

MAHOPAC CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING, **October 11, 2005**  
Lakeview Elementary School, 8:00 PM

**MINUTES**

1. CALL OF THE ROLL

PRESENT: Giulio Cefaloni, Frank DeBellis, Jeanne Earle, Rose Fabiano,  
William Hines, Elaine Simone, Penny Swift, Vinnie Trinchitella

ABSENT: Patricia Greenwood-O'Keefe

STAFF: Robert J. Reidy, Jr., Superintendent of Schools; Ass't. Superintendents: David Chapman/Business; Vincent Quartararo/Human Resources, Curriculum/Instruction; Assistants to the Superintendent: Barbara Walkley/Curriculum & Staff Development; Donald Beverly/Information Technologies and Dorothy Gilroy, District Clerk

CONVENE: At 7:05 p.m., President Trinchitella called the meeting to order in Room 17 of the Lakeview Elementary School and moved immediately to executive session for the purpose of discussing a particular contractual issue, and particular personnel issue.

**Moved by Mrs. Earle, seconded by Mrs. Simone, carried unanimously.**

At 7:59 p.m., the board returned to public session in the Auditorium with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

**Moved by Mrs. Swift, seconded by Mrs. Fabiano, carried unanimously.**

OTHERS: Approximately 30 people were in attendance in the audience.

2. RESIDENT COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY - None

3. COMMUNICATIONS

- Proclamation re School Boards Recognition Week: October 24-28, 2005.

Clerk Gilroy acknowledged receipt of the above-mentioned proclamation from Governor Pataki, recognizing school boards for their dedication to children, learning and the community and service to public education.

4. ACCEPTANCE OF WARRANTS

GENERAL 'A' FUND WARRANTS:

# 12,	CHECKS # 102622 TO 102771,	09/14/05,	\$ 737,412.40
# 14,	CHECKS # 102386 TO 102621,	09/09/05,	\$ 45,268.35
# 17,	CHECKS # 102772 TO 103132,	09/21/05,	\$ 299,426.58
# 18,	CHECKS # 103133 TO 103473,	09/28/05,	\$ 497,529.92

CAPITAL PROJECT 'H' FUND WARRANTS:

# 05,	CHECKS # 1988,	09/14/05,	\$ 30,579.89
-------	----------------	-----------	--------------

TRUST & AGENCY 'T' WARRANTS:

# 09,	CHECKS # 6946 TO 6958,	09/14/05,	\$ 4,119.33
# 10,	CHECKS # 51, 6948 TO 6959, 90905,	09/09/05,	\$ 4,352.94
# 11,	CHECKS # 73, 6960 TO 6971, 91605,	09/21/05,	\$ 1,171.55
# 12,	CHECKS # 6972 TO 6988, 93005,	7370105, 09/28/05,	\$43,109.47

5. TREASURER'S REPORT - Received for Filing, August, 2005.

**President Trinchitella acknowledged receipt and acceptance of the above-mentioned warrants, Treasurer's Report and Budget Status Report.**

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

9/13/05 - Regular Monthly Board Meeting

**Moved by Mrs. Earle, seconded by Mrs. Simone, carried 7 ayes, 1 abstention (Mr. DeBellis), with correction, as noted, on page 10.**

9/21/05 - Special Board Meeting/Special Bus Proposition Vote

**Moved by Mrs. Swift, seconded by Mr. DeBellis, carried unanimously.**

9/27/05 - Special Board Meeting/Special Education Committee Mtg.

**Moved by Mrs. Swift, seconded by Mr. DeBellis, carried unanimously.**

*Mr. Cefaloni extended thanks to Dr. Reidy for a very productive meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup>.*

7. STUDENT REPORTS

M.O.S.T. Student Council President, Ally Besharat, reported on activities at the high school during the last month such as: Spirit Week; Home Coming; Mardi Gras Week; and Cowboy Day with money raised going to the Katrina Relief Fund. Ally reported on Student Court; the selling of Entertainment Books for the council and the Leadership Program.

