

ICHABOD CRANE CENTRAL SCHOOL

BOARD OF EDUCATION

DECEMBER 2, 2014

MINUTES

A Regular Meeting of the Ichabod Crane Board of Education was held on Tuesday, December 2, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Library.

Board Members Present:

John Chandler                      Tricia Gerkman                      Barbara-anne Johnson-Heimroth  
Susan Ramos                      Cheryl Trefzger                      Anthony Welcome  
Samantha Hessler – Student Member on the Board

Board Members Absent:

Kyle Aschenbrenner                      Bruce Naramore                      Jeffrey Ouellette

School Officials Present:

George Zini, Superintendent, Michael Brennan, Business Manager, Craig Shull, High School Principal, Daniel Farley, Assistant High School Principal, Tim Farley, Middle/Elementary School Principal, Anthony Marturano, Middle/Elementary School Assistant Principal, Suzanne Guntlow Primary School Principal, Robert McCloskey, Special Education Director, Steve Marotta, Director of Facilities, and Mindy Potts, District Clerk

Board President Anthony Welcome called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board President Anthony Welcome announced the fire exits and conducted the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Member Tricia Gerkman read the District Mission Statement:

*"The Ichabod Crane Central School District is dedicated to preparing students to become contributing members of society in an ever-changing world by valuing diversity; providing a safe environment; and promoting unique talents, a desire for life-long learning, a strong spirit of community, and Rider pride."*

MOTION TREFZGER    2<sup>ND</sup> RAMOS

To approve the agenda with modifications as presented  
Carried, 6-0

MOTION TREFZGER    2<sup>ND</sup> CHANDLER

To approve the minutes of the 10/07/14 – Regular Board Meeting  
Carried, 6-0

MOTION TREFZGER    2<sup>ND</sup> CHANDLER

To approve the minutes of the 11/04/14 – Regular Meeting

KYLE ASCHENBRENNER - ABSENT	CHANDLER - YES	GERKMAN - YES
JOHNSON-HEIMROTH - YES	NARAMORE - ABSENT	OUELLETTE – ABSENT
RAMOS - YES	TREFZGER - ABSTAIN	WELCOME - YES

Carried, 5-0-1

MOTION TREFZGER 2<sup>ND</sup> CHANDLER

To approve the minutes of the 11/18/14 – Special Board Meeting – Veterans’ Tax Exemption Hearing

KYLE ASCHENBRENNER - ABSENT

CHANDLER - YES

GERKMAN - YES

JOHNSON-HEIMROTH - ABSTAIN

NARAMORE - ABSENT

OUELLETTE – ABSENT

RAMOS - YES

TREFZGER - YES

WELCOME - YES

Carried, 5-0-1

Meeting Open for Public Participation

One member from the public addressed the Board:

- Peter Woodward - in favor of the Board adopting the Veterans’ Tax Exemption

Board Discussion Items

- Veterans’ Tax Exemption

Although not making a decision regarding allowing or disallowing the veterans’ tax exemption, the Board did discuss the exemption, agreeing that the decision for allowing exemptions for veterans’ should not belong to school boards.

MOTION CHANDLER 2<sup>ND</sup> TREFZGER

Resolution Calling upon the Governor and Legislature of New York State to Amend Real Property Tax Law Section 458-a to Equitably Provide and Fund the Alternative Veterans Exemption as Applied to School District Taxes

WHEREAS, the Ichabod Crane Central School District is dedicated to preparing students to become contributing members of society in an ever-changing world by valuing diversity; providing a safe environment; and promoting unique talents, a desire for life-long learning, a strong spirit of community, and Rider pride; and

WHEREAS, in December of 2013, the Real Property Tax Law was amended to allow School Districts to offer a partial exemption from school property taxes to qualified properties owned by veterans; and

WHEREAS, the Ichabod Crane Central School District honors, recognizes, and sincerely appreciates all veterans for their vital contributions to our safety and well-being, and the preservation of our individual and collective rights and freedoms; and

WHEREAS, the Ichabod Crane Central School District believes veterans’ health, education, safety, and well-being basic needs should be forever met by State and federal governments on an equitably funded basis; and

WHEREAS, the application of the Alternative Veterans Exemption from school property taxes is not based on the needs of veterans and is not equitably funded, as the exemption would simply result in lower school property taxes for the qualified properties owned by veterans and higher tax rates for properties owned by non-veterans; and

WHEREAS, should the Governor and Legislature feel the contributions and sacrifices of veterans be acknowledged by lowering their school property taxes, then the Governor and Legislature should also fund the exemption through equitable State revenue sources and reimburse School Districts for lost revenue;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we call upon the Governor and Legislature of New York State to reexamine and amend Real Property Tax Law Section 458-a to equitably provide and fund the Alternative Veterans Exemption as applied to School District taxes.

