

Executive Session #1 was held at 6:45 p.m. on Tuesday, June 9, 2009 in the Superintendent's Conference Room #204A, in order to discuss negotiations with a collective bargaining unit.

The regular meeting of the Saratoga Springs City School District Board of Education was held at the MacFadden Administration Building on Tuesday, June 9, 2009. The meeting was called to order by **President Frank Palumbo** at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

President Frank Palumbo
Trustee Ernie Gailor
Trustee Regina Gapczynski
Trustee Mia Pfitzer
Trustee Charles Phillips
Trustee Jeff Piro
Trustee Steve Rodriguez

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Vice President Will Martin
Trustee Jay Rifenburg

STAFF PRESENT:

Janice White, Superintendent of Schools
Kurt Jaeger, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Karen Stanley, Director of Human Resource Svcs.
Noreen Walker, Director of Pupil Services
Thomas Mele, Asst. Supt. for Elementary Education
David L'Hommedieu, Director of Information Technology
Integration & Services
Michael Piccirillo, Asst. Supt. for Secondary Education
Colleen Carroll, Director of District Assessment &
Staff Development
Thomas Clark, Director of Facilities & Operations

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

President Frank Palumbo led the Board Members and meeting attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOMENT OF SILENCE:

President Frank Palumbo asked for a moment of silence for Natalia Hogan, a district teacher, who died over the weekend.

MINUTES:

Trustee Regina Gapczynski moved and **Trustee Jeff Piro** seconded to approve the minutes for the May 12,

2009 and May 28, 2009 Regular Meetings and the May 19, 2009, special meeting of the Board of Education. **Trustee Jeff Piro** noted that in the May 28, 2009 meeting minutes under the WSWHE BOCES report it should be noted that Mr. Dedrick was selected as the interim superintendent pending official appointment by the Commissioner of Education.

Ayes all.

COMMUNICATIONS

Communications of interest were circulated.

PUBLIC HEARING

President Frank Palumbo opened the first Public Hearing.

Mary Fornabia, parent of students at Dorothy Nolan School, said she was here this evening to inform the Board of the great teachers that the school district has. She said her son, Timothy, is autistic. During his six years at Dorothy Nolan, they have had wonderful teachers who have spent a good deal of time and thought on making his experience in school a good one. She said her son's teachers have modified the educational program to meet his needs which allows him to be taught at grade level. Teachers have called her at home in the evening to discuss ways in which to better his educational experience. Mary Fornabia said all too often Board members only hear from parents who have complaints about their child's education. She said she was here this evening to praise the teachers, principals, staff and the district as a whole on providing her son with a sound education and a good experience in school. **President Frank Palumbo** thanked her for her comments. He agreed that many times the Board members do not hear the good that staff does.

Caroline Stem said she was here to follow-up on the comments from the last meeting concerning biking and walking to school. She is a member of the Healthy Transportation Network. They recently put a petition out on their website and have received nearly 200 responses noting that 72 percent of the respondents live in the district. Most said that health and environmental issues ranked high on their concerns. Most believed that children should be encouraged to walk or bike to school. She said the district should encourage and support biking and walking. She said this

was a good opportunity for the district to embrace going green and embracing a healthy life style.

There being no one else wishing to speak, **President Frank Palumbo** closed the first Public Hearing.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:
WSWHE BOCES

Trustee Jeff Piro reported that the BOCES Board will meet on June 10.

Finance Committee

Trustee Stephen Rodriguez reported that the Finance Committee will meet on June 22 at 8:00 a.m.

Superintendent Evaluation Form Committee

Trustee Mia Pfitzer said that the evaluations had been received and were ready to be reviewed.

Property Administration Committee

Trustee Ernie Gailor said that the Property Administration Committee met recently and discussed the Joseph Street plan. They also discussed the east and west side recreation buildings.

Policy Committee

Trustee Regina Gapczynski said the Policy Committee met recently and reviewed the Code of Conduct. They also had a lengthy discussion on the biking/walking to school matter. They forwarded their recommendations to the Board on that policy.

President Frank Palumbo said the Board reviewed the recommendations which included: the establishment of a district-wide committee to review the policy as a whole, alternative safe routes to school, and the make-up of the committee. They plan to include members of the community, parents, district staff, local municipalities, and the Healthy Transportation Network. He said many valuable points were brought out at the last meeting, but the Board does not want to make a quick decision on this matter. It is not simply just a matter of walking/biking to school; it also encompasses identifying alternate safe routes. They believe that a broad-based committee will identify the many issues that are part of this matter. He said that there are many local governments and state agencies that need to be included (e.g., the Sheriff's Department, DOT, City Police, etc.). He said the Board is not afraid of litigation - they are more concerned with children getting to and leaving school in a safe manner. Until safe routes are identified, the policy will not be

modified. The Board expects good results from this committee.

