

ICHABOD CRANE CENTRAL SCHOOL  
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

JANUARY 8, 2008

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Ichabod Crane Central School was held on Tuesday, January 8, 2008, in the Middle School Library at 7:00 p.m.

Board Members present:

Andrew Kramarchyk	John Phillips
William Murphy, MD	Regina Rose
Andrew Pellettieri ( <i>arrived 8:05PM</i> )	Anthony Welcome

Board Members absent:

Landra Haber  
William Martin  
Kevin Reis

School officials present:

James P. Dexter, Superintendent, Maureen Van Deusen, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, Gregory Giammarco, Business Administrator, William Schneider, High School Principal, Brett Miller, Assistant High School Principal, Tim Farley, Middle School Principal, Shannon Shine, Assistant Middle School Principal, John Stickles, Elementary School Principal, Melissa Murray, Primary School Principal, , Steve Marotta, Director of Facilities, Todd DiGrigoli, Food Service Director, and Mindy Potts, District Clerk

Board President, John Phillips, called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m. He then announced the fire exits, conducted the Pledge of Allegiance and read the ICC Mission Statement. "In our quest for excellence, the Ichabod Crane Central School District is dedicated to preparing all students to meet the challenges of our future and to appreciate the value of their own lives by nurturing each individual's unique talents, instilling a desire for life-long learning, and fostering a strong spirit of community."

MOTION KRAMARCHYK 2<sup>ND</sup> MURPHY

To approve the present agenda with modifications as presented.  
Carried, 5-0

Prior to the start of the Public Hearing, President Phillips expressed his appreciation to the voters for their support of the Capital Project at the December 11, 2007 Bond Referendum.

PUBLIC HEARING - SENIOR CITIZENS REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

READING OF PUBLIC NOTICE – Board President

NOTICE is hereby given that a public hearing will be held before the Board of Education of the Kinderhook Central School District at the Ichabod Crane Middle School, Valatie, Town of Kinderhook, New York in said District on Tuesday, January 8, 2008 at 7 p.m., prevailing time, concerning:

The adoption of a resolution pursuant to Sections 459-c and 467 of the Real Property Tax Law, increasing from \$26,000 (*current income level*) to an amount not to exceed the maximum permitted by law, the income which may be earned by the owner or owners of property within the District who are 65 years of age or over, to qualify for an exemption from real property taxation to the extent of 50% of the assessed valuation thereof, and if an additional sliding scale level be adopted.

Interested parties are invited to attend the meeting to present information and evidence to the Board of Education concerning whether or not such resolutions should be adopted. (Notice Published 1/4/08)

DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED TAX EXEMPTION

Greg Giammarco briefly explained the proposed exemption, which is separate from other tax exemptions such as the STAR program. The Real Property Tax Service Agency increased the maximum level by \$1,000, to take effect in time for the 2008 tax year. Application for the exemption would be through the Town Assessor's office.

HEARING OPEN FOR PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Greg Giammarco fielded questions from two community members and board members.

Hearing no further comments or questions, Board President, John Phillips, said the resolution would be offered for Board approval under the Discussion/Action portion of the agenda.

President Phillips declared the hearing closed at 7:32 p.m.

MOTION KRAMARCHYK 2<sup>ND</sup> MURPHY

To approve the 11/13/07 - Regular Meeting Minutes as prepared

Board Member Regina Rose mentioned that Bearsch Compeau Knudson's comments about addressing the issue of mold during the scope of the capital project were not contained within the minutes. Superintendent Dexter proposed we ask BCK for a memo describing their intentions should any mold be discovered while working on the district's buildings.

Carried, 5-0

MOTION WELCOME 2<sup>ND</sup> MURPHY

To approve the 12/04/07 - Regular Meeting Minutes as prepared  
Carried, 5-0

MOTION MURPHY 2<sup>ND</sup> KRAMARCHYK

To approve the 12/11/07 - Capital Project Vote Report as prepared  
Carried, 5-0

MEETING OPEN FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Kathy Korszinsky addressed the Board regarding a replacement Spanish teacher at the Middle School
- Veronica Mangione encouraged the Board to hire additional teaching assistants especially for the Primary School level and encouraged the Board to take advantage of grants to improve the schools

President Phillips reminded all present of the upcoming Budget Development meetings and the opportunity for the public to get involved in the budget development process.

REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS/UPDATES

READING OF BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICIES

President John Phillips noted that the following six (6) policies are listed for acceptance under the Discussion/Action portion of the agenda:

- Field Trips and Excursions #4531 & #4531-R (*Revised*)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Reading: January 8, 2008
- International and Other Long Distance Travel #4531.1 (*Revised*)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Reading: January 8, 2008
- Gifts from the Public #1800 (*Revised*)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Reading: January 8, 2008
- Gifts to District Officers or Employees #1810 (*Revised*)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Reading: January 8, 2008
- Declassification of Students with Disabilities #4320 (*New*)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Reading: January 8, 2008
- Credit Card Policy #6750 & #6750R (*New*)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Reading: January 8, 2008

The following two (2) policies were listed on the agenda for their first reading. Copies were available for the public.

- Capital Assets Accounting ##### (*New*)  
1<sup>st</sup> Reading: January 8, 2008
- Provision of Special Education Services in the Least Restrictive Environment, ##### (*New*)  
1<sup>st</sup> Reading: January 8, 2008

#### REPORT FROM STRATEGIC PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE

Board Member, William Murphy, MD, chair of the Strategic Planning Sub-Committee reported on the progress the committee has made gathering information and developing a list of "stakeholders," interested in helping the school improve planning for the future.

#### FACILITIES REPORT CARD

Steve Marotta presented the Board with Report Cards on each of the district's school buildings and answered questions regarding:

- The potential for the use of solar power
- Mold issues

During the facilities Report Card, Board Member Andrew Pellettieri arrived at the meeting.

#### UPDATE ON SHARED BUSINESS OFFICE

Greg Giammarco gave a brief history of the Shared Business Office at Ichabod Crane and the direction for the future for continuing this service offered through BOCES. The Shared Business Office has been an excellent deal for the district, however, there are currently no other districts "sharing" services. How this will affect the co-ser of the Shared Business Office is something BOCES will have to evaluate. The Board asked to be kept updated.

#### ACTIVE 8 GRANT

Todd DiGrigoli reported on the Activ8 Grant awarded through the Columbia County Healthcare Consortium. Active 8 promotes Healthy lifestyles in children in grades K-5. The principals being: 5 fruits and vegetables + 1 hour of exercise + no more than 2 hours of TV or computer screen time = Activ8Kids! Current projects proposed for use of the grant money include:

- Support of the Dance Club
- Purchase more Dance, Dance Revolution Game mats
- Ichabod Crane Family Fun Run

#### CURRICULUM ACHIEVEMENT REPORT

John Stickles reported to the Board about the results of the Grade 5 Social Studies assessments. The students performed very well, with 92% of the students scored 3s or 4s. Mr. Stickles evaluated the questions on the exam and found the students showed gaps in regard to charts and graphs and expects to work with Social Studies chair, Tim Wells, to improve results.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – ADMINISTRATORS' COMMENTS

Superintendent Dexter reported to the Board on a number of issues:

- Congratulations to Greg Giammarco who had an article on compliance with 403(b) plan published by NYSABO
- Varsity Club excited about the new mascot
- ConnectEd to be implemented soon
- Request to plan overnight for trip for the Marching Band, to perform at Hershey, Pennsylvania from Friday May 9 through Sunday May 11, 2008

Elementary Principal John Stickles reported:

- Dance Club has 52 students participating
- ELA begins on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
- Computer Lab at Martin Van Buren School is operational

High School Principal, Bill Schneider reported:

- Mascot debuts on Friday night
- Honor Society is having an overnight Dance-a-thon
- Up-coming Mid-terms and Regents
- Course Selection Guides at the printers

Food Service Manager, Todd DiGrigoli reported:

- Volume of meals served in December
- Columbia County Bounty, a farm to school program
- Dietetic intern beginning
- New healthy vending machine (milk, dairy, and fruits etc.) at the Middle School

## TREASURER'S REPORT AND ACCEPTANCE OF WARRANTS:

	<u>PREVIOUS</u>	<u>AS OF 11/30/07</u>
GENERAL FUND	\$16,742,641.94	\$14,232,981.54
SPECIAL AID FUND	\$ 255,478.18	\$ 348,700.92
SCHOOL LUNCH FUND	\$ 64,709.63	\$ 25,493.36
CAPITAL FUND	\$ 329,170.55	\$ 837,762.30
TRUST & AGENCY FUND	\$ 364,003.68	\$ 343,031.21
NET PAYROLL ACCOUNT	\$ 3,244.91	\$ 3,286.57

MOTION WELCOME 2<sup>ND</sup> MURPHY

To accept the Treasurer's Report and Warrants as presented  
Carried, 6-0

MOTION MURPHY 2<sup>ND</sup> ROSE

To approve the following items contained under the Consent Agenda

CONSENT AGENDA

- (A) CONSIDERATION FOR ACCEPTANCE  
To accept the CPSE and CSE Recommendations for the 2007-2008 school year as follows: Meeting Dates of: 12/11/07, 12/05/07, 12/19/07, 12/21/07
- (B) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT  
To appoint, based upon the recommendation of James P. Dexter, Superintendent, *additional* Interscholastic Coaches for the 2007-2008 school year
- (C) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT  
To appoint, upon the recommendation of James Dexter, Superintendent, *additional* EXTRACLASSROOM ACTIVITY ADVISORS, for the 2007-2008 school year per the attached listing
- (D) CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL  
To approve, upon the recommendation of James P. Dexter, Superintendent, Teaching and Non-Teaching Substitute Addendum, conditionally, pending SED safety clearance for the 2007-2008 school year
- (E) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT  
To appoint, based upon the recommendation of James P. Dexter, Superintendent, Adult Education Instructors, per the attached list
- (F) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT  
To appoint, upon the recommendation of James Dexter, Superintendent, KELLY LOVE to the position of Accompanist, and to establish \$15.00 per hour as the rate of pay
- (G) CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL  
To change Rate Category for the following coaching positions for the 2007-2008 school year as follows :

Team	Position	New Rate Category	Previous Rate Category
Boys Varsity Volleyball	Head Coach	Group B	Group C

## (H) CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL

To approve, upon the recommendation of James Dexter, Superintendent, STUDENT TEACHERS/INTERNS for the period of time listed as follows:

STUDENT TEACHER	ASSIGNMENT	DATES
Cassandra Wright	Karen Vecellio	March 31, 2008-May 16, 2008
Eryn Hockler	Ann Scharoun	January 15, 2008-March 7, 2008
Victoria Martuscello	Kara Abatto	January 15, 2008- March 7, 2008
Barbara Wood	Sally Bertram	January 15, 2008- March 7, 2008
Kelly Wolfner	MaryAnn Gorke	January 15, 2008- March 7, 2008
Angela Johoda	Lisa Reis (BOE approved 10/02/07 with Ann Scharoun)	March 31, 2008- May 16, 2008

## (I) CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL

To approve a request for home tutorial services for the following student:  
HS Student - 12/18/07 - 5/01/08 (*doctor request-on file*)

## (J) CONSIDERATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

To accept the High School Extraclassroom Activity Fund Report as of the following date:

AS OF 11/30/07

Account Balance:                   \$ 74,507.93

## (K) CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL

To establish, upon the recommendation of James P. Dexter, Superintendent, a (1.0 FTE) Teaching Assistant position in the Middle School, in order to provide on-on-one services as required by a student's IEP

## (L) CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL AND AUTHORIZATION

To approve the proposed amendments to Trust Agreement of the Rensselaer-Columbia-Greene Health Insurance Trust, as proposed by the Trustees on November 2, 2007, and authorizes and directs the Superintendent of Schools to execute the Trust Agreement, as amended, on behalf of the District