President Trinchitella took executive privilege of changing the order of the Agenda due to the guests in attendance for presentations this evening

8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Curriculum Reports

"Communities That Care"

Mr. Joseph DeMarzo, Director/Putnam County Mental Health and Youth Bureau gave a presentation on "Communities That Care" which is a collaborative effort in Mahopac that includes members from the school district, numerous human services agencies, mental health providers, alcohol & substance abuse providers and family advocates. Mr. DeMarzo provided a report for the board and the public which included a survey and he invited anyone to call him if they would be interested in volunteering their time. He also reported that on October 17<sup>th</sup> there will be County-wide presentation and will be getting information out to the public.

"No Child Left Behind"

Dr. Barbara Walkley conducted a presentation with overheads in regard to the NYS Education Department "No Child Left Behind" legislation which was passed in 2001. The purpose of this legislation was to increase the quality of education in the nation by increasing accountability and explained that there are a lot of implications for our district such as testing. She showed our district's performance in ELA and Math. Dr. Walkley reported that each year the standards increase and we must look at how we are performing and if we are satisfied with our results. A question and answer period followed.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS - Board of Education Chairpersons

Mrs. Swift announced that the HS Drama Company will be presenting *James & The Giant Peach* on November 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>.

Special Education - Mrs. Swift reported that the committee held a very informative and productive committee meeting on September 27<sup>th</sup> with topics such as: the special education process and what it covers, all the various programs that the district offers and the special education budget. The Special Education Committee also met this evening to review recommendations which appear as Item # 18.A. on the agenda.

Legislative - Mrs. Swift recommended approval of Item #18.F. on the agenda which is a late resolution which did not make it into the packet, recommended by NYS School Board's Association to be approved at the Annual Convention in Rochester.

Community Relations - Mrs. Simone reported that she has been working with Mr. DeMarzo in regard to *Communities That Care* at the County level and invited anyone in attendance this evening to see her after the meeting if they are interested in working with this group.

Technology - Mr. Cefaloni reported on the district's on-line key access to key district resources and parent access to electronic assignments which has been upgraded. He suggested that parents let the principals know if their child's teacher is not posting assignments.

Finance - Mr. DeBellis reported that this committee has not met this month but much is happening prior to introducing a new Budget Process with a Key Communicator Group of volunteers from the community. Information will be going to all residents in the News Bulletin, an Upfront with Dr. Reidy broadcast on Channel 22, on the school's Website and in the newspaper.

Budget Process Forums

Dr. Reidy explained that we would like to take the budget and break it into portions, bring people together as groups and make the process as transparent as possible in a good faith effort. He also stated that perhaps we can find a way to formulate the budget in a more cost effective way, sharing factual information with key communicators.

Policy - Mrs. Earle reported that she met with Dr. Reidy in regard to a number of board policies, many of which are presently being reviewed by our attorney. Dr. Reidy asked Mrs. Earle to review the district's Student Records Policy along with NYS School Boards policy on Family & Student Rights and Privacy Acts. Mrs. Earle recommends that we adopt NYSSBA's policy in place of our current policy along with some minor changes.

Mrs. Trinchitella requested that video-taping of school board meetings be added to the agenda when a policy committee is held.

Buildings & Grounds - Mr. Chapman, in Mrs. O'Keefe's absence, reported that Austin Road School's paving is completed and looks great. He recommended that we recognize Mr. Mike Simone, Highway Superintendent, for all of the town's assistance in this project along with many of our own staff.

Mrs. Trinchitella reported that due to the new drop off system at the Mahopac Middle School, there has been no back up on the main roads.

**10. CONSENT AGENDA BEGINS**

- Items removed for further discussion - None

Dr. Reidy explained Item 18.C. on the agenda and Mr. Chapman explained Item 18.E. prior to board's approval.