Carried, 6-0

The Board directed the District Clerk to send copies of the resolution to the governor and state legislature.

- Martin H Glynn Portrait

The District was contacted by the Village of Valatie regarding a portrait which hung in the Martin H Glynn School building. After borrowing this portrait from the school during the fall of 2014 for a celebration honoring Martin H Glynn, the village would like to continue to have the portrait hanging at the Valatie Village Hall (which is now housed in the old Martin H Glynn School Building). The District will contact the school attorney, discuss proposed School Board action with the Village and subsequently bring a resolution to Board for the January Regular meeting.

- Buses Available for Music Trips

Student Board Member Samantha Hessler brought to the Board a concern over the availability of buses for transporting NYSSMA students to a regional event. Superintendent George Zini responded that situation was addressed for this year and would be addressed for future years.

- Open House

Board Member Cheryl Trefzger noted that the Open House for the High School on November 24, 2014 was well-received and well-attended.

#### Reports/Presentations/Updates

- Tax Collection Report

Business Manager Michael Brennan reported briefly and answered questions on the Tax Collection Report. Acceptance of the report to be considered under the Consent Agenda.

- Math Program Presentation

The Board heard from teachers at each school level regarding the Math Program at Ichabod Crane:

- Melanie Moon, Grades K-3
- Barb Ireland , Grades 4-8
- Linda Knight, Grades 9-12

- Science Program Presentation

The Board heard from teachers at each school level regarding the Science Program at Ichabod Crane:

- Jaime Eastman, Grades K-3
- Steve Feilman, Grades 4-8
- Barbara Byrne, Grades 9-12

#### Superintendent's Report - Administrators' Comments

Superintendent Georg Zini and Middle/Elementary School Principal Tim Farley reported briefly regarding the accountability status rating for the Middle and Elementary Schools. Although Ichabod Crane is a District in Good Standing, there were two sub-groups at the Middle and Elementary Schools which did not meet the achievement level. As directed by SED, the District must develop and implement Local Assistance Plans which are to be used as a tool to the raise student performance. These plans will be considered for Board acceptance under the Consent Agenda.

Committee Meeting Reports

- Academic Committee

Superintendent George Zini briefly reported on the Academic Committee meeting of 11/24/14. The focus of the meeting was to bring to the Board and the community information on the academic programs at the school.

- Policy Committee

Board Vice-President John Chandler briefly reported on the Policy Committee meeting of 11/18/14. The following policies are considered to have had one reading:

First Reading:

- 0000 Educational Philosophy (revised)
- 6700 Purchasing (revised)
- 7320 Selection of Architect or Engineer (delete)
- 6741 Contracting for Professional Services (new)

Second Reading:

- 5305 Extra Curricular Eligibility (revise)
- 5305A Extra Curricular Eligibility (delete)
- 4600 Guidance Programs (revise)
- 7310 Educational Specifications (delete)
- 8134 Emergency Closings (delete)
- 0320-C Superintendent Timeline (revise)

- Audit/Finance Committee

Board Vice-President John Chandler briefly reported on the Audit/Finance Committee meeting held just prior to the regular Board meeting on 12/02/14.

