

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 24, 2010**

**PRESENT:**

Laurie Donato, Vice President  
Vincent D'Ambroso  
Theresa Fowler  
James Grieco  
Carol Ann O'Connor  
Christopher Pinchiaroli

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Dr. S. Guiney, Superintendent of Schools  
M. B. Mancuso, District Clerk  
L. Sanfilippo, Business Manager  
N. Schimpf, Director of Special Education  
& Student Services  
Dr. M. E. Wilson, Director of Curriculum  
& Instructional Services  
M. Cunzio, Principal CES  
J. Schulman, WMS Principal  
F. Viteritti, WHS Principal  
E. Zai-Fiorello, HES Principal  
S. Conley, WMS Asst. Principal  
B. Ferguson, WHS Interim Principal  
D. Pirro, Director of PE/Health & Athletics  
Faculty  
Residents

**ABSENT:**

Francine Aloï, President

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** Mrs. Donato, Acting President, convened the February 24, 2010 meeting of the Board of Education at approximately 8:12 pm and asked everyone to stand for a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. ANNOUNCEMENTS/INFORMATION ITEMS**

- ❑ WHS Student Council: Ms. Arianna Mingione reported on the following: the Executive Board will be sharing with the students the results of the Valentine's Day questionnaire and the Student Council will be holding a fundraiser in the spring to benefit cystic fibrosis.
- ❑ WHS PTA: Mrs. Patty Heilman, President, spoke about the upcoming fundraiser, which is a comedy night on February 26, 2010, featuring Gumba Johnny and various comedians. The PTA is hopeful it will not be cancelled due to the impending snow. Ms. Heilman informed the audience the PTA originally planned to host the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of 'Rachel's Challenge' this spring. However, due a shortfall in fundraising for the scholarship fund, 'Rachel's Challenge' will be presented in September. The WHS PTA meeting on March 8, 2010 has been cancelled. The next WHS PTA meeting will be on April 28, 2010, which will be a joint meeting with the Elementary and Middle schools PTA's and SEPTA. Ms. Heilman invited parents/guardians to volunteer for the many open positions on the PTA. If anyone is interested, please contact the WHS PTA Executive Board.

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- ❑ WHS BLT: Mr. Bruce Ferguson, Interim Principal, reported the BLT did not hold a meeting due to the 'Breaking Ranks' presentation. Their next meeting will be held in March.
- ❑ WMS PTA: Ms. Maureen Turchioe, Co-President, reported the clothing and holiday boutique fundraisers were a big success. The January PTA meeting dealt with health and nutrition. Ms. Turchioe reported on the following upcoming events: Faculty Basketball Game on March 18, 2010, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Career Day and the next PTA meeting will be held on March 22, 2010.
- ❑ WMS BLT: The WMS BLT did not meet in February. Their next meeting will be on March 23, 2010.
- ❑ Elementary PTA: Ms. Jenn DeFlorio, President, reported on the successful Father/Daughter dance and thanked the volunteers for their time and effort. Ms. DeFlorio spoke about the following events: Toy Drive at Hawthorne Elementary School for indoor recess; cookie dough fundraiser; Springo Bingo on March 12, 2010, and their upcoming PTA meeting on March 2, 2010 which will feature a Zumba instructor.
- ❑ Columbus BLT: No report. Their next meeting will be in March.
- ❑ Hawthorne BLT: Ms. Mary Andrews, parent member, reported the BLT met on February 23, 2010 and discussed the following items: the District's budget and its process; start up of the "Going Green Committee", the District's compact for learning and shared decision making, 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Science and Technology Fair.
- ❑ SEPTA: No report.
- ❑ Westlake Athletic Club: Mr. Rob Vetere, Vice President, reported on the successful fundraiser, Night at the Races; the planning of summer camps; and the next fundraiser which is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Golf Outing on June 14, 2010 at Heritage Hills Golf Course. Mr. Vetere noted that membership to the Westlake Athletic Club is growing and encouraged more people to participate in attending meetings as well as becoming a member of the Club.

Ms. Maureen Turchioe invited all to attend the Mt. Pleasant Education Committee Fundraiser on April 9, 2010. This event, at the Colonial Terrace, will be a Las Vegas Night, with Michael DiNardo as the honoree.

