

ICHABOD CRANE CENTRAL SCHOOL

MINUTES

Board of Education

JANUARY 20, 2009

A Budget Development Meeting of the Board of Education of the Ichabod Crane Central School District was held on TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2009 in the Middle School Library at 7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Gary Bagnato	Thomas Neufeld
Edward Harsen	John Phillips
Andrew Kramarchyk	Regina Rose
William Murphy, MD	Anthony Welcome

Board Members Absent:

Landra Haber

School officials present:

James P. Dexter, Superintendent, Maureen Van Deusen, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, Gregory Giammarco, Business Administrator, John Stickles, Elementary School Principal, Melissa Murray, Primary School Principal and Mindy Potts, District Clerk

Others Present:

**Patty Westover – Kindergarten Grade Level Chair
Lisa Reis - 1st Grade Level Chair
Melanie Moon - 2nd Grade Level Chair**

John Phillips Board President called the meeting to order at 7:02

John Phillips Board President announced the fire exits and conducted the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Member, Thomas Neufeld read the district 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.”

Board President John Phillips made the following announcement:

- Tonight’s meeting is the first in a series of six meetings which will be convened to assist in the development of the 2009-2010 budget**

MOTION KRAMARCHYK 2ND MURPHY

**To approval of present agenda with modifications as presented
Carried, 8-0**

Superintendent's Report/Comments

Superintendent James Dexter made the following announcements:

- **These Budget Development Meetings were designed to create an opportunity for dialog**
- **The Budget Development meetings were publicized in a number of ways and a summary of the meetings would be available on the district website**
- **Technology and Facilities requests for each building would be addressed when the directors of those departments made their presentations to the Board**
- **As the district builds the budget for 2009-2010, it is important to be mindful of future years**

Gregory Giammarco, Business Administrator, briefly explained the district's use of baseline budget modeling, which is based on actual expenditures, and functions as a planning tool.

Meeting Open For Public Participation on Development of the 2009-2010 Budget

One individual requested to address the board regarding state aid.

2009-2010 Budget Presentations

**A. Summer School Program Presentation
(7:35pm)**

Melissa Murray, Invitations Principal, gave a brief description of the Invitations program, a summer program for incoming Kindergarten through 5th Grade students and answered questions regarding the program.

B. Primary School Presentation (7:45pm)

Melissa Murray, Primary School Principal along with Kindergarten Grade Level Chair, Patricia Westover, Lisa Reis, First Grade Level Chair, and Melanie Moon, Second Grade Level Chair, presented the Board with information and answered questions regarding the Primary School Program.

C. Elementary Schools (MVB & MHG) Presentation (8:30pm)

John Stickle, Elementary Principal, presented the Board with information and answered questions regarding the Elementary School Program.

D. Adult Education Presentation (8:45pm)

Ernie Waldman, Director of Adult Education, reported to the Board and answered questions regarding the Adult Education Program.

E. Initial Review Of State Aid Revenues (9:00pm)

Greg Giammarco, Business Administrator, and James Dexter, Superintendent, reviewed initial state aid estimates and compared figures against previous years'.

Consent Agenda

MOTION KRAMARCHYK 2ND MURPHY

To approve the following items contained under the Consent Agenda:

- (A) To accept the CPSE and CSE Recommendations for the 2008-2009 school year as follows: Meeting Dates of: 01/08/09, 01/15/09**

End Consent Agenda

Carried, 8-0

Discussion Action Items

MOTION KRAMARCHYK 2ND MURPHY

To approve and authorize expending district funds associated with the attendance of Edward Harsen at the following NYSSBA Workshop:

- **Fiscal Oversight Fundamentals for School Board Members, January 24, 2009**

Carried, 8-0

Board Open Discussion

The Board discussed the following topics:

- **Balancing educational ideals with fiscal realities**
- **Future years' budgets**
- **Communication with public regarding the budget in relation to academic goals**

Public Participation – Agenda Items Only

One member of the public commented positively on the interaction of the Board with presenters and the subsequent questions and discussions.

Executive Session

MOTION KRAMARCHYK 2ND BAGNATO

To adjourn to Executive Session to discuss the employment history of particular individuals

Carried, 8-0

MOTION KRAMARCHYK 2ND BAGNATO

To appoint John Phillips as Clerk Pro Tem

Others present at Executive Session:

James P. Dexter, Superintendent

Maureen Van Deusen, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

Gregory Giammarco, Business Administrator

Board Member, Anthony Welcome, left Executive Session at 10:15 pm.

Adjournment

The Meeting was reconvened at 10:30 pm.

MOTION ROSE 2ND HARSEN

To adjourn the meeting at 10:30 pm

Carried, 7-0

Distributions

- Cost Projections 2009-10
- Average Class Size K-5
- Baseline Budget K-5
- Ichabod Crane Primary School – 5 Year Plan
- Enrollment Report 2008-2009
- Analysis of Executive Proposal on Aid to ICC
- Invitations Expenses 2009

Additional January/February Budget Development Meetings

- 01/27/09 - 7PM - ICMS LIBRARY

- 02/10/09 - 7PM - ICMS LIBRARY

- 02/24/09 - 7PM - BUDGET ROUND TABLE - 7PM - ICMS LIBRARY

**** 01/21/09 - 4PM - JOINT COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD MEETING ****

@ COLUMBIA GREENE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Reminder: Facilities Committee Mtg, originally scheduled for 1/21, to be rescheduled

John Phillips, Clerk Pro Tem

Mindy M. Potts, District Clerk