## (M) CONSIDERATION FOR ADOPTION

To adopt the following policies pursuant to Board Policy #2410 – Formulation, Adoption and Amendment of Policies:

- Field Trips and Excursions #4531 & #4531-R (*Revised*)  
Effective date: January 8, 2008
- International and Other Long Distance Travel #4531.1 (*Revised*)  
Effective date: January 8, 2008
- Gifts from the Public #1800 (*Revised*)  
Effective date: January 8, 2008
- Gifts to District Officers or Employees #1810 (*Revised*)  
Effective date: January 8, 2008
- Declassification of Students with Disabilities 4320(*New*)  
Effective date: January 8, 2008
- Credit Card Policy 6750 & 6750R (*New*)  
Effective date: January 8, 2008

## (N) AUTHORIZATION FOR PRESIDENT TO SIGN

To authorize the President of the Board of Education to execute the following document(s):

- School Re-Levy Form and Certification For Rensselaer and Columbia Counties
- Certificate of Substantial Completion:
  - Brownell Electrical Corp.
  - AOW Associates
- Forms from BCK:
  - Application for examination and approval of final plans and specifications
  - Scope of proposed project

## (O) CONSIDERATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

To accept the resignation of JACQUELINE DEJARNETTE as SCHOOL BUS DRIVER for the purpose of accepting another position within the district effective January 9, 2008

## (P) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT

To appoint, based upon the recommendation of James P. Dexter, Superintendent, JACQUELINE DEJARNETTE to the position of CLERK/TYPIST (Middle School Greeter), effective January 9, 2008

- (Q) CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL & AUTHORIZATION  
To approve a 2007-2008 Health Services Contract in accordance with Education Law Section 912, with the NORTH GREENBUSH COMMON SCHOOL DISTRICT for sixteen (16) students attending a non-public school within the district (LaSalle Institute) in the amount of \$3,167.68 and to authorize the president of the Board to execute the contract
- (R) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT  
To appoint, upon the recommendation of James P. Dexter, Superintendent, JACQUELINE DEJARNETTE, as a Substitute Bus Driver, effective January 9, 2008
- (S) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT  
To appoint, upon the recommendation of James P. Dexter, Superintendent, ELIZABETH DEMERS, as a Substitute Bus Attendant, effective January 9, 2008
- (T) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT  
To appoint, upon the recommendation of James P. Dexter, Superintendent, JAMIE VANWAGNER, as a Substitute Bus Attendant, effective January 9, 2008
- (U) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT  
To appoint, upon the recommendation of James P. Dexter, Superintendent, DEBBIE BINDER, to the position of Bus Attendant, effective January 9, 2008
- (V) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT  
To appoint, upon the recommendation of James P. Dexter, Superintendent, LORRAINE MUELLER, to the position of COOK (6 hour), effective January 9, 2008
- (W) CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL  
To approve, upon the recommendation of James Dexter, Superintendent, STUDENT TEACHERS/INTERNS for the period of time listed as follows:

INTERN	ASSIGNMENT	DATES
Wendy Moag	Todd DiGrigoli	January 15, 2008-April 18, 2008

End of Consent Agenda

Carried, 6-0

DISCUSSION/ACTION

MOTION KRAMARCHYK 2<sup>ND</sup> PELLETTIERI

To accept, per Board Policy #1800 Gifts from the Public, a donation to Guidance Supplies of \$200.00 from WAL\*MART and to increase the 2007-2008 budget in the amount of \$200 from \$35,385,165 to \$35,385,365 in the following Appropriation Code:

A2810.510-05-3100- Guidance Supplies

Carried, 6-0

MOTION PELLETTIERI 2<sup>ND</sup> MURPHY

To accept, per Board Policy #1800 Gifts from the Public, a donation to Healthy Heart of \$2,224 from Columbia County and to increase the 2007-2008 budget in the amount of \$2,224 from \$35,385,365 to \$35,387,589 in the following Appropriation Code:

C2860.200-00-0000 – Healthy Heart

Carried, 6-0

MOTION PELLETTIERI 2<sup>ND</sup> MURPHY

To accept, per Board Policy #1800 Gifts from the Public, a donation to Primary School Principal's Reserve of \$1017 from ICHABOD CRANE PRIMARY PTA and to increase the 2007-2008 budget in the amount of \$1017 from \$35,387,589 to \$35,388,606 in the following Appropriation Code:

A2110.510-01-0000- Ts Ps Reserve

Carried, 6-0

MOTION MURPHY 2<sup>ND</sup> KRAMARCHYK

To authorize REGINA ROSE and JOHN PHILLIPS to attend the INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL AUDIT PROCESS WORKSHOP on February 8, 2008

Carried, 6-0

MOTION MURPHY 2<sup>ND</sup> PELLETTIERI

Tax Exemption – Senior Citizens

To adopt, pursuant to Section 459-c and 467 of the Real Property Tax Law, increasing from \$26,000 to \$27,000, the income which may be earned by the owner or owners of property within the District who are qualifying senior citizens, and/or disabled persons, to provide for an exemption from real property taxation to the extent of 50% of the assessed valuation, and to retain the sliding scale, effective for the 2008 tax year, as follows:

Income Level	Reduction in Assessed Value
Under \$27,000	50%
\$27,000.01 - \$27,999.99	45%
\$28,000 - \$28,999.99	40%
\$29,000 - \$29,999.99	35%
\$30,000 - \$30,899.99	30%
\$30,900 - \$31,799.99	25%
\$31,800 - \$32,699.99	20%
\$32,700 - \$33,599.99	15%
\$33,600 - \$34,499.99	10%
\$34,500 - \$35,399.99	5%
\$35,400 and above	0%

Carried, 6-0

MOTION MUIRPHY 2<sup>ND</sup> KRAMARCHYK

To approve the following payments to Bearsch Compeau Knudson Architects, for professional services rendered as follows:

INVOICE	AMOUNT	SERVICE DATES	PROJECT #/ITEM
14077	\$6,112.88	10/27/07 - 11/30/07	Proj #7104 ( <i>Pre-Referendum</i> )
14063	\$81.52	10/27/07 - 11/30/07	Proj #05156 ( <i>MHG Elevator</i> )

Carried, 6-0

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no members of the public present who wished to speak.

MEETINGS:

01/15, 01/22 & 01/29 (Tues) –2008-2009 Budget Development Meetings  
7PM – ICMS LIBRARY  
02/06 (Tue) - Next Regular Board Mtg – 7PM – ICMS LIBRARY

COMMITTEE MEETING DATES:

01/14/08 – ICTA Negotiations – Central Office – 4:30PM  
01/16/08 – Audit Committee – Central Office – 5PM  
01/23/08 – Policy Committee – Central Office – 5PM

TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Semi-Annual Conduct and Attendance Report

MOTION MURPHY 2<sup>ND</sup> KRAMARCHYK

To adjourn to executive session to discuss the employment history of particular individuals, to discuss collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law, and to discuss pending litigation

Carried, 6-0

MOTION MURPHY 2<sup>ND</sup> ROSE

To appoint Anthony Welcome as Clerk Pro Tem

Carried, 5-1

KRAMARCHYK - YES

PHILLIPS - YES

MURPHY - YES

ROSE - YES

PELLETTIERI - YES

WELCOME - NO

Others present at Executive Session:

James P. Dexter, Superintendent

Maureen Van Deusen, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

Gregory Giammarco, Business Administrator

Board Member Andrew Pellettieri left Executive Session briefly from 10:25-10:42 p.m.

Maureen Van Deusen and Greg Giammarco left Executive Session at 11:10 p.m.

Board Members returned to the Middle School Library at 11:40 p.m.

MOTION WELCOME 2<sup>ND</sup> PELLETTIERI

To adjourn the meeting at 11:45 p.m.

Carried, 6-0

---

Anthony Welcome, Clerk Pro Tem

---

Mindy M. Potts, District Clerk