Trustee Stephen Rodriguez agreed with this approach. He said that while biking/walking to school is admirable, there needs to be safe bike routes identified. He said that painting a line down the road is not enough.

Trustee Jeff Piro agreed with this approach. He agreed that local municipality participation was vital.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Superintendent's Comments

Superintendent Janice White reported that she attended the Sponsor-A-Scholar program this evening where ten new students were inducted. She said it was a wonderful event.

Superintendent White said the district is partnering with Skidmore College for the upcoming ArtsFest. About 250 district students will be given passes to attend the event at no charge. The high school drama club will sponsor a cabaret that evening as a fundraiser.

OLD BUSINESS:

NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Mia Pfitzer moved and **Trustee Regina Gapczynski** seconded to approve tonight's agenda in its entirety as follows:

Committee on Special Education Pupil Placements

Approved the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education for pupils' placement arrangements referred to the Board. Copies of these recommendations had been previously sent to the Board members for review and will be attached to the official minutes.

PERSONNEL:

Abolishment Of Administrative Position

Approved the abolishment of 1.0 Assistant Principal effective August 17, 2009. (High School)

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Abolishment of Positions

Approved the abolishment of 2.0 Social Studies positions effective July 1, 2009. (1.0 H.S. / 1.0 Maple Avenue)

Approved the abolishment of 3.0 Special Education positions effective July 1, 2009. (1.0 H.S. / 2.0 Maple Avenue)

Approved the abolishment of 1.0 Math position effective July 1, 2009. (Maple Avenue)

Approved the abolishment of 1.0 Music position effective July 1, 2009. (Maple Avenue)

Approved the abolishment of 1.0 English position effective July 1, 2009. (Maple Avenue)

Approved the abolishment of 2.0 elementary positions effective July 1, 2009. (1.0 Dorothy Nolan / 1.0 Greenfield)

Administrative Tenure Appointment

Approved the tenure appointment of Kevin Froats to the position of Elementary Principal effective July 15, 2009. (Dorothy Nolan School) (Certification: Perm., SAS, 2/1/05; Perm., N, K, Grades 1-6, 9/1/91)

Board members congratulated Kevin Froats on achieving tenure.

Teacher Retirement

Accepted the resignation of Robertson Baker, Jr., for retirement purposes, with appreciation and regret, from the position of social studies teacher, effective July 1, 2009. (High School) (Sen: 9/1/74).

Board members said that Bob Baker was an asset to the district and would be missed.

Teacher Appointment

Approved the appointment of Matthew C. Kuenzel to a three-year probationary appointment as a mathematics teacher effective September 1, 2009. (Maple Avenue) (Certification: Initial, Mathematics 7-12, 9/1/06)

Board members said it was good to see a former student return to the district as a teacher. They noted that he was a Yaddo Medal recipient.

Teacher Leaves of Absence

Approved the unpaid medical leave of absence due to surgery for Tina Christensen from her position of Education of Children with Handicapping Conditions - Special Education - General teacher, effective April 28, 2009 through June 1, 2009. (High School)

Approved an unpaid Family and Medical Leave of Absence, for child-rearing purposes, for Jennifer Spoor from her position of elementary teacher, effective September 8, 2009 through November 30, 2009. (Dorothy Nolan)

Name Change / Creation of Clubs

Approved the following club name change at the High School effective September 1, 2009:

From: The SSHS Art-Lit. Club
To: The Creative Streak

Approved the creation of the following clubs at the High School, effective September 1, 2009:

French Club (volunteer)
Video Production Club (volunteer)

Approved the creation of the following clubs at Dorothy Nolan Elementary School, effective September 1, 2009:

Parent Volunteer Reading Program
(w/an advisor stipend of \$424)
Science Fair Club - stipend \$513

Co-Curricular Appointments

Approved the following for the High School Summer School program, effective July 6, 2009 through August 14, 2009:

Classroom Teachers:

Angela Annese - Special Ed./Math
Candace Lawrence - English
Catherine Stephen - Chemistry

RCT/Regents Remediation

Teachers: Tracy Massari - Special Education
Charles Richter - Special Education

Proctor: Marjorie Herman

Nurse Substitutes: Joan Burke
Jan Carlson
Tina Frolish

Approved the following for the Pre-Kindergarten
Summer Program at Division Street Elementary
School:

Teachers - Jude Dorflinger
Erin Holohan
Kiersten Ogsbury
Jaime Pinto
Substitute Teacher - Lauren Woodruff

Approved the following as coaches for the 2009
Interscholastic Fall Season:

Field Hockey

Head Varsity - JoAnne Hostig
Junior Varsity - Leanne Lofink
Modified - Susan Hoffman

Football

Head Varsity - Terry Jones
Assistant Varsity - Craig Durant
Assistant Varsity - James Dempsey
Assistant Varsity - Richard Lofink
Junior Varsity - Jon Coons
Junior Varsity - Michael Hall
Junior Varsity - Dean Bailey
Freshman - Michael Ricupero
Freshman - Anthony Spackman
Freshman - Michael DeLancey
Modified - Jeffrey Harrington
Modified - David Zeh
Modified - Joseph Giannetto
Modified - J. Nicholas Alex
Modified - Eugene Stefanocci, Jr.
Modified - Chris McMahon

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Golf

Head Varsity - Brenda Adams
Junior Varsity - Kurt Decker

Girls' Tennis

Head Varsity - Richard Johns
Assistant Varsity - Timothy O'Brien
Junior Varsity - Ann Testa

Boys' Soccer

Varsity - Jeffrey Geller
Freshman - Anthony DeVizzio
Modified - John Brock

Girls' Soccer

Head Varsity - Adrienne Dannehy
Freshman - Glyn Chilton
Modified - William Snyder

Girls' Swimming

Head Varsity - Joshua Muldner
Diving - Mary Ellen Raymond

Boys' Volleyball

Head Varsity - Gregory Goering

Girls' Volleyball

Head Varsity - Kathleen Thompson
Freshman - Colleen Belanger

Boys' Cross Country

Head Varsity - Arthur Kranick
Freshman - Paul Chartrand

Girls' Cross Country

Head Varsity - Linda Kranick

Cheerleading

Head Varsity - Eunique Priest
Junior Varsity - Ryan Hall (.5)
Junior Varsity - Ricardo Smith, Jr. (.5)

Student Helper Appointments

Approved the following to the position of student helper with the Facilities and Operations Department for the summer of 2009: Zachary Whitney

Approved the following to the position of student helpers for the Office of Information Technology:

Jason Bless
Nathan Heithoff
Skyler Gregorek
Brian Fenton

Civil Service Leave of Absence

Approved an unpaid leave of absence, for medical reasons, under the Family Medical Leave Act, for Margaret Roxbury from her position of school bus driver, Transportation, effective May 13, 2009 through November 6, 2009.

Abolishment of Civil Service Position

Approved the abolishment of one 12-month keyboard specialist effective July 31, 2009. (High School)

Approved the abolishment of one 175-day clerk effective July 1, 2009. (.5 Geysers Road / .5 Division Street)

Civil Service Resignation

Accepted the resignation of Robert Reed from his position of 175-day school bus driver effective May 28, 2009. (Transportation - Sen: 2/23/09)

Civil Service Appointments

Approved the probationary appointment of Benjamin Thornton to the position of 175-day school bus driver, effective May 18, 2009. (Transportation)

Approved the emergency, conditional probationary appointment of Brendan Geraghty to the position of 175-day school bus driver, effective May 19, 2009. (Transportation)

Approved the probationary appointment of Teresa Hartzog to the position of 175-day school bus driver assistant, effective May 14, 2009. (Transportation)

Substitute Appointments/Resignations/
Deletions

Accepted the non-instructional emergency conditional substitute appointments as per the attached list.

Accepted the instructional and non-instructional substitute resignations/deletions as per the attached list.

FINANCIAL:

Change Order Resolution: #007-001,
Division Street Elementary School

Harold R. Clune Inc. - Disconnect and remove power feed to existing sewage ejection pumps. Provide new circuit, breaker, and disconnect switch for the new sewage ejection pump system.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the contract for Electrical construction with Harold R. Clune Inc. associated with the Division Street Elementary School identified as: SED Project #: 52-18-00-01-0-004-011 Contract No.: 07, Electrical Construction be increased by **Three Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety and no/100 Dollars (\$3,790.00)** as detailed:

Original Contract	\$627,900.00
Previously Authorized Change Orders*	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Contract Sum Prior to this Change	
Order	\$627,900.00
This Change Order	<u>\$ 3,790.00</u>
New Contract Sum	<u><u>\$631,690.00</u></u>

and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools be authorized to sign this Change Order on behalf of the Board of Education.