### **III. REPORTS**

- ❑ President, Board of Education: (Acting President, Mrs. Laurie Donato): Ms. Donato reported the Superintendent of Schools together with the administration and the Board are working diligently on the budget. On March 3, 2010, there will be a budget forum and Ms. Donato invited the community to attend to share their ideas on the budget process. Ms. Donato reported the presentation given by Mr. DeMartino on the Breaking Ranks Model on school reform will be televised on the district's cable t.v. channel. Ms. Donato congratulated all the athletes that participated in winter sports and the district looks forward to the commencement of the spring sports season.
- ❑ Superintendent of Schools: Dr. Susan Guiney reported that at the next Board meeting, Ms. Donna Pirro, Athletic Director, will acknowledge the athletes for their participation. Dr. Guiney introduced Mr. David Evans, Interim Assistant

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Principal at WHS. Dr. Guiney provided an update on the search process for the WHS principal. The search committee interviewed the first round of candidates and will recommend finalists by next month. On March 3, 2010, there will be a budget forum which will be videotaped and shown on both the FIOS (channel 24) and Cablevision (channel 77) public access channels. Dr. Guiney spoke about the Breaking Ranks initiative and proposed alternative high school. At this point, Dr. Guiney introduced Mr. Joseph DiMartino, founder and President of the Center for Secondary School Redesign (CSSR).

- Breaking Ranks Presentation – Mr. Joseph DiMartino, Founder and President of the Center for Secondary School Redesign (CSSR): Mr. DiMartino gave a brief synopsis of the events that took place at Westlake High School during the past two days. Mr. DeMartino reported on the shadowing of students. As the students were shadowed, it was apparent that an area in need of improvement at the high school is the scheduling block of classes

**VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion made by Mr. D'Ambroso, seconded by Mrs. Fowler as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED: That the minutes of the January 6, 2010 Board of Education meeting, the January 20, 2010 regular monthly Board meeting and January 27, 2010 Board of Education meeting be approved.

**VOTE: 6 - 0**

**V. OLD BUSINESS:** None

**VI. COMMENT ON NEW BUSINESS AGENDA ITEMS:** None

**VII. NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS**

**A) ACCEPTANCE – FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Motion made by Mr. D'Ambroso, seconded by Mrs. Fowler as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Mount Pleasant Central School District Board of Education has received the report of the Claims Auditor and the accompanying warrant schedules dated September 30, 2009

#6	General Fund (A) in the amount of	\$948,666.49
	Federal Fund (F) in the amount of	13,059.12
	Trust & Agency Fund (TA) in the amount of	8,932.13

**VOTE: 6 - 0**

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**B) ACCEPTANCE – RESIGNATION (RETIREMENT)**

Motion made by Mr. D'Ambroso, seconded by Mrs. Fowler as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Mount Pleasant Central School District Board of Education hereby accepts the resignation for purposes of retirement of:

Betty Yee, School District Treasurer, District Office  
Effective: April 1, 2010

The Board extends sincere appreciation to Mrs. Yee for her nine years of service to the Mount Pleasant Central School District and wishes her a happy and healthy retirement.

**VOTE: 6 - 0**

**C) APPROVAL – SPECIAL EDUCATION OUT OF DISTRICT PLACEMENT CONTRACT, 2009/2010**

Motion made by Mr. D'Ambroso, seconded by Mrs. Fowler as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED: That in accordance with the recommendation of the Director of Special Education and Student Services, the Board of Education hereby approves the following Special Education Out of District Placement Contract for the 2009/2010 school year:

Eastchester Union Free School District: 1 student @ \$50,561.00 plus related services.

**VOTE: 6 - 0**

**D) APPROVAL – TUITION REIMBURSEMENT**

Motion made by Mr. D'Ambroso, seconded by Mrs. Fowler as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED: That as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools and in accordance with the Agreement between the Mount Pleasant Central School District Board of Education and the Mount Pleasant Teachers Association, the tuition reimbursement request listed below is hereby approved:

**Gloria DiBetta**, Columbus Elementary School  
Course Title: Practicum in Special Education  
Pace University, Pleasantville, NY  
Total Cost: \$1,995.00                      Approved: \$1,000.00

And further:

BE IT RESOLVED: That upon completion of the approved course, the recipient

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shall submit a report to the Superintendent of Schools outlining the results derived from the application of the materials learned.

**VOTE: 6 - 0**

**E) APPROVAL – EXTRA CURRICULAR APPOINTMENT 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR (Winter Sports)**

Motion made by Mrs. Fowler, seconded by Mr. Grieco as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED: That in accordance with the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mount Pleasant Central School District Board of Education hereby approves the following individual to the Extra Curricular Appointments for the 2009-2010 school year:

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Stipend</u></b>
Larry Hogan	Varsity Basketball (Boys)	Volunteer
Michelle Wynne	Fitness Room Supervisor (11/9/09-12/23/09)	\$844.38 (pro-rated)
Tina Nicodemo	MS Track	\$3919.00

**VOTE: 6 - 0**

**F) APPROVAL – AMENDMENT TO EXTRA CURRICULAR APPOINTMENT 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR (Winter Sports)**

Motion made by Mrs. Fowler, seconded by Mr. Grieco as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Extra Curricular Appointment, originally requested and approved at the December 16, 2009 Board of Education meeting for:

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Stipend</u></b>
Lauren McNamara	JV Cheerleading	\$2,324

be amended to

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Stipend</u></b>
Lauren McNamara	MS Cheerleading	\$2,719

**VOTE: 6 - 0**

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**G) APPROVAL – CPSE and CSE STUDENT PLACEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

Motion made by Mrs. Fowler, seconded by Mr. Grieco as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED: That the recommendations for placement of students with disabilities as recommended by the Mount Pleasant Central School District’s Committee on Pre-School Special Education and the Committee on Special Education at their meetings listed below are hereby approved. Copies of said recommendations are on file in the office of the District Clerk:

CPSE: January 6, 7, 21, 26, 2010

CSE: December 10, 11, 15, 18, 22, 30, 2009  
January 13, 2010

**VOTE: 6 - 0**

**H) APPROVAL – SERVICE PROVIDER, CONTRACT & AGREEMENT**

Motion made by Mr. Grieco, seconded by Mrs. O’Connor as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED: That in accordance with the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mount Pleasant Central School District Board of Education hereby approves the agreement with the outside agency and therapist to provide services to students with disabilities effective January 1, 2010 through June 30, 2010:

Alan V. Tepp, Ph.D., P.C.

**VOTE: 6 - 0**

**I) APPROVAL – BUDGET ADJUSTMENT**

Motion made by Mr. Grieco, seconded by Mrs. O’Connor as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Education hereby authorizes the following budget adjustment in the amount of \$1,355,000 for the 2009-2010 year as specified below:

**INCREASE REVENUE:**

<u>Account title</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Proceeds from Serial Bond	A5710	\$1,355,000

**INCREASE APPROPRIATION:**

<u>Account title</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Refund of Property Taxes	A1964400070000	\$1,355,000

**REASON FOR ADJUSTMENT:**

To refund real property taxes to Legion of Christ, Inc. in accordance with judgment.

**VOTE: 6 - 0**

**J) APPROVAL - BOND RESOLUTION FOR TAX CERTIORARI**

Motion made by Mr. Pinchiaroli, seconded by Mr. D'Ambroso as follows:

**BOND RESOLUTION DATED FEBRUARY 24, 2010 OF  
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE MOUNT  
PLEASANT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
AUTHORIZING NOT TO EXCEED \$1,355,000  
AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF SERIAL**

**GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO FINANCE THE  
PAYMENT OF A JUDGMENT RESULTING FROM  
PROCEEDINGS BROUGHT PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 7  
OF THE REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW AT AN  
ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST OF \$1,355,000, LEVY OF  
TAX IN ANNUAL INSTALLMENTS IN PAYMENT  
THEREOF, THE EXPENDITURE OF SUCH SUM FOR  
SUCH PURPOSE, AND DETERMINING OTHER  
MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS BOARD OF EDUCATION AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Mount Pleasant Central School District (the “School District”) is hereby authorized to issue its serial general obligation bonds (the “Bonds”) in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$1,355,000 pursuant to the Local Finance Law of New York, in order to finance the class of objects or purposes described herein.

Section 2. The class of objects or purposes to be financed pursuant to this Resolution (the “Purpose”) is the payment of a judgment from proceedings brought against the School District pursuant to Article 7 of the Real Property Tax Law by the Legion of Christ, Inc. with respect to properties located at 500 and 590 Columbus Avenue, Thornwood, New York.

Section 3. It is hereby determined and declared that (a) the maximum cost of the Purpose, as estimated by the Board of Education, is \$1,355,000, (b) no money has heretofore

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been authorized to be applied to the payment of the cost of the Purpose, and (c) the District plans to finance the cost of the Purpose entirely from funds raised by the issuance of the Bonds and bond anticipation notes hereinafter referred to.

Section 4. It is hereby determined that the Purpose is one of the class of objects or purposes described in Subdivision 33-a(b) of Paragraph a of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law, and that the period of probable usefulness of the Purpose is fifteen (15) years.

Section 5. Subject to the provisions of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the sale of the Bonds, including renewals of such notes, is hereby delegated to the President of the Board of Education, the chief fiscal officer.

Section 6. The power to further authorize the issuance of the Bonds and bond anticipation notes and to prescribe the terms, form and contents of the Bonds and bond anticipation notes, including the consolidation with other issues and whether the Bonds shall be issued with substantially level or declining annual debt service, subject to the provisions of this Resolution and the Local Finance Law, and to sell and deliver the Bonds and bond anticipation notes, is hereby delegated to the President of the Board of Education. The President of the Board of Education is hereby authorized to sign and the District Clerk is hereby authorized to attest any Bonds and bond anticipation notes issued pursuant to this Resolution, and the District Clerk is hereby authorized to affix to such Bonds and bond anticipation notes the corporate seal of the District.