11. RETIREMENTS/RESIGNATIONS - Recommendation of the superintendent of schools:

A. Instructional

**RESCIND: Dorothy Weydig**, teaching assistant, Fulmar Road Elementary School, effective 6/30/07. (Retired as of 6/25/05)

12. RESIGNATIONS - - Recommendation of the superintendent of schools:

A. Instructional

**Cheryl Ciano Havens**, music teacher, elementary schools, effective 1/1/06.

13. TERMINATIONS - None

14. LEAVES OF ABSENCE - Recommendation of the superintendent of schools:

A. Instructional

1. **Jenifer Maloney**, reading teacher, Fulmar Road Elementary School, unpaid childcare leave, effective 12/8/05-2/10/06.
2. **Denise Hembury**, elementary teacher, Lakeview Elementary School, unpaid childcare leave, effective 12/7/05-2/14/06.
3. **REVISION: Jennifer Cortesi**, elementary teacher, Mahopac Middle School, unpaid childcare leave, revised *from* 10/22/05-2/5/06 *to* 11/5/05-2/5/06.

B. Non-Instructional

**Amanda Hanaburgh**, account clerk, Mahopac High School/Bus Garage, unpaid childcare leave revised *from* effective 4/4/05-4/5/07 *to* 4/4/05-2/1/06.

15. ABOLISHMENT OF POSITIONS - None

16. CREATION OF POSITIONS - None

17. APPOINTMENTS - Recommendation of the superintendent of schools:

A. Administrative

Mahopac Night School for the 2005-06 School Year:

**Aaron Trummer** - Night School Administrator (2 nights)

**Adam Pease** - Night School Administrator (2 nights)

*Salary as per Administrators' Contract*

B. Instructional

1. Candidate: Brian Kearney  
Tenure Area: Teaching Assistant  
Probationary Period: 9/14/05-9/13/08  
Certification Area: Provisional  
Salary: Step 1 of the Teaching Assistants' Contract

17. APPOINTMENTS - continued

2. **Maureen DiMaiolo**, part-time physical education teacher (40%), effective Sept. 27, 2005. Salary: Step 6, BA+21 (pro-rata) of the contract between the Mahopac Teachers' Association and the District. Ms. DiMaiolo holds a New York State Provisional Renewal Certificate in physical education.
3. **Sarah Stefanak**, *term substitute* elementary teacher for Ms. Denise Hembury, Lakeview Elementary School, effective 9/26/05-2/14/06 or until Ms. Hembury returns, whichever comes first. Salary: Step 2, BA+42+MA.

4. Mahopac Night School for the 2005-06 School Year:

<b>Patricia Greenidge</b>	-	English
<b>Lisa Penta</b>	-	English
<b>Jean Isecke</b>	-	Biology
<b>Charles Jensen/Stephen Zanarini</b>	-	Earth Science
<b>Daniel Ricci</b>	-	Social Studies
<b>Bernard Small</b>	-	Mathematics
<b>Annette Lazzaro</b>	-	Physical Education

*Salary as per MTA Contract*

5. Substitute Teacher/Teaching Assistant/Nurse List - 2005-06 School Year:

<b>Jennifer Carter Radinsky</b>	-	Pre K, K and Grades 1-6 - Certified
<b>Megan Guerra</b>	-	Early Childhood & Childhood Education Birth to Grade 6 - Certified
<b>Gina Romero</b>	-	Art - Certified
<b>Judith Haight</b>	-	Registered Nurse
<b>Michael LoMedico</b>	-	NK-6 - Certified
<b>Patricia Messina</b>	-	Teaching Assistant
<b>Kimberly Colavito</b>	-	Teaching Assistant
<b>Dorothy Jedlicka</b>	-	Teaching Assistant

6. Student Teachers:

1. **Melissa Biviano**, Fordham University will be doing her internship in guidance with Mr. Dennis DiSanto, Guidance Counselor. Mahopac High School for the 2005-06 school year.
2. **Kristy Bishop**, Mercy College, will be doing her student teaching in speech and hearing with Virginia Giordano, Speech and Hearing teacher, Lakeview Elementary School, from 9/12/05-12/16/05.