* none

Change Order Resolution: #007-002,
Lake Avenue Elementary School

Harold R. Clune Inc. - Terminate all data cables at head end equipment. Provide new patch panel, wire management panels, data drops, new circuit to computer room; install data cables to server as needed.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the contract for Electrical construction with Harold R. Clune Inc. associated with the Lake Avenue Elementary School identified

as: SED Project #: 52-18-00-01-0-005-007 Contract No.: 07, Electrical Construction be increased by **Six Thousand Two Hundred Fifteen and no/100 Dollars (\$6,215.00)** as detailed:

Original Contract	\$627,900.00
Previously Authorized Change Orders*	<u>\$ 3,790.00</u>
Contract Sum Prior to this Change Order	\$631,690.00
This Change Order	<u>\$ 6,215.00</u>
New Contract Sum	<u>\$637,905.00</u>

and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools be authorized to sign this Change Order on behalf of the Board of Education.

* #007-001 \$3,790.00

Disposal of Obsolete Textbooks -
 Maple Avenue Middle School

Granted permission to Maple Avenue Middle School to dispose of the obsolete textbooks listed below:

Quantity	Title	ISBN #	Publisher	Copyright Date
22	Sense Book	0-673-12330-8	Scott, Foresman & Co.	1974
8	Counterpoint in Literature	0-673-10221-1	Scott, Foresman & Co.	1976

Child Nutrition Program 2009-10
 Annual Renewal

Approved the renewal of the Child Nutrition Program application and authorized the School Lunch Director to submit the application to the State Education Department on-line for the 2009-2010 school year.

Treasurer's Report

Accepted the April 2009 Treasurer's Report.

Summer Bus Lease - City of Saratoga
 Springs Recreation Program

Approved the lease of possibly six (6) 66-passenger school buses to the City of Saratoga Springs summer recreation program for the period June 29, 2009 through August 21, 2009, for an agreed fee of Seven

Hundred Seventy-Five Dollars and 00/100 (\$775.00) per bus, and one (1) additional 66-passenger school bus for an agreed fee of Thirty-Nine Dollars and 00/100 (\$39.00) per day to be available for thirteen (13) field day trips, for a *total of Five Thousand One Hundred Fifty-Seven Dollars and 00/100 (\$5,157.00)*, plus 65 cents per mile for fuel and maintenance per bus billed at the end of the lease.

Ayes all.

PUBLIC HEARING:

President Frank Palumbo opened the second Public Hearing.

Janette Kaddo Marino said that she, too, had good teachers and commended the district on their selection of well qualified staff. On the biking/walking issue she suggested that a student be placed on that committee. She said she had hoped that there would be some modification to the policy before the end of this school year to allow students to bike or walk. She said she would continue to bike with her son to school and said that if it was necessary she would research the legality of the district not allowing her to do so. She said parents are also concerned with safety of the children. She wanted some assurance that her son would not be reprimanded for riding his bike to school.

President Frank Palumbo said the district needs to review this policy in total. He said they have also contacted the district's legal firm and are confident that they are on the right course. The district is not able to accommodate bikes once they get to school - there are no bike racks. The district will continue to place bikes where they are safe. Board members and staff do not want to rush modification to this policy.

There being no one else wishing to speak, **President Frank Palumbo** closed the second Public Hearing.

OTHERS:

All Trustees thanked Mary Fornabia for her kind words on district staff and teachers. All agreed that they don't hear the compliments often, and it is

meaningful when they do.

Trustee Charles Phillips said he attended the Transportation banquet which was a wonderful event. He also attended the Maple Avenue Character Awards ceremony which he enjoyed very much.

Trustee Regina Gapczynski said there were many musical events over the last several weeks and each one was quite enjoyable.

Trustee Ernie Gailor said he, too, had attended many of the awards ceremonies which he enjoyed.

Trustee Stephen Rodriguez said the orchestra programs were fabulous.

Trustee Mia Pfitzer said she attended the Thespian Induction ceremony which was a wonderful event.

President Frank Palumbo said Mary Fornabia's comments were a testament to the hard work that Karen Stanley's office does in selecting well-qualified individuals for the district. **President Frank Palumbo** recognized Kurt Jaeger for all of the hard work he does in this district, as well as on the various boards, committees and organizations on which he serves. He said that he, too, had attended many of the awards ceremonies and was quite impressed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION #2:

Trustee Regina Gapczynski moved and **Trustee Stephen Rodriguez** seconded to adjourn to executive session at 8:35 p.m. to discuss negotiations for contracted services and matters leading to the employment of particular persons.

Ayes all.

ADJOURNMENT:

President Frank Palumbo adjourned the executive session at 10:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurt Jaeger
District Clerk