Treasurer's Report and Acceptance of Warrants:

MOTION TREFZGER 2<sup>ND</sup> RAMOS

To accept the Treasurer's Report and Warrants as presented (*full report contained in Supplemental File*)  
Carried, 6-0

Consent Agenda

MOTION GERKMAN 2<sup>ND</sup> RAMOS

To approve the following items contained under the Consent Agenda:

11(A) CONSIDERATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

To accept the CPSE and CSE Recommendations for the 2014-2015 school year as follows:  
Meeting Dates of: 11/13/14, 11/18/14, 11/20/14

11(B) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT

To appoint, upon the recommendation of George Zini, Superintendent, additional EXTRA-CLASS ACTIVITY ADVISORS for the 2014-2015 school year as listed:

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>
Extended Day Substitute ( Elementary and Middle School)	Jennifer Cramer
Ski Club Chaperones	John Mueller, Barb Kirby, Dan Pelesz, Joelle Swere, Jennifer Pelesz, Brad Walsh, Ann Mueller, Scott Siver

## 11(C) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT

To appoint, upon the recommendation of George Zini, Superintendent, the following additions to the non-teaching substitute listing for 2014-2015 school year:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Effective</b>
Carly Wills	Substitute Food Service Helper	11/18/14
Jackie Biegen	Occasional Central Office Substitute	12/01/14
Tom Jablanski	Substitute Cleaner	12/02/14

## 11(D) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT

To appoint, upon the recommendation of George Zini, Superintendent, the following additions to the teaching substitute listing for 2014-2015 school year:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Effective</b>
Dennis Shields	Non-Certified Sub Teacher and TA	December 2, 2014
Deborah Prendergast	Non-Certified Sub TA	December 2, 2014
Kathy Perito	Non-Certified Substitute TA	November 21, 2014
Sara Kane	Certified Substitute Teacher and TA	December 2, 2014
Giovanna Prezio	Certified Substitute Teacher and TA	December 5, 2014
Helen Park	Certified Substitute Teacher and TA	December 2, 2014

## 11(E) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT

To appoint, upon the recommendation of George Zini, Superintendent, the following Interscholastic Coaches Appointments for the 2014-2015 school year:

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>
Unpaid Assistant Modified Girls' Basketball Coach	Kaitlin Williams
Unpaid Assistant JV Girls' Basketball Coach	Emily Van Leuven
Volunteer Varsity Boys' Volleyball Assistant Coach	Bob Wheeler

## 11(F) CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL

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

<b>NAME</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENT</b>	<b>DATES</b>
Brooke Kneller	Shari Dowling	January 13 – March 6, 2015
Nicoleen Winklerek	Linda Knight	January 13 – March 6, 2015

## 11(G) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT

To appoint, upon the recommendation of George Zini, Superintendent, Kevin McIlvay, to the probationary position of Bus Mechanic, effective November 17, 2014

## 11(H) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT

To appoint, upon the recommendation of George Zini, Superintendent, Carolyn Schmiemann to the probationary position of Bus Driver (2 hrs) and contingent upon the successful completion of the 30 hour Bus Driver Course, effective November 17, 2014

## 11(I) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT

To appoint, upon the recommendation of George Zini, Superintendent, Richard McLoughlin to the probationary position of Bus Driver (2 hrs) and contingent upon the successful completion of the 30 hour Bus Driver Course, effective November 17, 2014

11(J) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT

To appoint, upon the recommendation of George Zini, Superintendent, Thomas Clinton to the probationary position of Bus Driver (2 hrs) and contingent upon the successful completion of the 30 hour Bus Driver Course, effective November 17, 2014

11(K) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Ichabod Crane Central School (Kinderhook Central School District), pursuant to Sections 3012 and 3009 Subdivision 2b of the Education Law and in compliance with Part 30.3 and 80.33b of the Rules of the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of George Zini, Superintendent of Schools, does hereby appoint Amanda Daley who holds a TEACHING ASSISTANT CERTIFICATE in the Special Subject :Teacher Assistant (K - 12 ) tenure area for a probationary period of three (3) years to commence on December 3 , 2014 and to expire on December 2, 2017 conditionally, pending New York State Education Department certification and safety clearance

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Amanda Daley, during this year of appointment be paid at the annual salary as outlined in the Agreement between Ichabod Crane Central School Teachers' Association and the Board of Education, as being the salary for a TEACHING ASSISTANT, plus undergraduate credits that are eligible for reimbursement.

11(L) CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL

To approve a request submitted by Kelley Fahey for a Child Rearing Leave beginning on or about March 23, 2015 and continuing for one week.