C. Non-Instructional

1. **Calvin Hanner**, third shift custodian, Mahopac Middle School, effective 9/12/05. Salary as per USWOM contract.
2. Temporary Appointment:  
**Patricia Titcomb**, 7 hour leave replacement monitor, Mahopac M. S., effective 9/7/05.
3. Change in Building/Hours:  
**Mary Fowler**, monitor, Lakeview Elementary School/Fulmar Road School, from 6.5 hours to 3.5 hours, effective 9/16/05.
4. Additions to the substitute clerical/ monitor/teacher aide/library aide list:  
**Patricia Messina**

18. RECOMMENDATIONS

A. **SPECIAL STUDENT PLACEMENTS/HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION**

Recommendation of the Committee for Special Education for approval of the special student placements, as attached.

B. **DEFIBRILLATOR INSPECTOR AGREEMENT**

Recommendation of the superintendent of schools for approval of the *Automated External Defibrillator Inspector Agreement* between the Board of Education and Michael Revenson, effective September 13, 2005 through August 30, 2006, as per the attached.

C. **IMPARTIAL HEARING OFFICER**

Recommendation of the superintendent of schools, as forwarded from the district clerk, for approval of the appointment of Mr. James McKeever to serve as an Impartial Hearing for the Mahopac Central School District.

D. **ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS**

Recommendation of the superintendent of schools for approval of the following gifts:

1. one basic sewing machine (valued at \$25.00) to the Mahopac Middle School from Mary Jane Marchut of Maple Hill Drive in Mahopac.
2. donation of \$22,000 from the Fulmar Road PTO toward the purchase of a wireless laptop lab in the Fulmar Road Elementary School.
3. (2) two monitors (valued at \$50 each) from Althea Daley of Nottingham Way, Mahopac.

E. **CHANGE ORDER**

Recommendation of the superintendent of schools for approval of the Change Order for the Mahopac Middle School lower level HVAC Work in the amount of \$10,000, as per the attached.

F. **NYSSBA LATE RESOLUTIONS**

Recommendation of the superintendent of schools, as forwarded by the Board of Education Legislative Chairperson, for approval of the following two resolutions to be submitted on October 29, 2005 at the New York State School Boards Association Annual Business Meeting, as per the attached:

1. *Task Force on Financing School District Retirement Benefits Resolution*
2. *Membership dues Bylaw Amendment*

**19. CONSENT AGENDA CONCLUDES**

**The consent agenda was moved by Mrs. Earle, seconded by Mr. DeBellis, carried unanimously.**

20. RESIDENT COMMENTS - Scheduled & Unscheduled

Scheduled

- *Joseph Scappatura* - commented that he respects all the time and effort that board members have put into the budget but requested that the board make even cuts across the board when working on the budget.
- *Dahlia Wood* - welcomes the participation with the board to work on the budget and to get the information back to the public.

20. RESIDENT COMMENTS - continued

- *Susan Groth* - questioned how she could get notified if there is an emergency with early dismissal and her neighbor is not at home. Mr. Beverly informed her that there is free service that she can submit her e-mail address to get a notification by cell phone text phone messaging.

21. NEXT MEETING - November 8, 2005 @ the **High School**

22. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:10 p.m., the board moved to executive session for the purpose of discussing a particular contractual and personnel issue.

**Moved by Mr. DeBellis, seconded by Mrs. Fabiano, carried unanimously.**

At 11:41 p.m., the board returned to public session, at which time the meeting was adjourned.

**Moved by Mr. Cefaloni, seconded by Mrs. Swift, carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy A. Gilroy,  
District Clerk