

*Unofficial and Unapproved*

NORTH ROSE-WOLCOTT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 5, 2005

7:00PM SMALL CAFETERIA OF THE HIGH SCHOOL

PRESENT

Douglas Bell, Sandra Boerman, Robert Cahoon, Melinda DeBadts (7:50pm), Nickoline Henner, Mark Humbert (8:10pm), Jeffrey Lisanto, Edward Magin, David Smith

Elena LaPlaca, Daniel Starr, Deborah Stuck and approximately 100 guests.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Edward Magin called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

1a. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Nickoline Henner moved and Sandra Boerman seconded the following motion. The vote was unanimous. D. Bell, S. Boerman, R. Cahoon, N. Henner, J. Lisanto, E. Magin, D. Smith voted yes.

2. PUBLIC ACCESS

Fourteen individuals spoke to the board of their concerns for the quality of education as the Board considers program cuts as a way to balance the budget for 2005-06. Comments were received in support of Art, Music, English Language Arts, Foreign Language, Technology, Media Centers, Nurses and Psychologists. They stressed to the Board the importance to the entire community of providing students with a well-rounded education and voiced their willingness to pay for it. Others asked that the Board think outside the box when developing the budget, look to share services with other districts, and look to make cuts in other areas other than program and staff.

3. PRESENTATIONS

No presentations were made.

4. REPORTS

No committee reports were made.

5a. POLICY DISCUSSION

The board reviewed a proposed new policy that outlines the dedication of school property. It will be presented for approval at the April 12 meeting.

5b. BUDGET DISCUSSION

Dan Starr explained the process for developing the budget starting in December 2004. Preliminary figures, including state aid projections left the Budget Committee with a 24% tax increase. Program, schedules and staffing in each building were reviewed, as well as other areas of the district. The Budget Committee directed the Superintendent to include many of the findings into the budget proposal.

Dr. Starr provided information on the number of positions that have been cut in the last three years, and he discussed the retirement incentive offered to teachers and service employees. He then stated additional proposed staff cuts as discussed in Board Budget Committee sessions.

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Board members asked for clarification on a number of proposed cuts and made suggestions for others not stated during his presentation.

Dave Smith asked Deb Stuck if the district could use money from various reserves to help balance the budget. The reserves that he questioned cannot be used for anything other than their intended purposes: unemployment payments and the payment of retired employee benefits. He also asked if funds could be used from other undesignated reserves to help balance the budget. Deb Stuck stated that they could, but as Business Executive, she could not support the use of reserve fund to subsidize the general fund account.

The Board asked for more comprehensive budget figures and a projection of where the district will be at the end of 2005-06.

The next board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 12 at 7:00pm in the small cafeteria of the High School. The meeting will continue on Wednesday, April 13 if needed, as the budget needs to be adopted by the Board of Education prior to April 18.

**6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Ed Magin re-opened discussion by the public. A number of individuals restated their thoughts about the educational programs offered by the district. They voiced overwhelming support for the difficult job of developing the budget. Their concerns revolved around their willingness to support the educational program through their taxes..

Ed Magin, speaking on behalf of the board, acknowledged the passionate feelings of everyone present at the meeting. All thoughts and observations were well presented and well thought out. He assured everyone that the board would take each comment seriously before the next meeting. He thanked everyone for attending the meeting and welcomed everyone to attend all meetings.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Douglas Bell moved and Robert Cahoon seconded the following motion. The vote was unanimous. D. Bell, S. Boerman, R. Cahoon, M. DeBadts, N. Henner, M. Humbert, J. Lisanto, E. Magin, D. Smith voted yes.

Be it resolved that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and pursuant to Education Law, approves executive session at 10:50 for the specific purpose of discussing a personnel item, and to discuss the Superintendent's evaluation.

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Mr. Magin called for a short break. Elena LaPlaca and all guests left the meeting at this time. Daniel Starr served as note taker for the remainder of the meeting.

OPEN SESSION

The meeting returned to open session at 11:15pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Sandra Boerman moved and Jeffrey Lisanto seconded the following motion. The vote was unanimous. D. Bell, S. Boerman, R. Cahoon, M. DeBadts, N. Henner, M. Humbert, J. Lisanto, E. Magin, D. Smith voted yes.

Be it resolved that the Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and pursuant to Education Law, approves the adjournment of the meeting at 11:15pm.

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Clerk, Board of Education