

1/20/2009 Meeting of the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District, held at the Berlin Jr/Sr High School

**Present:** Julie Darling, Donald French, Elizabeth Miller, Thomas Morelli, Jeffrey Paine, Beverly Stewart  
**Absent:** Frank Zwack  
**Also Present:** Charlotte Gregory, Cathie Allain, Michelle Colvin, Cyril Grant, Dennis Healy, Scott Hunter, Eileen Leffler, Jennifer Morris, Sandra Owens  
**Guests included:** Bob Miller, Donald Hoffman, Danielle Hoffman, Andy Zlotnick, Becky Giumarra, Lauren Nichols, Christine Walsh, Jackie Elacqua, Anton Katzman, Dawn Demick, Diane Paine, David Flint, John Rizzo, Karen Deiana, Dianne Mosher, Jennifer Burhans, Donna Kelly, Patty Nash, Ken Masterson, Nick Maxon, Jacob Staples

Vice President Morelli convened the meeting at 7:01 PM with six board members present.

On motion of Julie Darling, second by Donald French, minutes of the 12/1/2008, 12/16/2008, and 1/6/2009 meetings were approved.

On motion of Liz Miller, second by Julie Darling, the following Action Items (#1-10 and Addendum Items) were unanimously approved:

- Treasurer's Reports from 12/1/2008 – 12/31/2008 General Fund, Trust & Agency Fund, Special Aid Fund, School Lunch Fund, and Capital Fund

#### **PERSONNEL ACTION**

##### **APPOINTMENTS:**

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to appoint the following people as coaches – effective 3/3/2009:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Stipend</b>
Art Schmich	Co-Coach Varsity Softball	\$1577.50
Paul Slaver	Co-Coach Varsity Softball	\$1577.50
Sarah Hindes	Modified Softball	\$2254.00
Steve Mellor	Co-Coach Varsity Baseball	\$1577.50
Josh Santarcangelo	Co-Coach Varsity Baseball	\$1577.50
Kasson Sauer	Modified Baseball	\$2254.00
Jennifer Burhans	Varsity Track	\$3155.00
Patricia Weber	Assistant Track	\$1878.00

Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to appoint Shaun Cavanaugh – Bus Driver – Route 77 (replacing John Parkinson) @ \$15.75 per hour - 6.5 hours per day – effective 1/12/2009.

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**Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to appoint the following people to the 2008-2009 Non-Instructional Substitute List – effective 1/21/2009:**

**DeIsonno, Patsy – Bus Driver and Bus Attendant  
Lane, Debra – Custodial Worker**

**Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to appoint the following person to the 2008-2009 Instructional Substitute List  
Rice, Justin – Non-Certified – effective 1/21/2009**

**LEAVE REQUESTS:**

**Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to grant the Family Medical Leave (for maternity purposes) request of Karyn Healy, Elementary Teacher – effective 4/6/2009 – 5/30/2009.**

**Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent to approve the unpaid Family & Medical Leave of Carol Yerg, Bus Driver – effective 2/25/2009.**

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION**

- **Approval of the following recommendations of the Committee on Special Education: 000070413, 102637, 000100141, 000077315, 100746, 102871, 102872, 101666, 103013, 102933, 102089, 000100107, 102993, 0020203JA, 101663, 17310, 000081312**

**- RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District hereby approves the following amendment to the 2008-2009 Questar III Final Service Request:**

- **Deletion of 10011 from ALP Program Coser 441.010 – effective 12/16/2008**

**- RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District hereby accepts the November 2008 and December 2008 Claims Audits as submitted.**

**- RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District hereby approves the following budget transfer:**

<b>Code From</b>	<b>Code To</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>2250.4710</b>	<b>2250.4900</b>	<b>\$9,962.00</b>

**- RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District hereby approves the FCCLA sponsored Rock-A-Thon fundraiser to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association.**

**- RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District hereby approves the Yearbook sponsored Valentine's Day Dance fundraiser on February 13, 2009.**

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**- RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District hereby approves the 2008-2009 health services contract with the Wynantskill Union Free School District in the amount of \$508.58 for 6 students.**

**- RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District hereby declares the following items as surplus, with such items to be appropriately disposed of:**