Section 7. The faith and credit of the District are hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on such Bonds and bond anticipation notes as the same respectively become due and payable. An annual appropriation shall be made in each year



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sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such obligations becoming due and payable in such year. There shall be levied annually on all taxable real property of the District, a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such obligations as the same become due and payable.

Section 8. This Resolution shall constitute the declaration of the District’s “official intent” to reimburse expenditures authorized by Section 1 with proceeds of the Bonds and notes, as required by United States Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2.

Section 9. This Resolution shall be published in full by the Clerk of the District together with a notice in substantially the form prescribed by Section 81.00 of said Local Finance Law, and such publication shall be in each official newspaper of the District. The validity of the Bonds or of any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the sale of the Bonds may be contested only if such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which the District is not authorized to expend money, or the provisions of law which should be complied with at the date of publication of this Resolution are not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty (20) days after the date of such publication; or if said obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 10. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Francine Aloï	Voting :Absent
Laurie Donato	Voting: Aye
Vincent D’Ambroso	Voting: Aye
Theresa Fowler	Voting: Aye
James Grieco	Voting: Aye
Carol Ann O’Connor	Voting: Aye
Christopher Pinchiaroli	Voting: Aye

**VOTE: 6 - 0**

**K) APPROVAL – COMPLIANCE WITH E-RATE REQUIREMENTS**

Motion made by Mrs. O'Connor, seconded by Mr. Pinchiaroli as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED: That in accordance with the recommendation of the Director of Technology, the Mount Pleasant Central School District Board of Education hereby certifies that the District's protection measure (internet filtering software) used is XSTOP/8e6 R3000. This software protects against access by adults and minors to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or – with respect to use of computers with Internet access by minors – harmful to minors. The software may be disabled for adults engaged in bona fide research or other lawful purposes. Our district policy includes monitoring the online activities of minors.

Our Internet Safety Policy addresses the following as required by CIPA:

- a. access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet and World Wide Web
- b. the safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms and other forms of direct electronic communication
- c. unauthorized access, including so-called 'hacking', and other unlawful activities by minors online
- d. unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal information regarding minors
- e. measures designed to restrict minors' access to materials harmful to minors
- f. educating minors about inappropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and cyber bullying awareness and response.

**VOTE: 6 - 0**

**L) APPROVAL – EXECUTION OF SIDE LETTER BETWEEN MOUNT PLEASANT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE MOUNT PLEASANT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**

Motion made by Mrs. O'Connor, seconded by Mr. Pinchiaroli as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute a certain side letter between the Mount Pleasant Central School District and the Mount Pleasant Teachers Association concerning summer pay for certain unit members.

**VOTE: 6 - 0**

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**M) APPROVAL-CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion made by Mrs. O'Connor, seconded by Mr. Pinchiaroli as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED: That the attached Consent Agenda 09/10, P-9, Professional Personnel Appointments is hereby approved. All appointments are contingent on fingerprint clearance through the New York State Education Department. All salaries and hourly rates are based on the Mount Pleasant contract between the Board of Education of the Mount Pleasant Central School District and the Mount Pleasant Central School District Teachers Association

AND

BE IT RESOLVED: That the attached Consent Agenda 09/10, C-8 Civil Service personnel is hereby approved. All appointments are contingent on fingerprint clearance through the New York State Education Department.

**VOTE: 6 - 0**

**VIII. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC DISCUSSION AND COMMENTS:** None

**IX. ADJOURNMENT:** At approximately 9:10 pm, motion made by Mr. D'Ambroso, seconded by Mrs. Fowler and unanimously adopted by the Board to enter into Executive Session to discuss the employment history of a specific individual. At approximately 10:22 pm, motion made by Mrs. O'Connor, seconded by Mr. Grieco and unanimously adopted by the Board to adjourn the executive session and return to public session. At approximately 10:24 pm, motion made by Mrs. O'Connor, seconded by Mr. D'Ambroso and unanimously adopted by the Board to adjourn the January 20, 2010 Board of Education meeting.

Mary Beth Mancuso  
District Clerk

Approved: 3/25/10

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**SCHEDULE 09/10, P-9 PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS**

**PER DIEM SUBSTITUTES**

**LISA GRECO, \$100/Day**

**NATALIE CARR-HARRIS, \$100/Day**

**ANDREA REIFF, \$100/Day**

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**SCHEDULE 09/10, C-8 CIVIL SERVICE APPOINTMENTS**

**LISA ZARESKI**, School District Treasurer  
Assigned To: Business Office, District Office  
Beginning of Probationary Period: February 22, 2010  
Expiration of Probationary Period: February 22, 2011  
Salary: \$32,907.69 (pro-rated)