11(M) CONSIDERATION FOR ACCEPTANCE *(full plans contained in Supplemental File)*

To accept the Local Assistance Plans as presented

11(N) CONSIDERATION FOR ACCEPTANCE *(full report contained in Supplemental File)*

To accept the Internal Claims Auditor Report as presented

11(O) CONSIDERATION FOR ACCEPTANCE *(full report contained in Supplemental File)*

To accept the Tax Collection Report as prepared for the 2014-2015 school year

11(P) CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL

To approve transportation lease agreement requests submitted by Denise Holzhauer, Program Director of O.K. KIDS, INC., for the use of one (1) school bus for the purpose of providing transportation for field trips during school vacation weeks as follows:

- December 2014
- February 2015
- April 2015

11(Q) CONSIDERATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

To accept, per Board Policy #1800 Gifts from the Public, from Jayne Ferguson a donation of a Trumpet and an Alto Saxophone to be used in the Ichabod Crane Music Program

11(R) CONSIDERATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

To accept, per Board Policy #1800 Gifts from the Public, from Esther Anderson a donation of a Merlin Sync Master (enhances vision) to be used in the Special Education Department

11(S) CONSIDERATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

To accept, per Board Policy #1800 Gifts from the Public, a donation to the Primary School of \$500 from Walmart and to approve an increase in the 2014-2015 budget in the amount of \$500 from \$35,785,167 to \$35,785,667 and to increase the following Appropriation Codes:  
A 2110-510-01-0000 – in the amount of \$500

11(T) CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL

To approve the following field trip request per Board Policy #4531:  
DESTINATION: Jiminy Peak and Mount Snow  
DATE: January 9, 2015 - March 15, 2015  
PARTICIPANTS: SKI CLUB - 80-100 students  
CHAPERONES: (8) – including advisors Todd DiGrigoli and Jacob Patenaude

11(U) CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL

To approve the additional 2014-2015 Board meeting date:

Date	Time/Location	Type
04/14/15	7:00 pm in the High School	Final Budget Presentation and Anticipated Budget Adoption

11(V) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT

To appoint, upon the recommendation of George Zini, Superintendent Giovanna Prezio, as Term Substitute, effective on or about December 11, 2014 and continuing for 8 weeks (High School Art Position)

11(W) CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT

To appoint, upon the recommendation of George Zini, Superintendent Giovanna Prezio, as Term Substitute, effective on or about March 26, 2015 and continuing for 8 weeks (Middle School Art Position)

End of Consent Agenda

Carried, 6-0

Public Participation

One member of the public addressed the Board on the following topic:

- Bob Cramer- Veterans' Tax Exemption

Executive Session

MOTION RAMOS 2<sup>ND</sup> GERKMAN

To adjourn to Executive Session at 8:38 p.m. to discuss the employment history of a particular person

Carried, 6-0

Board President Anthony Welcome volunteered to serve as Clerk Pro Tem. None of the other Board members objected.

The District Clerk left the meeting.

Others present at Executive Session:

Superintendent George Zini and Business Manager Michael Brennan

The meeting was reconvened in open session at 9:03 p.m.

MOTION CHANDLER 2<sup>ND</sup> RAMOS

Resolved, to authorize the School District's legal counsel (Roemer Wallens Gold & Mineaux) to file a petition in Supreme Court seeking to a stay of arbitration demanded by the Ichabod Crane Teacher's Association relative to the matter of personal leave for teachers who lack certification.

Carried, 6-0

MOTION TREFZGER 2<sup>ND</sup> JOHNSON-HEIMROTH

To adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Carried, 6-0

Meetings:

Regular Meetings:

01/06 (Tue) - Regular Board Meeting - 7:00pm - High School Library

01/20 (Tue) - Special Board Meeting - 7:00pm - High School Library

Committee Meetings:

12/09 (Tue) Policy Committee - 5:00pm - Central Office

12/09 (Tue) Facilities Committee - 6:00pm - Central Office

01/06 (Tue) Audit/Finance Committee - 5:30pm - Central Office

01/13 (Tue) Policy Committee - 5:00pm - Central Office

X

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Anthony Welcome  
Clerk Pro Tem

X

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Mindy M. Potts  
District Clerk