they feel about having both events on one night.

Superintendent Keegan expressed that several Board Members had asked her to outline some of her accomplishments over the last three years. Superintendent Keegan then discussed in detail the programs, curriculum and training that were implemented under her direction.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

- A. Teacher Appreciation Week – May 2-6, 2011. The Board routinely hosts an event on Friday to recognize the staff and have the students join in at a hot dog roast. This event will be held on Friday, May 6, 2011 at 1:00 p.m.
- B. Water Works Update – Several weeks ago the Water Board and School Board met to approve the transfer of property so that the water works can further move along. President Mayton-Collins spoke with the school attorney today. She was told that a document enabling official transfer of the property has been generated. President Mayton-Collins suggested the Board hold a short Special Meeting and Water Board Meeting on Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m., followed by the Annual Budget Hearing and Regular Board Meeting. Mr. Neil Woodruff said that approval is needed by the Board of the document transferring title to the water source property. In order to stay on schedule, the lawyers are requiring this transfer take place before the release of funding.
- C. E-mail Use – President Mayton-Collins spoke with the school attorney today at which time he expressed that having the school e-mail addresses for the Board was a healthy endeavor. Trustee Jacoby asked whether the attorney recommended having a policy in place or just to implement it. President Mayton-Collins said that he recommended just implementing it.
- D. Budget Process Debriefing – The budget process began in late January. The Board decided to meet on a weekly basis ensuring that the April 13 deadline was met approving the tentative budget for next year. President Mayton-Collins asked for comments from Board members on what they liked or disliked about the process or could do differently. Mrs. Rodriguez stated that one thing that needs to be changed is to slightly move up the timeline because in order to approve the Property Tax Report Card there needs to be a budget in place. Trustee Jacoby feels that next year the Board needs to look at what the goals for the school look like in 3 or 5 years and then to build a budget around that and keep those programs in place. Trustee Lanphier would like to sit down prior to the budget process and discuss ideas of what direction we want to be heading. Vice President Snyder thought there was a lot of cooperation within the Board during the budget process. He feels the initial budget ideas should come down from administration as to how their budget ties to district goals and then we can look at them together. He said it was difficult to look at a budget without really understanding what the administration needed.
- E. NYSSBA – Rural Schools Conference targeting economic trends over the next few years will be held in Albany May 3, 2011 - President Mayton-Collins and Vice President Snyder will be attending.
- F. Board Evaluation – Survey forms were passed out and asked that they be returned in three weeks to the District Clerk. Trustee Jacoby inquired where this document was obtained. President Mayton-Collins stated that it was on-line. Trustee Jacoby questioned whether the Board should meet and have a discussion and agreement on which self-evaluation we are using as opposed to what has been used in the past. He would like to look at the document further and discuss at the next Board meeting.

In a motion by Trustee Lanphier, seconded by Trustee Jacoby, the Board entered into Executive Session at 8:21 p.m. for the purpose of personnel discussion and negotiations.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

In a motion by Trustee Peters, seconded by Vice President Snyder, the Board exited Executive Session at 9:24 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **ACTION ITEMS**

In a motion by Trustee Lanphier, seconded by Trustee Jacoby, the agenda was amended to reflect Board recommendation to move Item “C” to the May 3, 2011 agenda.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- A. In a motion by Trustee Jacoby, seconded by Trustee Lanphier, the adoption of the 2011-12 Herkimer-Fulton-Montgomery BOCES Administrative Budget was approved.  
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
- B. In a motion by Vice President Snyder, seconded by Trustee Lanphier, the Herkimer-Fulton-Montgomery BOCES Board Seat Vote was done separately by candidate.
- |                   |         |         |
|-------------------|---------|---------|
| Lawrence Thibault | Nays: 4 | Ayes: 1 |
| Scott Tranter     | Nays: 2 | Ayes: 3 |
| William Miller    | Nays: 0 | Ayes: 5 |
- MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
- C. RESOLUTION to enter into a new employment agreement, superseding any prior contracts and/or amendmends, for a three-year contract between the District and Virginia A. Keeegan as Superintendent of Schools for the Owen D. Young Central School District from July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2014.

**DISCUSSION TIME**

Vice President Snyder spoke about an article in which the state is allowing school districts to go into the employee benefit accrued liability reserve fund to offset potential cuts, is that something we are interested in? Mrs. Rodriguez said that we are not eligible.

Trustee Lanphier is very pleased to see the new security system in place at the front door. Superintendent Keegan said that t is not operational yet, they are waiting for a transmitter to arrive.

President Mayton-Collins expressed her appreciation for Superintendent Keegan looking into the yearbook update.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**BOARD COMMENTS**

Trustee Jacoby would like to see various students and staff trained as to the operation of the security system.

President Mayton-Collins feels that having the video- taped meetings on-line is a great opportunity for the public to see what happens at meetings first hand. She also feels dismayed regarding the portrayal of the negativism of the progress of the school district because of the Board. She has been at several functions over the past year where the Board is heralded for what they do and because the school district is still here and viable, we remain committed in looking for opportunities for our students.

President Mayton-Collins would like to make public comment and commendation to the individuals from the public who were present at almost every budget meeting and had valuable input. She encourages every district resident to become part of that process.

In a motion by Trustee Jacoby, seconded by Vice President Snyder, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Kennerknecht  
District Clerk