Qty	ISBN/Part No.	Description	Bldg
1		Eiki 7070 Compact Disc Player/Cassette Player	SES
1		Hitachi Model AVA-200R Cassette Player	SES
2	0-7872-9925-1	Math Trailblazers Student Guide Book Grade 1	SES
20	0-7872-8542-0	Math Trailblazers Unit Resource Guide Grade 1	SES
5	0-15-301258-7	Treasury of Literature – Hold on Tight – Tch.Ed.	SES
1 set		Labtec computer speaker s- Tan – Used	SES
1 set	970087-0403	Labtec computer speakers – Black – New	SES
27		Mini-chalk Boards	SES
1		MacMillan Literature Based Reading Box	SES
1		Silver Burdett-Ginn Math Box	SES

**- RESOLVED: That the Board of Education of the Berlin Central School District hereby schedules the 2009-2010 budget hearing for Tuesday, May 5, 2009 with the vote on the budget and board elections to be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2009 from noon to 9 pm.**

In the absence of President Zwack, Vice President Morelli spoke briefly on the challenges that the district faces in developing the 2009-2010 budget. Mr. Morelli urged everyone to have a spirit of cooperation, open dialogue, and stay focused on what is best for the district.

The following was included in the Superintendent's Report:

- Ms. Gregory reported out on the recent Superintendents' Conference that she attended in Albany, where discussion on the Governor's proposed budget took place.
- Interim Business Administrator, Scott Hunter, reported out on the budget modifications that were made to the 5-year plan - making it a 3-year plan to gain some stability in the numbers.
- Budget numbers were presented under three options with projected enrollments for each option – Option 1 Status Quo (BES, SES and GES all open); Option 2 – SES to BES, GES Open; Option 3 SES and GES to BES – floor plans for Options 2 and 3 were shared.
- Interim Business Administrator, Scott Hunter, also shared information on cooperative investments through NYCLASS. Board members were asked to review the information. A representative from the company has offered to come out to the next meeting for a presentation.

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- **Treasurer, John Rizzo, presented information on the revised Management's Discussion & Analysis.**
- **\$100,000 Legislative Grant – possible use for Distance Learning – Board members are welcome to tour the Schodack School to see it in operation.**
- **Recognition of honor students**
- **Ms. Gregory asked the Board if they were still interested in propositions for the May Vote**
  - **\$100,000 ADA Projects – use Excel Aid for a larger project (\$700,000 project would have no impact on the tax payer)**
  - **Bus Purchase Program (5 year plan)**
  - **Budget**
  - **Board Member Election – the terms of Julie Darling and Donald French will be up**

**There was no Legislative Liaison Report. However, Julie Darling used this time to congratulate the Future Cities Team for a job well done at the competition. She also congratulated the students who participated in the DARE Graduation program – good things are happening, improvements are being made.**

**The Opportunity for Public Comment portion included:**

- **Faculty member's concerns regarding comments about the delivery of a quality education when school is delayed for released early.**
- **Concerns regarding the budget – not leaving out the arts.**
- **Thank you from a parent who's child attended the Washington, DC trip for the inauguration.**

**The Discussion & Recommendation portion included:**

- **Superintendent Search – Discussion on presentations from outside consulting firms and Questar took place. A sub-committee for Superintendent Search was formed with Julie Darling, Bev Stewart and Liz Miller volunteering. The committee will report back at the February 24 meeting.**
- **Snow Closings & Delays – Discussion involving the effectiveness of 2-hour delays, limiting the number of delays to 5 and then closing, attendance during April vacation, and student safety occurred. Donald Hoffman, Supervisor for Rensselaer County Highway Department in Berlin, spoke out regarding the process for clearing the roads and determining closing vs. delaying.**

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**Calendar of Meetings**

**Wednesday, February 4, 2009 – 7:30 PM – Budget Workshop – HS Library**

**Tuesday, February 24, 2009 – 7:00 PM – Regular Meeting – HS Auditorium**

**On motion of Beverly Stewart, second by Julie Darling, executive session to discuss specific personnel items was entered at 8:54 PM, with public session resuming at 9:26 PM on motion of Julie Darling, second by Liz Miller.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 PM on motion of Julie Darling, second by Liz Miller.**

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**Mary M. Grant, District Clerk**